

April 17, 1951

Harry Lang, Post Master
Jetmore, Kansas

Dear Mr. Lang:

Noticing your name on the card sent me in regard to the library, I think perhaps you are a son or grandson of Judge Lang, who was probate judge of Hodgeman County many years ago. As I recall, Sam Purple lived not far from Judge Lang. Purple was a son of Mrs. Heimer and Hansten. He was an amiable man excepting when he was drinking, at which time he had an ungovernable temper. One such time, he shot and killed his wife and then wrapped a couple of his children so they would not be cold and rode to Jetmore, where he gave himself up. The good people of Jetmore, endeavoring to save the county the expense of a trial, accompanied him back to his home where they hung him to a ridge pole of his house. Maybe I should not recall unhappy incidents of this character.

I remember Judge Lang as a man who wore white whiskers over his chin and cheeks in the style of Horace Greeley. I haven't seen anyone with whiskers of that type for a long time.

I shall shortly send a complimentary copy of the Simons Genealogy to the Jetmore City Library. It has been close to 65 years since I lived in the County but I have visited it twice since then.