OVERLAND DESPATCH

SMOKY HILL TRAIL ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY

VOL. III NO. 4 REMEMBER THE SMOKY HILL TRAIL

December 2010



DELAYED ISSUE

THIS issue was delayed by schedule conflicts of the publisher. With everyone's help, the March issue should be out on schedule. Thanks for your patience.

LIMON CONFERENCE

THE 4th Smoky Hill Trail Conference in Limon, CO, October 15-17, was an outstanding success, with informative speakers, guided tours, and good food and fellowship. Special thanks to the great hosts in Limon.



Conference speakers Wes Brown, Katherine Sturdevant, and Lee Whiteley were funded by a grant from Colorado Humanities. Photos courtesy of Lem Marsh.



Jere DeBacker (descendant of David Butterfield), outgoing President Mike Olsen, Membership Chair and Silent Auction Coordinator Kay Homewood, and new President Mike Baughn examine a trail map.

FICTION OF THE SMOKY HILL TRAIL

by Michael L. Olsen

[This is the last article in the series "Literature of the Smoky Hill Trail." Topics in this series have included "Guidebooks for the 1859 Rush to the Rockies" (Overland Despatch, September 2009), "Journals, Diaries, Reports, Tours, and Letters From The Nineteenth Century" (December 2009), "Government Reports - Expeditions and Military Items" (March 2010), "Railroads and Railroad Building" (June 2010), and "Photography, Art, and Poetry" (September 2010). Special thanks to Mike Olsen for preparing this series.]

FICTION, whether through a novel, a short story, a play, TV show, or a movie, is one method of conveying history, particularly cultural history. The list in this instance for the Smoky Hill Trail is disappointingly short, totaling only six novels with a Trail setting, and one short story. There are more if the scope of Trail history is broadly defined, say from Zebulon Pike in 1806 to the completion of the railroad to Denver in 1870. However, this wider framework encompasses the whole sweep of Kansas history from the American Indians to the agricultural settlement of the Smoky Hill Valley, to the present day, and would include thousands of items. Consequently, the following discussion is limited to those few items directly dealing with the Smoky Hill.

Mark Falcon's *Smoky Hill Trail* is aptly named. It was part of a series called "Black Horse Westerns." There are two other such collections that feature the Smoky Hill - *Smoky Hell Trail* in "The Trailsman" series, and *The Smoky Hill*, a "Rivers West" book. A fourth western, and maybe the best of the lot, is Jack Curtis's *The Jury on Smoky Hill*. In this one, only one man is left standing at the end.

The most interesting novel of the Smoky Hill has to be Tim Bowling's *The Bone Sharps*. This is a fictionalized account of the life and career of Charles Hazelius Sternberg - the Sternberg of the Sternberg Museum. "Bone sharp," as it turns out, is an idiomatic term for a paleontologist. This story shifts from Sternberg's youth and the opening of his career in Kansas in the 1870s to his field work in Alberta, Canada, c. 1916, to the battlefields of the First World War. Here is Bowling's description of Sternberg's first official foray into the field in 1876, at the behest of the famous American paleontologist Edward Drinker Cope:

(continued on page 4)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

OLE Jack Frost arrived with a vengeance on the plains and foothills in Smoky Hill Trail country. Not much snow to date but plenty of cold. I trust everyone had a blessed Christmas and wish all of you the best for 2011!

The weather cooperated beautifully for our 4th Smoky Hill Trail Conference at Limon, CO, October 15-17, 2010. Tremendous Colorado hospitality, excellent presenters, and the Cowboy's (aka Jim Gray) outstanding tours to trail sites east and west of Limon made our first Colorado conference venue well worth attending. Thanks to immediate past-president Mike Olsen, the SmHTA Board, Vivian Lowe and the staff at the Limon Heritage Center, the wonderful facilities and staff of the East Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) in Limon, and the delectable food service for arranging, hosting, and accommodating the conference.

Mark your calendars for October 14-16, 2011, when our 5th Smoky Hill Trail Conference will be held in Oakley, Kansas. The planning committee is working to include travel on an extensive portion of the trail as part of one of the tours. There is even a rumor that Buffalo Bill might drop by for a Friday evening meal. Be looking for upcoming announcements concerning the conference.

I was saddened to hear of the loss of my friend Wayne C. Lee in early December 2010. Wayne was co-author of *Trails of the Smoky Hill* and a learned Western historian. I first met Wayne and his dear wife, Pearl, many years ago and enjoyed working through the years with him on various history projects. Another dear friend and coworker on the preservation of Smoky Hill Trail country history, Dorothy Janke, passed this year.

My interest in history, especially that of the Smoky Hill Trail country, has been lifelong. I am fortunate to have grown up with personages and events connected with the Smoky Hill Trail and Butterfield's Overland Despatch. As a young boy we lived for a time on what was then known as the Brigg's Ranch, now the ranch owned by the Nature Conservancy in Logan County, Kansas. The trail ran through the property and Smoky Hill Springs Station was just west of the ranch headquarters. My maternal grandparents lived on Twelve-Mile Gulch just north of where we lived.

Six miles west of Twelve-Mile Gulch was Six-Mile Gulch, the first identified location of the September 11, 1874, John German Family Massacre. There, in 1957, I was fortunate to have met Julia German, the second youngest of the four German girls taken captive by Medicine Water and Buffalo Calf's Cheyenne band after the rest of their family had been killed. What a thrill for a young boy to meet a person who had been held captive by the Indians!

In 1966 I was hired as the first curator of the Butterfield Trail Museum in Russell Springs, Kansas, and held that position for several summers. There I met Jere DeBacker (now a SmHTA member), direct descendant of David A. Butterfield. Eaton's Station was located there and the trail ran right through the museum yard.

I was the youngest of the "Smoky Hill bunch," and was privileged to be the protégé of many local historian mentors, including Marjorie Wright, Dorothy Janke, Wayne Lee, Senator Art Carmody, E. S. Sutton, E. M. Beougher, Frank Madigan, Leslie Linville, Clyde Blackburn, Jerald and Betty Wolfe, Col. Ray Sparks, Dave Grusing, Fred and Wilma Wallsmith, Charlie Norton, L. G. DeLay, Ruth Jackson, and a host of others well versed in Western

OVERLAND DESPATCH is the official publication of the Smoky Hill Trail Association, Inc., a nonprofit, 501(c)(3), corporation chartered in the State of Kansas. Primary missions of the Association are to preserve, protect, promote, and interpret the Smoky Hill Trail for the benefit of present and future generations, and to promote awareness of the historical legacy associated with remnants and locations that represent the historic trail and Butterfield's Overland Despatch (BOD) and its successors as well as the railroad that replaced the overland trail. Letters and articles are welcome, and they become the property of SmHTA and may be edited or abridged at the editor's discretion. All rights reserved. Membership in the Association is open to all individuals, families, institutions, and businesses. Annual dues are \$25.00 for individuals. \$30.00 for families. \$40.00 for nonprofit organizations, \$50.00 for busi-

dues are \$25.00 for individuals, \$30.00 for families, \$40.00 for nonprofit organizations, \$50.00 for businesses, and \$100.00 for patrons. Life membership, individual or family, is \$500.00. Membership fees should be sent to Smoky Hill Trail Association, PO Box 322, WaKeeney KS 67672. Annual memberships are for the calendar year and expire on December 31. Other donations are always welcome.

Editor: Ann E. Liston, 1301 MacArthur Rd, Hays KS 67601, 785-628-8323, <aliston@fhsu.edu>

Secretary: Jody Zeman, 714 Easter Ave, Wakeeney KS 67672, 785-259-0725, <jodyzeman@ruraltel.net>

Treasurer: Sam Chestnut, PO Box 313, Quinter KS 67752, <schest@ruraltel.net>

Directors:

Jim Gray, PO Box 62, Ellsworth KS 67439, 785-472-4703 kansascowboy@kans.com

Ann E. Liston (see under editor above)

Lem Marsh, PO Box 263, Grinnell KS 67738, 785-824-3957, <smht1865drifter@st-tel.net>

Joanne VanCoevern, 4773 N Wasserman Way, Salina KS 67401, 785-825-8349, <jvancoevern@juno.com>
Lee Whiteley, 6077 S Elizabeth Way, Centennial CO 80121, 303-888-2426, <leeandjanewhiteley@yahoo>

history and lore. With and through them I have also met some of the most interesting "characters," many who became dear friends through the years. Sadly, most of the old "Smoky Hill bunch" have taken the high trail and only their memories remain.

I accompanied Leslie Linville on many "scouts" along the trail. Les was the proponent of the Linville Site of the German Massacre at the forks of the Smoky Hill River west of Russell Springs, as opposed to the Brock Site on Six-Mile Gulch, east of Russell Springs. One of my goals is to host a roundtable with persons who have an interest in the incident and maybe come up with a positive identification of where the German family was killed.

It was through Les that I became close friends with John Sipes, Jr., and his uncle, Sherman Goose. John was the great-great grandson of Medicine Water and Buffalo Calf Woman. John has also walked up the trail - Seamo "the Milky Way."

During my career in law enforcement, I was able to visit Fort Marion at St. Augustine, Florida, where Medicine Water and Buffalo Calf Woman were held as prisoners of war because of the German killings. I was in Florida at the time as a state witness to the execution of Daniel Remeta, the infamous spree killer who hit Gove and Thomas counties in Kansas on February 13, 1985.

Studying the history of the Smoky Hill Trail country has been, and continues to be, a rewarding experience, as I continue meeting people and making friends. I enjoy being a part of the Smoky Hill Trail Association and look forward to meeting more of you as we endeavor to preserve the location, sites, history, and lore of the Smoky Hill Trail, with our big objective of seeing the trail designated a National Historic Trail (NHT).

One of our tasks this year is to work with our Colorado and Kansas congressional delegations to reintroduce a bill in the new Congress directing the National Park Service to begin the process required for NHT designation. Another task that I would like to accomplish this year is for the board to create a strategic plan establishing benchmarks for measuring progress on our organizational goals and objectives. We also need to strengthen our membership by inviting others to join in our work. We need to continue helping our editor expand the newsletter.

Any member who desires to be more involved with SmHTA committee work is encouraged to contact me or one of the board members. We are also in need of members to step forward and accept positions on the board. This is my second "go-round" as president of the Association, and to keep us moving forward, we need someone willing to take the reins for the years following our Oakley conference.

Until next time, "remember the Smoky Hill Trail!"

-Mike Baughn

SMHTA BOARD MEETING MINUTES BOCES, LIMON, CO, OCTOBER 15, 2010

Edited for Publication

President Mike Olsen called the board meeting to order at 1 p.m. Present: President Mike Olsen, Vice-President Donna Malsom, Secretary Jody Zeman, Treasurer Sam Chestnut, Board Members Mike Baughn, Jim Gray, Lem Marsh, Joanne VanCoevern, and Lee Whiteley. Others Present: Bev Blotter, Gary & Jeri O'Hara, Roger Hanson, Kay Homewood, Bonita Oliva, Leo Oliva, Patti Olsen, and Jane Whiteley.

The agenda was adopted and minutes of the meeting of July 17, 2010, were approved. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$15,133.90 and was approved.

President Olsen reported that the conference received a grant from Colorado Humanities for speaker honorariums. Speakers are Wes Brown, Katherine Sturdevant, and Lee Whiteley. Secretary Zeman reported that 45 people had registered and more were expected during the conference. The town of Limon found sponsors for breakfasts, morning breaks, tour breaks, and lunch both days. There is no rental fee for the facilities at BOCES. The major expenses are the bus tours.

Awards Committee Chair Leo Oliva reported that five awards will be presented at the annual membership meeting.

A budget for the coming year was discussed and approved.

Mapping/Marking Committee Chair Lem Marsh reported on efforts to map the trail and inventory markers along the historic route. There was concern that some markers have been placed incorrectly, and there was discussion about how to deal with this. Lem Marsh and Mike Baughn will draft a letter to those who have placed markers incorrectly and pursue efforts to correct the errors.

Kay Homewood reported that an Eagle Scout is mapping the trail through Russell County, KS. Lee Whiteley noted that Roger Hanson has done extensive mapping of the trail in Colorado.

Membership Chair Kay Homewood reported a total of 124 members. Her committee is looking for ways to increase membership and requests that any suggestions be sent to her.

John Vincent has agreed to serve as co-chair with Donna Malsom of the committee seeking National Historic Trail designation. The next step is to get the bill reintroduced into the new Congress.

Nominating Committee Chair Bonita Oliva reported that the following slate will be proposed at the membership meeting:

President - Mike Baughn Vice-President - Donna Malsom Secretary - Jody Zeman

Treasurer - Sam Chestnut

Directors (2-year terms): Ann Liston and Lee Whiteley

Web Site Committee Chair Mike Olsen reported that the foundation for the expanded web site has been laid and work will continue to improve the site.

Because the publisher will be gone the month of December, there was discussion regarding the date of the next issue of *Overland Despatch*, either November or January, and the board decided on January.

Lem Marsh reported that the design for the SmHTA brochure is nearly completed, and the board authorized the printing for 2,500 copies at a cost of \$570.

President Olsen was authorized by the board to obtain the 501(C)3 nonprofit tax designation from the IRS.

The 2011 conference will be held in Oakley, KS, October 14-16, and plans will be made by a committee selected by Mike Baughn. The 2012 conference will be scheduled in Abilene, KS, if facilities are available when the conference plans to meet. It was decided to hold a conference in Colorado every third year, so the next Colorado conference will be in 2013.

Jim Gray reported that ways to educate the public about the Smoky Hill Trail are still being discussed and one project could be a traveling trunk that would go to schools, historical societies, and museums. Funding might be obtained through grants.

Lee Whiteley noted that the SmHTA mission statement includes the railroad and highways that followed the historic Smoky Hill Trail and urged the board to keep this in mind. He mentioned the Heritage Travel Association, Kansas Pacific Railroad, and the Lincoln Highway Association as examples.

It was recommended that the board look at 2011 tour guide expenses, making sure adequate compensation is paid. The conference planning committee will look at this.

President Olsen thanked the board for their work during his term as president and the meeting adjourned.

BYLAWS CHANGE ADOPTED

Those attending the annual membership meeting in Limon adopted the following change to Article III, Section 2, of the bylaws: "The membership year shall coincide with the original membership request. Any member who has not renewed membership within three months of renewal date shall be deemed delinquent and dropped from membership rolls of the Association."

FICTION OF THE SMOKY HILL TRAIL

(continued from page 1)

"They had left civilization behind and made their own wagon trails, stopping to explore any exposures of chalk they found, from the mouth of Hackberry Creek in the east to the south fork of the Smoky Hill, a distance of a hundred miles. All along the dried, old watercourses, antelope, and wild horses with beautiful flowing manes and tails, roamed in great herds. Prairie-dog villages broke the ground in all directions. The sun beat down. They searched as much for drinking water as for fossils, though the water was alkali and barely drinkable. The silence was immense and cleared the mind of fear, directed everything to the task at hand." (p. 92)

Another "good read" is a short story entitled "Hunting the Bison" by Dagmar Mariager. This author published a series of interconnected short stories in *Overland Monthly and Out West Magazine* in the 1880s. These stories featured the frontier lives of two women, an unnamed narrator and her friend "Mrs. Baker." Various railroad construction camps provide the scenes for their adventures. They sometimes hire their own horses on contract for "grade scraping," and sometimes they cook or run boarding houses.

"Hunting the Bison" is the only one of Mariager's stories set along the Smoky Hill Trail. Its action is centered on the town of Phil Sheridan, or Sheridan, on the Kansas-Colorado border. Sheridan was one of the most notorious railroad towns on the Kansas Pacific Line. All of Mariager's tales can be accessed and read in full text online at the site "Making of America," at <www.moa.umidl.umich.edu>.

And that is all the Smoky Hill Trail fiction that has surfaced to date. There certainly must be more novels and stories set on the Smoky Hill Trail than mentioned here. If readers know of other items, please contact Mike Olsen at <mpolsen1@comcast.net>.

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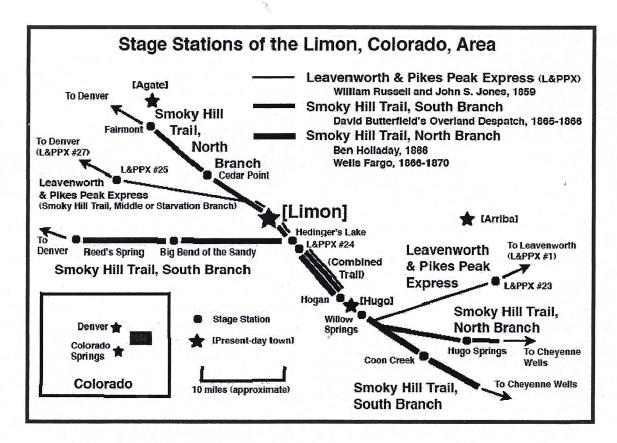
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STAGE STATIONS OF THE LIMON, COLORADO, AREA

by Lee Whiteley

[Lee Whiteley is a charter member of SmHTA, and a member of the Board of Directors. He has written extensively about the overland trails. Special thanks to Lee for this and other articles.]

LIMON, site of the 2010 Smoky Hill Trail Association's Fourth Annual Conference, is called the "Hub City of Eastern Colorado." This name, applied to the intersection of major highways, was also the hub of several gold-rush trails.

Leavenworth & Pikes Peak Express

The Leavenworth & Pikes Peak Express (L&PPX) was the first stagecoach line to the new gold-rush town of Denver. Stage stations were numbered 1 through 27, with Leavenworth #1 and Denver #27. Only a few stagecoaches ran over this line before the L&PPX was relocated to the Oregon-California Trail/South Platte River Road.

The L&PPX entered present-day Colorado east of Bonny Reservoir. Following up the South Fork of the Republican River, it continued southwest to strike Big Sandy Creek two miles southeast of Hugo. It then followed the creek northwest through present Limon. Leaving the creek, it continued northwest to Denver, following present-day Smoky Hill Road in Centennial and Aurora. The trail northwest of Limon became known as the Middle or Starvation Branch of the Smoky Hill Trail. The "starvation" name was

attached primarily because of the cannibalism of the Daniel Blue expedition.

Smoky Hill Trail South Branch

David Butterfield established his Butterfield's Overland Despatch (BOD) in 1865. The trail followed up the South Fork of the Smoky Hill River to Cheyenne Wells, five miles north of the present town. Here it left the river and turned southwest to hit Big Sandy Creek seven miles east of Kit Carson. Following up the creek to Lake Station, the trail continued northwest, passing through Kiowa and descending present-day Hilltop Road to Parker. Here the trail merged with the Cherokee Trail from Bent's Old Fort and followed down Cherry Creek to Denver. The BOD route became known as the Smoky Hill Trail South Branch.

Smoky Hill Trail North Branch

Butterfield sold his business to Ben Holladay in March of 1866. Holladay shortened the road to Denver by building west from Cheyenne Wells, merging with the BOD four miles southeast of Hugo. His new road again diverged from the BOD at Lake Station. The new trail continued northwest through Limon to present Bennett. Here it merged with Holladay's Overland Stage Line's "Fort Morgan Cutoff." The combined road entered Denver from the east. Holladay's route would become known as the Smoky Hill Trail North Branch.

Bayard Taylor was on the last stagecoach over the South Branch of the Smoky Hill Trail. He noted in his book, *Colorado*, *A Summer Trip*: "DENVER, C.T.,

June 19, 1866. From Hedinger's Lake to Denver a new cutoff has recently been made, shortening the distance about twenty miles. Ours was the last coach which passed over the old road, the stations and stock being taken up behind us, and transferred across the country to the new positions. The road from Cheyenne Wells to Denver is thus abridged by forty miles."

Hogan Station was used by Butterfield but Holladay replaced it with Willow Springs Station. Lake Station was used by both Butterfield and Holladay. Wells Fargo purchased Holladay's Smoky Hill Trail business in November 1866.

The completion of the Kansas Pacific Railway to Denver in August 1870 put an immediate end to stagecoach travel and long-distance freighting operations on the Smoky Hill Trail.

2010 SmHTA AWARDS

A highlight of every Smoky Hill Trail Conference is the presentation of awards at the annual membership meeting. The following awards were presented at the Limon conference.

AWARD OF MERIT

Limon Heritage Museum and Railroad Park Vivian Lowe, Limon CO, coordinator the conference William Y. (Bill) Chalfant, Hutchinson KS, for his

book Hancock's War: Conflict on the Southern Plains (2010)

(Note: Bill Chalfe

(Note: Bill Chalfant died January 7, 2011)

HERITAGE PRESERVATION AWARD

Fort Hays State Historic Site and Museum, Hays KS HOWARD C. RAYNESFORD LIFETIME ACHIEVE-MENT AWARD

Lee Whiteley, Centennial CO



Those present to receive awards, I to r, are Tony Wernsman (co-director with Vivian Lowe of the Limon Heritage Museum & Railroad Park) with the Award of Merit for the museum, Lee Whiteley with the Howard C. Raynesford Lifetime Achievement Award, and Vivian Lowe with her Award of Merit. Congratulations to these and the others who were not present to receive their awards (which were delivered). Photo by Lem Marsh.

TWO WEEKS AT FORT WALLACE IN 1867 FROM THE DIARY OF L. H. EICHOLTZ

[Mike Baughn found this item in the papers of Leslie Linville. Eicholtz was an engineer for the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern Division (later Kansas Pacific) hired to survey the route to the Pacific, 1866-1868. A copy of his diaries, 1866-1885, is at Penrose Library, University of Denver. The original diaries, 1838-1910, are housed at the University of Wyoming.]

Brief Biography
Leonard Henry Eicholtz was born April 23, 1827, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He was educated as a civil engineer. He worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad, 1852-1854, and the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad, 1854-1857. He went to Honduras in 1857 to help survey the Honduras Inter-Oceanic railway, after which he returned to the Philadelphia & Erie.

During the Civil War, Eicholtz served as assistant engineer of military railways in the military division of the Mississippi under General William T. Sherman, working to reconstruct destroyed roads and building new lines. When he left the military in 1866 he was a chief engineer with the rank of colonel..

He directed the survey for the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern Division, 1866-1868, through Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. In 1868 he became superintendent of bridge building for the Union Pacific Railroad. Eicholtz served as superintendent of construction and chief engineer for the Denver Pacific Railway and built that line from Cheyenne to Denver. At the same time he oversaw the completion of the Kansas Pacific (formerly Union Pacific, Eastern Division) into Denver.

Later Eicholtz was chief engineer for the Denver & South Park Railway. In 1878 he became a director of the First National Bank in Denver, a position he held until his death on January 3, 1911.

Eicholtz was at Fort Wallace during the peak of Indian resistance following General W. S. Hancock's burning of the Cheyenne & Sioux village on Pawnee Fork in April 1867

Diary Excerpt

June 24, 1867, Camp. 18. Reached Fort Wallace at 10:30 this A.M. This a pleasant 3-company Post. Five stone buildings are being erected. General [George A.] Custer's command got in here tonight from the Platte for supplies. Lieut. [Joseph] Hale of the 37th Inf. is in command here. An attempt made by the Indians this morning to drive off our stock.

June 25th--camp 18 Still here as Indians are lurking around. Met Col. [William] Greenwood (Chief Engineer of the Railroad) end of which is at Ellsworth, Kans, 200 miles east of Wallace.

<u>June 26th</u> - This morning was alarmed by the cry of Indians whilst at Breakfast. They were seen riding rapidly to the North of the Post having driven off the stage stock from Pond Creek Station three miles to

the West. Our Cavalry escort, with a few men from the Fort, under our Capt. [Albert] Barnitz, turned out and overtook them in about three miles, where the Indians to the number of 200 turned and charged them our loss out of 45 men was three killed, two mortally wounded, five injured and two missing Total Casualties 12. Two of the men were picked up on the field, scalped, one with his throat cut and heart cut out, hacked up terribly [Sergeant Frederick Wyllyams—see accompanying photograph by William Bell]. The three killed were brought into Camp and at sunset burried with the Honors of War.

June 27th Capt. Barnitz went to the battlefield again this AM and picked up another man scalped and stripped naked. One of the men wounded through the body with an arrow died this AM. Our Dr. [William] Bell attending in the Fort Hospital.

June 28th - The two additional bodies were burried with the Honors of War. Total loss, six killed, six wounded, two missing and five horses captured by the enemy. All casualties photographed by Dr. Bell. June 29th - Went to Pond Creek and two miles beyond and returned. Saw no Indians.

June 30th - Was on duty at Fort Wallace as Officer of the Day. Regular officers being out scouting for indians. Had two scares during the night by guards firing at imaginary enemies. All hands called to arms both times.

<u>July 1</u> - A large Bull train arrived from East at Ft. Wallace.

<u>July 2</u> - Unpacked the survey instruments and started breaking in the men. Ran and staked a mile in 55 minutes.

<u>July 3</u> - At Fort Wallace. Acting today as Officer of the Day again. Stage from Denver arrived with two men wounded by indians West of Pond Creek.

July 4 - Quiet day in Camp 18 at Fort Wallace.

<u>July 5</u> - Gen. [Winfield S.] Hancock arrived but could not furnish us a large escort.

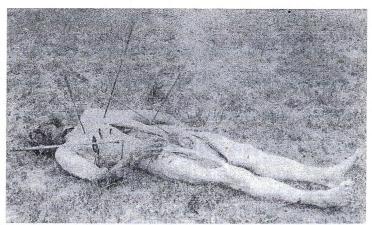
<u>July 6</u> - Camp 18. Ran a trial line 8 miles West of Rose Creek and returned to Ft. Wallace

<u>July 7</u> - At Fort Wallace. Preparing to start for the Arkansas River at Ft. Lyon in A.M. Col. Greenwood and party will go with us as escort.

July 8 - Camp 19. Struck tents this AM at Ft. Wallace at 4 AM with military escort of 40 men and a total of 200 men in the party. [Reached the Colorado line about noon July 9. His survey through Colorado to Raton Pass completed Aug 12, Camp 37 and he reached San Francisco Feb. 18, 1868.]

ITEMS FROM THE JUNCTION CITY UNION

General Winfield Scott Hancock's destruction of the Cheyenne and Sioux village on Pawnee Fork, April 19, 1867, resulted in an Indian war where none had existed, and the Plains tribes struck back with a vengeance.



Photograph of remains of Sergeant Frederick Wyllyams, 7th U.S. Cavalry, killed near Fort Wallace on the Smoky Hill Trail, June 26, 1867, taken by Dr. William Bell. A woodcut image taken from this photo was printed in Harper's Weekly, July 27, 1867, and in Bell's New Tracks of North America (1869). The gruesome illustration was reprinted throughout the U.S. and Europe and may well have been seen by more people than any other picture of mutilation during the era of Indian-white warfare in the American West. A section of Wyllyams's skin containing a tattoo was removed by a Cheyenne Indian and later recovered, ending up in the collection of the Paul Dyck Foundation, which was recently donated to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming.

INDIAN RESISTANCE

(From the Junction City Weekly Union, April 27, 1867):

News comes to town of another Indian outrage on the Smoky Hill. Some fifteen hundred or two thousand Cheyennes and Sioux are moving westward. It is supposed to escape Hancock. Some fifty or sixty of them went to Look Out station a few days ago, killed and scalped three men, burned the station and drove off the stock. Look Out is sixteen miles from Fort Hays and nine miles from Big Creek. They called at the next station, and took all the flour and bacon. On the road they met a traveler, from whom they took to mules and a part of his clothing. It is rumored that the Indians announced their intention of refusing to treat with Hancock, but we imagine the women and old men left behind will make one just as satisfactory.

"FROM THE FRONT!"

(From the Junction City Weekly Union, June 22, 1867):

FORT WALLACE, KAS., June 12, 1867.

EDITOR UNION: - Below I give you a statement of depredations committed by the Indians in this vicinity for the past ten days, thinking it may be of interest to your readers. Showing conclusively that the red men of this vicinity are on the war path:

June 3d. Messrs. Favor & Thompson, residents of Pond Creek, while out hunting for stray mules, were killed and scalped between Pond Creek and Goose Creek stations.

June 4th. The Indians attempted to steal stock from the Government corrall, but were discovered by the guard and fired on, they returned the fire and left, having succeeded in getting one mule.

June 6th. Two men, mounted on ponies, on their way to the States, coming from the mines, were killed and scalped, between pond Creek and Goose Creek stations, within half a mile of the place where Favor and Thompson's bodies were found. They were unknown, but were brought here and buried.

June 7th. Six horses were run off from Henshaw Station, seven miles east of here, while out grazing within sight of the stock tender and soldiers. Shots were exchanged but no one hurt. The same day a squad of cavalry were sent up to Big Timber station after Indians that were seen there - gave them a chase of ten or fifteen miles, but could not overtake them, as the Indians were well mounted.

June 8th. To day another attack was made on Goose Creek station, (the 4th or 5th attack this spring), the horses were cut loose from their picket lines and run off. The Indians came up so suddenly on the Station that the guards there did not see them until too late to save the stock. Shots were exchanged and one Indian was reported killed.

June 9th. Indians were seen on the hills, three or four miles distant from Pond Creek station, by the stock tenders.

June 10th. A Government train with Quartermaster's supplies for this post, was attacked but repulsed, between Carlisle and Monument stations.

June 11th. The coach from the west having on board Lieut. Bell and two soldiers of "I" troop, 7th cav., and one soldier of Co. "E" 3d Inf., one lady passenger, the driver and mail guard, was attacked by 25 or 30 Indians, between Cheyenne Wells and Big Timber station, about 25 miles from this post. At first fire from the Indians, one soldier, by name of Miller, of Co. "E," 8th inf., was mortally wounded, but crawled from the top to the inside of the coach, where he died

in about ten minutes. The guard under charge of Lieut. Bell, then dismounted and fought the Indians a distance of four miles, on foot - till within sight of Big Timber station, when the Indians left. In this attack two Indians were killed, and several bullet holes were put through the coach.

Both Lieut. Bell, and the soldiers under him showed a great deal of courage under the circumstances, being attacked by an overwhelming number, and successfully repulsing them.

NEW SMHTA MEMBERSHIPS

New members since last issue.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS

Del Beattie, PO Box 186, Limon CO 80828
Barbara Berry, 1880 Circle Ln #30, Limon CO 80828
Bev Blotter, 23011 CR 150, Agate CO 80101
Wes Brown, 1790 Hudson St, Denver CO 80220
Neil Hanson, 20443 Goldenrod Ln, Parker CO 80138
Såndi Patrick Hendricks, PO Box 421, Limon CO 80828
Carol Moench, 18784 E Utah Cir, Aurora CO 80017
Susan Price, 62 Silver Circle, Breckenridge CO 80414
Marshall Rhea, 2258 CR C, Oakley KS 67748
Aaron Shipe, 8643 W Mississippi Pl, Lakewood CO 80232
Gail Van Wagoner, 5323 S Telluride Way, Centennial CO 80121

FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS

Stan & Dee Dorsch, PO Box 264, Bird City KS 67731 Ron & Linda Erickson, 10497 Jellison Way, Westminster CO 80021

David & Jill Heskett, PO Box 14, Hoxie KS 67740 Frank & Shirley Pekarek, 1034 Republic Cir, Salina KS 67401

Katherine & Rick Sturdevant, 3970 Cyclone Dr, Colorado Springs CO 80920

Tony & Carol Wernsman, 53947 St Rd 71, Limon CO 80828

TRAIL CALENDAR

Everyone is invited to send notices for this section; provide location, date, time, and activity. Thank you.

Oct. 14-16, 2011: Fifth Annual Smoky Hill Trail Conference, Oakley KS

Visit the web site: < www.smokyhilltrail.com>

Smoky Hill Trail Association PO Box 322 WaKeeney, KS 67672

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