OU RG73.03.125t

Page 1

The avowed aim of the founders of Ottawa University – was- the education ~~s~~ of Indians and whites alike. Hence- the splendid endowment of 20000 acres of as fine land as Franklin Co. afforded- given by the Indians to the university!

The first section of the school opened in Sep. 1866.

About thirty white pupils gathered in the Cumberland Presbyterian church on Main St. Ottawa: Kans – in charge of Prof. P. Fales and Miss Lucy Hatch. About the same number of Indian pupils gathered in a frame building – on the corner of 2nd and Hickory Sts. in charge of Mrs. Ruth Mayhew and Miss Clara Thomas.

Prof. Fales superintended both branches of the school.

Apparently, all went well during the year-66-67- and about half the year- 67-68. when, lo! Dissatisfaction on the part of the Indians became so pronounced- that it was necessary to suspend the educational work – so favorably begun – until

Page 2

2

different treaties could be effected – when the school with an entirely different teaching force - again opened – for whites only.

In the interim- the tribal instinct had resurrected with such tremendous vital force – that it swept the little band of Ottawa Indians to the southward- to renew the relations – in Ind. Territory – wh. the coming of missionary teacher and preacher had abolished – in Kans.

One – Rev. John Tecumseh Jones – lingered behind – to enjoy with his Yankee miss.y wife – the benefits of civilization wh – churches and schools had brought to this Kans. frontier.

Another – Chief Henry Wilson – died- by the roadside- of a broken heart – it is said-

He wished to remain- on his fertile farm – but a sense of honor and duty to his little tribe- triumphed over inclination.

Could a white man have been more manly?

Mrs. P. Fales

By request of G. Grovenore –

Lawrence: Kans.

April 15, 1912