

## Bypaths of Kansas History

### A SCARCITY OF FRONT GATES

From *The Sumner County Press*, Wellington, April 23, 1874.

Marriages have been so infrequent in Sumner county since its settlement, as to lead to the discussion of the cause of a state of affairs so deplorable, by parties deeply interested in the future welfare of our beautiful country. We have heard the subject discussed, but never have heard any satisfactory reason given, until a few days since we overheard a young lady—recently from one of the eastern states—suggest, that it was attributable to the great scarcity of *front gates!*

---

### THE CALL OF THE WILD

From the *Newton Kansan*, November 5, 1874.

One day last week as the mail train west of Dodge City was coming east, a herd of buffalo made their appearance near the track, which so raised the nerves of our route agent friend J. C. Jones (of Osborne county) that he, gun in hand jumped off the train and started across the prairie after them, leaving his mail car wide open. The train continued on its way, and he was left behind and picked up by the western bound train.

---

### AN EYE FOR BUSINESS

From the *Garden City Paper*, June 19, 1879.

A minister not living over a hundred miles from here and also keeps a store, who had just commenced his sermon, last Sunday when he spied some emigrant wagons coming up the road, and that one of them had stopped in front of his store, he immediately stopped in his discourse, blew his nose, coughed, walked down the aisle and whispered to his son: "Go out and sell those emigrants some goods, as it is necessary." He then walked back to the pulpit, winked with his off eye, and finished his sermon.

---

### DEER IN WESTERN KANSAS

From the *Wallace County Register*, Wallace, December 11, 1886.

Mr. Spencer who has a claim in Sherman county is a successful "Nimrod." He has been stopping with Andy Phillips for a few weeks. Last week he took his fine old buffalo gun and crossed the Smoky to the south, where among the ravines he discovered a herd of blacktailed deer. He came home late in the evening very tired and reported that he had killed one doe, and brought the liver along as evidence. Taking a wagon next morning he went out for his game and returned about noon with four fine specimens, two does and two fawns. Ye editor is ready to testify as to how nice they were.