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KANSAS STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

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HISTORY
OF
WYANDOTTE COUNTY
KANSAS
AND ITS PEOPLE

EDITED AND COMPILED BY
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ILLUSTRATED

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of Kansas, and he was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine as a member of the class of 1884. Immediately after graduation he entered upon the practice of his profession in this city, where he has built up a large and representative patronage and where he has gained distinctive prestige as one of the leading practitioners in the state. In his political convictions Dr. Eager is a stalwart supporter of the Republican party and in connection with public affairs he is ever on the alert to do all in his power to advance the general good of the city and state at large. He was incumbent of the office of police surgeon for some four years and for two years was city physician. He is affiliated with the Masonic order, in which he is past eminent commander in Ivanhoe Commandery, No. 10, Knights Templars. He is also a valued and appreciative member of the Knights of Pythias, in which he is past chancellor commander; and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in which he is past exalted ruler. He and his wife are devout communicants of the Episcopal church and they are prominent and popular factors in connection with the best social activities in Kansas City.

In the year 1884 Dr. Eager was united in marriage to Miss Julia M. Griswold, a daughter of Holland and Lorinda (Bassett) Griswold, of Kansas City, Kansas. To this union has been born one child, Lucille, now the wife of Dr. J. W. May, a specialist in the diseases of the eye and ear in Kansas City, Kansas.

WJW
WRS

JOHN WESLEY WHITLOCK, deceased, was born in Platte county, Missouri, June 3, 1841, son of Preston and Lavina (Grover) Whitlock, Kentuckians. Preston Whitlock was a farmer, first in Kentucky and afterward in Missouri, he having settled in Platte county on his removal to the latter state. There he spent the rest of his life and died. His widow died in Wyandotte county, Kansas. Their son John W. was reared in his native county and received his education in the district schools. During the Civil war he was in Montana, engaged in mining, and a few years after the close of the conflict he settled down to farming near Bonner Springs, Wyandotte county, Kansas, where he passed the rest of his life in agricultural pursuits, and where he died.

John Wesley Whitlock, one of the estimable citizens of Delaware township, Wyandotte county, Kansas, died July 5, 1910, at his beautiful home, aged sixty-seven years. He was a gentleman who was well read and a man whose business integrity was beyond reproach. His main occupation through life was that of an agriculturist and stockman. In 1864 he crossed the plains to Montana, seeking gold, and after spending two years in the gold mines he returned to his Missouri home. He came to Kansas about 1870, and was united in marriage with Miss Edna Dunlap, and settled on the estate where he resided continuously until his demise. He was a home lover, and was held in the highest regard by those who knew him as a friend and neighbor. His judgment was unquestioned, of absolute integrity, a noble citizen, father and husband, and one of nature's noblemen who tried to make the world better. Religiously he was a member of the Christian church, to which society he had always contributed his full share.

Mr. Whitlock married March 18, 1869, Miss Edna Ellington Dunlap, sister of Doniphan Dunlap, a prominent citizen of Wyandotte county, mention of whom is made on another page of this work; and of the

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children born to them, we record that Alberta, the eldest, died in 1892; Jessie Florence resides at the old homestead with her mother, and Mary C. is the wife of Harry Kern, a prosperous farmer of the county. Mrs. Kern is a graduate of the public schools and a former student at the Emporia State Normal. They have three children, Edna Ella, Harvey Wesley and Mary. The home farm comprises one hundred and sixty acres of land, and the farming operations are conducted under the personal supervision of Mrs. Whitlock. She has long been a resident of this locality, and remembers when the Delaware Indians were paid for their holdings here. The family are members of the Christian church at Bonner Springs.

ROSCOE W. FERGUSON.—It is extremely difficult for a young man to choose the line of work he intends to follow through life. What a little thing will often cause him to decide. A single stone may turn the rivulet to the right or left. It is sometimes said that what we call providence shapes our careers. Undoubtedly something outside of ourselves has something to do with the general direction of a man's life, but the getting on is purely a private affair. Each individual is fated to work out his own career. If he is qualified by nature he cannot be kept down; if deficient he cannot by hook or crook be boosted up. Opposition, adversity and hard luck are powerless to keep a big man in a small place and no set of outside conditions can keep a small man in a big place. Roscoe W. Ferguson, after trying two lines of work has finally come into his own and is the well known banker at Bonner Springs. Although he has only been in the county but a very short time he has already made his presence felt and will doubtless be still more prominent as the time rolls on.

He was born in Jefferson county, Kansas, July 13, 1875. His father, Walter Ferguson, was born in Indiana in 1850. His mother, Henrietta Henderson before she was married, was born in Ohio in 1855. Walter Ferguson came to Kansas in 1864, when he was fourteen years old. He located with his parents in Jefferson county. He became an influential farmer and was an advocate of the Democratic policies. He was county commissioner two terms and county treasurer two terms on the Democratic ticket. In 1906 he was elected to the Legislature for Jefferson county, Kansas. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masons fraternal order. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ferguson had five children, as follows: Roscoe W., Pearl G. (deceased), James H., Earl E., and Albert E. Mr. Ferguson, the father, died in 1907, and his wife died on New Year's day, 1911.

Roscoe W. Ferguson was brought up in Jefferson county, Kansas. He attended the public schools in Valley Falls as a student in the high school and then went to the Campbell University at Holton, Kansas. After he had completed his college course he farmed for four years and then assisted his father in the treasurer's office. His father had owned a full section of land and this is still owned by the brothers. The younger brothers manage the farm, situated in Jefferson county, Kansas. In 1906 Roscoe W. went to Idaho, intending to make that his permanent home, but the following year his father died and he came back to Kansas. In 1908 he first entered the employ of the Bonner State Bank. In 1909, the following year, the First National Bank bought out the