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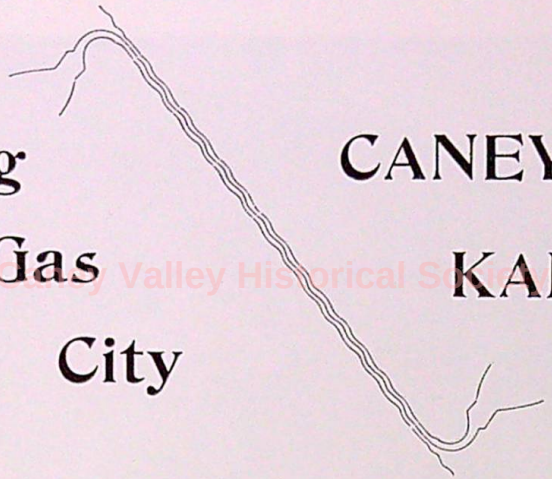
CANEY

KANSAS

The Big Gas City



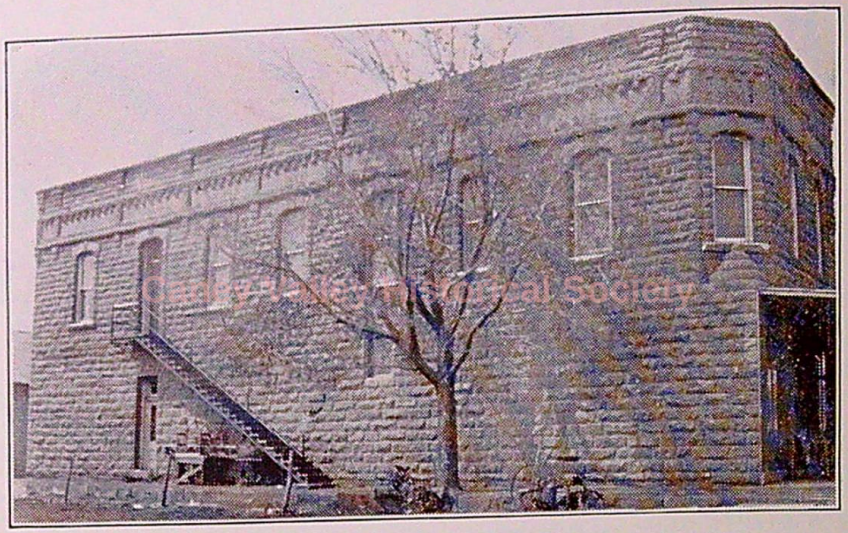
CANEY KANSAS

Caney Valley Historical Society

C. BARTLETT, Editor and Publisher.

Price 50 Cents.

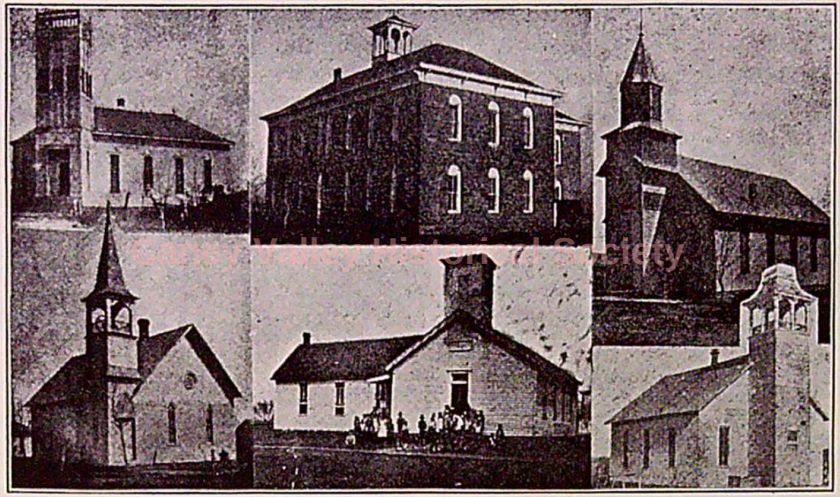
CHRONICLE PRINT, CANEY, KANS



Cedar Valley Historical Society

Masonic Temple and D. H. Smith's Store Room

CANEY CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS



Christian
Methodist

Public Schools

Presbyterian
Baptist

Caney Valley Historical Society

THE ELITE BAND

Mabel Stevens, Katie Lee, Mrs. Utterback, Nellie Barr, Maud Powers, Mrs. Sheraden, Bessie Nelson, Marie Harbard. Mrs. Campbell, Avis Troxel, Nora Stevens, Myrtle Winkler, Angie Bell. A. L. Utterback, Director.

☞ Names commence with upper row, continuing from left to right.

THE SIGOURNEYAN CLUB

Mrs. Brighton Mrs. Blackledge Mrs. Sheraden
Mrs. Perkins
Mrs Paul Mrs. Epstein Mrs. Truskett
Mrs. Cunningham Mrs. Godden Mrs. Jarvis
Mrs. Allen

☞ This is a literary society having a library of upward of 300 volumes of choice literature. Has a total membership of 18.

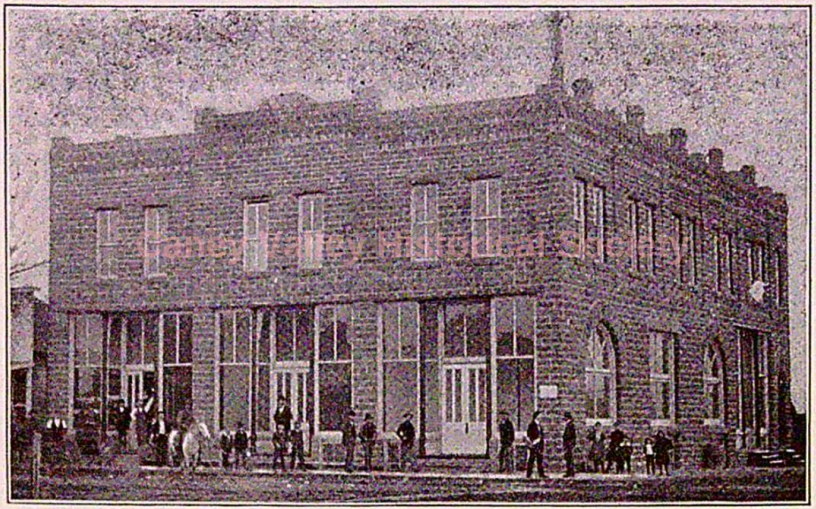
Caney, Kansas.

NEAR the southern edge of Montgomery county the thriving little city of Caney nestles among the hills and valleys on the border of the Indian Territory, the business center being less than one mile north of the Territory line. Its modest claim of 1,200 population the casual observer will not hesitate for one moment to allow, considering the amount of ground covered by its site, and the character of the business establishments, their large number and varied business, the numerous substantial residences, churches and school buildings.

It is a little more than thirty years ago that the first settlers began locating on land in this vicinity. Its nearness to the Indian country no doubt kept many from venturing here, also the fact that no government survey had been made. There were no railroads here in those early days, and for many years Caney was without railroad facilities. In 1870 the nearest railroad town was Baxter Springs, and the present postmaster, Capt. J. E. Stone, reached that point on the first train that ran over the line, in April of that year, continuing his journey by stage to his destination, a distance of more than sixty miles. Previous to the completion of this road Humboldt was the nearest railroad point, about seventy-five miles intervening between the two places.

Caney Valley Historical Society

Following closely on the heels of the settler are locations for townsites, and a town named Ennisville was started about two miles



BARTLES-HENDERSON BLOCK
Destroyed by fire June 1900. Will be rebuilt.

south of the present site of Caney, and grew quickly into a flourishing little place of about four hundred. "Ennis of Arkansas" was the proprietor and projector of this enterprise, but when the government survey was completed it was found that Ennisville was about one and one-fourth miles over the boundary line of Kansas, and a part of the Indian Territory, and no title to the land could be had. Ennisville gradually melted away, many of the inhabitants holding on until finally ejected by U. S. troops sent to clear the boundary of intruders. It lived and flourished for two years, but nothing is left to mark its mushroom growth and decay.

Caney Valley Historical Society

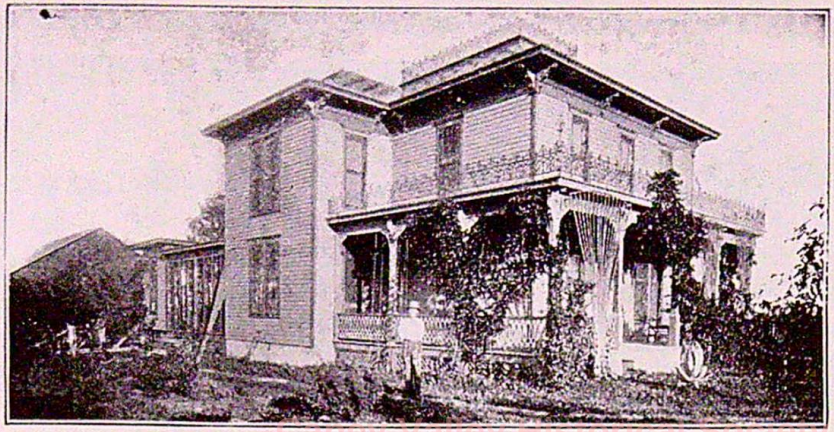
Before Ennisville died the townsite of Caney was located, and a company formed which was known as the Caney Town Company. Quite a rivalry existed between the two places, and Caney finally absorbed a number of the Ennisville buildings, some of which are

Residence of J. M. Cunningham

in evidence at the present time. The name of Caney was given it on account of the Caney river, which runs about one mile west. How the river came to be so named is not a matter of record, but the supposition is that it was called so from the fact that wild cane grew very profusely along its banks in former times, which in late years has disappeared.

Some of the early pioneers are here now. John W. Hodges, who located on land three-quarters of a mile east of the present townsite, arrived there April 3, 1870, having traveled twenty-two days by wagon, from Centralia, Illinois, with his wife and five children. He has the honor of being the first Justice of the Peace in Caney, having been so appointed by Governor Martin in 1870; was a member of the first School Board; one of the first Township Trustees; received the first commission for Notary Public; built

Coffeyville Historical Society



Residence of W. S. Brown

Stanley Valley Historical Society

W. S. Brown
and one of his herds of cattle

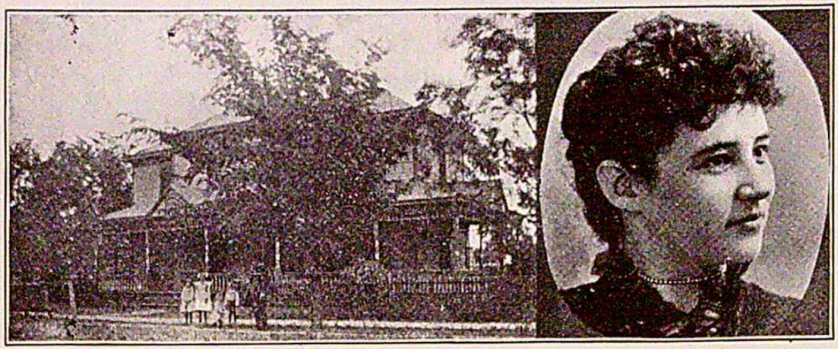
the first frame house, and dug the first well on land where the handsome residence of W. S. Brown now stands. Another pioneer is D. H. Smith, who reached here in the summer of 1870, coming to Humboldt by railroad, and thence overland. He returned to Iowa, and came back in the spring of 1871, driving from Iowa, a distance of about six hundred miles, with his wife, two children and hired man. During the interim the land had all been taken up, and he bought the improvements of one of these settlers on land about two miles from Caney. Mr. Smith has quite an interesting history. At the age of eleven he went to sea; at the age of sixteen he went to Minnesota, before even the Territory was organized. St. Paul, now a city of more than a quarter of a million people, had only one store at that time, and Minneapolis was a wilderness. It was in the year 1849 when he settled in Minnesota, and he was on the first jury that was drawn after the Territory was organized. He saw

Caney Valley Historical Society

Dr. W. P. Booker
and his Drug Store

Caney Valley Historical Society

Dr. W. P. Booker's Residence
and Mrs. Booker

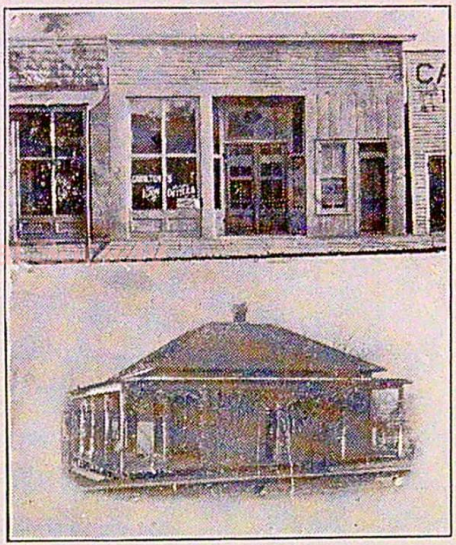


the press landed that started the paper which now is the Pioneer Press. He cast his first vote in the interest of Buchanan. When he came to this section he passed through Independence, now a city of over 6,000, but then composed of one log hotel and a few other small buildings.

Dr. Taylor, Berryman Smith and John Luppy are also among the pioneers, the latter reaching here April 6, 1870, driving from Fort Scott with his wife and baby. Mr. Luppy was a veteran, having served in the 2d Wisconsin cavalry, Co. B, enlisting at La Crosse. He was at the seige of Vicksburg for forty days, and in a number of battles. Mustered out in Texas in 1865. The baby which came on that trip from Fort Scott has for eleven years been a teacher in the Indian school at Pawhuska—Miss Ida Luppy. John Luppy has been city marshal for about five years.

Valley Historical Society

J. R. CHARLTON



Office and Residence of J. R. Charlton

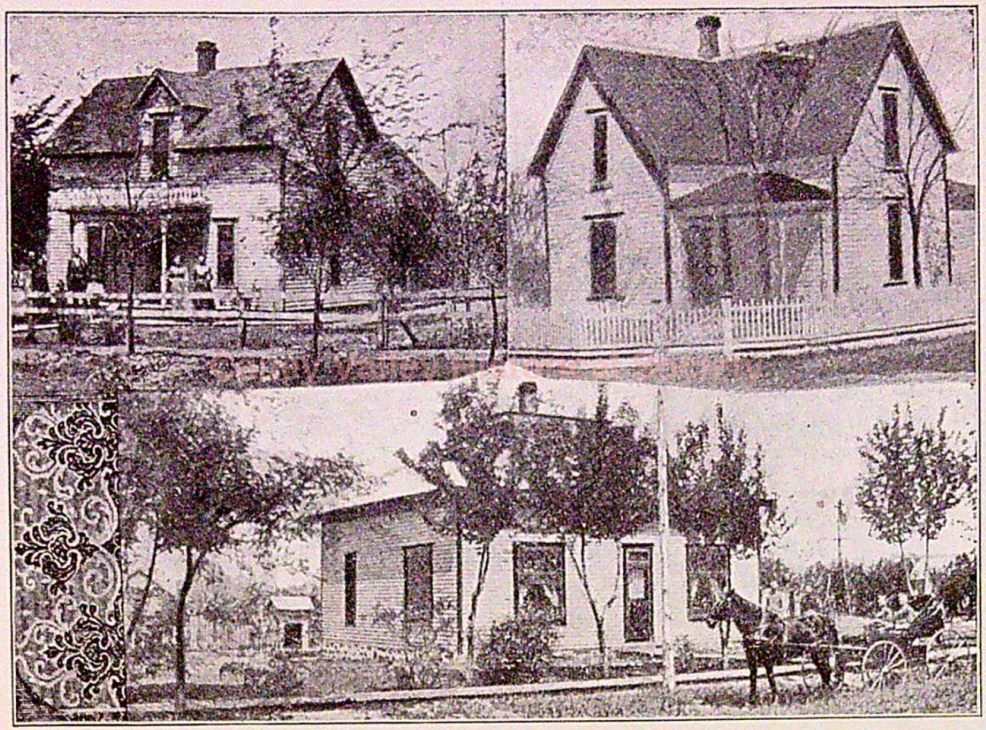
Dr. Taylor, who came later, had the distinction of being the father of the first white child born in the new settlement.

Berryman Smith, now living two miles west, was one of four who owned the land on which the townsite was platted.

* * *

FROM the earliest settlers it is learned that only one year has been disastrous since the land has been under cultivation. This occurred in 1874, the year of drouth and grasshoppers—and those plagues only affected the late planted corn. Early corn was too far advanced to be damaged by the dry spell, and the grasshoppers ate only the green blades of the late planted. Those who had fortunately commenced planting early received the benefit of a good crop even in that year. This is a remarkable record, as some

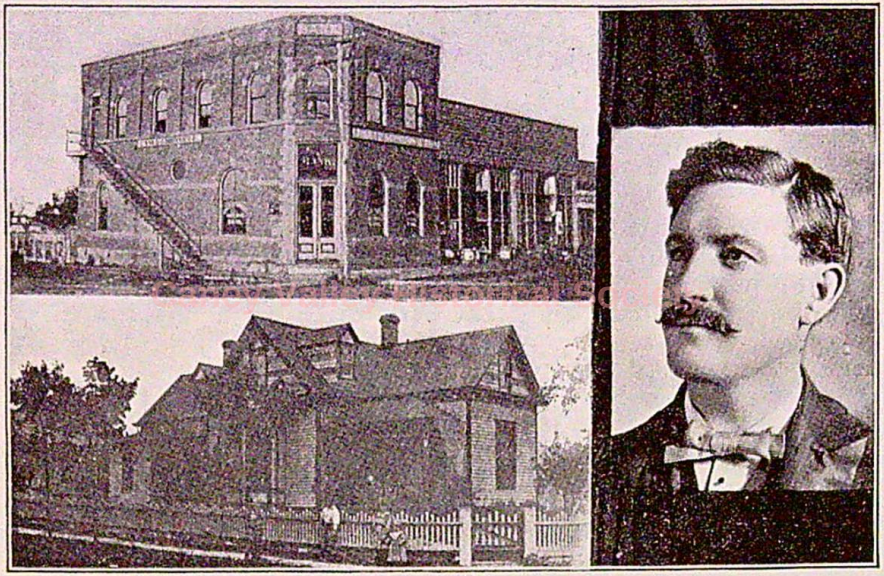
Carey Valley Historical Society



Residence of G. B. Atwood Residence of P. W. Paul Residence of C. F. Cavis

other sections of the state can bear witness. An erroneous impression prevailed for many years, especially in the eastern states, that Kansas was a country of "cyclones, grasshoppers and drouth." This impression has given way in recent years, and now it is "enterprise, energy, education and excitement" that brings Kansas into the foreground. No cyclone has ever done disaster to the farmers of this part of the state, although a small one made an attempt to do business along a strip of country about five miles west of Caney, but accomplished very little—no one was injured, and only a few small buildings were damaged.

The soil is very productive where cultivated, the average crop being about twenty bushels of wheat per acre. Corn is also successfully raised and in great demand, on account of the large cattle business tributary to this section.



Caney Valley National Bank and
Offices of Dr. Stevens and Caney Chronicle
Residence of J. F. Blackledge

J. F. BLACKLEDGE
Cashier Caney Valley National Bank

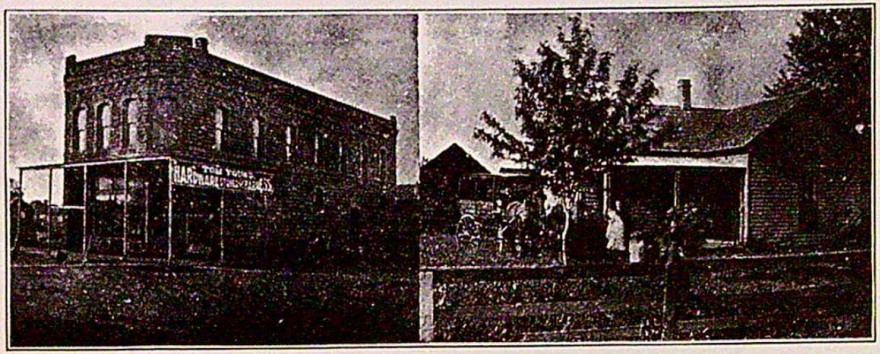
THE land on which Caney was platted was taken from four quarter sections, forty acres from each, making 160 acres in the plat. A charter was obtained by the Caney Town Company and some lots sold, but it did not accomplish much. The town was very slow in its growth for a number of years. The first store was on the spot afterwards occupied by the Bartles Block, and was opened by O. M. Smith. The entire contents of the store were brought in one wagon. The extent of the stock carried can, therefore, be surmised as being not very extensive in assortment or quantity.

Caney Valley Historical Society

There was not much advancement in the growth of the town until the year 1885, when the securing of a prospective railroad gave considerable impetus toward its upbuilding. The survey and building of what is now a part of the main line of the Missouri Pacific Railway was commenced by the Fitzjerald & Mallory Construction Co. Its original starting point was Baxter Springs, and

TOM YOUNG
and his
Hardware Store

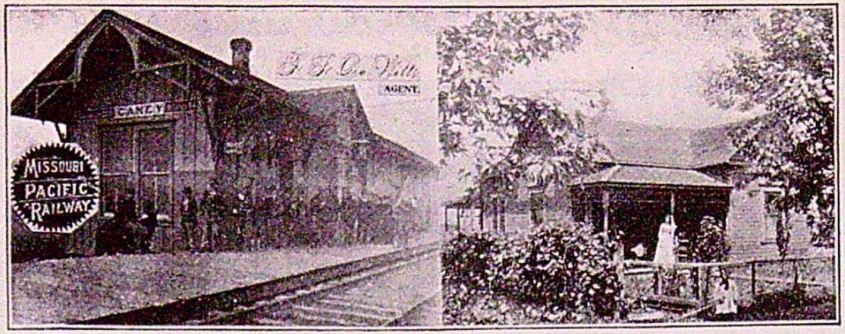
Camp Valley Historical Society



Odd Fellows Hall

Chas Graves' Residence

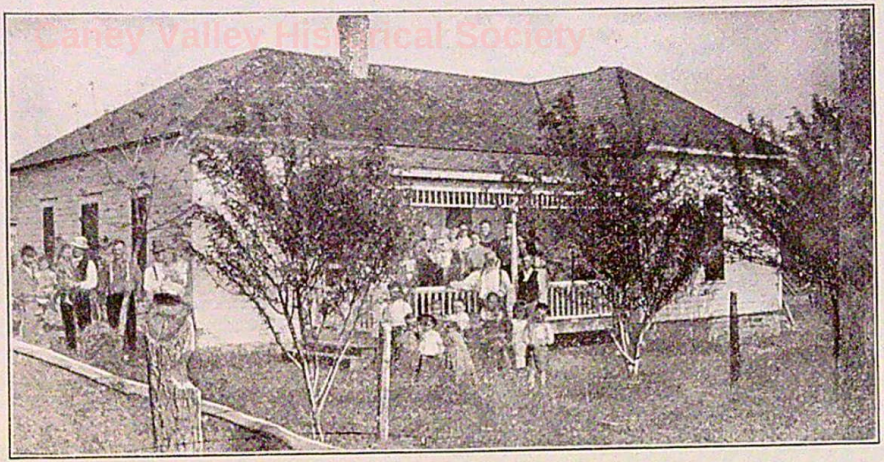
it was called the Denver, Memphis & Atlantic. It was completed and turned over to the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company in 1886, and has been a great boon to the people living along the southern border of Kansas. It has direct connection with Kansas City, St. Louis and the Pacific coast. Two trains are run daily in each direction, the passenger trains having free chair cars, and the accommodation trains good passenger coaches. The distance from Kansas City to Caney is 266 miles; from St. Louis it is 443. A very handsome depot has been built for the use of the traveling public, with which is combined the freight depot. The business transactions of the railroad and the Pacific Express Company has for the past eleven years been in charge of the very efficient and gentlemanly agent, F. S. DeWitt. The Western Union Telegraph Company has its office in the same building, which is attended to by H. C. Reininger, who has been stationed here for six years. The entire business has been conducted in a very satisfactory manner.



Missouri Pacific Depot

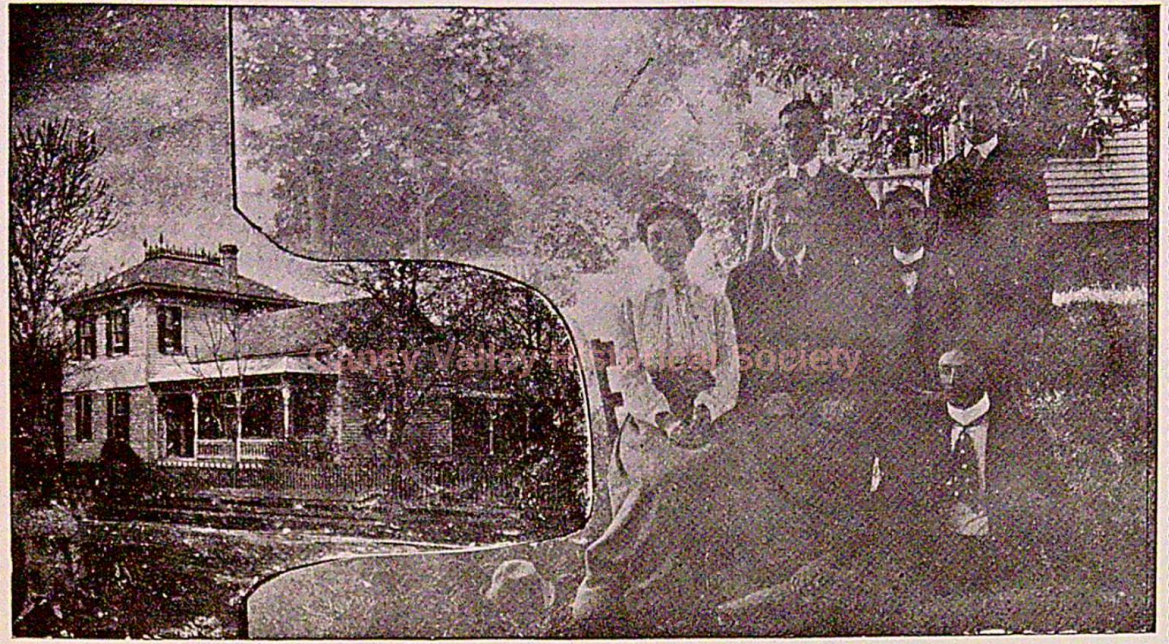
F. S. DeWitt's Residence

Caney Valley Historical Society



J. L. Carinder's Residence

AT THE commencement of the period of activity inaugurated by the building of the railroad a new company, also called the Caney Town Company, was formed, of which J. E. Stone was president, and C. C. Black, who represented the construction company and the railroad company, was secretary. A purchase was made by the new town company of 280 acres of land, of which 140 acres was platted into town lots. This company wound up its business in 1893 by deeding the unplatted 140 acres to J. E. Stone for his one third of the stock, and disposing of the unsold lots to W. K. Godden. The 140 acres is still in the possession of Captain Stone, also the original land which was deeded him by the government, located two miles northwest of the present city limits. Capt. Stone is the present very efficient postmaster, receiving that appointment November 15, 1897. During his incumbency the office, which was of the fourth class when turned over to him, has been made a third class, the increase taking place in July 1899, and since then an extra increase of $100 has been added to the salary.



Residence of J. E. Stone

Bert Earl
Miss Myrtle Capt. J. E. Stone Arthur
Roy

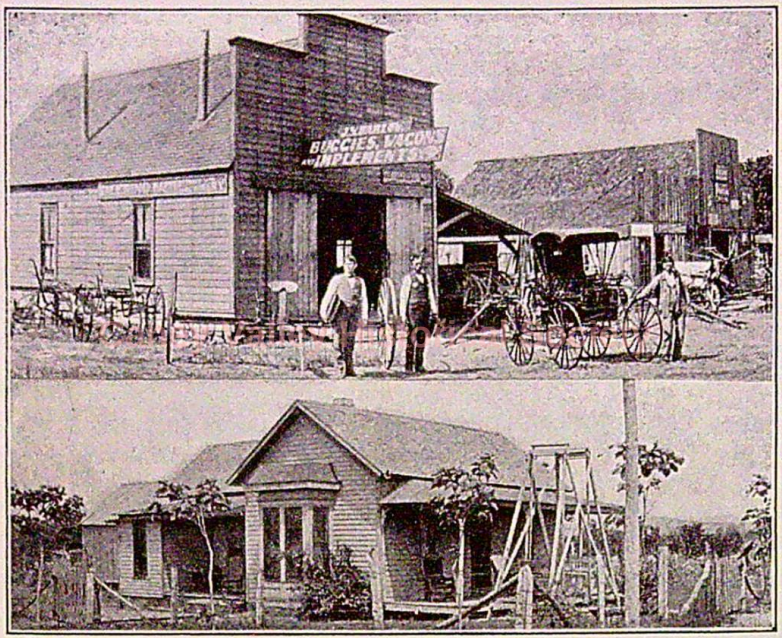
Grey Valley Historical Society

In the fall of 1871 he was elected sheriff, and moved to Independence in 1872. He was elected for a second term in 1873, and his residence in Independence lasted for five years, when he returned to Caney and has since become permanently identified with its prosperous growth. He was born in Maine, and came direct from that state to Kansas. During the war he was a soldier of the 26th Maine, served in several battles, and was at the surrender of Lee at the battle of Five Forks. He afterwards became first lieutenant in the 41st and 125th U. S. infantry. After being mustered out he was recommissioned and was on the plains for about two years.

When residing in Independence he married Miss Anna A. Van Sandt, and has a family of five children, the oldest son, Arthur, being now the assistant postmaster. The only daughter, Myrtle, is also an assistant in the postoffice. His wife died in 1897.

The quick distribution of mail at this office is a feature for which Caney is noted, and a great contrast to the proverbial slowness of the average work in the smaller cities of this and other states.

Caney Valley Historical Society



J. W. Barlow's Implement House, Blacksmith Shop and Residence

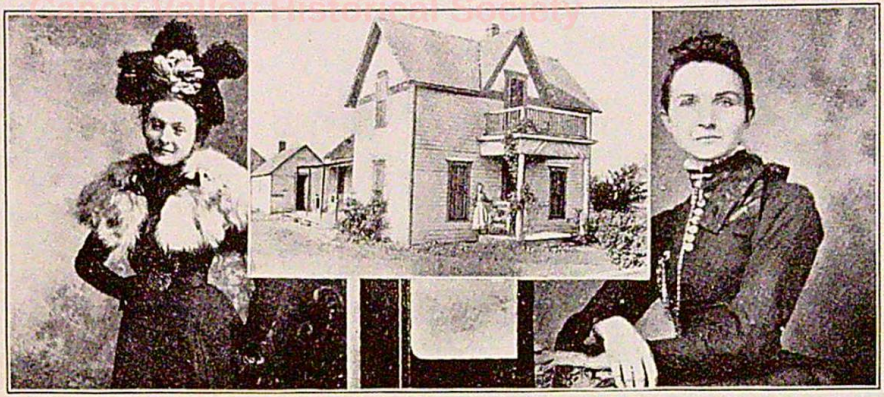
The first mail from the east arrives at 8 o'clock in the morning. A second mail is received at 11:17 a. m. Eastern mail is forwarded from here at 3:48 p. m., and reaches St. Louis or Chicago the following morning. Altogether, the mail facilities at this point are extremely satisfactory.

* * *

ON JULY 5, 1887, the board of commissioners of Montgomery county granted the petition for incorporation of Caney as a city of the third class, the inhabitants at that time exceeding the requisite number—250. The commissioners who granted the petition were John Costello, chairman, Thomas M. Bailey and Geo. Foster. They ordered an election to be held on July 18, 1887, and appointed John Todd. A. M. Taylor and P. C. Dosh as judges, and W. K. Godden, D. K. Mitchell and A. Pattison clerks of such election.

On the appointed day two tickets appeared in the field, headed "People's Ticket" and "Compromise Ticket." The successful

W. V. Toner's Livery and Restaurant



Miss Madge Toner

W. V. Toner's Residence

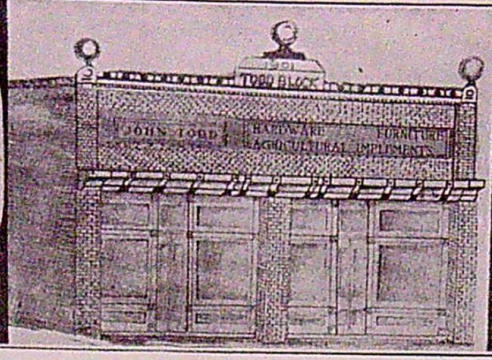
Mrs Toner

candidates and first city officers were: Mayor, P. S. Hollingsworth; Councilmen, J. A. Summer, H. P. Wiltse, W. B. McWilliams, J. J. Hemphill and W. E. Rogers; Police Judge F. H. Hooker; Treasurer, D. K. Mitchell.

The first City Clerk appointed by the council was F. G. Dye. The first Street Commissioner and City Marshal was W. V. Toner. On September 26, 1887, the first sixteen ordinances were approved, and became effective October 28, 1887. The first mayor elect, Hollingsworth, is the present cashier of the First National Bank at Independence.

Caney Valley Historical Society

THE present Mayor of the city, John Todd, is serving his third term, having been previously elected in 1894 and 1899. He was also president of the council four years. Mr. Todd is a typical western man. In 1867 he left Peoria, Illinois, for Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, where he took charge of the government shops,

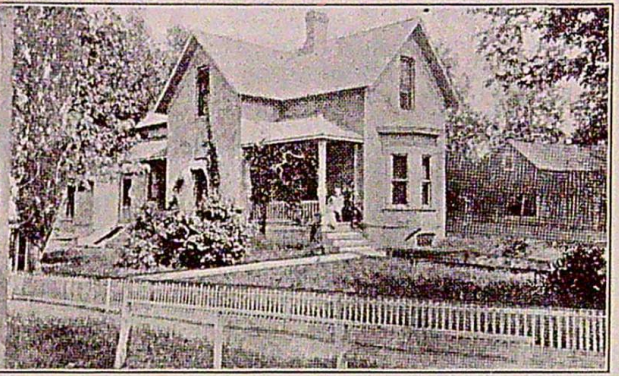


JOHN TODD

Mayor Todd's proposed new double store

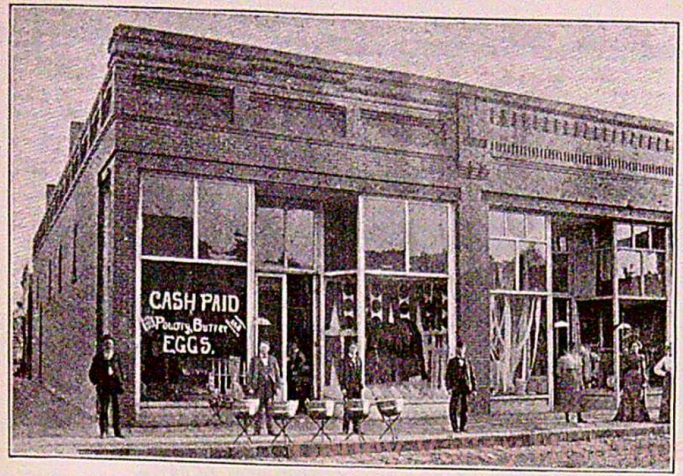
W. F. GLEECK

Ex-Mayor Dr. Stevens remodeled residence and Sanitarium

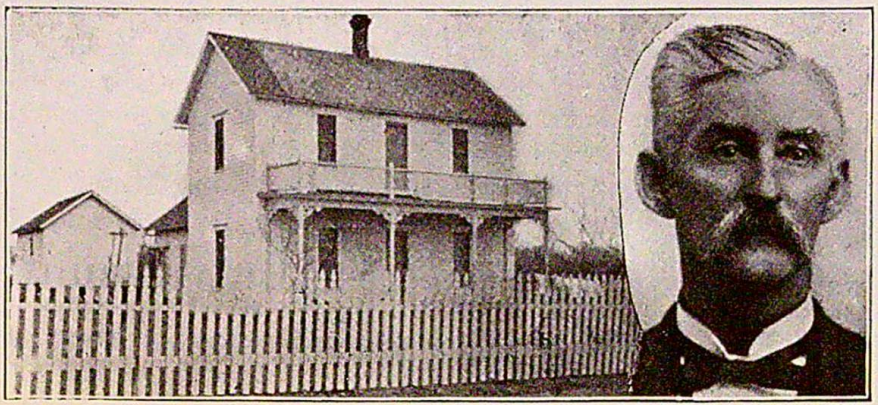


and remained for about two years. A regular stage line was at that time operated between Fort Gibson and Baxter Springs—it was over this route that Mr. Todd reached Montgomery county. He located at a town known as Parker, which was the first town started in the county, and grew to be a thrifty place, with a banking house, stores, and a population of about 800. It was about three miles east of where Coffeyville now stands—but Parker has long since been defunct. Leaving there he went to Independence and opened a wagon making and wood workers shop, staying in that city until 1884, when he came to Caney and commenced business in hardware, furniture and farm implements, and is the oldest merchant in the city. There were only three other stores carrying very small stocks at that time. Mr. Todd's business has grown to large proportions, requiring two large warehouses for the implements and buggies, and for the hardware and furniture business there will be erected a large double store room on the south side of Fourth Avenue. The present store on the north side

Caney Valley Historical Society



T. W. Truskett & Co's Store

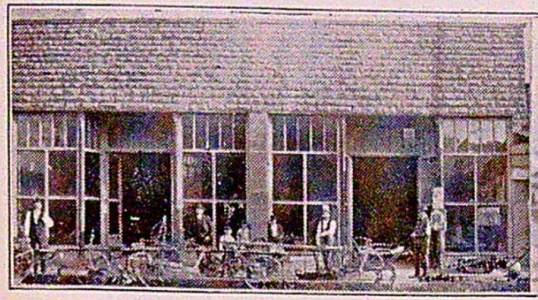


T. W. TRUSKETT
and Residence

is so crowded that it is necessary to have increased floor space. The new building will be a handsome addition to the town; its size will be 40 x 100, double front, the interior double decked. ceiling eighteen feet in height, trussed suspension roof. The heavy plate glass show windows will be twelve feet in height. Altogether it will be the best building in this part of Kansas. W. F. Gleeck, who has been with the house about twelve years, is manager of the furniture department, and collector.

In all matters of enterprise Mr. Todd has been abreast of the times. He is prominent in I. O. O. F. matters, having been a member of the order since 1865. He is treasurer of Lodge No. 323. He is also a Rebecca, K. P. and M. W. A., and a member of the G. A. R., having enlisted in 1861, in the 47th Illinois Infantry Co. A, serving three years in numerous battles along the Mississippi river, notably the seige of Vicksburg and seige and battle of Corinth.

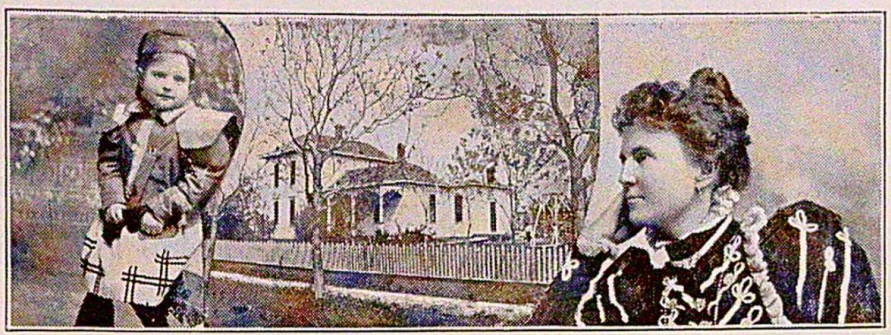
Caney Valley Historical Society



John Todd's Warehouse
and son Adrian

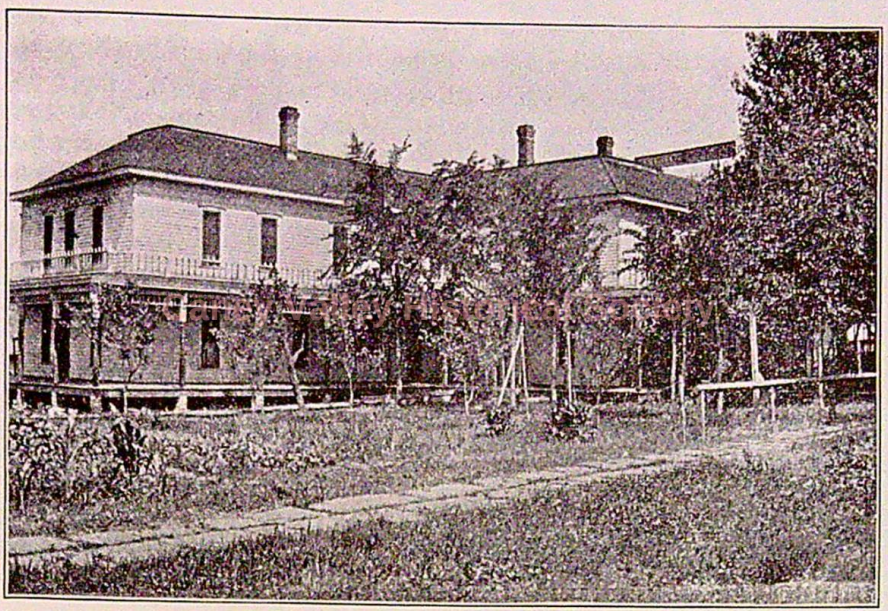
Caney Valley Historical Society

Home of John Todd
his wife and daughter



THE PALACE HOTEL was built in 1897. It is the largest hotel in the city and one of the largest in the southern part of the State. The hotel accommodations of Caney are not surpassed by any city double its size, and the Palace enjoys a very enviable reputation. The proprietor, J. T. Shultz, is from Kentucky; has lived in this county 19 years. The hotel is well arranged for the accommodation of the guests and specially adapted for drummers who find the commodious sample room a great convenience. The office is large, well lighted and well furnished. The dining room has ample seating capacity and the bed rooms are arranged so as to afford good ventilation. The trees with their luxuriant foliage make a delightfully shady place in the hot summer, and to add to the comfort of the guests there are two large double swings under them for their use. Everything is first-class; the table supplied with the best the market affords, and Mrs. Shultz looks after the comfort of the patrons of the house and makes everyone feel at home. It is centrally located, being only one block from the business center.

Caney Valley Historical Society

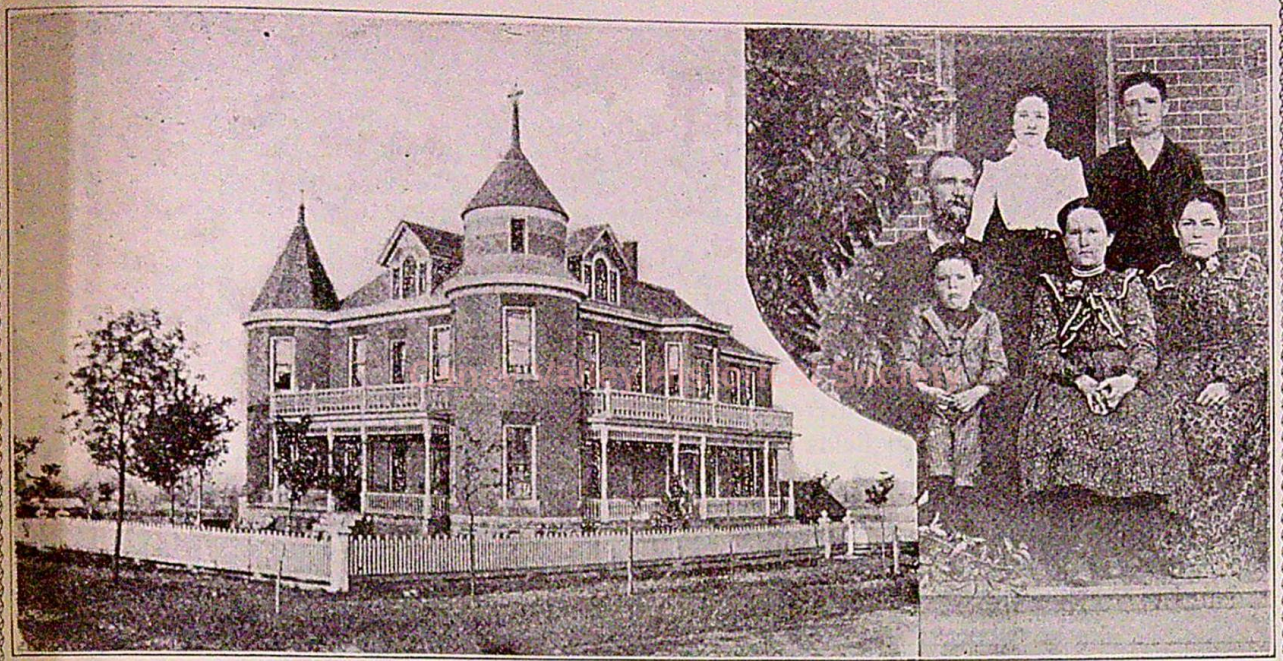


Palace Hotel.

NEW railroad interests were promoted in 1895. The Kansas, Oklahoma Central & Southwestern had its head offices in Caney, which was the starting point. One of the most active and zealous men connected with the matter was Col. S. M. Porter, who has been a resident of this section since 1881, and has always been a leader and active supporter of all matters of public enterprise. On account of poor health he left a good law practice in Michigan and settled on a farm about three miles east of Caney, then a town of about 150 population. He found the Kansas climate very beneficial, his lung trouble entirely disappearing, and his health being completely restored, he drifted again into his former profession, and soon built up an extensive law practice in both the state and federal courts, and in 1895 was admitted to practice before the supreme court of the United States.

Caney Valley Historical Society

About five years ago he removed to the city, and has built one of the finest residences to be found in Southern Kansas, thus practically illustrating an abiding faith and unbounded confidence in



Residence of Col. S. M. Porter

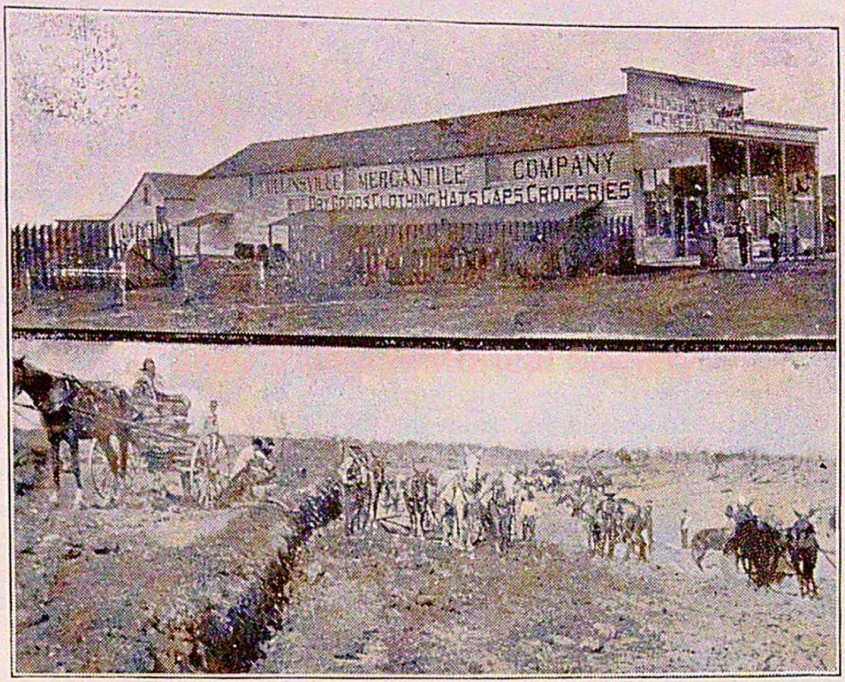
Maggie George
Col. S. M. Porter Mrs. Porter
Paul Lute

Caney's future. He made a trip to Europe in 1895, and also visited New York and Boston in the interest of the new railroad, and was successful in securing capital so that construction was commenced in 1898, and the road completed and opened January 13, 1900. In the meantime the Santa Fe had bought the interests of the promotors and is now operating the line to Collinsville as a part of their system, and Colonel Porter is local attorney for that company.

* * *

Caney Valley Historical Society

PROBABLY the interests conducive to the building of this road were the coal fields at Collinsville, fifty miles south. The Horse-Pen Coal and Mining Company was organized before the railroad, and the principal owners of the stock were among the most interested in securing railroad facilities. Col. Porter then had and still owns a very large interest in the stock of the coal company, which is capitalized at $600,000. He is now and always has been from the date of its organization the general attorney and legal

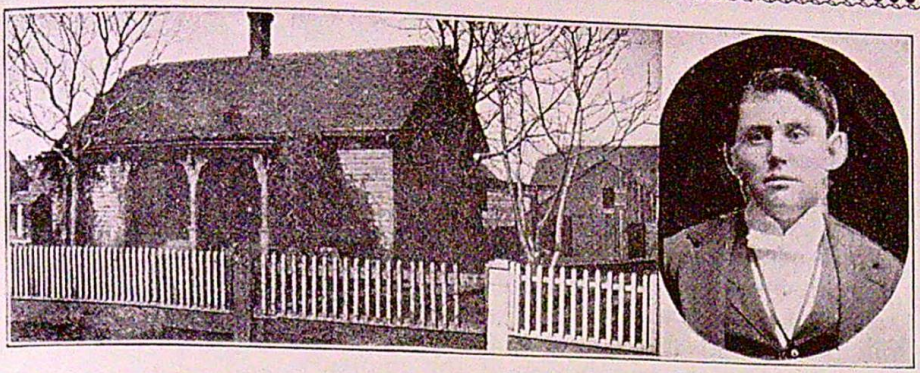


Store and North Coal Pit of the Horse-Pen Coal and Mining Company, Collinsville, I. T.

adviser of the company, and also held the same position in regard to the railroad company at the time of its construction and until it was turned over to the Santa Fe.

The head offices of the Horse-Pen Coal and Mining Company are at Caney. The president, W. S. Edwards, resides at Collinsville. He is one of the most prominent citizens of the Cherokee Nation, and was the associate of Col. Porter in the formation of the company, and it was almost solely to the efforts of these two men that the organization was formed.

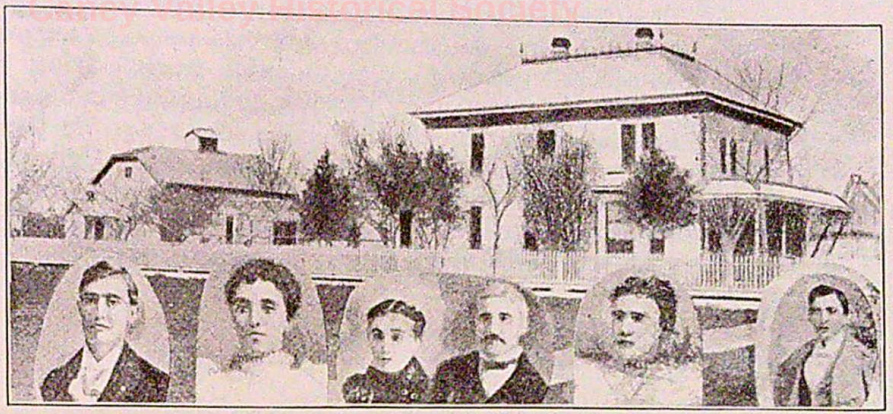
The coal bed is near the surface of the ground, generally about twelve to sixteen feet from the top. The coal is reached by stripping the top and exposing the bed. No blasting is required, the work of removing the coal being done by driving heavy iron pins into it and prying it out. It is then broken into smaller sizes ready for shipping. The output is sold by the Weir Coal Company, of Topeka, and will average fifteen car loads per day during the shipping season, which lasts about six months. About two hundred



W. O. TRUSKETT
and Residence

Caney Valley Historical Society

Home of A. A. Truskett



and fifty hands are on the pay roll, and from $9,000 to $10,000 per month is paid for labor.

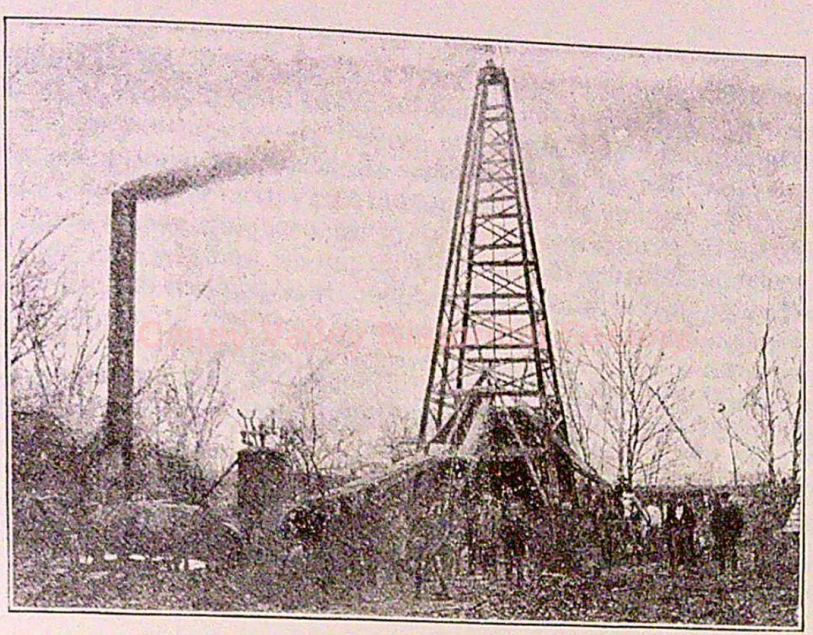
There are two pits at present, which are known as the north pit and the south pit. F. E. Gray is head foreman; Bert Stone, son of Caney's postmaster, is head book-keeper; C. D. Evans, contractor at the north pit, who has the contract for stripping and mining, employs about sixty teams and eighty to one hundred men. Work at the south pit is under the supervision of the company.

The Collinsville Mercantile Company is closely identified with the coal company, but the two interests are kept separate. This company has a very large, roomy double store, having a frontage of fifty feet, in which they carry a full and complete stock of all lines of general merchandise, which is supplied to the employes as cheapiy as they can be purchased elsewhere. The manager is S. J. Semple, recently from Topeka. Miss Lulu Berg, also from Topeka, is book-keeper. The building is one of the largest in the Territory, and the business is very extensive.

THERE are always to be found in every community men of enterprise and foresight, ready to engage in anything that in their opinion will prove beneficial in its ultimate results. To such a class is due the fact that gas has been found in Caney, its existence never having been doubted by the men who have put their money and acumen into the work. A co-partnership was formed April 12, 1900, under the name of the Caney Gas, Oil & Mining Company. The members of this company are E. B. Skinner, general manager; W. C. Meeker, assistant general manager; Geo. F. St. John, treasurer; S. H. Barr, secretary; S. M. Porter, John Todd and W. F. Gleeck. On August 19, 1900, the contract for the first well was let and work was pushed until a depth of 900 feet was reached, when it was abandoned. A second well was more successful, at a depth of 1,300 feet oil and gas was struck, the latter in not sufficient quantity however, and after reaching a depth of 1,400 feet, the work was discontinued. In continuing the work, it was the intention of the company to utilize the oil find if

they could not strike gas, but although a third well was drilled and after reaching a distance of 1,350 feet abandoned, they decided to continue their efforts and in April 1901, made a contract with A. R. Messick and C. B. Clark of Coffeyville, who have by their rapid work and correct diagnosis earned a great reputation as expert well drillers. On April 17, 1901, a strong flow of gas was struck after drilling fourteen days and reaching a depth of nearly 1,500 feet, an average of over 100 feet each day and a record breaker in that respect. This well has a tested capacity of about four million feet per day, which is considered a very fair flow as compared with the average well in this belt.

Flushed with the success obtained by their perseverance they at once commenced drilling another well and on May 10, were amply rewarded, for in this last strike they have obtained a gusher that outranks anything ever known in the history of any gas region. At a depth of about 1,480 feet the gas commenced to increase in volume until its force was so strong as to prevent the



CANEY'S NEW GAS WELL

Photo was taken two hours after the first gas was struck in Caney

heavy drill doing any further work. The force of the escaping gas made a roaring sound that could be heard for a distance of three to four miles, and when tested the record showed fifteen million feet per day, or five million more than the strongest well in the entire field. This volume of gas is equal in fuel capacity to about 750 tons of coal. So strong was the force of the escaping gas, it was with the greatest difficulty the tubing was put in and the gas shut off. It is estimated that about fifty million feet escaped before it was gotten under control.

Caney Valley Historical Society

It is now demonstrated that Caney has the best location for an immense and inexhaustible supply of gas and better inducements to offer than any other town in the entire gas region of Southeastern Kansas.

The value of establishing this fact depends very largely on the efforts put forth to bring it before the manufacturing interests that are seeking new locations. With the decadence of the flow in

the Indiana, Pennsylvania and Ohio gas belts there is a necessity for securing locations less uncertain as to the future. The old fields are losing their supply, while the new field is yet an infant. There is undoubtedly an almost inexhaustible supply around Caney, as it is in the center of a large belt that has been tapped at every point of the compass radiating from it. It is known to exist for twenty or thirty miles to the east, and the same distance to the west, for nearly 100 miles to the north, and the south is yet an unexplored region except at one place about twenty miles distance, where it is largely used. Leases have been secured on thousands of acres in this vicinity by the Caney Gas, Oil and Mining Company, and great inducements can be offered for the location of factories at this point.

One particular industry that should not be overlooked and which could be taken hold of by local capital, is the formation of a company for making vitrified brick and tile. The gas is here, the shale is here, good railroad facilities also exist, and all that is

necessary is for those having capital to invest is to get together and push the issue to a success. The brick made at Coffeyville and other points in the Kansas gas belt is recognized as much superior in quality to that made in any other part of the United States. It will stand a greater strain, and tests that have been made of its resistance to pressure have proved its superiority against all competitors. For this reason it is in great demand everywhere, and every brick manufacturing establishment in the Kansas gas belt is behind in its orders, some having orders ahead that will take from eight to ten months or even a year to complete. The value of vitrified brick for paving is a recognized fact and its use is becoming almost universal—for sidewalks it is being adopted in nearly all the cities, which is one of the causes for the unprecedented demand that has arisen in the last two or three years. A second cause is its adoption by builders who have found it to be the most economical material for the building trade. There is a very large margin of profit for the manufacturer and yet he is able to undersell all

other kinds of brick or all other makers of vitrified brick. The reason for this is twofold. First, the fact that gas-burned brick is superior to that manufactured by other methods. Second, that the difference in the cost of fuel as between natural gas and coal or wood is of itself sufficient to allow a big profit. In effect the brick made by natural gas, if sold at the price which it COSTS to manufacture brick where COAL in used, would leave a margin of profits of not less than $2.50 per thousand, depending, of course, on the price at which coal could be laid down at the place of manufacturing. It may therefore be said that the Kansas gas belt has a monopoly of the brick making industry, and can shut out all competitors. It is simply a question of being able to fill orders. A new plant must be established to keep pace with the demand that is increasing all the time.

With the proper amount of energy displayed in bringing to the attention of cotton manufacturers the vast opportunities and advantages to be derived in locating here, there should be establish-

lished a number of factories for the production of the various manufactured articles of which cotton is the basis. We are on the northern line of the cotton belt, Montgomery county being the furthest north of any successful cotton raising region. The quality of cotton that has been raised in this county is said to be far above the average. It is claimed that nearly one bale per acre has been made in several places, which is a very large yield, the average Texas yield being not to exceed one-third of a bale per acre. With a demand for the raw article it would be raised in larger quantities in this section, and would give the grower a better profit than either corn or wheat. It would give the manufacturer the raw material without any cost for freights, and with natural gas for fuel the cost of production would be reduced to a minimum. The advantages of location must also be taken into consideration. Here would be the raw material brought to the nearest point where gas can be used for manufacturing. It can be shipped to tide water for export by a direct line, which will no doubt be completed next

year. Or if the article is manufactured for home consumption it can be furnished the western jobbers at a greatly reduced price and allow the usual margin of profit; or if sold at the same price as charged by eastern factories, the factory located at this point would make nearly double profit.

A factory for the making of wrapping twine has already been in operation for over a year in this county. The raw material is hauled by the farmers to the cotton gin located a few hundred feet from the mill. When made into bales it is taken to the factory by teams, and there made into balls and spools ready for the trade. It is over-run with orders, and it is estimated that the profits for three years will equal the entire cost of the investment, for construction and machinery.

To the glass manufacturer unexcelled advantages can be offered by locating at this point, for there exists here vast quantities of the very best material required in its manufacture. A recent visitor who was interested in this line of manufacture, after viewing certain

sandstone that abounds in this neighborhood pronounced it the very best article he had ever seen for use in making glass, and further stated that if gas was only found here in sufficient quantity it would be a great boon for the glass trade. The gas is now here, and it would therefore behoove our citizens to bring this fact prominently before the glass producers of the country, so that they can take advantage of the extraordinary inducements to be secured by those who are first on the ground.

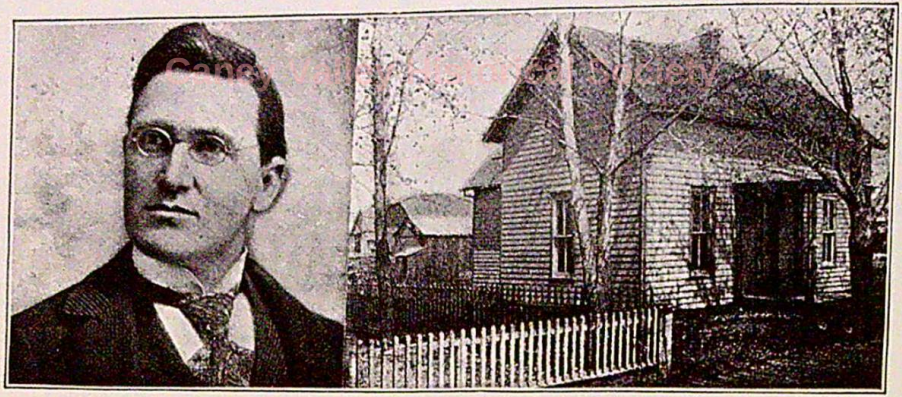
Caney Valley Historical Society

With another railroad an assured fact Caney stands unrivalled for the inducements that can be offered to manufacturing plants for locating at this point. The Kansas, Eastern Oklahoma & Texas Railroad will run through Caney to its destination in Texas. The richest territory in the U. S. will be tributary to it on the south, and communication established with all the large cities of the east and middle west. Negotiations are already under way for a number of plants and the near future will see a great manufacturing center established here.

THE CANEY COMMERCIAL CLUB is composed of the leading business and professional men of the city, and is organized for the purpose of fostering all interests beneficial to the city. Any enterprise of merit is assisted by this body, and they are always ready to correspond with those who desire to locate in "The Big Gas City" of the newly opened gas belt. It is the best town to locate in for the reason that the flow of gas abounding in this locality is not surpassed in any other part of the gas country, and being newly opened up better inducements can be secured for the establishment of manufactories, factories of various kinds or any industry in which labor is employed. In another part of this book we refer more particularly to some special lines which could profit greatly by locating here. There are, however, a great many establishments using power to a considerable extent that would find a great saving in their fuel bills by using gas instead of coal. In many such lines the location here would be as advantageous for shipping, as there is a vast scope of new country opening

up to the south and west, which can be reached very readily from this point.

The secretary of the club, H. E. Brighton, will be glad to correspond with anyone desiring fuller information regarding this latest and best gas field.



H. E. BRIGHTON, Editor Caney Chronicle

Residence of H. E. Brighton

IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION Caney is well represented, and one of the foremost physicians and surgeons of the state is a resident of this city. T. A. Stevens, M D., is the founder of the American Association of Life Insurance Examining Surgeons, and is its secretary. He has lived in Kansas since 1876, and has lived in this vicinity for the past 17 years. Born in Indiana and receiving his first education in that state, which he finished at Russellville, Illinois, he took up his study in the medical schools at St Louis and Kansas City, and received his degree from the Kansas City Medical College in 1892. From 1893 to 1897 he was U. S. Examining Surgeon. In 1899 he attended the N. Y. Polyclinic. He represents 11 of the leading life insurance companies as their medical examiner; is surgeon Masonic F. A. A: also member of the Santa Fe R'y Med. and Sur. Soc., Am. Med Ass'n, Kansas State Med Soc, S E Kansas Med Soc, Vice Pres Montgomery County Med Soc, Vice Pres Caney Valley Med Soc. He was elected mayor of Caney in 1900; is president of the school board, a Mason, Woodman, and a Woodman of the World. He has an extensive practice and has proved very successful; is progressive and up-to-date in all matters of public interest.

CANEY has good educational facilities. The handsome stone school building costing about $6,000, was built in 1890; the smaller building in 1870. Total value of school property is about $10,000. The members of the school board are Dr. T. A. Stevens, president; J. M. Cunningham, treasurer: S. H Barr, clerk. Scholars enrolled 386. Teachers--Rose McIlwain, Grace Trible, Anna B. St John, Angie L. Bell, Lillian B. Foster, Gussie Middleton and Lillie Gray.

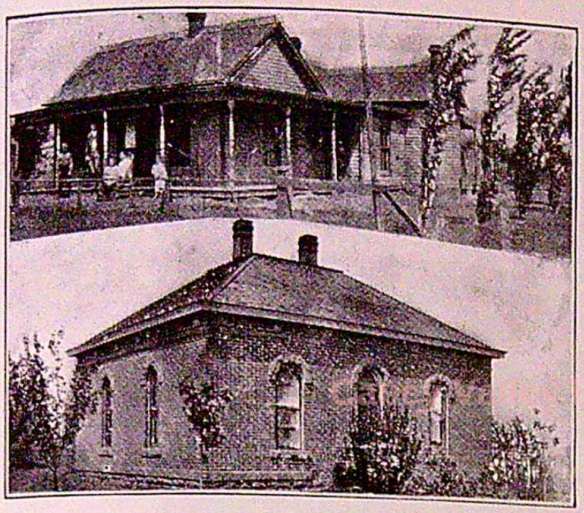
THE METHODIST CHURCH was built in 1886-87. Rev. M. E. Fraser, a graduate of DePauw University, is present pastor. H. E. Brighton, Supt. of S. S. The Christian Church was built in 1894. Rev. W. H. Williams formerly a missionary to the West Indies is pastor. John Todd, Supt. of S. S. The Baptist Church was built in 1893. The paster Rev. W. A. Boyd is a graduate of the Theological Seminary of Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Booker is Supt. of S. S. The Presbyterian church built in 1889 is without a regular pastor. Geo. T. Braden is Supt. of S. S.

W. S. BROWN has a beautiful home and 17 acres of land adjoining the city. He is a retired cattle man but usually feeds about 500 head on his place which is well adapted for this purpose, having an immense barn, feed lots, cattle sheds and an artificial lake fed by a flowing well. A very fine orchard adjoins the residence. Mr. Brown has been an extensive traveler and has been around the world. He is originally from Ohio. In 1857 he married his first wife in California and afterwards found she was a descendant of the Osages; he was therefore entitled to citizenship in the Osage Nation, the wealthiest nation on earth. He came to Kansas in 1866 and located at Baxter Springs, handling Texas cattle for a number of years. Leaving there he settled near Silver Lake, Osage Nation, where for some years he raised large herds of cattle. Afterwards went to Independence where he was president of the First National Bank for about 7 years and in 1890 came to Caney and purchased the property where he now resides. He is a director and one of the principal stockholders in the Home National Bank of this city.

THE LARGEST STOCK of general merchandise is carried by T. W. Truskett & Co.—T. W. and W. O. Truskett. T. W. Truskett was born in Ohio in 1852; was raised in Missouri, and in 1880 went on a farm near Elgin, Kansas, and later opened two farms south of here. He finally located in Caney in 1892, and started a livery business. Two years later he formed a partnership with his nephew, and purchased a business which they have increased until now they carry a stock of $25,000, consisting of dry goods, groceries, clothing, shoes, hats, etc., etc. A special feature is the millinery department, in charge of Miss Lulu B Lewin. T. W. Truskett has filled the important office of mayor of the city, and has been a member of the city council

W. O. Truskett is a Missourian, and removed from Nevada to Caney in 1893. Both are very enterprising citizens, ready at all times to further the interests of the community.

THE OLD RELIABLE BUS LINE in which Charlie Graves has a half interest, is well named. It is reliable, prompt and accommodating, meets all trains and carries passengers or baggage to or from all parts of the city.



Residences of J. J. Hopps and Mrs. Bowman

JOHN J. HOPPS occupied nearly all the lower floor of the Bartles Block as a Racket store when it was destroyed by fire and his entire stock was a complete loss. He is now engaged in the mercantile business at Lawton, I. T.

HELEN GOULD is a thoroughbred yearling Hereford whose grandsire was the famous Wild Tom, herd bull of the Sunny Slope Farm. She is the property of D. H. Plowman, manager of the Long-Bell Lumber Co., who has quite a herd of high grade cattle.

THE CANEY VALLEY NATIONAL BANK, organized in 1886, has a very fine brick building centrally located. J. F. Savage is president. The capital stock is $25,000, surplus $4,000. J. F. Blackledge has held the position of Cashier since 1893, having 6 years previously been in the U. S. mail service. He is from Indiana, has been in Kansas since 1879. The banking business occupies the lower half of the building—in the upper half are the offices of Dr. Stevens and the Caney Chronicle

J. R. CHARLTON, lawyer, is from Illinois. Was elected county attorney in 1890, during which term he successfully prosecuted and secured the conviction of the noted outlaw, Emmet Dalton. Mr. Charlton has acquired a very enviable reputation as a criminal lawyer. At the last term of court in Chautauqua county he was defendant's attorney in four felony cases, and succeeded in clearing his clients. He secured the acquittal of Marshal Luppy, charged with first degree murder. He practices in the Cherokee and Osage Nations, and Oklahoma. He came to Caney from Independence in 1894.

J. M. CUNNINGHAM, is a Kentuckian who came to Caney in 1881. He owns a number of farms and is also identified with the banking business as a director and officer of the Home National Bank organized in 1900. Mrs. Cunningham is treasurer of the Sigourneyan club, a literary society: she is the daughter of W. S. Brown. The Cunningham residence is one of the best homes in the city.

DR. BOOKER is a Kentuckian, has lived in Caney nearly 14 years. He is a practitioner of the regular school and graduated at the St. Louis Medical College in 1883. He has a fine practice and also has the best drug store in the city.

J. W. BARLOW is a Missourian—has lived in Kansas 28 years He handles agricultural implements and also has the leading wagon and blacksmith shop in the city. He has been in Caney for about 10 years; is a director in the Commercial club.

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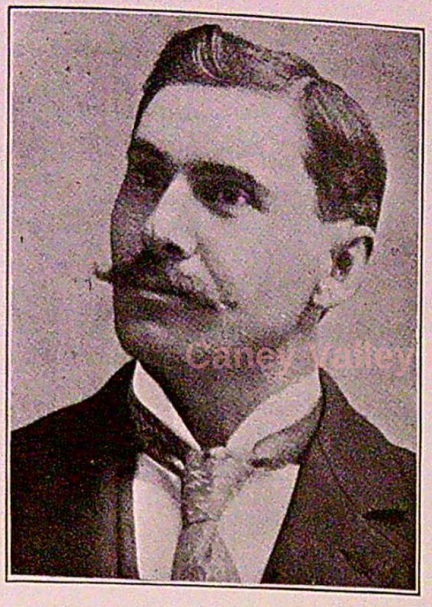

L. L. BROWN, Foreman Caney Chronicle

TOM YOUNG started in the hardware business in Caney in 1898, having for 20 years previously been engaged in the same line at Canton, Kansas. A glance at his store discloses the fact that he is up with the times. He has the neatest and best arranged establishment in the state. The shelving and drawers are made of polished oak, the latter having glass fronts arranged for displaying a sample of the contents without exposure to dust or weather. Along one side is a deck, reached by a handsome stairway, all finished in polished oak and turned work. A very complete stock of hardware, harness goods, buggies etc., may be found there.

W. V. TONER left Iowa in 1884, and started a livery business in Caney. He was first city marshal and street commissioner after the city was organized. He owns the neatest and best arranged livery stable in Southern Kansas—built in 1900, the former building having been destroyed by fire. As an auctioneer he has the leading business; also buys horses and mules, shipping last season 450 head of cavalry horses. With his sons, Pat and Fred, he owns the Quaker Restaurant. His daughter, Madge, has charge of the telephone exchange.

A. A. TRUSKETT is a member of the Caney Grain Company which has a large elevator, mill and railroad facilities west of the city. He moved from Ohio to Missouri "befo' de war" and to Kansas in 1880, engaging in stock raising and farming near Elgin, finally locating in Caney in 1886. He has one of the best residences in the city. Also has interests in the lumber and mercantile business.

THE HOME LUMBER CO., (A. A. Truskett and C. F. Cavis) is managed by C. F. Cavis and was started in 1897, previous to which Mr. Cavis had charge of the Long-Bell yard for three years. He has been in the lumber business for a number of years. He came from Ohio to Kansas in 1884 and to Caney in 1891.

ATWOOD & CARINDER Furniture and Undertaking, Implements and Buggies. Geo. B. Atwood of this firm has been in Caney about 10 years—6 years in hardware business—the partnership was formed in 1897. He was City Councilman 1899-1900. Is a Mason and M. W. A. John L Carinder is the oldest son of G. S. Carinder who came here in 1870, and settled 1½ miles east of Caney. He (J. L.) was four years on the road for a Harvester Co., leaving that work to form the present partnership in which he takes the management of the Implement department. A family reunion was in progress when his residence was photographed.

P. W. PAUL is the leading grocer, and carries a stock of the best goods in that line. He came here from Colorado in 1892; has resided in Montgomery county since 1872. He owns the store building occupied by W. K. Godden with whom he was formerly in partnership.

Caney Valley Historical Society

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