

## Bypaths of Kansas History

### OXTAIL WITHOUT THE SOUP

From the *Topeka Weekly Leader*, July 12, 1866.

We saw a bull-whacker, yesterday, play old strategy on a toiling bovine, who in the stubbornness of a perverse heart, refused to pull his way through one of the quagmires which grace our city. After using up the vocabulary of oaths and having wasted his strength in numerous applications of raw hide, but without effect, the estimable and energetic driver dropped his gad and applied his dental proportions to the unsuspecting tail of the wayward brute. Not wishing to be chewed up, the bovine at once applied himself to business, and when last seen was making things lively on the way to New Mexico. We ought to have a society out here for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

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### HE BEAT HIS WAY ACROSS COUNTRY

From the *Junction City Union*, August 30, 1873.

We heard of a young man who beat his way through the southern part of the county, last week, in a somewhat novel way. He produced a telegraph dispatch to a man at St. George, urging him to take a certain course, and he would be certain to catch the thief. Of course no one would refuse him a horse under such circumstances, as his captive was easily secured. At a livery stable in Manhattan he exchanged his horse for a fresh one, being on the track of a "stolen horse." He next appeared at Humboldt, but the people had no horses to exchange. Shortly after him came the St. George man and the Manhattan livery-keeper. MORAL.—don't let strangers have a fast horse to catch a thief with.

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### WHEN THE CAN-CAN CAME TO DODGE CITY

From the *Dodge City Times*, July 6, 1878.

For two nights the Dodge City Varieties have successfully presented the extravagant Can-Can to large and appreciative audiences. The ordinary Variety character had become lax. It was to meet popular demand and curiosity that induced the Varieties' managers to spread the great spectacular extravaganza on the boards. How well they understood the situation. Instead of dreamy, tireless spectators the house was crowded with a large, vigorous and wide awake people. The Can-Can was new to many, though jardin mabilization has become indigenous to American soil. The Can-Can does not deprave the moral taste of average Dodgeites or rangers—the ordinary life is presented in a condensed form on the stage. We cannot particularize the performers—we cannot do it. Every one acted well his or her part. The Varieties will be crowded to-night. Take a front seat, baldy, or you can-not see it—so well.