Bypaths of Kansas History

To Your Dictionaries!

From the Western Kansas Express, Manhattan, July 6, 1861.

Found, on the third inst., in the City Hall over our office, a ladies silk reticule with green ribbon strings, which the owner can have by calling at our office and kissing the Editor and Printers.

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Lo, the Brave Indians

From the Junction City Weekly Union, May 16, 1868.

A few days after the recent attack by Indians on the construction train [in present Gove county] west of Coyote, our Railroad friends tell us that the Indians attempted to capture the locomotive alive. They took a large quantity of telegraph wire, and doubling it several times, stretched it across the track, an Indian or two holding each end. They didn’t want to shoot the thing lest they might injure it, and hence this strategy. Of course the locomotive, under full head of steam, was captured in this way. The noble red man is an imitative cuss—if he wasn’t he wouldn’t be as mean as he is. They can now enjoy their special train about the country, meeting peace commissioners, and sling on as much style as a one-horse lieutenant of militia. About two days after they burned the cars, we understand an officer at Hays telegraphed the Superintendent to send him a locomotive and a special car, that he might go out and see what the Indians had done. Considering the number of horses and ambulances Uncle Sam furnishes, this may be considered a superb specimen of cheek.

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Freedom of the Press

From The Nationalist, Manhattan, October 25, 1872.

Theatrical Troupe.—Mrs. Millie Willard, “a star actress,” tore Lucretia Borgia to tatters at Bluemont Hall, last Friday evening. The next night she “went for Leah,” in some other play. She has voice enough for a whole troupe. Five minutes sufficiently filled the editorial ear.

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Freedom of the Bar

From the Ellis County Star, Hays City, June 22, 1876.

The following scene in a Dodge court room, as described by the Times, in which our boys figure conspicuously, we consider too rich to withhold from our readers.

“State vs. Charley Beezer, shooting with intent to kill N. R. Gilbert, prosecuting witness; W. N. Morphy and E. F. Colborn, attorneys for defendant. Prosecuting witness failed to appear, and defendant was released, on payment of costs. In discussing the case Mr. Colborn made a remark reflecting upon

(324)
the dignity of the Court, which His Honor rebuked by leaning over the bench and remarking with great severity of manner: "I will permit no puppy to run this Court!" The attorney retorted by vaguely alluding to His Honor as being himself a relative of a certain variety of canine. The Judge, with his characteristic dignity, ruled that his position as Justice of the Peace in Ford county entitled him to the common courtesy due from one gentleman to another. Mr. Colborn inquired if common courtesy permitted a Judge on the bench to call an attorney a pup. His Honor explained that he did not refer to him in particular, but to all puppies in general. Mr. C then stated that he was an authorized attorney, and appeared before the Court in behalf of his client. The Court suggested that he would do well to go back to his old business. The lawyer inquired what his old business was. His Honor commenced to state that he had grave suspicions that he was an ex-bull-whacker, when Mrs. McIntosh, the Squire's estimable lady, who did not seem to take a proper pride in the able and masterly manner in which the Judge was getting away with the young attorney, peremptorily ordered him to "shut up!" In the temporary lull that followed Mr. C fervently thanked God that there was another Justice of the Peace in the county who would give a lawyer the same rights accorded a "yaller dog" in Court. The Court very appropriately remarked: "You and your d——d Justice may go to h——l for all I care. I don't want the d——d office!"

"At this juncture County Attorney Sell and W. N. Morphy interfered, and the argument closed."

AN EDITOR MUST LIVE

From The Times, Clay Center, November 7, 1889.

If there are any who desire to take the Clipper have not the money to pay we will send the paper one year for four bushels of potatoes, or twenty-four head of cabbage, or one bushel of sweet potatoes, or fourteen pounds of fresh pork, or eight chickens, or five bushels of corn, or six bushels of oats, or three bushels of onions, or two bushels of apples, or ten pounds of butter, or eight dozen eggs.—Haddam Clipper.

The editor of the Minneapolis Messenger—$2 per year in advance—authorizes us to make the following additions: One cord moist elm wood; two pairs of jeans pants, not much worn; six straw hats, for May delivery; one overcoat, sleeves intact, tails bifurcated; six dozen good eggs; two undershirts, heavy, immediate delivery, any color, red preferred (if red, well read); three pairs one-legged drawers, or two pairs two-legged drawers, men's; six pairs winter socks, delivered in installments, one pair the first of each month; one extension-ribbed umbrella, delivered each time it rains; two snow-shoes, one male and one female.