Bypaths of Kansas History

MUSIC TO SOOTHE THE SAVAGE BREAST—

From the Fort Scott Democrat, March 15, 1860.

A number of Osage Indians have been camping near town for a week back. They have furs, buffalo robes, ponies, and one old red-skin had a squaw, he was desirous of “swapping” for “wabusea,” (flour). They have sticky fingers, and are singularly oblivious to the rights of property—when the owner’s back is turned. The other evening, while the String Band was playing on the portico of the Western Hotel, several of the dusky sons of the plain, gathered round them, and commenced a war dance, accompanying the same with a series of the most discordant yells, that a white man ever listened to.

A POLITICAL CASUALTY

The following letter, written on the stationery of the sheriff of Cowley county, is among Gov. L. U. Humphrey’s papers in the Archives division of the Kansas State Historical Society.

WINFIELD, KAS., OCT. 21 1892.

DEAR SIR: Mr. Humphrey, i appeal to you because you have the power to Do so! i am a colord man and have Ben Doing all in my power to help thers Republicans at there meetings Singing i am the Colord man peck miller whom Mr. Beakman intruced you to at Glad stone hotell now i will tell you all about it, the Democrats ar made at me and said thay would put me wher i could not sing so thay Did it in this way, on the 9 Day of September i was standing in a joint or saloon and the Boss step out and tolled me to watch it a momet so i did it for frendship while he was out a man cam in and Bought a botel of Beer of me and i was convicted and Centence to jail and i cant get out untill the 28 of November now i have got a good deal of influence over a good meny colord voters and i would like to be out on Eliciton Day if its lies in you power to Do So wich i think it Dos all so Mr Humphry i have a wife sickely and a small babie 18 months old and no one to look after them if you please sir do this one thing for a man that has sang through the campain ever since Haze and Wheeler run in 76 that was my first year for singing and i have neve missed one yet and i would like to never miss one as long as i live i Have sang for goo men all my life through Illinois Indina Kansas such menn as joe Cannon of Danville Dick abesly govnor canal sellar as senater and lots i dont no i would like ver much for you to pardon me if you please

A. Black Republican
of Arkansas City Leader of Quartet

PECK MILLER