

Arkoe. He entered a claim and improved a farm several years, but about 1860 sold and moved to Kansas. In 1842 Thomas Groves came from Tennessee, settling on section 6, township 63, range 35. Hiram Groves, a brother of Thomas Groves, emigrated from Tennessee in 1842 and preempted the southwest quarter of section 18, township 63, range 35. He sold five years later to Alfred Jones, who came from Rush county, Indiana, arriving April 13, 1847. In 1882 he remarked that the only crop failure he had in all those years was in 1860. When he came he saw no elk or buffalo, as they had all disappeared before that date. One buffalo was chased across the Missouri river on the ice, where the White Cloud ferry was located. The river was heavily frozen and teams with large loads easily crossed. A buffalo was pursued by hunters into Nodaway county and the animal was killed about four miles west of the Jones farm. Mr. Groves saw many elk and deer horns strewn along the prairies and in the groves. So thick were these bones that no modern mower could have mowed a swathe evenly over the prairies. He related how he had more than once killed five deers in one day. At times he hunted deer at night time, his child carrying a lantern, and he, going carefully beside the child, would see the eyes of the deer glisten and shoot them. He stated that at one time he counted fifty-six deer and at another time thirty-three. The tame turkeys and wild ones often fought, and in some other instances the tame birds would take up with the wild ones and then follow them off; he lost four flocks of domestic turkeys in this manner. This pioneer also told of how Doctor Talbott, who was murdered by his sons a few years later, had caught otter sufficient in number to make for himself a fine large overcoat. With much interest was also told the story of bee trees and wild honey, which was produced in great abundance on account of the great numbers of prairie wild flowers which made the best grade of honey.

Another noteworthy point brought out by pioneer Groves was that of the unlimited cattle range and how cattle would fatten on the native grass, and deer, fattened on the same kind of grass, would, when hung up a short time, look as white as a dressed sheep. The cattle were turned out on the range in the spring and no more attention paid to them until the season for a "round up" in the fall, when each pioneer would claim his own and drive them home. Corn left out in the shock was generally half destroyed by deer and wild turkey.

Another prominent settler in White Cloud township was Isaac Newton Prather, who came from Kentucky in 1841 and located two miles west of the