

Doc 344 -
Elizabeth Cairns

Pam 344- #26

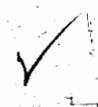
FEB 12 - 1934

Several weeks ago Mr. G.L.L. Gann spoke before the members of the Pueblo Rotary Club. The theme of his talk was "when a tenderfoot came to town, and what he saw". Mr. Gann very kindly consented to repeat a portion of his talk so that I could make notes on his early impressions of Pueblo.

"When I came to Pueblo in the year of 1872, this was the very end of the road. The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad ended here, and this was the last outpost from Mexico and Arizona. The railroad had just reached Pueblo in that same year, and this was a busy trading point. Freighters from Mexico and Arizona brought their products to this place to find a market for them. For the most part a freighter carried wool, and here in Pueblo they marketed this product. Many times the ox teams on Santa Fe Avenue would be so numerous that one walking was obliged to go around the wagons if he were going any place in particular.

The Denver & Rio Grande depot was located just north and east of Mineral Palace, or about where Lake Clara is today. The prairie out and around the depot was covered with good healthy sage brush.

About the first thing that I did when I came to town was to go to a hotel and register. I registered at the Chilcott House that later became the Fifth Avenue Hotel. I then found several men whom I had known in my home town, and we all went to George Hall's restaurant that was located on Santa Fe Avenue and 3rd St. After eating, plans for the evening were discussed, we decided to attend church as it was Sunday evening, we hunted around



and in the course of events we finally wound up at the Kemp Dunlap Dance Hall. This hall was located on 2nd. and Santa Fe, and looked similar to the building that now occupies that corner with the exception of plate glass windows. This hall was typical of the dance halls found in those days. On the south side of the building was a bar, and here the men who danced paid for their dancing by treating their partner to a drink. On the north side of the hall was a gambling den where one could risk his ready cash if he so desired. This hall was operated by two very quiet and refined gentlemen who refused to allow any rough-housing.

Some of the houses in town at that time were: Ferd Barndollar's home, located out on the prairie at the corner of 19th. and Court Streets; Wynn Barndollar had his home on the opposite corner from Ferd's, and today this house is my ^{own} home and is at 1906 Court Street; on the Mesa were located two homes, one belonging to the Chief Engineer of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, and the other to a lumberman by the name of Sheldon. At that time there were no roads to that section of Pueblo now called the Mesa, the only semblance of a road was the track made by the lumber wagons as they hauled the wood for the building of the houses.

(I asked Mr. Gann about some of the topics that I had heard discussed only to a minor degree, and the following statements were in answer to my questions.)

MEMBER
EARTH
CLUB

The Thatcher's were formerly from Altoona, Pennsylvania. John A. Thatcher decided to come to the west and ~~come to~~ ^{stopped at} northwest Missouri, here he met Mr. Tony Keeves and the both of them came as far as Boulder City, Colorado. John Thatcher was, by trade, a tanner, so he got a job, but Tony Keeves was unsuccessful in locating work so returned to his home in northwest Missouri. (Incidentally Mr. Keeves was responsible in part, for my coming to Colorado. He told me of the country and of the chances offered to a young man. I was given a letter of introduction to Mr. J.A.Thatcher by Mr. Keeves when I started for Pueblo.)

J.A.Thatcher worked for ^a ~~the~~ ~~(a small)~~ mercantile concern in Denver, and upon hearing that the chances to establish a flourishing business in Pueblo were good, ~~persuaded~~ ^{his company} to let him bring enough merchandise to Pueblo to start a store. John Thatcher was allowed to load an ox team and wagon up with goods and start for Pueblo. In Pueblo the store was located ^{between 5th and 6th st} ~~at the corner of 4th.~~ on Santa Fe. The first load of goods sold out so quickly that in a short time John Thatcher had to go back to Denver for more supplies. In '64 and '65 business became so good that John sent for his brother Mahlon Thatcher to help him. Both boys worked very hard and enjoyed an immense trade during those first few years.

(In 1871 the Thatcher Brothers opened a bank with the following officers:

- John A. Thatcher-----President
- Mahlon Thatcher-----Vice President
- Jeff Reynolds-----Cashier
- Bob Lytle-----Assistant Cashier (later cashier.)

X

The old river bed was very different from that of today. The river crossed the present asylum grounds, and followed an easterly direction down below Main Street. The river bed was close to the site of the place known as "Arthur's Castle, and it was in this vicinity that the river followed the bluff, making a sharp bend. Along this bend was located a district that housed the lower classes of society. This was referred to as a "red light district".

(The only bridge across the river to the south side was one that was known as Young's Toll Bridge. This bridge was located near the old Landon Foundry. This was a private bridge and was operated by William H. Young.

(The old Baxter mill was located ^{at present site} ~~in the middle~~ of the Colorado Block. The ditch had its source in the Arkansas River and just beyond the State Hospital Grounds. The ditch was high enough above the level of the mill to turn the wheels. The ditch had its course down through the town under what is now Pryor's furniture store and on down until it joined the river.

(The first court house stood on the southeast corner of 3rd. and Santa Fe, and was an adobe structure. This building is still standing. Later a new court house was built on the site of the present court house. After the old building was done away with the new building was erected.

WAR

BRIS MILL
MILL

HOUSE

5

(Sanderson & Barlow operated the stage line between Pueblo and Santa Fe New Mexico. This stage line had the mail contracts ^{also} ~~also~~. This being the end of the railroad line stage transportation was the only way of travel if one had no means of their own of getting places.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The present fire department was organized in 1889, but the volunteer department had held sway long before this time. The north side fire department in those days was designated as Rice ^{with offices old Court House} No. 1, so named from Captain Rice, and the Richardson No. 2. ^{with offices on 6th St.} These two were officially organized into companies in 1873.

Hose carts and The early equipment of the department consisted of a large hook and ladder ^{truck} that had originally belonged to Denver, but had been bought by the Pueblo department. The equipment was most unweildy, being too heavy for the men to haul, and not being ^{equipped} for horses. *Housed on E. 4th St.*

For five years Mr. Cann served the department as foremen of Hose Co. No. 1. Hose Co. no.1 was considered the best of all the companies, for it was to this company that the boys from the better families belonged. There was a great deal of rivalry between companies, and many elaborate balls were given by the companies. These balls were usually held in the Chilcott Hall (above the Fifth Ave. Hotel), and were gala events. The uniform that the firemen wore to these social gatherings composed of black doe-skin pants, white flannel jackets, which were elaborately trimmed with blue.

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(Mr. T. L. E. Gann and Mr. ^{G.H.} (Tip) Hobson were in the mercantile business in Pueblo for many years. They started their store in a small adobe structure across from the 1st. Nat'l Bank in '72. They were in business until '77 when Mr. Gann took over the store. ^{In 1892} the store was located on the corner of Main and ~~2nd~~ St. and today is the site of the Montgomery Ward & Co. store.)

Mr. Gann says that times were good for a period and then went down for a time. There was a business depression '73, but prior to this period business had been growing, Pueblo was the end of the railroad, and enjoyed the trade that comes with being an outpost of business. The '73 depression lasted until '78, and the year of '77 was the worst year of the depression. In '77 it was that Gann agreed to take over all of the store, and it was at that time the books were in the red. However, in the following year he more than made enough profit to cover the prior losses.

Geo L E Gann

Mr. Gann has been actively engaged in the public affairs of Pueblo for a great many years. He has been one of the city's leading business men for the past 62 years, and at present still maintains his business office in the Central Block. Here I might say that Feb. 12 was the occasion of his 84th. birthday. Mr. Gann is one of the most affable persons that it has been my pleasure of meeting while doing this work.

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ELIZABETH GISH

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I was born at Wapaca, Wisconsin, January 4th, 1856.

I went with my parents to Mitchell County, Iowa, in 1868. Lived in the town of Osage, for two years, from there we moved to Pottawattamie County, and in the spring of 1871, we moved to Shelby County, and lived on a farm near Harlan.

I was married to Miss Laura Jane Gish, Daughter of Dr. David Gish, March 17th, 1880. (The best girl in any body's country, and still is).

In the spring of 1836, I moved my family to Eastern Colorado, and filed on a Preemption near Brandon, on the Missouri Pacific Rail Road, which was then building to Pueblo. I farmed the land and raised feed for some Short Horn Cattle that I had shipped from Iowa. I also loaned short time money to settlers to prove up on their land.

Our home was the center of all our good times, as most of the settlers were single people, lady teachers and batchelors who had come west to make their fortunes.

In the fall of 1888, we sold all our interests there and moved to Pueblo. The first day I arrived in Pueblo, I bought some lots in a new addition near the Assylum, from Mr. ^{O.L.} P. O. Wiley, (who was in the Real Estate Business at that time). I then bought a house and lot on Michigan Avenue, from a Mr. Gray, through Mr. Dick Brunzer, who had an office on Union Avenue.

My business in Pueblo was speculating in Real Estate, altho I worked with Dick Brunzer, L. O. Shull, and a Mr. Myres.

The outstanding people I remember were Thatcher Bro. and Baxter Bankers, W. L. Graham of the Western National Bank, with whom I did my banking business. I do not remember who was Mayor when I first went to Pueblo, but I knew Mr. Orman, who was Mayor, I think for two terms. Alva Adams, (State Governor), George and John West,

Ben. Gugenheim, (with the Philadelphia Smelter), Mr, Hard,
 (Real Estate), A. C. Daniels, (Druggist), Jack Martin, (Real Estate),
 Paul Wilson, (Department Store on Santa Fe Avenue), and J. A. Wayland,
 the most talked of man about town in 1891, he told the bankers
 their banks would be closed in a short time, he seemed to have the
 right guess, for most of them closed in a short time, He wanted me
 to go with him to Tennessee, and start a Ruskin Colony, every thing
 would be lovely for us, no work, just sit down and muse. No John,
 I said Im going to start a colony of my own. I just traded a
 property on the Mesta, for a 160 Acre, Irrigated farm near Rocky Ford,
 in the deal I got \$3000.00, to boot. I bought another 160 Acres adjoi-
 ing, I also bought considerable live stock. He admitted my proposition
 was a good one, and wondered how I got out of town so well. So in the
 fall of 1891, we moved to Rocky Ford.

Pueblo was a very lively and progressive town while we lived
 there, the three smelters, Philadelphia, Eiler and Pueblo, and the
 Steel and Iron Works were working three shifts daily, which made
 business of all kinds very good. Property values advanced very rapidly,
 and I made well on my investments there. We all have a kindly
 remembrance of Pueblo and vicinity.

Orlo M. Barton
Puyallup Wash

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Christina Schultz
223- E-4th St.

Miss Christina Shultz came to Pueblo Oct. 9, 1882. Her father had been asked to come to Pueblo to help with the construction of the Steel Works. The family, made up of eight persons, came from their old home in Pennsylvania to Pueblo.

"The family moved into a newly constructed company house that is now known as 1311 East Evans Avenue. At that time there were few houses located in what is known as Bessemer. Northern Avenue was the center of all activity. The town was located around Northern Avenue, and extended two blocks East and two blocks South of Northern Avenue. There were no houses from Northern Avenue to Arroya Avenue, but on the east and west sides of Northern was a section of the town known as "Shanty Town", one of these sections was in turn called "Wichita". From Arroya Avenue to the old C.F. & I. Hospital on Abriendo Avenue, there were but a few houses.

For years and years Bessemer boasted of having but one Negro resident. This man lived down in "Wichita", and was known as "Niger Joe". "Niger Joe" was a general favorite with all of the boys who lived in Bessemer. He entertained them for hours with the stories that he could tell of the South and of slavery. His home was a haven of entertainment, all of the boys used this place as a recreation center and a place of great fun.

With the growth of the Steel plant, Bessemer naturally became larger. In '82 there was little of the plant, but later many additions were made. The first Superintendent of the Steel Works was D.N. Jones.

my brother,
 John Stultz, had charge of constructing the building that was first occupied by the Colorado Trading Company. This building was located on the corner of Abriendo and Northern Avenues, and was the liveliest store in that part of town. (Above this store was held the first Sunday School classes. This Sunday School was under the supervision of W. L. Graham (associated with the Western National Bank). This first Sunday School was non-denominational, and was the first religious center in Bessemer. Later the Westminister Presbyterian Church was built on the corner of Mesa and Northern Avenues. The first pastor of this church was Rev. G.C. Huntington)

(The first Bessemer postoffice was located in the 1300 block on Abriendo Avenue, and was under the direction of Sam Gardner, the first postmaster. The postoffice was open in the evenings so that those coming off from work in the plant might get a chance to receive their mail. Later the mail was distributed from the Colorado Trading Company.)

Fred Andrews had the Bessemer meat market for a number of years. Late Mr. Andrews became interested in the Andrews & Harvey Meat Company.

We had the first garden and the first lawn in Bessemer. There were places in the Pueblo's that had lawns, but ours was the first on the bluff. After a time the company put in outside irrigation for our use; we were the first people to have this accomodation.

The only method of transportation that we had was the horse-car. The horse-car came up Routt Avenue as far as Northern and then back down to Pueblo. The cost of a round trip ticket on the horse-car

was twenty-five cents. The old horse-car was called the "Hurdic", and was quite a sensation in Bessemer. A Mr. Burgess was one of the first operators. The "Hurdic" was not unlike the busses of today. The seats were arranged along the sides.

Sand-storms were a bane in the early days, and many people can tell of terrible experiences in those storms. Usually we had the storms in the early spring, especially in March. Many times we were unable to have fires in the stoves for fear of starting the house on fire. One time the wind became so strong that it succeeded in blowing the "Hurdic" over.

Lake Minnéqua was a source of amusement in the early days, for it was here that many picnics and outings were held by the residents of Bessemer. Our first Christmas Day in Pueblo-'82 was spent in picnicing at the Lake. The Steel Works Band also was a well known organization in the earlier days. (Taken from the S.W. Blast)

...The band was organized in 1888. It is interesting to note that these bands were the outcome of politicians who saw the necessity to boom parties for presidential campaigns, although the band was non-partisan and played for both parties. In those days a man was not considered a good citizen unless he affiliated himself with one or the other parties.

The uniforms for these bands were usually purchased with funds raised by the subscription method, each band (usually short lived) endeavoring to out-do the preceeding one in numbers, necessitating the purchasing of more uniforms. When there was a deficit they usually gave a dance to raise the amount. The men of the band were mostly C.C. & I. (old C. F. & I. Co.) and depended largely on the support of the mill. If the mill was running steadily the band flourished. If the mill shut down for any length of time the band was busted and finally disbanded.

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ELIZABETH CHIRKS
Feb 3-1964

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Gomer Williams
116 W. 11 St
Pueblo Colo.

Mr. Gomer Williams is one of the men who has been retired from active service in the Pueblo postoffice. He lives at 116 w. 11th. St., here in Pueblo. Mr. Williams was one of the first mail carriers in Pueblo.

"I was retired from the postoffice force in 1929. I had been with them 42 years and 9 months. With the consolidation of Pueblo and South-Pueblo and Central Pueblo. Prior to this time all of the Governments including Messerer had been separate. In 1887 by a legislative measure and the vote of the people the towns were consolidated and the Pueblo postoffice was started. The original postoffice for Pueblo was where the Fifth Avenue Hotel later stood, while the South-Pueblo office was at the corner of D. & Union Avenues. One of the requirements for a postoffice was that the population of the town be sufficient to warrant an office, I think for Pueblo it was 5,000 people.

(July 1, 1887 marks the beginning of free delivery service in Pueblo. M. D. Crow was the postmaster at this time, and the following are the names of the first six carriers.

- Barney Swapenburg.
- L.A. Calloway.
- Joe Loor.
- Charlie Martin.
- Wonsnop Clough.
- Gomer Williams.

At the very beginning of the consolidated postoffice there were four clerks, but this job at the time was not so good. The

clerks did not receive a regular salary, and if they took a vacation it was not with pay. In contrast to these conditions, the carriers were paid \$600 for the first year that they served, and then their salary was raised to \$650. The carriers were allowed 15 days vacation with pay. These first positions were obtained by appointment, but later were put under civil service. I was one of the members of the first Civil Service Board in Pueblo.

The first postoffice was at 201 N. Santa Fe Avenue, later it moved to 202 and 203 N. Santa Fe, when larger quarters were required. In 1898 the postoffice was moved to its present quarters on Main Street.

There have been many arguments about the first Pueblo postmaster, but according to report in the Pueblo Chieftain for Dec. 5, 1915 here are the postmasters:

- Aaron Sims, October 16, 1861.
- Peter K. Dotson, July 9, 1863.
- Titus C. Wetmore, March 1, 1864.
- Mark C. Bradford, April 13, 1864.
- Daniel C. Hayden, Feb. 7, 1865.
- John J. Thomas, Feb 27, 1866.
- J.W.O. Snyder, March 18, 1868.
- William Ingersoll, April 17, 1871.
- Irving W. Stanton, May 5, 1881.
- Mathew D. Crow, May 18, 1885.
- Samuel A. Abbey, June 25, 1889.
- Thomas Thompson, June 18, 1893.
- George Seaver, March 1, 1898.
- O.H.P. Baxter, Actg. Nov. 27, 1899.
- John H. Mitchell, July 1, 1900.
- Nimrod S. Walpole, March 15, 1905.
- Sherman S. Bellesfield, Oct. 1, 1913.

" And so searching for information, Congressman Keating was queried and he looked up the records in the office of the fourth assistant postmaster at Washington. He discovered that Aaron Sims was appointed and served as postmaster here before

others ~~said~~ said to have had the office were reported to have been on the job. He took his position on Oct. 16, 1861.)

Early Records Destroyed

One difficulty in getting at a record of Pueblo postmasters here is due to the fact that the early records of the office were thrown away. The story is told on that well-known pioneer Steve Smith.

There was no remuneration for the postmaster, and it appears that Smith fell heir to the job in some manner. He served for a while and not being inclined to be bothered, placed the paraphernalia and records of the office in a barrel, nailed down the top and kicked the "whole works" into the Arkansas river. For a time there was no postmaster and then, it is reported, P. T. Dotson found the keys that had been cast aside by Smith and he duly became postmaster. He says he, in turn, handed the office to the late Mark Bradford. The records at Washington however show that Titus C. Wetmore succeeded Dotson - that is, so far as Washington knows anything about it.

In the early days politics played little part in the selection of the postmaster. Most of the early day "P.M.'s" were Republican.

(A postoffice in south Pueblo was established in August 1874, Edwin S. Nettleton was in charge. He held the office until Sept. 28, 1881, when he was succeeded by William B. Strait. George B. Stimpson took the office the following year and Lyman Thompson received the appointment to the south side office on Oct. 5, 1885, serving one year."

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Fe from extending their road through the Royal Gorge. After a while a Trinidad judge ruled the lease illegal because of some minor technicality, and the road was again in the hands of the D.&.R.G. railroad company. However, before this decision was reached there were many quarrels and arguments between the two roads. The D.&.R.G. men received better wages than did the Santa Fe men, so naturally wanted the road to remain D.&.R.G. property. D. &. R.G. men were put off the job when the line became Santa Fe property. In an effort to win back their rights the D.&.R.G. had all of their stations fortified, and today one may see the old look-outs in the Royal Gorge that were built there in the early days. The Santa Fe, in order to come back at the D.&.R.G., hired the former marshall of Dodge City, Kansas to come out here with his army of followers. "Bat" Masterson, the marshall, refused the job, and the warfare between the roads ceased when the case was settled in the higher courts)

Richard-
s account
(Gomer
Williams)

(This article I found in the Pioneer Association material. It was written by Mr. C.C. Richardson, deceased Historian of the organization. Mr. Williams spoke before the Association November 24, 1922, and this is the account of his speech.)

" We often have statements spoken at our meetings of interest relating to pioneer days by some of our members which really ought to be recorded.

At the last meeting of the Pioneers, our Secretary Mr. Gomer Williams mentioned at least two interesting items. Viz: That where the big old cottonwood tree used to stand in Union Avenue between the present "C" and "D", Streets, there

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was no road or trail at that point before 1872 when South Pueblo was laid out. That he used to fish in a slough of the Arkansas River in that vicinity. The road to Trinidad, Santa Fe New Mexico, and south at that time, wound around the bluffs some where south of the present Spring street viaduct. The bridge crossing the Arkansas being east of Santa Fe Avenue some hundreds of feet near the east bluff. So that the old story of men being hung from that tree in the early days was a myth.

Also when the D.A.R.G. Railroad first reached Pueblo in 1872 the depot was situated just north and east of the Mineral Palace at 18th. and Summit Streets, that the arid plain in that locality was covered in the early summer with ox teams, and prairie schooners, and the wagons of the freighters from New Mexico and Arizona camping out in that region; at night the scene lit up with their camp fires. The freighters were bringing up the wool clippings from those territories to the nearest railroad point at that time, often consuming weeks in the long slow journey, coming in some instances hundreds of miles and making but say ten miles, on an average, traveling in that slow manner. Sometimes they sold their wool to Pueblo merchants notably the Thatcher Brothers, or bought goods in exchange, thus often remaining weeks to transact their various trades and negotiations.

Even the wind blew harder in those good old days, for, as I remember passed the John Thatcher residence at Ninth and Santa Fe Avenue, one windy night in the seventies on his way home, after having just purchased a new five dollar Stetson, a gust of wind struck the hat from his head and he never even saw the head piece again. "

Pueblo, Nov. 24, 1922.

Charles C. Richardson
Historian S.C.P.

The following is an account taken from the Pueblo Chieftain, Sunday October 25, 1908. This material was written up by Colonel M.H. Fitch, one time member of the Southern Colorado Pioneer Association. Mr. Fitch, long since dead, gave a great many things of historical value to the Association.

PUEBLO PIONEER RECOUNTS OLD TIME EXPERIENCES IN WEST
M.H. FITCH.

(Lieut. Zebulon Pike, a red headed youngster of 27, was the first white man to encamp near the present site of Pueblo in November, 1806. He led a party of twenty-one men up the Arkansas River, and first saw the peak from a point about where the town of Las Animas Bent County, now stands. When he arrived at the mouth of the Mountain river he encamped in that vicinity on the side of the Arkansas river, threw up a little log fort and leaving eighteen of his men in camp, started up the Mountain with three men. He was gone several days, but did not reach the foot of the mountain itself, but did scale one of the Cheyenne range and saw that formidable mass of the "great peak" still looming beyond in what he reports as an inaccessible height. He knew very little the purpose of that discovery. For it was to bear his name, unknown to him and immortalize his memory to the coming generations in the whold of Christendom.)

Pike Monument (This not concerned with Pueblo history, so will omit this part.)

Building a Fort.

Three men, Simpson, Barclay and Doyle, in 1842, built a fort of adobes near the present junction of Union and Victoria avenues. In 1847 the record says, there were about 150 people living in and around this fort. Fremont came to Pueblo three times; first, in 1843, again in 1845 and the last time in 1848, when he selected as a guide the man Williams, who led him into such disaster in the mountains beyond Wagon Wheel Gap. On his first visit he found living here a number of Americans with Spanish wives. They did a little farming, and trading with the Indians-the Utes, Cheyennes and the Arapahoes.

Quincy Shaw and his friend, Freeman, two citizens of Boston, Mass., imbued with the love of adventure and a "call to the wild" came west in 1845 and stayed a year with the Indians- a wandering tribe somewhere above Fort Laramie. On their return to the east in 1846 they rode from Fort Laramie across the site of Denver and on to Pueblo. They did not see a white man, however, until they rode to the end of "tenderfoot hill" overlooking the Arkansas river, near where the Pueblo smelter now stands, and beheld what

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Shaw says in his book, was an oasis in the desert. (In addition to the former residents, who did some farming, twelve Mormon families on the trek to Utah, had camped for a year in the bottoms on the south side and raised crops of corn, which at that time were green and growing. Ten of these families moved on to Utah, but two of them remained, one at Pueblo and the other on the Hard-scrabble. Ever since then the vicinity of the junction of the Fontaine qui Bouille with the Arkansas river has been the abode of a greater or less number of both Americans and Mexicans. (The name Fontaine qui Bouille was given by Fremont.) In 1854 the massacre occurred in the 1842 fort mentioned above. Charles Autobees, who was a resident at the mouth of the Huerfano river, said that seventeen were killed by the Indians.

Developing Pueblo.

I mention these very early incidents in the history of Pueblo to show its natural adaptations to trade and commerce and therefore its inevitable evolution into a permanent city, as fast as the adjacent region became developed..... Sage brush, soap weed, buffalo gramma and bunch grasses were everywhere, but not a tree in sight, except the cottonwood and some willows bordering every stream. The absence of any real woods and the scarcity of rainfall marked off the very striking difference between this and a humid climate. Yet buffalo, antelope, jack rabbits and prairie dogs were numerous, but not a deer or a quail nor a squirrel was visible east of the foot hills. But when cattle, horses and sheep were imported they thrived on the open range, winter and summer, as well as did the antelope and the buffalo, without shelter or other feed than the native nutritious grasses. An early historian of Pueblo county recites that in addition to the wild game mentioned, that poker and seven-up were very numerous.

Pueblo Organized

The town of Pueblo was organized in the winter of 1859 and 1860, but was not incorporated until 1870. (The county was formed in 1862 and then included all territory now contained in the counties of Pueblo, Bent, Otero, Prowers, Huerfano and Las Animas. The first board of county commissioners consisted of O.H.P. Baxter, R.L. Wooten, and William Chapman; clerk, Stephan Smith. Judge Allen A. Bradford was the district judge.)

(Mr. Baxter and..... Judge A.A. Bradford was afterward one of the supreme judges of the territory, and was twice elected delegate from the territory to congress. Pueblo is indebted to him for the acquisition by the county of the tract of land known as County Addition.)

(The United States census of 1870 shows that Pueblo had a population of 666. About half of those were Mexicans. I presume that about the same number of the dusky race are residing here now.)

(The.....now.)

(In 1872 the first railroad- the Denver & Rio Grande- was built into this city. Prior to that date all freight was hauled in wagons, and these were nearly all drawn by ox teams, driven by Mexicans in most picturesque costumes. (Passenger traffic was

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done entirely by stage coach. One coach daily did the business between Pueblo and Denver.) Farming was principally confined to the low bottoms where inexpensive private ditches could be taken out. Little ground was cultivated. The main dependence was on stock raising and this was confined to the raising of Texas cattle and Mexican sheep. The burro, as a burden bearer, as well as a mountain canary, was in strong evidence.

Early Day Farming

(Here and there throughout the country at the head of streams and along their borders lived ranchmen. In some instances they farmed the land, but the main business was cattle raising. Capt. Craig, Peter Dotson and Judge Fields had large cultivated fields. W.H. Young and Mr. Southerland, Mr. Irvine and Mr. Robinson up the Fountain farmed extensively.) Alfalfa was then unknown. But the blue stem natural meadows made fine hay, while in the years of increased moisture the upland gramma grass was made into the finest of hay. (George M. Chilcott and the Hicklins had fine ranches. In those days there were no fences of any kind and the cattle roamed at will, having access to water anywhere. The river bottoms of Pueblo were a wild tangle of grape vines, wild plum groves, willows and young cottonwoods. Antelope, jack rabbits and coyotes were numerous on the prairies.)

Many a real pioneer, who followed closely the Indian trail lived in a wicky-up, dressed in a Mexican sombrero and a six shooter fled from the sound of a locomotive whistle. Also many a well-to-do ranchman, who possessed large herds and cut stacks of native hay, upon the coming of the railroad train, sold his ranch to a tenderfoot and drove his herd to new locations beyond the supposed reach of modern civilization. So it was with many residents of Pueblo. When new faces began to appear in increased numbers and the price of a town lot rose above the value of a horse or a cow, they fled to more congenial climes in western Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona.

A Small Beginning.

(In 1870 the 666 inhabitants were all on the north side of the river, except Klass Wildeboor, who had a farm in the bottom where South Pueblo now stands. He lived in the Grove near where his present house is located. (William H. Young had a private bridge across the Arkansas, near the present D.&R.G. railroad bridge) (taken out by the '21 flood.) (John D. Miller was county clerk in 1870.) Baxter's grist mill stood where the public building is now. (Thatcher Bros. had a general store on the southeast corner of Fourth and Santa Fe, in an adobe building. There were only two brick dwellings, but the jail was made of brick so pale a color that the building had the appearance of adobe. An adobe school building stood on the ground now occupied by the Centennial school. The little adobe Episcopal church, on 7th. and Santa Fe..... (torn down since the writing of this article.)

George M. Chilcott and Wilbur E. Stone lived in adobe houses on the opposite corners of Sixth and Santa Fe..... (Allen A. Bradford was the delegate in congress in 1870.) Judge A.A. Bradford

Henry C. Thatcher, Wilbur F. Stone, George A. Hinsdale, George M. Chilcott and James McDonald were the lawyers..... Henry C. Thatcher afterwards became chief justice of the supreme court. Wilbur F. Stone later still, became a justice of that court. George M. Chilcott was twice a delegate to congress and was a very efficient in procuring federal legislation beneficial to this territory. When in 1882 Senator Henry M. Teller was appointed in Arthur's cabinet as secretary of the interior, Mr. Chilcott was appointed by Governor Pitkin to fill his unexpired term in the United States senate. He took his seat April 17, 1882.)

Chieftain is established.

(The Chieftain was established as a weekly newspaper in 1868. It became a daily in 1872.) I extract the following data from its columns at the close of 1871, showing the growth of Pueblo in that year, viz.:

"The number of buildings erected was 107 of which twenty were brick, thirty-three frame and fifty-one adobe. The cost of these structures amounted to \$215,760. The freight receipts aggregated nearly 5,000,000 pounds; 400,000 pounds of wool were purchased by local dealers; also \$638,000 worth of merchandise. Half a million bricks were made to meet the demands of builders. There were 261 transfers of real estate, the value, as expressed in the conveyances, being \$133,206.

"The United States land office sold 80,719 acres of government land. While these figures are but an outline they denote progress, since in prior years there had been no activity at all in real estate and only a turbid flow in the channels of commerce. But the railway had quickened the arteries by infusing new blood into them and this was the evidence of it. It was manifest on every hand in a thousand ways."

Yet the development in 1871 was only the effect of the prospect of the coming of the D. & R.G., railway. It did not reach the city until June, 1872. The whole business at that date was transacted on Santa Fe avenue between First and Sixth streets.

There were two hotels, the National and the Planters. Gen. Sam Brown district attorney prior to 1870, whenever he came to Pueblo he always occupied the best room in the hotel, which was the hay mow. It was very comfortably furnished, when the guest brought his own blankets. The Southern Ute Indians passed through once a year and always camped near town for a few days. Their picturesque appearance lent color and quaintness to the streets. Their big chiefs always rode and in going from one store to another would always ride if only a half a block carrying the end of the lariat across the sidewalk into the store, the cayuse pony being tied to the other end in the street. They spoke Spanish but used very few words. Signs and gesticulations made up the larger part of the Indian language. One day I watched an Indian buck trying to buy some coffee. He laid down a ten-cent piece on the counter saying, "Coffee, ten cent, swop." The grocer weighed out the coffee but while it yet lay in the scale the quantity did not satisfy the ideas of the Indian. He picked up the coin merely saying "no swop" and walked out.

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It must be remembered that the western slope of the territory of Colorado in 1870 was an Indian reservation. What is called the Gunnison country was unoccupied by the white man. It had no railway and no communication with the rest of the world. At the time of the Meeker massacre in 1873, all the region west of the main range was unknown except to the Indians and the government agent. But later after carbonates were discovered at Leadville in 1878, and silver in the San Juan, railways were soon built into both sections and Pueblo began to grow into metropolitan proportions. Canon City was the only town west of Pueblo. All beyond that was terra incognita. The crossings of the Platte where Denver now stands; of the Arkansas where Pueblo now is, and the Purgatoire where Trinidad now is, were simply available points on the trail between military forts on the north, such as Fort Taramie and Fort Union in New Mexico in the south, where aggregations of populations naturally settled and became more or less permanent.

Belonged to Mexico

Prior to its acquisition under the treaty of Guadeloupe Hidalgo the territory south of the Arkansas river belonged to Mexico. (South Pueblo was built upon part of the Nolan grant of 48,000 acres, derived by Nolan from Old Mexico; and in the river bottom upon the Wildeboer ranch. The same persons who built the Denver & Rio Grande Railway formed a company called the Colorado Coal & Iron company, and it acquired this grant. It lay in the triangle formed by the Arkansas and St Charles rivers. They established the city of South Pueblo, which in 1886 was consolidated with old Pueblo.) But this is comparatively modern, and the subject of this paper is ancient history.

The real growth of Pueblo dates from the advent of the Denver & Rio Grande railway. In 1870 the population of Colorado was less than 40,000. It is probably now 800,000. The building of the steel works in 1881 again more than doubled the population in two years. (The first smelter, I think, was built in 1879, this was Mather & Geist. At first only one stack was erected. That was the beginning of the Pueblo smelters. After the discovery of carbonates at Leadville, and the extension of the D.&R.G. railway up the Arkansas river to that place, then it was plain sailing for the establishment of smelters in Pueblo.) With smelters, steel works, several railways, wholesale commercial houses, manufacturing in the various lines, the construction of 2,000 miles of irrigation ditches in the Arkansas valley, and the consequent cultivation of 500,000 acres of land tributary to the city, we have lost sight of the before-mentioned pioneer features of the locality, when water was selling for 25 cents a barrel on the streets without either ice or filtration, and no thought was ever entertained that the river water was anything but pure and healthy.

(There is more to the article, but this is for the most part the interesting sections of the entire selection.)

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Mr. Williams has been in Pueblo since 1872. He, with his father, mother, and brothers came to Denver from Ohio. Late in the winter of '72 they moved down to Pueblo.

He has been interested in the Colorado Pioneer Association, and was one of the first members of the Southern Colorado Association which was started in 1895. At that time to be eligible one had to have been a resident of the state prior to Aug. 1, 1876. However, this ruling has been changed several times

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Cam 344-194
Dr. Luke Mac Lean,

Dr. Luke Mac Lean,
Interviewed- Feb. 21, 1934

Elizabeth Cairns
Feb 21-1934

Dr. Luke Mac Lean was born in Prince Edward Island, Canada, Oct. 20, 1856. He spent his early days in his Canadian home and was a young man before he came to the United States.

As a boy he was unusually bright in his school work, and as a result of his diligence was awarded a two-years scholarship to the Prince of Wales College. This scholarship was one of two offered to the eligible boys of Prince Edward Island. He was only 16 years old when he got this award.

After finishing his college course he went into the banking business where he stayed for the next six years, until his health broke and forced him to quit the work. He worked for a banking house known as the MacLean Company. His line of work in the bank was concerned with the bookkeeping.

In 1882 he went to ^{northern} Minnesota where he stayed for a short time. Then he went to Minneapolis and here found work as a bookkeeper with a Mr. McCarthy. This position was obtained for him through a letter of introduction that had been written by Archbishop Ireland, of the Roman Catholic Church.

In 1885 he came to Denver, Colorado, and there studied medicine in the Denver hospitals. He obtained his Medical degree, and in 1888 went to Delta, Colorado to practice medicine. While in Delta he succeeded in doing many things of consequence. He served as Mayor of the town and as President of the School Board. He was one of the men who succeeded in first getting the grades started in high schools. He initiated the grades- 11th, and 12th, in the Delta high school. He was also instrumental in having free text

books put into the public schools.

In 1895 Dr. MacLean sold out his business in Delta and started out to look for another region in which to practice. He took a trip to Phoenix, Arizona, but was not pleased with the country, so on his return trip came through Pueblo, and decided to set up his business here. He sent for his wife, and they made their home in Pueblo from that time on.

Dr. MacLean is a well known Doctor, and during the war was in charge of the lecture classes at the University of Colorado that dealt with war-time health measures. It was during this time that the Doctor also received his honorary degree from the University of Palermo, Italy. (To prove this statement the Doctor has a gold medal that he shows.) He lectured at Boulder for two years as a government doctor. He also taught at the University of Denver, in the Dermatology Department.

Every honor that the State Medical Board can confer upon a man has been enjoyed by Dr. MacLean. He was a member of the board for a period covering 15 years, and during this time was 3 times President of the Board. He was a member of the State Lunacy Board for 5 years and helped formulate the present State Lunacy Laws.

Dr. MacLean served as Coroner of Pueblo County for two years, and as head of the Pueblo Health Department for 5 years. The Health Department in Pueblo has been in actual operation a little more than 25 years.

Due to ill health Dr. MacLean has been forced to give up his practice of medicine.

|||||

Doctor Luke MacLean is at present living at the County Poor Farm. He is rather sensitive about being confined to a County institution, and it was only through knowing the Superintendent of the Farm that I was able to see the Doctor.

All of the material given in the interview is correct and tallies with the information that the Farm has about him. Until last year the doctor lived at St. Mary's Hospital.

The doctor is extremely interesting to talk to, and was most modest in relating his attainments in the medical world. He was a well-known and much demanded lecturer in Pueblo in the earlier days.

ELIZABETH CHIRMS
FEB 22-1934

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Mrs. Westcott is also in the County Poor Farm, but is not as agreeable about helping give an interview as some of the rest were.

From what I could gather, Mrs. Westcott is English, by birth. Her father was a horse raiser, and every spring she and her father would bring their finest horses from England to exhibit in this country. It was on one of these exhibiting trips that Mrs. Westcott first came to Colorado. They exhibited horses at Ouray, Colorado in 1882. Professionally, Mrs. Westcott was a nurse, and served at Fort Uncompagire, during the war.

Her deceased husband, Charles A. Westcott, was a G.A.R. member, and also the owner of a general store at Deulah, Colorado. Having been wounded during the war he sought the benefits of the Deulah climate. In Deulah the Westcotts were the owners of some fine cattle and horses. Mrs. Westcott gave riding lessons to many of the prominent people of Pueblo. Among her patrons were the Thatchers and the O.L.F. Baxters..

(There are several other persons at the farm, but are in such ill health that they are not able to tell much. The oldest person at the farm is an old Mexican woman, whose age is over 100 years. At one time she was the belle of Mexican society, being a dancer. A Mr. F. McGregor is an old resident of Pueblo, but is in the sick ward, and unable to have company. I might say here that Mrs. Westcott has been in bed for the past seven years, her feet are paralyzed.)

Letter from Colonel Chivington, presented by Mrs. Sullivan.

Received by the Southern Colorado Pioneers Association,

August 23, 1912, from Chas. W. Kessler.

Head Quarters, District of Colorado.

Denver C.T. April 21st, 1863.

Fellow Soldiers,

I acknowledge the receipt of your petition dated Fort Lyons C.T. April 17th, 1863, and I have carefully noted its contents. Be assured, whatever misrepresentations have been made to you heretofore, and by others, I shall never lay myself justly liable to such charge, and I trust that even the past is not so bad in this respect as you seem to think. I will here say what I said to more than one of your Officers on my return east last November- that there never was any authority from the proper source to recruit a Battery in Colorado. Yet you are enlisted men, and as the friend of each one of you, I urge that you obey implicitly every lawful order given you by all your superiors, Your Officers, I mean. I here state that you shall be fairly treated so long as you are under my command. I should be proud to have you armed as a Battery and attached to the 1st. Cavalry of Colorado, but this cannot be, as the Adj. Gen. of the Army at Washington has said most emphatically that he would not allow mixed Regt's- I.E. Regts composed in part of the Infantry, part of Cavalry or Artillery. They ~~must~~ be all Infantry, all Cavalry or all Artillery.

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This request however desirable, is impracticable. Again- if you were ordered into Leavenworth without being regularly recognized as a Battery of Artillery at Washington, you would be sure to fail in your object. This, then you will see is wholly impracticable. I have not the Power to disband you, and would not do it if I had the Power, and I think when you look at the thing in its bearings on your characters in the future, you would not desire it. You have a higher destiny I trust, that before the war is over you will have ample opportunity to serve your country, in your "coveted" arm of the service, as a Battery. While you remain (which I think will not be long) at Fort Lyon, you will be expected to do Garrison duty. In the meantime I will do all that can be done to secure you full equipment as a Battery. Will send to Washington by next coach, and will press the matter of arming you as an independent Colorado Battery. The Governor, "I doubt, not" will cooperate with me fully in this. That you will reflect credit on the Territory, I have not a single doubt. I could never see the Policy of a man in a little brief authority, deceiving those who in intellectual- social and moral states- were their equals.

Boys be of good cheer.

I am with much respect

Yours

J.M. Chivington,

Col. Comndg. District.

To

All the members
of the 1st. Colorado Battery
Fort Lyon C.T.

ELIZABETH CHIRMS DOE 344
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WHEN THE FIRST COUNTY RAILROAD BONDS WERE ISSUED FOR PUEBLO COUNTY.

by

CHARLES C RICHARDSON, HISTORIAN

PUEBLO, COLORADO, OCT. 28, 1921.

The County issued some \$250,000 worth of bonds to help the Denver & Rio Grande Railway build into Pueblo from the north in 1872 with the understanding that a passenger and freight depot would be opened and maintained within a mile of the Pueblo County Court House. A depot was built and used for a short time, situated about one half mile north of the present Dundee section house, but General Palmer and his associates soon afterwards purchased the bottom land south of the river from Klaas Wildeboor, and some 42,000 acres of upland known as the Nolan Grant from Messrs. Blake, Goodnight, and Dotson and started the town of South Pueblo.)

In the early seventies the Kansas Pacific Railroad had built south from their main line at Kit Carson to Las Animas and there was great rivalry between them and the Atchinson Topeka and Santa Fe R.R. to see which railroad would reach the Pacific first.

In 1875 a concord coach load of prominent citizens left Pueblo to defend the grade east of Pueblo for the Santa Fe known and incorporated under the title of The Pueblo & Arkansas Railroad.

Max Crow on this expedition was bitten on the cheek, during the night, by a centipede; his life was saved by large doses of whiskey being administered to him, and he had something to talk about the balance of his life in the adventure.

Some \$350,000 worth of bonds were voted to help the Santa Fe R.R. built from the east county line to Pueblo. A great celebration was held here in March 1876 when the railroad from the east reached Pueblo, but one of the worst snowstorms of the year somewhat dampened the ardor of the celebrants.

John A. Clough, one of the County Commissioners at that time being the sole objector to signing the bonds. (About 1876 they repudiated the bonds, the case was tried in the courts, and the bond holders won.)

With every one thousand dollar bond delivered to the railroads the county was given ten(10) shares of stock of the railroad company at a par value of one hundred dollars a share.

In 1880-1881 good times returned after the panic of 1875. Stocks on Wall Street began to soar. Railroads were being built in all directions, the boom was on. The then County Commissioners were offered and sold the Counties' railroad stock at ten dollars per share for the D.&R.G. stock held by the county and seventy dollars per share for the Pueblo and Arkansas Valley railroad stock so held.

Since that time little has been done to reduce the County bonded debt except refund the outstanding bonds at a lower rate of interest when they became due. Although I am pleased to note that some two or three years ago a sinking fund of \$50,000 per annum was created to begin to pay off and retire the outstanding county bonds as they became due.

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Copy of a bill that was in the material belonging to the Southern Colorado Pioneers Association.

(SOUTH PUEBLO, COLORADO, Jan'y 8 1876.

MR. Wells

Bought of E. SHELBURN & CO.,

- Dealers in-

STAPLE AND FANCY GROCERIES, HARDWARE,

Flour, Feed, and Grain.

E. Shelburn.

H. C. Harris.

J. M. Aldrich.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

| | | | | | |
|-------|----|----|-----------------------------|----|--------------------|
| Jan'y | 1. | or | 2# Dried Apples | | 30 |
| | | " | $\frac{1}{2}$ Gal. Molasses | | 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| | | " | 1# Coffee | | 30 |
| | | " | Tea | | 25 |
| | | " | Lead Pencil | | 10 |
| | | " | 1 Plug Tobacco | | 35 |
| | | " | 9# Bacon | 15 | 1.35 |
| | | " | 1# Butter | | 40 |
| | | | | | 3.67 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

Received payment Jan'y 8th., 1876.

E. Shelburn & Co.

PIONEER DAYS OF 1869.

By J. J. Lansing.

"Unlike many of the early pioneers of Colorado, who crossed the plains with bull teams, I came on a freight train from Chicago. Having obtained a letter from an Illinois conductor on the Illinois Central Rail Road, which enabled me to ride in a caboose, but was not good on a passenger train. All freight conductors at that time were willing and did extend courtesies to their fellow employees, no matter what road they came from. After starting, nothing worthy of notice occurred until we reached the Great American Desert west of Omaha. And it certainly was a desert at that time if want of habitation and cultivation justifies the name of desert. After riding 150 miles on the Union Pacific west of Omaha there was nothing to be seen but a few section houses and prairie dog towns, and a few bunches of antelope. A few miles west of Plum Creek, after rounding a sharp curve we came to a wreck of freight cars, they had been burned by Indians under their leader, Turkey Leg, a Sioux chief. The Indians had taken up a "T" rail and thrown it into the Platte river, about a mile away; they also burned all of the cars in the train. After having robbed the cars in the train of all the goods they wanted, they killed all of the crew with the exception of one brakeman who concealed himself on a brakebeam. This brakeman watched his chance and at the first opportunity crawled out on the opposite side from the Indians who were busy with their plundering. He crawled into a buffalo wallow not far from the track where he could watch the redskins having their

fun. The Indians, having more loot than they could pack away, started to have some sport in the following way : after tying bolts of calico and muslin to the ponies tails the Indians would start at a gallop out over the plains with 30 or 40 yards streaming after them- this was rare sport, but did not last long. They soon left with all they could take away. They were no sooner well out of sight than the brakie made his way to the nearest telegraph station.

The band was captured soon after by U. S. troopers, Turkey Leg was asked what he did with the "T" rail. He said, "We throw him in the Platte River." "What did you do that for?" asked a soldier. Turkey Leg replied, "Indian wait until white man get railroad to mountain long way off, then white man take em all up and have do all over again".

Arriving at South Platte a division on the Union Pacific, I was surprised to see the ground covered with snow, as I thought, but the snow turned out to be alkali.

Here I met an old Illinois conductor who seemed glad to meet me. He had many inquiries to make of old acquaintances, while we talked we saw antelope trying to outrun the train in which we were riding. We fired at the antelope without effect except to make them run faster or change their course. Each freight at that time carried six stands of Sharps rifles which furnished amusement for the conductor and myself whenever we saw any game to scare, for neither of us could kill anything when the train was moving and the game running.

Arriving at Cheyenne, in the territory of Wyoming, I bid good-by to the rail road. The next morning I took the stage coach

for Central City, Colorado, via Denver. I arrived in Denver the next day, after having been delayed 6 hours on the road by the breaking of a thoroughbrace. We waited until the up coach came to our relief, we then exchanged coaches and proceeded on our way, the coach bound for Cheyenne fortunately was empty of passengers, so the exchange was made without objection.

Fifteen miles west of Denver we entered the mountains through the "Golden Gate", as it was called a little beyond Golden City. Arriving at Smith's Hill all of the male passengers were invited to take a walk up the hill; before reaching the summit I had the nose-bleed, owing to the rarity of the atmosphere, but I continued with the rest of the travelers to the top of the hill where we all again got aboard the coach. I sat on the seat with the driver, but soon wished myself for with the short curves, the yawning precipices close at hand along with which the driver whipped up the horses in descending that steep grade at such a reckless speed fairly made my hair stand on end. There was really very little danger, the Pilgrim or "tenderfoot" as he is dubbed soon becomes familiar with the mountain scenery, and familiarity breeds contempt! So he views the Royal Gorge, the top of Pike's Peak, the Seven Falls, the Cave of the Winds, and the annual floods of the Arkansas river with as little concern, so far as safety from danger is noted, as a boy fishing in the Calumet River. However, we arrived at Central City safely. I immediately went over tenderfoot hill into Russell Gulch where sluice mining was being conducted. The placers were not very profitable as they were being worked over for the 2nd. or 3rd. time. Seeing no opening here I went on to Georgetown.

In Georgetown I met a man by the name of Clark who ~~was~~ was about to start a saw mill 6 miles up the south fork of Clear Creek. There were six men in the gang, young Clark and I were to run the sawing-the others furnish the logs. On the grounds we had two log cabins, one for cooking and dining as the boys termed the grub house, the other for sleeping.

At that time it was unusual to ask a man his name, generally addressing a stranger, one would say, "Say pard, where do you hail from. So each of us was called by a name for the place from which we came or for the best known town or county in the state. A man from Missouri was dubbed PIKE, Illinois-CHICAGO, Indiana-HOOSIER, Massachusetts-BOSTON and so on. One evening after supper we were sitting in the bunk house when BOSTON said, "I am going to act as chairman while we hold an experience meeting." Whereupon we all agreed, not knowing what BOSTON had in view. BOSTON stood up and said, "Fellows, my object in suggesting this is amusement, ^{Past} ~~up~~st^{ime} and fun. Mum is to be the password, nothing said or done here goes outside, so you may each one of you feel safe. Now I propose that each one tell what he had to come to Colo. for, or in other words, why we are here tonight. I shall reserve for myself the right to the last confession, and I promise you now that it shall be as charming a tale as I can make it and be truthful." Truth should be your mentor remarked our self-appointed chairman rather sternly. "Let me impress this upon your minds at the outset, so that when each fellow uncoils his tale we will receive the delight that always follows the listening to a true adventure." Then ending abruptly he said, "CHICAGO, you may tell us why you came to Colorado."

I was taken by surprise at the announcement of the chair. However, CHICAGO took the floor. BOSTON seated himself and assumed an air of owl-like wisdom and cod-fish gravity, truly amusing.

CHICAGO began by saying, "Some men are born great, others have greatness thrust upon them. I belong to neither the one class or the other. I agree with Pope, the eminent British poet, who says that "Some are and must be greater than the rest," viz:- to wit, namely our chairman- (Applause). In your opening, Mr. Chairman, you admonished us to speak the truth. Therefore I will not use up the time of others, who will, I have no doubt, have matters to relate much more interesting and better adapted to the tastes of our worthy chairman than what I am about to say. The plain truth, if it must be told, is that I came to Colorado for the benefit of my health and to see the country." "Is that all?" exclaimed the Chairman sarcastically. "You look like an invalid sure enough." A hearty laugh followed, then applause.

"HOOSIER give us your reasons for leaving your native state. I hope you won't claim you are a pilgrim out here in search of the Holy Grail."

"Mr. Chairman, I don't exactly know what you mean by the Holy Grail. But I can tell you what I know about myself. I was born in Indiana, of poor but respectable parents, I had but little chance for education. I attended school a few months one winter and worked the balance of the year. I lived on a farm until I became of age. I have never stolen a horse nor committed a crime in my life."

"Oh! Scat", interrupted the chairman. Scat wasn't the word used, but scat will do. This meeting then adjourned.

A few days after the above record a small party of prospectors from Massachusetts came along headed for Middle Park. They camped near the sawmill for the night. During the night a burro, one of the pack animals, in crossing a pole bridge broke a leg. Nothing could be done for the animal, so he was shot. The party being humane buried the animal. One of the party, a young graduate, and something of a joker got a piece of board from the sawmill, whittled it smooth, and wrote "Hic facet" and stuck it up for a headboard on the grave. The next day another party consisting of father and son from Posey County, Indiana camped on the same ground. Before they had been there long the young man saw the newly made grave, walked up to it and around it. He saw the inscription on the headboard, "Hic facet". "Say, Dad, what is the meaning of Hic facet?" "What kind of a jacket do you reckon he had on when they buried him?" The old man after studying the grave and the inscription said, "I allow that it is meant to read, 'His jacket', and furthermore he was a descendent of that famous old chief Red Jacket. You have read about him; he lies buried here in his jacket along with his scalping knife and war accounts. Sure as guns, bud."

"Lets dig him up and get his jacket and other fixings, Dad."

"Well, Bud, you get the shovels and picks." Bud soon returned with the tools, and a few minutes later they set to work. After working a short while they uncovered the remains of the burro, but no son of an Indian chief or his famous jacket. Bud straightened up and said, "I say, Dad, if we ever find the man who put up that headpiece we will fill his jacket so full of holes that his friends wont know whether it is a jacket or a sieve."

The sawmill and lumber proved a bad venture to Clark, he went broke and never paid his men. Some of us turned prospectors with no

better success than to set a few claim stakes. I returned to Central City and stayed through the winter of '68. My brother Ed and I came to Pueblo in the month of March 1870. We put up at the Drover's Hotel on Santa Fe Avenue located on the west side of the street near 5th. Street. Harry Richard was proprietor. Pueblo had about 600 people.

Santa Fe Avenue was the one business street in Pueblo. There was not a brick house in the town, and but two small residences - one near where the government building now stands, the other across the street and north of the Grand Hotel. All other houses were either wood or adobe.

There was one newspaper in the town - The Pueblo Chieftain. Sam McBride was the Editor. (At this time Gen. Carl Wulster, with a colony of settlers destined for the Wet Mountain Valley, arrived in Pueblo escorted by U.S. soldiers. Indians were troublesome, so Gen. Wulster obtained an order from the War Department for an escort to convoy the colony through to their destination. There were many women and children in the colony. The party camped here a few days to rest and replenish their provisions, then went on to Wet Mountain Valley where they arrived in safety.

A few days after an article came out in the Chieftain reflecting upon the colonists and the courage of Wulster, saying the older settlers had come through defending themselves and their families with their rifles - without asking Uncle Sam to send troops to protect them. Besides this a lot of nonsense, mostly of laughable character, was printed about Wulster.

A few weeks later Gen. Wulster returned to Pueblo, his attention was called to the article, he immediately went to the Chieftain office, demanded that McBride apologize. McBride refused to do this, a few words passed and Wulster went away. A little later in the day the stage arrived with the mail. McBride went to the Post office, Gen Wulster came in, saw McBride, and another row started. McBride drew a pocket pistol and fired hitting Gen Wulster in the leg. Upon examination it was found to be only a flesh wound and not dangerous. He soon recovered and the affair ended there.)

Another affair, of different nature, took place about this time. Hugh McCloskey was proprietor of a saloon on the east side of Santa Fe Avenue and a few doors south of 3rd, Street, a little way below the old adobe building used for a Court house. Sam Peters dearly loved a practical joke, and one day while sitting on the steps of McCloskey's saloon he saw Aunt Eliza, an immense colored woman weighing about 250 pounds and a half Indian squaw, coming towards him. Sam called to her saying, "Aunt Eliza if you will say what I tell you to McCloskey, I will give you a dollar."

"Alright, Mr. Peters, give me the dollar."

Sam beckoned to a gang standing across the way, they all followed Aunt Eliza into the saloon. Aunt Eliza stepped up to the bar, her old poke bonnet thrown back and her face and hands black and shining like the inside of an empty tar barrel.

He said, "Mr. McCloskey was your father an Irishman?"

"He was that."

"Mine was too," replied Aunt Eliza.