

«Topeka had an earthquake shock April 24, 1867 — its first and only seismic disturbance of noteworthy extent. It was felt in all parts of the city, and most noticeably at the Methodist Church, where the funeral services of H. S. Herr were being conducted by Rev. John D. Knox.»

«The Methodists erected the first church spire in Topeka, and had the first bell of commanding size. The bell weighed 1,068 pounds, and was given to the church in 1866 by John Paisley, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. It was given during the pastorate of Rev. John D. Knox, to commemorate the centennial year of American Methodism.»

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Book Title: History Of Shawnee County, Kansas

Knox, John D. — Born, Oct. 28, 1828, Brook's Run, Belmont Co., Ohio; son of John and Mary (Davis) K.; educated, Jefferson Coll., 1 year; graduated. Duff's Commercial Coll., '75; married, April 15, 1858, Johnstown, Pa., to Mary Dibert; became a licensed local preacher of the M. E. Church, April 30, 1850; circuit preacher in the East, 15 years; to Topeka, 1865: pastor of the First M. E. church for 3 years; presiding elder of the Fort Scott (list.; health compelled him to resign; principal, Kan. Business Coll.; CO. supt., Shawnee, 1866-69; 1871 to 73, pres., Capitol Bank of Topeka; John D. Knox & Co., bankers, 1874 to 1891; was writer for Pittsburg Christian Advocate; editor of the Kansas Methodist, 4 years; now in real estate and loan business. Author: Paths to Wealth, 1884. Office: 103 E. 5th.

according to Genealogy Collection, Who's who in Topeka,

by Howard D. Berrett, 1905, Adams Brothers, Publishers, Topeka/KS

REV. JOHN D. KNOX was born October 28, 1828, on Brook's Run, Belmont Co., Ohio, received his collegiate education in Jefferson College, New Athens, Harrison Co., Ohio and graduated at Duff's Commercial College, Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1857. While at school he was licensed as an exhorter, February 23, 1850. Soon after leaving school was licensed as a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church. In June, 1850, was admitted on trial in the Pittsburgh Conference, held at Canton, Ohio and was appointed junior preacher on the Washington and Cambridge circuit, in Guernsey County, Ohio. In 1851, with two colleagues, he traveled the Deersville circuit, in 1852, the Cadiz circuit, and in 1853, the Butler circuit, in Pennsylvania, securing in the latter the erection of a small brick church, which the people named Knox Chapel. The little town at this point is still called Knoxville. In 1854 his field of labor was at Pittsburgh where in common with many of his flock, he was stricken with cholera. Through the years of 1855, 1856 and 1857 he was successively on the Bridgeport circuit, Ohio; at Lawrenceville station, Pittsburgh, agent for the Beaver Female Seminary, and in 1858 and 1859 in charge of the Mount Pleasant and West Newton circuits. In 1860 and 1861 he was on the Mechanicsburg circuit, in Indiana County, Pa., and in 1862 and 1863 was pastor of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, at Pittsburgh, Pa. In 1864 he was in Bridgewater, and in the spring of 1865 was transferred to the Kansas conference and stationed at Topeka. He had charge of the Topeka church for three years, the society and church enjoying a high degree of prosperity under his pastorate. He also had charge of the Kansas Business College, and was elected County Superintendent of Public Instruction. In 1869 and 1870 he was appointed Presiding Elder of Fort Scott District, but resigned in consequence of ill health during the latter year. In 1871 he was elected President of the Capital Bank in Topeka, and in 1873, made a trip to Europe in the interests of the institution. January 1, 1874, the banking house of John D. Knox & Co. was established at Topeka. They do a general banking business and purchase and sell Kansas securities, loan money and invest money for Eastern parties. They have also a savings department connected with the bank. Mr. Knox is connected actively with many societies, both secret and benevolent. He has taken eleven degrees in the Masonic Society, is past grand in the I. O. O. F. and has been chaplain in the G. A. R. He has been one of the editors of the Kansas Methodist since its start, and is now editor-in-chief. He was married, April 15, 1858, in Johnstown, Cambria Co., Pa., to Mary Dilbert, of Somerset County, Pa. They have eight children - David D., William C., Martha P., Mary R., Sarah E., John D., Olive B. and Florence L.

as of William G. Cutler's History of the State of Kansas, 1883 by A.T. Andreas, Chicago/IL, Shawnee Cy, pt 28