A SURVEY OF THE KANSAS SHORT STORY.

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PREFACE.

In preparing this thesis, it has been the purpose of the writer to give a fairly complete account of the Kansas Short Story. Having begun with the study of Kansas fiction in general, the field has been narrowed to this one particular form of our state literature.

Again, a division has been made in an attempt, first, to select those stories dealing with Kansas life or Kansas associations, and then to decide whether the authors have been sufficiently identified with the state to be called Kansans. In this connection the writer has met with particular difficulty because many of the biographical data are uncertain, and because the population of the state is constantly shifting, thus making it difficult to place the residence of certain authors satisfactorily. A somewhat critical study of Kansas books and Kansas authors has been necessary in order to make the distinction.

The study of the Kansas Short Story resulted from the writer's native interest in Kansas literature. Having been born and reared a Kansan, she has taken a particular interest and pride in the literary progress of the state. The study has been more interesting because hitherto the field had been practically unexplored.
However, there is some general bibliographical material available. Professor W.H. Carruth, formerly head of the Department of German in the University of Kansas, now professor of Comparative Literature in Leland Stanford University, has attempted some classification of the State literature in his article "Kansas in Literature", in Twentieth Century Classics. The State Historical Society at Topeka published a bibliography of Kansas Literature in pamphlet form in 1893.

I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Professor S.L. Whitcomb in the preparation of this work. I am also very grateful to the Librarians of the Kansas State Historical Society for their assistance in finding material for this paper. To those Kansas authors from whom I have received interesting and helpful letters, I express my thanks.

Iva Belle Harper

June 1915.

# A series of classics and school readings designed for supplementary reading in the public schools.
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A SURVEY OF THE KANSAS SHORT STORY

INTRODUCTION

A few decades ago American Literature was generally considered as a single unit of literary study. Certain American tendencies began to appear, tendencies which increased until a large output of American Literature to be stamped American. With the increase in literary production however, distinctive characteristics have appeared in different sections of the country which have made more or less profitable the study of literary history in limited sections of America. New England literature became a special topic for study; the authors of the south and of the middle states came in for their share of attention; and finally the literature of the middle west was added as a special division of the field of American writing.
The necessity for further division and grouping has increased so rapidly that today the state is beginning to appear as a unit of literary study. When we note the wide differences in state characteristics and traditions, we begin to see the importance of giving some attention to the literary history of each state.

Few efforts have been made along this line, but those few are quite worthy of mention. Prof. Wauchope of the University of South Carolina has attempted a work on the literature of his state. The State Historical Department of Iowa has recently issued an extensive bibliography of Iowa authors. A short account of the literary beginnings of South Dakota is contained in Frank L. Ransom's book called "The Sunshine State." "The Poets of Virginia" is the title of a collection of poems and authors edited in 1907 by F. V. N. Painter. Prof. W.H. Carruth's Kansas in Literature mentioned above is Kansas' contribution toward the general study of our state literature.
The importance of State Historical Societies in work of this kind can hardly be overestimated. To them and to the various clubs, and Literary organizations of the state we owe a debt of gratitude for collecting the greater part of the biographical and bibliographical data of state literature. Through the establishment and the work of such organizations the interest of the people in the literary history of their own state is increasing. The state historical societies of Iowa and Kansas are among the foremost of these institutions which are promoting efforts in state literary study. Moreover, in the State of Washington the women are laying the foundation for such work by interesting the people in the literary work of their state. The Iowa Press and Authors Club has recently shown an enlarged activity. The Kansas Authors Club gives evidence of the interest of Kansas in her own authors.
That Kansans are becoming interested in the special study of her literary work is manifested in the fact that two types of Kansas literature have been made the subject for special work. Miss Leila Marie Swartz, a graduate of 1914, in the University of Kansas has a work entitled "Studies in Kansas Poetry". Mr. Willard Wattles of the English Department of the same institution has collected a volume of Kansas poetry. Miss Mae Reardon is now preparing a work similar to that of Miss Swartz on the Kansas Novel. With these studies as a basis, a history of Kansas literature may naturally be expected within a short time.

The study of Kansas literature is particularly interesting because of the youth of the state. Kansas is little more than half a century old, and yet the amount of literature produced by her people within that time is surprisingly large. In those fifty years Kansas has produced men of national literary distinction, poets, novelists, historians and short story writers who make the study of Kansas literature worth while.

Her struggle for freedom, the heroism of her men and women, the strange and interesting incidents of pioneer days, her peculiar characteristics, the language of her
plains—all these are subjects which make their particular appeal to the Kansas writer. Such men as Edgar Watson Howe, William Allen White, Albert Biglow Paine, Eugene Ware and others have helped place Kansas books in the rank of classics. "A Certain Rich Man", "The Story of a Country Town", "The Story of Aqua Pura", "Rhymes of Ironquill" as well as many others have attracted National interest. Among these Kansas classics the Short Story, with which we are especially concerned in this work, has found a home.

In the treatment of the Kansas Short Story, the question arises as to whom we are to consider Kansas writers of short stories. The present paper considers all writers Kansans who have lived in the state long enough to have become identified with its life, to have shared its hopes, and learned its language. If an author chooses to live elsewhere later, he is still considered a Kansan if he has carried with him the same Kansas traits which he had when he was a resident of the state.
The saying "Once a Kansan, always a Kansan" applies in this determination of Kansas writers.

The ideal Kansas Short Story is, then, one which is written by an author who is distinctively Kansan is his sentiments and ideals,—an author who finds in the characteristics of his own state the choicest of subject for his stories. Out of the rather large number produced by Kansans, the writer has found many which deal with Kansas life either in setting, associations or particular characters, and it is chiefly with those short stories that this thesis is concerned.
HISTORICAL SURVEY

The Kansas Short Story is a product of the period of peace and the construction following the period of warfare, local Indian raids and border foray. Up to this time the literary genius of Kansas had shown itself in the powerful newspaper press, in the narrative histories of missionaries who lived and labored in Kansas while it was still an Indian country, and in the political discussions and guide books of interested observers of the scene of ferment; but territorial Kansas seems to have known no short story writer. History and the novel appeared in the days of squatter life and border warfare and were largely inspired by the prevailing state of strife and hardship.

It was not until after Kansas had become a State, however, and peace and prosperity had come that Kansans with literary genius began to exploit the resources of the state. In those days the first Kansas Magazine appeared— one of the most brilliant experiments in our literary history.
Mr. D. W. Wilder, of the Harvard Class of 1856, who was the editor of the Fort Scott Monitor when the magazine came out, was the man who proposed the publication of a Kansas magazine. It appeared in January 1872 with a large number of contributors, most of whom were Kansas men and women. The editor, James W. Steele, and John James Ingalls, were probably the most widely read of the contributors. The magazine had a brief existence from January 1872 to October 1873, but it has made a lasting literary sensation.

Other magazines followed it, most of which are important in the consideration of the history of the Kansas Short Story.

The Spirit of Kansas appeared at Lawrence in 1873 and lasted but a short time. It was of minor importance, but contained a few short stories by local contributors.

The Rural Kansan was published from 1873 to 1874 at Humboldt by Mr. D. B. Emmert. It was a monthly magazine and contained much fiction. Some of the stories were taken from other publications, and authors outside the state contributed to it.
The Western Homestead, published at Leavenworth from May 1878 to May 1882 with W. S. Burke as editor, was similar in form and purpose to the Rural Kansan. It contained some short stories with Kansas settings.

At Ottawa, Kansas, Mr. John Jeffries became the publisher of the Jeffries Western Monthly. It was published from August 1884 to July 1885. It had some literary merit and was made famous by such contributors as Edward Eggleston, Joel Chandler Harris, Gilmore Simms and the Kansas Woman Novelist, Mrs. Mary A. Humphrey.

The Western School Journal, although it is not so important in Kansas fiction, deserves mention for its standing among Kansas Magazines. It appeared in 1885 at Topeka and is still published. H. S. Spear was editor and publisher in 1885-86; R. W. Turner succeeding him in 1887-88. Since 1888, John Mc Donald has been editor, publisher and proprietor.

From June 1886 to April 1888 a second series of The Kansas Magazine appeared in Kansas City with Mr. James W. Steele as editor. It did not reach the standard of the first Kansas Magazine, although it
contains some worthy contributions in short stories, poetry and short articles.

The Agora is one of the best known Kansas Magazines. It appeared between July 1891 and March 1896. Volume one was published at Salina, volumes two, three, four and five at Topeka, and the last four at Lawrence. This Magazine contains little fiction. Its contributions are for the most part historical sketches and criticisms.

The Mid-Continental Review, a magazine of much the same nature, was published from January 1890 to August 1891 at Junction City with John Hay as editor.

The Illustrated Weekly, a pamphlet containing some fiction, verse and editorial writing, appeared between October 1890 and April 1892 at Topeka. The editor and publisher was E. L. Shelton.

A third Kansas Magazine called The New Kansas Magazine, was first published at Atchison in February in 1892. W. H. Wynn was editor until it ceased publication in September 1893. It was one of the minor magazines with little literary merit.

At Burlingame, Kansas E. G. Pipp edited the Chronicle Monthly Magazine from June 1894 to July 1895.
It was a continuation of the *Plebian Magazine* which was published from January to May 1894.

The *Lotus* was one of the best literary magazines. It was published by Johnson, Southwick and Gould at Kansas City, Missouri from November 1895 to December 1897. It was a Kansas Inter-collegiate Fortnightly, one of the best of its kind in the west.

The *Western Patriot* was published at Topeka from September 1896 to February 1897. Others of the same type follow:

Carter's Monthly published at Wichita in 1897;
*Modern Mercury* published at Topeka 1901-03;
*Push* published at Topeka 1902-03;
*The Kaw* published at Kansas City, Kansas in December 1903, (one issue);
*The Outpost* published at Kansas City, Mo. in 1903;
*Herbert's Magazine* published at Hiawatha 1903-04;
*The Sunflower Magazine* published at Eureka 1905-06;
*The Kansas Magazine*, the last of the group of so called Kansas Magazines, published at Wichita 1909-11.

In addition to the list of Magazines given above, there are two others which deserve mention, although they contain no fiction, *E. W. Howe's Monthly Magazine* was published at "Potato Hill Farm", Mr Howe's home near Atchison.
between March 1911 and January 1914, after which date it was issued in newspaper form. It has been called a "Farmer's Magazine for Town People", a statement which defines it very accurately. The other Magazine which attracted much attention was the Paul Jones Monthly Magazine published at Topeka by the Paul Jones Publishing Co. between October 1907 and June or July 1914. Paul Jones, the editor and manager, is a negro of considerable ability as a writer.

An account of the various Kansas Magazines is important in connection with the Short Story because a large part of the stories that have been written by Kansas authors is to be found in these various publications. There are, besides these stories, many which have been published in Magazines outside the state and others which have been printed in book form, but as yet, no collection of stories by different Kansas authors has been made.

Chronologically, the Kansas Short Stories are scattered between 1872, when the first known story was published, and the present time, although the
period between 1872 and 1885 and the period since 1900 appear to be the most fruitful according to the chronological outline in the appendix. However, authors of today who represent Kansas are producing a large number of stories for the best class of American Magazines. It would seem then that the short story of our native state is fast gaining recognition in American Literary Circles.
II BIOGRAPHY

One of the most interesting phases of the history of the Kansas Short Story is the study of the writers themselves. Although the youth and remarkable history of Kansas made their appeal to the majority of Kansas writers, yet the biography of the story writers of the State reveals the most striking differences in interests and manner of life.

Several distinct groups of short story writers may conveniently be noted. Pioneer writers appeared at a time when the people of Kansas were concerned primarily with the many problems which the change from territorial to state government presented. We can mention a few of them in order to show something of the kind of men and women who wrote during the early Kansas days.

J. W. Steele is one of the most gifted of the writers of 70's and 80's. He is an example of a soldier who turned to literary pursuits after the war was over.
As one of the editors of and contributors to the first and second series of the Kansas Magazine, he wrote under the pen name of Deane Monahan. He had been in the regular army and had traveled from post to post on weary marches. As a result, he made familiar to Kansas readers the desert earth, the canon and mesa of New Mexico. His "Jornada del Muerto" probably has given us our first picture of the journey of death.

Another early writer of equal importance is Captain Henry King also a soldier writer. He is of both literary and journalistic fame. Topeka was his home for years, then he became first editor of the Kansas Magazine, writing at the same time, stories for Scribner's Magazine, The Atlantic Monthly and Carter's Magazine. He was for years editor of the St. Louis Globe Democrat, until his death in March of this year.

Alice Wellington Rollins deserves mention among these pioneer writers. She published stories in Lippincott's Magazine and Harper's. Her "Ladies' Day at the Ranch" shows her Kansan taste and her Knowledge of Kansas Ranch life.
Among other writers who enjoyed public attention during the days of the early Kansas Magazine is Geo. H. Picard, a Topeka physician whose "Little Pilgrim" shows his interest in western life and character, and Augustus Caesar Buell of Topeka whose stories show much literary merit. He was at one time interested in the Poland "gag" law.

Although Edgar Watson Howe's literary fame seems to center around his "Story of A Country Town" and his Terse Paragraphs, he has nevertheless contributed some good short stories to the leading American Magazines. In a letter which the writer received from him he says: "I have contributed stories to Magazines for the past twenty years although I have written much that is worthless". The Topeka Commonwealth for July 13, 1888 gives a notice that Mr. Howe was working upon a collection of four short stories- "The Spectre Child," Why I am an Exile", and "Ante-Mortem Statement", and "A Rich Man's Story". Evidently, these are some of the stories which Mr. Howe considered worthless for they were never published.
These are some of the earlier writers which Kansas has produced. It is noticeable that the eastern part of the state produced more writers than did the western or central part, Topeka being the literary center. That city is still a Kansas literary center, for it has produced and is still producing many men and women who contribute stories to leading magazines as well as in book form. One of the foremost of these writers is Mrs. Margaret Hill Mc Carter who was born in Indiana but came to Kansas in 1888. She lives in Topeka where her husband is a dentist. He fame as a story writer will live because of "Cuddy's Baby" with its college setting and appealing theme. Mrs. Mc Carter is one of the most active writers in the state.

Mrs. J. K. Hudson of Topeka contributed short stories through The Kansas Farmer, of which her husband was editor.

Jessie Wright Whitcomb was a woman lawyer in Topeka. As the wife of Judge Whitcomb she now makes her literary work her recreation, being primarily interested in her family os six children.
Myra Williams Jarrell is of great interest not only as a short story writer but as a writer of novels and operas, two of which are being set to music by Arthur Pryor.

As we go west from Topeka and glance at the writers who stand out prominently in that section of Kansas, we cannot fail to mention Wm. Allen White who has not only had a foremost place in Kansas but who enjoys national fame and is known along with Ed Howe in European literary circles. Mr. White is a thorough Kansan. Being Kansas born, he has been bound up with the life of the state always. His stories deal largely with Kansas politics and prominent Kansas problems. Mr. White is also a widely known newspaper man but he is first of all, a writer. He says himself that the Emporia Gazette can get along as well, almost, without him.

Aside from the well established writers of Kansas, there is a group of rising women authors who bear testimony to the truth of Ex-Governor Hoch's statement that Kansas has produced many gifted women.
Mrs. Dorothy Canfield-Fisher formerly lived in Lawrence where the Canfield family were well known. She is one of the most prolific of the Kansas short story writers who are producing at the present time. On an average, at least two stories or articles appear each month in such Magazines as Scribner's, Everybody's, Harper's and Lippincott's.

Dana Gatlin, a graduate of the University of Kansas in 1905, is an example of a literary women who is accomplishing what she started out to do. Besides being on the literary staff, of the New York Sun, she is at present employed by McClure's as a story writer and a writer of articles on topics of current interest. In October 1910 she was sent to Kansas to interview some of the prominent men of the State for an article for the Mc Clure's on the political situation. In Kansas Wm. Allen White heralded her coming to Charles Gibbs, Executive Clerk to Gov. Stubbs, as a girl "wearing a hobble skirt and a three story hat."
Mrs. May Belleville Brown of Salina is now contributing a series of stories to the Youth’s Companion. She has been writing for a number of years for magazines and Sunday School Papers so it is hardly fitting to call her a rising woman author. Her first story, she says was written on a slate when she was a little girl. A scrap of paper to her meant a scrap of a story. Although at present she is quite an active club worker, yet as a story writer she is one of the most productive and successful in the state.

One of the most interesting of these rising women authors is Patience Bevier Cole of the Topeka High School Class of 1900 and a graduate of the University of Kansas. She insists that she is "not at all a real-for-sure author", but when no less a critic than Gilman Hall, fiction editor of Everybody’s, who discovered and supported O. Henry ranks her story "Going Cheap" as one of the ten best American stories published in the last ten years, we are inclined to discredit her statement.
Unlike the case with Kansas novelists, the men and women of Kansas have been almost equally productive in the field of short stories. In looking over the list of writers we find also that they come from various parts of the state— from Kansas City which produced Mrs. Lillain Walker Hale, through Atchison, the home of Ed Howe, and on out to Goodland, in the western plains, the home of Mrs. Eva Morley Murphy who was the first woman in Kansas to run for Congress. Although the literary centers of Kansas are still in the eastern part, nevertheless literary talent is springing up and spreading rapidly over the sparsely settled western prairies where scenes of many stories of human endeavor have already been laid.
Kansas authors have chosen scenes ranging in place from their home towns in Kansas to the remote corners of the world, and in time from an indefinite past to any time in the twentieth century. Both romantic and realistic settings are abundant in the list of the hundreds of stories produced by the authors of a fifty-year-old state.

Out of the variety of country, city, state, sectional, foreign and fictive settings, however, Kansas is nevertheless the scene of some of the very best Kansas stories. Some of the first attempts at short story writing in the state show a fondness for local setting. Kansas' peculiar situation offered a rich opportunity for good stories of local color, and even the earlier writers took advantage of it.

However, all of the scenes which were laid in the 50's and 60's occur in stories of a later date, for there is no known publication of a short story before 1872. It was not until after peace was restored that Kansas pioneers had the opportunity to show their literary skill in depicting scenes of
border warfare.

Dr. Henry K. Palmer shows his knowledge of cowboy days in Kansas in his story entitled "Her Cowboy Lover."

Henry King gives perhaps the most appealing picture of the days of the great westward movement in "Aunt Cinda's Ranch". The scene is laid in those very early days when Kansas was practically a desert and many a brave man was lost on the broad expanse of prairie.

"A Territorial Advent" explains by title, its setting. Although it was written in 1905 by Grace Marion Houston, it lacks none of the realistic touch of the earlier stories.

"A Guitar with A Soul" by Sidney Prentice carries us to the southern border of Kansas to the days of the old sodhouse with its homely and crude surroundings made beautiful by the music of a Mexican's guitar. It is entirely reminiscent.

"A Broad Prairie Mating" is laid on the western prairie after Kansas had become more thickly settled. The mention of the railroad three miles from the home of the hero explains the growth of western Kansas.
James W. Steele goes to the southwest for the scenes of his stories of frontier life. The scenes are laid in the time of the early settlement of New Mexico and Colorado. "Joe's Pocket" is laid in eastern Colorado, while "Jornadadel Muerto" is thoroughly New Mexican. His "Gentleman from Sand Creek" has for its scene, an almost desert region of the southwest.

The settings for these stories are rather general and might be in various sections of western Kansas and the Southwest. Among the stories whose Kansas settings are more specific are: Henry King's "At Kawsmouth Station" with the scene in Kansas City, Kans.; Lillian Walker Hale's "A Thanksgiving Story" laid also at Kansas City; Mary E. Johnson's "Myra", the scene of which is laid at Perry, Kans.; Mrs. Eva Morley Murphy's "Miracle on the Smoky" in which we are carried to a little town near the author's home town of "Goodland; Dana Gatlin's "With Loving Wishes for a Happy Birthday" laid at Paola, Kansas, and Alice Wellington Rollin's "Ladies' Day at The Ranch" whose scene is at Monte Carneiro Ranch in Ellsworth County.

Some of the Kansas story writers have chosen the city as the scene of their stories. Patience Bevier Cole and Dana Gatlin who are now surrounded by New York City influences, often choose the city as the scene for some of their better stories.
"Home they brought her warrior" and "Going Cheap" had their setting in the city.

Still other writers choose to take us to foreign lands where the surroundings are less familiar to us. Fannie Cole, although her home is in Kansas, has written stories mainly in translation from the French and German. B. W. Woodward's story, "The Prisoner of Sagunto" has a Spanish setting, Frank R. Whitzel's "Of a wooing at Cufah" has its setting in Arabia with the traditional surroundings of the Moslem World, while C. A. Swanson has given us a scene in Sweden in his "Vid Hemmets Härda". This setting is explained quite naturally from the fact that Mr. Swanson is first of all a Swede.

For a state as young as Kansas, whose sons and daughters were forced for so long to become the heroes and heroines of bloody warfare instead of quiet and unassuming literary people, the settings of local color in the stories produced are rather numerous. Furthermore, it is not surprising that Kansas has produced many writers of more cosmopolitan taste since many of them have moved outside the state and are now living in an environment entirely different from sod houses.
and prairie scenes. For the Kansas writer, the setting for his story has evolved naturally and easily out of his attempt to tell his own story in his own way.
The favorite type of fictive writing in Kansas in the early days—particularly in the story forms—was the narrative sketch, which was the result of the writer's attempt to tell something of historical value. James W. Steele's "Frontier Army Sketches" is one of the most notable of the early examples. Perhaps one of the most famous writers of historical narratives which may be classed as sketches was Col. Henry Inman of Kansas City, Kansas, whose "Stories of the Old Santa Fe Trail" are graphically told and were many times reprinted. Sketch writing in Kansas is still going on, although the short story has long since become the popular form of shorter fiction. Jay Elmer House's "At the Grass Roots" is a good modern collection of sketches, although perhaps the chief Kansas sketch writer at present is Charles Moreau Harger.

As the interest in writing increased however, the short story rapidly evolved out of the earlier narrative sketches, until today the large collection of stories offer examples of numerous types.
The third person narrative is the popular form, although there are several examples of the story told in first person. "Around the Campfire" and "In love with a Picture" are good but not very well known examples. The epistolary form is not common, but "Lariat Letters" and "The Prisoner of Sagunto" are two striking examples.

The historical, romantic type is notable for the departure which the writer takes from actual historical facts. "Catherine and the Lieutenant" gives much of the civil war setting, but facts are subordinated to romantic effects.

Among the other prominent types are the detective story, stories of fictitious character, political stories and children's stories. Joseph Badger, Jr. is probably the most prolific writer of thrilling detective stories in Kansas. They are full of daring deeds, hair-breadth escapes and intense excitement. Such titles as "Dusky Dick's Doom", or Tobe Caster, The Old Scout", "Goose heads best shot or the Old Ranger's Long Trail", "Black Panther or the Half Blood" illustrate the character and type of these stories.
The Buffalo Bill stories are tales of daring adventure of which the detective story is a class.

The political story is well illustrated by Wm. Allen White in his "Strategems and Spoils" and in his Saturday Evening Post story of April 1915, in which he pictures the typical congressman of a small town. A. N. Field further illustrates the political story in his "Political Wanderings of Joseph Macon".

A few Kansas writers give us a glimpse into the world of imagination and mystery. Lulah Ragsdale's "Dream Woman" and "The Mysterious Painting by Wallace Mc Loud" are types of the story of mystery, while William H. Ellis deals entirely with the fabulous in his story, "The Philosophical Conclusion".

The dialect story is not a favorite type with Kansas writers. "Ant'ny and Cle'patra is full of southern negro dialect, and "Brown's revenge" has much dialect in it, although it cannot be called a dialect story. One negro story "Working for an Objec' " and two Scotch stories "The Ghaist O' Ghairlee" and "Frae Everlastin' Tae Everlastin'" almost make us forget we are reading Kansas stories.
One of the great newspaper stories which stands almost alone as representing a type is "The Great 'Patsy' Story" by Wm. Hamilton Cline.

It is however, in two distinct classes of Kansas stories that we should be greatly interested because there are many examples of both. Children's stories as a type occupy rather a large space among Kansas stories. Margaret Hill Mc Carter's "Tom Sam", "Link- A Home Made Hero", and "Toll-Gate Jinsie", Natalie Rice Clarke's story "The Little Lustre-ware Mug", and "The Stories for Kansas Boys and Girls" by Mrs. Caroline Wade Baker are prominent children's stories which have real people for the characters. Perhaps the best illustration of the Burgess type of "Bedtime Stories" are "The Dumpies" and "The Hollow Tree", collections of animal stories by Albert Bigelow Paine. "Sis ' Possum's Discovery", "The Coming of the Bear", "Mr. Rabbits' Big Dinner" and "Mr. Dog Takes Lessons in Dancing" are stories which would delight every Kansas boy and girl who loves animals. Mr. Paine does not always make his animals talk, but he endows them frequently with human qualities.
Perhaps one of the most unique animal stories is the story of a billy-goat - "Billy and the Bonnets" - by Katherine Tynan; and the one example of a newspaper human interest story with an animal character is "Peg - the story of a dog" by James W. Steele.

The second of these distinct classes is the war story. Kansas is not very far removed in time from the actual scenes of the Civil War; war veterans still exist to cherish reminiscences of the time of great human struggle and sacrifice. Almost an attitude of reverence for those old war traditions has been handed down to the present generation, and Kansas men and women are even yet writing war stories. A few of the less familiar titles will give some knowledge of the appeal which the struggle for freedom made and is still making in our own State. They are: "By advice of the Colonel", "Catherine and the Lieutenant", "Jane Orchard: Heroine!", "Aunt Betty's War Record", "Through the Lines", "The Corporal's Mercy", "How the day was won", "The Colonel's Christmas", and "Bob's Last Raid".

Besides these many divisions or classifications of Kansas stories as to form, there is the more
general classification into the humorous and the serious types. Sometimes a story which is serious in the beginning is developed into a light or humorous story. Sometimes a trivial incident has been expanded into a serious sketch with almost tragic appeal.

In general, the Kansas writer has fit his mood to the subject and has kept the proportion of tragedy and comedy in rather accurate manner. Although titles are sometimes deceiving, I have selected some which actually represent stories of humorous and tragic themes. "The Revenge of Jafar", "That shall He Reap", "The Yellow Streak", "For the Repose of his Soul", "The Law of Compensation" and "The Hand of Angele" are either serious or tragic in nature, although some almost border on the melodramatic. "Apples! Three for a dime", "The End Fair of Miss Sophronia Maria", "Aunt Martha's Story of the First Mince Pie", "Uncle Josia Buys and Aeroplane", "An Ear of Corn and the Girl", "Soda Springs Smith", and "Working for an Objec' " are distinctly humorous in character.

As to the characters in the stories, we have seen that both people and the lower animals are
characters in Kansas stories. Although the Scotchman and Irishman have their place, they are not well represented in the stories of this State. The political boss, the pioneer, the cow-boy, the Mexican and the southerner—particularly the Texan and the Kentuckian—are types of characters that are favorites with Kansas writers. Wm. Allen White's political boss and country town politician are famous fictive characters; James W. Steele makes us fully acquainted with the frontiersmen of New Mexico and the plainsman; but we are at times introduced to all sorts of characters from the country school teacher and rough rancher of the west to the Mesdames of France and the Caliph of Arabia. On the whole, however, Kansas people of almost every type are represented to such an extent that the Kansas hero and heroine stand out as the distinct and favorite characters of the Kansas story.

One of the most interesting revelations made by the study of the Kansas short story is the variety of diction and the large number of Kansas terms. Sodhouse, caves, cyclone, Kansas prairie, prairie dog, draw, homestead, pioneer and coyote are only a few of the favorite Kansas words. Sydney Prentice puts us into the atmosphere of his story "A guitar with
a Soul" at once by his use of such terms as cowherd, the plains, herdsmen, wind-swept plain, and "the breeze creeping over the wilderness of grass". Augustus Buell's description of the "tawny Kaw" and "fifty-sixers" make us feel that the Texans in "Flat Broke" were familiar with Lawrence itself. The dialect in this story is rough as befits the Texan's character. Matt Grigsby speaks of the "butchered brethern of "Goliad" and describes the action of a comrade by saying "he was aimlessly hacking his pine sides with his Arkansaw toothpick.

Names of town and counties such as Topeka, Lawrence and Ellsworth, and such terms as Santa Fe Trail, shanty and squatter place us at once at a Kansans' point of view.

The form of Kansas short stories is rapidly developing with the increase of attention to the shorter forms of literary work. The distinction between the sketch and short story forms is more closely observed than it was in the days of Kansas pioneers, and Kansas stories of today and even those of twenty five years ago, bear the stamp of public approval as is evidenced by the fact that many of
them sell immediately to the first class magazines of America,
V SUBJECT MATTER

Kansas authors vary as widely in subject matter as they do in setting, Church, State, Family, Nature, Educational Life, Society, Frontier Life, Landscape, all these are themes or important parts of Kansas stories. The Kansas farm—particularly the homestead, the prairie abode, and, later, the big western ranch—plays an important part in the short fictitious writings through the history of the short story of our state.

Many of the earlier themes were historical, and the stories were built around some historical incident or scene of significance. Sometimes the author chose a certain political or economic situation of historical importance. William Carey Campbell's story "Facing the Breeze" weaves around the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction and its significance in the early days, the story of a pretty country school teacher who, because of her bravery and courage during one of the terrible Kansas blizzards is named as a candidate for that office.
"Female Suffrage in Kansas" shows by title its central theme which the author develops humorously. Reminiscences of pioneer days when Mexicans and Indians abound in the west suggest a subject to James W. Steelw in his story "Joe's Pocket". It is of historical significance because it deals with the time when Kentuckians left their home and traveled westward, finding in the mountains of Colorado the career of military life.

Reminiscences of college days form the nucleus for an early Kansas story "The Gentleman from Sand Creek" by James W. Steele. Quincy Adams, a red headed bashful man tells his love story of his college days with a touch of realism and romance. The Kansas-Nebraska Bill caused the husband of the central figure of "Myra" to leave Connecticut in search of prosperity in the west. Territorial Kansas in its early growth and care-free life, impelled eastern men to seek the west in Grace Marion Houston's story "A Territorial Advent". The days of rough treatment and the habit of horse stealing are of historical importance in this story. There is a touch of romanticism in these stories which have historical subjects that
lends beauty and appeal to them.

Touches of realism and subjects of human interest appear in many Kansas stories. The realistic story is often colored by too much of the romantic, but frequently the realistic element dominates. "Farmer Billing's Mad Ambition" occurs to me as a story of a special human interest. Farmer Billings is a type of father who wants his daughter to marry well, and he proceeds to "rope in" as many eligibles as he can. A decidedly interesting and entangled situation results and is straightened by a trick of the daughter. Of particular appeal is the human interest theme in Mrs. S. M. Hartough's story "Mrs. Holbrooks' Invited Guests". The whole family decided to keep the name of the guest each had invited to dinner from the other. A decidedly humorous situation develops when it is discovered that each has invited the same guest.

Society, particularly the realm of politics, gets its share of treatment in Wm. Allen White's stories. He mingles politics with social matters in "Strategems and Spoils" and satirizes the control of the people by money.
The modern theme— that of using woman to drive man on to win in politics— is contained in his story "Victory for the People". "The Mercy of Death" is a story of bossism.

A good example of the study of the individual as a theme— a character study—is that of Dan Gregg in "A Most Lamentable Comedy". There are both psychological and social elements in the theme, the former predominating to such an extent that the essential thing in the story is the study of a popular leader who did not have the winning quality in him. He is in some respects the "Abraham Lincoln of the Missouri Valley" a term that has been applied to him, but he failed to show the qualities for leadership when the final count was made.

The imaginary class of subjects is illustrated in B. W. Woodward's story "The Prisoner Of Sagunto". The prisoner tells of a secret plan which is hidden somewhere, upon the finding of which depends his liberty. It is one of the most baffling of themes because in the end, there is the suspicion that the story is a hoax. It seems to be a product of a strong imagination and as such, it has much power and interest.
"Of a Wooing at Cufah" is also of the imaginary type because it is a story of literature rather than a story of life. It is of historical importance also, because it deals with the persecution of the Greek Christians by the Moslem people.

"Bettin's Easter Lily" by Geo. H. Picard is of the romantic class of subject. Emotion in it is intense when the heroine meets her former lover just after she has taken the marriage vows with another man.

There are not many examples of super-natural subjects. We are not forced to go to Mars or Saturn nor are we carried in time to the year 2500 A.D. for a glimpse at life and customs, there. We are permitted to stay in earthly surroundings from which subjects that make their appeal to human nature, if not always to Kansas sentiments and ideals, are always drawn. Kansas stories are rich in Kansas material; Kansas ideals are prominent and Kansas characters are numerous; it is after all the really Kansas stories that enrich the literature of the State.
APPENDIX.

The following is a list of all known Kansas story writers with their publications, and a chronology of Kansas stories to date. As there have been several series of the Kansas Magazine, so called, the numbers 1, 2, and 3, stand for the different series. All stories marked "K" have Kansas settings.
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Miner of Hard Luck
The Long Haired Pards or The Tarantars of the Plains
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Pacific Pete, The Prince of the Revolver

Jack Rabbit, The Prairie Sport or The Wolf Children of Llano Estacado
Double Sight The Death Shot or The Outlaw of Chaparal
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Graham, Sarah H.

Howell, Dora
Hurst, Maxwell
Johnson, D.F.
Lively, Mrs. L.B.
L.C.P.H.
"Mayberry, Almiry"
Palmer, Dr. H.K.

Patterson, A.H.

Quarles, Sidney
Snow, Effie C
Stafford, Juanita
Starr, Tarpley

Steele, Jas. W.

Stewart, C.B.
Washington, Georgiana

Anon

Selinis Fortune
A Little Polish Countess
A Northwestern Adventure
The Unwelcome Visitor
A Neighborhood Story
The Old Spanish Fort
Edith's Lovers
Lisbeth's Waiting
Female Suffrage in Kansas
Her Cowboy Lover
My Prisoner
Aunt Stafford's Legacy
Across the Divide on a Buckboard
My Friend's Daughter
Witch Hazel
A Dry Spell
Leaves from an Old Journal
Our Pot Lil' Fus' Flag
West of the Missouri
(Frontier Army Sketches)
A Good Indian
A Lonesome Christian
Chiquita
Copper Distilled
Crimes's Girl
Jack's Divorce
Men of the Border
Pleasing My Uncle
A Day in Plymouth
The Tragedy of the Pickled Limes
A Cold Blooded Conspiracy
A Commercial Transaction
A Masquerade
A Golden Serpent
A Unique Love Story
Grandfather's Dog
Joe's Folks
Law at Jud's Flat
Lem Sanderson's Kid
Mr. Flimsbury's Baby
Parted
The Learned Dog
The Ordeal
The Story of an English Criminal
Twistleton's Typewriter
Two Boys Together
Westmore's Crow
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1896

Harmon, Jos. A.
McCausland, A.A.

McMillan, Julia.
"Nitsua" Yendis
Peters, Arthur S.
Pollard, Percival
Ragsdale, Julah
Roberts, Chas. C.D.
Scannon, Laura T.

Scott, Chas. F.

Sheldon, Chas. M.
Thompson, Agnes
Whitze11, Frank H.

1897

Alton, Ralph
Austin, Carmen H.
Cox, H. A.
Cunningham, Gibert
Davis, Leona
Daffenbaugh, W.
Boyle, C. W.
Doncyson, J. B
Emery, Plato G.
Fowler, Egbert W.
Franklin, Clarke
Goldie, Beryl
Greene, Arthur A.
Hardy, Isa Duffus
Harte, W. B.

Haskell, Harry J.
Hayward, M. G.
Henry, Carleton
Jenney, Chas. E.
Millard, F. B.
Morgan, Mrs. E. M.
&
Hilliard, Evelyne
Morrow, Marco
Moore, J. F.
McCue, D. Clarke
Neidig, W. J.

For Love of Pia
A Highlight on a Memory Canvas
As Told by the Persian
The Mysterious Mrs. Munn
The Mirror
As Told to Mildred
The Amulet
By Way of a Fad
The Dream Woman
On the Tantramar Dike
Shatranj
The Hermit of Central Avenue
Fair Play Turned About
Fifty to Fifty
Unclaimed Baggage
Isnelda
Ayesha's Necklace
Pallida Mors

A Really Serious Quarrel
Ah Yets Penance
An Interlude
In the Plaza de Toros
In June
Two of a Kind
A Jungle Vendetta
A Girl's Doings
Overheard
The Confession of a Dead Man
Now Cracks a Heart
Aileen Desmond
An Impromptu
For Claire
A Poet's Rhapsody in Love and the Prud
Earth Haunted
Macedonian Sketches
For Love or Riches
The Devil's Chord
A Romance of the South
A Child of the Desert

The Countess and the Monk

"Hennie"
The Sullivan's Of Castle Cobbin
Drawn from Life
Dillon on the "Bugle"
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| 1901 | Campbell, Wm. Carey | Soda Spring's Smith<br>A Cat creek Conversion<br>A Tale of the Desert<br>A Kansas Emigrant<br>At the Bright Angel Trail<br>Col. Jackson of Colorado<br>Xmas on the Huerfaro<br>Governor for Five Minutes<br>In Arizona<br>Queen Sabe<br>The Eagle and the Jack Rabbit<br>The Backsliding at Cat Creek<br>The Passing of Jack Thompson<br>"The Boy"
The Colonel's Xmas Turkey<br>Tasso Garcia's Story |
| Gray, Anna D. | Lasee, Halvern<br>McCarter, Mrs. Margaret<br>Murdock, Thos. B.<br>Townshend, Clara H.<br>White, W.A. | Hill A Little Quaker Santa Claus<br>Benton and Len<br>In the Storm's Wake<br>Stratagems and Spoils<br>A Most Lamentable Comedy |
1901

White, W.A.  

A Triumph's Avidence  
A Victory for the People  
The Man On Horse Back  
The Mercy of Death  
They Met By Chance  

Anon  

1902

Bidwell, Walfer  

Zeb Carter's Passion  
The Dude, The Girl, and the Billy Goat  
The Mitigation of Miss Nervy  
The Great "Patsy Story"  
Mr. Pinkerton's Disappointment  
Napoleon Bonaparte Smith  
His Mission  
A Hero Worshipper  
A Virginia Hanging  
Yonce Oberbein  
How the Rain Came  

Bowers, L.A.  

Brown, Mrs. Maybellville  

Cline Wm. H.  

Faxon, Ralph  

Gray, Anna D.  

J. A. T. S.  

Read, Miss Parke  

Smith F.D.  

Torrance J.E.  

White, Wm. A.  

1903

Anderson, Jas.  

Mrs. Totlon's Thanksgiving Guests  
A Xmas Family Reunion  
In Another Man's Shoes  
An Isle Love Story  
Two Pieces of Cake  
A Double Partnership  
How Xmas Came to Poorhouse Hill  
That Mysterious Something  
How the Day was Won  
Marjorie's Chance  
The Foundations of the Sea  
A Yaqui Princess  
John Brown's Exit from Kansas  
The Battle of the Spurs  
On the Altar of Jealousy  
Bob's Last Raid  
A Cuffless Professor  
The End Fair of Miss Sophronia Maria  
One Touch of Nature  
Some Possum Ridge Lovers  
The Story that Mickey Told  
Fare Everlasting's the Everlasting  
Sword and Gold  
The McWilliams Special  
A Proposal on Lake Michigan  
The Portrait of a Lady  
Billy and the Bonnets  

Alexander Vennie L.  

Baker, James  

Bidwell, W.  

Coll, Aloysius  

Crocker, Harriet F.  

Day, Geo.  

Francis, Henry W.  

Hasbrouck, Mrs. Geo.  

Havley, C.  

Hundley, Will H.  

Kiene, L. L.  

Kline, Orma L. F.  

Kennedy, Roy  

Linton, Lula  

McLaws Lafayette  

Messer, Gertrude M.  

Montfort, Thos. P.  

Morrison J. W.  

Morrison L. A.  

Oscar, Alan  

Spearman, Frank H. T.  

Shell, Chas.  

Thompson, Seyler F.  

Tynan, Katherine
1903
Underwood, Judith
Vane, Derrick

Vose, Elizabeth
Weatherly, Josephine

Wetmore, Claude H.
Wilson, Harmon D.

Married with a Ring
The Great Insurance Fraud
The Strange Adventure of Paul Velves-
ton Millionaire
A Flower that Bloomed in the Night
The Crepe Veil
An Equal Standard
Ensign Daly's Pluck
Inspired by an Anthem
The Blind Messenger of the Iriquois
Troubles of a Worried Man
The Worried Man
The Ornery Boy
The Observations of Knute Olafson
Timothy Tugbutton

1904
Brown, Mrs. May B.
Brown, William P.
Reber, Elenora E.
Wilson, Hill P.

Brad Merrill, Guardian
A Case of Moon-Blink
A Broken Promise
Blackettles Last Raid

1905
Adam, Louise N.
Alden, W.S.
Bates, Katherine Lee
Blessing, Nellie
Boylan, Grace
Bradin, Mrs. Findley
Campbell, Malcolm
Chamberling, S.D.
Clark, Natalie Rice
Brown, Mrs. May B.
Crittendon, Charlotte

The Wind in the Chimney
Mr. Cutter's Surprise
Holy Night
"Luke"
Nancy's Peculiarities
A Day wi' the Devil
Under the Apple Tree
The Mystery of a Mine
The Little Lustre-Wear Hug
When the Baby Went to Church
By the Assistance of Anne
Edward Langshan's Reform
The Poet "Anon"
Between Two Worlds
A Story of Some Xmas Carols
In the New Jerusalem
The Frog Boy
Old Ringtale?Waterloo
The Star's Port
At The Grass Roots
1905

House, Jay E.

A passing Glance at Squire Harmon
A Pilgrimage into the Past
An apostrophe to the Rabbit
Back at Grigsby's Station
Brother Bill
In Memory of an Ornery Pup
Going Back to Grandmothers
My Fried the Boy
Her First Real Tragedy
On Licking Nick Hartley
The Society at Rouden's Ford
The Xmas of 1883
The Uplift at Doane
The Neighborhood Fiddler
The Neighborhood's Gayer Side
The Princess Enters
The Lure of the Circus
The Ghost at Scott's Church
The Passing of "Muscogee Red"
The Smartest Boy in School
The Old District Judge
The Opal's Daily Sun
The Prince Business
The Girl in "Googly Goo"
The Taking down of Heston
When a Man is Worthless
When Flora Died

Houston, Grace M.
Jarrell, Myra W.
Keith, Tracy F.

Kennedy Leroy
Keyser, Leander S.
Kildaire, Owen
Irwell, Lawrence
McCarteer Margaret H.

Mcloud, Wallace
Montgomery, L.M.
Marriott, Crittendon
Reed, G.L.
Stone, Hester M.
Stratton, Frank M.
Penrose, Mrs. H.H.
Talbot, Mrs. J.
Thomas S.H.
Townsley, Carrie Lee

A Territorial Advent
Timorous Timothy
Noblesse Oblige
The October Child
"Apples! Three for a Dime"
The Heroine Incarnated
Yule Tide Down in Mulberry
Trials of an Elderly Bachelor
Link-A Home Made Hero
The Same Receiveth Me
"Tom Sam"
The Mysterious Painting
The Softening of Miss Cynthia
A Modern Cleopatra
A Legend of the Mohawk
Ly Term at "Stratton"
Pottering Pete
Dabbler
The Ghost of Nora
What Made the Trouble
The Face in the Chapel Window
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Weatherley,Josephine
Whitcomb,Jessie W.
Wandell,Harry B.
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Whitcomb,Jessie W.
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MacCarter,Mrs.M.H.
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1908
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1909
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Moving Pictures
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"Here's Your Valentine Miss Morris"
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Around the Block in Forty Seconds
The Tremolo Shop
A Partnership
My Editor
An Episode
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Working for an Object
The Legal Status of Mrs?O'Rourke
Cuddy's Baby
Lariat Letters
A Barkis on the Range
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A Cowpuncher at the Bull Fight
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The Conquest of Peter and
Other Stories
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Honey Babe's Thanksgiving
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A Silken Sympathetic Strike
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An Unlighted Cigarette
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Golding, Tony
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Halo, Mrs. Lillian W.
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Harris, Mrs. N. H.
Hendry, Vern M.
Haysman, Jos. M.
Hobbs, John L.
James, Guido D.
Johnson, Emma Carrie
Kay, E. J.
Lawton, J. W.
Lewis, Geo. W.

Merrillth, Maude
Murdock, Thos. D.
Nicholson, Geo. A.
Polnath, August H.
Reed, Walter W.
Reeves, A. B.
Stubbs, Dale Allen
Tassahire, Ned
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Wattles, Willard A.
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Cooper, Lawrence
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Harding, Lewis A.
Harris, N. Henry
Janes, Guido D.

Kitchen, H. T.
Lewis, Geo. W.
Moorehouse, Chas. H.

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The Buried Treasure
Aunt Martha's Story
The Prince
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Cold Fest
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Bail At John Marianos
A Voiceless Persuader
Catherine and the Lieutenant
The Call of the Spirit
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The Second Honey Moon
Shalimar
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The Journey Home
A Romance of Pandingue
John Brown's Soul
The Battle on the Boggy
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1910
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Ponath, August H.
Torrence, Judge J. E.
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A Warning from the Skies
Wessie Livers
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England, Geo. Allen
Greenfield, A. B.
Howe, E. W.
Kelley, Florence Finch
Lynn, Margaret
McCarter Mrs. M. H.
Montfort, Homer
Smith F. D.
Stevens, Myrtle G.
Thompson, Helen
Vaughn? Emily U.
Walker, Sadie Kidd
Wallace, Edgar

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Oh Come All Ye Faithful
Death in Life
Marvilla Peck's Blood Kin
Old Dog in the Sun
Then the Circus Came to Town
Emerson's Wife and
Other Western Stories
Prairie Caravanersy
StepDaughter of the Prairie
Urban Test
Tales of a Pullman Ark
Abducting a Revolution
Buried Treasure
The Highways and the Hedges
The End of a Crooked Trail
The Lower Bureau Drawer and
Other Sketches
Welaka
Keepers of the Stone

1912
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Cole Patience Devier
Hogrofe, Pearl
Howe, E. W.
Jarrell, Myra W.
Lynn, Margaret
Peterson, Paul

A Broad Prairie Mating
For the Sake of Scotty
A Window on Morning-Side
Ivy's Chance
First Prize and Twenty-Five Dollars
Before I End My Life
Found Something Going On
Kin Story
A Book of Ramblings
Green Thought
Vanity of Romance
A Kansas Coon Hunt
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<td>Cole, Patience Bevier</td>
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