

## 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 "wabusca," (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.

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### 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 apeal 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 thes Republicans at there meatings 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 tolld 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 influince over a good meny colord voters and i would like to be out on Elicton Day if its lyes 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 Whealer run in 76 that was my first year for singing and i have neve mised 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 canel 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 Quarttet  
PECK MILLER