

As I have remarked before, I remember the very sweet little sister with the red hair and fair complexion. Julia knew all of the family better than I did. I only met the family now and then as I would be looking after stock or gathering fuel or something of that sort. Ed, who is now gone, was successful in building quite an estate. I don't know whether he had children to leave it to or not.

The loss of stock due to the storm reminds me of the early days in Kansas when people felt that cattle and horses, like the buffalo, could find food for themselves, forgetting that the buffalo roamed far to the south during the winter and far to the north during the summer months. Feed was hard to raise, barns were insufficient, and livestock must have suffered cruelly. Eastern Colorado has been quite largely broken up since the days when I drove over it so frequently.

I hope that we shall continue to have good seasons with good crops of wheat. Quite a number of persons in Lawrence of my acquaintance have invested in wheat land in Western Kansas and Colorado. A son-in-law of mine, Mr. McNalley at Minneapolis, Kansas, has invested quite largely in Solomon River Valley land which is valuable and productive. I was interested last year to learn of the fine melon crops raised in Southwestern Kansas. I understand that these melons were raised by the use of Artesian wells and that the quality was equal to that of Rocky Ford.

Julia Simons Hoinville died in October 1943 and late last year her husband, C. H. Hoinville, married a maiden lady, Mary Symons, perhaps fifteen or twenty years his junior, but a very nice young woman that he had known well and who also had been a friend of Julia Simons. However, she is not a relative of ours.

We are rich in family. We have four children and ten grandchildren, the youngest being one and a half years old. They are all bright, attractive children and we are proud of them.

I note you say that the political situation is improving. As I remember, your father was a Democrat at a time when nearly everyone else was a Republican. I have forgotten whether the boys followed the father's politics or not, but you are correct in thinking that the political situation is improving. I think that it is well to recall that governments are supported by the people and that for the government to support the people is putting an unfair burden upon those who pay taxes. However, no fair minded man or woman would wish to have anyone suffer because of their lack of means.