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THE

# FIRST

# EIGHT · MONTHS

OF

# OKLAHOMA CITY

BY BUNKY

OKLAHOMA CITY,
THE McMASTER PRINTING COMPANY
1890.

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# INTRODUCTION.

In all probability it was a fatal hour when this little book was conceived.

It is the author's first grab at the garments of Fame through the sword's antagonist—although the greater part of the book was written with poor lead pencils.

No songs, roundelays or hot air blasts of poetic inspiration adorn the pages of this work. The writer's pegasus would never ride well, and in consequence no lofty epics, lowly ballads or idyllac dreams ever disturbed either his sleeping or waking hours.

It has been the intention to give plain, truthful sketches of the settlement and wonderful growth of Oklahoma City. They have been gathered from observation, the public prints of the city, and from individual experiences. This book is published for the money there is in it and to aid in the work of bringing brains and capital to the Queen City of Oklahoma, whose future is obscured by no sign of shade or shadow.

"BUNKY."

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# The First Eight Months of Oklahoma.

## SUNDAY BEFORE MONDAY, APRIL 22d. 1889.

When the bright sun rose in a cloudless sky Sunday morning, April 21, 1889, a special train was side tracked on the switch near the section house, south of the Oklahoma City depot. It had arrived late Saturday night carrying four companies of United States infantry, who were to preserve peace on the following day, for it was the time set apart in the President's proclamation for the opening of Oklahoma Territory—which lies almost in the heart of the Indian Territory about equally distant from Kansas and Texas. Oklahoma City on that Sunday morning contained but seven houses, viz: the depot, section house, post office building, a government building, home of the railway agent, boarding house and an old stockade used by a stage company for an office. A beautiful and unbroken stretch of greensward lay in the bend of the North Canadian river and everything was remarkably serene and quiet. It was the calm before the storm.

Brigadier-General Merritt—commanding the department of the Missouri—with his staff, in a private car, smoked good cigars and complacently surveyed the scene. After the lesser lights of the great military arm of the government had breakfasted upon cold beans and hard bread, they were ordered out of the cars; made to unload their tents and trappings; fall in, and march up the hill

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north-east of the depot, where they went into camp. A troop of the Fifth cavalry occupied the high ground just east of the infantry, and in a short time horsemen and footmen were mingling together and sympathizing with one another in the mutual distress of eating hard tack and sleeping on the beautiful green ground that glowed with centipedes and sparkled with wet, wet dew.

The Sabbath wore away till about three o'clock in the afternoon when the Santa Fe rail road officials became visibly pregnant with the idea that the boomers, who were collected on the southern borders of the territory, were going to burn the road's bridge across the South Canadian river. They communicated this wonderful idea by telegraph to General Merritt, who communicated it to one of his aides, who communicated it by messenger to the battalion commander, who communicated it to his adjutant, who ordered his sergeant-major—officers never communicate with enlisted men—to make out a detail of two non-commissioned officers and four privates, commanded by a lieutenant—with orders that they repair by first train to the bridge in question, and there, with the stars and stripes majestically floating from the ramrods of their rifles, guard, preserve and protect—on half rations—in the great name of the peace and dignity of the United States, the Santa Fe's bridge across the dark and tempestuous waters of the South Canadian.

The south bound train was three hours late that evening and it was after dark when it arrived. It was loaded down with eager, excited people and many of them attempted to get off—but the guard of soldiers at the depot kept them in the cars—although it is believed a few escaped to the timber in the darkness. Long freight trains arrived almost every hour in the day and left the side tracks packed with cars filled with lumber, household goods, houses in sections, merchandise of all kinds—sent on on before, by persons in the various states and territories, who expected to arrive at noon the next day. Sunday night a guard consisting of one non-commissioned officer and two privates, was placed around the car of the department commander and this was continued till the general and his staff withdrew from the country some two weeks later. There were no services of a religious character held that day from the simple fact that no one in the place at the time felt capable of "leading the meeting." The soldiers held a kind of open air concert in the woods that afternoon, but it can not be said that this choral demonstration was in strict conformity to the rules of church discipline. The day was spent by those having

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nothing to do in speculation as to what the morrow would bring forth and it did surely bring forth more than had been expected, for, when it came, and the word was passed around that it was noon—twelve o'clock—there was such a rush and roar of excited humanity as was never before heard or seen in all the rack and jam of this old world. The storm was on.

## MONDAY, APRIL 22d, 1889.

Monday, April 22d, 1889! A never to be forgotten day! More than forty thousand human beings waited in feverish anxiety on the borders of the promised land for the watchman's cry of "Noon! Twelve O'clock!" From far and near they had traveled on foot, in wagons, on hoaseback, and by railways. Their wanderings in the wilderness were over. Caanan lay before them resplendent and enticing. The sun rushed along his way till the center station in the heavens was reached. A wild shout ascended from forty thousand throats and it was greater by far than the glad cry that echoed across the Red Sea when the children of Israel were delivered from the hosts of Pharoh. The halted forces broke and rushed over into the land so long waited and hoped for—and lo, when the sun went down, the elysian fields, the high hills, the happy valleys, and the sylvan shades of Oklahoma—The Beautiful Land—teemed with a joyous, civilized people—who were there to build homes, carve out fortunes, acheive fame, raise families and mingle together in the sorrows and joys and vanities of this life.

This wonderful gathering of people—this "nation born in a day"—is a mighty argument for a republican form of government, a government founded upon the consent of men. England has been gathering trophies for a thousand years and has so many that she looks down with a lofty frown upon the attempts of all young nations. On land and sea she has been a potential force; out of barbarism she had the strength to civilize herself and to hold the theory of a constitutional government secure when it seemed as though that theory had been well nigh abandoned by othər nations. She had the strength to create a code founded on absolute justice. She had the inspiration to create a literature which is a light to the world. In arts and arms she has held herself abreast with the foremost of nations. All in all, England has made a place for herself in history which is more glorified than was that of Rome when Rome ruled the world and made a record which has come sounding down the ages clear and full as

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a trumpet blast and deep as the detonation of heavy guns. But Old England never had an Oklahoma. It is true that she has planted colonies the world around, and has established her laws in them which guarantee protection and justice to all who seek domiciles under her flag; but the poor of the world have never in force sought homes in them. She owns a continent in the Austral sea which is rich in natural products—the products of the fields and mines. For a hundred years, England has had a colony there; for half a century, since steam has been annihilating distances on land and sea, she has made persistent efforts to people that region, but even now the whole population do not equal in numbers those who have landed from abroad at the port of New York during the past decade. The reason of this is that over each one is the shadow of the sovereign power, and the rules of trade which English statesmen have adopted, bear hard upon her possessions. Through her triumphs of thirty generations,there has been nothing in her career which has struck the world as a new departure from the old law of might which ruled the world in the Stone Age, and which still holds universal sway. There has never been any tribute to England's form of government like the opening and settlement of Oklahoma is to that of the United States. There are spoils of war and spoils of peace; there is all the ostentation which comes of unlimited wealth and power; but there is nothing in the history of any country or government that can be compared to the peacable settlement of the Oklahoma country. It was a boon of mercy to thousands of souls and in its opening a new hope has been born in hearts that were dispairing. The United States government is the fairest ever kissed by the sunlight of heaven. Its ways are lovely and its paths peaceful. May it endure forever.

IN OKLAHOMA CITY THE 22d.

When the signal was given at the depot that it was twelve o'clock the country—for there was no Oklahoma City then—seemed to be alive with people. They could be seen riding and running in all directions. Where they came from the good Lord only knows. White tents dotted the country as far as the eye could see at twenty minutes past twelve. About 12:15 representatives of the SEMINOLE LAND AND TOWN COMPANY stepped off the Santa Fe's right of way and began to run a preliminary survey and to locate lots in accordance with their plat prepared before hand. Main street was the base of oper-

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ations and in a very short time the best lots on the street were taken. Before any definite work could be done on other streets people began to arrive by the hundreds from the borders of the Territory by overland conveyances. Among the very first of these were J. H. McCartney, John Holzapfel and C. P. Walker, of Colony, Kansas; M. A. Woods, of Garnett, Kansas; John W. Beard, of Le Roy, Kansas; Mr. Carter, of Burlington, Kansas; and Col. Harrison of the same state. They had driven from the Canadian river—that point of it nearest to Oklahoma City—a distance of fifteen miles, in one hour and nineteen minutes. At 2:05 p. m. the train from the south arrived and unloaded at least twenty-five hundred people—who scattered in wild confusion all over the town site and adjacent country. Everybody appeared to have stakes with them upon which was written their names, and it was amusing as well as exciting to see the foot races that day. Staid, sober men skipped around like escaped lunatics and one old lady was noticed driving her stake down in the center of the rail road track. After she had completed the task she sat down on the ground by her little monument and the soldiers had hard work to persuade her that she was camping on land dangerous and not subject to settlement. By 3 o'clock the train from the north arrived with hundreds of passengers and the whole country where the city now stands was black with a surging, crowding, running, yelling mass of humanity.

THE OKLAHOMA COLONY—a company of men from Burlington, Paola, Garnett, Baldwin, Greeley and Colony, all towns of Kansas—organized long before Oklahoma was opened for settlement, had representatives in the city by 1:15 on the afternoon of the 22d. Rev. James Murray was president of this company and C. P. Walker, secretary. It was their plan to unite with the people on the town site and in order that the action might be in harmony with the law, they employed Mr. Mathews, a former employee of the land office at Washington, as their attorney, and Col. Harrison, of La Cygne, to act as their surveyor. The instructions of their attorney was to get on the land as soon after 12 o'clock as possible and immediately call an election for mayor and other city officers. The company chartered three cars and put the livery rigs of Mr. Phillips, of Colony, in two of them, and on Friday, April 19th all went to Purcell, in the Chickasaw Nation, from which point Mr. Phillips was to furnish conveyances with which the company were to make the overland trip to Oklahoma City.

They left Purcell at noon, Saturday, April 20th and

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drove up the Canadian to the southwest corner of township 10, north range 3 west, where they went into camp. By Monday noon, the 22d, the crowd was increased by other arrivals till it numbered over three hundred. By a vote of the people D. Walker, of Greeley, Kansas, was elected captain. Upon comparison it was found the watches in the crowd differed fully one half hour. Mr. Kincaid, of Cherryvale, Kansas, and Rev. James Murray rode in a one horse top buggy and reached the town site of Oklahoma City in one hour and fifteen minutes, a distance of ffften miles. Mr. Harrison and C. P. Walker—the company's surveyor and secretary—had been on the scene but a few minutes before the arrival of Mr. Kincaid and Rev. James Murray, and were at work on the government reservation not knowing that it had been withdrawn for military purposes. When this fact was made known, they commenced operations west of the rail road and erected a big tent near where the Gazette office now stands. This tent was made the headquarters of the Oklahoma Colony and about three o'clock the polls were declared open and voting commenced for mayor and city clerk. When the votes were counted—over four hundred having been cast—it was found that James Murray was elected mayor and C. P. Walker, city clerk. While this election was going on, Hon. Sidney Clarke, of Lawrence, Kansas, and General G. B. Weaver of Iowa—as representatives of fhe Seminole Town and Land Company—addressed the people from a wagon, protesting against the election, and called for a public meeting at the intersection of Main and Broadway the following evening. Nor were these the only town companies at work : The GAINESVILLE TOWN COMPANY, of Texas, were platting and surveying the town site, while hundreds of people, each man a town company unto himself, settled where ever they could find a vacant place without regard to lines, streets, lots or anything else. Matters were decidedly mixed, yet comparative quiet reigned and there were no brawls or bloodshed. Attorney R. R. Connella, of Texas, from the north side of California avenue near Broadway, addressed a large crowd of people upon the subject of the conflicting surveys and upon motion of Judge O. H. Violet, of California, a committee of six was appointed by Mr. Connella to wait upon the presidents and surveyors of the various town companies with a view of holding a conference and adjusting the differences by harmonizing the various proposed plats. When night came no settlement had been effected. The night was cold and clear and six thousand people

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were without shelter. New York and Georgia were bed mates, that night. Ohio and California rested upon each others bosom. Michigan and Arkansas walked arm in arm the livelong night to keep their blood in circulation. Texas and Missouri were as loving sisters. The Sucker, the Michigander, the Hoosier, the Key Stone, the Buck-eye, the Beef Head, the Creole, the Clam Catcher, the Tar Heel, the Tooth Pick and the Whelp were brothers that night. Truly, the lamb and lion laid down together.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 23D.

The arrivals Monday night numbered more than two hundred. The new city was astir early Tuesday morning and there was great skirmishing for breakfast. Edibles of any and all kinds were in brisk demand and those persons who had established lunch counters reaped a golden reward. Parties from the effete east—who would have disdained to trode and trafic in culinary lines—erect-ed booths and eating houses out of tents and dispensed lemonade, water and poor sandwiches at a high price to the hungry multitude.

There was but one well in the city, on Santa Fe street, opposite the depot and some enterprising individ-ual hired a man to pump water while he collected toll at the rate of five cents per pint. This occasioned much complaint and General Merritt hearing of the outrage, promptly ordered a military guard put over the well with instructions to allow the people to take the water like salvation, without money and without price.

An ineffectual effort was made in the forenoon to get the surveyors of the different town companies together so that the differences in the surveys of the town s.te could be adjusted. Matters were in chaos till about 3 o'clock in the afternoon when the people came together spontan-eously and it was one of the most exciting mass meetings ever held in the city. A. C. Scott, of Iola, Kansas, was called to preside, and M. H. Woods, of Garnett, Kansas, was elected secretary. After tumultuous discussion it was decided that an entirely new survey of the town site be made, and that a committee of fourteen citizens be chosen by the mass meeting to conduct the survey and adjust the claims to lots. The election of this committee of fourteen was an amusing performance. When one had been elect-ed there would be a hundred names shouted in nomina-tion. Each candidate was required to get up before the people for their inspection. When the nominee mounted the box and made his bow to the crowd he would be

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greeted with cat calls, "Rats!" "Sit down!" "Where are you from, and what did you leave for!" Taken all in all it was a good natured crowd and the fourteen gentlemen elected were: O. H. Violet, of California; M. V. Barney, of Chicago; C. W. Price, of Colorado; M. H. Woods, of Kansas; A. C. Scott, of Kansas; W. P. Shaw, of Missouri; J. B. Wheeler, of Michigan; B. N. Woodson, of Texas; W. H. Ebey, of Kansas; John A. Blackburn, of Missouri; William Raney, of Nebraska; D. J. Moore, of Kansas; D. E. Murphy, of Indiana, and C. T. Scott, of Texas.

Mr. Raney declined to serve on the committee and A. L. Mendlick, of Wisconsin, was appointed to fill the vacancy. The committee immediately held a meeting at the post office building where an organization was effected and the following officers elected; John A. Blackburn, president; O. H. Violet, vice president; J. B. Wheeler, treasurer, and M. H. Woods, sectetary.

Main street was well to the front by night having numerous houses completed and in course of construction. Every train brought great numbers of new citizens from all parts of the country and the new city was booming by the second night of its existence. Ten thousand people bivouacked that night on the town site. The great bend in the river swarmed with people and glittered with camp fires. About ten o'clock Tuesday night some fellow in camp down by the river, missed one of his mules. He passed the word around in the immediate vicinity and plunged into the timber to seek the lost animal.

The mule was discovered shortly afterward by a man with a deep and strong voice, who was a friend of the animal's owner. Rising from his bed on the ground the deep voiced man called out, "Oh, Joe! Here's your mule!" It was a remarkably quiet night and this unique shout was heard far and near. One after the other caught it up and in less than three minutes, ten thousand men were vieing with one another to see who could yell the loudest "O, Joe! Here's your mule!" It was the mightiest shout ever heard in the valley of the North Canadian and it was kept up until the military on the two hills, over half a mile away, caught the fever, and then the bedlam was renewed. Joe and his mule both committed suicide it is said.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24.

The citizens' committee of fourteen went to the township line running east and west on Reno avenue and made it the southern boundry line of their work. An enormous

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crowd followed them from lot to lot as they slowly proceeded ho adjust the individual rights thereto. In a great many instances there would be a squatter on each end of a lot and a third fellow holding it down in the middle. The committee would hear the story of each claimant and then by vote decide to whom the lot would go. The person receiving the lot paid the committee's treasurer the sum of one large dollar to defray the expense of the survey. The crowd became so dense that O. H. Violet went to General Merritt and asked for a detail of the military to keep the committee's track clear. The commanding general promptly complied with the request and until Thursday afternoon a guard of soldiers with fixed bayonets held the crowd back and gave the committee room to breath and work. Thursday afternoon General Merritt received the false information that the committee were using the military to extort from the lot claimants one dollar per capita and he directed that the guard be withdrawn, which was done. While this adjustment of lots was going on in the southern part of the city, hundreds of citizens were settling in the north part upon the lines of the Seminole survey and those who could not find any place to settle, were talking loud, holding meetings, and denouncing everything and everybody.

### THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, APRIL 25 AND 26.

These two days marked the birth of the gambling epoch. The immediate space west of the depot was thick with tents and pavilions where stud poker, faro, craps, shell games and monte reigned supreme. These places were open day and night and when the first fiddler arrived there was sharp competition for his services. These resorts were always crowded, and many a poor fellow who came to make for himself a little home in the new land out of his scanty savings, went dead broke within an hour after his arrival.

Instructions had been given the military to keep a sharp lookout for the introduction of alcoholic liquors and the soldiers on this detail, under the immediate command of the provost marshal—Captain D. F. Stiles, of the Tenth infantry—were vigilant and but little whiskey found its way into the city, and a drunken man, in the first week or two of the city's history, was a rara avis.

The citizens' committee labored faithfully, and did their best to mete out fairness and justice. Strenuous efforts were made during these days to harmonize the conflicting lines of the surveys, but without tangible re-

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sults. Individual grievances were poured in upon the committee, railroad representatives clamored for a hearing and it was invariably the small hours of the morning before members of the committee closed their eyes in sleep.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 27.

On the morning of this day, the surveyors of the citizens' committee reached Main street—according to the Seminole survey—where they encountered the first real opposition. People had already settled along the lines of the Seminole survey in that part of the city, and they positively refused to be moved or shifted. A committee was appointed to assist the surveyors but it was powerless to act. The surveyors would put down their stakes and the settlers would immediately pull them up. The excitement was high for a time and serious trouble seemed imminent. The right spirit prevailed however, and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, fully three thousand people assembled in mass meeting at the corner of Broadway and Main, with A. C. Scott presiding, and with creditable skill did he manage that mighty throng.

A committee of ten citizens—five from the north side and five from the south side of Main street—were selected to harmonize the conflicting surveys. General J. B. Weaver, Captain W. L. Couch, A. C. Scott, Moses Neal and M. M. Beatty were elected from the north side; Judge John T. Voss, John Wallace, C. P. Walker, M. V. Barney and C. T. Scott from the south side. This committee consulted long and unanimously agreed upon a report adjusting the strip between the two surveys. It was that the survey of the citizens' committee and its adjustment should stand up to Grand avenue, or what was then called Clarke street; that the space between Grand avenue and south of the lots abutting upon the south side of Main street, should be platted into twenty-two lots standing east and west, and five commons, the latter to belong to the city. This report was presented to a mass meeting in the evening by General Weaver, in behalf of the committee. It was adopted with great cheering. Hon. Ledru Guthrie presided at this meeting and Judge O. H. Violet was secretary. Captain W. L. Couch was elected temporary mayor, W. P. Shaw, temporary recorder, and an election for permanent officers agreed upon for May 1st. The following Articles of Confederation after being read and discussed were adopted:

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# ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION.

"We, the people of Oklahoma City, in the Indian Territory, for the more adequate protection of property and for the better preservation of order, and to form a more perfect union, do ordain these resolutions to be in force and effect.

First: That there be elected one temporary mayor, who shall hold this office for the term of five days, or until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

Second: That there shall be elected one temporary recorder, who shall be elected for five days, or until a permanent provisional successor is duly elected and qualified.

Third: It shall be the duty of the temporary mayor to call an election for the first day of May, 1889, for mayor, for recorder, for police judge, for city attorney, and city treasurer and six councilmen, which shall be by proclamation signed by said temporary mayor, and attested by said temporary recorder, and shall be posted in in three public places in said city at least two days before the day of said election, and shall proclaim the manner, the time and the places for holding the same. He shall be ex-officio chief of police, and shall have power to appoint such additional persons to act as police as he may deem necessary to preserve good order; he shall have the power to designate and appoint three judges for each voting place who shall have charge of the ballot boxes and the counting of said ballots.

Fourth: The temporary recorder shall make a complete record of this article in a book for that purpose, together with the proclamation of the mayor, and shall perform such other duty as may be imposed upon him by the temporary mayor or council before his successor is elected and qualified.

Fifth: Said permanent mayor and councilman shall constitute the legislative power of said city government, and shall have power to provide by ordinance such rules and regulations as they may deem best for the public welfare of said city.

Sixth: The temporary mayor, recorder, and police, appointed under said temporary mayor, shall each receive the sum of one dollar for their services."

The meeting closed with three rousing cheers and the singing of "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow." The day closed with everybody cheerful, for the happy assurance was theirs that an adjustment of their greatest differences was close at hand.

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## SUNDAY, APRIL 28.

The first Sunday in Oklahoma City was remarkably quiet considering the unfavorable circumstances under which the people labored. A threatened storm caused those having household goods and merchandise exposed, to provide shelter, and the saw and hammer were not idle by any means on that day. Captain D. F. Stiles—the provost marshal—visited all the gambling and dance houses and notified them not to open up on that day and not one of them disobeyed the order.

Rev. Chas. C. Hembree, of Kansas City, visited the infantry camp and made arrangements with the chief trumpeter, Joseph Perringer, company K, Eighteenth infantry, for the sounding of church call with the trumpet throughout the city. As the lone musician traversed the streets sounding this rather solemn military call through his polished trumpet, hundreds followed him not knowing what it meant. At the corner of Main and Broadway the large concourse of people were halted and Rev. Hembree, a Presbyterian minister, preached from the text found in Tim., 2nd chapter and 3rd verse: "Thou shalt therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

On the hill north of Main street about where the Tabernacle now is on Third street, Rev. James Murray and Mr. W. P. Shaw, conducted a Sunday school in accordance with the forms and regulations of the M. E. church.

## MONDAY, APRIL 29.

Work on buildings went rapidly forward and men who could not drive a nail in the ground secured employment as carpenters at good wages. The streets assumed shape and many new business enterprises were established. To leave a familiar locality for a few hours was to never find it again, so rapidly did the face of the young city change.

The metropolitan newspapers came filled with strange stories of crime and riot in Oklahoma, but they were false in every particular. The city had practically no telegraphic communication with the outside world. There was only one wire and that was crowded with railroad business, and it was well nigh impossible to send a telegram however important. A second wire reached the city about May 10th, but the stirring struggle was over by that time.

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Temporary Mayor Couch issued in accordance with the Articles of Confederation the following proclamation:

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas: By virtue of authority vested in me by certain articles adopted by the citizens of Oklahoma City, I. T., at a mass meeting held by them in said city on the 27th day of April, 1889, authorizing the calling of an election for permanent officers therein designated to be held on the first day of May, A. D. 1889 for the designation of the manner, and time and places for holding the same, and,

Whereas: By section 2 it is provided that at said election to be held under said articles there shall be elected one person who shall be designated and termed Mayor, and one person as Recorder, and one person as Police Judge, and one person as City Attorney, and one person as City Treasurer, and six persons to act as Councilmen, who shall hold their offices for the term of one year, and,

Whereas: By section 2 it is provided that the temporary Mayor shall appoint three suitable persons to act as Judges of each election precinct, to be named by the Mayor, who shall have charge of the ballot boxes and of the counting of the ballots, and shall report the result of the same to the Mayor and Recorder, who shall declare said persons receiving the highest number of votes elected; who after taking and subscribing to the oath of office required generally of such offices as they may have been elected to fill.

Now, therefore, I, W. L. Couch, temporary Mayor of the town of Oklahoma City, do proclaim that a general election for one person as Mayor, for one person as Recorder, for one person as Police Judge, for one person as City Treasurer, for one person as City Attorney, and for three persons for Councilmen from each ward, shall be held in the town of Oklahoma City, I. T., on the first day of May, A. D. 1889, which election shall be by ballot, either printed or written, and each citizen of lawful age of said town shall be entitled to vote for said officers, and that the places for voting shall be opened at 8 o'clock a. m. and close at 6 p. m., and that there shall be two voting precincts dividing said city into two wards as follows: All persons residing north of Clarke street shall be entitled to vote at the places designated in said ward, which is at the junction of Main and Broadway; all persons residing south of Clarke street shall be entitled to vote at the place designated, which is at the junction of

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California avenue and Broadway. The following persons are designated to act as judges of the election north of Clarke street, viz: J. W. Gibbs, George S. Chase and Moses Neal; and those to act as judges in the ward south of Clarke street, O. H. Violet, John A. Blackburn and James Murray, who shall count and return the ballots to the temporory Recorder who shall canvass said returns and make announcement of the result as soon as can be done.

Attest:
WM. P. SHAW,
City Recorder.

WILLIAM L. COUCH,
Temporary Mayor.

A committee of six, three from the citizens' committee of fourteen, and three from the committee of ten, consisting of W. L. Couch, John Wallace, C. P. Walker, C. W. Price, M. V. Barney and J. B. Wheeler, were appointed to adjust individual rights to property in the strip between the two surveys.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 30.

The adjusting committee of six completed their labors on the strip as best they could, although there was a great deal of complaint and the committee had much to contend with. The election to be held on the following day was the most interesting topic and in the afternoon three tickets were in the field. On every corner, in every vacant place, large crowds stood patiently and listened to argumentative gentlemen extole the valorous deeds and glorious achievements of their respective candidates.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 1.

The election passed off quietly although considerable excitement was manifested. The troops remained in camp all day in readiness to march at a moments notice to quell any disturbance, but there was none reported. Hundreds of people did not vote from the simple fact that they did not care to leave their work. The election resulted as follows: W. L. Couch, mayor; John A. Blackburn, recorder; M. C. Quinton, treasurer; O. H. Violet, police judge; Chas. Chamberlain, city engineer; Sidney Clarke, E. G. Hudson, John Wallace, C. T. Scott, W. C. Wells and J. E. Jones, councilmen.

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# THE OFFICIAL VOTE.

| MAYOR. | 1ST WARD. | 2D WARD. | TOTAL. |
|---|---|---|---|
| W. L. Couch | 599 | 167 | 766. |
| Ben. S. Miller | 70 | 196 | 266. |
| James Murray | 158 | 170 | 328. |
| RECORDER. | | | |
| John A. Blackburn | 497 | 147 | 644. |
| Nat. B. Jones | 209 | 225 | 464. |
| M. H. Woods | 96 | 57 | 152. |
| POLICE JUDGE. | | | |
| O. H. Violet | 286 | 401 | 687. |
| A. C. Scott | 517 | 69 | 586. |
| CITY ATTORNEY | | | |
| Ledru Guthrie | 550 | 145 | 695. |
| W. W. Witten | 246 | 294 | 540. |
| R. R. Connella | 4 | 56 | 60. |
| CITY TREASURER. | | | |
| M. C. Quinton | 530 | 119 | 649. |
| Robert Kincaid | 253 | 320 | 573. |
| CITY ENGINEER. | | | |
| Chas. Chamberlain | 416 | 49 | 465. |
| W. P. Shaw | 146 | 123 | 272. |
| R. E. Wynn | 105 | 75 | 180. |
| P. C. Burns | 30 | 75 | 105. |

COUNCIL.

First ward: Sidney Clarke. 513; F. G. Hudson 506; John Wallace, 329; W. T. Richardson, 192; C. T Scott, 118; W.C. Wells, 120; J. E. Jones, 138.

Second ward: C. T. Scott, 307; W. C. Wells, 302: J. E. Jones, 545; C. P. Walker, 58; J. L. Woodford, 57.

## GROWTH AND PROGRESS OF THE CITY.

When it was declared that W. L. Couch had been duly elected mayor, matters gravitated to their natural centers and men pursued their various avocations with a decorum worthy of the highest commendation. The work of building was carried on day and night and in two weeks more than one thousand buildings were enclosed. There would have been double this number had it not been from the fact that it was impossible to obtain lumber. It was for the first two or three weeks a city of tents. On Saturday, May 4th, a wind storm commenced and raged for fully a week. It came from the north-west and is one of the disagreeable rememberances of the city's early days. But few people were living in houses and

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their goods and persons were at the mercy of the wind and weather. Tents were blown down and the air was clouded with dust and dirt almost to the point of suffocation. The second Sunday was a stormy one and upon the night of that day the hardest rain storm prevailed ever known in the south-west. It was the end of the dirt and dust reign however, and the procession of progress was again formed and the onward march resumed. Thousands of strangers from all parts of the world visited the new city in its earliest days and real estate men who were as numerous as lemonade stands, did a thriving business. Within one week after the opening lots on Main street were in feverish demand at from $100 to $1,000, according to location. This, as a matter of course, will be understood to refer only to the sale of the settler's relinquish or possessory rights.

Real estate men complained that everybody wanted to buy property and that but few could be found wanting to sell.

## SOUTH OKLAHOMA

The act of congress limiting a town site to three hundred and twenty acres caused SOUTH OKLAHOMA to be surveyed on the 23d of April. An election was held on the 27th at which over five hundred votes were cast and the following city officers elected: G. W. Patrick, mayor; W. T. Bodine, city recorder; Col. L. P. Ross, city attorney; N. C. Helburn, city marshal; John Cochran, city treasurer; councilmen, J. P. McKinnis, S. E. Steele, E. W. Sweeney, E. S. Hughes and W. L. Killebrew.

South Oklahoma is in realty a continuous part of Oklahoma City, being laid off in conformity with it. The line dividing the two cities is an imaginary one running along the center of Reno avenue. The town site segregates three hundred and twenty acres and the two town sites six hundred and forty acres, lying wholly west of the Santa Fe rail road.

The drainage for both cities is excellent and never failing water is found at from twenty to thirty-five feet, the shallowest depth being on the highest ground.

After the surveys of the town sites were established the following streets were found laid off in regular order and named, East to West: Seventh, Sixth, Fifth, Fourth, Third, Second, Flrst, Main, Grand avenue, California avenue, Reno avenue, Washington avenue, Noble street,

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Chickasaw, Pottawottamie, Frisco and Choctaw. North to South: Santa Fe, Broadway, Robinson, Harvey, Hudson and Division, twenty-three in all. On Saturday, May 18, just twenty-five days after the opening, seventy-five buildings were counted on First street, one hundred and forty-two on Main, one hundred and two on Clarke street now Grand avenue, ninety-two on California avenue, eighty-seven on Reno and one hundred and ten on Broadway. No buildings were counted unless fronting the street.

The above makes a total of six hundred and six buildings on the six principle streets at that time. On the other streets and in the business part of the town were one hundred and sixty-three buildings, and in the resident part of the city there were four hundred houses, making a grand total of one thousand one hundred and sixty-nine buildings erected in twenty-five days.

What a record! How active and industrious those people must have been! They were unknown to the world and to fame before they came to Oklahoma! In their founding of a city individual great men were dwarfed by the rising up of the multitude, even as mountain peaks lose their prominence by the surrounding heights only a little lower; and it can be truly said that the founders and builders of Oklahoma City will be put down in the records of the future as a people, who in their wish and craze for gold, did not forget their duty to home, to country and to God.

It has been repeatedly stated in the public press that the people were lawless, avaricious, and that in their eagerness to acquire riches, forgot sacred things and lost that respect for law and order which their fathers had. Such reports were false and a great injustice to the first settlers of Oklahoma. In the future their names will be linked with the glorified names of men who made up other generations. They will leave their impression. Many of them can not achieve eternal individual fame, for, with the mass of mankind life is little more, after all, than a struggle for bread, and generations follow each other even as one wave follows another on the breast of the sea and like them disappear in the deep when the puff of air which is called life has blown itself out. Each particular generation leaves its own impressson and that impression will be recalled long after, even as savants in working out geological problems, note the shore lines as they were made through the ages by waters that long ago flowed out and were lost in the sea. The men of 1776 left their impression so marked that now, as we call over the illustrious names saved from that epoch, we see in

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thought, behind them, a sturdy race, calm-fronted and resolute, who were equal to the pain and labor of giving birth to a new nation. The generation of 1812 is just as fairly impressed. Their rambling fights at Lundy's Lane and New Orleans, on Lake Erie and out upon the ocean revealed all the energy and pluck necessary to begin in earnest the conquest of a continent. In that age, too, the calm which followed the great revolutionary upheaval had its reward. There was a galaxy of writers, speakers and thinkers produced which were a glory to the earth. So, too, with the mighty work on hand to do and with so few workers, invention bent itself to create out of wood and iron helps to man, so that with their aid his own labors might be infinitely multiplied. In that generation the steam engine began to sound its notice that an evangel of iron had come to the earth to take from the arms of flesh the heaviest physical burdens upon its arms of iron, and to multiply the speed of labor even as it would its power. Then the impression which the next generation gave was still more strongly marked. It began with a handful of men, with an audacity never equaled since the son of Phillip started for Persia, invaded an enemy's country, and against an overwhelming foe pressed its way up the rocky fastnesses of the Cordilleras, captured the capital of the country and dictated a peace. Then followed the exodus of the Argonauts, by sea and across the deserts to the Golden Coast. These two acts were but preliminary to the mighty one which was to succeed ; wherein in the dead-lock of a civil war the valor that drove each side onward, as reckoned by the lists of dead and wounded in the wake of the bloody wave, shows a record which is without a parallel in modern wars. But even that was not such an exhibition of native greatness as what followed when out of chaos order was born, and all the broken threads of industry were picked up, one by one, and woven anew into a perfect garment to wrap the fair land in. Like the others, this generation will leave its impression. The names of the men and women who laid the corner stones of civilization in Oklahoma will be revered in the years to come. They will live on painted canvas and in sculptured marble ; nothing can assail or obscure them ; and as the revolving world measures off the cycles of time their names "will brighter glow and gleam immortal unconsumed by moth or rust."

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## GRAND AVENUE.

Grand avenue in the early days of the city's history was called Clarke street—in honor, it is presumed, of the Hon. Sidney Clarke.

It was the "bone of contention" for a long time and had half a dozen names. A petition was put in circulation on the 18th of May, 1889 to change its name and the Gazette of May 21st, suggested that as its creation had led to many citizens being deprived and plundered of their lots without recompense, that a very appropriate name for it would be Stolen avenue. In the interest of harmony however, the same journal recommended that to perpetuate the name and services of a man whose best years were spent in striving for Oklahoma, that as a memorial to the honor of David Payne, it shonld be called Payne avenue. This recommendation was not acted upon and it is said that W. H. Carter—of the firm of Carter & Rugg—named it Grand avenue and to the present it has retained that name. Carter was one of the "leading citizens" in those days, but since then blundered in business, swindled his partner and went where the woodbine twineth.

## THE MASONIC FRATERNITY.

The first public move toward organization of the members of the masonic order in the city, was made Friday night, May 10th, 1889. An informal meeting was held in an unfinished room adjoining the post office on Main street upon that night and forty-one knights of the square and compass were present. S. Linn Biedler, of Illinois, was elected chairman, and A. C. Scott, of Kansas, secretary. On motion of Dr. A. J. Beale, a committee of five was appointed to confer with the Grand Lodge with the purpose of obtaining a dispensation for a charter. This committee consisted of S. Linn Biedler, J. M. Steade, J. A. Keys, D. W. Gibbs and H. B. Calef. The Oklahoma Journal, of May 17th, 1889, says this of the meeting: "For those present it was a memorable occasion, certainly they will not forget the interesting and picturesque scene, the unfinished room, the temporary floor, furnishing pitfalls for the unwary, the gusts of wind coming through the open spaces, again and again leaving them in darkness, the earnest and hearty men inspired by the most fraternal spirit. All this will linger long in the memory of those present."

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REGISTRY OF THOSE PRESENT.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. C. Bailey, | of Kansas, | Alex Shields, | of Kansas, |
| W. L. Harvey, | " | J. E. Bell, | " |
| Horace B. Calef, | " | H. S. Heap, | " |
| G. G. McGregor, | " | James Geary, | " |
| M. C. Gharst, | " | J. H. Barry, | " |
| Taylor Logan, | " | H. W. Kirtland, | " |
| H. M. Drake, | " | Sam'l H. Radebaugh, | " |
| James Cunningham, | " | W. H. Crater, | " |
| A. C. Scott, | " | S. Linn Biedler | of Illinois. |
| Fred H. Reed, | Ohio. | J. S. Shields, | New York. |
| J. M. Steade, | Ind. Ter. | David W. Gibbs, | Ohio. |
| Dr. A. J. Beale, | Kentucky. | John A. Keys, | Ind. Ter. |
| W. F. Penehouse | Ind. Ter. | G. A. Wickline, | Texas. |
| M. L. Holloway, | Penn. | Robert W. Beatty, | W. Va. |
| J. B. Westbrook, | Ohio. | G. W. Thomas, | Ind. Ter. |
| Alex. Logan, | Illinois. | Edmund G. Hudson, | Ill. |
| Larned Oleson, | N. B. | Richard Poplin, | Montana. |
| H. Arronsmith, | Tenn. | W. P. Shaw, | Mo. |
| M. V. Sullivan, | Ohio. | L. H. Goodrich, | Arizona. |
| | | L. B. Baird, | Kentucky. |

Regular weekly meetings of the members of the order were held until their organization under a dispensation on the 23d of September, 1889. The Grand Lodge at its annual meeting in Purcell, I. T., granted the North Canadian Lodge No. 36, a charter on November 6, 1889. The North Canadian Lodge is a branch of the Eastern Star Lodge of the Indian Territory. The charter members of the North Canadian Lodge No. 36, numbered twenty-three and the total number of members at its organization was twenty-nine. Its first meeting and election of officers under a charter was held December 13th, 1889, and the following were the officers elected :

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C. M. Keller, | W. M. | Major J. E. Bell, | Secretary. |
| Dr. C. F. Waldon, | S. W. | W. P. Stork, | S. D. |
| Maj. W. A. Monroe, | J. W. | Taylor Logan, | J. D. |
| David W. Gibbs, | Treasurer. | L. H. Graham, | Tyler. |

On the 7th of November, 1889, the grand officers of the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, were escorted to Oklahoma City by General and Mrs. Cramer from Purcell, I. T., where the regular meeting of the Grand Lodge had been held. They were : Rev. Joseph Murrow, of Muskogee, Mr. Rennie, E. H. Boyle, W. H. Boyle, W. A. McBride, W. P. Lieper, Wm. Noble and J. J. McAllister, for whom the town of McAllister, I. T., was named. They were driven over the city and tendered a reception in the afternoon at the Masonic hall. The North Cana-

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dian Lodge is in good working order and is the oldest lodge in the Oklahoma Territory and at present has the greatest membership.

## FIFTY-TWO DAYS AFTER THE OPENING.

June 15, 1889, fifty-two days after the organization of the city, the following census was taken by the Gazette :

| | |
|---|---|
| Children | 736 |
| Women | 721 |
| Men | 2,681 |
| | 4,138 |
| Ten per cent. for omission | 439 |
| Outside limits of 640 acres | 327 |
| Transients | 419 |
| Soldiers | 600 |
| Total population, | 5,923 |

HOUSES IN CITY LIMITS.

| | |
|---|---|
| All frame | 1,131 |
| Part canvas and tents | 472 |
| Total occupied houses | 1,603 |

BUSINESS.

Groceries, 34; drug stores, 21; dry goods and general merchandise, 28; flour, feed and commission, 11; hotels, 10; boarding houses, 20; bakeries, 10; restaurants, 37; ice cream parlors, 7; barber shops, 14; confectioneries, etc, 21 meat markets, 15; pumps and wells, 3; blacksmiths, 9; stone yards, 2; brick yards, 7; lumber yards, 27; banks, 4, capital $2,000,000. deposits, $120,000, paint shops, 9; tin shops, 7; furniture stores, 5; undertakers, 2; ten cent stores, 1; novelty stores, 2; paint manufactures, 3; clothing etc, 8; surveyors, 28; real estate, 29; shoemakers, 3; harness makers, 4; ice companies 2; lightning rod men, 2; roofers, 6: milkmen, 10; auctioneers, 5; physicians, 53; newspapers, 5; laundries, 11; billiard halls, 3; bowling alleys, 1; bottling works, 2; watchmakers, 4; gun shops, 2; dentists, 2; express wagons, drays, etc; 57; livery stables, 6; coal, lime etc, 1; music teachers, 3; photograph galleries, 3; theaters, 2; church societies, 5; schools, 1; fire companies, 1; news stands, 3; books and stationery, 3; wall paper, 2; secret societies, I. O. O. F., Masons, G. A. R., A. O. U. W., K. of L. and K. of P.

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# OKLAHOMA CITY'S BEAUTIFUL RIVER AND VALLEY.

The North Canadian river winding so beautifully around Oklohoma City waters and drains the garden valley of the world. Its general course is from north-west to south-east and it can be truly said that an earthly existence along its shores is an endless lullaby. It is from ten to fifteen rods wide and the average depth of its waters is three feet.

It abounds in fish of many kinds and the water is always perfectly pure.

It is the finest stream in the Oklahoma country and is the only one capable of furnishing water power sufficient for manufacturing purposes. The current is vigorous and the fall is twenty-eight feet to the mile through the canal. The course of the river is tortuous and as it winds hither and thither through the fertile valley, giving to each portion of the land equal facilities, one is struck with the thought that the country in and around Oklahoma City is like unto the one where Lot pitched his tent "well watered."

The timber along the river teems with game such as elk, deer, bear, wild cat, catamount, opposum, raccoon, squirrel, badger, lynx and wolf, while on the uplands there are quail, turkey, and chickens in countless millions.

The heavy belt of timber along the river's course yield an abundance of posts and rails, and furnishes an inexhaustable supply of fuel. Elm, coffeebean, hackberry, oak, walnut and cottonwood constitute the varieties. Away from the river there are large groves of upland timber which are composed chiefly of white oak. Some of these groves cover hundreds of acres of land and their supply of timber for all practical purposes will last for years and years to come.

The valley of the North Canadian, rich in soil, beautiful to the eye, is the ultima thule for the traveler, the scientist, the invalid, the dreamer and the farmer. It baubles with health giving springs and is destined to become the world's greatest sanitarium. The air is pure, the sky fleecy and soft, and so infinitely far above that it opens to the imagination undreamed of flights toward heaven. Luxurient vegetatiou is seen on every side while the perennial odor of a myriad of shrubs, ferns and flowers, delight the soul, and that forever without the bidding of wish or touch of labor.

Nature's hand in this wonderful valley is foreve

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open. The podigal productiveness of the soil is marvelous. So naturally advantageous and beautiful, it is beyond the ken of mortals to describe what it will be in the bye and bye when the brain, muscle and energy of the American people develop it. The change of living in this valley when accustomed to the more obdurate climes of the east and north, is like a short benediction after a long sensational sermon. It is a surprise, and traveling in this valley new surprises are found every day. There is a something in the very air that brings an actual sense of rest. It is a mature glory ; one of nature's poems, and while lulling and soothing tired men and jaded women, it does not enervate like the climate of the tropics, but fires the blood, puts light behind the eyes and polishes his intellect. They dream new dreams and sing new songs and can be likened to Lazzaroni unconsciously possessing heaven.

The valley of the North Canadian is a veritable garden of Eden. Natural splendors glisten upon every hand. The soil will produce every plant, fruit and cereal known in the United States. There are no drouths, no cyclones, no grasshoppers, no floods, no devestating rains or storms. It is the happy average of every joy and rest known to the world. It is the mundane "home of the soul." Come, live and be happy.

## PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT SCHEME.

In the early part of June, 1889—the citizens of Guthrie issued a call for a territorial convention to meet in that city on the 17th of July, for the avowed purpose of organizing and establishing a provisional government. This call was signed by an alleged "Territorial Executive Committee," and it was sounded far and wide all over the territory. The manner and mode of appointing delegates to the convention was arranged in detail, and the wires were all "fixed" for the booming of Guthrie. The object was for the Guthrie delegates to control the convention, have one of their number appointed provisional governor and their city made the capital. It was solely for the advancement of the interests of Guthrie, and the intention was, when the territory was divided into counties and the various offices filled with men favorable to Guthrie, to ask congress to ratify what they had done. The public press of Kingfisher, Norman and Oklahoma

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City protested vigorously against it and immense mass meetings were held in each of the above named towns. Many resolutions were passed at these meetings condemning the action of the "Territorial Executive Committee," and finally an opposition convention was called to meet at Frisco on July 15th. It was the first representative gathering of the people of Oklahoma territory and was called the "Advisory Convention." The call for this convention was signed by

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| M. M. Duncan, | Acting Mayor of | Lisbon. |
| G. DuBois, | " | Frisco. |
| J. T. Godfrey, | " | Reno City. |
| W. L. Couch, | " | Oklahoma City. |
| T. J Fagan, | " | South Oklahoma. |
| F. R. Waggoner, | " | Norman. |
| C. S. Rogers, | " | El Reno. |
| L. L. Stone, | " | Noble. |
| Virgil M. Hobbs, | " | Kingfisher. |
| W. A. Beaty, | " | Alfred. |

The convention assembled at 2 o'clock p. m. in the then unfinished building of Lieutenant Coffman, which was comfortably seated with benches and covered with boughs. Ledru Guthrie, of Oklahoma City, nominated Judge Amos Green, of Lexington, for temporary chairman, and his election was unanimous amid great applause. The Rev. J. E. Roberts, a methodist minister, invoked the Divine blessing upon the proceedings of the first convention ever held in the Beautiful Land. A committee on credentials was appointed consisting of Wm. Grimes, W. W. Witten, J. M. Cannon, T. J. Fagan, G. W. Fletcher, C. T. Quimby and George Foreman. When this committee retired, various delegates, including one lady, addressed the assemblage. Among the speakers were Mrs. Alice McAnulty, J. L. Brown, W. G. McDonald, A. C. Scott, J. V. Admire and General Weaver. The committee on credentials made the following report, which was adopted :

DELEGATES.

Oklahoma City.—Walter Shepard, T. H. Weiss, Ledru Guthrie, L. L. Bell, D. A. Harvey, W. W. Witten, P. H. Wilhelm, L. H. North, W. A. Monroe, J. E. Love, B. H. Hull, A. Jacobs, W. L. Couch, Sidney Clarke, C. W. Price, A. J. Beale, H. B. Mitchell, J. T. Hickey, H. B. Calef, S. Armstrong, J. A. Blackburn, W. B. Barger, A. C. Scott, H. W. Sawyer, R. W. McAdam, W. L. Killebrew, W. H. Ebey, C. P. Walker, A. Countryman, G. W. Adams,

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W. H. Harper, J. L. Grider, J. L. Brown, J. B. Otto, O. H. Violet, Sidney Denham, M. R. Glasgow, W. F. Higgie.

South Oklahoma—H. A. Bolinger, E. W. Sweeney, W. T. Bodine, E. Holden, Mr. McNish, J. S. Lennox, D. B. Madden, Albert Smith, Mr. Sigler, A. T. Ross, J. N. Harvey, J. P. McKinnis, R. G. Young, G. G. McGregor, S. N. Lodan, D. J. Spencer, Walter Dolson, I. N. Huntsman, R. Q. Blakeney, J. M. Gaston, C. B. Bradford, W. J. Wallace, B. T. Waller, J. Bohanan, D. C. McKennon, J. A. Swope, Dr. Taylor, W. H. Honneus, R. C. Hillburn. At large—T. J. Fagan, A. G. Brown, J. H. Beatty.

Lisbon—J. V. Admire, John O. Miles, James Burns, J. W. McLoud, John Garvey, J. E. Tincher, J. G. McCoy, S. D. Houston, E. L. Wallace, John P. Jones, R. C. Palmer, Henry Amey, Chester Howe, C. M. Cade, Wm. Callahan.

Kingfisher—Mayor Hobbs, T. L. Hughes, F. M. Blair, Wm. Lemoyne, Geo. H. Laing, W. W. Noffsinger, G. W. Cox, Dr. R. Green, Walter Ellis, T. E. Williford.

Lexington—Amos Green, P. R. Smith, A. M. Patterson.

Redwing—G. W. Fletcher.

Reno City—T. L. Easley, Thos. Russell, E. F. Mitchell, C. M. Staples, Wm. Morris, C. F. Quinby, Jack Stillwell, H. V. Clements, Angus McLain, Judge Hall, P. L. Smith, W. M. Cowan, George Mishler, J. C. Lambden. At large—C. J. Dubois, C. H. Keller.

Moore—John W. Cowan, N. A. Hughes, J. G. W. Pierson.

Rock Island City—Wm. Grimes.

Kingfisher City—E. C. Cole, Dr. Rand, Mr. McMechan.

Alfred—W. A. Beatty, Dr. D. McConnehey, W. T. Lewis.

Frisco—J. T. Godfrey, M. L. Brown, J. C. Coffman, J. M. Cannon, J. C. Sollitt, John Caykendall, George Winter.

Edmond—C. V. Eggleston, J. J. Hunt, S. W. Johnson, C. B. Powell, James Martin.

Union City—J. D. Harston, W. F. Ledbetter, W. H. Goodell, O. E. Pettee, T. J. Sanford.

Orlando—J. M. Walker, J. H. Dyer, T. W. Boise.

Matthewson—C. A. Gaskell, J. W. Bennett.

Township 7, Range 4, W. Matthews, D. T. Huntley. T. 12, R. 3. Samuel Crocker, Richard A. Field. T. 17, R. 6 J. A. Stalford, Milton Blair. T. 12 R. 5 H. A. Haskins, John R. Wilson. T. 18, R. 6 A. A. Brigham, T. Owens. T. 13 R. 6, W. H. Baker. T. 18 R. 1, Kit Karson. T. 16, R.

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6, W. Grimes, M. Posey. T. 13, R. 7, E. J. Simpson, J. R. Stevens. T. 13, R. 6, Peter Shields, Benj. Keith. T. 15, R. 6, W. T. Hayard, S. P. Blankenship. T. 14, R. 6, J. R. Booth, Alice McAnulty. T. 19, R. 8, J. H. Croff, Samuel Grotha. T. 15, R. 7, J. R. Stephens, Jack Marshal. T. 14, R. 7, W. H. Divin, A. E. Long. T. 10, R. 5, A. M. Harsha. T. 18, R. 7, E. C. Cook, P. C. Clark. T. 12, R. 6, W. S. Rice, J. S. McAnary. T. 19, R. 2, W. T. Reed, P. H. McDermid, J. V. Burgess. T. 16, R. 5, Todd Williams, John Young. T. 11, R. 6, C. T. Toarch. T. 17, R. 5, D. B. Garret, Chas. McDowell. T. 12, R. 2, A. M. DeBolt. T. 13, R. 6, W. Crum, C. M. Burke. T. 13, R. 4, J. H. Couch. T. 13, R. 5, A. I. Mathias, M. W. Johnson. T. 13, R. 1, N. T. Nix, J. A. Stafford. T. 11, R. 2, H. Geard, W. A. Arnold. T. 11 R. 4, John Jones, G. A. Lehman. T. 12, R. 7, Charles E. Lyle, Thomas Janson. T. 11, R. 5, Jos. E. Bolezel, A. Caha. T. 10, R. 6, Daniel R. Rigdon. T. 12, R. 4, M. C. NcAfee, M. M. Webster.

El Reno—W. G. McDonald, John A. Foreman, H. L. Bickford. A. Long.

T. 10, R. 7, G. W. Dixon. T. 17, R. 7 W. H. Hedges, D. W. Jones. T. 17, R. 5, John G. Crump. T. 16, R. 5, S. E. Saunders, J. P. Fletcher. T. 19, R. 3, C. E. Beck. T. 14, R. 4, P. M. Gilbert.

The Committee on resolutions, consisting of Sidney Clarke, J. L. Brown, P. B. Smith, C. B. Powell, John H. Beaty, J. M. McLoud, P. J. McCoy, W. G. McDonald, E. J. Simpson and J. C. Coffman, and on permanent organization, consisting of C. J. DuBois, G. W. Adams, D. B. Garrett, R. C. Palmer, P. M. Gilbert, P. A. McDermid and M. C. McAfee, were then appointed and retired for consultation. The committe on permanent organization returned shortly with a majority and a minority report, the first presenting Col. J. D. Miles, of Lisbon, for chairman, and T. M. Lewis, of Alfred, for temporary secretary, the second recommending that the temporary be made the permanent organization.

This was heatedly discussed for some time and finally in a call of the roll on the adoption of the minority report, but before it had proceeded far, it became so evident that the majority report would prevail overwhelmingly, that the leaders of the minority accepted the inevitable and withdrew their report. Col. Miles was then elected by a rousing vote and was escorted to the chair with great cheering. He spoke briefly, happily and to the point. Before further business was proceeded with, a vote of thanks with three cheers, was given to the retiring temporary chairman.

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Hon. Sidney Clarke presented the report of the committee on resolutions which was adopted and reads as follows :

"The people of Oklahoma Territory assembled in delegate convention for the first time, congratulate the people of the United States that the first steps have been taken on this soil to lay the foundation of a great and prosperous commonwealth. In less than three months, thousands of American homes have been established, populous cities have been built, municipal governments organized and peace and order secured throughout all the lands opened to settlement. At no time in human history has the world witnessed such marvelous and rapid developement of civilization, and nowhere in the United States, in the absence of state or territorial authority has there been greater security for life, liberty and property. Conscious of the high obligations resting upon us as the representatives in this convention of more than 50,000 people, thus exemplifying the best elements of American citizenship, and thus engaged in the material developement of the most fertile and beautiful portion of the public domain, we declare it to be impolitic and unwise to enter at this time upon the formation of a provisional territorial government for the following reasons :

1. Every indication points to the conclusion that congress must meet in extra session in October or November, and that that body will proceed at once to consider a bill for the organization of the territory of Oklahoma.

2. The regular session of congress will commence in less than five months when action on the bill can be had, should it fail to pass the extra session.

3. The discussion during the last five years in congress and by the public press, of every phase of the Oklahoma question has educated the public mind, demonstrated the necessity of territorial organization, and gives a reasonable assurance that such action cannot long be delayed.

4. The future Territory of Oklahoma should comprize all of the Indian Territory west of the ninety-sixth meridian, now occupied by a few thousand Indians, with the public land strip on the west, and should snpplant with its authority the reign of the cattle syndicates, and all the usages of barbarism and the injustice which has so long been dominant in this section of country, bearing in mind always that a just, humane and honorable course of conduct towards the wards of the government should be maintained.

5. No necessity exists for the organization of a pro-

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visional territorial government at this time. A vast majority of our people are opposed to the project, but even if it were desirable and practicable there is not sufficient time to put it in operation before congress will be able to pass an organic act.

6. It would be impossible for a provisional territorial government, unless established with great unanimity to compel obedience to its laws, or to establish and enforce a system of taxation from which it could derive support.

7. Believing, therefore, that the attempt to establish a socalled provisional government would be detrimental to the best interests of the people of Oklahoma, we not only declare our hostility to it, but we also give notice that we will refuse to recognize any such government by every honorable means in our power.

When the 17th of July arrived, Guthrie held a convention, but it was slimly attended. It adjourned without accomplishing anything, and met again in a few weeks and divided the territory into ten counties, passed many resolutions and adjourned. It ended with that, and the provisional government scheme fell into the worst kind of Grover Cleveland innocuous desuetude.

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## FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE OPENING.

Four months after the founding of the city, R. W. McAdam, proprietor and publisher of the Oklahoma Chief, published a carefully compiled directory of the city, which showed the city to have a population of 7,000 souls, and the following business houses and enterprises: Eight churches, four public and private schools, five public halls, two theaters, a board of trade, five miles of graded streets, five miles of sidewalk ten feet wide, a $50, 000 ice factory, a planing mill, three bottling works, three daily and three weekly newspapers, four banks with $300,000 capital, twenty-seven lumber yards, four coal yards, one wholesale lime, stucco and building material yard, forty-two groceries, (four wholesale,) twenty-three drug stores, twenty-eight dry goods and clothing stores, twenty-four hardware stores, seventeen flour, feed and commission houses, thirteen hotels, thirty-three restaurants, twelve bakeries, sixteen barber shops, twenty-four fruit, vegetable and confectionery stores, seventeen meat markets, nine pump, hose and well boring establishments, fifteen blacksmith shops, two stone cutting and seven brick yards, ten paint shops, eleven tin shops, seven furniture stores, three book and news stores, two paint manufacturers' branch houses, seventeen laundries, (one steam) four gun shops, nine billiard halls, eighteen club houses, five photograph galleries, two undertaking establishments, twenty-seven surveyors and engineers, forty-nine lawyers and forty-five doctors, (two female.)

## ENTERPRISING AND ENDURING.

The first industry that came to Oklahoma City was that of lumber. It arrived with the rush on the memorable 22d, and has kept pace with the city's developement and progress. The substantial lumber firm of the city, one that is backed by capital, energy and push—three essential factors in any enterprise—is that of Jones & Richardson, on Grand avenue and Harvey street. This firm has, without doubt or question, transacted more business in the city and territory than any two firms in the same lines.

### T. M. RICHARDSON,

The manager of the company's mammoth and numerous yards in the Oklahoma country and vice-president of the M. T. JONES LUMBER COMPANY, was born in Okolona, Chickasaw county, Mississippi, November 1, 1848. He was educated in the city of Aberdeen and resided in

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his native state until 1874, when he moved to Ennis, Ellis county, Texas, where he was identified with all the progression and important enterprises of that city for a number of years. From Ennis he removed to Albany, Shackleford county, of the same state. He was one of the incorporators of the M. T. JONES LUMBER COMPANY, the largest and most widely known lumber institution in all the south.

When Oklahoma opened for settlement, M. T. Jones and Mr. Richardson, with true business acumen, divined the great future of the country and at once established numerous yards along the line of the Santa Fe rail road, and, as in Texas, took the lead of all other dealers in their line. The immense stocks of lumber and shingles they carry in their thirty or more yards is conclusive evidence that their facilities are second to none. They constantly employ several hundred men, and are famed for their prompt sh.pments.

Mr. Richardson gives the management of their business in the territory and Texas his personal attention. He is an active, generous, public spirited citizen and is the peer of any living man for morality and integrity. He is vice-president of the Oklahoma Bank, a sound financial establishment, and his son, D. C. Richardson, has the handsomest private residence in the city.

M. T. Jones has his headquarters in Houston, Texas, and looks after the vast business of the M. T. JONES LUMBER COMPANY af that point.

The capital of this great lumber firm is over $350,000. Their trade is rapidly increasing and extending throughout the entire southwest. They well merit their success and the confidence reposed in them. The firm is enterprising, financially substantial, and will endure.

## FEATHERED CLAIM JUMPERS.

In the earliest days, when the citizens' committee of fourteen and the holders of lots on Main street came near clashing, when surveyors stakes were pulled up as fast as they were driven down, Richard Poplin, of Montana, who is an old time hunter, miner and explorer, constructed a martin box and raised it on his lot located on the strip between Main street and Grand avenue. In a very short time it became inhabited with quite a large number of martins. They remained in undisputed possession of their habitation but an hour or two for two woodpeckers discovered the tasty house and immediately besieged it. The battle was furious and resulted in the martins being put to inglorious flight. The woodpeckers took posses-

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sion of the place and held the fort for several days. Their jumping the martins claim was in keeping with the spirit of a great many citizens at that time, and is related to show that the men whose lots were taken away from them, had even the company of birds in their misery.

## THE OKLAHOMA JOURNAL.

The Oklahoma Journal was established by A. C. and and W. W. Scott, under the firm name of Scott & Scott. A large and well assorted plant was shipped from Iola, Kansas, about the time of the opening, arriving at Oklahoma City May 1. The first copy of the paper, an eight-column folio, was issued May 9, and was the first paper published in Oklahoma City. The material of the plant was at that time temporarily located in different places of shelter, a part of it being in a 9 x 12 tent, and part in the unenclosed Journal building. The first issue of the paper was called the Oklahoma Times, the name was changed in the next issue, May 16, to the Oklahoma Journal. The daily edition, seven-column folio, was begun June 3, since which date the paper has been regularly published as a daily and weekly.

September 15, 1889, Scott & Scott leased the Journal plant and business to J. J. Burke, who has since been the editor and publisher, with E. E. Brown as city editor.

## MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The physicians of the city first talked of forming an organization about June 1, 1888. On the night of the 11th, they met at the office of Dr. Bradford and effected the organization of The Oklahoma Medical Society. The officers elected were: L. W. Benepe, president; Delos Walker, vice-president; W. M. Baird, secretary; H. C. Way, treasurer. The objects of the society are shown in the following preamble: "We, the physicians of Oklahoma City, South Oklahoma and vicinity, for the purpose of investigating, by discussions, lectures and essays, all that pertains to our profession, including our relations to our patients and to each other, do hereby organize ourselves into a Medical Society."

Dr. Benepe, the president of the association, is a physician of extended practice and fine reputation both in Kansas and Illinois. He is a graduate of the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, and came to Oklahoma in the rush. He has an extensive practice in the city and vicinity, and is consulted in all serious cases.

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Dr. H. C. Way, comes from Wisconsin. He is an excellent physician and in every way worthy to fill any office of any medical association in the country. The physicians of the city are all men of high rank and good attainments. As a body they will ably represent the city in matters in and out of their profession.

A few of the prominent ones are C. F. Waldron, U. S. examining surgeon for pensions, J. C. Wynkoop, mentioned elsewhere in this book, F. S. Dewey, United States Army Surgeon, J. S. Childs, H. H. Black, A. J. Beale, mayor of the city, C. B. Bradford, I. W. Folsom, Holloman, J. R. McIlvain, Richardson, Rolater, and Thomson.

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# JENNIE'S LETTER.

## HOW A WOMAN TOOK A RANCH.

### NOVEL EXPERIENCES.

Dear Mollie: You know I promised to write you a long letter as soon as I got settled and at home on my claim. But I tell you if I wait till I get settled I never will write. You remember that red-headed beau of mine, the one it took two years to bring to terms, and then he proposed on condition that his mother approved of me, but this is going to be a longer job than that. You know when I left home I made a written plan of all that I should do, a sort of guide book you see. It covered forty-three pages of note paper, and then I forgot to put down the signs that a hen wants to set and a lot of other things.

Well, when I got down here my directions said: "buy a pony and hire a colored man to drive a team." It didn't take long to find a pony but it is an awful task to find a colored man that's honest and can drive a team, and that won't eat preserves and don't like chicken, but I found one that said that he was just that kind of a man that my directions prescribed, so I wrote out a contract from a book of forms Uncle George gave me and then the pesky darkey couldn't write so he dldn't sign it. I just made him hold the bible in his right hand while I read it to him and made him say amen to it aIl. I thought that that would hold him but he couldn't remember much of it

At noon on the 22nd I was on the line on my pony and had the colored man on the wagon right behind me. I gave him a compass and told him to follow the needle and he said he would. I told him he would find my claim by a red flag on it and he said he'd "be dar shuah and ruh his mules all de way."

I put on my wine colored stockings because they was so darned bad I couldn't wear them with low shoes and put on my rubber boots. Well as soon as the start was

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made I forgot all about the land and only tried to beat a big roan horse ahead of me. When I looked down once there was a great big gap between the boot tops and skirts and the wine colored stockings were showing clear above the knee. That's all that saved me. A great big Texas fellow was riding the roan and he kept looking back at the stockings until his horse stumbled and I went by him.

Then child, I was at the front. After running eight or ten miles I came to a pretty valley that just suited me, and stopped by a spring under some great big trees. I had a nice, hand-painted claim stake that I put down by the spring and four little stakes, with blue flags and the edges marked with woosted, to put on the corners. My directions said to pace eight hundred paces on each side but I was afraid I could not step far enough so I only counted once in a while. In this way I got a rose bush on one corner of my claim. I had to go around a cow to stake the other corner but I staked him in on the ground too. I put the other two corners in places where I knew it would be nice to have picnics and then went back to my pony. You see by a little foresight, a person can made a farm real nice. Another claimer from Arkansas says my stakes are stuck in a semi-circle; if they are, won't it be real pretty when I have flowers set out all along the line?

Well, after I got my staking all done it was real late, but you know I only wind my watch choir nights so it was run down. Anyway I went and found my pony, he had chewed all the color out of some blue bows I had tied on his "lariat"—that's what the call it here—I didn't mind it much though, as I didn't think anyone would come. After I unsaddled him I went to my saddle bags for lunch and don't you believe that nasty African had changed them someway. In one side there was a bottle that looked like the stuff pa calls "Old Wry," and some cards and loads for guns, and some more cards, and little blue and red ivory wheels about as big as a silver dollar. In the other pocket of the saddle bags was a pair of buck-skin pantaloons, I guess, but they was trimmed and fringed up so they looked like panties! There was some tobacco in one pocket and I stuck a fish hook in my finger in the other. I don't know what else there was for I never feel in other peoples pockets anyway.

It was almost sundown and my good darkey wasn't in sight and I recollected that I hadn't put out my red flag, and besides mine was in my saddle bags. What do you think I did Mollie? I took off my red corsets for a flag,

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but I couldn't find any pole to put them on so I laced them up and put them on my head, wasn't that cute?

My directions said, build a fire of buffalo chips, but as I couldn't find any, I concluded that the buffalo here never made any chips so I got a little wood. After I got a fire started I tasted the "Old Wry," it was awful queer but I thought it had got warm in the sun, so I put the bottle out on the grass a little while and then tasted it some more. Pretty soon I felt as if I wanted to hiccough or "holler," and you know how silly any one looks when they hiccough, so I hollered. In a few minutes I heard that blamed nigger sing out, "am dat you Miss Jennie?" I was awful glad to hear him so I said "yes, poke along here," and along he poked. I thought he looked awful funny, his face was covered with jam and there was some chicken feathers sticking in his hair, but I was so anxious I only said "for goodness sake hurry up that wagon."

He kept coming toward the fire and then I saw he had my afghan—you know that one I knit for Elder Singar, who went and married that horrid King girl—well he had it wrapped around his waist so that it fell down below his knees, and he looked like an Indian.

"Fore God Missus, I done took yer for a savoge wid dat red head fixin', so I done kept away." he said.

You see I had forgot to take off that corset after dark and it did make me look like a boy's Jack lantern.

Then he went on, "you see Miss, I done went in swimmin' back yeah, and de mules toah my breeches all up, so I done put on dis misble old pe'ce carpet.

Just to think, that wooley headed sinner had lost his covering, and then called my afghan a carpet! I was just too mad for any use, but I made him bring up the wagon, anyway. And just to think, my jam was all gone, and my two hens. that I brought to raise chickens from, were gone too.

You see it was lucky I only brought two hens, for I didn't intend to have anything but females on my farm. Oh, it was just awful! Well, I made some tea and had such a nice supper of tea, in my china cup, with some good sugar, but the old "wry" had spoiled my appetite for anything else.

And then, you see, I had an almost naked nigger in camp and none of my clothes would fit him, oh, my! my! what could I do? There was nothing in my directions for that.

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# JENNIE'S SECOND LETTER.

I tell you, Mollie, it was an awful predicament. I just thought the Scotch regiment, we used to admire so much, would have looked like chimney sweeps if their legs had been black. Well, I thought and I thought until I remembered the buckskin pants, and then I threw them under the wagon and told him to dress up. I thought he was awful quiet but guessed it was because he was so ashamed. I went to sleep after awhile and dreamed of a sky full of black feet with black legs wriggling all around the inside of it, trying to get down to an earth all made of buckskin pants with fringe on.

Well, when I got up in the morning, there was that awful darkey with the old "wry" bottle in his hand, my afghan around his neck and the rest of him barefoot all over. I just thought of the Zulus we saw at the museum and wished the black cannibal was in Africa where the crocodiles could eat him. But you know I have more presence of mind than a man, so I went and laid down in my blanket, and commenced to throw some brands from my fire towards the wagon. Pretty soon I heard the nig "Goddlemity, if dem skatees ain't nippers."

Then I just yelled, "Have you got on them p a n t s?" I was so anxious to see him dressed up that I forgot all about grammar. I didn't hear any answer but pretty soon I heard him building a fire and muttering "dem tings done bit clear frew my back." I peaked out and saw he had the pants on. They diden't come much below his knees and fitted him pretty tight, but I didn't say anything only when I saw his feet I wondered if he put on "them pants" over his head. We got breakfast and worked over the fire, and I noticed the pants kept fitting him more and more skin like. When he stooped they lifted his big heels clear off the ground, and when he tried to sit down they popped him up straight just like a jumping Jack. By and by the veins on his big feet began to swell, you see the pants were so tight the darkey was really in two parts and the lower part didn't circutate with the other. Finally he says, " Miss Jennie, I'se done snake bit, foah God I is." and the whites of his eyes and his white teeth covered his whole face. I took the ax and was going to bleed him in the foot but he danced around so I couldn't reach him. Then it occured to me that the pants were wet with dew when he put them on and they had shrunk up when the fire dried them. So I told him to lay down and then I poured cold water on him and hot tea when the water was gone. By that time the pants stretched so they hung on

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his legs in big wrinkles, 'till they looked like the elephant's legs in the circus.

But no matter how he looked, we got to work building a cabin, but we didn't get much done for the sun was hot and every time it dried out that nigger's pants I had to wet him down so he could work! O, Mollie, wasn't it mean to lose all the romance of being a boomer by having to throw water on a buck nigger to keep his pahts from choking his feet to death ?

Towards noon some men came along and offered to help me. We got everything out of the wagon and was glad to see my colored friend start, even if he was stealing a pair of pants that honestly would fit the largest man or smallest boy. Just as he started he called to me, "Miss Jennie you done got a pin ?" "What for ?" "Coz I can't find no needle on dis yeah compass."

O, Lordie, Lordie, Mollie, what was a real, black nigger made for ?

One of the men that helped me was real nice but he didn,t have pretty teeth ! The other one was quite a handsome boy but he seemed to be always feeling around him for something. The big man was awful quick to work and as my lumber was all cut ready, I soon had a nice little home, only you know the upper half of it was tent. When we got it done and was having a lunch, everything around on the ground like a real picnic—only there wasn't any committee on refreshments to pick out the best things for themselves—when a mouse run toward that boy and he just scooted and screamed ! I see then that he had been feelng for his back hair and his bustle, all morning ! The man saw that I had caught on so he owned up that it was his wife and he had dressed her up like a boy so she could hold a claim too. The idea of a married woman wearing such awkward clothes as a man's just to get land from the government ; if I had my way I'd arrest her. They had a little one-horse rig just over the ridge, and she went over there and pretty soon came back with an old DeLaine dress with white ruffles in the the neck and sleeves. She was as homely as she could be and I didn't see what he married her for anyway. The man and I had got real well acquainted, but she was sulky and made him go back to their tent. I guess she was jealous for the next morning I couldn't find them anywhere.

However, I found some people on the next claim and now I board with them and go over to my farm and stay some every day. I tell you it's awful nice to sit in my rocking chair and do fancy work while I watch the clouds

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roll by and the hills, and doze occasionly. You know I always said I'd like farm work.

I shall have to make this letter short, so good bye.

Your loving JENNIE

P. S. I just got this letter: "Miss, you'd bettah come and git dem inger rubber pants off my old niggah."

"DINAHER."

P. S. Yesterday I didn't feel well and couldn't do my farm work, so I sent for a doctor. He's an awful handsome young man and I guess I'll have him attend me every day till I get well.

P. S. The doctor comes every day and helps me in my farm work, but I feel pretty well. I'm going to buy a cow. Can't yov send me some paper patterns of a milk-maid's cap?

J.

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# LAMENTATIONS OF A. BOOMER, ESQ.

Man that is born of a Boom is of few days and less nights. He cometh forth in a shadow and doeth much hopping under a cloud mostly.

He taketh the first train, in his mind, for the ungodly brakeman who calleth the boomer "a jay," is joyous in his lying, putteth him on the last car of the train which starteth not. He holdeth in his wrath though the sun goeth down upon it. He lieth by the wayside while the main track is blocked with cattle cars and hireth the wicked to swear for him.

At noon he shall cross the line and at the second watch pull manna and stick his stake where he listeth in the promised land, for hath not the railroad advertisement said so?

Yet he cometh like a thief in the night, and his baggage materializes in a far off kingdom; and he hath chills in the marrow of his bones and Noah's dove had more rest than he.

And when the morrow is come and he goeth forth to ask for manna, they give him "soup," and when he would plant his stake, he hath to pay pieces of silver or bear the stake away.

For, lo! while he laid on the side track and yearned, the deputy marshals went by on the main track, and the Indian agent and his cousins and aunts, and he of the army and those who are moonshiners planted many stakes and they lie about him like the spears of an army. And he saith am I not in ahel of a fix?

And he roameth around and is sad for the dust bloweth into his innermost secrets, and the rain weteth his outermost parts and he saith aloud; 'Is this Oklahoma?" and the echo answering him says, "You bet it is, kid!"

And when the morrow cometh he goeth again, and under the shadow of his slicker he sticketh yet another stake, and forthwith he heareth the voice of the Gentile crying, "Come off that roost; begorra, I'm the man that sthuck the first peg there upon" and he foldeth up his stake and departeth toward Jericho—which is translated

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under the freight house where he sleepeth. And he falleth among many thieves and lemonade peddlers, and saith, who hath woe and heaviness of heart and looketh into a mirror, and seeth the man aforesaid, Selah!

And again he cometh, and with the silver his mother hath given he buyeth a lot, and he saith here will I plant my vine and herewith will I go into the fig business, and sell hard cider to the unannointed. And ere he hath yet gotten the two boards, which he that selleth lumber hath given him for the price of a farm, nailed together, cometh a host of Philistines. He which is playing head of the city and centurion of the guard and the marshals smite him sore and say: "The city hath taken this for a passage way; get the hither." and though "hither" seemeth a long way off, he getteth.

And he girdeth his grip about him and goeth forth and selleth much linen and fine raiment that he might entertain himself at a lunch counter. And he saith, "Is thy servant a dog?" I will arise and go unto a ranch and feed swine (for the balance of this resolution see King James' version) but Kickapoos, the Indian, and Chickasaw the halfbreed, have been many moons ahead of him in getting a ranch job. So he goeth into the interior part of the wood, while the woodpecker singeth "There was a damphool in Ohio," and he kicketh himselp lustily. And he saith, "In my father's house are many calves fattened; lo, I will go fill myself with veal to the brim." But when he remembreth there are many ties to count, before he getteth at his father's veal, he cometh yet again within the gates of the city and setteth up as a real estate agent. And is it not written the last end of that man is worse than his first; and he hath much tribulation to make both ends meet and keep covering thereon. Selah!

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# G. A. R.

## FRANK T. ROCKWELL POST NO. 346, DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS G. A. R.

ORGANIZED AND OFFICERS INSTALLED SEPT. 16, 1889 BY C. M. RAWLINS, OF LYONS KANSAS, SPECIAL INSPECTOR.

ROSTER OF FIRST OFFICERS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Frank McMaster, | Post Commander. |
| O. H. Violet, | Sr. Vice-Commander |
| C. F. Johnson, | Jr. Vice-Commander. |
| A. G. Murray, | Chaplain. |
| H. H. Black, | Surgeon. |
| John Burton, | Quartermaster. |
| Wm. Lewis, | Officer of the day. |
| A. McFadden, | Officer of guard. |
| F. L. Cramer, | Adjutant. |

Post meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at Grand Army Hall, Bone & McKinnon building, corner of Broadway and California avenue.

SECOND ROSTER OF OFFICERS.

| | |
|---|---|
| O. H. Violet, | Post Commander. |
| T. J. Hickey, | Sr. Vice-Commancer. |
| H. H. Black, | Jr. Vice-President. |
| A. G. Murray, | Chaplain. |
| J. M. Anderson, | Surgeon. |
| John Burton, | Q. M. |
| Wm. Lewis, | Officer of the day. |
| Peter Ismert, | Officer of guard. |
| O. H. Hill, | Adjutant. |
| Frank McMaster, | Seargt. Major. |

Post meets second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. Visiting comrades are cordially invited.

O. H. HILL,
Adjutant.

O. H. VIOLET,
Post Commander.

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## LADIES G. A. R. CIRCLE.

The G. A. R. ladies met and organized a circle Wednesday evening, March 26, 1890. The officers are :

| | |
|---|---|
| Mrs. Murray, | President. |
| Mrs. Hickey, | Senior Vice-President. |
| Mrs. Brown, | Junior Vice-President. |
| Mrs. Clara Johnson, | Treasurer. |
| Mrs. Dr. Munger, | Secretary. |
| Mrs. Wright, | Conductor. |
| Mrs. Pettyjohn, | Guard. |

The installation of the officers was conducted in a very creditable manner by Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Hill and daughter.

## A POEM IN MEATS.

Oklahoma City is famed for the attractiveness of her meat markets. Her brigade of butchers are equally famous for their general goodness of soul and largeness of heart. The foremost meat market of the city is that of LECHNER & EMERSON on Main street. H. H. Lechner and C. B. Emerson make up the happy, rustling, generous, enterprising firm. The unbounded success of this firm is the wonder of all and no wonder either when the matter is given a moment's thought. They work early and late ; supply and furnish only the choicest of meats ; are polite, accommodating and by strict attention to business never lose a customer. During the fall and winter they handled a vast amount of game, for which they paid the top notch figure, and sold it at a fair living price. Their display of meats is always the nicest and finest in the city, and to pass their place of business makes a man hungry. The ladies of the city always make it a point to go to Lechner & Emerson's from the fact that they invariably get just what they want and there is no bungling and no mistakes. Thousands of visitors have tarried in their rambles over the city to gaze with admiration upon the daily exhibition of numerous wild animals by this well and favorably known firm. Their wild cats have been the pets of the populace and it is safe to say that every citizen in the city has stopped to punch and play with the cats when they should have been attending to something else. Mr. Lechner purchases all the iive stock killed by this firm, and he has the enviable reputation of being the shrewdest buyer and best judge of stock in the south-west. Mr. Emerson "tends shop" and no man stands higher in the estimation of the people. The firm by industry, perseverance and fair dealing have built up a wonderful trade. They are the leading meat men of

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the town and to see the artistic arrangement of their place of business is conclusive evidence of their deserved popularity and prosperity.

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

John I. Dille visited the city November 19, 1889, and instituted a K. of P. lodge. There were thirty-three charter members and the officers of the organization are

| | |
|---|---|
| M. L. Bixler, | Past Chancellor. |
| K. S. Fisher, | Chancellor and Commander. |
| T. O. Williams, | Vice-Chancellor. |
| T. J. Head, | Prelate. |
| Dr. W. R. Thomson, | Keeper Records and Seals. |
| W. H. Haley, | Master at Arms. |
| John Q. White, | Master of Exchequer. |
| T. M. Upshaw, | Master of Finance. |

## RALPH C. GUTHRIE.

The subject of this sketch, Ralph C. Guthrie, opened his eyes for the first time in this wicked world September 19, 1862, in Highland county, Ohio, within the corporate limits of the shady little village of Leesburgh. He received an academic education and early in life mastered the intricacies and secrets of the printer's trade. He was teacher of printing in the Pierce City College at Pierce City, Missouri, for several years and has had charge of some very important offices in the south and west. He resided for a time at Albuquerque, New Mexico, Eureka Springs, Arkansas and Trinidad, Colorado, at which points he has a wide acquaintance in newspaper circles. He was engaged in mercantile pursuits in Wellington, Kansas, for almost three years and was on the staff of the Sumner County Democrat for an equal length of time. He came to Oklahoma City, October 1, 1889, since which time he has been in the real estate and insurance business. To him belongs the honor of writing the first insurance policy ever taken in the city—that of Wedemeyer, Clay & Co., on their large stock of goods and building. Mr. Guthrie is a public spirited young man, a giant in physical and intellectual greatness and always takes a leading part in the progressive moves and enterprises of the city. He is a singer of considerable celebrety and upon several occasions has given valuable assistance in charity concerts. He is connected in business with W. H. Ebey, the firm name being Ebey & Guthrie. They conduct a general insurance and real estate emporium and transact more business in their particular lines than any other firm in the territory.

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## BOARD OF TRADE.

The first steps toward the organizaiion of a board of trade were taken Wednesday evening, May 15th, 1889, when a few gentlemen met at the real estate office of Carter, Woodford & Beard, corner of Grand avenue and Broadway. They issued a call for a general meeting Monday night May 20th, 1889. There was not as great an attendance at the meeting upon that date as had been antiоipated, and the organization of the board was delayed till about two weeks later when it was effected and the following officers elected:

President, H. Overholser.
Vice President, James Geary.
Second Vice President, J. P. McKinnis.
Secretary, W· H. Ebey.
Treasurer, T. M. Richardson.

COMMITTEES.—EXECUTIVE.

John A. Blackburn, W. L. Couch,
O. H. Violet, C. W. Price,
B. N. Woodson, W. C. Wells,

ON RAILROADS.

J. A. Blackburn, Gen. J. B. Weaver,
C. W. Price, J. E. Jones,
W. H. Ebey, W. L. Couch,
T. M. Richardson, H. Overholser,
James Geary.

ON MANUFACTURING.

C. P. Walker, W. L. Harvey,
John Wand, E. W. Sweeny,
W. L. Killebrew, F. L. Bone.

ON TRANSPORTATION AND FREIGHTS.

J. P. McKinnis, John Brogan,
A. L. Woodford, A. L. Frick,
J. P. Darling, W. J. Pettee.

ON ADVERTISING.

O. H. Violet, W. H. Ebey,
R. Q. Blakeney, H. W. Winn,
J. W. Beard.

ON LEGISLATION.

Gen. J. B. Weaver. Sidney Clarke,
O. H. Violet, W. L. Couch,
Capt. A. B. Hammer, A. C. Scott,
Ledru Guthrie, B. N. Woodson,
David A. Harvey.

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ON FINANCE.

James Geary, Ledru Guthrie,
W. C. Wells, T. M. Richardson,
Major W. A. Monroe.

ON EDUCATION.

A. C. Scott, C. A. Galbraith,
R. R. Connella, G. A. Beidler,
W. W. Witten.

ON EMIGRATION.

Victor Sherman, W. H. Darrough,
G. W. Massey, G. W. Adams,
H. W. Sawyer.

DIRECTORS.

O. H. Violet, W. H. Ebey.
C. P. Walker, J. W. Beard.
Jas. Geary, B. N. Woodson,
W. A. Monroe, C. W. Price,
C. A. Galbraith, W. J. Pettee,
J. A. Blackburn, A. B. Hammer.
A. C. Scott, W. McGlinchey,
W. L. Couch, J. L. Brown,
Victor Sherman, W. L. Harvey,
A. L Woodford, E. W. Sweeney,
J. P. McKinnis.

The board has held regular meetings since its organization and with a few slight changes stands, in membership and officers, about the same as when established. It has taken important action on all the leading subjects affecting the weal of the city.

## FIRST THINGS.

### MARRIAGE.

In the rush and wrangle over lots and claims in the new country, Cupid did not fail to get in his usual work. On Thursday, May 16th, 1889, Rev. James Murray officiated at the first matrimonial venture in the city. The contracting parties were W. W. Wilkenson, of Belle Plaine, Kansas, and Miss Mary Moore, of Peru, Indiana.

### SERMON.

Rev. C. C. Hembree preached the first sermon on Sunday, April 28th, from the platform around the public well at the corner of Main and Broadway, of which mention is made elsewhere in this work.

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BIRTH.

On Sunday, May 2d, a daughter was born to Mrs. J. W. Cunningham, being the first child born in the city.

CHURCH BELL.

The first time a church bell was heard in Oklahoma was on Friday morning, August 3d, it being the one in the belfry of the Catholic church in Oklahoma City.

FIRE.

The first fire occurred on Deep Fork in the shanty of a settler named Newton, on the 3d of September. He was out at work on his claim and when he returned to his home in the evening it was a pile of ashes. The supposition is that the wind blew live coals out of the stove on to the floor.

HORSE RACE.

Saturday afternoon, May 18th, Texas Belle, owned by a gambler, and Shadow Tail, owned by Jack Castorton, of Iola, Kansas, tested their speed. Texas Belle was declared the winner, but the following Monday the race was repeated, resulting in a victory for Shadow Tail.

The first Catholic services were held on Main street, between Robinson and Harvey, in the open air, conducted by Father Scallan, of Purcell.

The Baptists held their first meeting in the hall over Winningham's hardware store.

W. H. Ebey was the first man to alight from the south train on the depot platform on the 22d of April.

P. W. King had the first grocery in operation in the city, having brought his stock of goods in by team.

The Citizens' Bank was the first bank to open up for business in the city.

James McCarthy sold the first dollar's worth of goods on commission and was the first traveling salesman in the city.

THE FIRST BURGLAR.

From the 22d of April, 1889, Oklahoma City contained a variegated population ranging from seven to twelve thousand souls per day. Up to June 5th no robberies or thefts were reported. The first one occurred on the night of June 5th, and the victim was Dr. Scott, of the drug firm of Scott & Co., on Main street. The thief en-

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tered through a window and secured about $30 from the trousers of the doctor, who slumbered serenely the whole night through. It might be interesting to say that Dr. Scott has since become the editor of the El Reno Herald.

### FIRST RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

Wednesday, July 17, 1889, the first relief organization was formed. A number of ladies met at the residence of Mrs. J. W. Gibbs and formed the Ladies' Relief Club, its object being to furnish systematic relief to persons in poverty, sickness or distress. The ladies who inaugurated the movement have become well known as active workers in all benevolent movements. The officers elected were: President, Mrs. J. W. Gibbs; vice president, Mrs. Saunders; secretary, Mrs. W. H. Harper; assistant secretary, Mrs. W. J. Pettee; treasurer, Mrs. Capt. Sommers.

The first baptism was that of George McKay, by the Rev. T. J. Head, in the river southeast of the city on Sunday. July 7, 1889.

The first street lamp in the city was at the corner of California avenue and Broadway, put in by Judge O. H. Violet.

The first brick kiln was built by Killebrew & Keller, who had thirty thousand brick moulded by the 22d of May, just one month after the opening.

## CAPTAIN W. L. COUCH.

### HIS EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF OKLAHOMA.

The most faithful friend Oklahoma ever had is Captain W. L. Couch. He was born in Wilkes county, North Carolina, November 20th, 1850. After the war, in 1866, he moved with his father's family to Jonhson connty, Kansas, where he received a common school education. When he was twenty years of age he set tled on the Osage ceded lands near Douglas, Kansas. The following year, (1871) he was married in Johnson county and commenced his battle with life on a farm near Douglas, where he remained for six years. In the fall of 1876 he went to Wichita, Kansas, and engaged in the live stock business and very soon established the fact that his judgment and ability in this line was beyond the average. He was very successful and after a time started a large grocery and hardware house. He turned his attention to real estate and in this also was he successful. He rapidly accumulated property and at one

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time was the owner of several of the best business lots in Wichita and fourteen hundred acres of good farming lands in Sedgwick, Sumner and Butler counties.

He was one of Captain Payne's warmest friends and assisted him greatly in a financial way in the organization of his celebrated Oklahoma colony in the winter of 79-80. By trusting too much to his numerous employees and agents, and by the endorsement of notes for friends, Captain Couch in 1881, became financially depressed and disposed of all of his vast business interests so that he could, like an honest man, meet all his obligations. In 1882 he moved again on a farm near Douglas, Kansas, and devoted his time to farming and handling Texas horses. In 1883 Captain Payne reorganized his colony and was ably assisted by Captain Couch in a great many ways. The colony invaded the Oklahoma country in February of '83, six hundred strong, and located on the North Canadian river about fourteen miles southeast of Oklahoma City. Payne was president of this colony and Captain Couch had entire charge of the wagon train, consisting of one hundred and nineteen teams. Capt. Carroll of the Ninth U. S. cavalry arrested the colony, escorted them to the Kansas line and told them to return no more. In August of '83, the colony was called together again at Arkansas City, Kansas, and reorganized. Payne was elected president and Captain Couch vice president. These positions they occupied until the death ot Payne in 84, when Captain Couch was elected president. From the date of the election in August of '83, Captain Couch, at Payne's request, was placed in immediate command of every organized invasion or attempted settlement of Oklahoma. He directed the movement of the forces or settlers, and kept Payne fully informed, who agitated the matter in the newspapers of the adjacent states. These men believed that they might establish the right to settle in Oklahoma without legislation, and if not, the general agitation would force congress to a consideration of the question.

Captain Couch devoted many weary years in the labor of leading colonists into the new country. In August, '83, he led two hundred people across the border into Oklahoma. They were all arrested by the military, escorted to the Kansas line and liberated. The next movement was that of the invasion of the country by about thirty men on horseback under the leadership of Couch. They successfully evaded the troops for thirty days, but were at last arrested, confined in the guard house at Fort Reno for a time and finally sent to Texas, where they were re-

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leased from arrest. In April '84, six hundred settlers were brought into the country and located before the military knew it or at least before it interfered. Sixty-five of the leaders were arrested and ejected and the remainder of the colonists voluntarily departed a short time after. In May of the same year Captain Couch boldly marched across the line at the head of a company of more than two hundred. They located along the Cimarron river about six miles below the present city of Guthrie. This company, like the others, was arrested, taken to Fort Reno, imprisoned for a few days, taken to the Kansas line and all released except Captain Couch and four others who were turned over to the United States mashal, held for trial and were acquitted. While the trial was pending in the United States court, Captain Payne, with a large number of settlers, located on the Cherokee Strip, were arrested, taken to Fort Smith, Arkansas, and released on bond. In November, '84, a large company of boomers were at Arkansas City, preparing to again enter Oklahoma, when the death of Captain Payne occurred. A few days after his funeral Captain Couch with two hundred colonists marched to the promised land and laid out the town of Stillwater on exactly the same ground now occupied by the thriving village of that name. What transpired there caused congress for the first time to seriously consider the question of opening Oklahoma to settlement. As usual, the company of colonists under Captain Couch was attacked by the military under Lieutenant Day, Ninth United States cavalry, on December 24th, '84. The colonists refused to be arrested, Captain Couch claiming that he had been tried for the offense of invading Oklahoma and acquitted by the United States court. The result was a call to arms on both sides and it appeared for a while that bloodshed could not be avoided. The military being largely outnumbered, retreated and sent for reinforcements. The colonists held out for over thirty days, or, until General Hatch, with eight companies of regulars, was sent out against them. Captain Couch still refused to surrender. Hatch cut off the colonists' supplies and they were forced by starvation to abandon their position, and left in an orderly body for Arkansas City. Five of the leaders, including Captain Couch, were arrested by a deputy United States marshal in Kansas and again the case was dismissed by the courts.

The Stillwater difficulty caused so much excitement that congress, then in session, passed the act, just before adjournment, authorizing the president to enter into ne-

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gotiations with the Creek, Seminole and Cherokee Indians for their interest in the Oklahoma and Cherokee Strip lands. In March, 1885, Captain Couch, believing that President Cleveland would immediately negotiate with the Indians and open the country to settlement, organized a colony of thirteen hundred people at Arkansas City who waited for the word from the President that would give them the right to occupy Oklahoma. After waiting for some time Captain Couch went to Washington and had an interview with the president and the secretary of the interior regarding the matter. He received no encouragement from them relative to the immediate opening of the country and at once returned and reported the facts to the waiting colony at Arkansas City. He was led to believe that the proper measures would be taken toward the opening of the country within two or three months, but time proved that it was more than that many years before anything definite was done. He became convinced that that the colonists could never succeed without additional legislation and accordingly he secured the services of Hon. Sidney Clarke, an old friend to the colonists, and together they drafted and placed in the hands of General Weaver and Senator VanWyck for introduction, copies of the original Oklahoma bill to organize the territory of Oklahoma. For four years Captain Couch devoted his entire time and energies to securing the enactment of some law that would open Oklahoma to settlement. Triumph finally came, but it was long deferred, for it was only in the closing hours of the Fiftieth congress that the required legislation was secured.

Captain Couch is an upright, fearless man; quiet, undemonstrative and firm as a rock. He had much to contend with when mayor of Oklahoma City yet he discharged what he thought to be his duty regardless of the fear or favor of any man or any set of men. His firmness in the administration of the affairs of the city is a part of the foundation upon which the city now rests in point of popular favor and commercial prestige. Oklahoma owes to Captain Couch a debt that can never be paid. This generation will, in all probability, never attempt its payment, but in the years to come, when the valorous deeds and unrequitted toil of the brave few who so incessantly and for so many years faced the summer's heat and the winter's storm for the opening of Oklahoma to settlement are known, the name of Captain W. L. Couch will stand out bright and shining, revered by the children of the Beautiful Land for the prosperity of

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which he fought so long and well.

## THE RESIGNATION OF CAPTAIN COUCH.

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
OKLAHOMA CITY, I. T., NOV. 11, 1889.

HON. SIDNEY CLARKE,
PRESIDENT COUNCIL,
OKLAHOMA CITY.

DEAR SIR:—I herewith tender my resignation as mayor of Oklahoma City for the reason that my interests and rights as a homesteader have necessitated my removal from the city. I request that you lay the same before the council at the earliest practicable moment.

I desire to tender to the council and the city officers my earnest thanks for the uniform courtesy and able assistance accorded me. To the friends who entrusted me with the duties of the position I can only attempt an expression of the gratitude I feel. I have endeavored at all times to discharge my duty and if in anything I have failed it has been an error of judgment.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
W. L. COUCH.

Hon. Sidney Clarke, president of the city council, in the following proclamation called for an election:

## ELECTION PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, A vacancy exists in the office of mayor of Oklahoma City, Indian Territory, by the removal from said city of W. L. Couch and

WHEREAS, Section 18 of the charter of said city provides that when any vacancy shall happen in the office of mayor the president of the council for the time being shall exercise the office of mayor until such vacancy be filled, and

WHEREAS, It is further provided in said election that the person exercising the office of mayor shall cause a new election to be held giving ten day's notice thereof by proclamation.

Now, therefore, I, Sidney Clarke, president of the council and acting mayor of Oklahoma City, do hereby proclaim and make known that a special election will be held on Wednesday, the 27th day of November,

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1889, for the purpose of electing a mayor to fill the unexpired term of W. L. Couch. The polls will be open at 9 o'clock a. m. and closed at 6 o'clock p. m. The place of holding the election in the first ward will be at the mayor's office on Main street and the place of holding the election in the second ward will be at the northwest corner of California Avenue and Broadway. All male citizens of the United States over the age of twenty-one years who have resided in the city for thirty days prior to said eleetion and who comply with provisions of the ordinance providing for the registration and qualification of voters will be entitled to vote in the ward in which they may reside.

The following named persons are hereby appointed to act as judges of the election in the first ward: Ed. W. Stone, L. W. Benepe, J. W. Roller.

The following named persons are hereby appointed to act as clerks of the election in the first ward: H. B. Calef, G. H. Crasser.

The following named persons are hereby appointed to act as judges of election in the second ward: John Brogan, Sidney Denham, W. M. Pyles.

The following named persons are hereby appointed to act as clerks of election in the second ward: W. H. Ebey, R. S. Bowers.

Dated this 15th day of November, 1889.

SIDNEY CLARKE,
Acting Mayor.

Attest: JNO. A. BLACKBURN,
City Recorder.

Two candidates were placed in the field for mayor, H. Overholser and Dr. A. J. Beale. After an exciting campaign the election was held and Dr. Beale was found to have been elected mayor by a majority of fourteen votes. It was a victory for the Kickapoos whose history is given elsewhere in this book—and they celebrated the event in a display of fireworks and in great and prolonged rejoicing.

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# HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

## SKETCH OF THE FOUNDER OF SAINT JOSEPH'S CHURCH.

Rev. N. F. Scallan, spent the greater portion of his life in Iowa and Dakota. Some years ago he joined the Catholic Indian Bureau and was at one time Director of the Catholic Indian College of Rensalaer, Indiana. Then he labored in the Diocese of Tuscon, Arizona, was missionary to the Papago Indians and was pastor of their famous church Xavier del Bac, one of the oldest churches in America. It was dedicated one hundred years ago this year (1889.) From Arizona, Father Scallan came to the Indian Territory. His first labors were among the people of Purcell and the Ponca Indians. When Oklahoma opened he came to Oklahoma City, laid the foundations of the church in Guthrie and built St. John's Church in Edmond which was the first church built in Oklahoma Territory. Attracted by the beauty and glowing prospects of Oklahoma City and the generosity of its people, he turned the city of Guthrie over to the Benedictine Fathers and cast his lot with the people of Oklahoma City, built St. Joseph's Church, the first church of the city, and endeavored to found a school and hospital which we are in hopes he will succeed in doing at no distant day. Father Scallan stands high as a devoted, self-sacrificing and successful missionary; as an orator and thorough master of history; as a writer both in prose and poetry. He is more conspicuous still for his fine business tact and especially his remarksble executive ability.

## SKETCH OF THE FOUNDING OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH AT OKLAHOMA CITY.

Father Scallan, Missionary Apostolic, first arrived at Oklahoma City on May 7, 1889. He had posters atruck and scattered over town announcing mass for the following Sunday, and requesting all Catholics to be present that a congregation might be organized. On account of a

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railroad accident this first appointment could not be kept.

The first Catholic services (mass) were held on Sunday, May 19, 1889, in what is now known as the Indiana House, on Main street between Robinson and Harvey. The sermon preached on that occasion attracted considerable attention. It was thoroughly patriotic. The Rev. Preacher showed that Catholicity does not conflict with American patriotism, but that love of country is one of the duties imposed on Catholics by their church, consequently that true Catholics must love our Republic and a'l truly American institutions. The following beautiful passage will give an idea of the sermon :

"The Banner of Freedom ! Catholics, in its starlit alphabet we read the surest guarantee of our sacred rights. We came to plant the cross beside the flag that the Nation has raised over this future commonwealth, and we will plant it firmly and deeply so that no future upheaval nor political tornado can ever uproot it.

Let our separated brethren regard its presence as a beacon light, rather than a threat, for our favorite institutions ; because our past history will bear me out in the assertion, that where ever heaven's sunlight may kiss the cross in peace, the breeze is never wanting to float the flag in triumph.

The church will be true to her traditions, and when the sun rises for the last time over this grand Republic, the first object that will greet him on our eastern shores will be the cross ; and when for the last time he steals away from our far Pacific coast, the last object on which he will imprint a parting kiss will be the cross on some Catholic spire."

On this day a temporary organization was effected and fifty-five heads of families and forty-two young men enrolled as members. A committee was formed with J. P. Martin, chairman ; Joseph Chrisney, secretary ; Col. J. T. Hickey, treasurer ; Rev. N. F. Scallan, director. Father Scallan announced that the parish should be placed under the patronage of St. Joseph.

Lots were purchased on May 27, 1889. Subscriptions were opened June 2, 1889.

On the evening of June 16th, Father Scallan delivered his famous lecture, "The Catholic Church the Friend of the People," which elicited so much applause and was so favorably commented upon that he was requested to repeat it by some prominent gentlemen of the city.

Services whre held every Sunday wherever a place could be secured until the church was ready for use.

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The church was commenced July 1, 1889. William Gallagher was foreman and he together with Hugh Gallagher, Thomas Kennedy, P. Quinin, J. Quinin, Frank Farmer, P. H. Hickey, Henry Meyers, J. H. Head and others, donated about $200 worth of work.

Mr. J. Chrisney gave the greatest assistance in collecting. Father Scallan was the architect. A great many non-Catholics gave generously toward the building of the church, especially the lumbermen, hardware merchants and druggists.

The cross was raised on the spire July 31, 1889; the bell was placed in the tower August 2d. and the first Angelus rang at 6 o'clock p. m. of the same day.

## ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH SINCE AUGUST 4TH.

### THE CHOIR.

Mrs. Col. Hickey is organist, and is an excellent musician having received musical training in several of the most noted institutions in the United States. She has figured conspicuously in the best choirs in Memphis, Tenn., and other cities. The members of the choir are; Mrs. Wedemeyer, Misses Ketcham, Hickey and Wright; Messrs. John Quinin, Krilger, Meyer, Ritz, Ketcham and Peter Wagner.

The Sunday School choir, organized later on, is a gratifying success. Both choirs, on Chrismas day, treated the congregation to particularly fine music.

"The Ladies' Catholic Union," was organized Sunday, November 10th, with Mrs. Pimm, president; Mrs. Martin, vice-president; Mrs. Haley, secretary; Mrs. Eltermann, treasurer.

The ladies have given two successful entertainments.

Sunday school was organized October 20th and is rapidly increasing in numbers.

The church has been securely founded, its members are rapidly increasing, its influence is spreading and judging the future by the past, great things are in store for the Catholics of Oklahoma City.

### APPENDIX.

First baptism—Infant daughter of Peter Wilhelm, August 19, 1889.

First marriage—Thomas Fitzgerald and Mary Carlow, October 13, 1889.

First funeral—Thomas Kennedy, November 3, 1889.

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## DR. I. W. FOLSOM.

One of the most scholarly and successful physicians in the city is Dr. I. W. Folsom. He was born November 5, 1846, in the Choctaw Nation, twenty miles north of Denison, near Carriage Point.

His father was ever high in the councils of the Choctaw Nation and served with distinction in the war. At the age of twelve, the subject of this sketch, was sent to Paris, Texas, where he remained till 1859. He remained in school during the war and when it was over, his father, who was then superintendent of schools in the Choctaw Nation, sent him with a company of fourteen young ladies and gentlemen to the Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tennessee where he was a student for over three years. King's College, Bristol, Tennessee, claimed him as a pupil for one year and from there he went to Baltimore and completed his education in the famous Washington University of that city. He was a resident hospital student during two years of his stay in Baltimore and gained important practical experience in the practice of medicine, his chosen profession. The last six months of his stay in Baltimore he was the hospital's prescription druggist and in this acquired much valuable information that has been of great benefit to him in his vast practice.

Upon graduating in 1872, Dr. Folsom returned to Atoka, Chocktaw Nation, where he soon built up a wonderfull practice. He was the National agent under Chief B. F. Smallwood, and was for a number of years, president and secretary of the Medical Board of the Choctaw Nation. He came to Oklahoma City, May 17, 1889,—where he has since resided—having an extraordinary practice and in which he has been highly successful. He owns considerable property in the business portion of the city and is also heavily interested in coal and gold mines in the Nation.

The doctor was married May 5, 1875. His skill as a surgeon is remarkable and he ranks foremost among the physicians of the south-west.

## HISTORY OF THE KICKAPOOS.

The Oklahoma City Kickapoos were first called kickers for the reason that they objected to every move and motion of the city government. What ever the council or mayor did, it was sure to meet with objections from

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from the kicking faction, and in a short time they acquired or assumed the title of Kickapoos, while those favorable to the administration were dubbed Seminoles.

On Monday night, October 14th, the first steps were taken toward the organization of the kicking forces. A few weeks later the following constitution was adopted;

## CONSTITUTION.

1st. The name of this organization shall be known as the Kickapoo Council.

2d. The objects and purposes of this organization shall be to discuss, consider, formulate and work for the success of measures calculated to better the condition of Oklahoma Territory and Oklahoma City.

3d. In pursuing these objects we recognize this principle: That the powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively or to the people; and whereas the present de facto city officials of Oklahoma City have in defiance of the law and the will of our people, usurped and exercised arbitrary power, in violation of the principles above set out, it shall be the object of this organization, by all expedient and legal means, to prevent the perpetuation of this wrongful exercise of power, and at the earliest possible day to give to our city a legally constituted government, based on justice subservient to the expressed will of our citizens, and limited to the legitimate functions of municipal governments. Also to procure from the congress of the United States such legislation as may be best calculated to promote the formation of a territorial government, to better enable legal settlers on the public lands to obtain title thereto, and to provide some adequate and direct method of conveying city lots to bona fide holders thereof and to prevent men from illegally seizing lands and lots and from acquiring any rights thereto from the government. Also to take such steps as may be best calculated to procure wise and benificial legislation for our territory, after organized. That we shall use all our powers to advance purity in government affairs, to aid in carrying out public measures by all honest and fair means and to discountenance all others. This association shall first be formed by admitting fifty as charter members, and after that number is admitted others may be received on a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular meeting cast for his admission. Such vote shall be by ballot. Members shall be male residents of Oklahoma over twenty-one

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years of age, and who approve the measures herein set out, and who will subscribe to this constitution. Initiation fees shall be one dollar. The members may, by majority vote, be assessed to raise money to carry out the designs of this council, and to be used in expenses.

4th. The officers of this council shall be :

1st. Sachem.
2d. A Chief.
3d. A Scribe.
4th. A Wampum Keeper.

All of whom shall be elected by ballot and hold until their successors are introduced into office.

From fifty members chosen by the grand council there shall be appointed by the sachem ten committees of five members each, and to said committees shall be referred all matters touching the subjects indicated by the name of the committees as follows :

PROPOSED COMMITTEES,

1st. Judiciary,
2d. Finance,
3d. Appropriations,
4th. Corporations,
5th. Charities, reformatory and penal,
6th. Public buildings and grounds.
7th. Education,
8th. Fees and salaries,
9th. Elections,
10th. Miscellaneous.

5th. An executive council of ten members, composed of the chairmen of the above named committees, any six of whom shall constitute a quorum to do business, but the committee shall do no business unless each member in reach has been notified of the meeting.

The duties of the sachem shall be that of president of the general council, and be chairman of the executive council. The chief shall act in the absence of the sachem, perform the duties of the sachem, and all the officers shall perform the duties usually performed by such officers in deliberative bodies.

The executive council shall determine all measures to be adopted and courses to be pursued and shall provide for the execution of the same, and their action shall have full force unless disapproved by the general council at any regular meeting or any other meeting called for that purpose, on five days notice ; but such disapproval must be expressed at the first regular meeting after such proceeding is had.

This constitution may be amended by a majority vote at any regular meeting of the general council. The general council may provide by law all matters not herein provided.

The membership of this order was large and meetings were regularly held for a long time. It eventually

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died out, or at least ceased to attract attention, and the city has at present few citizens who belonged to the order that still cling to their old love. The Kickapoos scored one victory in electing Dr. Beale for mayor, but the statu quo innovation knocked the vitality out of the organization and blasted the hopes of its founders.

## THE OKLAHOMA CHIEF.

The "Oklahoma Chief" is very deservedly and justly considered the best general newspaper published in the Oklahoma country, and it will favorably compare with three-fourths of the weeklies published in the north or east. It made its first appearance May 11, 1889, and very soon took station where by merit it should, at the head of the newspaper procession. Its experienced editor and proprietor, R. W. McAdam, was educated in journalism in New York and Washington. He took Greeley's advice a few years ago, halted in Kansas and established a paper in one of the western counties of the state of which he is still the owner. He is an able writer, a democrat, and a genial, reliable, big-hearted gentleman. The "Chief" is now issued twice every week on book paper and has an immense circulation It well merits its unbounded success.

## COON'S PHARMACY.

One of the neatest and best appointed drug stores in Oklahoma City is that of R. J. Coon's, on Main street. His stock of drugs, toilet articles and sundries is complete in every respect, and his trade is very satisfactory and on the increase. The Y. M. C. A. library, in charge of Mrs. Fairchild, occupies one corner of this drug palace and helps to augment the crowd that daily surge up and down the corridors and around the many counters of the place.

R. J. COON'S

was born May 18, 1861, in Culpepper, Virginia, where he was educated. From Culpepper he weut to Tyler, Texas, in 1878 and engaged in the drug business. Fort Worth claimed him as a citizen for one year, from which point he removed to Albany, Texas, where he was ap-

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pointed postmaster by President Cleveland. This position he retained for three years, resigning to come to Oklahoma. His health failed in 1888 and physcians recommend travel. Calfornia, Utah and Nevada were visited with beneficial results. He was in charge of the prescription department for Smith & Johnson while they were in business in Oklahoma. He is a member of several pharmaceutical associations, and always gives satisfaction in every way. His whole life has been spent in this one avocation and as a prescription despenser, an analytical chemist and a gentleman, he has no superior.

## OKLAHOMA FLOUR AND FEED DEPOT.

C. A. McNabb, proprietor of the Oklahoma Flour and Feed Depot, came to Oklahoma on the 22d of April with the hosts that rushed in from the east line of the territory He was born in Green county, Ohio, December 11, 1861, and in that state he was educated. He graduated with the highest honors from the Miami Commercial College, Dayton, Ohio, in 1881. He immediately accepted the position of first book keeper for the firm of Legler, Barlow & Co., in Dayton, which position he satisfactorly filled for four years. In 1885 he moved to Winfield, Cowley county, Kansas, where he entered the mammoth flour and feed establishment of Bliss & Wood. He remained with this house until the opening of Oklahoma. Arriving in the city on the afternoon of the 22d, he was doing business in less than twenty-four hours. On the 23d of April he had two cars of flour and feed on the track and with the very first lumber that came in he constructed a 14 x 16 building between California and Reno avenues, fronting the old Reno trail, in which he sold goods until May when he moved into his present commodious quarters on Broadway, between Main street and Grand aveune His trade has increased so rapidly that it now consumes on an average of two car loads per day of flour and feed. Mr. McNabb gives the business his personal attention and is considered an able judge of wheat, corn, oats, rye, flour and everything else in his particular line. His family consists of his wife and two children and the family residence is on Chickasaw street. He is one of the city's live, wide awake, happy, generous, energetic, well doing citizens.

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## THE CITY'S HISTORY IN BRIEF.

When Rev. James Murray was elected mayor by the Oklahoma Colony in the big tent on the afternoon of April 22nd, many protests were entered against the election. The opposition to it was active and shrewd and it was not long before general dissatisfaction existed. As a result the articles of confederation were adopted and another election held as elsewhere detailed in this work. The council, consisting of Sidney Clarke, John Wallace, E. G. Hudson, W. C. Wells, C. T. Scott and J. E. Jones convened immediately after the election in the office of Ledru Guthrie, on Main street, May 3rd, 1889. They adopted the laws of Kansas applying to cities of the second class, as the constitution or charter of the city. The city government started off fairly well, yet in certain quarters there slumbered the fires of defeat or jealousy or vengance or, well, it would be difficult to define it. It existed, however, and ultimately broke forth in flames so strong that looking back to it now since the mists have cleared away, the wonder arises that there was no serious disaster or bloodshed.

The council very early in its official capacity developed a life sized penchant for writing and passing ordinances. They were enacted fast and furious. Their violaters were hauled up before the police court and punishment administered in broken or unbroken doses according to the nature of the offense. One of the first ordinances of the council was the voting of pay to its members at the rate of two dollars each per meeting. Another important one was the occupation tax ordinanae imposing a tax on those engaged in whatever walk of life they might be. Lawyers, doctors, merchants, mechanics, fakirs, gamblers, prostitutes, peddlers and dealers or tradesmen in any and all lines, came in for a share according to the importance, magnitude or dignity of their calling. Preachers were excepted, nor did the council pay anything for being such a body. With these two exceptions every other class of citizens was reached. The brain that gave birth to the occupation tax ordinance must have been one of wondrous fertility. The murmurs of discontent were occasionally heard after the council voted themselves a salary. Some wag had the audacity to call them "salary grabbers" but the name did not receive the sanction of public opinion and he never spoke it again. The occupation tax was collected from a great many and as long as it lasted the salaries of the officials did not go unpaid. Books of record and supplies

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for the city were purchased, streets were graded and sidewalks built. A calaboose was constructed and dedicated as the Cottonwood de Bastile. The collection of the tax progressed well until the lawyers were asked to give up their gold and then war was declared. They made a bold, brave fight, and as it ever is, victory came to those who were vigilant, active and brave. The ordinance was declared invalid and the multitudinous disciples of Blackstone in the city jumped up and down and shouted for joy. Then came contempt for ordinances in general. The city government, oftimes to preserve itself, was obliged to call out the military who were under orders to back the city officials and keep the peace. In this Captain Stiles, as provost marshal, became famous. He was repeatedly called upon to make ejectments and perform other unpleasant duties which made him a great many enemies. He was denounced as a tyrant by those opposing the city government and called other bad names, yet when it was all over he was complimented by the commanding general for his conduct.

Public meetings were held and a committee appointed to wait on the city officials and ask them to resign. This was done, but the request was not complied with. Hudson and Wallace went out of the council after a while and an election was called for the purpose of filling the vacancies. When it came off J. B. George and J. E. Love were elected. These gentlemen were opposed to the city government and were called the Kickapoo councilmen. Their constituency greatly rejoiced over their election and thought the clouds were opening in their favor. Several charter elections were held but none was ever carried. The Kickapoos forged to the front and it was for a long time considered a dull week if an election of some kind or other did not take place. Mass meetings were nightly held and numerous orators raved and ranted about the city's weal and woe. The unsettled state of affairs, the racket and constant turmoil kept capital away from the city and seriously retarded its upbuilding and growth. Matters continued in this shape till Mayor Couch resigned and Dr. A. J. Beal was elected to fill the vacancy. His election was a great Kickapoo triumph and they plunged recklessly into the task of reconstructing the city. The mayor recommended that the council do certain things which the council refused to do. The gallant doctor found his hands tied. Four of the councilmen voted against anything in which he was concerned in any way and the other two councilmen—the Kickapoos—remained faithful to their chief. Being born

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agitators the Kickapoos were bound to do something and they finally concluded to declare the offices of councilmen Jones and Wells vacant, hold another election—elections were their great hobby—elect two of their number to fill the vacancies and thus secure a majority in the council. Mayor Beale issued the following proclamations which speak for themselves:

## PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the following petition has been received by me, signed by a large majority of the voters of the second ward:

To A. J. Beale, Mayor of Oklahoma City: "In view of the fact that Councilman J. E. Jones and W. C. Wells, who were elected to represent the second ward, have moved from and for some months past have been non-residents of said ward, thus leaving the people of that portion of the city without just representation in the city council, we, your petitioners, residents of the second ward, respectfully and earnestly request that you declare the offices of said Jones and Wells vacant, and immediately call an election to fill the vacancies thus created. We request this for the further reason that the said Jones and Wells, in our opinion, as the result of a studied conspiracy, are in all possible ways attempting to obstruct and defeat the will of the majority of the people as expressed at the polls at the recent election.

Signed by 154 voters.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 18, 1889.

And, whereas, the well known fact, made more emphatic by the report of Secretary Noble and the message of President Harrison, that there exists no laws to govern us save the will of the majority of the people;

And, whereas, I have every reason to give full credence to the above petition, and believe the carrying out of the suggestions therein contained will promote the harmony and best interests of our people;

Therefore, I hereby declare the seats held by J. E. Jones and W. C. Wells as councilmen of the second ward as vacant for reasons set forth in the petition.

And, whereas, by virtue of authority vested in me as mayor of Oklahoma City, I hereby order an election to be held on December 30, 1889, between the hours of 8 o'clock a. m. and 6 o'clock p. m. of that day, at Lindsey &

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Brandom's office, corner California avenue and Harvey street, to fill vacancies of said Jones and Wells, occasioned by their removal. I further appoint Victor Sherman, J. S. Lindsey and H. S. Butler, judges and Wm. Pyles and K. S, Fisher, clerks of said election.

A. J. BEALE, Mayor.

## MAYOR BEALE TO THE COUNCIL.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 14. 1889.

To the City Council :

Gentlemen : It is clear to my mind from the cases on the subject, that the laws of the United States intend town lots on the public domain to go to the actual settler in good faith. "An occupant within the meaning of the townsite law of congrəss, is one who is a settler or resident of the town, and in the bona fide actual possession of the lot at the time the entry is made. One who has never been in actual possession of a lot connot be said to be an occupant thereof. The occupancy may be for residences, business or for use."—21 Pac. Rep. p. 818.

This rule of actual occupancy or possession as the foundation of title, is of special importance and application in a city like Oklahoma, where a great concourse of lawful homeseekers are gathered together, exceeding in numbers the actual quantity of town lots open by law to appropriation and settlement. The principle ordinances of Oklahoma City on this subject are in conflict with the laws of the United States. Ordinance No. 3 makes certificates conclusive evidence of compliance with the law of settlement. The holder of a certificate of a vacant lot is conclusively presumed to have complied with every requisite of the law of the land. And ordinance No. 14 makes it a misdemeanor for anyone to question by claim the validity of his title, or to attempt to occupy such lot. These ordinances are in conflict with the letter and spirit of the laws of the United States, and persons undertaking to enforce them are making themselves guilty of the violation of those laws. It is needless to say they encourage speculation, false swearing and fraud. The pretence that a certificate conveys guaranty of title is a specious conceit. The only possible title at present is that of actual possession or occupancy for use. Where a person has such possession his certificate is of uo importance, and when one holds a certificate to vacant property he has no title. Our city council cannot make new and extraordinary reg-

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L. Cramer was elected president; A. C. Scott, vice-president, and Harry De Wolfe general secretary. These officers held their places till the following month when another election was held resulting as follows: President, A. C. Scott; vice-president, Robert Young; secretary, Chas. Richardson; treasurer, T. H. Weiss; general secretary for Oklahoma City, John M. Martin. The association is in splendid working order and its meetings are held every Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. A series of lectures were through the winter by the association, the proceeds of which went toward the establishment of a library. The executive committee have plans for the construction of a hall at an early date A reading room is being fitted up and by the time this reaches the public it will be ready for use. The membership reaches over one hundred and steadily growing both in numbers and grace.

## BANK OF OKLAHOMA CITY.

The Bank of Oklahoma City with a capital stock of $50,000 is one of the financially solid institutions in the south-west. Robert Kincaid, the president, is a resident of Kincaid, Kansas, named in his honor where he is considered one of the wealthy and leading men of the state. Eugene Wallace, vice-president, resides in Oklahoma City and gives the business of the bank his personal attention. J. H. WHEELER, cashier, is a young man of great business capacity. He was born in Michigan, educated at the Michigan Mechanics' College, in Lansing, traveled considerable, and spent several years in the banking business in Colorado.

The Bank of Oklahoma City was established June 15, 1889 and it at once commanded a fair share of the business of the city. It is located at the corner of Grand avenue and Robinson street—a most desirable location—where a large brick building is being erected by the officials of the bank. There is no question but that this establishment is the wealthiest in the territory. Every member of the firm are enterprising and are the stamp of men who build cities.

## VALUABLE FACTS.

From Capt. Sommers, who was in Oklahoma when

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the Santa Fe rail road was built, is learned that the bridge rail across the Canadian here, was 1220.75, and the water line was 1201 feet above sea level. At the Deep Fork the bridge rail of the road was 1157 feet and the water line 1115 feet above sea level. The north fork of the Canadian is the highest stream in the territory. A canal cut from the proposed point of starting the present canal, and run three miles to the Deep Fork would have a fall of 86 feet and with the same volume of water would develope over 5,000 horse power.

## THANKSGIVING IN OKLAHOMA.

The people in Oklahoma observed Thanksgiving with appropriate services such as going to church, eating turkey, (wild ones) and wishing that every day was Thanksgiving.

### THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

Mayor's Office, Oklahoma City, Nov. 19, 1889.

In compliance with the request of the pastors of the churches of this city, and believing that we should be profoundly thankful to Almighty God for the many blessings bestowed on us as a nation, and that as a city and community we have many special causes for gratitude, I hereby request the people of Oklahoma City to close their respective places of business on Thursday, Nov. 28, 1889, between the houas of 10 o'clock a. m. and 1 o'clock p. m., in order that all may have the opportunity of meeting in their respective places of worship and take part in the Thanksgiving services.

SIDNEY CLARKE,
Acting Mayor.

## FIRST LITERARY SOCIETY IN THE TERRITORY.

Out of the seven thousand people in Oklahoma City who retired to their respective places of abode on the evening of December 9th to court the loving embraces of old Morpheus, a little band of the creme de la creme of South Oklahoma society people assembled to organize a literary society or lyceum. This is the first society of the kind that has been organized in the territory and the assembling of the literati, where only a short time ago all was a solitary waste, more resembled the mysterious court

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of Momur where Oberon, king of the fairy land, discussed the beautiful and the grand for the edification of his subjects. Mr. Robinson was elected temporary chairman and briefly stated the object of the meeting. Permanent officers were then elected as follows: President, Mr. Sullins; vice-president, Mr. Robinson; secretary, Miss Noonan; treasurer, Mr. Noonan, marshal, Mr. Hargrave; janitor, Mr. Harvey.

## CHURCH & HARRAH.

One of the deservedly popular firms in the city is that of CHURCH & HARRAH, on California avenue. They are in the commission business, but they make a specialty of wholesaling and retailing flour, feed and coal.

WM. O. CHURCH

came from Meade Centre, Kansas, to Oklahoma. He was born in Illinois, near Alton, January 21, 1860. In 1872 he went to Little Rock, Arkansas, where he attended St. John's Cadet College for five years. He commenced life for himself on a farm near Little Rock, and after three years moved to Dallas, Texas, where he was associated with his father for ten years in the grain business. He was a resident of Kansas for some time before the opening of Oklahoma. He came in with the rush on the 22d, met

FRANK HARRAH,

and they formed a partnership that has endured through all the changing vicissitudes of the city's history. Mr. Harrah looked upon the world for the first time in Henderson county, Illinois, January 2, 1859. At an early age he removed to Iowa where he received an education in the high school of Leon. After graduation he was appointed assistant postmaster and held the position for over three years. When Hayes was elected president, Mr. Harrah entered the railway mail service where he was a faithful servant for Uncle Sam for one year. He finally went to Sedalia, Missouri, and went into the Missouri Pacific shops as a rounder. Being of a mechanical turn he was rapidly promoted and in a short time ranked as one of the best mechanics in the shops. He left Sedalia to come to Oklahoma where he has been very successful. The firm has a large and growing trade and are rated as among the city's substantial buisness men.

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## DR. C. J. WYNCOOP.

One of the busiest physicians in the city is Dr. C. J. Wyncoop, whose office on Main street is daily crowded with suffering humanity from all parts of the city and country. Dr. Wyncoop is an Ohio man and this probably cuts some figure in his being so wondrously successful in his practice. He was born November 23, 1840, at Springfield, Clarke county, Ohio. In just ten years after he went to Iowa and located in Jefferson, Green county. He attended college in Ann Harbor, Michigan, and Keokuck, Iowa, graduating in 1865. He began the practice of his profession at home (Jefferson) where he remained until his removal to Atlantic, Cass county, Iowa, in 1868. In the latter place he formed a co-partnership with Dr. Montgomery and the firm of Wyncoop & Montgomery established one of the largest drug stores in the state. In 1872 Dr. Wyncoop moved to Beloit, Mitchell county, Kansas, where he acquired a lucrative practice. He became very soon the leading citizen of the place. He was proprietor of three grocery and dry goods stores and founded the First National Bank of Kirwin, Kansas, of which he was president for a long time. On June 1st '89, he came to Oklahoma City, and there, like in the other places he had lived, Dr. Wyncoop rose to prominence and popularity. He established the St. Joe Grocery, of which his children, M. O. and S. F. Wyncoop are the managers. The stock of this grocery is complete and one of the largest in the city. Dr. Wyncoop's practice is not confined to the city alone, but extends all over the country. His success is the result of hard study, strict attention to business and the faithful performance of every duty.

## CITIZENS BANK.

The Citizens Bank, on the south-east corner of Main and Broadway, was the first one to open for business in the territory. James Geary, Fox Winnie and L. A. Gilbert were in the city at the opening and on the 27th of April, it suddenly occurred to them to start a bank, and acting on the impulse they set to work and by May 30th they had a building up and were doing business. JAMES GEARY, the president, is from Newton, Kansas, where he was a banker for years. He was always one the foremost to take part in any enterprise that pertained to the city's advance-

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ment and good. L. A. GILBERT, the cashier, is also from Newton. He is a young man of great financial acumen and is one of the most expert accountants in the southwest.

A. L. WELSH, assistant cashier, like the other officers of the bank, is from Kansas,(Newton.) He is a thorough, practical banker and is a pillar of strength financially.

The bank's capital is $50,000. It does a general banking business and has unexceptional references. The directors are: Fox Winnie, James Geary, S. Leham, A. B. Gilbert and L. A. Gilbert.

## THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN OKLAHOMA CITY.

There was a meeting called by W. H. Tompkins and L. H. North, to be held at the office of W. H. Tompkins at No. 131 Grand avenue, for the purpose of advancing the interests of the Baptists of Oklahoma City, on Sunday, July 21, 1889, at 4 o'clock p. m. There were twenty-three Baptists present. On motion of M. L. Killebrew, W. H. Tompkins was chosen moderator. M. L. Killebrew, was choen secretary. F. V. Brandom, L. H. North and M. L. Killebrew were appointed a committee to secure a place of worship. Arrangements were made to occupy Winningham Bro's hall on Grand avenue as a temporary place of meeting. Mrs. Alice E. Mitchell, Mrs. L. J. Perring and Mrs. Hull were appointed a committee to look up Baptist families and secure their cooperation. The first prayer meeting was held on Wednesday evening, July 24th, and on Sunday morning July 28th, the Baptist Sunday school was organized with M. L. Killebrew as superintendent; Mrs. Perring, secretary; Mrs. Kay, treasurer. On November 2, 1889, the First Baptist church of Oklahoma City, was organized, and on November 16th the following officers were elected: Deacons, Kendall Elder and L. H. North; treasurer, W. H. Tompkins; clerk, L. H. North; trustees, I. N. Phillips, F. V. Brandom and T. M. Richardson. On February 5, 1890, Rev. W. H. Nichols was called to the pastorate of the church and on April 1, 1890, he commenced his pastoral work. The membership at the time of organization was seventeen and the present membership is forty-three.

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## THE DRY GOODS PALACE OF WEDEMEYER, CLAY & CO.

Wedemeyer Clay & Co. is a well known firm in Oklahoma City. They carry the largest and most complete stock of general merchandise of any house in the territory. They are all merchants bred and born. Their novel designs, advance styles and constantly fresh attractions in goods combine to please and attract. Their stock of dry goods is simply the par excellence of perfection. Woolen, silk and wash fabrics from French, English, Scotch, German and American factories are ever on the counters in their store. Their magnificent assortment of goods insures them a large trade. They invite the inspection of the fastidious, the critical, the artistic the rich and the poor. They keep abreast of the times in all things and in so doing naturally become the leading firm of the city in their line. Their operations are not confined to Oklahoma City alone for in the thriving town of El Reno they have a branch house carrying a generel stock of dry goods, groceries and hardware valued at $6,000 which is under the management of

E. E. ELTERMAN,

who devotes his whole time and attention to the business. He came to Oklahoma in the rush from his old home in Bloomer, Wisconsin.

SAMUEL CLAY

is an Ohio man, but has resided in the Indian Territory for so long that he has lost nearly all his Buckeye ways. He was head clerk in a large general merchandise establishment in Muskogee for half a dozen years from which place he removed to Shawneetown where he was the proprietor of of a like establishment for eight years. For four years he made his home in Econtuchka where he was a successful merchant and cattle dealer. He came to Oklahoma in November and on the fourth day of that month entered into a partnership with J. H. Wedemeyer and E. Etterman.

J. H. WEDEMEYER

was born September 20th, 1858, in Racine, Wisconsin. He is a graduate of Morey's Commercial College (Racine) and is an expert accountant. In 1884 he moved to Bloomer, Wisconsin, of which city he was postmaster under President Cleveland. He resigned the position in

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1889 and came to Oklahoma May 16th. On May 22d, just one month after the opening of the territory to settlement he was in business on Main street. Before November the firm name was J. W. Wedemeyer & Co. Since then it has been Wedemeyer, Clay & Co. Their business has been very satisfactory and in February they were obliged to enlarge their building to accommodate their countless customers and large stock of goods. Their prices are much the lowest, their stock to select from much the largest and in every way they are leaders in their line of business.

## THE CITY'S FIRST POSTMASTER.

G. A. Beidler, the first postmaster of Oklahoma City, came into the territory April 11th, 1889, by appointment of the postmaster general, and in the line of official duty, and opened up his office in a small primitive stockade building put up by him as a temporary shelter for the U. S. mails, and it was while in said contracted quarters that he met the great avalanche of humanity which swept down upon Oklahoma on April 22d, 1889, and where he continued to conduct the business of the office until he was able to erect a more commodious postoffice building into which he afterward moved and where he has continued to conduct the business of the postoffice ever since.

He was born and raised in the Keystone state and has had a somewhat eventful life, the first part of it commencing in having been born a "seventh son."

He lived in Philadelphia for ten years and during the time of the great Centennial in 1876. In 1862 he went into the army from the state of Illinois, joining Co. "B," 106th Reg. Inf. Vols. as a private, was afterward promoted to sergeant major of the regiment and then to lieutenant of his company, serving for three years, or until the close of the war. He was mustered out of the service at Springfield, Illinois. He spent a number of years in prospecting and in gold and silver mining in the mountains of Colorado, Montana, and Utah. He crossed the briny deep to Europe in 1872 on a business and pleasure trip combined. He has spent many of his years in the line of inventing and is an inventor of considerable note, a number of his inventions being on sale in the markets all over this country and in parts of Europe.

For many years he had his thoughts turned toward Oklahoma with an abiding faith that it would eventually be opened up to settlement, and with the determination that when that time came he would join his fortunes with

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it and make his home within its borders. He has great faith in Oklahoma City's future and expects to see her a city of 25,000 people within five years. Ever since the opening day he has done his part toward building up a grand, moral and religious community by giving his advice and assistance and by his daily walk in life. Part of his postoffice building was the first put to use as a place for religious worship by the different congregations and for the Sunday Schools and was so used for quite a length of time.

## HISTORY OF THE M. E. CHURCH IN OKLAHOMA CITY AND A SKETCH OF ITS PASTOR, REV. A. G. MURRAY.

When Oklahoma was opened to settlement the great M. E. church had representatives in the rush. Rev. James Murray was the one to Oklahoma City. There was ample time and opportunity to have obtained an admirable location for the church building and parsonage, but some way or other Rev. Murray failed to secure one. He was elected mayor of the city at the election held by the Oklahoma Colony in the big tent of which mention is made elsewhere in this volume He acquired considerable property, or rather lots, in the city for his own use and left the church entirely upon its own bottom. It's the same old story: Get a preacher infatuated with politics and the hunger for the empty honors of office drains the elevating ardor from his religion. However, on the 23d of June, 1889, Rev. James Murray organized with seventeen members the M. E. church. They did not rush out into the highways and byways for sinners as was expected, and his health being poor Rev. Murray made application to be relieved of the charge. It was granted and on the 21st of July, 1889, Rev. A. G. Murray, of Baldwin, Kansas, was sent to take under the shadow of his wing the little flock of Methodists who sighed and longed for a shepherd to lead them in the paths of peace. The Sunday School of this church was organized by Dr. D. W. Scott, June 9th, 1889, with about twenty scholars, mostly adults. On January 1st the average daily attendance was one hundred and forty with an enrollment of one hundred and sixty. Just as soon as Rev. A. G. Murray had shaken hands with a few of the members of his congregation he went to work to build a place of worship. Without a sin-

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gle dollar's worth of property to begin with he labored early, late and faithfully and on the 27th of December, 1889, a handsome church building was dedicated. The property on the first of January was worth at least twenty-five hundred dollars and not a cent did the society owe. The first conference held in the territory convened in this church with one hundred ministers in attendance. Bishop W. X. Ninde, of Topeka, Kansas, presiding. So large are the congregations that attend the services that it has been deemed advisable to enlarge the building. The vocalization of the choir, a most excellent one, is as follows: Sopranos—Mrs. A. C. Peyton, Misses Jessie Hammers, Ettie Ray, Annie Rice and Mrs. C. L. Beard. Altos—Mrs. J. W. Pettee, Miss Nellie Bourne and Mrs. C. A. Richardson. Tenors—M. L. Bixler, and L. Joyce. Bassos—Capt. Hammer, H. B. Mitchell and C. L. Beard. Chorisier—N. M. Tubbs. Organist—Mrs. F. L. Cramer.

REV. A. G. MURRAY,

the pastor of the M. E. church, was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, and at the age of twelve years moved with his father to Miami county, Indiana, where he spent seven years on a farm. When Fort Sumpter was fired on he was in the senior elass in college and but nineteen years old, yet he was the tenth man to enroll his name for service when the first call for troops was made. He served in the Fifty-first Reg. Ind. Vol., as a private for two years when he was promoted to a first lieutenant. He was the ranking officer during the incarceration of the officers of his regiment in Libby prison. He was in command of the regiment for half a year and was regimental adjutant from '63 to '65. When the war was over he settled in Peru, Indiana, where he was a struggling pedagogue for ten long and weary years. He joined the Kansas conference in 1876 and has been stationed by that conference in Osage City, Marysville, Centralia and Alma. He came to Oklahoma at the request of Rev. B. C. Swartz, superintendent of missions in the Indian Territory, and Bishop W. X. Ninde, of Topeka. He is an earnest, able, efficient pastor, beloved by his congregation and exactly the "right man in the right place." The Gazette of October 28, had this to say of the dedication services:

Six months ago to-day the Rev. J. Murray preached the first sermon ever delivered by a Methodist minister in this city. It was an open air meeting and how different from the one of yesterday and last night. A little later on the superintendent of M. E. missions in the Indian

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Territory, Rev. Swartz, sent Rev. G. A. Murray to this place as a missionary and pastor to look after Methodists who had flocked here with members of other denominations and sinners too, in their laudable efforts to better their condition in point of this world's goods and to find a home in this land of prodigal provision and where nature's hand seems always open. Rev. G. A. Murray needs no introduction to newspaper readers in this part of the moral vineyard. He is well and favorably known to all our people. He has worked zealously, cheerfully and without complaint in sunshine and rain, in wind and calm for the upbuilding of the Methodist church in this city, and yesterday his cup of joy was filled to the brim. His solicitations, his anxiety happily ended when the comfortable, tasty and creditable edifice, shaped and reared under his supervision, was yesterday dedicated and denominated the worship place of his people in the future. His work as far as building a church out of lumber and nails is concerned, is ended for a time, but his work of doing good goes right on without rest or intermission and the consecration of the church building yesterday adds vim and vigor to his movements. Every Methodist in tne city expanded just a little yesterday. They couldn't help it. It was an expansion time. No church ever had a brighter, better, more intelligent or generous congregation than that which literally jammed in the M. E. building yesterday morning and last night. The only mistake made in building that new church is that they didn't build it large enough to accommodate the people. At least one hundred stood up, sat on the railing and on the floor. Every inch of room was judiciously managed and occupied and then scores failed to even get inside the building. It was a red letter day for the Methodists and nobody blames them for slightly spreading themselves. When the hands of the church clock pointed to eleven yesterday morning almost five hundred people were waiting for the services to begin. It was a notable gathering of this city's representative people, Presbyterians, Baptists, Christians and those without the compass of any creed were there. Lawyers, doctors, mechanics, clerks, real estate men, teachers, bankers, capitalists and laborers were there to witness one of the most important events in the history of this city and territory. On the platform sat the Ladies' Aid Society, L. Countryman, Gen. Cramer, Judge Violet, Hon. Sidney Clarke, Postmaster Beidler, Rev. Hill, of Guthrie, Dr. Scott, Rev. Swartz, Rev. James Murray and Dr. Bernard Kelley, of Topeka, Rev. A. G. Murray, representatives of the press,

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the choir and a number of others. Dr. Kelley delivered a masterly sermon on "Christianity" taken from the text found in Ephesians III, 15—"Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named." Its delivery occupied over an hour but so grandly eloquent and interesting was it that the flight of time was unnoted. If Dr. Kelley could preach just about once every week two-thirds of this city's inhabitants would be shouting Methodists in less than three months. At the close of his sermon he told a few collection stories and asked the audience to raise $300 to free the church from debt and in just twenty minutes by the clock raised $339. In the evening Rev. James Murray occupied the pulpit and fully as many persons listened to his eloquent words as had heard Dr. Kelley in the morning. Then came the dedicatory services performed by Dr. Kelley, ably assisted by the Revs. Swartz, Murray and Hill. They were beautiful, simple and impressive. Rev. Swartz got the floor under protest and told how he had sent Rev. A. G. Murray down here to work for the Methodists and pointed to the building as one of the results of his labor. For all this Brother Murray had received less than fifty dollars for his support. Preachers had to have bread and butter and occasionally chicken—Methodist preachers were always death on chickens—now would not the magnificent audience help him to obtain some of the palatable things of this life? Solicitors were sent out and a handsome sum was soon collected for the pastor. The gleaner's barrels were then opened and their contents announced as follows: Miss Jessie Hammer $11.10; Miss Annie Hazen, $1.32; Miss Ida Hazen, $1.15; Miss Minnie Rice, $19.17; Miss Nellie Bourne, $6.46; Mrs. Pettee, $21.40. Four prizes, morocco bound bibles, were awarded to the four gleaners having gathered the most. Mr. Kelley made the presentation speech to Mrs. Pettee, and Dr. Scott grew rapturous in delivering Miss Rice hers. Rev. Swartz claimed that Drs. Kelley and Scott made his speech and handed Miss Hammer her prize. Capt. Hammer in fitting words presented Miss Bourne her little volume of glorious truth. The choir—havn't said anything about the choir yet—sang "Scatter Seeds of Salvation," or something like that, when the benediction was pronounced and the great congregation—the greatest ever in Oklahoma City—scattered to their respective homes.

## A BUSY YOUNG MAN.

On a little knoll, nestling amidst towering locusts, with the fragrant winds of autumn's fields and orchards

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playing upon its whitened walls, in the county of Brown and state of Illinois, stands the house around which cluster the sweetest memories in the life of William Hanwyn Ebey, where he was born on the 5th day of September, 1863. Mr. Eby spent his boyhood days in Illinois where he received a common school education. He began the study of law in Illinois and in 1884 came west to Kansas where he completed a course of reading in his brother's office at Wichita. He was a Kansas postmaster and editor during Cleveland's administration. Mr. Ebey has been prominent among the young Democracy of Kansas and is secretary of the Democratic congressional committee of the Seventh congressional district of Kansas. He came to Oklahoma on the eventful 22nd, and is secretary of the Oklahoma City board of trade. He is the head of the firm of Ebey & Guthrie which is the leading real estate, loan and insurance firm in the city. Mr. Ebey is prominently identified with some of the leading enterprises of our city being a director and large stock holder in the water power, electric light and water works companies.

## C. A. GALBRAITH, LAWYER AND COMMISSIONER FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS.

C, A. Galbraith, one of the youngest and foremost atttorneys in the new territory, was born at Hartsville, Bartholomew county, Indiana, March 6th, 1860. His youth was passed in attending the public schools during the winter months and working on a farm in summer. At eighteen years of age he entered the freshman class of Hartsville College and graduated, taking the degree of A. B. in 1883. He was out of college two winters—one was spent in teaching a country school and the other as an attache of the Indiana state senate. He was a law student in the office of Hon. Francis T. Hord, at Columbus, Indiana, and attended the Michigan University law school at Ann Arbor, Michigan during the session of '83 and '84. In the spring of '84 he located at Terrell, Texas, in law practice and in January '85 formed a partnership with Hon. J. O. Terrell which relation was sustasned until July, '88 when Mr. Galbraith moved to Fort Worth, Texas, and continued in the practice of his profession until the siren voice of Oklahoma drew him to her borders. He arrived in Oklahoma City on the memorable 22d of April, '89, and in a few days afterwards opened a law office. He has

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been identified with all the progressive moves of the city, is an active member of the board of trade and president of the Cleveland Democratic club which is the strongest political organization in the Territory. He has great executive ability and to him is the honor ascribed of calling to order the first Democratic territorial convention ever held in Oklahoma. He is a quiet man, handsome and pleasant, and has hosts of friends. On the 22d of December, 1886, at Terrell, Texas, he was united in marriage to Miss Nova J. Harman, a handsome and talented young lady.

## THE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC TERRITORIAL CONVENTIONS.

The first territorial political convention was that of the Republicans held in Oklahoma City, January 17th, 1890. There were over one hundred and fifty delegates in attendance and the convention was in session three days. Following are the names of the members of the central committee as appointed by the convention:

J. M. Canon, Frisco, chairman; A. C. Scott, Oklahoma City, secretary; Geo. H. Dodson, Orlando; E. J. Wilkoff, Stillwater; C. B. Freeman, Guthrie; Samuel Murphy, Oklahoma City; A. H. Classen, Edmond; D. W. Marquart, Norman; B. L. Eaton, Hennessey; D. B. Garrett, Lincoln; Frank Rector, Downs; I. Cutright, Frisco; E. E. Wilson, Reno City; Thomas Jensen, El Reno.

The second convention was Democratic and about the same number of delegates were in attendanee as were at the Republican convention. It convened March 11th, 1890, and adjourned two days later. The central committee appointed is as follows:

President, J. E. Jones, Oklahoma City; secretary, T. E. Berry, Norman; Charles VanEaton, Dover; James Shears, Cimarron City; J. S. Mitsch, Edmond; P. Barnard, Downs; J. D. S. Chalmers, El Reno; T. E. Berry, Norman: J. G. Johnson, Noble; J. J. Kirwin, Britton; W. E. Banks, Mustang; George E. Clayton, Seward; J. R. Booth, Matthewson; P. R. Smith, Lexington; J. W. Crider, Hennessey; T. G. Sutton, Frisco; C. M. Burke, Central City; A. J. Day, Choctaw City; Allen Carruthers and L. Ketchum, Guthrie. D. B. Madden and J. E. Jones, Oklahoma City; E. J. Simpson, Reno City; A. J. Shaw, Union City; J. M. Kuykendal, Orlando; P. Nagle, Kingfisher; Col. Hugh Wilkinson, Oklahoma City, and Virgil M. Hobbs, Kingfisher, delegates at large.

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## LEWIS COUNTRYMAN.

Hon. Lewis Countryman, of the law firm of Weaver Clarke & Countryman, was among the first who reached Oklahoma City on the afternoon of April 22d, 1889. He was born at Cleveland, Ohio, February 27th, 1837. In 1884 he went with his parents to Rock county, Wisconsin, where he learned the mill wright trade with his father and followed that trade up to the year 1865. In 1854 he moved to West Union, Iowa, and in 1861 he crossed the plains to Marysville, California, remaining there until July, 1869, when he went to Washal City, Nevada. He left Nevada in October, 1865, returning to the states via the Isthmus of Panama. He engaged at once in farming and stock business at Cedar Rapids and at Woodbury county, Iowa, and was soon known as one of the leading business men of that portion of the state. About this time he commenced to investigate the fraudulent land grants in Western, Iowa, and after being admitted to the bar entered upon the land practice as the representative of the settlers. He was eminently successful both in the Iowa courts and at Washington, recovering nearly 30,000 acres of valuable land. Mr. Countryman has given great attention to land contest cases in Oklahoma. Having been interested for many years in the movement to open this country to settlement, and having had much experience in energetic, western life, Mr. Countryman is just the man to aid in utilizing the resources of a new territory and in laying the foundation of a new state.

## RECEPTION OF THE CONGRESSMEN.

When Congressman Mansur, of Missouri; Springer, of Illinois; Allen, of Mississippi; Perkins and Peters of Kansas, and Baker of New York, notified the citizens of Oklahoma that they would visit them on Tuesday, September 17, there was a great stir made to prepare a suitable reception for the distinguished gentlemen.

A barbeque was prepared, platforms erected in the grove north-east of the city, and everything done that would create a favorable impression on the minds of the statesmen. They arrived as advertised and after being driven over the city were escorted to the grove where each congressman was introduced according to rank. Their speeches were, it was presumed, the same ones that they

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had delivered at other points along the route, yet the assembled thousands applauded them to the echo. Allen was the funny man of the party and it is said that he slightly strained himself on the "swing around the circle." They all solemnly promised that the territory should have speedy legislation.

At night a banquet and ball was given in their honor. It was a spread eagle affair and the remembrance of it will be cherished by many of the citizens of the city forever. The GAZETTE of September 18th, spoke of it thusly: "The most brilliant display of beauty and fashion ever witnessed in the great south west was that of last night at the banquet and ball tendered the congressional visitors. The blending of beautiful colors, the gleam of fair white arms, the bright rays of light sent out by the jewels, the joy and spirituelle combination of tulle and flowers, the shimmer of silks and the splendor of brocades made a picture bright and dazzling with color and variety.

Diamonds blazed from the hair, the neck and the front of the gowns of Oklahoma's beautiful women who charmed and enthralled the great statesmen who came to visit us and inspect our Utopian progress and advancement towards the legislative light of territorial government and future statehood.

The banquet was a most happy and glorious success. The caterer, Mr. W. S. Cotter, from the metropolis of Sunflowerdom, managed and arranged everything with such consumate ability and artistic grace that everybody was delighted and charmed. The crowd was so great that the tables were set twice before all could be feasted. The first spread was for fifty couples and the second embraced a like number. It was a royal festal board and the joyous assemblage acted upon the scriptural injunction, "Eat, drink and be merry, for to-morrow you may die."

At the ball the best music obtainable was furnished—the Oklahoma orchestra, under Prof. Blize—and nothing was left undone to make the occasion harmonious and glorious. Everybody that could, danced, and to those who did not there was a charm in the spectacle presented by the well dressed gentlemen and handsome women who did dance and endeavored to help make up the prettiest of pictures—the mazy waltz, the vivacious gallop and the stately quadrille.

Oklahoma City's reception to the distinguished visitors was a blaze of glory and a poem of color and beauty. There was no friction or restraint and it was in short the acme of superbness.

One hundred gentlemen in full dress, officers of the

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army in the neatest of tight fitting uniforms, one hundred ladies in the lustre and glory of magnificent silks, satins, foamy laces set off with plumes and star like jewels glistening through the clouds of draperies, all in graceful motion to the time of tuneful music made a scene of brilliant kaleidoscopic beauty never before witnessed in the history of the country that rivals the Biblical Bulah Land of corn and wine.

Mrs. Dr. Munger, a handsome woman, was attired in a dress of drab cashmere, white lace, tinsel braid, tan gloves, diamonds.

Mr. Ben Craycroft, gown of flowered silk—square bodice, exquisitely made.

Miss Murphy, attired in an elegant gown of Henrietta eloth trimmed with blue velvet, Marshalniel roses in corsage, belt of blue velvet, no gloves.

Miss Cobin, brown silk dress trimmed with old gold lace, no gloves or flowers.

Miss Kate Ellis, black faille silk with ribbons to match, decollette, apple blossoms in corsage.

Miss Stead, elegant gown of wine colored cashmere trimmed with ribbons, white flowers in hair and corsage; diamonds.

Mrs. Boyle, dress of blue Henrietta trimmed in silk braid, pink lace bonnet to match and pink wrap.

Mis Fitch, gown of light brown cloth, trimmed with velvet, drab gloves, no flowers.

Miss Scott, exquisitely attired in dark blue silk, trimmed with watered silk and ribbons to match.

Miss Cora Wall, striped black and white cloth gown trimmed with ribbons to match.

Miss May Ellis, suit of grey Henrietta, trimmed with red velvet decollette, white flowers in corsage.

Mrs. Percival wore a dress of black faille Francaise, draped with black lace, long black gloves, boquet of roses.

Mrs. Blackburn, dress of black royal armure of simple but elegant make, beautiful boquet of English roses, long black gloves.

Miss Spruce was attired in a gown of a beautiful shade of cashmere trimmed with plaid silk and pink ribbons.

Mrs. George Sisson wore an exquisite gown of black satin luxor, elegant trimmings, long tan gloves, diamonds.

Mrs. Eltermann, gown of lovely plush, a pretty blue shade, pink flowers, long drab gloves.

Mrs. Wedemeyer, wine colored silk with velvet polonaise, pink flowers, tan gloves and diamonds.

Miss Massey wore dress of white Swiss trimmed with

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pink, rose buds in corsage, white surah sash, silk mitts.

Mrs. Massey was attired in an elaborately made combination suit trimmed with brocaded silk, pink flowers, long black gloves.

Mrs. Vaughn, black satin luxor trimmed with olive green silk, long black gloves.

Miss A. C. Robb wore a beautiful dress of black silk, jet ornaments, white flowers, diamonds.

Mrs. J. H. Woods was arrayed in a lovely black silk tsimmed with velvet and dutchess lace; diamonds.

Miss Mattie Hope wore a pretty gown of surah rep trimmed with black velvet, white flowers, diamonds.

Mrs. Geffs was attired in an elaborately trimmed white faille Swiss, white flowers, long white gloves, diamonds.

Mrs. Sampey, lovely dress of wine colored silk trimmed with brocaded velvet. long black gloves, corsage flowers.

Mrs. Scott was dressed in an elegantly made brown satin gown, white flowers.

Mrs. Sommers, brown silk, white satin ribbons, long tan gloves, boquet of Oklahoma flowers.

Mrs. T. A. Cook was dressed in a tasty gown of black and blue velvet trimmed with Spanish lace, shoulder ornaments, tan gloves.

Miss Pugh, white faille Swiss trimmed with blue satin ribbons, long sash of same, white flowers.

Miss Davis wore a black silk, passamenterie trimmings, Spanish lace, diamonds.

Mrs. McGee was attired in black armure beautifully made, long black gloves, corsage flowers, diamonds.

Mrs. Grannahan wore a light brown dress of cashmere tastefully made, long tan gloves.

Miss Robinson, lovely black armure, trimmed in black satin ribbon.

Miss Kramer wore a pretty embroidered gown of white Swiss, long black gloves.

Miss Cuppy, embroidered white skirt, wine colored silk basque, long tan gloves.

Miss Odie Detwiler wore an exquisite dress of black armure with trimmings to match.

Miss Minnie Detwiler, was attired in a gown of black cashmere, jet ornaments, white rose buds in hair snd corsage.

Mrs. Gen. Cramer wore a beautiful silk gown—flowered—trimmed with lace and silk velvet hat to match, with large white plume. Long maroon gloves, diamonds.

Misses Lulu Johnson and Mable Garrison were at-

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tractively dressed in gowns of cream wool, girlish style, full skirt, with bands of satin ribbon and sashes of same, pink flowers.

Mrs. Winsett wore a dress of black armure trimmed with black satin, boquet of natural flowers.

Miss Etta Ray, costume of white Swiss trimmed with satin ribbons, decollette.

Mrs. Guthrie was attractively attired in a lovely dress of olive plush with cream silk trimmings, diamond broach and solitaire ear rings.

Miss Nellie Bourne wore an elegant dress of white mnll very gracefully draped.

Miss Annie Hazen, cream silk mull, long white gloves, flowers.

Miss Alla Winsett, cream wool trimmed with satin ribbons, decollette, white flowers.

Miss Neva Ray, white mull trimmed with ribbons, boquet of flowers.

Miss Alice Garrison, cream sateen exquisitely made, flowers.

## RETAIL LUMBER DEALERS ASSOCIATION OF THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

Mr. T. N. Lamport, of the Union Lumber Mills, and other prominent lumbermen of the city were largely instrumental in organizing the OKLAHOMA RETAIL LUMBER DEALERS ASSOCIATION. On Saturday evening, November 15, in the Bone & McKinnon building, representatives from all the principle lumber companies in the territory asembled and the association formed. There were present as delegates: M. L. Best. Arkansas City Lumber Co., city; F. L. Parker, Parker Lmb'r Co., Guthrie; H. Braden, South-western Lumber Co., Guthrie; L. Bealen, Arkansas Lumber Co., Guthrie; J. C. Hall, Arkansas Lumber Co., Guthrie; Mr. Tissington, Rathbun, Rhinehart & Co., this city; S. W. Sawyer, Sawyer Lumber Co., El Reno; A. B. Alexander, Union Lumber Mills, Guthrie; T. D. Lamport, Union Lumber Mills, this city; W. L. Sharpe, Huttig Bros. & Co., Wichita; Mr. Graham, Oklahoma Mercantile Co., Guthrie; Mr. Lumpkin, Iowa Lumber Co., Guthrie; Mr. Blincle, Guthrie; Mr. Martin, Fort Scott Lumber Co., this city; M. Wells, South Texas Lumber Co., Purcell;

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Mr. Regan, Davidson & Case, this city; A. S. Parks, Kansas Sash and Door Co., Wichita; D. G. Saunders, E. P. Cowen Lumber Co., Kansas City; H. B. Bullen, Stillwater; James Brown, Brown & Co., Edmond; Mr. Chitwood, Santa Fe Lumber Co., this city; I. N. Lund, Carey Lombard Lumber Co., this city; Mr. Coombs, Seymore & Coombs, Reno City; B. H. Ward, Ward & Co., Kingfisher; Mr. Hoover, Hoover & Co., Hennessey; Mr. Russell, Frisco Lumber Co., Frisco; Geo. Todd, Jones & Richardson, Guthrie; Mr. Gault, Vanderberg, Gault & Co., this city; A. Miller, Darlington & Miller Lumber Co., Guthrie; Mr. Choat, Oklahoma Lumber Co., Norman; T. M. Richardson, Jones & Richardson, this city; Ben Craycroft, Reno Avenue Lumber Co., this city.

The officers of the association for the ensuing year are:

T. V. Lamport, president, M. L. Best, secretary.
F. L. Parker, vice-president T. M. Richardson, treas.

Directors in addition to the above gentlemen are:

B. H. Ward, Kingfisher, Mr. Wells, Purcell.
W. S. Sawyer, El Reno, Mr. Choat, Norman.
Mr. Darlington, Guthrie.

The lumbermen of the city were tendered a vote of thanks for the hospital reception given the visiting delegates. The meeting was one of much pleasure and profit to all parties concerned.

At a meeting of the association March 15, 1889, the following directors were present: T. V. Lamport, J. R. Wells, W. L. Choat, Evans R. Darlington, T. M. Richardson. The meeting was called together by the president, T. V. Lamport. On motion of Mr. Choat, T. M. Richardson was selected as secretary pro tem. The president stated the object of the meeting was to elect two directors to fill the vacancies caused by the death of our brother secretary, M. S. Best, and the resignation of the president. After some discussion the meeting was declared open for business and the resignation of the president was accepted after which they proceeded to the election of directors. Ben Craycroft and Frank O. Miller were declared elected. The directors now called for an election of officers where upon Ben Craycroft was elected president and Frank O. Miller secretary to fill the unexpired term. After the newly elected president was escorted to the chair the following business was transacted:

WHEREAS: It has pleased Almighty God to remove from earth our brother, M. S. Best, and circumstances have been such with our brother president as to cause his resignation, be it

RESOLVED, That in the death of our brother, M. S.

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Best, and the resignation of our brother president, T. V. Lamport, the Retail Lumber Dealers' association of the Indian territory have incurred a loss of two of its most worthy and active official members, of which we all feel we have sustained an irreparable loss. Be it further

RESOLVED, That these resolutions be printed in the city papers and a copy be mailed to Mrs. M. S. Best, wife of our deceased brother.

BEN CRAYCROFT, president.
FRANK O. MILLER, secretary.
T. M. RICHARDSON, treasurer.
W. L. CHOAT, J. R. WELLS, EVANS RICHARDSON, } Directors.

## CURTIS L. WAGNER.

The most personally popular young man in Oklahoma City is C. L. Wagner. He is the soul of honor and good nature, and generous to a fault. He is what is called in land office parlance a "legal sooner," having been in Oklahoma before it was opened to settlement, in the service of the Santa Fe rail road. He resigned his position soon after the opening and established the first confectionary in the city. His place, a very popular one, is on Main street and he does an extensive business. He smiled on the cruel world for the first time, in Philadelphia, October 16, 1863. When he was but one year old his parents removed to Iowa City, Iowa, where they resided for half a dozen years. He was educated in Emporia, Kansas, and engaged in business for himself in the city of Wichita, Kansas. He was station clerk in rail road circles for many years and enjoyed the distinction of being one of the most efficient clerks in the service. His place of business in the city is headquarters for musicians and theatrical people and the young man has found that it was good for him to have come to Oklahoma.

## CHAS. W. MEACHAM.

One of the most successful bnsiness men in Oklahoma City is Chas. W. Meacham on Main street, proprietor and manager of the DAISY FURNITURE COMPANY. This

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company is the consolidation of the Furgerson furniture company and that of the Chas. W. Meacham furniture company which occurred in the latter part of May, 1889. It consists of the immense stocks of all kinds and classes of furniture, sold at reasonable figures to the hundreds of patrons from all parts of the Oklahoma territory.

### CHAS. W. MEACHAM,

is a Kentuckian by birth. He is from Christain county, Kentucky, and was born January 7, 1865. He lived with his parents until he was seventeen years of age when he started in life for himself. He received an academic education and first entered business at Fulton, Fulton county, Kentucky, which is one of the western counties of the state. He has been in the furniture business all his life and is perfect in all its various branches and details.

On the 14th of October, 1889, he came to Oklahoma and purchased the entire stock of furniture owned by Fred H. Reed, whose establishment was on Broadway. Mr. Meacham remained in that locality until his increasing bnsiness compelled him to move on Main street into more commodious quarters.

He is an active, energetic young man and none stands higher for genuine business integrity than he. His business has been flattering and to him Oklahoma has been a booming success.

## HON. SIDNEY CLARKE.

Among the men identified with Oklahoma City from the first settlement is the Hon. Sidney Clarke. He is president of the city council and at different times has been acting mayor of the city. Mr. Clarke is about fifty-five years of age and has led a very active life. He was born in Massachusetts and commenced his public career by establishing a weekly newspaper in his native town which he edited with success for a number of years. In 1859 he settled in Lawrence, Kansas, and was soon recognized as one of the prominent men of the Free State party. He read law in the office of Gen. James H. Lane, and served as private secretary for some time after Lane's election to the United States senate. In 1861 Mr. Clarke was elected to the Kansas legislature. In the following year he was made assistant adjutant general of volunteers and assigned to duty as provost marshal general for Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Dakota under what was

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known as the enrollment act. He was also superintendent of the vounteer recruiting service and chief mustering and disbursing officer for his district. In the fall of 1864 he was elected member of congress from the state of Kansas, was re-elected in 1866 and 1868, his services in congress terminating on the 4th of March, 1871. Mr. Clarke was the only member of congress from Kansas under the then existing apportionment. During that period the state had a phenomenal growth, and Mr. Clarke originated and pushed through the house of representatives a vast amouht of important legislation relating to the material developement and public institutions of the state. He was the champion of the settlers on the public domain, and at that early day insisted that public policy demanded that the tribal relations of the Indians should be extinguished and the Indian Territory opened to homestead settlement. He make a desperate fight to save the Osage lands in Kansas for actual settlers, against a railroad company who made a treaty with the Indians to purchase them at only nineteen cents per acre. While he won the victory for the settlers and saved the 16th and 36th sections to the state for school purposes, worth several million dollars, the corporation was powerful enough to defeat his nomination for congress in the state convention for the fourth term. He took the position that the Oklahoma lands were practically made a part of the public domain by the treaties of 1866, and therefore they were open for settlement. He has consistently maintained that it is beyond the constitutional power of congress to make it a penal offence for an American citizen to go on any part of the public domain, and he does not believe that this class of legislation wlll be sustained by the supreme court. In 1879, Mr. Clarke was again elected to the Kansas legislature as an independent candidate and was elected speaker of the house, receiving the entire democratic and greenback vote, and nearly one-half of the the republican vote. The session was an exciting one, John J. Ingalls being a candidate for re election to the senate. Mr. Clarke was an anti-Ingalls man, and to him was awarded the credit of organizing the forces that brought Mr. Ingalls to within one vote of defeat.

At the commencement of the 48th congress, Mr. Clarke, in connection with Capt. Couch, commenced active work at Washington to secure the opening of Oklahoma to settlement. His long service in congress and his wide acquaintance with public men and public affairs, made his work especially effective. Before the committees of congress, with the press, and in all the avenues of

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public opinion he helped carry on the agitation which culminated in the opening of Oklahoma. In the last congress of which he was a member he was chairman of the committee on Indian affairs. There are few men in the country more familiar with the status of the Indian reservations and public land questions than Mr. Clarke. He believes that the Indian title to all the reservations in the Indian Territory should be extinguished, the Indians required by law to take homes in severalty, a territorial government established over the entire territory, and all the vacant lands opened up to homestead settlement. He has great faith in the future of Oklahoma City as a commercial metropolis. He believes that with proper territorial government and liberal and intelligent legislation, that Oklahoma will soon become a state—one of the most populous and productive of all the states west of the Mississippi.

## METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH.

The first Sunday after April 22d, 1889, a Sunday school was organized by W. P. Shaw. The church organization was made by Rev. I. L. Burrow about the 1st of June, '89, with a membership of forty-six, which has since increased to more than one hundred.

The present and first pastor of the church is Rev. A. J. Worley, a minister of culture and wide acquaintance. He assumed charge of the church in September, 1889. The place of worship is on Third street in the tabernacle, and the society have in course of construction a magnificent church edifice.

## ADOLPH NEWMAN.

The largest building owned and managed by any one individual in the city is the extensive coal, flour and feed building of Adolph Newman, at the corner of First and Harvey streets. He came to Oklahoma City, May 20, '89, from Galena, Kansas, where he was one of the leading business men of the place. He was born in Prussia, February 7, 1847 and from 1864 to 1867 served with distinction in the Prussian army during the Austrian war. He came to America in 1869, and was located in Cincinnati for a number of years. Mr. Newman is a practical

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brewer and contemplates the establishment of a large brewery in the city at no distant date. His business in Oklahom City has been prosperous and it is all due to his industry and perseverance.

## COLONEL W. C. JONES.

Colonel W. C. Jones, United States marshal at the time of the opening of Oklahoma to settlement, is a native of Wisconsin. He was born in Racine, August 11th, 1839. His early years were spent on a farm in that state and it was not until 1859 that Kansas claimed him as an honored son. He settled in Iola, Allen couniy, where he raised company I of the Tenth regiment of Kansas infantry at the breaking out of the war. He was elected captain of the company and until 1864 was in the operations of the army west of the Mississippi river. During that year he was ordered east and assumed command of a regiment in the Army of the Cumberland. For meritorious service on the field of battle he was commissioned major in 1865 of the 19th Kansas cavalry under Colonel Crawford. He participated with distinction in the battles of Franklin, Nashville, Columbia, and all the battles west of the Mississippi with the exception of Pea Ridge. After the war he returned to his home in Iola and engaged with success in farming and stock raising. He was commissioned warden of the Kansas state penitentiary in April, 1883, and held that position for two and one-half years, until he was appointed United States marshal for the district of Kansas. In Kansas politics Col. Jones has conspicuously figured. He was a delegate to the National Democratic convention which nominated Grover Cleveland for president, and at that famous convention was a member of the committee on permanent organization. For years he has been a delegate from his district to every state convention and for the last half dozen years has been a member of the state central committee. He was commissioned lieutenant colonel in 1865 for bravery displayed in the expedition against the Indians under Sheridan. Col. Jones' military and political record is without a blemish and his posterity can look upon it with pride. He is a generous, big hearted man and has hosts of friends in Oklahoma and all over the United States.

## ONE REAL ESTATE MAN.

If there is one man above another in Oklahoma City

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who believes her future to be sure and bright that man is a young man, John Eliason by name. His first venture in Oklahoma was at Guthrie, arriving there April 23d, 1889, and but five days elapsed until he was a pilgrim from the place. He registered in Oklahoma City on the morning of the 28th of April and the city has proudly called him one of her best citizens since that time. He embarked in the real estate business and has probably made more important transfers of property than any other one real estate man. He was born in Warmtan, Sweeden, and was educated thoroughly in the schools of his native land and those of Norway. He has traveled extensively through Europe, and, in fact, has visited most of the historic places of the world. When he came to the United States he settled in McPherson county, Kansas, and for seventeen years did a successful business in several different lines. He has large property interests in the territory and is classed as one of the city's brightest and foremost young men. He is commissioner of deeds for the state of Kansas and during his residence in that state filled very satisfactorily several important positions of trust.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Religious services were held on the first Sabbath after the 22d of April by Rev. C. Hembree of the Presbyterian church. The Bible used on this occasion with inscription testifying to this fact is now in the possession of Mr. Warner. A Sabbath School was promptly organized with Mr. Woodford as superintendent. Mr. Hembree continued to preach in Oklahoma City until September 1st, when he was transferred to Norman and the Rev. W. L. Miller, under commission from the Home Mission board, took charge of the congregation. Services were held in the Mendlich store room until the first of April, 1890, when the congregation removed to the new church on Grand Avenue and Harvey street. The church was formally organized in December of 1889, by the election and installation of Will Young, J. D. Brough and J. Downie, as elders, and A. C. Scott, H. Davis, M. D., H. Overholser, J. C. Anderson, Mr. Banks and Capt. Givins, trustees. Two Sabbath Schools have been sustained; one in the Mendlich building, with Mr. George Anderson superintendent, and the other on Reno street, with Prof. E. V. Dolzonikie, superintendent. They were united on the first Sabbath in April in the new church. The church

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edifice is 69x40 feet, centrally located and admirably adapted to church and Sabbath School purposes. Value $4,000. The prosperity of the congregation is excellent, there being a large element of intelligent and devoted Presbyterians in the city. The church will be dedicated in May.

## THE EVENING GAZETTE.

The EVENING GAZETTE is the oldest daily newspaper in Oklanoma Territory. It was started by the McMaster Printing Company who have the largest plant in the Indian Territory. The paper is democratic in politics, is ably edited and well conducted locally having a larger circulation than any other daily in the Oklahoma country. The same company also own THE LEADER, a weekly which has no superior and is the standard paper of every territorial democrat.

## D. E. H. WILKINSON.

Daniel Elliott Huger Wilkinson, one of Oklahoma City's brightest lawyers, has been, perhaps, more than any other one man in the territory, closer identified with the organization of the democratic party.

He was born at Charleston, South Carolina, October 18, 1858. He graduated from the Charleston College with an appointment and in 1874 went to Denver, Colorado, and begun the practice of law. The following year he moved to Boulder and engaged successfully in several mining enterprises. In 1876 he was one of the "pioneers" to the Black Hills and remained in that country until 1882. During that time Colonel Wilkinson held many prominent positions. He was the ranking lawyer in the Deadwood bar and was superintendent, director and president of several immense mining enterprises. He came to Oklahoma in the rush and very soon rose to the position of a leader in his party, for which he is by nature and education so pre-eminently fitted.

Col. Wilkinson is very popular with the masses, and as a whole souled, genial, order loving and law abiding citizen he has no superior.

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## DR. G. F. DEAN.

The first dentist to arrive in the city was Dr. G. F. Dean. He is a Virginian by birth and possesses all the genial and hospitable propensities that from the Revolutionary War have made the children of the Old Dominion famous. He is a graduate of the Baltimore Dental college and came to Oklahoma City in May, 1889. By skillful work and fair dealing he has built up an extensive practice which is by far the best in the territory. Not only is his practice the best, but Dr. Dean is one of the leaders of his profession in all the south-west. His work is always strictly first class for which he charges a reasonable compensation. His elaborate dental parlors are supplied with all the instruments and appliances used in the dental profession.

In his book cases are found hundreds of volumes of standard works and on his tables all the metropolitan and local newspapers can be daily seen. Dr. Dean is a young man in years but an old one in the practice of his profession, he having had eleven years experience. He is a splendid operator; his steady nerve, clean sight and wonderful experience has made him an expert with but few equals. He is a moral, high-minded gentleman and Oklahoma can be justly proud in claiming him as one of her best citizens.

## CAPTAIN D. F. STILES.

Captain Stiles, as provost marshal of Oklahoma City became famous. His conduct was severely criticised upon several occasions, yet he labored under peculiar circumstances and as an honest man performed at all times what he understood to be his duty. The Kansas City Times of July 15, 1889, has this to say of him :

"Of the officers of the army stationed in Oklahoma to whom has been confided the duty of preserving peace and order in the new territory without laws to govern the people, Captain Daniel F. Stiles, Tenth infantry, provost marshal at Oklahoma City, deserves special mention. The performance of the duties required of this civil-military position has always been marked on his part by the most prudent action. He always recognized civil law as superior to the military, and the fact that in no instance has he overstepped the boundaries of either, thus preventing a clash between the two, is deserving of the highest

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commendation. Whenever aid or assistance was needed by the new settlers he was always at the front doing that which would meet with the approval of the people. The day following tho accident at Oklahoma City, where a number of people were killed and injured by the falling of a grand stand, The Times' dispatches said: 'Almost as soon as the accident occurred, the military, under command of Capt. Stiles, were ordered to the scene and rendered valuable services in preventing unnecessary confusion.'

Again last week, he comes to the front by taking determined action against the turbulent element in that city, threatening them with arrest and confinement if their illegal actions would not cease. This had the desired effect and trouble ceased.

The performance of such duties on the part of army officers, are not only dificult, but fraught with the gravest danger. Common sense and sound judgement are the qualities required for such a task and of these Captain Stiles has his full share.

Captain Styles is a native of Massachusetts and entered the army in August, 1861, as quartermaster and commissary sergeant of the First District Columbia infantry. In 1862 he was promoted Second lieutenant and in 1865 a First lieutenant, being honorably mustered out in September of that year. In 1867 he was appointed Second lieutenant of the Twenty-sixth infantry, and transferred to the Tenth in 1869, where he has since served, being promoted a captain in March, 1888."

After the war Captain Stiles was ordered to Texas and served in that state for more than twelve years. In 1879 he was ordered north with his regiment and was stationed at Fort Wayne, Detroit. Michigan, and at Fort Porter, Buffalo, N. Y. At the latter place he was on duty as quartermaster for over five years. In 1884 he was ordered west and was on duty for a short time at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and was subsequently ordered to Colorado, where in April. 1889 while in command of Fort Crawford, he was ordered to Fort Lyon, where he remained but a few days before coming to Oklahoma with he battalion of the Tenth and Eighteenth regiments of United States infantry.

## COMPTON HOUSE.

One of the shadiest, coolest and most comfortable

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places in the city is the Compton House, on Broadway, between Grand Avenue and Main street. It is admirably located being but a two minutes walk from the depot, postoffice and business center of the city. It is a two story house, well furnished, and very popular with the traveling public. The landlord, Mr. C. A. Compton, is from Omaha, Nebraska. He came to Oklahoma on the 22d of April, 1889. and staked the lot upon which his hotel now stands. He is a typical landlord, being attentive, courteous and affable. The location of this hotel is the best in the city and it is a very desirable and very valuable piece of property. Outside and inside it is scrupulously clean and neat and the service is always the very best. The Compton House has had its full share of the hotel patronage and still has it. It well merits its success. Mr. Compton is a rustler and understands how to make his guests comfortable and perfectly at home. The prominent citizens of the city—who board—are daily seen at the tables of the Compton House. It is deservedly popular and a credit to the city.

## THE OKLAHOMA CITY TIMES.

The initial number of this paper was published to the world December 29th, 1888, by Hamlin Whitmore Sawyer, the present editor and publisher. Mr. B. R. Herrington, who was perfectly familiar with this country, was the local editor. The mechanical work on the first issue was executed at Wichita, Kansas, but the copy was furnished by Mr. Harrington from this place. Type and material was at once furnished to Mr. Herrington at this place and the Oklahoma City Times as a weekly paper appeared regularly and was circulated to the world through the postoffice at this city. The novelty of a newspaper in the Oklahoma Territory, from the city that bears its name, was a drawing card, and everybody wanted to see the new paper. Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, Wichita and many metropolitan papers quoted the Oklahoma City Times. The result was a marvelous increase in circulation. In thirty days from the first issue the circulation was extended to every state and territory in the Union besides quite a list in Canada and Great Britian. It afforded the publisher a handsome income until Feb. 10, '89 when Lieutenant Malcomb, commanding a company of U. S. troops, raided this section of Oklahoma and put the Times to flight. The printing material was taken to Pur-

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cell and afterwards back to Wichita, but through local representatives on the grounds here news of a local nature was furnished regularly and the Times scarcely lost an issue from the first, although it was often published at the greatest expense. After the country was opened the thousands who had seen extracts from the Times, rushed to the office to congratulate the pioneer paper of Oklahoma and to become its patrons. About this time the Oklahoma City Times suffered seriously financially owing to another paper having put in an appearance and taking just enough of the name of this pioneer paper to succeed in getting large sums of money designed for this paper. On June 30th the first issue of the Oklahoma City Daily Times appeared. By this time the field for daily newspapers was quite thoroughly occupied, but energy, push and enterprise have brought the Daily Times to full recognition as a journal of strength at home and abroad. This paper, from the opening of the country, has held a conspicuous place in the field of Oklahoma journalism and has wielded an influence in bringing to this country a large list of most substantial and influential citizens.

## SOUTH OKLAHOMA.

The city of South Oklahoma lies south of Oklahoma City proper. It was settled on the same afternoon that Oklahoma City was. The twenty-two heavily loaded coaches of human freight that came on the north bound special train from Purcell arrived at Oklahoma station the 22d day of April, 1889, at 2:20 p. m. The special train from the north had preceeded this train more than an hour and brought hundreds of anxious settlers who at once settled the greater portion of Oklahoma City. There not being enough territory in Oklahoma City to furnish homes for the hundreds that came from the south they at once scattered themselves over the prairie where South Oklahoma City now stands. All the afternoon and evening of this memorable day was spent in staking and selecting desirable locations. Everything went well with the citizens the first afternoon. All had secured lots and as night closed in on the myriads of excited men without shelter, beds or provisions, except a few tents and what blankets and provisions could be brought in valises, it presented a spectacle never to be forgotten by those who had the pleasure of witnessing it.

The principal actor in the planning and organizing

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of South Oklahoma City was G. W. Patrick. He came on the train from Purcell in company with his brother Joe and R. R. Connella. When the train arrived he found the most desirable lots taken, and not being able to do any better he staked two lots on the south side of block three, and at once assumed the authority of showing others where to stake lots, and thus caused the citizens to recognize him as their leader. Some excited fellow stepped up to him and said, "I will give you a dollar if you will show me where to stake." Being a surveyor himself he was not long in conceiving the idea that there might be some money in the business. Not having an instrument of his own the next thing was to secure one. He searched through the crowd, anxiously looking for some man carrying a tripod. The first man he came to of the kind was Mr. Burns, now the big canal's engineer. He introduced himself, explained his object, told him he would allow him one-half the proceeds if he would take his instrument and help lay out a new town site. He accepted. Not knowing exactly where the township line was, they commenced surveying where California Avenue now is and located several lots on the afternoon of the 22d. On the morning of the 23d, bright and early, men were up eagerly awaiting the surveying corps to come along and fix definitely the boundary line of their city property. Mr. Burns, securing another job of surveying, could not proceed with the survey in the morning, but had Mr. W. R. Killebrew take his place. The first thing done was to find the township line. Finding they were north of the township line instead of south of it, the survey was commenced in the morning about 8 o'clock at the east end of Reno Avenue. In a very short time all the lots on the south side of Reno Avenue were located. The survey went on peacably for two or three hours when all at once a man mounted a dry goods box, waved his hat and shouted at the top of his voice, "Attention citizens!" Immediately a large crowd had gathered around to hear what the gentlemen had to say. This was the first mass meeting ever held by the citizens of South Oklahoma. The object of this call was to elect a surveyor, a secretary of survey and an adjusting committee of four to settle disputes between lot claimants. W. R. Killebrew was elected as surveyor; G. W. Patrick, secretary of survey; Messrs. Steele, Hughes, Hilburn and Cochran committeemen. The man who made this first call was Mr. Steele, afterwards one of the first councilmen.

On Friday a convention was held to nominate candidates for the various city offices. G. W. Patrick was nom-

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inated for mayor; L. P. Ross, city attorney; W. T. Bodine, recorder; Nathan Hilburn, marshal; John Cochran, treasurer; E. S. Hughes, J. P. McKinnis, E. W. Sweeney, S. E. Steele, W. R. Killebrew, councilmen. On Saturday the nominees of the day before were elected. This first election was held in a tent some where on block three and the ballot box was a gallon coffee pot. The only opposing candidate was Mr. Downey, of the Troy Laundry, for the office of recorder. Mr. Bodine was elected by a small majority. The board of city officers began to hold council meetings and to enact a code of laws for the city government. It was impossible to make laws to suit all and trouble began. Numerous charges were made against the mayor and certain members of the council. In two or three weeks everything was excitement and confusion. Men who had been disappointed in securing lots and getting offices were calling mass meetings and exciting rebellions. G. W. Patrick served as mayor about twenty days when he offered his resignation which was accepted by the council. Mr. Killebrew, one of the councilmen, about the same time offered his resignation also. Mr. Cochran, the treasurer, left the city and never gave his bond. It is due to the honor of Messrs. Patrick and Killebrew to announce here that the charges against them were untrue and the only motive of the opposing parties was to get them out of office or to satisfy some prejudice they had against them. The council ordered an electlon at once to fill the vacancies made by the resignations of Patrick and Killebrew. An election was held and T. J. Fagan was elected mayor and Benjamin Mills councilman. This election by no means restored peace. For weeks charges of crookedness among the city officers were the principal topic of conversation in South Oklahoma. Charter meetings were held for some weeks and in July a committee was appointed to draft a charter which was to be voted on by the people. The election was held and the charter adopted. The charter provided for a re-election of city officers. At this election the following officers were chosen: T. J. Fagin, mayor; J. M. Vance, recorder; J. H. Beaty, city attorney: Dan McKay, marshal; B. F. Waller, treasurer; R. A. Sullins, city engineer; Messrs. Barker, Robinson, Chinn, Barnes, Head and Feoman were elected alderman; Grimmer, Dunlap and Noonan, school directors.

For a few days troubles began to quiet down, schools were opened and it was thought that the difficultfes were settled. The council passed an ordinance known as the "certificate" ordinance which aroused the people to a

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higher pitch than ever. It provided that no one could hold a lot in the city who was a non-resident unless he had permanent improvements upon the same. That any lot held and claimed by any non-resident could be taken by any person who would pay five dollars into the city treasury. This ordinance caused so much comment that it was soon dropped. Charges of various kinds were made against Mayor Fagin. An impeachment trial had been commenced before the council when he resigned. Owing to the Fagan trouble Mr. Head, a councilman, resigned and Judge J. M. Milton was elected to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Fagan and N. L. Heard to fill the vacancy caused by Head's resignation. Mr. Yeoman, another member of the council, resigned and Mr. Schull was chosen to fill the vacancy. From this time affairs remained in statu quo until the regular spring election which was held the first day of April. Considerable interest was manifested at this election. An effort was made by some to draw political lines, but it would be hardly fair to say they were drawn. Green, a Republican, was elected mayor by a large majority over McGaughey, a Democrat; J. N. Harvey, Union Labor, was elected city attorney over G. W. McClellen, Republican, by a good majority; J. M. Vance was re-elected recorder by a very small majority over J. N. Nicely, a Democrat; B. F. Waller was unanimously re-elected treasurer, no opposing candidate; R. A. Sullin was re-elected city engineer without any opposing candidate; Messrs. Bean, Keyes, Snode, Union Labor men, Watson, Chinn and Dierker, Democrats were elected alderman. The defeated candidates for alderman were Bonthy, McCombs and Gates. At this election the hardest fight was made for city attorney between J. H. Harvey and G. W. McClellan. Mr. Harvey, the successful candidate, is a worthy and well known gentleman. He has been an Oklahoma agitator for ten years, was a delegate to the convention held in Kansas City in 1888 in regard to the opening and came here on the 22d from Purcell. Mr. McClellen is a well known lawyer of the city. He is an able attorney, a fine scholar and a gentleman. The election passed off quietly and at last things are settled.

Thus have been briefly noted the trials and troubles of South Oklahoma. You must not infer from this that the town has done nothing but quarrel. For the opportunities of South Oklahoma there is no city in the territory that will excel her. She has had three months of public schools, two churches, ice factory, lumber yards and good dwellings.

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## OKLAHOMA CITY DITCH AND WATER POWER COMPANY.

The most gigantic undertaking in Oklahoma Territory or in the entire southwest was the Oklahoma City water power canal. No description can be given that would convey anything like a fair idea of the immensity of this canal or the enormous labor required in its construction. It has been of inestimable benefit to the laboring classes of the city and surrounding country from the single simple fact that hundreds have been given employmen all through the winter months. It was the only work in the country during the winter and scores of families owe their present prosperity to it. It has attracted the attention of capital to the city and numerous factories mills, and cotton gins are in course of building along its way. To this canal Oklahoma City is indebted for a great many things. It has made her the metropolis and commercial center of the Territory and in the future will be her beacon light.

C. P. WALKER,

the secretary of the company, fought long and well in the establishment of this great enterprise. He surmounted obstacles and beat down difficulties that would have disheartened and discouraged ordinary men. He persistently labored with lot and claim owners for the right of way and at last succeeded in obtaining it to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. He gives his entire time and attention to the business of the company. The directors of the company are C. W. PRICE, JOHN W. WALLACE, ROBERT KINCAID, B. N. WOODSON, C. P. WALKER, JAMES B. WEAVER, FRANK A. WEIMAR and W. H. EBEY. The officers are C. W. Price, president; John W. Wallace, general manager, and C. P. Walker, secretary. The following furnished by the chief engineer, Mr. Burns, gives a very good idea of the big canal:

The canal begins (taking its east end as the starting point) at the west bank of the North Canadian river, 550 feet east of the quarter section corner between sections 3 and 4, twp 11, range 3 west. The tail race is 950 feet in length and constructed principally of oak, the precaution of fluming being necessary to prevent damage to the A. T. & S. F. track, as the water in the race passes under said track. At this point, station nine and fifty on the canal is located the end of power or the point where the water is used by the various mills and factories to produce the

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power necessary to do their work. This is accomplished by each mill using a turbine wheel. From this point to station forty-six the canal follows west on the quarter section line. In section four, at station forty-six the course is changed to a northwest one so that at station seventy-two the line crosses the township line 700 degrees east of section corner between four, five, thirty-two and thirty-three. The line there turns west crossing section thirty-two at an angle of about fifteen degrees. North of an east and west line at station one hundred is the heaviest work on the line. It is a through cut 800 feet in length and had an average cutting of ten feet. At station 138, one and three-quarter miles from Oklahoma City, we find the first crossing of the river. This consists of an open flume 110 feet in length resting on eight bents of piling, five piles to each bent and all thoroughly braced, bolted and spiked together. This bridge flume is attached at the west side to the half flume 4,200 feet in length which is constructed of posts and lumber and banked on the outside with dirt to the top. This was found necessary in order to procure right of way and at the same time save several thousand dollars in the construction. At station 180 the canal passes from township twelve to township eleven 1,800 feet east of section corner thirty-six thirty-one, one and six. The course is then south of west thirty degrees to the second crossing of the river at station 227. The river at this point is spanned by two thirty foot spans and three of fifteen feet. This bridge flume is constructed in much the same way as the first with the exception of a waste weir which is made by making the flume one-half foot higher at the ends than in the middle. This enables all surplus water from the dam to waste itself into the river without damage to the banks. The bridges have as protection shear piling from six to ten feet up stream to turn or hold all drift that might damage the bridge. In addition to the great strength of the bridges themselves there is a constant downward pressure of 300,000 pounds which of itself would withstand great shocks without trembling.

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# THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION OPENING OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.

Whereas, pursuant to Section eight, of the Act of Congress approved March third, eighteen hundred and eighty-five, entitled "An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-six, and for other purposes," certain articles of cession and agreement were made and concluded at the City of Washington on the nineteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, by and between the United States of America and the Muskogee (or Creek) Nation of Indians, whereby the said Muskogee (or Creek) Nation of Indians, for the consideration therein mentioned, ceded and granted to the United States, without reservation or condition, full and complete title to the entire western half of the domain of the said Muskogee (or Creek) Nation, in the Indian Territory, lying west of the division line surveyed and established under the treaty with said Nation, dated the fourteenth of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, also granted and released to the United States all and every claim, estate, right or interest of any and every description in and to any and all land and territory whatever, except so much of the former domain of said Muskogee (or Creek) Nation as lies east of said line of division surveyed and established as aforesaid, and then used and occupied as the home of said Nation, and which articles of cession and agreement were duly accepted, ratified and confirmed by said Muskogee (or Creek) Nation of Indians by act of its council, approved on the thirty-first day of January, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, and by the United States by act of Congress approved March first, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, and

Whereas, by Section twelve of the Act, entitled "An Act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and ninety and

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for other purposes," approved March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, a sum of money was appropriated to pay in full the Seminole Nation of Indians for all the right, title, interest and claim which said Nation of Indians might have in and to certain lands ceded by article three of the treaty between the United States and said Nation of Indians, concluded June fourteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, and proclaimed August sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, said appropriation to become opperative upon the execution of the duly appointed delegates of said Nation especially empowered to do so of a release and conveyance to the United States of all right, title, interest and claim of said Nation of Indians in and to said lands in manner and form satisfactory to the president of the United States and

Whereas, said release and conveyance bearing date the sixteenth day of March, eighteen hundred and eighty nine, has been duly and fully executed, approved and delivered and

Whereas, Section thirteen of the Act last aforesaid relating to said lands, provides as follows:

Sec. 13. That the lands acquired by the United States under said agreement shall be a part of public domain to be disposed of only as herein provided, and section sixteen and thirty-six of each township whether surveyed or unsurveyed, are hereby reserved for the use and benefit of the public schools to be established within the limits of said lands under such conditions and regulations as may be hereafter enacted by Congress.

That the lands acquired by conveyance from the Seminole Indians hereunder, except the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections, shall be disposed of to actual settlers under the homestead laws only except as herein otherwise provided (except that section two thousand three hundred and one of the Revised Statutes shall not apply:) And, provided further,

That any person who having attempted to, but for any cause failed to secure a title in fee to a homestead under existing laws or who made entry under what is known as the commuted provision of the homestead laws shall be qualified to make a homestead entry upon said lands,

And provided further, That the rights of honorably discharged Union soldiers and sailors in the late civil war as defined and described in sections twenty-three hundred and four and twenty-three hundred and five of the Revised Statues shall not be abridged,

And provided further, That such entry shall be made in square form as nearly as practicable, and no person

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shall be permitted to enter more than one quarter section thereof, but until said lands are opened for settlement by proclamation of the President, no person shall be permitted to enter any of said lands or acquire any right thereto.

The secretary of the interior may, after said proclamation and not before, permit entry of said lands for townsites, under sections twenty-three hundred and eighty-seven and twenty-three hundred and eighty-eight of the Revised Statutes but no such entry shall embrace more than one-half section of land.

That all the foregoing provisions with reference to lands to be acquired from the Seminole Indians including the provisions pertaining to forfeiture shall apply to and regulate the disposal of the lands acquired from the Muskogee or Creek Indians by articles of cession and agreement made and concluded at the City of Washington, on the nineteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and eighty-nine.

Now, therefore, I, Benjamin Harrison, president of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested by said Act of Congress, approved March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, aforesaid, do hereby declare and make known that so much of the lands as aforesaid acquired from or conveyed by the Muskogee (or Creek) Nation of Indians, and from or by the Seminole Nation of Indians, respectively, as is contained within the following described boundaries, viz:

Beginning at a point above the degree of longitude ninety-eight west from Greenwich, as surveyed in the years eighteen hundred fifty-eight and eighteen hundred and seventy-one intersects the Canadian river; thence north along and with the said degree to a point where the same intersects the Cimarron river, thence up said river along the right bank thereof to a point where the same is intersected by the south line of what is known as the Cherokee lands lying west of the Arkansas river, or as the "Cherokee outlet," said line being the north line of the lands ceded by the Muskogee (or Creek) Nation of Indians to the United States by the treaty of June fourteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, thence east along said line to a point where the same intersects the west line of the lands set apart as a reservation for the Pawnee Indians by Act of Congress approved April tenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, being the range line between ranges four and five east of the Indian meridian, thence south on said line to a point where the same intersects the middle of the main channel of the Cimarron river,

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thence up said river along the middle of the main channel thereof, to a point where the same intersects the range line between range one east and range one west (being the Indian meridian) which line forms the western boundary of the reservation set apart respectively for the Iowa and Kickapoo Indians by Executive Orders dated respectively August fifteenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-three; thence south along said range line or meridian to a point where the same intersects the right bank of the North Fork of the Canadian river, thence up said river, along the right bank thereof to a point where the same is intersected by the west line of the reservation occupied by the citizen Band of Pottawatomies and the Absentee Shawnee Indians, set apart under the provisions of the treaty of February twenty-seven, eighteen hundred and sixty-seven between the United States and the Pottawatomie tribe of Indians and referred to in the Act of Congress approved May twenty-three, eighteen hundred and seventy-two; thence south to the said west line of the aforesaid reservation to a point where the same intersects the middle of the main channel of the Canadian river; thence up the said river along the middle of the main channel thereof, to a point opposite to the place of beginning and thence north to the place of beginning saving and accepting one acre of land in square form in the northwest corner of section nine, in township sixteen north, range two west of the Indian meridian in the Indian territory, and also one acre of land in the southeast corner of the northwest quarter of section fifteen, township sixteen north, rangh seven west of the Indian meridian in the Indian Territory (which last described two acres are hereby reserved for government use and control) will at and after the hour of twelue •'clock, noon, of the Twenty-second day of April next, and not before, be open for settlement, under the terms of and subject to all the conditions, limitations and restrictions contained in said Act of Congress approved March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, and the laws of the United States applicable thereto. And it is hereby expressly declared and made known that no other parts or portions of the lands embraced within the Indian Territory than these herein specifically described and declared to be open to settlement at the time above named and fixed, are to be considered as open to settlement under this Proclamation or the act of March second, eighteen hundred and eighty-nine aforesaid; and

Warning is hereby again expressly given that no person entering upon and occupying said lands before said

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hour of twelve o'clock, noon, of the twenty-second day of April, A. D. eighteen hundred and eighty-nine, hereinbefore fixed, will ever be permitted to enter any of said lands or acquire any rights thereto, and that the officers of the United States will be required to strictly enforce the provision of the Act of Congress to the above effect.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this twenty-third day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and thirteenth.

[SEAL] BENJ. HARRISON.

By the President.

JAMES G. BLAINE,
Secretary of State.

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