

Kansas Before 1854: A Revised Annals

Compiled by LOUISE BARRY

PART THIRTEEN, 1844

☛ January 4.—Thomas H. Harvey, succeeding Daniel D. Mitchell, wrote his Indian agents and subagents: "You are hereby notified that I have entered upon the discharge of my duties as Supert. of Indn Affairs at . . . [St. Louis]."

Ref: Superintendency of Indian Affairs (SIA), St. Louis, "Records," v. 7, typed copy, p. 384; 28th Cong., 2d Sess., H. Doc. No. 139 (Serial 465), pp. 2, 5; 30th Cong., 1st Sess., H. Ex. Doc. No. 26 (Serial 516), p. 4. Harvey's original date of commission was October 3, 1843.

☛ BORN: on January 18, at Delaware Methodist Mission, present Wyandotte county, Sarah Ann Peery, daughter of the Rev. Edward T. and Mary S. (Peery) Peery.

Ref: Si and Shirley Corn's *Our Family Tree* (June, 1959), Section IV; *Kansas Historical Collections* (KHC), v. 9, p. 227 (for location of Peery family in January, 1844).

☛ March 2.—The Oregon-bound Cornelius Gilliam family (including married sons and daughters), and, probably, some other families who were also ex-residents of western Missouri counties, crossed the Missouri at a point about nine miles above St. Joseph (near, or at, present Amazonia, it is said), and encamped in the river bottoms (of present Burr Oak township, Doniphan county).

At that location, on the Sac & Fox reserve (evidently by agreement with the Indians and the subagent), these prospective Oregonians remained for over two months. By early April 30 families were in the "Kansas" camp; and many more persons were preparing to join them. See May 9 entry.

(In the late summer of 1843 Cornelius Gilliam, of Platte county, Mo., had published a notice that he intended to emigrate to Oregon in the spring of 1844; and that the rendezvous would be on the Missouri's right bank "opposite Owen's Landing, five miles west of Savannah [Mo.]," on the first Monday in May [i. e., May 6].)

Ref: *New York Weekly Tribune*, September 16, 1843, and June 15, 1844; *Oregon Pioneer Association Transactions*, Portland, 16th annual reunion (1888), pp. 82-122 (E. E. Parrish diary), 18th annual reunion (1890), pp. 61-66 (John Minto's sketch of Mrs. Nancy Morrison), 31st annual reunion (1903), pp. 202-208 (W. S. Gilliam reminiscences); *Washington Historical Quarterly*, Seattle, v. 18 (April, 1927), pp. 93-102 (W. H. Rees article); *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, Salem, v. 2 (1901), pp. 119-167, 209-254, v. 17 (1916), p. 360; H. H. Bancroft's *History of Oregon* (San Francisco, 1886), v. 1, pp. 448-466 (pp. 465 and 466 contain a long list of names of the 1844 emigrants—the above party, and those who started from other points); *Nebraska State Historical Society Publications*, Lincoln, v. 20, p. 126, or *Daily Missouri Republican*, St. Louis, May 28, 1844; SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 8, typed copy p. 304 (Subagent W. P. Richardson's November 22, 1843, letter); C. L. Camp, editor, *James Clyman Frontiersman* (c1960), pp. 57, 317.

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¶ Writing March 3, from "Fort Scott, Indian Territory," Capt. George A. McCall, Fourth U. S. infantry, described the hunting to be had in the "Marmiton" [now Marmaton] river country:

Of each in its season, we have the deer, turkey, grouse, partridge, woodcock, snipe, plover, of half a dozen or more species; and on the lakes near the river, swans, geese, of two or three species; and ducks without number; pelicans, sand-hill cranes, &c. [Earlier he had mentioned quail and "pinnated grouse"—prairie chickens.] Altogether, including its fine climate, it is a glorious country for the sportsman. Deer I always hunt on horseback, and shoot them as they bounce from the tall grass or hazel-bushes that line the streams. . . .

Ref: George A. McCall's *Letters From the Frontier* . . . (Philadelphia, 1868), pp. 416-418. McCall, at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., 1842-1843, was at Fort Scott by October, 1843, for, in *ibid.*, p. 418, he describes, under date of October 9 [1843], a jaunt on the branches of the "Marmiton," and mentions "Carlos' Branch," five miles below the post, and the "two Drywoods."

¶ March 15.—A "menagerie" of nine Osages, an interpreter, two Mexicans, and 12 buffaloes—all in charge of "Messrs. Dade and Wilkins" (Boonville, Mo., entrepreneurs), and en route East "to be exhibited at Baltimore during the conventions in May"—arrived at St. Louis aboard the steamboat *Wapello*.

A Baltimore publication stated that the "bison" had reached that city March 29. Early in May, a St. Louis paper reported that 15 Osages, two Mexicans, and 12 buffaloes (presumably the same travelling exhibition) had just come down the Missouri aboard the *S. White Cloud*, in care of "Mr. Bassett, of Boonville," who planned to show them in Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee.

Six of the exploited Osages, including a middle-aged chief, returned to St. Louis in July, "emaciated and nearly naked," after being abandoned and left destitute at Louisville, Ky.

Ref: *Missouri Democrat*, St. Louis, March 18, May 6, 1844; *Niles' National Register*, Baltimore, v. 66 (March 30, August 10, 1844), pp. 160, 394.

¶ March 31.—Mexico's president, Santa Anna, rescinded, in part, decrees of August, 1843, which had "entirely closed to all commerce" the frontier ports of entry (Taos, N. M., Paso del Norte and Presidio del Norte, Chihuahua). But news that the customhouses had been opened to restricted American trade did not reach Missouri till late(?) May; and there was no spring caravan to Santa Fe in 1844.

Ref: Josiah Gregg's *Commerce of the Prairies* (New York, 1844), v. 2, p. 177; M. G. Fulton, editor, *Diary & Letters of Josiah Gregg* (Norman, 1941), p. 132; J. J. Webb's *Adventures in the Santa Fé Trade, 1844-1847*, edited by R. P. Bieber (Glendale, 1931), p. 25.

¶ April 16.—On a tour of the "Indian Territory" for the domestic missions board of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Rev. N. Sayre Harris, on horseback, entered southeastern "Kansas" (in present Cherokee county) and arrived at the "house of Mr. R

[half-breed John Rodgers, presumably], who, with thirty Cherokee families," lived, detached from the main body of the nation, on the 800,000-acre Cherokee Neutral Lands tract.

Subagent B. B. R. Barker, of the Neosho Subagency (in northeast "Oklahoma"), had guided Harris (and one? dragoon companion) to Rodgers' "substantial and commodious edifice," located in "a beautiful spot on the Spring river. . . ."

On the 17th Harris continued his journey northward—traveling 15 miles, and camping out; early the next afternoon, after a 42-mile ride he reached Fort Scott. Almost immediately Harris set out for "the Osage village"—on a fresh horse (supplied by Capt. Thomas Swords), and with 2d Lt. Allen H. Norton (Fourth U. S. infantry), and two dragoons as guides. Reaching the Neosho, Osages swam their horses over; and the white men crossed in a canoe. The nearby village had about 50 lodges ("some nearly 100 feet long, others not more than 30"). Harris was entertained by Baptiste Mongrain (part Osage), and by trader "Monsieur [Pierre M.] Papan, of the American Fur Company," in whose lodge he spent the night.

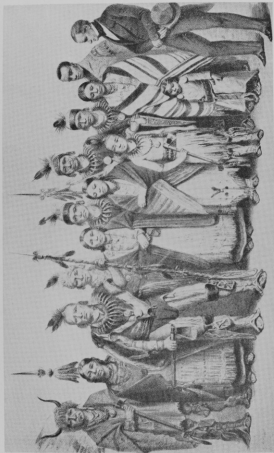
Next day Harris met "the chief of the band Pah-sha-sha" [Pa-hus-cah]—George Whitehair, evidently, since he called him "a fine-looking man . . . favourably disposed to the improvement of his people." In the afternoon, many Osages, and Harris, crossed the Neosho and traveled several miles to greet the new subagent, John Hill Edwards (a Virginian), whose arrival with two well-filled wagons of specie and goods delighted the Indians. (Edwards, appointed February 14, served but briefly; he resigned in August.)

Returning to Fort Scott, Harris, in company with "Major W., and some discharged soldiers, ferried the rain-swollen Marmaton river on the 22d; and, after a 28-mile journey up the Fort Leavenworth-Fort Gibson military road, reached the Marais des Cygnes. (Here, after dark, "torches were lighted, spears seized, and fishing parties organized.") On the 23d the travelers nooned at "Cold Water Grove"; and spent the night at "Bartleston's" (John? Bartleson's) 40 miles north of the Marais des Cygnes, in Jackson county, Mo. Next day, Harris rode to the Fort Leavenworth Agency (present Johnson county—near state line); saw Agent R. W. Cummins; moved on to the Shawnee Methodist Mission; then visited the Baptist and Friends missions among the Shawnees; and spent the night with the Rev. E. T. Peery family at Delaware Methodist Mission, north of the Kansas river.

On April 25th Harris moved on to Fort Leavenworth where he was a guest of the commandant—Maj. Clifton Wharton. (*In 1827, as a Third infantry second lieutenant, and regimental adjutant, N. Sayre Harris had been present when "Cantonment Leavenworth" was founded!*) After visiting the Kickapoos, and the Iowa, Sac & Fox Presbyterian Mission on the 26th, he boarded a steamboat, at Fort Leavenworth, on the 27th, and went down the Missouri to St. Louis, en route to New York.

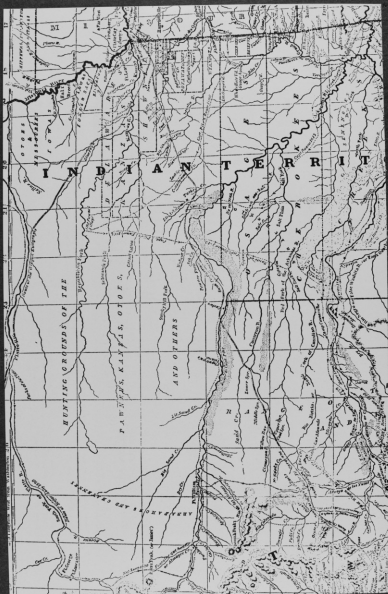
Ref: N. Sayre Harris' *Journal of a Tour in the "Indian Territory"* . . . (New York, 1844).

¶ April.—On the Kickapoo reserve, above Fort Leavenworth, a trader (presumably William H. Hildreth) was operating from a "portable store," which had been purchased in Ohio, and shipped by steamboat. Manufactured by "P[hilip] Hinkle" of Cincinnati,



Fourteen Iowas went abroad in 1844 (see p. 78), headed by the nation's first chief, Mahooka, or Frank White Cloud. At right, their daughter, George H. C. Melody, and Jeffrey Dornier, interpreter. Two Indians died in 1844 in England before the London engraving, reproduced above, was made. Later, in Paris, one of the women in this group died. The remaining 11 Iowas returned to their "Kansas" homes late in 1845.

(On verso.) A section from Josiah Gregg's map (1844), as published in his *Commerce of the Prairies* (see p. 79). Note that Fort Scott (cf. 1842 origin) and the Fortwaveries' briefly-held (1837-1846) Marais des Cygnes reserve are shown. However, the Indian reserve south of it was not for the "Wyandots," but for the New York Indians.



the "panel work" building, 33 by 16 feet in size, had been "erected [on the spot] in one morning . . . with the aid of three men." So far as known, this was the first prefabricated house in "Kansas."

Ref: Harris, *op. cit.* Harris was so impressed by this building which was "proof against the weather," that he stopped in Cincinnati on his return East to inspect "Mr. P. Hinkle's [pattern] portable house," which had "two partitions, making three rooms." (See *Kansas Historical Quarterly* [KHQ], v. 21, pp. 112, 113, for information on the Hinkle, Guild & Company "Cincinnati houses" of the 1850's erected in Kansas territorial towns.) *The Cincinnati Business Directory for the Year 1844* (Cincinnati, 1844), p. 25, under "Carpenters and Builders" listed: "Hinkle, Philip, Vine bet 2nd and Pearl." For Hildreth, see agent R. W. Cummins' report on the Kickapoos in Comm'r of Indian affairs Report for 1845.

¶ Late in April the Wyandots held first services in a not-yet-completed Methodist Episcopal church—a project promoted by Esquire Greyeyes in January. Approximately 200 (or one-third) of the Wyandots were Methodists when they arrived in "Kansas."

The hewn-log church (about 30' by 40') was located "near the center of the nation" (and near present 23d street and Washington boulevard, Kansas City, Kan., it is said). It was dedicated at the beginning of June (see p. 71). In 1847 a brick meeting house was erected (near what became 10th and Walker).

Ref: Comm'r of Indian affairs Report, 1844 (Subagent Jonathan Phillips' report); A. T. Andrews and W. G. Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas* (Chicago, 1893), p. 1227; KHQ, v. 9, p. 214; G. W. Harrington's *Historic Spots . . . of Wyandotte County, Kansas* (Merriam, 1935), pp. 121-124.

¶ In "Kansas" the season of "spring opened very early; but after about three weeks' pleasant weather in March, rains commenced, and continued up to the 1st of June so constant, as to render it quite impossible to plough or plant. . . ." (Ira D. Blanchard, June 30, 1844).

"After a mild winter and a delightful opening of Spring at the latter part of April the rains commenced falling in such torrents as to remind us of Noah's day. . . ." (Francis D. Barker, July 23, 1844).

Ref: *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, Boston, v. 24 (September, 1844), p. 284; "Barker Collection," in KHI ms. division.

¶ April.—At Munsee Moravian Mission (where Muncie, Wyandotte co., is today), the "venerable Brother [J. Christopher] Micksch" was building a new church.

This missionary died in "Kansas" in 1845, but no record of the month, or day, has been found. Sup't Thomas H. Harvey, St. Louis, in his September 10, 1845, report, mentioned the Munsees' "severe loss during this year by the death of the Rev. Mr. Mi[ck]sch," adding that the missionary was "remarkable for his piety and simplicity of manner," and that he had taught not only religion and letters, but had devoted his time "to the general improvement of the Indians."

Ref: Harris, *op. cit.*; Comm'r of Indian affairs, Report, 1845 (Thomas Harvey's report, therein). See KHQ, v. 29, p. 79, for an account of Munsee Moravian Mission.

€ April-May.—Three men who had left Santa Fe about April 5, arrived at Independence, Mo., on May 13.

Numerous Indians (Comanches, Cheyennes, and Arapahoes) met en route, though friendly, had exacted tolls of tobacco and extra clothing.

Ref: *New York Weekly Tribune*, June 15, 1844.

€ From about May 1 to June 22 Sup't Thomas H. Harvey, St. Louis, was absent from his headquarters on a tour of the Indian tribes in "Kansas."

His itinerary, in part: May 15, among the Weas and Piankeshaws (present Miami county); May 17, at the nearby Peoria & Kaskaskia settlements; May 18-20, a guest at Pottawatomie Catholic Mission on Sugar creek (present Linn county); at "Clymer's Trading House" (present Neosho? county) May 22-25, to meet the Osages; at Fort Scott May 26, 27; May 29, at Pottawatomie creek, to visit the Pottawatomie Indians residing in that vicinity (present Franklin and Miami counties); June 1, at the Ottawa settlements (present Franklin county); June 4, at Shawnee Baptist Mission (present Johnson county); June 6-7, at Fort Leavenworth; June 8, among the Kickapoos (north of the military post); June 11, at the Stockbridge settlements (present Leavenworth county); June 12, among the Delawares (present Wyandotte county).

Flooded streams prevented Harvey from visiting the Iowa and Sac & Fox Indians (but he paid a "flying visit" to the Great Nemaha Subagency in August, while en route, by steamboat, to the Council Bluffs); and such was "the overwhelming state of the waters" that he could not get to the Wyandot settlements. Nor did he visit the Kansa.

Ref: Office of Indian Affairs (OIA), Letters Received from SIA, St. Louis (National Archives Microcopy 234, Roll 753), for Harvey's June 24, 1844, letter; *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (August 10, 1844), pp. 393-395; T. H. Kinsella's *The History of Our Cradle Land* . . . (Kansas City, 1921), p. 220; Comm'r of Indian Affairs, *Report, 1844* (Harvey's October 8, 1844, report, therein); OIA, Letters Received from Osage Subagency (National Archives microcopy 234, Roll 632), for Harvey's May 27, 1844, letter.

€ Early in May the American Fur Company's new steamboat *Nimrod* (Joseph Sire, captain) passed along the "Kansas" shore, on her way to Fort Union on the Upper Missouri. (She had left St. Louis April 30.)

The passengers included wealthy, gregarious, pleasure-seeking le Comte d'Otranto (son of Bonaparte's minister of police), with a retinue of servants; also le Comte de Peindry; and, apparently, Scotsman Alexander H. Murray was aboard.

Delayed by low water at the Omaha village, the *Nimrod* did not arrive at the mouth of the Yellowstone till June 22. She started back on the 24th; and reached St. Louis July 9 (or 11?). In her cargo were 1,250 packs of buffalo robes, about 20 packs of furs, and several packs of buffalo tongues and meat. She brought down, also, six buffaloes, an elk, and two beavers.

Ref: *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (July 27, 1844), p. 352; H. M. Chittenden's *History of Early Steamboat Navigation* . . . (New York, 1903), v. 1, pp. 154-166; SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 7, typed copy, pp. 446, 447; *St. Louis Democrat*, July 12, 1844; Alexander H. Murray's April, 1844, letter stating: "I am off for the Rocky Mountains on

the 25th instant, having made arrangements with the American Fur Co. to proceed on my way thither . . ."—as quoted in Eberstadt & Sons Catalogue 161, p. 54. The *Publications of the Canadian Archives*, Ottawa, No. 4 (1910), which contains Murray's "Journal of the Yukon 1847-48," state that he entered the service of the Hudson's Bay Company as a senior clerk in 1846. Joseph Fouché, duke of Otranto, who was minister of police under Napoleon, had died in 1820.

¶ May.—Union Fur Company traders John A. N. Ebbetts and Fulton Cutting, coming down from the Yellowstone (and reaching St. Louis by, or before May 10), reported a mild winter, with but little snow in the upper Missouri country.

Three of the Company's Mackinaw boats, "richly laden with Buffalo robes and furs" arrived at St. Louis May 22. By the sinking of a fourth boat, a few days earlier, about 150 bales of buffalo robes had been lost.

Ref: *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (June 1, 1844), p. 224; *St. Louis Democrat*, May 23, 1844; OIA, Letters Received from SIA, St. Louis (National Archives Microcopy No. 234, Roll 753), has D. D. Mitchell's abstract of trading licenses issued January 1-September 30, 1842, which includes the Ebbetts & Cutting license of July 16, 1842.

¶ May 9.—The Oregon-bound emigrants whose starting-point was in present Doniphan county, on the Missouri river, some nine miles above St. Joseph, Mo.—see March 2 annals entry—began their journey West, heading first for the Great Nemaha Subagency, about 20 miles distant.

The vanguard crossed Wolf river (creek) and set up a camp near the Subagency (not far from present Highland) on May 11. Heavy rains fell that night sending streams out of their banks and washing away Wolf river bridge on the 12th. (On this day, too, an invalid named Bishop died. Rev. William Hamilton of the nearby Presbyterian mission conducted his funeral services.)

Two "canoes" were built to get the stranded emigrants' wagons across the "river." (Rains continued, and it was May 17 before all stragglers had caught up, and the company was under way again.) At the camp near the Subagency, about May 15, the emigrants organized. Cornelius Gilliam was chosen to command the brigade, which, at first, was divided into three companies, captained by Robert W. Morrison, William Shaw, and Richard Woodcock. Williard H. Rees was named adjutant. In a letter written on the 15th, "General" Gilliam, stated that the emigrants then numbered 323 (48 families, 108 men—60 of them younger men, 167 children), with 72 wagons, 713 head of horned cattle (410 oxen, 160 cows, 143 young cattle), 54 horses, and 41 mules; and more persons were yet to arrive. According to Rees, the three companies averaged 27 wagons each; and some half dozen wagons joined afterwards. He also stated there were, finally, 115 men, rank and file. John Minto recollected there were 84 wagons when the emigrants left this camp.

The theft of some cattle by Iowa Indians (a matter amicably settled by Agent W. P. Richardson) caused some delay. But rains, and sickness were the chief causes for the wagon train's slow progress. (Another factor was inept leadership.) John Minto later wrote: "During the first two months we were on the way, we only had eight days in which it did not rain. . . . This dampness told against the health of the camp." Apparently two persons—one a child—died while the emigrants were in the Big Nemaha area.

Happier events were the wedding of Martin Gilliam and Elizabeth Asabill on the night of May 20 (at a camp in present Brown county); and the first birth in camp, which was on May 31. Rev. Edward E. Parrish (whose diary is a principal source of information on this detachment of Oregonians) performed the marriage ceremony.

On June 7, after nearly a month on the road, "General" Gilliam's company arrived at the "Creek Vermillion" (Black Vermillion of today, in Marshall county). They had traveled westward less than 100 miles! Wrote E. E. Parrish: "We found the creek up and rising, and are waterstayed until we build a boat." From the 8th through the 14th, heavy rains fell. On the 17th and 18th, using newly built "canoes," the emigrants finally crossed "Creek Vermillion," and proceeded to the Big Blue some 13(?) miles distant.

The first section of the train (Woodcock's company) got across the Big Blue on June 19(?) using two canoes and platform left by some earlier-passing emigrants (who had started from Independence). But it was June 24 before the last of the cattle were on the west bank (presumably a few miles below present Marysville). Under way again on June 26, the emigrants now traveled the established Oregon trail to the Platte—reaching it on July 7.

Subsequently, on the South Platte, General Gilliam resigned, and the companies reorganized. No great calamities befell these emigrants. Most of them went to Oregon, some reaching their destination in October; but the families did not arrive till the fore part of November.

Ref: Same as for March 2 annals entry. James Clyman (*op. cit.*, p. 77) wrote that on June 24 at "Burr oak creek" (Black Vermillion) they "Found the date of Mr. Gilliam's company having crossed 4 days previous." See *KHC*, v. 16, pp. 276, 277, and J. H. Carleton's *The Prairie Logbooks* . . . (Chicago, 1943), August 16-18, 1844, entries, for (not entirely accurate) statements on the emigrants.

☞ May 13.—A grist and saw mill (costing \$2,400) for the Pottawatomies of Sugar creek (present Linn county) was completed by millwright James B. Yager about May 10, and "accepted" on the

13th. But there was "no one suitable" among the Indians to run it. (On October 9 Joel Grover was appointed miller—see p. 91).

Ref: 28th Cong., 1st Sess., H. Doc. No. 42 (Serial 441), p. 20; SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 8, typed copy, pp. 322, 323. Yager's Indian department contract, dated July 6, 1843, called for completion of the mill by June 1, 1844.

¶ May 14.—Some 350 Oregon-bound emigrants (who had assembled at Independence, Mo., and come by way of Westport, Mo., into "Kansas") set out from "Lone Elm" rendezvous (present Johnson county). They had hired as pilot the experienced mountain man Moses ("Black") Harris; and their captain (formally elected at Wakarusa camp on the 25th) was Nathaniel Ford, of Howard county, Mo.

First-published statistics (in the *Western Expositor*, Independence, Mo.) indicated "Colonel" Ford's company contained 358 persons—55 married men with their wives (110), 80 single men, 168 children; and that there were 54 wagons, 500 head of cattle, 60 horses, and 28 mules. Yet to join (according to the *Expositor*) were several small parties "embracing in all 27 families, numbering about 125 souls," who had 10 wagons, 130 cattle, and some horses.

A notable member of the company was ex-fur trapper James Clyman (who had left the Rocky mountains in 1827—see *KHQ*, v. 28, p. 33). Clyman's diary, and some letters he wrote, supply almost all of the information known about these travelers. His mid-May diary entries indicate the conditions under which the company set out. He wrote, on the 14th: "Roads extremely bad owing to the Leate greate rains." (It rained "all day" on the 14th, too.) On the 15th he commented: "This morning the whole prairie covered in water Shoe mouth deep. . . ."

From May 22 through May 25 (in continuing rainy weather), many of the emigrants were stalled at flooded Wakarusa river (present Douglas county). Their camp was "about 8 or 10 miles" above its mouth. After the crossing was effected on May 26 it was "ascertained that there ware 92 men present"; but more travelers were coming up behind them.

Clyman, in a letter penned at Shunganunga creek (south of the Kansas river, in present Shawnee county) on May 30, wrote: "We arrived here yesterday; 39 wagons, about 100 men, and about the same no. of women and children. . . . [There are] 20 or 30 teams yet behind. 41 teams are [already] north of the Kansas river, and 10 teams three or four days ahead of us. You will perceive by this time that we muster about 100 wagons, and from 5 to 700 souls, when we are fairly collected."

He also stated: "We have had almost one continued shower of rain since we left the settlements. We are commencing to cross the Kansas river today, which will occupy all our exertions for the next two or three days. We shall not all get collected in one company in less than eight or ten days. . . ."

In his diary, on May 30, Clyman wrote: "our ferrying goes on Slowly it being difficult to get to the boat on account of the low grounds being over-flown." (The emigrants were also occupied in trying to locate some horses stolen by Kansa Indians.) On June 4 "all hands still engage getting our stock across the river which is beginning to fall." On the 5th Clyman and others "crossed over the river [and] went 10 miles up . . . to the village

of the head chief [Fool Chief] . . . who promised to help get the stolen horses back.

Before they returned camp had been moved to "Knife river" (present Cross creek, Shawnee county). Rains began anew, and on June 10 "Knife river" rose 15 feet during the day. On June 13, in mid morning, "after 80 hours steady rain," the sun came out.

By June 18 all the wagons and stock were across "Knife river." The emigrants took to the uplands and made progress, though rainy weather continued. On the 20th they found a ford over the "Black vermilion" [i. e., now Red Vermillion creek, Pottawatomie county]; and on June 23 "Struck the oregon trace on Cannon Ball Creek [present Rock creek] greate Joy at finding the trail and a good ford. . . ." On the 24th they reached "Burr oak creek" (Black Vermillion, in Marshall county), where they "Found the date of Mr Gillhams [Gilliam's] company [the emigrants who had set out from the vicinity of St. Joseph, Mo.] having crossed 4 days previous." (See May 9 entry.)

The company with which Clyman traveled came to the Big Blue (some miles below present Marysville) on June 25; but the vanguard (10 wagons) of the Nathaniel Ford company of Oregonians had reached there about June 5. (Clyman, and companions, crossed on the 26th and 27th.)

Their subsequent adventures are not recounted here. James Clyman, in a letter from "Willamet Falls, Oregon, October 27, 1844," wrote that he had arrived October 13, "having been on the way 151 days from Independence . . . which was at least one month longer than were the last year's company of emigrants. This was owing to the unusual rains that fell during the first two months after our departure from Missouri."

Ref: Camp, op. cit., pp. 57-118, 317; Bancroft's *History of Oregon*, v. 1, pp. 448-466.

¶ May.—Starting from Council Bluffs, Iowa ter., the last week of May, a combined Oregon-California emigrant company (about 40 men; 27 wagons), crossed the Missouri and pursued a westward course, *north of the Platte*, to Fort Laramie. Captained by Elisha Stephens, and guided, at times, by mountain man Caleb Greenwood and his sons, these emigrants traveled the route subsequently known as the Mormon trail, less delayed by bad weather than those who traveled "Kansas" routes this spring. West of South Pass they opened the route known till 1849 as the Greenwood cutoff, there-after as the Sublette cutoff, to Bear river.

The California contingent (about 26 men, 8 women, 17 children; with from 11 to 20 wagons)—now referred to as the Stephens-Townsend-Murphy party—managed to get most of their wagons across the Sierra Nevada, opening "the trail up the Truckee River and over Donner Pass which became, until 1849, the primary avenue for overland travel into and out of California."

The Oregon contingent, captained by John Thorp (or Tharp), reached the Willamette well ahead of the companies from Independence and St. Joseph.

Ref: George R. Stewart, editor, *The Opening of the California Trail* (Berkeley, 1953); George R. Stewart's *The California Trail* (New York, c1962), pp. 53-52; Dale L. Morgan, editor, *Overland in 1846* . . . (1963), v. 1, pp. 17-19 (p. 18 for quote above); *New York Weekly Tribune*, June 29, 1844; *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, v. 1 (September, 1900), pp. 272-276 (for "Reminiscences of William M. Case"), and see, also, v. 2, p. 233, v. 6, p. 358, v. 17, p. 360; *Camp*, op. cit., pp. 317, 318. The compiler is much indebted to Dale L. Morgan, of Bancroft Library, for assistance on the above entry.

¶ May.—The Rev. James Wheeler, accompanied by his family (wife Caroline; children John, Thomas, and Mary), arrived at the Kaw's mouth by steamboat (from Sandusky, Ohio), to resume his work as pastor of the Wyandots' Methodist Episcopal church. (See *KHQ*, v. 29, p. 477.)

On June 2, in the recently completed log meeting house (see p. 65) Missionary Wheeler baptized infants born since the preceding fall. A two-story parsonage (costing about \$1,500; located half a mile from the Kansas-Missouri junction)—said to have been the first frame structure erected in present Wyandotte county—was completed in July. It was the Wheelers' home for two years. (They left May 5, 1846.)

Ref: James Wheeler's letter of June 28, 1845, copy in KHI ms. division; W. E. Connelley, *The Provisional Government of Nebraska Territory and the Journals of William Walker* . . . (Lincoln, Neb., 1899), p. 178 (for Walker's diary entry of May 5, 1846); Andreas and Cutler, op. cit., p. 1227; *KHC*, v. 9, pp. 214, 215.

¶ May 20-22.—At St. Louis, on the 20th, the Mississippi was "within two feet of the great flood in 1826." The Missouri was "rising fast"; and the Osage was out of its banks.

The steamboat *Lexington*, which had left Weston, Mo., on the 16th, and reached St. Louis on the 21st, reported a "rise of five or six feet behind." On May 22 the Mississippi crested at St. Louis—having come within a foot of its height in the 1826 freshet. The river began falling on the 24th. (The rise which preceded St. Louis' second flood of 1844 began about June 1.)

Ref: *St. Louis Democrat*, May 20-25, June 1, 1844.

¶ May 21.—At Pawnee Fork (present Pawnee county), east-bound Santa Fe trail travelers (nearly 100 men, with upwards of 50 wagons), long delayed by the flooded river, were able to effect a crossing. Some had been waiting since April 23.

The assembled traders' caravan included Bent, St. Vrain & Company's train (with proprietors Charles Bent, William Bent, and Ceran St. Vrain); a Mexican traders' train (in which were "three or four Mexican ladies and several children"); also some Indians of note: Cheyenne chief Slim Face (going East on a mission for his people), aging Shawnee war chief Spy Buck (returning home); and the young Arapahoe "Friday" (whom Thomas Fitzpatrick had rescued in 1831).

Traveler Rufus Sage (one of those who had spent four weeks on Pawnee Fork's west bank) wrote that the "dense bands of buffalo that thronged the vicinity abated somewhat the annoyance of delay." He also remarked that Pawnee Fork—called by the Indians "Otter creek" because of the "great number of those animals found upon it"—had "an inexhaustible supply of cat-fish, which were caught in great numbers by our party."

Having crossed Pawnee Fork on the 21st, the "caravan" progressed 20-some miles in the next three days—to Walnut creek, where, wrote Sage: "The bottoms were so completely flooded that we were forced to occupy an adjoining eminence for a camp." From May 24 till after mid-June, Walnut creek was impassable.

Ref: Rufus B. Sage . . . , L. R. and Ann W. Hafen, editors (Glendale, 1856), v. 2, pp. 292-298; David Lavender's *Bent's Fort* (1954), pp. 230, 231.

¶ May 22-25.—Sup't Thomas H. Harvey, of St. Louis, writing from "Clymer's Trading House, Osage Sub Agency" (in present Neosho? county) on the 25th:

I arrived at this place on the 22d instant. . . . It has rained ever since I arrived [in the Indian country?], except one day. The Neosho . . . is very high, having overflowed its banks and covered the bottoms to a considerable depth, which makes the river in most places more than a mile wide. The canoes used by the whites have been mostly carried off by the flood. . . . Notwithstanding the rains and high water, a considerable number of Osages, with their principal chiefs, called to see me, many of them swimming the river. . . .

Ref: *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (August 10, 1844), p. 395. Harvey had reached present Kansas before mid-May—see p. 66.

¶ May.—A Jesuit priest and 20(?) other young men, referred to by their guide, Andrew W. Sublette, as the "company of Catholics," left Westport, Mo., some time after May 21, to travel the Oregon trail. Half of the group were invalids, seeking health by making a journey West.

About June 8, beyond the Kansas crossing, the party caught up with the Oregon emigrants at flooded "Knife river" (present Cross creek, Shawnee co.). Ten days elapsed before any of the westbound travelers were under way again. (The Catholic company traveled alone most of the time.) Two of the invalids were then so ill Sublette thought they would "not stand many days longer." The first to go was James H. Marshall, of St. Louis, who was buried on June 27, apparently near the Black Vermillion crossing (present Marshall county). Mr. Ketchum, also of St. Louis, died July 3 (and he was buried on "Ketchum's creek" some 10 miles beyond the Big Blue crossing). Mr. Browning died on July 6; and before July 13 a fourth death occurred—according to emigrant E. E. Parrish.

Upon reaching Fort Laramie, in early August, the party dispersed. Andrew Sublette went no farther West; but at least one of the group did. On October 1 the "Roman priest, with several French Indians" made camp near Fort Boise, Ida.

Ref: C. L. Camp, *op. cit.*, pp. 58, 78, 81-83, 267; Oregon Pioneer Association Transactions, 16th annual reunion (1888), pp. 94, 98, 101, 111, and 31st annual reunion (1903), p. 204; John E. Sunder's Bill Sublette (1959), p. 225; *The Colorado Magazine*, Denver, v. 10 (September, 1933), pp. 179-184; *Pacific Historical Review*, Berkeley and Los Angeles, v. 28 (November, 1959), pp. 337-339; *New Orleans Weekly Picayune*, April 23, 1844; *Niles' National Register*, v. 68 (July 12, 1845), p. 292 (for J. H. Marshall).

¶ May 30.—"Never saw such a time of rain," wrote the Ottawas' missionary Jotham Meeker, from his home on the Marais des Cygnes

(in present Franklin county). "It has fallen almost every day in the last three weeks. The river has overflown its banks, and the bottoms in many places have been inundated more or less for three weeks. . . ." (See, also, June 10-17 entry.)

Ref: Meeker's "Diary," in KHI ms. division.

¶ June 1.—Dr. Johnston Lykins (Baptist missionary) was appointed "Physician for the Potawatomes" of the Osage [Marais des Cygnes] River Subagency—i. e., the approximately 2,000 Pottawatomes in "Kansas."

Ref: SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 7, typed copy, p. 438.

¶ Summer.—Missouri river steamboats making two or more trips up to, or beyond, the "Kansas" area during the season included the *John Aull*, *Lewis F. Linn*, *Missouri Mail*, *Iatan*, *Mary Tompkins*, *Tobacco Plant*, *Omega*, *Nodaway*, *Lexington*, *Balloon*, *Admiral*, *Annawan*, *Ione*, and *Western Belle*.

The *Nimrod* (American Fur Company), in addition to the spring trip to Fort Union, made a journey up to the Council Bluffs in August; and the *Frolic* (Union Fur Company boat) went to the upper Missouri in August. In the autumn the *Yucatan* made an October trip to Weston, Mo.; and the *General Brooke* went up to St. Joseph in November.

It is said that the *Annawan*, *Lexington*, and *Colonel Woods* ascended the Little Platte river to Platte City, Mo., during the flood (i. e., in June?); and that a small steamboat sank below the Falls of the Platte.

Ref: Niles' *National Register*, v. 44 (July 20, 1844), p. 331; St. Louis *Democrat*, issues between May-September, 1844; SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 7, typed copy, pp. 455, 456, 459, 476; T. A. Morris, *Miscellany* (1853), p. 346; R. S. Elliott, *Notes Taken in Sixty Years* (1883), p. 191; Remsburg "Clippings," v. 2, p. 6 (in KHI library), or *Atchison Daily Globe*, April 17, 1924. The St. Louis *Democrat* of April 20, 1844, had noted the arrival of the *Frolic* "from Pittsburgh"; W. M. Paxton's *Annals of Platte County, Missouri* . . . (1897), p. 62.

¶ June.—Early in the month Santa Fe traders Edward J. Glasgow and — — Simpson, accompanied by "enterprising" William Bent, reached St. Louis—in advance of their flood-stalled wagons.

"Mr. Pomeroy, from Santa Fe," arriving about June 12, stated "no less than 60 wagons" had been delayed by high water at Pawnee Fork (see May 21 entry). Later in the month there was news that the Santa Fe traders had "thrown a bridge across Pawnee Fork."

Ref: New Orleans *Weekly Picayune*, June 11, 24, July 1, 1844; Niles' *National Register*, v. 66 (June 29, 1844), p. 281.

¶ June 10-17.—Missionary Jotham Meeker (living near present Ottawa) described the "great freshet" of 1844 on the Marais des Cygnes:

June 10.—The river is very high. . . . Put things away and prepare for the flood.

June 12.—At sunrise the water began to overflow the bank at our house, and continued to rise rapidly all day. At three P. M. it came into the dwelling-house, when we fled to the hills near us, the rain descending in torrents. . . . The river still continued to rise for thirty-six hours after we left, until the whole bottom country was from six to twelve feet deep. . . .

June 17.—Find that none of my crops or fences are left. . . . All my out-houses and all that was within them are swept away. Nothing left but the [much-damaged] dwelling house and office. . . .

The Ottawas have lost all of their fences and new crops, with a very small exception; some of their dwellings have been carried down the stream—many of them are lodged against trees. All their old corn has either been washed away or . . . become unfit to eat. Much of their stock, viz., fowls, hogs, cattle, and horses, have been drowned. I think there is not breadstuff in the nation to subsist them one week from this time [June 26]. . . .

Ref: Jotham Meeker's "Diary" (loc. cit.); and Meeker letter of June 26, 1844, in *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, v. 24 (September, 1844), pp. 282, 283; or, see *KHC*, v. 8, pp. 472-474.

¶ June.—At Pottawatomie Catholic Mission on (Big) Sugar creek—a Marais des Cygnes tributary—Father Christian Hoecken recorded that it had been raining for "forty days in succession," and that "great floods covered the country . . . [but] damage . . . was not great [in the mission area]."

Ref: Father Hoecken's "Diary," as published in Kinsella, *op cit.*, p. 229.

¶ June.—The Fort Leavenworth-Fort Gibson military road was "greatly injured" by the excessive rains. Bridges over many of the small streams were destroyed in the flood waters; and the 275-foot "substantial" structure over Sugar creek was also carried away.

(Passing over this route in mid-October, Bishop Morris, and companions, found travel difficult because of the boggy sloughs to be crossed where the bridges were out.)

Ref: 28th Cong., 2d Sess., Sen. Doc. No. 1 (Serial 449), p. 147; Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 548.

¶ June 10-19.—In present Shawnee county, on the 10th "it commenced raining . . . [and] rained all day without a moments cessation. . . . Knife river [present Cross creek] . . . rose 15 feet during the day." (Thus wrote James Clyman, in his diary, as the Oregon-bound emigrants remained in camp near flooded "Knife river.") On the 11th rain fell again; on the 12th it rained all night. On the 13th, there was more rain, but at "10 A. M. we [the emigrants] saw the sun & a general shout was raised through all the camp after 80 hours steady rain we saw the Kansas river from the Bluffs & it shews 8 or 10 miles wide . . ." (Clyman).

There was more rain on the 17th; and on the 19th "torrents of rain" fell, but the sun broke out about noon, and the emigrants (by then a few miles beyond "Knife river" crossing) "had several views of the Kansas river which was overflowed from Bluff to Bluff 8 or 10 miles wide . . ." as they moved westward.

Ref: Camp, op. cit., pp. 74-76; *KHQ*, v. 20, pp. 73-81 (p. 73 "Available records indicate that the flood of 1844 was five to six and one half feet higher than the disastrous flood of 1951 from Manhattan to below Lawrence on the Kansas river, and at Ottawa on the Marais des Cygnes [Osage] river."—S. D. Flora).

¶ June.—On the 14th Agent R. W. Cummins, eastbound after "running some lines between The Kaws & Pawnees," reached the west bank of flooded Cross creek (present Shawnee county), opposite the camp of the Oregon emigrants.

Of Cummins' journey (outward, or returning) there is, apparently, only one other contemporary reference. The agent's statement of expenditures for June included this item: "J Pappe [Joseph Papin] For ferriage of agent's horses, &c \$2.50." An account published 33 years later stated that "During the [1844] flood, Major Cummins [*i. e.*, Indian agent R. W. Cummins], wishing to cross from the south to the north side of the Kaw river, stepped into a canoe at about the corner of Topeka Avenue and Second street, and was rowed by an Indian from there to the bluffs . . . the water being twenty feet deep over the ground were North Topeka now stands. One of the Papans lived in a house on [what was in 1877] the island just above the bridge. This house stood the flood until the water came above the eaves and then was washed away. This island, at that time, was part of the main land."

Writing of the Kansa Indians (then, for the most part, residents of what is now "Shawnee county"), in his September report, Cummins commented: "they farm mostly in the bottom lands of the Kansas river, which was [as he had witnessed] overflowed from Bluff to Bluff, sweeping off all . . . [their] fencing, houses &c."

Ref: Camp, op. cit., p. 75; 28 Cong., 2d Sess., *H. Doc. No. 139* (Serial 465), p. 53; W. W. Cone's *Historical Sketch of Shawnee County, Kansas* . . . (Topeka, 1877), p. 7; Comm'r of Indian Affairs Report for 1844 (Cummins' September 21, 1844, report, therein); *KHQ*, v. 20, p. 78.

¶ June.—From about the 13th to the 16th the flood on the *lower* Kansas river was at its peak.

Missionary Ira D. Blanchard, of Delaware Baptist Mission (present Wyandotte county), wrote on June 30:

The first days of June were . . . fine . . . ; but, to the surprise of all, the rain again commenced, and for two weeks fell in perfect torrents. The Kansas river rose at least 20 feet above what had been supposed to be high "water mark," carrying with it houses, farms, cattle, horses, &c., and sweeping the whole bottom country. Thousands of families along the water courses are without any thing to shelter them from the storms, and many of them have lost their last morsel of food. The state of things beggars all description. This [mission] station is three-fourths of a mile from the Kansas, and on grounds a little raised from the bottom, so that the water was just to us, and did no damage. But the [Delaware] village near us, is all destroyed. There is not even a stalk of corn left in all their fields; and their old stock [of grain] all carried away by the flood. . . . [Of the destroyed Delaware village, it was later reported that the inhabitants—most of them—moved up "on the high prairie, distant nearly six miles" from the Baptist mission.]

Missionary Francis Barker, of Shawnee Baptist Mission (present Johnson county), wrote (on July 23) of the June flood:

The waters came up over the banks of the creeks and rivers so as to be in many places fifteen feet high where they were never known to come before. Fences were swept away invariably, the newly planted crops destroyed, young orchards, &c., among the rest the most of the buildings within several miles of the rivers or as far as the river bottoms extended, were swept away, corn cribs and all. Hogs were drowned, many horses and cattle also. Many persons barely escaped with their lives leaving all behind. Many(?) have been drowned in the white settlements. I have not heard of any of the Ind[ian]s drowning. . . .

Our Mission is several miles from the [Kansas] river bottom . . . but our crops have been very much injured by the continued rains as is universally the case throughout the region. We still have the clouds lowering around us with only here and there a day of sunshine. The roads are almost impassable on acc[oun]t of the mud. . . .

Agent R. W. Cummins, from his headquarters (present Johnson county), wrote on January 6, 1845:

There are about 80 Munsees, 171 Shawnees, & 240 Delawares, that were deprived of bread stuffs by the freshets last spring—the most of these families lost their houses as well as their crops & fences, and many of them their old corn in their cribs or houses, and a great many hogs, some cattle & horses."

Ref: *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, v. 24 (September, 1844), p. 284 (for Blanchard), v. 25 (July, 1845), p. 163; "Barker Collection" (in KHI ms. division); SLA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 8, typed copy, p. 419.

¶ June.—Missionary John G. Pratt (of Shawnee Baptist Mission in 1844), at a later time, recalled that during the flood a large steamboat came up the Kansas as far as the Delaware (or Grinter, or military road) Crossing; and that it brought "a lot of lumber for the use of traders."

Ref: "Pratt Collection" (in KHI ms. division).

¶ June 13-16.—At the Kaw's mouth, on the 13th, the Missouri river was "only a few feet over the bottom lands" (according to an account published 37 years later), "but the great volume of water that came down the Kansas River madly rushing against the mighty Missouri, caused the seething waters to pile up at the mouth. . . ." In a 12-hour period, on the 14th, there was an enormous rise of eight to ten feet.

Swept away were all the buildings in the low areas—the homes of the French-Indian settlers, the Kansas Town Company warehouse, and all other buildings in the Westport Landing, Mo., area. At Chouteau's Landing, some two miles below the Kaw's mouth, the flood "left not a vestige of the entire homestead [dwellings, warehouses, etc.], and [when the water receded] the surface of the entire farm [of Mme. Berenice Chouteau, widow of Francis G.] was a wide expanse of sand in many places five feet deep." (John C. McCoy)

Ref: W. H. Miller's *The History of Kansas City* . . . (Kansas City, Mo., 1881), pp. 36, 37, or *The History of Jackson County, Missouri* . . . (Kansas City, Mo., 1881), pp. 403-406; *The Kansas Monthly*, Lawrence, v. 2 (June, 1879), p. 83 (for quote from McCoy). At the Kaw's mouth, the Missouri, in 1844, was said to have crested six feet or more above its rise in late May and early June, 1843.

¶ June 17.—Mule-mounted, Rufus Sage (stranded, since May 24, with the eastbound wagon trains at flooded Walnut Creek Crossing—see May 21 entry), forded the Arkansas above the mouth of Walnut creek and proceeded down the river's right bank some four miles to make camp. His only companion was a young Arapahoe Indian—"Friday."

On the 18th these two recrossed the Arkansas, striking the Santa Fe trail near Plum Buttes. Continuing eastward "by easy stages," they reached Council Grove five days later (June 22?).

Sage (later) wrote: "We were detained [at Council Grove] . . . for five or six days [June 23-27?] by a continuous rain which raised the creek [i. e., Neosho river] to an extraordinary height,—overflowing its banks and completely flooding its extensive bottoms. So sudden was the rise that we were compelled to move camp three times in the course of an hour, and were finally driven to an adjoining hill."

When it was possible to travel again, Sage (bound for Van Buren, Ark.) said goodbye to Friday and struck off down the Neosho. About the end of June he reached "the Osage village," where he was "kindly entertained by a chief," and stayed two days. He reached his destination late on July 4, after crossing the lands of the Quapaws, Shawnees, and Cherokees (in present eastern Oklahoma).

Ref: L. R. and Ann W. Hafen, *op. cit.*, v. 2, pp. 298-310.

¶ June 21.—The Liberty (Mo.) *Pioneer* estimated the Missouri to be five feet higher than in the 1826 flood; and related that the steamboat *Mary Tompkins*, to the terror of all aboard, had been swept out of the river's channel into "the Wacondah prairies," where she broke down many of the tallest cottonwoods in her path.

From Weston to the Missouri's mouth the lowlands were flooded, with crops destroyed; cattle, sheep, hogs, etc., drowned; homes inundated or swept away. The inhabitants had taken refuge "on high ground, or aboard steamboats or flatboats."

Ref: *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (July 20, 1844), pp. 330, 331.

¶ June 24.—By noon, in St. Louis, the Mississippi had risen to "38 feet 7 inches of a plumb rise above low water mark." (This was well over four feet higher than during "the great flood of 1785.") But the crest was on June 26, or the day after. On the 28th the water began to recede.

Ref: *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (July 20, 1844), pp. 330, 331; *St. Louis Democrat*, June 24-27, 1844.

¶ June 25.—At Weston, Mo., the Missouri river had gone down about four feet (as reported by the *S. Western Belle*, which left there the morning of the 25th; and reached St. Louis on, or before, the 29th).

Ref: *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (July 20, 1844), p. 306.

☛ Summer.—Fourteen Iowa Indians, and their interpreter (mulatto Jeffrey Dorney), went abroad on an exhibition tour, under the conductorship of George H. C. Melody. Frank White Cloud (Mahaska), first chief of the nation, Walking Rain (Neumonya), third-ranking chief, five warriors, one youth, four women, one girl, and one infant, were in the party. (See group portrait of this party facing p. 64.)

The Iowas had left their reserve in (or by) December, 1843. (They were in St. Louis on December 25.) Part of the winter of 1843-1844 was spent in New Orleans. They set out across the Atlantic in the summer of 1844 (from New York?) and reached London in mid-July. Artist George Catlin and Melody joined forces to exhibit Indian paintings and the Iowas. While in England the Iowas met some of the royal family; and were once entertained at breakfast by Disraeli. They appeared in Scotland in February, 1845; and in Ireland in March. On April 21, in France, they were received by King Louis Philippe. Three of the group died abroad—Roman Nose, and the infant "Corsair" in England; O-kee-we-me (wife of Little Wolf), in France.

Eleven Iowas arrived in Boston aboard the *Versailles* on August 27, 1845; They remained in the East for over two months; finally reached their "Kansas" homes (present Doniphan county) in mid-November.

Subagent W. P. Richardson, in his October 6, 1844, report on the Iowa Nation, suggested the year's notable decrease (of over 50 per cent) in liquor consumption by the Iowas was probably due to the absence of "two of their Chiefs, and their old interpreter Jeffery Derroway."

Ref: George Catlin's *Notes of Eight Years' Travels and Residence in Europe* (New York, 1848), v. 1, p. 294, v. 2, pp. 1-275, 327, 328; *Colorado Magazine*, v. 26 (April, 1949), pp. 143-151; Carolyn T. Foreman's *Indians Abroad* . . . (Noeman, 1943), pp. 185-198; Comm'r of Indian Affairs, *Reports*, 1844, 1846; T. L. McKenney and James Hall's *The Indian Tribes of North America* . . . (Edinburgh, 1934), v. 2, p. 114; *Niles' National Register*, v. 65 (December 9, 1843), p. 226, v. 68 (June 14, August 2, 1845), pp. 229, 339, v. 69 (September 6, 1845), p. 6; Robert R. Wright's September 8, 1939, letter (copy) to OIA (in L. Barry's files); *New York Weekly Tribune*, August 2, 1845; *KHQ*, v. 28, p. 280.

☛ MARRIED: Abelard Guthrie, recently of Ohio, and Quindaro Nancy Brown, daughter of Adam Brown (a Wyandot Indian) and his Shawnee wife, "in the early summer," [i. e., June?] within present Kansas City, Kan., presumably by the Rev. James Wheeler.

The one-time town "Quindaro" (now part of Kansas City), founded in late 1856, was named for Mrs. Guthrie.

Ref: Connelley, *op. cit.*, pp. 100-107. (Connelley says Guthrie arrived in "Kansas" in January, 1844; that he had met Miss Brown while working for the Indian agent at Upper Sandusky, Ohio; and that subsequent to the marriage Guthrie was adopted into the Wyandot Nation.) *KHC*, v. 6, p. 98; *KHQ*, v. 22, pp. 305, 306 (for Quindaro).

☛ June.—On the Smoky Hill river (perhaps near the present Colorado-Kansas line?), "a band of Sioux consisting of about 60 lodges, and 25 lodges of Chyans, came on a small [hunting] party of 15 Delawares . . . and killed them all." The victims included several men "highly esteemed" in the nation. "Captain

Swanac [Shawanock] the great Delaware War Chief was one of the number."

The Cheyennes told George Bent that the Delawares killed three and wounded three of their men; and killed four Sioux and wounded five. Lt. John C. Fremont, and party, starting east from Bent's Fort on July 5, met the Sioux-Cheyenne "village" that day on the upper Arkansas. Wrote Fremont: "They were desirous that we should bear a pacific message to the Delawares on the frontier, from whom they expected retaliation." The massacre had occurred a "few days previous."

Ref: SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 8, typed copy, pp. 339 and 482; John C. Fremont's Report . . . 1843-44 (Washington, 1845), p. 288; Niles' National Register, v. 66 (August 17, 1844), pp. 397, 398; E. J. Stanley's Life of Rec. L. B. Stetler (1907), pp. 122, 123. On August 9, 1845, at Bent's Fort (Colo.), the Delawares and Cheyennes held a council on the subject of the 1844 massacre. Lts. J. W. Abert and G. W. Peck were among the few white men present.—See 29th Cong., 1st Sess., Sen. Doc. No. 438 (Serial 477), pp. 4, 5.

¶ Off the press in June were first copies of Josiah Gregg's two-volume *Commerce of the Prairies* (with illustrations, and a valuable map)—a work which was to become the classic account of the Santa Fe trail and Santa Fe trade. The New Orleans *Picayune's* reviewer wrote:

. . . so rich and varied are its contents that you cannot, if you would, skim through its pages at one or two sittings. . . . It should be in the possession of every one who feels any interest in the destinies of this country, as connected with the ultimate occupation and settlement of the prairies and the north-western portion of Mexico by the Anglo-Saxon race. See portion of Gregg's map facing p. 65.

Ref: Fulton, op. cit., pp. 140-144; *Weekly Picayune*, New Orleans, September 23, 1844.

¶ July 1.—John M. Armstrong (a lawyer; "an accomplished scholar"; one-eighth Wyandot) opened a school in present Kansas City, Kansas (a site described in 1879 as "on the east side of Fourth street, between Kansas and Nebraska avenues in Wyandott City"), in a newly completed frame school building.

Mrs. Lucy Armstrong stated (in 1879): "Though the school was for Wyandotts, and supported by their money [from a fund provided by the 1842 treaty], yet white children were admitted free of charge. Mr. Armstrong taught until 1845. . . ."

Because the Wyandot Council met in the building (at night, or during vacations), it was sometimes called the "Council House." On April 16, 1852, it was last used as a schoolhouse. Mrs. Armstrong was then the teacher.

Ref: Kansas City (Mo.) *Journal*, September 21 (or 20?), 1879, and June 8, 1901 (or, Kansas Biography Clippings, "A," v. 2, pp. 190, 191, and 197, in KHi library); Andreas and Cutler, op. cit., p. 1228; Comm'r of Indian Affairs, Report, 1845 (Subagent Richard Hewitt's report); Harrington, op. cit., pp. 153-157.

¶ Early July.—The "remainder of the Santa Fe Company" (from the caravan long stranded in "Kansas" by flooded streams) reached

St. Louis on the 6th, aboard the *Missouri Mail*, bringing (by one report) "\$90,000 in specie." Another account put the returns at "over \$100,000 in specie, and a quantity of furs and Spanish hides." A small party, from Bent's Fort, was yet to arrive.

Ref: *St. Louis Democrat*, July 8, 1844; *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (July 27, 1844), p. 352; *New Orleans Weekly Picayune*, October 14, 1844. Santa Fe traders Eugene and Thomas Leitensdofer, it appears, were among those who had reached St. Louis, from Santa Fe, on June 21, 1844. See Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 41, footnote (reference to *Daily Missouri Republican*, St. Louis, June 22, 1844).

¶ July 9.—Homeward-bound, but still exploring, Lt. John C. Fremont, and his small company (perhaps around 20?), including Thomas Fitzpatrick, Charles Preuss, and Theodore Talbot, probably entered present Wallace county this day, after arriving July 8 at the headwaters of the Smoky Hill river (in eastern "Colorado").

(Now returning from California, where his second exploring expedition to the West—which had left eastern "Kansas" in May, 1843—see *KHQ*, v. 29, p. 466, and map facing p. 448—had culminated in March, 1844, Fremont's circuitous marches eastward had brought him, and his men, to Bent's Fort [Colo.] on July 1. Four days later, on the march again, they had camped 20 miles down the Arkansas; and on July 6 had turned northeastward toward the upper reaches of the Smoky Hill.)

Moving downstream (along the north bank), on the 10th they marched 28 miles and entered the buffalo range; spent the 11th hunting and re-provisioning; "made a detour to the north [of the river] to get out of the way of the Comanches" on the 12th. Their camp of the 13th (apparently in southeast Gove county of today), was on a "high river prairie," by "an insignificant little stream." But a cloudburst in the night caused the bottomlands to flood, and the river (Fremont reported) "broke into the camp so suddenly, that the baggage was instantly covered, and all our perishable collections almost entirely ruined, and the hard labor of many months destroyed in a moment." Preuss wrote, on the 14th: "To dry the herbarium and everything else we are having a day of rest today, a Sunday."

After traveling 10 miles on the 15th, they came to a "deep branch" of the river. Neither this stream, nor the Smoky Hill, were yet fordable for the pack animals, so camp was made "at this fork" [which was, it appears, near the mouth of Hackberry creek in what is now southwestern Trego county]. A march of 23 miles was made on July 16. Next day, having proceeded some 17 miles (and now on the river's right bank), they "discovered a large village of Indians [nearly the entire Pawnee Nation!] encamped at the mouth of a handsomely wooded stream" [Big Timber creek, entering the Smoky Hill near the present Ellis-Rush county line]. The Indians were returning from the Arkansas crossing where they had met the Kiowa and Comanche Indians. (Note the route of "Pawnee Trail" shown on the Fremont map in *KHQ*, v. 29, facing p. 448.) The Pawnees treated Fremont's small force with "unfriendly rudeness" and "insolence." After "some delay, and considerable difficulty," the white men got out of the Indian village; and traveled 15 miles downriver before encamping. (Fremont later learned the Pawnee Loups had intervened to prevent the Grand Pawnees from massacring his party that night!)

About July 20(?), after having traveled "directly along . . . [the Smoky Hill's] banks [since July 8] for 290 miles," the explorer and his men left the river "where it bore suddenly off in a northwesterly direction [i. e., northeasterly! direction], towards its junction with the Republican fork of the Kansas. . . ." [They left the river in present McPherson county.] Continuing an "easterly course" they came to the Santa Fe trail after about 20 miles' travel; and followed it to Missouri, arriving "on the last day of July . . . at the little town of Kansas . . ." [Kansas City, Mo.]. Lieutenant Fremont and most of his party reached St. Louis on August 6.

Ref: John C. Fremont's Report . . . (Washington, 1845), pp. 287-290, 293, 322; Charles Preuss, *Exploring With Fremont* . . . (c1958), pp. 138, 139; L. R. Hafen's *Broken Hand, the Life Story of Thomas Fitzpatrick* . . . (Denver, 1931), p. 161; H. H. Bancroft's *History of California* (San Francisco, 1884-1890), v. 4, pp. 496-499; *New York Weekly Tribune*, August 24, 1844 (from St. Louis *Missourian* of August 2), notes the arrival of Theodore Tilton at St. Louis on August 1; Agent Daniel Miller's September 6, 1844, report, in Comm'r of Indian Affairs Report, 1844, or, see SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 8, typed copy, pp. 352-363; KHC, v. 18, pp. 296-299.

☞ July 11.—Bent, St. Vrain & Company's 20-wagon train (bringing 700 packs of buffalo robes, and four of beaver furs), arrived at Independence, Mo.—68 days after leaving Bent's Fort (on May 5), and a month later than usual (as a result of delays in "Kansas" due to flooded streams).

Charles Bent, and 25 of the company, reached St. Louis, aboard the *Lexington*, on July 18.

Ref: *New York Weekly Tribune*, August 3, 1844.

☞ July.—Three Union Fur Company Mackinaw boats, from the Yellowstone, brought 550 packs of buffalo robes and furs down the Missouri; reached St. Louis on the 14th or 15th.

Ref: *St. Louis Democrat*, July 17, 1844; *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (July 27, 1844), p. 352.

☞ July.—The steamboat *John Aull*, coming down from St. Joseph, Mo., carried some 200 passengers—many of them flood victims "returning to their old homes in other states." She reached St. Louis about July 17.

Ref: *Nebraska State Historical Society Publications*, v. 20, p. 128.

☞ BORN: on July 21, at Shawnee Methodist Mission, present Johnson county, Elizabeth C. Berryman, daughter of the Rev. Jerome C. and Sarah C. (Cessna) Berryman.

Ref: *Hemsburg "Stark Clippings,"* in KHI library; or, *Leavenworth Times*, September 21, 1925. (Elsewhere, *Hemsburg* refers to correspondence he had with the Rev. Jerome C. Berryman, as the source of his information on the Berryman children.)

☞ July 26.—A letter from "Kansas, Mo." (Kansas City, Mo.—or, Westport Landing) stated: "A part of the California company has just arrived [by way of the Santa Fe trail]. They left Lower California on the 24th of May last. . . ."

Probably at Bent's Fort (Colo.) this returning party (size and personnel unknown) had met Lieutenant Fremont and his men; and traveled briefly (one day?) in company.

Ref: *Niles' National Register*, v. 66 (August 17, 1844), pp. 397, 398.

¶ Late July.—The steamboat *John Aull*, reaching the port of St. Louis on 29th, from Weston, Mo., reported a four-foot rise in the Missouri, "principally from the Kansas and Little Platte rivers"; and that the Osage river was "very full."

Ref: *St. Louis Democrat*, July 30, 1844.

¶ Summer.—A blacksmith shop (of frame construction; and costing \$197.50) for the Wyandot Indians was erected about half a mile from the mouth of the Kansas river, in present Kansas City, Kan.

Blacksmith Charles Graham (who arrived in the winter of 1843-1844) had selected the site—later described as near the northwest corner of Nebraska and Thirds streets. Samuel Ellis built the shop.

Ref: Comm'r of Indian affairs, *Report*, 1844 (Subagent Jonathan Phillips' report, therein); SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 8, typed copy, pp. 299, 300, 343-348, 511; Andreas and Cutler, *op. cit.*, p. 1227; 28th Cong., 2d Sess., H. Doc. No. 139 (Serial 465), p. 43.

¶ August.—At the Stockbridge Indian settlement (below Fort Leavenworth, in present Leavenworth county—see *KHQ*, v. 29, p. 188), teacher Jane Kelley opened a day school—the initial step in founding a separate Stockbridge Baptist Mission. (Since 1843 Stockbridge had been an out-station of Shawnee Baptist Mission, 30 miles distant.)

Though the school soon was suspended (due to prevalent sickness), and not reopened till January, 1845, buildings for the Stockbridge mission were commenced in the fall of 1844; and, before year's end, it appears, the Rev. John G. Pratt (missionary and printer) and his wife, Olivia (Evans) Pratt, removed there, from the Shawnee mission. They remained till the institution was discontinued in 1848.

Jane Kelley left in June, 1845. The day school, for a time, was taught by Sarah Wallace. In 1846 there were from 12 to 16 students; in 1847, 17 were in regular attendance.

Stockbridge Baptist Mission Church, organized April 13, 1845, had 16 members in the spring of 1846; and 16 in 1848, prior to merging with the Delaware Mission Church.

The "Meeker press" (at Shawnee Baptist Mission since 1834) was removed to Stockbridge Baptist Mission in the summer(?) of 1846; and was kept there till 1849(?). Items printed by Pratt at Stockbridge during 1846-1847 included "the gospel of John in Shawanoe," a "new edition of part of the Shawanoe hymn book," and a "book of hymns in Delaware and Ojibwa for the Methodist Mission. . . ."

Ref: *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, v. 23 (1843), p. 139, v. 24 (1844), pp. 181, 182, v. 25 (1845), pp. 141, 162, 163, 273, v. 26 (1846), pp. 205, 206, v. 27 (1847), pp. 258-260, v. 28 (1848), p. 280; *KHQ*, v. 2, pp. 243-250; Comm'r of Indian affairs, *Report*, 1845 (R. W. Cummins' report, therein).

€ August 12.—Maj. Clifton Wharton and five First U. S. dragoon companies (headed by Capt. Philip St. G. Cooke, John H. K. Burgwin, Benjamin D. Moore, Burdett A. Terrett, and Lt. Philip Kearny) left Fort Leavenworth and began a march to the Pawnee villages on the Platte. The expedition was undertaken to impress the Indians with the power of the U. S. government; and to reconcile, if possible, Pawnee-Sioux difficulties. The cavalcade included two 12-pound howitzers; a train of 15 mule-drawn wagons (two were sent back at the Big Blue); and perhaps 350 animals in all.

Other officers were Capt. William M. D. McKissack (AQM), Surg. Samuel G. I. De Camp; Lts. Andrew J. Smith, J. Henry Carleton (a "logbook" he kept provides some colorful details), John Love, Thomas C. Hammond, George T. Mason, and Chaplain Leander Ker. Also along was artist Charles Deas. A 72(?) -year-old Indian guide—Jim Rogers—proved to be of more hindrance than help.

On the 14th Wharton and his command veered left from the old Council Bluffs road and set a northwestward course to search out a new, more direct pathway to the Pawnee towns. (Also, on this date, Private Clough died.) The major's journal tells of many difficulties encountered as the dragoons pursued this "experimental" route. On the 16th they intersected, and followed the track made in the spring by the Oregon emigrants (Gilliam's company); but abandoned it on the 17th when led into a cul-de-sac. On August 22 they reached, and crossed the Big Blue, apparently not far from what is now the Kansas-Nebraska line.

From the waters of the Little Blue they crossed to the Platte, striking it (on the 27th) "nearly opposite the mouth of the *Loup-fork*." (Another trooper—Private Thompson—died on the 26th.) Moving up the Platte's valley some 30 miles, the dragoons camped near a Pawnee town on the 29th; and on August 30, Major Wharton counceled with the chiefs of the Grand and Republican Pawnee bands. In the afternoon he and his men crossed the Platte and moved 18 miles northward to the Loup Fork. On the 31st they crossed; and Wharton counceled with the Loup and Tappage Pawnee bands.

On September 1 the expedition started down the river valley; reached the bank of the Missouri on the 6th, and camped about a mile from Bellevue (agency). Wharton counceled with the Otoes on the 7th; on the 10th and 11th the dragoons crossed the Missouri to the Pottawatomies' reserve; and the major had an informal talk with Chief Wabaunsee, and others. Then the dragoons marched, on the 12th, down the Missouri's left bank; reached the northern line of Missouri on the 13th; crossed the Big Tarquio (by ferry) on the 15th. On the 17th Wharton sent most of the wagons, and a small dragoon detachment, to Fort Leavenworth by way of Carrollton and Weston.

He and his command reached "Jeffrey's, or Iowa Point" (on the Missouri's left bank) the evening of the 17th; crossed next day on a ferry boat (the horses were made to swim over); and by evening the dragoons were encamped near the Great Nemaha Subagency—some seven miles from Iowa Point. Wharton noted: "There is quite a little village here, consisting of the houses of the Sub-Agent, of two Missionaries, Blacksmith, Farmer, and others. We

are not a little astonished to find so many White persons living at this place."

On the 19th he met the Iowa, and Sac & Fox Indians in council. "Na-chamin-ga" (No Heart), second chief of the Iowas, spoke for his nation. (Head chief White Cloud was in Europe at this time). "Ne-so-quot," Sac chief, spoke for his people. Company K remained at the subagency to assist in the forthcoming payment of annuities to the Indians. Wharton and the rest of his command continued the homeward march on the 19th; reached Fort Leavenworth on September 21.

Ref: KHC, v. 16, pp. 272-305 (for Wharton's journal); Carleton, *op. cit.*, pp. 3-132; also, see P. St. C. Cooke's *Scenes and Adventures in the Army* . . . (Philadelphia, 1857).

¶ August.—The first Santa Fe-bound caravan of the year (see March 31 entry) left Council Grove rendezvous some time after mid-month. Samuel C. Owens was elected captain of the company, which (at the beginning) numbered 40 men, with 23 wagons, 140 mules, and 80 yoke of oxen.

Owens had eight wagons; partners Samuel Wethered & Thomas J. Caldwell, four; Eugene and Thomas Leitensdorfer, three; C. C. Branham, three; Nicholas Gentry (the wagonmaster) two; Louis D. Sheets, — — Saucer, and James J. Webb (making his first trip West) each had one. In the party were John Tulles, Benjamin Pruett, also men named Sénécal, Leblanc, and Langelier. One of Gentry's two wagons was driven by 17-year-old William Boggs.

At Pawnee Fork this company took the "dry route" and reached Big Coon creek "without accident or adventure." Another contingent joined them somewhere en route; and the caravan "mustered sixty men and thirty-four wagons, with two dearborns," when Samuel C. Owens was re-elected captain at a meeting held at "the Farther Coon creek" about September 7(?).

The Arkansas was "in fair fordable condition," and the wagons were got across in one day by doubling teams. Here, on September 13, the traders determined to send a delegation ahead to Taos, to make arrangements at the port of entry. The Leitensdorfer brothers, and Caldwell, accompanied by Webb and Sénécal, formed this party, which continued up the Arkansas; reached Bent's Fort on the 17th; and got to Taos in mid-October.

Meantime the caravan crossed the *jornada* safely; later encountered a severe storm; eventually reached Santa Fe about October 20.

Ref: Webb, *op. cit.*, pp. 26, 27, 45-91; Niles' *National Register*, v. 67 (January, 1845), p. 385; *New Mexico Historical Review*, Santa Fe, v. 30 (April, 1933), p. 167; *The Colorado Magazine*, v. 7 (March, 1930), p. 58, v. 11 (November, 1934), p. 226; David Lavender's *Bent's Fort* (1954), pp. 233-235.

¶ September.—During this month three caravans left Independence, Mo., to take the Santa Fe trail. (1) A Bent, St. Vrain & Co.

train (about 20? wagons), headed by Charles Bent and Ceran St. Vrain, returning to Bent's Fort, departed about September 6. (2) Albert Speyer, with 25 wagons left in mid-month. (3) Partners Dr. Henry Connelly and Edward J. Glasgow (also [Francisco?]) Elguea, with 20(?) wagons set out about September 19.

They crossed "Kansas" with no particular difficulty, but "not far from Willow Bar," on the Cimarron, Speyer and Connelly & Glasgow were caught in a severe sleet-and-rain storm. Both trains lost many mules (Speyer over 75 in a single night); and were stranded till replacement stock reached them. (Speyer and Connelly went into the New Mexican settlements to purchase mules.) The caravans had not reached Santa Fe up to November 24.

Ref: Fulton, *op. cit.*, pp. 146-148; Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 107; *Niles' National Register*, v. 67 (January, 1845), p. 385; David Lavender's *Bent's Fort* (1954), pp. 235, 404; James Hobbs' *Wild Life in the Far West* . . . (Hartford, Conn., 1875), pp. 59-61; *Old Santa Fe*, Santa Fe, v. 1 (October, 1913), p. 212 (for Francisco Elguea's name).

☾ September 13.—Trapper David Adams, heading for Laramie river with a small pack horse outfit, arrived at Joseph Papin's place on the Kansas, near the Oregon trail crossing (present Topeka). He had left Independence, Mo., September 1.

Some time after mid-month, he got his traps over the river, using pirogues lent by trader Frederick Chouteau. Several other small trading-trapping parties out-bound on the Oregon trail were in the vicinity of the Kansas crossing at this time. Lancaster P. Lupton headed one; "J. Roubedow"—one of Joseph, Sr's sons, probably Joseph, Jr.—led another.

Ref: Information from the Adams diaries (in Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis), courtesy of Dale L. Morgan, Bancroft Library, Berkeley, Calif.

☾ DIED: Delilah (McCoy) Lykins, aged 35, wife of the Rev. Johnston Lykins, on September 23, apparently at Pottawatomie Baptist Mission, on Pottawatomie creek, present Franklin county. Also surviving her were three children.

Ref: Calvin McCormick's *The Memoir of Miss Eliza McCoy* (Dallas, 1892), p. 45; American Indian Mission Association report for 1844, p. 15. Delilah McCoy was a daughter of the Rev. Isaac McCoy.

☾ September.—At Iowa, Sac & Fox Presbyterian Mission (present Doniphan county) preparations were being made to build the new "manual labor boarding school" which the Presbyterian Board had authorized.

Missionaries Samuel M. Irvin and William Hamilton, in their September 30 report, wrote that "upwards of 70 acres of land has been fenced, and part broken. A contract for making 200,000 brick has been let, and 100,000 are now ready to lay up. . . . Hands are employed to commence the foundation, forward stone, &c. . . ."

Ref: *Comm'r of Indian Affairs, Report, 1844* (Irvin and Hamilton report, therein).

☾ September.—John W. Forman, operator of the Sac & Fox "pat-tern farm" (located on the reserve uplands, in present Doniphan

county), reported harvests of 1,600 bushels of corn; more than 2,000 bushels of potatoes; 500 bushels of turnips. The wheat crop, due to rust—an aftermath of the excessive rainfall—was but a third of normal. When milled, the 400(?) bushels had produced 80 barrels of flour. The Sac & Fox Indians' own farms—all in the Wolf creek bottoms—had been "almost entirely destroyed" by flood waters.

Ref: *Comm'r of Indian affairs, Report, 1844* (Forman's report, therein).

€ September.—The new Independence (Mo.) *Journal*, in an article on the Santa Fe trade of 1844, estimated the imports (brought by the caravans after the June flood waters subsided) at "\$400,000 in specie, and buffalo robes, furs, &c., to the amount of \$50,000 more." The lower-than-normal exports (the merchandise taken by the four companies departing in August and September, in which were, altogether, 160 men, 92 wagons, 780 mules and 60 oxen) totaled "at Eastern cost," perhaps \$200,000.

Ref: *New Orleans Weekly Picayune*, October 14, 1844; or *New York Weekly Tribune*, October 19, 1844.

€ MARRIED: John Thompson Peery, Methodist minister, and Mrs. Mary Jane (Chick) Johnson, widow of the Rev. William Johnson (Methodist missionary to the Kansa), on October 3, at Westport(?), Mo.

Ref: "Marriage Record No. 2," Jackson county, Mo., p. 89; *KHC*, v. 9, pp. 194, 198.

€ October.—In a letter, of the 16th, Methodist Bishop Thomas A. Morris wrote of debarking from the steamboat *Yucatan*, on the 10th, at "the landing, one mile below the mouth of the Kansas" [Westport Landing, or Town of Kansas, Mo.], and provided a brief contemporary descriptive note on the "town" area.

Here I came ashore alone ["between sundown and dark"], in a strange land . . . far from my family and friends, on the border of the Indian country . . . without porter or guide . . . and my lodging yet to hunt. . . . Shouldering my baggage, which consisted of a heavy carpet-bag, cloak, umbrella, and a small bundle, I ascended the steep hill, between the base of which and the river there was scarcely room for a warehouse and a few other small buildings [of post-flood construction evidently]; and after resting several times by the way, much heated, and nearly out of breath, I reached a new cabin on the summit, occupied by Colonel [William M.] Chick, who, having been 'washed out' by the late freshet, removed far above high-water mark. . . .

Ref: Morris, *op. cit.*

€ October 10.—Josiah Gregg and companions returned to Independence, Mo., after a brief hunting trip out the Santa Fe trail to the headwaters of the Marais des Cygnes.

"We went [wrote Gregg] some 50 or 80 miles beyond the border [to present Osage county?], and occupied our time in hunting game and bees. Of the former we found but little. . . . Of 'wild honey' we found at least a sufficiency for our use. . . ."

Ref: Fulton, *op. cit.*, pp. 150, 151.

¶ October 14.—Bishop Thomas A. Morris (who had arrived at Shawnee Mission on the 11th, after a journey up the Missouri), together with Missionaries Edward T. Peery, Thomas Hurlburt, and Learner B. Stateler, set out, in two buggies (and with camping equipment), to attend the Methodists' first Indian Mission conference—to be held near Tahlequah, the Cherokees' capital.

They traveled the military road; made about 25 miles to "Hickory Camp" on the 14th; stopped, on the 15th, some 38 miles beyond, on the *Marais des Cygnes* south bank; on the 16th (at the Little Osage) overtook the buggy of conference-bound Rev. Thomas H. Ruble (missionary to the Pottawatomies) and his young Indian companion, Washington Beauchemie; camped that night on the Marmaton, near Fort Scott; made 15 miles to Drywood creek on the 17th; journeyed 30 miles in stormy weather on the 18th, to the residence of Widow Adams on the Seneca reserve (in northeast "Oklahoma"); arrived at their destination on October 22.

Ref: KHC, v. 9, pp. 177-179, 206, v. 16, pp. 258, 259; Morris, *op. cit.*, pp. 350-358; Stanley, *op. cit.*, p. 113; KHQ, v. 29, p. 75.

¶ October.—At Shawnee Methodist Mission (present Johnson county) a third large brick—now known as the north—building was under construction, to enlarge the Indian manual labor school. Also, machinery to saw lumber was being added to the mission's year-old steam mill. Since put in operation (*see KHQ*, v. 29, p. 484), the flouring mill (capable of grinding 300 bushels of wheat a day) had netted \$1,800 (which would be applied toward paying off the \$4,000 cost).

Ref: Morris, *op. cit.*, p. 350; Comm'r of Indian affairs, *Report, 1844* (Thomas H. Harvey's October 8, 1844, report, therein).

¶ October 15.—The seven-man Wyandot Council addressed a complaint to Sup't Thomas H. Harvey, St. Louis, asking for the "early removal of Jonathan Phillips as sub agent."

One of the charges: "he is at heart really hostile to our people and he hesitates not openly to avow it." The council members were: Henry Jacques [or, Jaquis], Squeen-dehty, Sarahass, John Gibson, John Arms, Francis A. Hicks, and James Sharlow [or, Cherloe]. (*See* June 6, 1845, entry for Phillips' successor.)

Ref: SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 8, typed copy, pp. 405-407 (the name of John Arms appears to be "Aeris" in v. 8—an error).

¶ October(?).—Alfred J. Vaughan (appointed July 5), new head of the Osage River Subagency, arrived in "Kansas" in the autumn.

On October 20 Father Christian Hoecken, at Pottawatomie Catholic Mission, noted in his diary: "a new Indian agent [Vaughan] visited the mission [present Linn county] in company with Mr. Joshua Carpenter [former sub-agent], who was lately put out of office by the American government."

Carpenter had moved the subagency (which had been in present Miami county) to Pottawatomie creek early in 1844. It appears that the "new" subagency headquarters was the one-time "Issue house" for the Pottawatomies, in the vicinity of what is now Lane, Franklin county. (See December 18 entry.)

Ref: Kinsella, *op cit.*, p. 229. For Vaughan, see, also, list of Indian department employees, p. 91. Joshua Carpenter (appointed November 23, 1843) reached "Kansas" in January, 1844—see OIA, Letters Received from Osage River Subagency (National Archives Microcopy 234, Rolls 642 and 643).

❶ October 22.—William Gilpin and several other persons who had left Bent's Fort on September 22, arrived at Independence, Mo. They had met a number of westbound parties on the Santa Fe trail: (1) Charles Bent, Manuel Alvarez, and Mr. Ferguson, at Chouteau's Island; (2) Ceran St. Vrain, this side of Coon creek, "with waggons, going on well"; (3) Dr. Henry Connelly "with Lucas," between Ash creek and Pawnee Fork, and 25 miles ahead of (4) Albert Speyer's company, "which was near Walnut Creek." (The latter's mules were "poor and much worn out," and he had lost a number of animals soon after leaving Independence.)

(William Gilpin had gone out to Oregon in 1843 with Fremont's second expedition—see *KHQ*, v. 29, p. 467.)

Ref: *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, v. 4 (September, 1903), pp. 271, 272 (from Independence [Mo.] Journal, October 24, 1844).

❶ BORN: on October 22, at Shawnee Methodist Mission, present Johnson county, Mary Elizabeth Ward, daughter of Anthony A. and Mary Jane (Foster) Ward.

Ref: *KH's 15th Biennial Report*, p. 36; *Topeka Journal*, April 15, 1916.

❶ October 24.—In the evening a "dreadful hurricane passed over . . . [Shawnee Methodist Mission and school], demolishing many of the buildings and injuring some few individuals, but no lives were lost." East of the mission, near the state line, the Fort Leavenworth [Indian] Agency was "torn to pieces . . . all the roof was carried off several hundred yards, and torn all into pieces & scattered, hardly two pieces at the same place."

At Westport, Mo., the schoolhouse and one dwelling were blown over. Of the settlement's 31 occupants, one, a little girl, was killed; and several were injured. John C. McCoy's two-story frame house was "thrown from its foundations," and the "gable ends . . . were carried upwards of 50 yards. . . . Some of the large beams were taken 50 feet. Pieces of furniture were found a great distance in the woods. . . ." Near Independence, the tornado killed 10 persons.

On October 26 Missionary Jotham Meeker (then residing at Shawnee Baptist Mission, present Johnson county), recorded in his diary: "Ride to Westport and other places, where I witnessed terrible destruction from a tornado which passed about a mile from us on day before yesterday evening. Nearly all the fences, trees, houses, etc., in its course are prostrated. Many people are wounded. Hear of eight lives being lost."

Ref: Stanley, *op. cit.*, p. 116; SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 8, typed copy, p. 427; McCormick, *op. cit.*, pp. 48-50; Elizabeth Hayward's John McCoy *His Life and His Diaries* (New York, c1948), p. 247; Jotham Meeker's "Diary," (in KHI ms. division), or, see KHC, v. 8, p. 477.

¶ November 7.—Eliza McCoy (newly arrived from Indiana) opened a "small day school taught in English" at Pottawatomie Baptist Mission (on Pottawatomie creek, in present Franklin county—see *KHQ*, v. 29, pp. 76, 77) as the beginning effort of the American Indian Mission Association, of Louisville, Ky., in maintaining a Baptist mission among the Pottawatomes.

Also living at the mission in the 1844-1847 period were the Robert Simerwell family, and widower Dr. Johnston Lykins (most of the time). But the Simerwells were not paid by the A. I. M. A. (Lykins had a post as physician to the Pottawatomes; and Simerwell was employed as blacksmith for the same nation.)

Eliza McCoy maintained her day school, and Johnston Lykins usually preached to the Pottawatomes on Sundays, till early December, 1847, when the Indians began removing to their new Kansas river reserve. In 1848 Pottawatomie Baptist Mission personnel moved to present Shawnee county. The mission, as reopened, was a manual labor school, receiving government support.

Ref: The reports of the American Indian Mission Association, 1843-1852 (on microfilm in KHI); Jotham Meeker's letters of May 6, 1845, and December 9, 1847 (in KHI ms. division); Coman's of Indian affairs, Report, 1845 (Eliza McCoy's September 18 report therein); McCormick, *op. cit.*, pp. 41ff.; Hayward, *op. cit.*, pp. 269, 270.

¶ November.—The steamboat *General Brooke* ("Capt. Throckmorton on deck and Joseph E. Gorman in the office") made a late-in-the-year trip up the Missouri to Council Bluffs (Iowa).

Passengers included "dignitaries of the Missouri Legislature, and . . . some of those who had helped to make them," also, Richard S. Elliott, subagent of the Council Bluffs [Iowa] Subagency.

Ref: Elliott, *op. cit.*, p. 191.

¶ December.—At 18-months-old Fort Scott, construction of buildings was still "in progress." There had been delays because of the troops being used for other duty. Two blocks of officers' quarters, and three sets of soldiers barracks were "nearly completed." Materials were on hand for another set of officers' quarters. The commandant was Bvt. Maj. William M. Graham; his troops were two companies (C and D), Fourth U. S. infantry, and one company (A), First U. S. dragoons.

(Passing by the post in mid-October, Bishop T. A. Morris and his companions had thought the Fort Scott troops appeared to "have but little to do," as they had seen some of the men "miles beyond, sporting with greyhounds.")

Ref: 28th Cong., 2d Sess., Sen. Doc. No. 1 (Serial 449), pp. 144, 145; 29th Cong., 1st Sess., H. Doc. No. 51 (Serial 482), p. 46; *KHQ*, v. 11, p. 127, and v. 29, pp. 437, 442; Morris, *op. cit.*, pp. 346-361.

❧ December 18.—On Wea creek (in present Miami county) the Rev. David Lykins, his wife Abigail Ann (Webster) Lykins, and teacher Sarah Ann Osgood, opened Wea Baptist Mission by "taking into the mission family a few boarding scholars," and commencing a school. This institution of the American Indian Mission Association, Louisville, Ky., remained active till 1857. (As late as October, 1856, 30 Indian children were attending the school.)

At the beginning, the mission property (obtained from the government—it had been headquarters for Osage River Subagency—see *KHQ*, v. 29, p. 71, and v. 30, p. 88) consisted of one dwelling (38' x 18') a story and a half high (divided into four rooms), with two stone chimneys; and a one-story cookhouse (17' x 18') connected to it by passageway.

In August, 1845, the Rev. Barzillai M. and Caroline M. (Hickman) Adams, of Jackson county, Mo., replaced David Lykins and wife (who returned to the Westport area to work among the Shawnees). In August, 1847, the Adamases left missionary service; whereupon David Lykins and wife returned to Wea mission.

As described in 1845, Wea Baptist Mission was "about seven miles north of the Osage [Marais des Cygnes] river, and 14 miles west of the Missouri line." Gov. John W. Geary's executive minutes of October 20, 1856, contain this statement: "The Baptist mission school, under the charge of Dr. [i. e., the Rev. David?] Lykins, assisted by three white teachers, is about one mile and a half [east] from Paola." (Most descriptions say: "a mile east of Paola.") In 1876 the principal mission building was still standing, on the farm then owned and occupied by "Mrs. McGraw."

Ref: The reports of the American Indian Mission Association, 1843-1852 (on microfilm in KHI); Comm'r of Indian affairs, *Reports* for 1845, 1846; Jackson County, Mo., marriage records (the Adamases were married on July 1, 1841); McCoernick, *op. cit.*, pp. 43-51; Hayward, *op. cit.*, pp. 232, 242, 243; *KHC*, v. 4, p. 619 (for Geary, 1856), v. 9, p. 570; *Miami Republican*, July 21, 1876; *KHQ*, v. 29, p. 451 (for item on Lykins' marriage).

❧ DIED: Squeen-dehty, aged 61, a prominent man of the Wyandot Nation, in December. He was buried at present Kansas City, in Huron Place Cemetery.

Ref: Wyandotte county "Clippings," v. 3, p. 105 (in KHI library); and see October 15, 1844, *annals* entry, p. 87.

❧ Employed in "Kansas" by the Indian Department during all or part of the year 1844 were the following persons:

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY—Agent Richard W. Cummins; *Interpreters* Clement Lessert and Henry Tiblow; *Blacksmiths* William Donaldson, James M. Simpson (resigned in July?), and Calvin Perkins (appointed September 19) for Shawnees, Isaac Munday for Delawares, Charles Fish for Kansas; *Assistant blacksmiths* Powhatan Phifer, Richard Simpson, Joseph Parks' colored boy, and Jackson Pitman for Shawnees, Duke W. Simpson's colored man Hiram for Delawares, Mab Frankier for Kansas; *Former* William H. Mitchell for Kansas.

GREAT NEMAHAW SUBAGENCY—Subagent William P. Richardson; *Interpreters* Samuel M. Irvin (to September 17) and John Baptiste Roy (appointed September 17) for Iowas, John Rubite for Sacs & Foxes; *Blacksmiths* Benjamin Stewart for Iowas and James Gilmore for Sacs & Foxes; *Assistant blacksmiths* Elisha P. Dorion (dismissed in April?) and Thomas Stewart (began work May 1) for Iowas, William Daviess (died in May?) and Andrew Meyer (appointed May 20) for Sacs & Foxes; *Farmers* Preston Richardson, for Iowas, and John W. Forman (appointed April 1) for Sacs & Foxes; *Assistant farmer* Harvey W. Forman for Sacs & Foxes.

OSAGE RIVER [MAHAIS DES CYGNES] SUBAGENCY—Subagent Joshua Carpenter (removed), Alfred J. Vaughan (appointed July 5); *Interpreters* Joseph N. Bourassa and John Tecumseh Jones; *Blacksmiths* Robert Simerwell and Robert Wilson; *Assistant blacksmiths* Samuel L. Bertrand and Andrew Fuller (both appointed January 1); *Physician* Johnston Lykins (from June 1); *Millers* Peter Perillard (at Pottawatomie creek; to March 31), Joel Grover (at Sugar Creek; appointed October 9). *Note: All of the above, except the subagent, were employed for the Pottawatomie Indians only.*

OSAGE SUBAGENCY—Subagent John Hill Edwards (appointed February 14; resigned in August), Joel Cruttenden (appointed September 18); *Interpreters* Charles Mongrain (to April 20), Joseph Swiss (or, "Suisse"); *Blacksmith* John Gibson (from August 1); *Assistant blacksmiths* Louis Gotte (from January to April), Francis Mitchell, and Joseph Captain.

WYANDOT SUBAGENCY—Subagent Jonathan Phillips; *Interpreter* John M. Armstrong; *Blacksmith* Charles Graham; *Assistant blacksmith* James B. Post.

Ref: 28th Cong., 2d Sess., H. Doc. No. 38 (Serial 464), pp. 5-7; 28th Cong., 2d Sess., H. Doc. No. 139 (Serial 465), pp. 7, 9, 35, 43, 50, 53; 29th Cong., 1st Sess., H. Doc. No. 91 (Serial 483), pp. 2, 39-41, 45, 46, 66, 85, 86; SIA, St. Louis, "Records," v. 7, typed copy, pp. 383-468, *passim*, v. 8, typed copy, pp. 292-467, *passim*.

(Part Fourteen Will Appear in the Summer, 1964, Issue.)