



world wide attention at the present 100, forty-nine were dead on the field. time. Metropolitan papers that have One private was killed and Lieutenant been supressing news of rich discover- Fitzhugh Lee and several privates ies, no doubt believing that reports wounded." sent in were fake and for advertising purposes only, have discovered the er- Leavenworth, with the Dragoon Regiror of their way and today the press is ment, of which Phil Kearney was Lieugiving recognition to the wealth of Co- tenant Colonel, passed through this manche county's big hills.

geographical history of the United rough and rising at least 1,500 feet States. It was as late as 1852 that above the level of the country. He says: Captain Marcey and Captain George B. "A few miles before reaching our McClellan made the first official explo- haulting place for the night the charrations and surveys and definitely fixed acter of the country changed; the secthe sources of the two forks of Red ondary formation gave place entirely to River and selected the south fork as the primitive rock mountains of granite enmain river.

and the republic of Texas had existed waterfall glistening in the sunlight. An long prior to that date, however. Maj- old woodman astonished us by informor Shively of the United States army ing us that it was a mass of salt. These disarmed a company of Texas rangers mountains are impassable for artillery in Greer county in 1842, this matter was or wagon trains. Immense blocks of finally settled by the payment of \$30,- granite piled on each other from 500 to 000 to Texas. In 1884 a military force 1,000 feet in height." was sent from Ft. Sill to expel the set- In 1611 the Spaniards sent expeditions tlers from Greer county. In 1859, Earl from Santa Fe, eastward, and found the Van Dorn, then a brevet major, com- Sierra Jauman, as they named the manded an expedition from Fort Ar- Wichita Mountains. Between that date buckle, established Camp Radziminski, and 1629, Father Juan de Salas and at the south slope of the Wichita others worked as missionaries in that Mountains. He had a battle with the locality. Comanche Indians, in which he reports In 1650, Diego del Castillo, with a

The Wichita mountains are attracting | "killing wounding or capturing 90 or

Earlier than this, in 1834, General country. His adjutant reports the These mountains are young in the Wichita mountains as exceedingly

tirely without soil. Upon one spot I Contention between the United States noticed a shining spot, apparently a

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military expedition, remained in the foot-this was about 1760-from th sent to the governor of New Mexico.

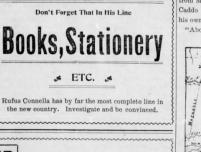
In 1804, the Lewis and Clark explor- and to procure horses. ing expedition located the "Sinking After traveling several days the hills Spring" in the Wichitas.

owing statement:

his own lips."

intry six months searching for min- Panis nation in company with a party erals and found many pearls which he of young Indians, with whom I had been partly raised, on a hunting trip,

became more broken, rising into high In 1805 Sibley's exploring expedition mountains, among which we saw a made a report to the president of the great deal of rock salt and ore which United States which contains the fol- the Indians said was my, (meaning white people's treasure), which I after-"I obtained the following curious story | w rds learned was silver, and that among from Mr. Brevel-who was born in the these mountains of mines was often Caddo towns-and wrote it down from heard a noise like the explosion of cannons or distant thunder, which the In-"About forty years ago I set off on dians said was the spirit of the white



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people working in the mines, which I the "Greer County" case, W. F. Cumwas afterwards informed was the blow- mins, in the service of the Academy ing of the mines, as it is called, which of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, tescommon in all parts of Spanish Amer- tifies that in 1802 he made searches for ica where mines exist."

When the Spaniards abandoned the the western end of the Wichita Mounountry all their old workings were fill- tains and the north fork of the Red ed in and covered and no traces of them River. There were old traditions conremain except the ruins of some old cerning it and the growth of timber and smelting works and very uncertain other natural occurrence would fix its traces of small villiages. Bancroft re- date as being of the last century. Bancords the building of some of these croft's history says: towns about 75 miles south and possibly "Silver mines existed about the head-

these towns and located one between

east of the present site of Ft. Sill. In waters of the Wichita, more particular-

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