

Bypaths of Kansas History

CHRISTMAS AMONG THE OTOES

From the *Marysville Enterprise*, December 28, 1867.

An Otoe came in town last Tuesday and bought a louse trap for his squaw as a Christmas present, and the squaw negotiated with some one for a dog, to give her better half a Christmas dinner. They departed smiling and happy.

THE PASSING OF THE BUFFALO

From the *Newton Kansan*, January 9, 1873.

BUFFALOISMS.—From reports made by persons who have visited and those who have engaged in the slaughter of buffaloes on the line of the railroad west of here, we learn that the preserving and shipping of their hams is now nearly as extensive a business as that of caring for the hides, and that the town of Dodge City, containing some five hundred inhabitants, is supported almost entirely by this trade. For the purpose of curing buffalo hams and preparing them for shipment east, several houses have been erected and are now in successful running operation in that place. The tongues are also treated in proper manner for the trade, and one of the recent Acceptance Party to the State line informed us that he saw at one station two thousand of them in one pile awaiting shipment to Dodge City.

One of the curiosities and surely an "odd sheep" of the flock of these black animals, was a white colored buffalo cow which was recently brought in, and whose hide was on exhibition in Dodge City a few days ago. Men who consider themselves sufficiently well acquainted with these wild monsters and a few naturalists, declare it to be a cross between the buffalo and Texan native cattle, and that nature will not cut up such freaks with the full blood buffalo as to give them a coat of white. But such however is the state of things at last report from the animal itself. As to the number of buffalo still at large, they are undoubtedly becoming more scarce and the supply must soon have an end, and we doubt not every butcher shop in Kansas will welcome the day of its cessation, as many people are now relying altogether upon the buffalo for their meat.

HOT RODDERS OF 1875

From the *Holton Express*, March 26, 1875.

An interesting trial was recently had before Justice Lowell, of this city. It appears that a couple of citizens of this county, in a merry mood of recklessness, got to racing on their way home from town and accidentally collided, damaging one of the wagons. Forthwith the owner of the broken wagon sued the other for damages, and after securing the service of lawyers, empanelling a jury and a two days trial, succeeded in getting a judgment for *twenty-five cents*. It pays to go to law.