Nothing Strange.—The Quindaro Chirubeesa complains that a person went into a hotel at Lawrence, and inquired what time the coach left for Quindaro, to which the clerk replied, "Quindaro! where is that place?" The proprietors of the hotel were interested in a rival town. The editor of the Chirubeesa must get used to these things, like the rest of us have. Does it not know that this is the game of small-minded people in Kansas, when they find that a rival town is getting ahead of their pet place? If Quin-daro had been a place likely always to remain in insignificance, that clerk would have known where it was. We know of a certain steamboat, of the officers of which are interested in a rival to White Cloud. This boat has landed more freight and passengers here, the present season, than any other boat in the trade, and more than it has at the place in which it is interested; yet the officers spare no opportunity to disparage White Cloud. If they have passengers to land here, they will scarce stop long enough for them to get off; and often they have to jump, to keep from tumbling back into the river —so fearful are the officers, that some of the other passengers may see and take a liking to the place. Coming down, they never stop, no matter how many signals are made for them to do so, or how urgent is the business of those who wish to take passage. The officers then give out the impression that there is never any business going on at White Cloud, and that they never have any occasion to stop. If they should pass a boat at White Cloud, their memorandum, as published in the St. Louis papers, never says so. It tells that the boat passed and such a steamer, so many miles below this point, or so many miles above that—but White Cloud, the very place where the boat was passed, is not mentioned. If this game pays them, let them go it. There are many boats in the trade, far superior to the one in question, and their officers are gentlemen. Perhaps this boat can get along without any business from White Cloud. We intend to do what we can, to induce persons to take passage and ship freight on boats whose officers can at least tell the truth.

Forest City.—Some three or four times, since the commencement of our paper, articles have been published in our How It Strikes a Stranger.—A few evenings since, we met a stranger coming into town from the West, who remarked that he did not see how White Cloud was ever going to make a town, as there were no settlers in the country around. It must be confessed, that he had some reason for his conclusion, for it is a fact, that there is not a farm cultivated in Doniphan County, west of White Cloud, an extent of some three miles. Nearly all of this region is the hands of speculators, who are interested in the town. They hold on to it, permitting it to lie unoccupied, with the expectation that the growth of White Cloud will enhance its value, when the truth is, the town and country must work an anti-christ's advantage. Mr. there is any difference, it is more important that the country should be settled up. This is one side of the matter, and the only one which is calculated to give strangers a wrong impression of the town. If an anti-christ's advantage is on the other side of the river, whose interests and prosperity are as nearly connected with White Cloud, as it is if were in Kansas. If that were all that is necessary, this bottom produces crops more that sufficient to supply the people of White Cloud, if there were an inch of cultivated ground in Kansas. But no one need be badly frightened, because a body of land, embracing several square miles, has fallen into the hands of speculators. It looks bad enough to a stranger, or to any one who will not see in any other direction; but there is at present no prospect of a famine. It will not be long until there is plenty of cultivated land about White Cloud, in every direction.

Another Friend.—Our old friend, T. S. Kilgore, will accept our thanks for divers squashes, pumpkins and pickles left at our house, last week. We will mention, in this connection, that Mr. Kilgore has "gone through the flint mill," in his time. He emigrated from Ohio to Western Illinois, about twenty-five years ago.
BARBED WORDS ON THE FRONTIER:
EARLY KANSAS NEWSPAPER EDITORS

DON W. WILSON

IN AN ADDRESS before the Editorial and
Publishers Association of Kansas in 1877,
Capt. Henry King, noted Kansas editor, stated:
"THE FIRST KANSAS NEWSPAPER flut-
tered out from among the scrub oaks and hazel
brush. . . . I suppose that human nature
needed it, and so it was sent here as sort of a
special providence, . . . it was the first of
our things. It came in even before our sins." 1
Captain King was describing the establishment
of the first newspaper in Leavenworth, but his
description could have been applied to early
newspapers in most Kansas communities
during the second half of the 19th century. In the
territorial period alone, 1854-1861, more than
100 different newspapers were established in
the newly developed towns. Lawrence pro-
vided a good example of this tendency. When
the town was little more than a group of tents
on the prairie and hardly knew its own name,
as one editor later put it, it already had three
newspapers.

The importance of newspapers to Kansas
communities was such that many contended
they were the first, strongest, and even the most
characteristic institution of Kansas. Others put
newspapers at least on par with the railroads in
their relative importance to a community.
There is little doubt both were critical. As one
authority expressed it: "A town without a
railroad, existing or prospective, was dead, and
without a newspaper it might as well be, for no
one would know of its existence." 2 Fortu-
nately, it did not require the amount of capital
to operate a newspaper that it did to operate a
railroad. Thus, there was hardly a town in
Kansas in the 19th century that did not have at
least one newspaper: and while few flourished,
a surprising number did survive. In 1889, for

example, there were 733 daily and weekly
newspapers in Kansas, more newspapers on a
per capita basis than in any other state at that
time. 3

The purpose of this study is not so much to
argue the relative importance of the newspaper
as it is to look at the men who edited these early
newspapers and their role in the community.
The heritage left by these early newspapermen
was a rich as it was unique. These pioneer
editors of yesteryear had a different character
from the present-day journalists, and in some
ways it was in contrast to their colleagues and
contemporaries of the Eastern press. While
early Kansas was in many ways a journalist's
paradise with all the activities occurring, the
pioneer Kansas editor had to be an all-around
man. He worked long hours; he had to be able
to make a speech, write up a murder, cover
legislation, comment on crops, shoulder a rifle
if necessary, and, in most cases, publish his
paper on credit. Because of these tasks, the
ones who were attracted and then survived
were generally adventurous men, frequently
assisted by adventurous spouses. The times
and events demanded such men and they were
not lacking. There were few stronger than Jo-
siah Miller, John Speer, G. W. Brown, Daniel
Anthony, Sol Miller, Preston B. Plumb, Jacob
Stotler, S. S. Prouty, D.W. Wilder, and a score
of others.

Nor were these newspapermen any less for-
midable in mind than in body and spirit. They
envisioned their function in the unusual envi-
ronment of territorial Kansas as a multifaceted
one. Each saw himself as moral interpreter,
opinion molder, entertainer, social commen-
tator, philosopher, and teacher all rolled into
one. If, as Captain King contended in 1877,
Kansas was a state based upon the press, then
these newspaper editors were indeed prophets
in a wilderness and the molds of that inspi-
ration which was derived from the printed

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1. The Kansas Editor, Annual for 1877 (Topeka, Kansas Publishing House, 1877), p. 9.
3. Ibid.
One of the initial functions of a newspaper was to attract people to a community. Invariably there was a connection between the founding of an early newspaper and the founding of a new town in Kansas. Usually the town company either owned the paper, heavily subsidized it, or included the editor among the principal owners of the company. The *Herald of Freedom* in Lawrence, the Atchison *Squatter Sovereign*, the Quindaro *Chindowan*, and the Fort Scott *Democrat* were all at one time or another owned by the respective town companies. The Emporia *News* began publishing with a subscription list that numbered 1,200—300 subscriptions each to G.W. Brown, G.W. Deitzler, Columbus Hornsby, and Lyman Allen, all town company speculators. Sam Wood negotiated an agreement with the Council Grove town company before moving his newspaper to that community in 1859. The agreement called for Wood’s newspaper to be subsidized for 250 subscriptions at an annual charge of $1.00 per subscription for two years. In addition, the town company agreed to furnish space for the newspaper at no charge for six months, a town lot which the newspaper building would eventually occupy, another lot for Sam Wood’s home, and a tax-free status for the newspaper for two years.7

Due to the competition between towns and their respective newspapers in trying to attract settlement and business, it was inevitable that rival communities would quarrel bitterly. While the quarrels usually took on political overtones, the excuses for blasting one another in print were almost as numerous as the arguments. Conspicuous in this type of editorial exchange was Sol Miller, who carried on endless wars with other editors of both political persuasions in towns adjacent to White Cloud. By doing so Miller kept White Cloud on the map years after it should have died. Perhaps for this reason alone, Sol Miller should be examined a little more in depth, for he was not an ordinary newspaperman. He wielded power because he was respected by even those who opposed and hated him. He played the game of politics and journalism according to the prevailing rules of the day and with great ability. Sometimes Miller wrote significantly and at a

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high ethical level; at other times he wrote in bad taste; and occasionally he was downright obscene. Without regard to the prestige and power of any man, if Miller disagreed, he spoke his piece and to the point.

Known throughout early Kansas as "the chief," Solomon Miller first journeyed to the new territory in the spring of 1857 and started the Kansas Chief newspaper in the town of White Cloud, a small river settlement in the northeast corner of what is today the state's boundary. In 1872 he moved the Chief to Troy, only a few miles away from White Cloud, and there he continued to operate the paper until his death in 1897.

In a tribute to this unusual editor, Noble Prentis described Sol Miller at work:

In his office in Troy with his sleeves rolled up and surrounded by such stacks and piles of newspapers and such boxes, drawers, and barrels of clippings as grace no other printing office in this Western country may be found Sol Miller; queer, bright, quaint, original, a man of old-world virtues, yet keeping his eyes on the moving hands of time's dial.  

Miller had one thing in common with his fellow editors of the day and that was a way with words. The successful editors in early Kansas had tremendous vocabularies and they were masters at inventing new expressions or phrases to describe a person or situation. As one writer expressed it: "It [their language] doesn't wiggle, wobble or wave, beat about the bush, put out a smoke screen, play hide and seek or dodge the issue. . . ."

From early in the territorial period verbal exchanges among editors were terse, pointed, and imaginative. Less than three months after the establishment of the Chief, Sol Miller was deeply embroiled in a heated verbal exchange with Thomas J. Key, editor of the nearby Doniphon Constitutionalist. Their exchange, which was widely reprinted in other territorial papers, captures the spirit of the early journalists.

It is said but we hardly believe it, that the [Thomas J. Key] every morning strikes his head into an empty flour barrel, and yells at the top of his voice, "Honorable Thomas J. Key!" just to hear how it sounds; and that he has little boys hired, paid with candy, to exclaim, when he walks the streets, "There goes the Honorable Thomas J. Key!" 

Now Key did not just ignore this verbal attack, and he answered Miller's charges in the next issue of the Kansas Constitutionalist. One can almost see his anger rising as he wrote:

There is a small sheet published at White Cloud, called the Chief, said to be edited by one Sol Miller, which we seldom see. In the last number the editor devotes nearly a column to the "Honorable THOMAS J. KEY," as he calls us, and he succeeds admirably in misrepresenting us, telling lies upon us. His article makes about as much sense as Black Republican articles generally. . . .

The editor of the Chief wishes us to bring him into notice, but we do not wish to pollute our columns with such trash, unless forced to do so. We would gently hint to the cross-eyed, crank-sided, peaked and long razor-nosed, blue-mouthed, nigger-lipped, squeaky-voiced, empty-headed, snaggle-toothed, filthy-mouthed, hammer-hearted, hump-shouldered, blander-shanked, splaw-footed, ignoble, Black Republican, abolition editor, to attend to his own affairs or we will pitch into him in earnest. 

It wasn't over yet, and Sol Miller replied in turn with headlines reading:

"HONORABLE" THOMAS J. KEY GETS "SAVAGE"!—In a late number of the Doniphon Constitutionalist (which the gentlemen publisher neglected to send us,) the editor takes satisfaction upon us, by calling us all the hard names he ever heard of—hard names being the only argument he understands. Among other things, he calls us a Black Republican, and a liar! [and] concludes with a tirade of stop-slop expressions, purporting to come from some hireling, lick-spittle in his employ. . . . We must acknowledge, we did not exactly tell the truth about him. We said his name was Thomas Jefferson Key. We beg Thomas Jefferson's pardon—it should have been Thomas Jackass Key! (No insult intended to jack-asses generally.) But the idea that we want him to bring us into notice—goody gracious! Do we want a skunk to fly his filth upon us, that people may notice us? It would be far preferable to being brought into notice by such a burlesque upon humanity as Thomas J. Key!

Even in the most heated of arguments, Miller seldom failed to see some humor in a situation and it usually surfaced in his writings. But at times his sarcasm was devastating. During the first years of statehood, Miller's favorite target was Sen. James Lane. As a politician, Lane's most successful method of attracting votes was by means of patronage—he frequently promised the same office to several different people. When Sol Miller heard that Lane at one point even promised the congressional nomination to the Kansas speaker of the house in 1861, he remarked: "Lane has no
more right to bargain off that nomination than his distinguished ancestor had to promise the whole world to Christ. . . ." 13

Sol Miller's style of sarcastic humor was not an isolated example of writing among the early journalists. Some of the remarks about certain editors were quite pointed and not necessarily related to the victims' political persuasion. One of the most frequent verbal victims of talented typesetters was Sam Wood of Council Grove. Over the years, he probably edged out Daniel Anthony, I, of Leavenworth. Wood was often featured in news articles like the one printed in the Emporia News in 1860:

Sam Wood, of the Council Grove Press, has two very nice Suffolk pigs, which, judging from his looks, he eats with, drinks with and sleeps with. He took us to see them when we were at the Grove lately, thinking, we presume, that we would give him and his pigs editorial notice. Out of respect for the pigs we didn't do it, as they undoubtedly would hate to have folks know that they associate with Sam. 14

In most cases, however, both sides understood that it was a fair game of give and take, and frequently not so seriously meant as it sounded. Editors who blasted one another in print one issue would often compliment one another for a stand or piece of writing a few issues later. For if there were brotherhood of suffering, these early editors had a close kinship. Survival of newspapers and editors was not easy. Conditions were poor at best. An Eastern correspondent visited the offices of the Leavenworth Weekly Herald in 1857 and provided the following description:

A visit to the printing office afforded a rich treat. On entering the first room on the right hand, three law "shingles" were on the door: on one side was a rich bed—French blankets, sheets, tablecloths, shirts, cloaks and rugs, all together; on the wall hung hams, maps, venison and rich engravings, onions, portraits and books; on the floor were a side of bacon, carved to the bone, corn and potatoes, stationery and books; on a nice dressing case stood a wooden tray half full of dough, while crockery occupied the professional desk. In the room on the left—the sanctuary—the housewife, cook and editor lived in glorious unity—one person. He was seated on a stool, with a paper before him on a plank, writing a vigorous knock down to an article in the Kickapoo Pioneer, a paper of a rival city. The cooking stove was at his left, and tin kettles all around; the corn cake was a don't; and instead of scratching his head for an idea, as editors often do, he turned the cake and went ahead. 15

And yet despite the problems and conditions, more and more newspapers appeared every year. In some cases newspapers were established for a political campaign and then passed into oblivion after election day. Others were created for specific causes or issues on a short-term basis. So numerous were these tabloids by 1860, the editor of the Atchison Champion offered the following general comments on newspapers in Kansas territory:

Verily, Kansas newspapers are an anomaly. Most of them are dailies—that is, they live a day. Like man in the sermon, by the author of "The Harp of a Thousand Strings," they "come up like a hoppergrass, and are cut down like a jack-ass." Peace to their ashes. 16

The passage of time did little to alleviate tough economic conditions for the pioneer editors. As the settlement lines moved westward, the story was retold in similar terms as indicated in the Topeka Commonwealth in 1875:

The following beautiful and touching obituary notices appear in the Cawker City Tribune: "The Beloit Index has ascended the tin tube. It expired at the early age of three months. . . . Another good newspaper office will now become food for the sheriff. The Solomon valley is paved with newspaper presses, as hell is with good intentions. They stand at every four corners, monuments of warning to would be Greeleys and Bennetts. They are all sacred to the memory of departed ambition and ruined hopes. . . . Phillipsburg once had one, Kirwin has one dead and one stored away. Cedarville once had it, and it died. Osborne City killed one. Stockton was threatened with one. Cawker City has borne up under the inflexion of two of them, and now supports one. The place where Lindley once stood is marked by an old hand press. Solomon City gets away with about two a year, and this is not the first death that has occurred in Beloit. . . ." 17

Newspapers, however, continued to serve as a vanguard to new settlement. For example, in March, 1885, Editor E. P. Worcester set out for Thomas county to start a newspaper. When he arrived, he set up shop in H. W. Miller's sod house. According to his own account "The CAT office was the first building put up in Colby. One year ago there was but one store in Thomas county. . . . The CAT was here before the town, and will endeavor in the next year, to build and advertise thoroughly the beautiful County of Thomas, the enterprising town of Colby, and melodiously mew in the ears of those seeking homes in the new west." 18

15. White Cloud Kansas Chief, August 6, 1857. 18. Thomas County Cat, Colby, March 11, 1886.
These conditions, however, did not deter the majority of aspiring editors. They wrote in the same style and with the same wit as their counterparts in the eastern parts of the state. They even went so far as to adopt a liberal policy of reprinting editorials from those more established papers. All understood that it was a game of give and take and there were few serious problems about using someone else’s writings.

A notable thing about these early editors was the space which they devoted to feature material and entertainment. It was not unusual for an editor to devote over one fourth of the paper’s space to these categories. It usually comprised the entire first page and was then scattered throughout the remainder of the paper under such headings as “Pearls of Thought,” “Things Wise and Otherwise,” Editorial Melange,” and the like. Another striking characteristic was that occasionally this material was “off color” or in questionable taste. In examining the columns and articles one concludes that the inclusion of this commentary was an important element in the entertainment function of the newspaper. The newspaper in the 19th century was the primary source of entertainment for the general populace of Kansas, who, of course, had no movies, radio, television or other forms of media which are relied upon today. Thus, it was the drama, humor, style, wit, and knowledge that the editors of these papers conveyed which both molded the thoughts and entertained the minds of our forefathers.

The subject matter of these editorial writings had few boundaries and often little propriety. They felt free to discuss the character of other editors, active politicians, other communities, and even Indians.

A favorite story among editors on the subject of Indians appeared in The Smoky Hill and Republican Union on September 3, 1864.

A “big injun” having strayed from camp, found himself lost on trying to return to it. After looking about, he drew himself up and exclaimed, “Injun lost!” but recovering himself, and feeling unwilling to acknowledge such short sightedness, he exclaimed “No, Injun no lost—wigwam lost— (striking his breast), Injun here!”

When there were no political issues, Indian jokes, or hot feuds, the editors composed elaborate social comments on marriages, births, and other conditions or events in their communities. Abe Bennett of the Pearlette Call in Meade county was a master of what might be termed “social commentary reporting.” In one issue he discussed the scarcity of wood and coal in the Meade county area, and how settlers had to resort to the use of buffalo chips for fuel. He then vividly described how the women adapted to this situation.

It was comic to see how gingerly our wives handled these chips at first. They commenced by picking them up between two sticks, or with a poker. Soon they used a rag, and then a corner of their apron. Finally, growing hardened, a wash after handling them was sufficient. And now? Now it is out of the bread, into the chips and back again—and not even a dust of the hands!

Another editor handled a delicate social situation in 1874 in the following manner:

A couple came from Ohio, arriving in Leavenworth a few


20. Pearlette Call, April 15, 1879.
days since, and were married about noon. At 8 o'clock in the evening a bouncing boy weighing ten and half pounds was born to the blooming bride of less than ten hours. This is only another evidence of the fertility of Kansas, and a proof that the drought is not so general and fatal in its effects as some of our eastern friends suppose. 21

A more traditional birth announcement was written by the editor of the Dodge City newspaper in a more personal way: “BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Overley, June 11, 1878, a daughter.” Then there was added this editorial comment: “It is unnecessary to state that the old gentleman, who is bordering on 60, is very proud of this masterly streak of luck.” 22

Gatherings associated with weddings, new houses, harvest time, and holidays were all popular news items reported at length by the editors. Dancing was the theme of an editorial printed in the 1870’s. As you will note, dancing had its appeal in Kansas over 100 years ago and took on some of the same characteristics as the dancing of modern times:

A group of splendid ones is on the floor and loving mated—the gents encircle their partners’ waists with one arm. The ladies and gentlemen closely face to face. They are very erect and lean a little forward (Music). . . . Feet and heels of gents go rip rap, rip rap, rip. . . . Ladies’ feet go tipity tip, tipity tip, tip. Then all go ripity, chippy, ripity, ripity, ripity, ripity, ripity, ripity, ripity, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, chippy, 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22. Dodge City Times, June 15, 1878.

24. Dodge City Times, August 4, 1877.
25. Ibid., August 11, 1877.

as the westward movement spread over the
Early Kansas editors were adventurous men. These along with Sol Miller and Sam Wood were among the better known.
Kansas prairie and the accessories of society stabilized in an area, it was reflected in the contents of the newspapers. Fewer headlines dealt with shootings; society columns appeared; arguments over issues and politics became less personalized. But the one feature which remained constant in the 19th century was the poetic license taken by editors in boosting their town locations.

Apparently a Colby editor in 1886 felt extreme measures were necessary to attract new settlers to that area when he wrote:

**EDEN RESTORED**

It has been discovered that Western Kansas is the Eden from which Grandfather Adam and Grandmother Eve were driven for fooling around with the commandments and the Good Man’s winter wine saps. The stump of the identical tree under which Mrs. Adam was beguiled by the serpent, is just south of the river in Hamilton County. The flaming sword that guarded the Tree of Life has been stolen... but the fig tree is here from which Mrs. Adam manufactured her fashionable but somewhat scanty wearing apparel. It is dead now—probably winter killed—but, like our flag, it is still here, and furnishes evidence which the oldest inhabitants dare not dispute. The soil is just as fruitful as ye olden time and produces prodigiously... Potatoes grow so big that they can only be roasted by building a fire on the windward side and when one section is done, waiting for the wind to change. Cabbage leaves are used for circus tents... A man planted a turnip one mile from the railroad last summer and the railroad company sued him for obstructing their right of way before the middle of July. Pumpkins are in good demand this winter for barns... Pea pods are used as ferry boats on the Arkansas River... North of Coolidge are several lakes of strained honey and we often have showers of rose water and cologne in the early part of the year. The settlement of western Kansas is restoring Eden to its primitive glory and man to his first estate.

Most of these editors of 19th century Kansas had an abundance of talent, and their reputations, in some cases, were national in scope. I have quoted rather extensively in this paper to convey both the letter and the spirit of their work as a group. These editors were characters with unique personalities and abilities. They were gifted with imagination, always partisan, witty, and imbued with a vision that the function of an editor was to enlighten, educate, inform and entertain.

With the beginning of the 20th century, a new brand of journalism began to emerge. Perhaps it was technological progress which brought about the change. Or maybe it was the state of the journalistic profession. Whatever the reason, an era had passed by the first decade of the 20th century. James C. Humphrey, who became editor of the Belleville Telescope in 1870 captured some of the spirit of that era when he wrote his farewell editorial in 1901.

"Of course we have made enemies, but we have no apologies to make, for when we gave any one a swat we generally got one in return; nor are we going to say that if we have made mistakes they were 'mistakes of the head and not of the heart,' for we have always endeavored to track our head and heart in the same class." 27

Six years later, in 1907, William Allen White wrote the obituary for a distinct brand of journalism with these remarks:

There is in progress in a small Kansas town, at the present time, a newspaper row that reminds us of the olden days when the rag across the street was edited by a lop-eared leper. Unfortunately for the picturesque in journalism, the lop-eared lepers are nearly all dead, or in the poohhouse. We seldom hear of them anymore, and we sigh for the touch of a vanished hand, and the sound of a voice that is still...

In this Kansas row, one of the editors is described as a hyena that prowls by night. The hyena that prowls by night replies that his antagonist is to all intents and purposes a polecat. The polecat appears slightly dazed by this rebuke, but rallies bravely, and intimates that the hyena would consider it no crime to steal the coppers from a dead man's eyes...

The hyena ignores this accusation, and expresses his profound conviction that the polecat would rob a widow's hen roost. And so the cheerful controversy proceeds. It is really refreshing, as viewed from a distance, and it is too bad that the Prominent Business Men... are always puttin in. They ought to be sending marked copies of the local papers all over the universe.

No professional newspaper editor of the present day would or lawfully could write as they did then. But it is a part of our state’s heritage—a part that was not equaled by any other state in terms of numbers of papers, talents of the editors, or interest of the people on a per capita basis.

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