Reverend Richard Cordley of Lawrence wrote that on a cold winter evening during a freezing rain in December 1864, “There came a rap at the door. Wondering what errand could bring any one out on such a pitiless night, I opened the door. There stood Brother Morse, cased in ice from head to foot.” After Reverend Grosvenor Clarke Morse of Emporia had eaten supper and rested before the fire, he told Cordley that he was traveling to Chicago to find a person to be the head of the state normal school. “He had been already two days in the saddle, and must ride one day more. Then he would leave his pony at Leavenworth, and go by rail to Chicago.”

By March 1863 the Kansas legislature had authorized a state normal school at Emporia for the training of teachers, “but Kansans were on picket duty and were defending their homes against ruthless invaders in those days, and other interests must bide their time.” Morse, the school’s most passionate supporter, was finally appointed on December 8, 1864, to travel east and hire a person with the one thousand dollars that the legislature had authorized. “The appropriation was so absurdly small that it is doubtful if anything would have been done but for the faith and enthusiasm of Brother Morse. He started at once to find a president,” wrote Cordley. “He was full of his plans for opening the school, and had no more doubt of his success than if he had ten thousand dollars instead of one.” Morse succeeded in his mission and returned to Emporia.

Lyman Beecher Kellogg and Kansas State Normal

“Sower Went Forth”

Lyman Beecher Kellogg and Kansas State Normal

edited by Sam Dicks

Sam Dicks, a native of Wellston, Missouri, earned an M.A. in history from the University of South Dakota, and a Ph.D. in history from the University of Oklahoma. A member of the history faculty at Emporia State University since 1965, he began phased retirement in the fall of 2000 and as university historian is currently researching the history of Emporia State University.

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2. Kansas State Normal School, A History of the State Normal School of Kansas for the First Twenty-Five Years (Emporia, Kans.: 1889), 14.
3. Cordley, Pioneer Days in Kansas, 16.
Emporia by stage on the night of December 30, 1864, with
the news that he had “secured the services of Professor L.
B. Kellogg, of the Illinois State Normal University.”

Recognizing the sufferings of Kansans during the Civil
War, which was then in its final months, President Richard
Edwards of Illinois Normal wrote:

To Mr. Kellogg, and to the cause of education in
Kansas, we bid a cordial God Speed. And we hope—
ny, we confidently expect—to hear of good and
honorable achievements wrought within her blood-
stained borders, in behalf of universal education. The
people who have so bravely and successfully fought
to make men free will hardly fail to come off victors
in the contest that is to make them fit for freedom.5

Edwards was confident the twenty-three-year-old
Lyman Beecher Kellogg was the right man for this new
challenge.6 Perhaps the youngest college president in
American history, Kellogg also may have been the only for-
mer president to attend a fiftieth anniversary celebration of
his presiding over the school’s first day of classes. It was in
1915, during the year of that celebration, that he wrote his
memoirs, which he titled “Recollections,” excerpts of
which follow.7

4. *Emporia News*, December 31, 1864. Morse also told a Lawrence ed-
tor a day earlier. “The State Normal School,” *Kansas Daily Tribune*, De-
cember 30, 1864. In an earlier issue, the Lawrence editor wrote, “This is a
much-needed institution in Kansas, and we hope nothing will be left un-
done to insure its immediate success. A lack of good teachers for our com-
mon schools is felt everywhere in the State, and the Normal School is the
very best avenue through which to remedy this evil.” See ibid., December
23, 1864.

18, 1865. Edwards was the editor of the *Illinois Teacher*.

6. Kellogg was born in Lorain, Ohio, September 28, 1841. The family
commonly lived in McHenry County, Illinois, by the time Lyman was
four, but also moved briefly to several other places in Ohio and Illinois. A
brother, Hiram Delaney Kellogg, was two years older, graduated
from Knox College and Rush Medical School. He also came to Emporia,
and later Arkansas City and El Dorado. The father, Hiram Kellogg, was a
restless and colorful itinerant dentist and entrepreneur who sought for-
tune through inventions and other ventures that invariably failed. He
later lived in Kansas. Kellogg credited his mother, Delia Beecher, with
early encouraging his love of books. She died in McHenry County while
Lyman was a student at Illinois Normal. Lyman’s father put the boys to
work by the time Lyman was eight. He peddled cookware to farm wives,
worked in a butcher shop, bakery, blacksmith shop, hotel, and at other
jobs before he became a teacher at the age of sixteen. He began chapter
four of his memoirs with the words “I call this period manhood, because
from 17 on I was doing a man’s work and earning my own living.” See
Lyman Beecher Kellogg, “Recollections,” ch. 1–4, Kellogg Family Collec-
tion, Emporia State University Archives, Emporia, Kans.

7. Kellogg’s original handwritten draft includes numerous notes
and changes in the margins and elsewhere. A draft typed soon afterward,
apparently by another family member, makes a number of corrections but
also creates a few new errors and omits some passages. Both were rough
drafts that include comments clearly designed for later editing and revi-
sion that never happened; this text is based on a comparison of both ver-
sions. Repetitious and unrelated segments have been omitted and sepa-
rated passages on the same topics have been grouped together. The
segments included here are only a small part of the entire work. Portions
of the memoirs were published in the *Emporia Gazette*, June 9–18, 1927,
under the title “Early Days at the Emporia Normal” in nine installments.
RECOLLECTIONS
By Lyman Beecher Kellogg

Richard Edwards was the President of the Illinois Normal during my last two years in the school. I think I owe more to Richard Edwards as a guide and teacher than to any other man or woman, especially as to fitting me to serve as Principal and teacher in the Emporia Normal School.

My last year in Illinois Normal was a busy one. In addition to my regular studies, I taught a heavy class of 40 or 50 in arithmetic, and in Mr. Edwards’s temporary absence, would teach his big class of 150 in Theory and Art of Teaching, in the large assembly room. And I was also in charge of the opening exercises and discipline in the Grammar School Department of the Model School. In addition, I was trying to do my part in the Literary Society, serving as its President one term, and being one of the two contest debaters in the fall term of that year, in the annual contest between the Wrightonian and Philadelphian Societies. As I look back on it now, I think the Literary Society did more for me than any other one thing, except the influence and example of Richard Edwards, to fit me for my subsequent work after leaving school.

It was in June, 1864, that I graduated from that school. There were seven members in the class. Each of us delivered a graduating oration or essay, as was the custom in those days, before a large audience in the big assembly room. I was then 22 years old. Became 23 the September following.

The course of study in the Normal University of Illinois at that time contained nothing of what is called a classical education. It was strictly an English course of study. I was ambitious to know something about the classics; and after graduation, had commenced to fit myself for Harvard. Mr. Edwards offered me a place as Principal of the Grammar School Department of the Model School, and I arranged with Mr. Pillsbury, the Principal of the High School Department, to teach me Latin and whatever else I might need to prepare me for Harvard, of which school he was a graduate.

I was engaged in this double work of teaching and studying under Pillsbury from the commencement of the fall term in September until in December, 1864, when I was invited to come to Kansas as Principal of a new Normal School to be started at Emporia. The invitation came about in this way: At the session of the legislature of 1863 [sic, 1864], an appropriation of $1000 had been made for the Normal School, and following that the Governor had appointed a Board of Directors for the school, consisting of five members: C.V. Eskridge and Rev. G. C. Morse of Emporia; James Rogers, a lawyer of Burlingame; T. C. Huffaker, Indian Agent and Teacher of Council Grove, and one other whose name I have forgotten. But nothing further had been done. The Board of Directors did not meet or organize until October 1864 [sic, December 8], at which time they did meet, and appointed an Executive Committee to make arrangements for opening the school. Mr. Morse was a member of this committee, and the other members of the committee delegated him to go east and find a teacher to act as Principal.


10. Kellogg needed a knowledge of Latin, he believed, to gain training at Harvard for becoming a lawyer. He had been encouraged by his father in this direction before he had gained success as a teacher and would later pursue a career in law. See Kellogg, “Recollections,” ch. 2, 5.

11. David Brockway of Topeka was the fifth member. The governor, state treasurer, and superintendent of public instruction were ex-officio members. See Record, Kansas State Normal Board of Directors Minutes, 28–29, Emporia State University Archives. According to “The State Normal School,” Emporia News, August 27, 1864, the governor also appointed Judge J. W. Roberts of Oskaloosa to the board, but there is no indication he ever participated.

12. The board was appointed by the governor in October but did not meet until December 8, 1864. Superintendent Isaac Goodnow was chosen president pro tem of the board of directors, and Reverend Morse secretary at this first board meeting. See Record, Kansas State Normal Board of Directors Minutes, 28–29.

13. On December 8 the board delegated to an executive committee, consisting of Eskridge, Rogers, and Morse, the authority to secure a person to head the normal school. The board did not meet again until after Kellogg had arrived. See ibid. The heads of normal schools commonly held the title of principal rather than president; the titles were used interchangeably until the title of principal died out. Kellogg’s title at Kansas State Normal was officially principal but he was often called president; his successors were all titled president.

“A SOWER WENT FORTH” 255
Mr. Morse was the Congregationalist minister of this town of Emporia, coming here from the Andover, Mass. Theological Seminary. Before going to the Theological Seminary he had been a student of Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, and was a graduate of that school. His wife, Mrs. Morse, was a graduate of Mary Lyon’s famous school for women at Mt. Holyoke, Mass., and both Mr. and Mrs. Morse knew about the Massachusetts Normal Schools. 14

When Mr. Morse got as far east as Chicago he called upon Perkins Bass, whom he had known as a fellow student at Dartmouth, and explained his errand. Mr. Bass, as acting President of the Illinois Normal for a year after President Hovey went into the army, thought Mr. Morse could find someone at the Bloomington school, and recommended him to see Mr. Edwards, the President, and inquire for a young man by the name of Kellogg, who had been a student there when he, Perkins Bass, was acting as President of that school. 15 Mr. Bass thought that Kellogg would be a good man for the place, if he was still at Bloomington or could be found.

Mr. Morse, accordingly, came to Bloomington from Chicago, saw Mr. Edwards, and inquired about me. Mr. Edwards brought him around to my room, and introduced me to Mr. Morse, and said Mr. Morse was authorized to employ a Principal for a normal school to be started in Kansas, and that both Mr. Bass and he had recommended me to Mr. Morse for the place, if he was still at Bloomington or could be found.

Mr. Morse then inquired what salary I would expect, explaining that the Board of Directors only had $1000 at their disposal, but said the Legislature would be in session commencing in January, and they would ask for further appropriation for the school. I did not know what to suggest as to the amount of salary, but thought $100 a month wouldn’t be too large. Mr. Edwards said $125 a month, making $1500 a year, would be more suitable. I said to Mr. Morse that $1,200 for me would be all I should need for myself, but that if the board would fix it at $1,500, I would use $300 for the school, in my own way, and for such things as would be useful. And this was agreed to. There were no writings, but Mr. Edwards said he would remember the understanding. I was to come out to Kansas early in January, so as to get there by the 10th to 15th of the month; and Mr. Morse was to go back to Emporia and hurry up the arrangements as fast as possible, because the board wanted to have the school in operation during the coming session of the legislature. That this was necessary in order to obtain the appropriation they would ask for.

Mr. Morse said the school was to have the use of the upper story of a new stone school just built in Emporia, but that it wasn’t finished off upstairs yet, but that the School District said it could be done in 30 days or less time; probably 3 weeks would be enough to finish it off, and get seats and desks.

Referring to the recommendation of Perkins Bass, it was a great surprise to me, because while I knew him as acting President of the school, two years had elapsed since then. I did not know that he had ever noticed me in school, and did not suppose that he knew my name even, let alone remembering me in any manner. This is simply an illustration of how little we realize upon what casual and unexpected things our whole course in life may be changed.

My coming to Kansas seems to have been the result of Mr. Morse’s stopping off in Chicago to see his old classmate, Perkins Bass, on his trip east. I do not know what it was that caused Mr. Bass to remember me. The recommendation of Mr. Edwards was easily explainable. I had been a student under him for two years, and had done some teaching in the school as an assistant, and he, more than anyone else, knew about what might likely be expected of me as a teacher.

As soon as Mr. Morse had gone, I set about reading up on Normal Schools, and trying to find out about them. I also began the preparation of a paper or lecture upon Normal schools which I thought might come in handy if I


15. Perkins Bass, a Chicago businessman, agreed to serve until a permanent replacement for Charles E. Hovey, the first president, could be found. Colonel Hovey (later brigadier general) organized the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry, called the Normal Regiment, consisting of many faculty and students. See Cook and McHugh, A History of the Illinois State Normal University, 52. Lyman B. Kellogg was among the boarders at Mrs. Hovey’s home. Marshall, Grandest of Enterprises, 111.
should be called upon for any educational address. The first use I made of the paper was to read it there at the Normal University before the Wrightonian Literary Society to which I belonged, at a meeting called to give me a little send off before going to Kansas, for it soon became generally known around the school that I was about to leave for the new work in Kansas.

I prefaced the reading of the paper by saying that I had been told that public lecturers sometimes tried a new lecture before a country audience in some obscure place, before delivering it to the cultured city audience for which it was originally prepared; but that I would reverse the procedure, and try my paper on the audience here before going to the remote and obscure audience for which it was prepared.

**WHERE IS EMPORIA?**

Another thing I tried to do was to hunt up the location of Emporia on the map. Mr. Morse had told me it was situated between the Cottonwood and Neosho Rivers a few miles above their junction, and that it was about 75 miles southwest of Lawrence. I found an atlas having a map of Kansas, and found on it the Cottonwood and Neosho rivers and their junction, but no Emporia. I did find, a short distance above their junction, the town of Columbia, about where Mr. Morse had said Emporia was, as nearly as I could make out from the map. After getting out here I found that there had been a town laid out a little to the north of the ford on the Cottonwood about 2 miles southeast of Emporia, then known as Columbia Ford, but now known as Rocky Ford, where the Normal School faculty were in the habit of holding their annual picnic a few years ago. The town was called Columbia, not from the patriotic use of the term as a designation of this country of ours, but because Sam Columbia was the name of the owner of the land upon which it was started, and after whom it, as well as the ford, was named.

The town did not materialize and Emporia took its place on the map. Columbia is one of the lost towns of Kansas, like Sumner, the first town of John J. Ingalls, which was swallowed up by Atchison, and Fremont, a town a few miles north of Emporia in Lyon County, which is another abandoned or lost town. Its site is now an ordinary upland farm. The name Fremont is preserved as the name of the township in which it was located.
Before leaving Bloomington, I also wrote out another lecture, so that if called upon a second time for an educational address, in any one place, I would have another one to use. This was at Mr. Edwards's suggestion. The title of this second lecture was The Teacher in Literature, later changed to Teaching as a Vocation. I borrowed the title, and as much as I could remember of its substance, from a lecture which I heard Mr. Edwards give at an educational meeting. I remember that Ichabod Crane by Washington Irving, and Dominie Sampson as portrayed by Walter Scott figured as two of the illustrations. Teaching as a vocation was contrasted with these illustrations of teaching as an avocation merely.

I have recently looked over the files of The Emporia News in the City Library for the year 1865, and I find that Mr. Morse faithfully performed his part of the agreement to return to Emporia and prepare the way for the opening of the school. Commencing in January, each issue of the paper up to the actual opening of the School, February 15, 1865, contains some contribution from Mr. Morse in favor of the school, and, letting it be known, and urging teachers to make preparations to attend, with liberal advance notices of the teacher coming to take charge of the school.

On a bitter cold night in 1865, Congregational minister Peter McVicar provided overnight accommodations in his new Topeka home for young Kellogg. A strong supporter of public education, McVicar was a regent for the three state colleges during his two terms as state superintendent of public instruction beginning in 1867, and later he was president of Washburn College.

TRAVELING FROM CHICAGO TO LEAVENWORTH

Mr. Morse wrote me from Emporia that the opening of the school would have to be postponed until the middle of February, and that I needn’t come until the close of January, there being delay in getting the room finished and seated for the school. He gave me minute directions how to get to Emporia. I was to take the C. B. & Q. [Chicago, Burlington & Quincy] railroad from Chicago to Quincy, Ill., then to cross the Mississippi River by ferry boat, unless blocked by ice, and then to take a small spur of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad to Palmyra Junction, thence on the main line of Hannibal & St. Joseph to St. Joseph Missouri, thence by railroad down the east bank of the Missouri River to Weston, the end of the track nearly opposite Fort Leavenworth, by ferry boat to the fort landing, thence by stage to Leavenworth. Stay over night at the Mansion House, Leavenworth, instead of Planters House on the levee, on account of its greater respectability, the next day to go by stage from Leavenworth to Lawrence, and the same night at 9 o'clock, if I struck it right, to take the stage from Lawrence to Emporia. If I didn’t get to Lawrence the night the stage left for Emporia, I would have to stay over at Lawrence for a day or two because the stage from Lawrence to Emporia was tri-weekly only. He gave me the name of the hotel I was to stop at in Lawrence, which I have forgotten. I know it was not the Eldridge House, because that had been destroyed in the Quantrell Raid, and had not at that time been rebuilt and reopened as a hotel. He also sent me a letter of introduction to Rev. Richard Cordley at Lawrence, whom he was very anxious to have me meet.

The ride from Chicago to Quincy in those days was a day’s ride. I do not remember how early in the morning the train left Chicago. But I do remember that it was night
when I got to Quincy. The next morning it was reported that we should have to walk in crossing the Mississippi River on the ice, as the weather had turned warm, and it wasn’t deemed safe to drive across the ice with a team, as had been done for several days before. The ferry boat had been out of commission for some little time on account of the river being frozen over.

There were something like a dozen or twenty passengers to cross the river that morning to take the Hannibal & St. Joe train on the Missouri side. We got along all right until about two-thirds of the way across, when we came to a break in the ice where the current of the main channel of the river was beginning to make an opening. The opening, however, was only three or four feet wide then, and by taking a running start we were able to jump it. It was believed that inside of half an hour it would be impossible to cross. The river appeared to be approximately a mile wide at Quincy. A small dinky train was waiting for us, and took the passengers about 20 or 30 miles southwest down the river to what was called Palmyra Junction, where we waited for half an hour or so, until the train from Hannibal on the main line came along. It took until night that day to get to St. Joseph.

Missouri was then a slave state, and I remember contrasting in my mind the difference between free and slave states, by comparing the farms along the way that day in Missouri with those of the day before in Illinois. The difference was greatly to the advantage of Illinois. The farms in that state appeared to be well kept, houses and barns in good condition, with plenty of well-fed livestock in the barn yards. In Missouri there was a general air of dilapidation and shiftlessness. Few horses and cattle were to be seen in the corrals, and those which were there were of inferior breeds and in a half starved condition. Everything was run down, and out of repair. The natural resources of the country in Missouri appeared to be equal to that of Illinois. The real difference was that between slave labor and free labor.  

It was still in war time, but the only indication of war to be seen was that at some of the railroad bridge crossings, a small squad of Union soldiers would be in camp for the purpose of guarding the bridge.

At St Joe, I found a small hotel just across the street from the depot, and having found out the train I was to take down the east side of the Missouri River would leave at 4 o’clock in the morning, I went to bed with the understanding that I would be called at 3:30 in the morning. I remember waking up several times in the night and wondering if it was time to get up, but found that it was not. Finally, I woke with a start, and found it was 5 minutes of 4. I dressed hastily, hurried down stairs to the bar room and found the boy who was to have called me fast asleep in a chair. I hurriedly shook and wakened him up, paid for my lodging and ran to the depot, finding the train already started and pulling out with increasing speed as it went. I chased the train down the track, and after great exertion and fast running, caught up with the train and climbed onto the rear platform wholly out of breath, and exhausted from the running.

It was of course a foolish and dangerous thing to do. But I thought only of catching the train if possible. It had considerable the start of me, and I ought not to have attempted to overtake it. I have always remembered how much I was out of breath, and the terrific beating of my heart from the exertion, and have never again tried a similar experiment of trying to chase down a disappearing train.

We arrived at Weston for a late dinner, and found a ferry boat waiting to take the passengers down and across the Missouri River to the landing at Fort Leavenworth. The Missouri River carried floating ice, but was open for the passage of the boat. At the landing a four-horse stage was in waiting to take the passengers to Leavenworth. This was the first time I had ridden in a stage, since I was old enough to remember. There was no formality about it, except to climb in, as in a Chicago omnibus, and pay when I got out, which I innocently supposed was the way of all stages. I remember seeing along the way a large number of tall, dry weed stalks lining the road on either side, and was told they were wild sunflowers. And thus, although in January, there was an introduction to Kansas sunflowers. I remember feeling a sensation of relief that I was out of the slave state of Missouri, and in the Free State of Kansas.

Leavenworth impressed me as a large and thriving city, as we passed through its streets and up to the Mansion House from down near the levee, the stage having first stopped at the old Planters House near the boat landing. As a matter of fact, it transacted more business and had a larger population then than now [1915]. Its population was

16. While slavery may have been a factor in Missouri looking more dilapidated than Illinois, the border state of Missouri had also experienced much more military conflict than had northern Illinois.
30,000, and it was one of the outfitting points for the Santa Fe and other western trails. There were numerous large wholesale houses dealing in groceries, hardware, clothing, dry goods, saddlery, and mining supplies. From Fort Leavenworth the large Government mule trains started with supplies for the Western forts, and from Leavenworth the great ox trains of from 12 to 20 yoke of oxen to a wagon, and from 25 to 50 wagons in each train, started. Leavenworth was the jobbing point for all of Kansas, and the inhabited portions of the country to the southwest. It was also a manufacturing town, and the shipping point of the railroads over which I had traveled, to Chicago and the East. Weston Missouri was the nearest railroad station for all of Kansas, except the extreme northern portion which went to St. Joe to take the cars.

There was not then, January, 1865, a single railroad in Kansas, except the very beginnings of the Union Pacific, which at that time had been graded the greater portion of the way from Wyandotte, on the west side of the Missouri River at the mouth of the Kaw, to Lawrence, with a few miles of ties and rails for the use of gravel and construction trains.

The Mansion House was thronged with guests and travelers the evening I arrived. I could get no sleeping place in the hotel proper, but was informed the hotel would accommodate me with a room in a building across the street, controlled by the hotel, but that I would have to share the bed in it with another guest. When I was shown to my room, I was told to leave my room door unlocked, unless I preferred to get up and unlock it to let the next man in, if he came. The hotel annex consisted of the upstairs portion of two or three store buildings, temporarily partitioned off into as many sleeping rooms as the space would afford. There was a constant tramping up and down the long hall leading to these rooms, and people talking and coming and going to and from the rooms, at least that was the way it seemed to me. I did not know what kind of a crowd I had got into, and was somewhat apprehensive. After a while, a couple of men seemed to stop at my door and a stranger was shown in by the same hotel attendant who had brought me over. He lit the kerosene lamp, and looked to see if I was asleep. I was not, but seemed to be. The stranger, who was to be my room-mate, said nothing, but after pulling off his coat, unstrapped from his waist a belt carrying a holster with a large revolver in it. He took out the revolver from its case, or holster, and examined it, apparently looking to see if it was loaded and in order, and then put it under the pillow on his side of the bed. He then undressed and climbed into the bed. I kept carefully to my side of the bed, and did not go to sleep until my bed-fellow was soundly sleeping. In the morning, I saw that he was a decent looking fellow and, while we were dressing, I found out that he was from Council Grove, in business there, and had come to Leavenworth for supplies. When he took his revolver from under the pillow and strapped it on him, I asked if it was the custom to carry revolvers. He said yes, when away from home. But, he added, that he had never had occasion to use his. He said that, if needed at any time, the occasion might come quickly.

**Stagecoach to Lawrence**

I was informed that the stage for Lawrence would leave about 9 o'clock in the morning, and would come around to the hotel before starting. When it drove up, I hurried out and attempted to climb in. The stage driver asked my name. I told him. He shook his head and said that, if I couldn’t go, that my name wasn’t on the waybill, and the stage was full. I ought to have gone to the stage office the night before or very early in the morning and engaged my passage, paying for it at the time. But I didn’t know this, and so had lost my opportunity to ride in that stage. The next regular stage would not go until the next day. I went back into the hotel disappointed. I concluded, however, to hunt up the stage office and engage passage for the next day. Arriving at the office, I was informed that there were some other passengers wanting to get over to Lawrence,
somebody volunteered to go with me and show the way, because he was going to the concert himself. The concert had commenced when we got there, but my new friend said he knew Mr. Cordley very well, and that if I would stand by the door he would go in and ask Mr. Cordley to come out. This was done and I presented my letter and was received very cordially by Mr. Cordley, and I went back to the hotel.

The stage came around about 9:30 or ten, instead of nine. But, I was told, the stage did not always start out on time. When I went out to the stage, it appeared to be full, but the driver, after asking my name, found it was on the waybill, and that I was entitled to ride. It was a small two-horse stage, a jerky, as it was called. I tried to get in, and a man’s voice said, You may come with us on the back seat. There are three of us here already, but you may sit on my lap, for a while anyway. There were two passengers with the driver on the outside or driver’s seat, and there were six passengers, or three on a seat made for two, on the two inside seats, besides myself, making ten of us in all to ride. The kindly voice that invited me to get into the back seat turned out to belong to Jonathan Hunt, upon whose knee I was sitting, and who was at that time the editor of The Emporia News, the only newspaper in Emporia, which had been founded by Preston B. Plumb, and by him sold to

19. The “world renowned” Hutchinson family performed in Lawrence on Thursday evening, January 19, and again the next night. Since at least May 1855, the group had been singing about the Kansas troubles, and it would return in 1867 to sing for woman suffrage. See Kansas State Journal, January 19, 1865; D. W. Wilder, Annals of Kansas (Topeka: Kansas Publishing House, 1886), 62, 462.
Jacob Stotler, and by him in turn to Jonathan Hunt. That stage ride from Lawrence to Emporia lasted all the rest of that night and until after dark the next day, through a practically uninhabited country. Part of the time I tried to sit on the sharp edge of the side of the coach bed between the two seats, part of the time some one or more of us would get out and walk up grades to relieve our cramped limbs, and also lighten the load for the two horses. At other times I would sit on the knees of first one and then another of the six inside passengers. Nobody complained, and the time was passed in conversation. The stops to change horses and for meals were welcome rests.

To my astonishment the winter roads were smooth and dry, and to some extent dusty. There was no snow and no mud. The sun shone and it was warm like October in Illinois. In McHenry County, Illinois, the winter roads were always snowy or frozen and hubby, or, if partially thawed out, very muddy. Dry roads in the winter were unknown to me. As we neared Emporia the talk was of the Neosho River. When we got to it I was surprised to find no river at all, as it seemed to me, but a small creek bed, with no water running over the ford except a small trickling stream. There appeared to be a hole of deeper water above and below the ford crossing, but the whole thing was too insignificant to be called a river, I thought. Of course, there was no bridge in those days.

We arrived at Emporia about 7 o’clock in the evening, it being a late stage on account of the heavy load of passengers. One of the passengers was David S. Gilmore, who afterward married one of the Rev. Solomon Brown’s daughters, and raised a family of children here, one of his daughters being the wife of Mr. Brooks, the grocer, and one of his sons being D. S. Gilmore, Jr., who ran a newspaper at Admire a few years ago. My fellow stage passenger was then in the stone and tinware business in what had been E.[dward] Borton’s tin store, and later Gilmore owned a half interest in The Emporia News and later became the mayor of the city. Another of the passengers on that stage ride was Rev. J. C. Fraker, who was then County Treasurer of Lyon County, and from whose office the yellow painted arm chair for the teacher was borrowed for the opening of the Normal School. Mr. Fraker afterward went to Wichita and was made President of a National Bank, which failed, and Mr. Fraker was tried for receiving deposits when the bank was insolvent and some other infractions of the National Banking Act, and convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary, and still later, pardoned. Mr. Fraker had been a Methodist preacher, and was a good intentioned man. He did not profit any from the bank and its failure stripped him of the last dollar in the world. I do not seem to remember the other passengers on that first stage ride to Emporia.20 Some of them I never did know after that time. I al-

20. According to William Allen White, “One of the passengers on that stage was Miss Mary Ann Hatten, of Galesburg, Ill., who was com-
ready have mentioned Jonathan Hunt. He always was friendly to the school and to me. In his paper that week under the head of Distinguished Arrival, it was announced that Professor L. B. Kellogg of the State Normal University of Illinois had arrived in town, and that the State Normal School of Kansas would soon be opened.

ARRIVAL IN EMPORIA

Upon reaching Emporia that evening the stage stopped at the only hotel in town, a small story and a half frame building on the [southwest] corner of Sixth and Commercial, where the Citizens National Bank is now. The hotel was kept by Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel S. Storrs, the parents of Mrs. George Newman. Mr. Morse was there awaiting me with his ancient horse, and spring wagon, and took me out to his farm after supper at the hotel, and a little reception in the hotel parlor, which included a few of the citizens to see the new teacher, and a piece on the piano at Mrs. Perley’s request by Nellie Storrs, then a nice little girl about 12 or 13 years old, who was as kind-hearted and amiable then as now, Mrs. Nellie Newman.

That night it turned cold, and in the morning it was bitterly cold, with a small fall of snow on the ground, drifting under a strong wind from the northwest.

I went up town that day with Mr. Morse to attend a meeting of citizens called at E. Borton’s office to take such steps as might be deemed necessary to protect the town from a threatened raid from the Indian Territory by Santanta’s band of rebel Indians, who, according to rumor, had entered the state from the Territory and were heading in this direction, coming up on the prairie divides between the Verdigris and Neosho rivers where there were no settlers. As a matter of fact, it turned out that the rumor was false, and that Santanta’s band was still in the Territory, and they never did raid Kansas.

At the meeting in Borton’s office some 15 or 20 or more citizens were present, and a committee of safety was appointed to find out the truth or falsity of the contemplated Indian raid. And if true, to warn the settlers, and take measures for the defense of the town.

General Price’s Rebel raid into eastern Kansas and western Missouri had been only a comparatively few months before, and Quantrell’s raid on Lawrence was still too recent to have lost its terrors. So that it is no wonder that this rumored raid from the Indian Territory was a matter of serious consideration.

It should be explained that, during the War, some of the Indian tribes in the Territory favored the South and some were friendly to the North. There were companies of Union soldiers recruited from the loyal Indians and half-breeds, and there were rebel Indians and half-breeds recruited for service among the Confederates. Santanta’s band was a scouting band of Indians in the service of the Rebels, but largely an independent band of marauding Indians hostile to all white settlers.

GROSVENOR AND ABIGAIL MORSE

By invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Morse I made my home with them on the farm 2 miles southeast of Emporia. The usual farm, or claim as it was called in those days, consisted of a Government quarter section of land 160 rods square and containing 160 acres. In order to have some bottom land and timber, Mr. Morse had taken up for his claim a strip of land 80 rods wide and 320 rods long, extending north and south one mile, the north end resting on Logan Avenue and extending south to the Cottonwood River, taking in 10 or 12 acres of woodland at the Cottonwood, which furnished timber for saw logs to be sawed into boards at Sodens mill and used in building his dwelling house on the claim, and thereafter furnishing fuel for the family.

The river on his land furnished water for livestock, and also a supply of water for family use, when the cistern at the house failed in a long dry time, to be hauled from the river in barrels. At this time Mr. Morse had no well at the house although he had dug several times, always striking rock before he did water in the attempted well-digging. Mr. Morse had a theory that if he could go through the rock formation, water could be found underneath. A few years later he lost his life by going down into a well he was digging too soon after the explosion of a blast in the rock formation at the bottom. He went down before the air cleared after the blast and was overcome by the foul air.

ing to Kansas to teach school. She afterwards married Dr. Allen White. The editor of this paper is their offspring.” See Emporia Gazette, June 13, 1915; William Allen White, The Autobiography of William Allen White (New York: Macmillan Co., 1946), 8.

“A SOWER WENT FORTH” 263
After Mr. Morse’s death by this accident, the new well was abandoned for several years, and the hole kept covered by heavy planks. Later it was discovered that Mr. Morse’s fatal blast had so broken up the rock formation that it was easily taken out and water was found thereunder, thus proving the accuracy of his theory.21

Mr. Morse was one of four Andover theological students who came to Kansas in a body, each founding a Congregationalist church. These men were: Rev. P. S. Storrs who settled at Atchison, Rev. J. C. Liggitt22 at Leavenworth, Rev. Richard Cordley at Lawrence, and Rev. G. C. Morse at Emporia. They were known as the Andover band in early Kansas history and were all men of sterling worth, of Anti-Slavery views, and did their part in making Kansas a Free State. Richard Cordley was perhaps the ablest preacher of the four. His sermons were short, usually not more than 20 minutes, and abounded in epigrammatic and trenchant sentences. Nugget sermons they were called. Mr. Morse’s sermons were longer and of a more pronounced theological seminary type. But they were good and sound, and delivered with great earnestness.

It was a surprising thing that Kansas should have had such an able ministry in that early day. Rev. D. P. Mitchell, presiding elder of the Leavenworth district, was the acknowledged leader among the Methodists.23 Bishop Valle of the Episcopal diocese, which included all of Kansas, was the leader of that denomination. Dr. McCabe of Topeka was the greatest of the Presbyterian clergymen, and Richard Cordley of the Congregationalists. All of these men would have been leaders anywhere in the United States and the new State of Kansas was fortunate in having such a galaxy of distinguished ministers in their respective denominations. D. P. Mitchell dedicated the first church building of the Methodists in Emporia. It was the original stone church on the site of the present Methodist church which, by the way, was dedicated by the Rev. Charles Mitchell, son of D. P., a few years ago.

A Trip to Topeka

A few days after I arrived in Emporia, Mr. Morse suggested that he and I go to Topeka and visit the Legislature, which was then in session, and manifest our interest in the appropriation which would be asked for the Normal School.

It was a cold and solitary ride across the country with Mr. Morse’s slow horse and spring wagon. A cold northwest wind was blowing, but Mr. Morse did not seem to mind it. I was chilled to the bone, and it was only by getting out and walking at frequent intervals that I was able to keep from freezing. It took us two days to get there. We followed the Lawrence stage road to Burlingame, and from there were on the Topeka and Council Grove stage line road leading across the uninhabited prairie in the direction of Topeka. This route passed through the village of Auburn on the Wakarusa in Shawnee County. It wasn’t much of a village, three or four houses, but it had a name, evidently taken from Goldsmith’s poem of the Deserted Village, “Sweet Auburn, loveliest village of the plain,” I think Goldsmith called it.

When we arrived at Topeka it was nearly night. I supposed, of course, that we should go to a hotel, and I had for the last two hours been anxiously looking ahead for signs of the town, and thinking of the warmth of a hot stove and a hot supper at the tavern. When we got there Mr. Morse said he would drive around to a livery stable and leave the horse and buggy, and that we would put up at Mr. McVicar’s, the Congregationalist minister. This was Peter McVicar who afterward became president of Washburn College and State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He was then a tall sandy-haired Scotchman with a pronounced Scotch accent, but a man of gentle manners and a broad smile.

I was aghast at the suggestion of going to Mr. McVicar’s. I tried to tell Mr. Morse that I was an utter stranger to Mr. McVicar, and would feel more at home at the hotel, and that I had no claim whatever on his hospitality. I said that if he preferred to go there, he might leave me at the hotel. But he wouldn’t think of leaving me alone at the hotel, that it would not cost anything by going to McVicar’s, that he had always stopped there when he came to Topeka, that if McVicar should come to Emporia and go to a hotel and not come out to his house, he would feel hurt. Of course, I could not insist further than I had, and so went with Mr. Morse to Mr. McVicar’s house, but it

22. Roswell Davenport Parker, rather than Liggitt, was the fourth member of the Andover Band, although both were in Kansas early and both served the Leavenworth church. See Cordley, Pioneer Days in Kansas, 8.
23. Reverend Daniel P. Mitchell was later Kellogg’s father-in-law with his marriage to Jennie Mitchell in 1878, following the death of his first wife, Abbie Homer, in 1873.
was with great misgivings and reluctance. I feared we would not be welcome, and then I was nearly perishing with cold. It was in fact zero weather that night.

When we got to Mr. McVicar’s, we found them living in another house different from the one where Mr. Morse expected to find them, and where they had lived when he was last in Topeka. We found the new place by inquiry at the old. Our arrival was wholly unexpected to Mr. and Mrs. McVicar. They had only just moved in, and were not settled. They had no fire in the sitting room that evening. On account of the intense cold and scarcity of fuel, they were trying to get along with only a fire in the kitchen. Mr. McVicar hustled around and built a fire in the sitting room stove. But it seemed like a long time to me before the room became warm enough to be comfortable. Mrs. McVicar got supper for us, and, when it came time to go to bed, the icy bedroom upstairs with no stove, made a chilling reception to me after the cold ride all day. Mr. McVicar tried to be cordial, but I did not think Mrs. McVicar was enamoured of her guests.

I remember trying to put on a clean shirt in the cold room in the morning and the difficulty I had in buttoning it on account of the numbness of my fingers. Mr. McVicar did have a hot fire down stairs in the sitting room, and I shall always remember the comfort of that morning fire. He informed us that it was the coldest night of the winter, that his thermometer registered seven degrees below zero when he looked at it that morning.

We were to stay in Topeka two days. I firmly made up my mind that I would not return to Mr. McVicar’s after that first night. I knew that Mrs. McVicar wished we were not there. I told Mr. Morse that I should insist on going to the hotel for the rest of our stay in Topeka, and did so. He remained at McVicar’s.

Mr. Morse took me around to see the Legislature. There was no State House. The Legislature held its sessions in temporary rooms on Kansas Avenue between 6th and 5th, upstairs over some stores. The House of Representatives occupied a large hall over a double store building, and the Senate a smaller room about half a block away.24

We went into the Senate Chamber first and there I saw and heard a large fine-looking man talking impressively in favor of some measure for investigating or punishing fraudulent practices at elections. His utterances were characterized, as it seemed to me, by the highest sentiments of patriotism. He was denouncing certain election frauds in the city of Leavenworth, and the perpetrators thereof, in

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eloquent terms. The room was crowded with members and spectators. We were standing near the door. I inquired of a bystander the name of this senator. He said, “Oh, that’s Jim Legate, the worst election fraud at Leavenworth.” I had supposed him to be some high-minded patriot of distinguished character and high ability. The contemptuous way in which the bystander called him Jim Legate shattered the idol of my inexperience.

Charles Vernon Eskridge was the member of the Senate from Emporia that winter. We saw him that evening. Mr. Morse looked around for him when we were in the Senate Chamber, but he was elsewhere at the time Senator Legate was speaking. Eskridge said, when we saw him, that they are always in a bitter political fight over at Leavenworth. And which ever side was beaten, always wanted an investigation by the Legislature. But they were getting tired of it.

We next went over to the House of Representatives and, upon entering the hall, I saw near the Speaker’s desk a smooth-shaven handsome man of rather a stout build. Mr. Morse told me that was Jacob Stotler, our member from Emporia, who had been elected Speaker of the House at the beginning of the session. I admired his appearance very much, but was a little disappointed to hear him confess that he didn’t know how to decide a question of parliamentary practice which soon came up in the House, and call upon some other member to tell him how to decide the question.

Mr. Morse also took me around to the rented rooms occupied as the Governor’s office. Samuel J. Crawford was the Governor. He had been a colonel in the army, and was elected Governor the fall before, November 1864, while with his regiment at the front in Arkansas. He resigned from the army and took his seat as Governor early in January, 1865. He had therefore been in office less than a month when I saw him. He was a very tall spare man, about 30 or 35 years old, and very genial and unassuming. I was much abashed to be introduced to such a high dignitary as a governor. He was easy and winning in his manners, and I liked him from the first.25

While at Topeka, on that occasion, Mr. Morse took me around to the rented rooms where the Justices of the Supreme Court had their offices. We went there primarily

25. Kellogg also wrote elsewhere in his memoirs of his continued admiration for Crawford and of his brief partnership with him in the practice of law in 1875, as well as later associations. The state’s third governor, Crawford was just twenty-nine years old at this first meeting. He was born April 10, 1835, in Lawrence County, Indiana. See Homer E. Socolofsky, Kansas Governors (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1990), 89.
to see Judge L[awrence]. D. Bailey, our member of the Supreme Court, elected from Emporia. He was not in, but Judge Kingman, the chief justice, was, and I was introduced to him. He received us very cordially, and began talking about Kansas and the law and the courts. Judge Kingman was a judge of fine ability, a thoroughly upright and honest man, and his opinions shaped the law for Kansas, like those of John Marshall for the United States. I do not think Kansas ever had a man of greater ability on its Supreme Court bench than Judge Kingman.26

Mr. Eskridge and Mr. Stotler both assured Mr. Morse that if the Normal School could get into actual operation by February 15, the date then agreed upon for the opening of the school, they could get through a small appropriation for salaries. The appropriation actually made was $3,000. The return from Topeka to Emporia was without special incident. Two days were required for the journey. The wind was still from the north, but we were going south. I think the weather must have moderated, because I have no recollection of suffering from the cold on this trip. Emporia was then a town of only 400 people, but it had considerable political prominence in Kansas.

COUNCIL GROVE AND THE KAW INDIANS

By now it was early in February, and the school was to open on the 15th. Mr. Morse took me up to Council Grove to deliver an educational lecture, thinking in that way to make the school known, and perhaps induce students to come. My lecture there was the one on Normal Schools. Then he arranged for me to deliver an educational lecture at Emporia a few days before the 15th. The Methodist Church was crowded at this lecture. The town had turned out, evidently out of curiosity to see and hear the new teacher. The trip to Council Grove for this lecture has remained in my memory with distinctness because of the fact that there for the first time in my life I saw Indians, and found out something about them.

At that time the Kaw or Kanzas tribe of Indians were living on a Reservation set apart for them by the United States Government between Americus and Council Grove. The main traveled road from Emporia to Council Grove passed through this Reservation. The Government Agency buildings were 4 or 5 miles this side of Council Grove, on a hill about a half or three-fourths mile from the road. The reservation was not large, some 10 by 20 miles, and consisted of a fine body of land, well watered by the Neosho River, Wrights Creek, and other water courses. I think Mr. T. S. Huffaker was the Kaw Indian Agent at this time, and I know that Mahlon Stubbs was the Superintendent of the schools maintained for the tribe.27

The Kaw Indians were a peaceably inclined, but a filthy lot of savages, given to begging for food and small pilferings, from the white people. They lived in constant dread of the Cheyennes, a much larger and more warlike tribe who lived farther out on the plains of western Kansas and Nebraska, and were classed as Wild Indians because they had not been reduced to life on a Reservation.28

At an earlier date the Kansas tribe of Indians had roamed the plains having frequent wars with the Cheyennes and Pawnees. But they had been defeated many times by the other Indians, and largely killed off and decimated in numbers, until they had finally reached a

26. Kellogg, writing from memory fifty years after his visit to Topeka, probably did meet with Kingman in late January 1865, but Kingman was not chief justice until two years later. In January 1865 Robert Crozier of Leavenworth was serving as chief justice. Samuel A. Kingman, one of the state supreme court’s original members, served as associate justice from February 1861 to January 1865, and as chief justice from January 1867 to December 1876. He had been defeated in his bid for reelection in November 1864. See “Official Roster of Kansas, 1854–1925,” Kansas Historical Collections, 1923–1925 16 (1925): 665; Wilder, Annals of Kansas, 399.


28. Readers not familiar with the attitudes of white settlers toward Indians in the nineteenth century may find Kellogg’s characterization of the Kaw Indians unduly harsh. But during the decades after the Civil War, Kellogg’s views would have been considered fairly moderate compared with that of most other Kansans. The federal government, at the insistence of the Kansas governor and legislature, would soon force the Kaws to vacate their lands between Council Grove and Emporia and relocate south of Kansas in Indian Territory.
stage wherein they were glad to be under the protection of the Government, and stay on their Reservation, with the exception of an annual hunt to the region of wild buffalo for meat and buffalo skins. The buffalo country began not more than a hundred or a hundred and fifty miles west of Council Grove then.

In passing through the reservation, I noticed a number of small stone dwelling houses of uniform size and pattern, but the windows and doors were missing and no one was living in them. Mr. Morse informed me that these were dwelling houses built by the United States Government at an expense of about a thousand dollars each for the Indian families to live in as an encouragement to them to adopt White Man’s way of living. It was the original intention to build these houses, one for each family, on adjacent quarter sections of land. The experiment, however, proved a failure, and, after building 50 or a hundred of these houses, the whole matter was abandoned. The Indians would not live in the houses, preferring their own tepees. The nearest they came to using the houses was as stables for their ponies. They claimed that the stone houses were damp and cold, and made them sick to live in them, and that they were not good for the Indian ponies for the same reason. The Indians finally got into the habit of taking off the doors and windows and trading them off in Council Grove for hogge meat and tobacco. Hogge meat was their name for bacon or side pork.

A few Indians were seen at a distance, as we drove through the Reservation, but not many. But the next day, I saw a number of them at Council Grove, standing around the stores and trading posts. Each Indian seemed to have a large red blanket, and some of them were otherwise gaudily dressed, especially the squaws in bright colored calico and woolen garments. The largest and finest red blankets seem to have been reserved for the young men, or bucks, as they were called. These Kaw Indians certainly did not belong to the Fenimore Cooper type of noble red men.

Council Grove was then an important outfitting point on the Santa Fe Trail. It was in reality the last civilized trading post for men and teams before entering on the plains, for trains going out to Santa Fe and the southwestern forts, and the first to be reached by incoming trains from the southwest.

There were numerous stores, dance halls, blacksmith shops, livery stables, wagon repair shops, saloons, and the like. Plainsmen, ox drivers, horsemen, and Indians were much in evidence.

My lecture was delivered to a fair sized audience at the school house, and I was introduced to as many people as possible. We stayed over night with a family of a Mr. Wright, who was the miller at Mr. Mather’s mill, and a Congregationalist family well known to Mr. Morse. We were received and entertained with true western hospitality.

Upon our return to Emporia, we visited the Kaw Agency on the hill, but the Indian Agent was absent, and we did not stay long. The return ride to Emporia was without incident.

Nobody at Council Grove or in the vicinity of the Reservation had any fears of the Indians. The Government was trying to civilize them, but without much success. The men were lazy and did not care to work as farmers, although a good quarter section of land was the special reward for any Indian who wanted it, in addition to his share of the lands held in common by the tribe. Later the Kaw Indians were moved to the Indian Territory, and the lands of this Reservation sold by the Government for their benefit, thus creating a fund for the tribe administered by the Government. The Kaws were located on a portion of the large Osage Indian reservation there, about 30 miles southeast of Arkansas City.

The Indian women and girls used to pick wild gooseberries up and down the Neosho, and frequently appeared at Emporia with those berries for sale. The men hunted up and down the Neosho valley and occasionally had skunk and muskrat skins for sale. At one time an Indian brave stalked into the Normal School, stayed a few minutes only, and went out, in apparent disgust at what he saw. No disturbance, nothing but a mild curiosity, was aroused by this visit. These Kaw Indians were sometimes annoying to white settlers on their claims, by entering their houses, without announcement or knocking, and asking for food; and, if there were no men about the house, would frighten the women and children by importunate demands, and would take no refusals. The women finally learned that the easiest way to get rid of the Indians was to give them something.29
The 15th of February 1865, came on Wednesday. The seats and desks for the school room had not come. They were believed to have arrived at Leavenworth, but that was not certain. From Leavenworth they would have to be hauled down here by teams and wagons to be sent to Leavenworth for them.

Mr. Morse, with the help of some of the neighbors, had, on Saturday before, gone to the Congregationalist Church and taken over some of the long settees, which were used in the church in lieu of pews for the congregation, and arranged them in the middle of the school room. The big stove had come and had been set up, and some fire wood procured. A small table had been provided for the teacher’s platform, and an arm chair, painted yellow, had been borrowed from the County Treasurer’s office. There was a second table of larger size procured at my suggestion for a reference table for the big dictionary, which I had, and the Lippincott Gazetteers, which I had ordered and we were to have, with two or three plain kitchen chairs around it, for students to use in consulting the dictionary and other reference books, when we should have them, and which visitors could use as seats. There were no curtains for the windows, but those were provided later. The word had been passed around for the students to bring with them such school books as they had, but not to buy any new ones for the present. The word also was for them each to bring a pencil and some paper to write on.

I walked up to Emporia from Mr. Morse’s the morning of that opening, timing it so that I should get to the school house not later nor earlier than 9 o’clock. Mr. Morse had some errands to do for Mrs. Morse (they were in fact to provide wash water and cut some firewood) and said he would come to town about 10 or 11 o’clock in the forenoon.

I reached the school room at one minute to nine, and found there a small group of students, mostly girls, with Mary Jane Watson and Ellen Plumb among them. I immediately called the school to order by rapping gently on the table with my pocket knife. As soon as they were seated on the long settees and, without any talking or announcement of any kind, I read The Parable of the Sower from the
Bible, and asked them to join me in reciting the Lord’s Prayer. And so the school was opened. There were 18 of the students. There was no examination as to their qualifications to become students. It was assumed that they were all qualified and were there to be admitted to the school. There were no visitors and that was all there was to the opening of the State Normal school of Kansas.

After the devotional exercises, I said that all would be considered as one arithmetic class. And that I would write on the blackboard the lesson for tomorrow. This I proceeded to do, with a good chalk crayon and making good use of my writing teacher skill, and asked them to write it down with their pencil and paper while I was putting it on the board. The lesson consisted of about 20 questions in notation, numeration, addition, and fractions, with problems in each, some easy and some that I knew they would know nothing about, and probably could not find anything about in any of the arithmetics they might have. I noticed that my good writing made an impression. It was smooth, and even, and perfectly plain, and the lines on the blackboard were evenly spaced and exactly horizontal, neither leading up or down from a straight line. At least it was my intention to have them so and tried my best to do it in that way. Of course I wrote faster than they could because I knew what was coming, and they did not, and I was accustomed to writing lessons on blackboards.

When the arithmetic lesson matter was through, I said, We will now consider ourselves a Geography class. I then began to talk to them about South America, asking all that had brought geographies to turn to the map of South America, and follow me while I told them about the country. There were only five or six geographies with maps in the room, so I said I would try to draw a map of South America on the blackboard to talk from. This I did before the class in a hasty and imperfect way, but to their wonderment and apparent admiration. Of course, I had done this sort of thing before, and could do it moderately well, again thanks to my writing school practice and map drawing at the Illinois Normal.

I told them the Geography lesson for tomorrow would be to bring in on paper a crude outline map of South America drawn with pencil and paper, and to remember as much as possible of what I should tell them today about South America and answer questions about it. I then proceeded to give them a chalk talk lecture on South America, but was careful never to mention it as a lecture. I told them

of the most interesting things, and was gratified to feel that I was holding their attention. When through with this it was noon.

In the afternoon, I had each one write a paragraph or so out of any book they had, and write on the blackboard a little reading lesson for use the next day, because no two of them had the same reader, and many had no reader. There was something in spelling, and writing, and so the day was occupied. And they had plenty to do to get ready for the next day. But these recollections may well be spared the rest of the term’s work. Suffice it, that new students kept dropping in until there were 43 in all. All were kept busy and there was no trouble about the discipline in the school.33

The big dictionary on the reference table was supplemented by three or four large Gazetteers about equal to it in size. The dictionary was an elegant affair, bound in Russia leather, with my name on it in gilt letters, which had been presented to me by the publishers, G. & C. Merriam of Springfield, Mass., before I left Bloomington, after it became known that I was coming to Kansas. Before the end of the term two additional Websters dictionaries were bought for the school. The presentation copy was mine. It was kept in the family until within the last 10 or 15 years, when I presented it to the school, in memory of that first term, at a Founders Day exercise in Albert Taylor Hall.34

During that first term, the school resolved itself into a Lyon County Teachers Institute, under my direction, for nearly a week, and all teachers in the county were invited to come. Many of them did, and the Institute appeared to be a success. At the end of the term, a two days public examination of the classes was held and Judge [David J.] Brewer of Leavenworth came overland by stage and delivered a notable Anniversary Address, as called, on The New Profession, of teaching of course. In the weekly issue of The Emporia News of July 10, 1865, now in the City Library, is contained a full copy of Judge Brewer’s address and a full account of the public examination and closing exercises of the term written for the paper by Mr. Morse.35

For the first few weeks of that term, I lived at Mr. and Mrs. Morse’s on their claim and walked to and from their house to the school each day, distance 2, or 5 miles walk daily. I did not mind the walking, except in stormy weather and muddy roads. After that, I boarded in town for the remainder of the term, at Jacob Stotler’s in the house on the northeast corner of 7th and Merchant Street, which later became the property of S. B. Riggs, and was made over by him into the tower house, which you all remember as the Riggs home on that corner.

The second term, beginning in September, 1865, saw the Normal School with two teachers instead of one, and more students. Henry B. Norton, after whom Norton Science Hall at the school was named, was the new teacher. When Henry B. Norton came out to Kansas to work with me as Associate Principal of the Normal School in the fall of 1865, he was a married man with a wife and babe. He had married Marion Goodrich, one of the Illinois Normal School girls at Bloomington. That first fall and winter he lived in a small rented house at the southeast corner of 7th Ave. and Mechanic St.; and I boarded and roomed with him and Mrs. Norton.36

At the close of the School year in June 1866, I went back to Illinois for a summer vacation, and read a paper before the Normal School Department of the National Educational Association on Normal Education in the West. While I was away on this summer vacation in 1866 Mr. 

33. Mrs. George Plumb (Ellen M. Cowles), one of the students on the first day, later said that the school room had “windows, through which the Kansas sunshine poured in blinding quantities, so that even the strongest eyes quailed before it, forcing us to adjourn until we could make, and hang some curtains. Blue Holland they were, made by the girls, hung by the boys, and superintended by the principal himself.” She continued, “A few of us only had met the new principal, and somehow we felt that he was not equal to the situation. How deceiving appearances are sometimes! How lonely we must have looked scattered around that room in groups of twos or threes, and how oddly both we and our surroundings must have seemed to the young man in front of us, just fresh from cultured Bloomington. I wonder now that he did not get disgusted and leave.” See “The Original Eighteen,” in A History of the State Normal School of Kansas for the First Twenty-Five Years, 92.

34. The dictionary is presently in Emporia State University Archives.


36. Norton was born February 22, 1836, in Orleans County, New York, and died June 29, 1885, near San Jose, California. A biography by Mary Norton and tributes by others are contained in Memorials: Henry Brace Norton (San Jose, Calif.: 1885); Lyman B. Kellogg, “The Founding of the State Normal School,” Kansas Historical Collections, 1911–1912 12 (1919): 93.
Norton was busy getting logs from a quarter section of land on the Neosho, being the next quarter section east of our old farm on the Neosho, and having them sawed up into lumber to build a dwelling house for both of us. The outside boards were from Cottonwood trees. The beams and rafters and frame work were sawed out of black walnut trees, and were good. We bought a couple of lots on Market Street between 9th and 10th Avenues and shared the expenses between us equally of building the house. In his haste, Mr. Norton put up the house of green lumber, the cottonwood boards standing upright with heavy cleats nailed on to cover the shakes between the boards where they joined together. It is a peculiarity of cottonwood lumber that it warps badly as it dries out. When I got back in September for the fall term, the house was practically finished and Mr. Norton and his family living in it. The outside of the house was a sight to behold. During the hot summer the cottonwood boards had warped out of shape, and some had sprung loose at the top, others at the bottom, drawing the nails and the cleats had pulled loose. Some of the boards had warped in and some warped out. All in all, the house was the laughing stock of the town. We remedied the matter by pulling off the boards entirely and siding up the house on the outside with pine siding lumber freighted in from Leavenworth in lumber wagons. The lots we had bought for the house and the house itself, were ultimately sold to Mrs. Storrs and Capt. Heritage, and the house enlarged and transformed became the Storrs residence. Capt. Heritage built for himself a neat residence on the north lot, adjoining that of Mrs. Storrs, and lived there, taking his meals at Mrs. Storrs' until his death in 1913.

The most important thing that happened to me, while a teacher in the Normal School was my marriage to Abbie G. Homer, of Massachusetts, and the birth to us of Vernon Lyman Kellogg, and Fred Homer Kellogg, my two oldest sons. Miss Abbie Homer was the daughter of Solomon Homer by his first wife who died when Abbie was a child. Her father married again, and had another daughter, Mary Homer, who is now living, unmarried, at Monson, Massachusetts. Solomon Homer has been dead many years. His daughter, Abbie, had been a student, but not a graduate, of the Westfield, Massachusetts, Normal School, and had taught successfully in the home district of Henry B. Norton at Stillman Valley, Illinois. In the early fall of 1866 she came to Kansas, as a teacher, upon the recommendation of Henry Norton and Judge L. D. Bailey, then a Supreme court Judge, at Topeka, Kansas, who had been acquainted with her family in Massachusetts. She was teaching at the Rinker Ford School House, and boarding at the home of David and Mrs. Plumb, father and mother of Senator P. B. Plumb, who lived in that school district, three or four miles northeast of Emporia, when I first became acquainted with her. We were married December 19, 1866, by Rev. G. C. Morse, a public wedding at the Methodist Church.

My connection with the school as principal was from February 15, 1865, to the close of the school year in June 1871. There were then about 150 students and five teachers. At the close of the school year ending June, 1871, I re-

37. As noted on page 263, Elizabeth Storrs (1831–1919) had hosted Kellogg on the evening of his arrival at the Emporia House. Her home at 913 Market Street, built by Norton, still remains, as does the home of Captain Lemuel T. Heritage (1838–1913) next door at 917 Market. Heritage, captain of Company C of the Eleventh Kansas Cavalry, was badly wounded at the Battle of Prairie Grove. A prominent early banker, he never married and was found dying of a stroke after not arriving next door at breakfast time. See "Lemuel T. Heritage Dead," *Emporia Gazette*, January 24, 1913; "Elizabeth Storrs," *Emporia Gazette*, May 15–19, 1965.

38. Vernon Kellogg (1867–1937) attended the College of Emporia, Kansas University, and Cornell University, and he became a noted entomologist at Stanford University. He married Charlotte Hoffman, and they had one daughter, Jean. He was a strong proponent of scientists applying their knowledge to public issues and was highly decorated by European governments for his war relief efforts under Herbert Hoover during World War I. For an in-depth study of his scientific and public career, and a list of his more than three hundred publications, see Mark Aaron Largent, "These Are Times of Scientific Ideals: Vernon Lyman Kellogg and Scientific Activism, 1890–1930" (Ph.D. diss., University of Minnesota, 2000); Largent, "Bionomics: Vernon Lyman Kellogg and the Defense of Darwinism," *Journal of the History of Biology* 32 (Fall 1999): 465–88; see also William Allen White, "Kellogg, Great Scientist: Could Have Succeeded in Other Fields," *Graduate Magazine*, University of Kansas 56 (November 1937): 8–9; "Obituary," *Emporia Gazette*, August 9, 1937. Fred Homer Kellogg (1869–1957), a graduate of the University of Kansas, read law in his parents' law office and briefly practiced law with them, was an attorney in Oklahoma, and, for the last forty-seven years of his life, in Santa Rosa, California. He married Harriet McCague, and they had a son, Fred, and a daughter, Dorothy. See Kellogg, "Recollections," ch. 9; "Obituary," *Santa Rosa Press Democrat*, March 25, 1957.

39. Enrollment figures were based on the calendar year rather than the academic year. In December 1870 the enrollment was 243, which included 10 preparatory students and 53 model school students. Enrollments continued to rise, except during the late 1870s, an age of economic hardship and, for two years, no state appropriations. By 1918, the year of Kellogg's death, enrollments exceeded two thousand, and Kansas State Normal had become one of the largest normal schools in the nation. See *State Normal School, Official Reports, 1870* (Topeka: Public Printer, 1870); *State Normal School, Twenty-first Biennial Report, 1918* (Topeka: Kansas State Printing Plant, 1919), 3.
signed from the Principalship of the Normal School, and quit teaching, never to resume it again. By reason of my connection with the new town of Arkansas City and the ill health of my wife, I determined early in the year to resign in June and go to Arkansas City to live, and contemplated a change of work from teaching to the practice of law.40 I established a relation with the law office of Ruggles & Plumb, to read law and be a student of their law office in Emporia. What I actually did was to have them tell me what to read and to lend me the law books for the purpose, which I took home and read there during my last year of teaching, renewing the books from time to time and getting others from the law office, thus reading and studying under their direction and guidance for the one year of attendance in a law office required for admission to the bar, under the laws of that day.

It was during the winter and spring of 1873 that Abbie’s health so far declined that both she and I became alarmed about it, and resolved to go to Colorado, hoping for its improvement. In 1871, from June to September, we had spent in Colorado, and she had derived much benefit therefrom. In April, 1873, I took her out there again. Her disease was a weakness of the lungs, and malarial fever. We went first to Denver, and then to Golden, 15 or 20 miles west of Denver, at the foot hills, but not up in the mountains, fearing that the elevation there might be too great for her at the first. After living at Golden about a month she died, and was buried in the cemetery there.

My law practice at Arkansas City gradually increased, but it was not the county seat, and I did not care to go to Winfield to live and practice law. So, having an opportunity to exchange my town lots in Arkansas City for the brick house and lots at the corner of Mechanic Street and Eighth Avenue, in Emporia, I returned to Emporia in April, 1875, and have ever since lived here. My return to Emporia in 1875 to live was prompted by a desire to be at a county seat for law practice and where there was a good bar. Emporia at that time and for a number of years thereafter, had an exceptionally able bar.

I now wish to place on record the fact that the most important thing that occurred to me after changing from teaching to the law, was my acquaintance with and marriage to Mrs. Jennie Mitchell Arthur, and the birth to us of Charles, Mary, and Joseph Kellogg, my three youngest

40. Arkansas City (earlier called Delphi and then Creswell) was founded in 1870 by a town company that included Kellogg and Norton and their relatives, as well as Preston B. Plumb, C. V. Eskridge, Jacob Stotler, and other Emporians. See Richard Kay Wortman and Mary Ann Wortman, Cowley County Kansas: Volume I—The Beginning (Arkansas City, Kans.: Arkansas City Historical Society, 1996), 22; Wortman, Wortman, and William W. Bottorff, ibid., Volume 2, The Indians, 18–19.
Jennie had been married to a Mr. Arthur, the son of a banker in Pennsylvania, and he had died before she and I met each other and became acquainted. So it was a second marriage for both of us, and a long and happy one.

We were married June 11, 1878, and lived together in mutual harmony, respect, and love, until her death May 9, 1911.

Jennie was the oldest daughter of D. P. Mitchell and his wife, Eliza Ann Mitchell, and thus was a member of a most remarkable family among pioneer Kansans. D. P. Mitchell was a Methodist minister. He came to Kansas in 1863 from the Pittsburgh Pennsylvania conference, to become the pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Leavenworth. He served in the pastorate of that church with marked success for two years and then was made Presiding Elder of the Leavenworth District. After he served as Presiding Elder of the Topeka District and the Fort Scott District, and was transferred to the Emporia District in 1876 as its Presiding Elder. Jennie was his oldest daughter, and inherited from him a strong capable mind, with rare reasoning powers and a gift of remarkable language, together with a gentle and unselfish disposition.

My wife, Jennie, after our marriage, studied law, and was admitted to practice by the Supreme court of Kansas, and after serving as a partner in my private law practice at Emporia, under the firm name of L. B. & J. M. Kellogg, also served as Assistant Attorney General of Kansas when I held the office of Attorney General. She was President of the Memorial Student Union built shortly after World War I. See John J. Zimmerman, "They Counted Not the Cost": A History of the Memorial Student Union Corporation, 1919–1929 (Emporia, Kans.: Emporia State Press, 1982).

41. Charles Mitchell Kellogg (1879–1941) attended the University of Kansas, briefly practiced law with his parents in Emporia, and later in Santa Rosa, California, where he died. He married Bird Weyler of Emporia, and they had one son, Lyman Beecher Kellogg, a journalist. See “Obituary,” Emporia Gazette, January 8, 1942. Mary Virginia Kellogg (1883–1936), a graduate of the University of Kansas, was employed at Kansas State Normal and the University of Minnesota. She marriedVolney M. Tanner of Emporia and died at her home in Laguna Beach, California, in 1936. See “Obituary,” Emporia Gazette, May 23, 1936. Joseph Mitchell Kellogg (1885–1963), an artist and architect, was a graduate of Cornell University, and for thirty-five years, until his retirement in 1956, was a member of the University of Kansas department of architecture. See Gilson clipping file, Lyon County Historical Society. He was the architect of the Memorial Student Union built shortly after World War I. See John J. Zimmerman, "They Counted Not the Cost": A History of the Memorial Student Union Corporation, 1919–1929 (Emporia, Kans.: Emporia State Press, 1982).

42. Jennie Mitchell Kellogg was admitted to the Lyon County bar on December 6, 1880, and to the state bar on February 3, 1881. According to the Kansas Sentinel (Emporia), December 8, 1880, “She is the first woman to become a lawyer in Kansas.” The Emporia Journal editor wrote “Mrs. J.
the original Social Science Club of the Women of Kansas, and later was President of the State Federation of Women’s Clubs of Kansas, and of the Equal Suffrage Club of Women. She was also active in every good work for the benefit of the community. She was an excellent housekeeper and looked after her children with unfailing zeal and efficiency.

Later, and within a comparatively recent time, I served for two consecutive terms of four years each, as a member of the Board of Regents of this Normal School, and its two associate Normals at Hays and Pittsburg. This period covered the last two years of Albert R. Taylor’s presidency of the school, all of J. N. Wilkinson’s presidency, and the first two years of Joseph Hill’s work as President, and witnessed the establishment of the schools at Hays and Pittsburg, with the first few years of their work. It was during this period that the following buildings were erected and acquired: The Norton Science building, the Training School building, the Library, the Gymnasium, and the Eskridge residence.

But before leaving the Normal School matters, let me mention that I am to deliver the commencement address this year, 1915. The Normal Bulletin of April 27th 1915 gives me the following friendly announcement:

KELLOGG TO SPEAK

Judge Kellogg, the first president of the Kansas State Normal, will give the commencement address in Albert Taylor Hall, Wednesday afternoon, June 2, 1915.

Fifty years ago, it is since L.B. Kellogg found himself principal and only instructor of an embryo normal school on the prairies of central Kansas. He had not planned to make his life work that of a teacher, but had graduated from the Illinois Normal University in 1864 and was preparing to enter the law department of Harvard, when fate, in the form of a position, attracted him to Kansas.

Judge Kellogg immediately began to work, and such his zeal and trust, that before his resignation at the end of six years the institution had a national reputation.

After his resignation he was elected a representative in the legislature of 1876, and on the expiration of his term was immediately elected probate judge of Lyon county, serving three terms. Before his last term had expired he was elected state senator, and in 1888 he was elected attorney general.

The institution has been quite as deeply indebted to Mr. Kellogg in its later history as its early, for it was through his influence in the senate that the legislature made several of the appropriations for the Normal.

There are very few institutions that are so fortunate as to have their presidents of fifty years ago present to help celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the school.

The address was duly delivered on commencement day, and a copy of it furnished to the Normal School upon its request, to be preserved among the records of the institution.

EPILOGUE

Lyman B. Kellogg last appeared at an observance of Founders Day in February 1918, during World War I, with Governor Arthur Capper. According to the State Normal Bulletin, the exercises opened with the singing of “The Star Spangled Banner” and “God Save Our Splendid Men.” Mr. Kellogg read a portion of the thirteenth chapter of Matthew, which he read on the opening day of school fifty-three years ago.44

Lyman Beecher Kellogg, born September 18, 1841, in Lorain County Ohio, died at his home in Emporia on Tuesday evening, October 8, 1918.

Founders Day is still celebrated each February 15 at Emporia State University.

43. A new library, completed in 1903, was named Kellogg Library in June 1907 by the board of regents in honor of the first president of Kansas State Normal and “its untiring friend through all the years of its history.” See Kansas State Normal School, Catalogue, July 1907 (Topeka: State Printing Office, 1907), 15. The building, which had become too small in an age of larger enrollments, was demolished in 1951.