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1894

### Newspaper article, A Great Cereal, Fruit and Cattle Country, 1894

James Carswell

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**CANEY,**  
**MONTGOMERY CO., KANSAS.**  
Rich in Soil and Scenery, Timber,  
Coal and Water.  
**A GREAT CEREAL, FRUIT AND**  
**CATTLE COUNTRY.**

In a Land of Opportunities.

BY JAMES CARSWELL.

In a basin, with central eminence, and surrounded with circling hills, is Caney, one of the most prosperous towns in the state of Kansas. The Caney river flows into Montgomery county about two and a half miles northwest of town, winds its way in a southeasterly course, and gradually approaches nearer Caney, then leaves and loses its identity in the Verdigris river, which marries the Arkansas.

Caney city is a beautiful town, with handsome streets, and buildings of masonry and frame. Its main thoroughfare is one of the busiest markets in the southern part of the state, and there are constant processions of loaded wagons, from the rising to the setting of the sun.

The surroundings are not only grandly beautiful with rolling fields calming to stretches of emerald level, and again rising to mounds and hills, while the river's timber girt adds to the scenic beauty, but lovely homes and orchards, church spires and public structures show man's handiwork in unity with nature.

Being on an elevation, Caney has natural drainage, and securing pure water at sixteen feet, and having the benefit of every breeze that blows, tempered by belting hills, it is in a country which is yours for health.

This is a banner country of agriculture, horticulture and stock raising. The soil is sandy, with a sub-strata of clay. The bottoms are a rich black loam, and in places here and there limestone soil is found.

On the Capt. J. E. Stone estate wheat averaged this year 26 bushels to the acre, and on the Morris ranch, a couple of miles away the

farmers. Besides the foregoing it has coal fields undeveloped and ample indications of oil and gas.

Caney is a city of enterprising, refined and social people, and besides its Kansas and city laws, has just been blessed with a United States Commissioner. Property is cheap, lots ranging from \$15 towards the station of the Missouri Pacific to \$300 towards the city center. Being in Kansas, it has all the advantages of stardom, and being less than a mile from the Indian Territory, it has the advantages of that lovely country without the danger of investment and the throbbing thought of "when will that allotment come."

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The first church was the Methodist; now there are Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and Christian edifices. The first school was flourishing when it had forty scholars. Now the school buildings have 400 pupils, and cost \$8,000. The first hotel is part of the Forest House—now there are three hotels and numerous restaurants.

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state, and after the war located in Jackson county, Missouri, then went on the plains, and upon his return to civilization, was a few years in Missouri, and in 1870 chose this region as a permanent home. Captain Stone was the first elected sheriff of Montgomery county and in that officiate made a splendid officer for four years from 1872. He was notary public for many years and justice of the peace, and is an all around leading citizen. At Caney he has 600 acres in one tract and owns other farms aggregating in all 1,200 acres. He has herds of cattle and droves of horses, is regarded as one of the best farmers in this part of the state and is a thoroughly up to the times business man and a thorough gentleman.

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