

# Traveling Trunk: *Charley's Trunk*

## GLOSSARY

by Dr. David Clapsaddle

**Abilene:** a little town ten miles west of Chapman's Creek; in 1867, it had a single building, located in the middle of a prairie dog town

**Ambulance:** a light wagon used in the Civil War to transport wounded soldiers; in the West, it was often used to transport officers, their families, and possessions because of the somewhat smoother ride

**Barracks:** a building used to house enlisted men at army posts

**Blockhouse:** a defensive structure in which soldiers could withstand attacks

**Buffalo tail:** Indians attached buffalo tails to sticks and used them to swat flies

**Chapman's Creek:** a small stream twelve miles west of Junction City

**Cow Creek:** a small stream twenty-nine miles from the Smoky Hill River

**Elk:** a member of the deer family; elk were numerous in that area during the 1860s

**Elm Creek:** a small stream eleven miles from Salina

**Farris Ranch:** a ranch operated by the Farris family; the men supported themselves by selling meat, hides, and furs from their hunting activities; it was twenty-eight miles from Hohneck's ranch

**Fire pit:** a hole dug in the ground to collect coals from the campfire

**Flint:** a hard stone (chert) from which Indians made arrowheads, knives, and other artifacts

**Fort Larned:** an army post located in Pawnee County, Kansas; established in 1859 as Camp on Pawnee Fork, it was renamed Fort Larned in 1860; at the time of the story, 1867, the permanent stone buildings still in existence at the Fort Larned National Historic Site were being constructed

**Fort Riley:** an army post near Junction City, Kansas; it was from there that Hancock expedition began in March, 1867

**Fort Harker:** an army post six miles from Clear Creek; in the spring of 1867 it was relocated to a hill overlooking the Smoky Hill River; the original site, named Fort Ellsworth, was located near the crossing of the Smoky Hill River

**Fort Zarah:** an army post ten miles from Cow Creek; by 1867, it was an active place with both military and civilian establishments

**General Hancock:** Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock who conducted an expedition in the spring of 1867 against the Southern Plains tribes; he led 1400 men from Fort Riley past Fort Larned where his troops confronted a village of Cheyenne and Sioux; fearing for their lives, the Indians fled; in retaliation, Hancock ordered that all the Indians' lodges and other possessions be burned

**Grimm's Fairy Tales:** a popular children's book in the mid-1800s

**Hohneck's Ranch:** a business operated by Ernst Hohneck; a ranch in that period was a place of retail where frontier travelers could purchase supplies; sometimes, the ranch also served as a café

**Junction City:** A little town three miles west of Fort Riley

**Livery:** short for livery stable; a place where horses are kept

**Medicine bag:** a little pouch containing amulets (charms thought to possess magical powers)

**Pawnee Rock:** a sandstone formation which rose sixty feet, located twenty-two miles from Fort Zarah

**Post:** the designation for an army installation

**Post trader's store:** a place of retail at army posts; prior to 1867, the post trader was called the sutler

**Prairie dog:** a rodent which inhabited parts of Kansas; the burrows constituted what were called prairie dog towns

**Pawnee River:** The stream, often called Pawnee Fork, ran by Fort Larned; Fork was the designation with reference to its tribal relationship with the Arkansas River

**Quartermaster's:** the reference was to the quartermaster's warehouse where materials and supplies were kept

**Ragamuffin:** a dirty, ragged child; a term from the 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Rattles:** the growth on the rattlesnake's tail which occurred wherever the snake shed its skin; it was widely believed that the rattlesnake shed its skin annually; not true—the skin was shed several times a year

**Salina:** a town established in 1859; by 1867, it had a number of stores and other businesses; it was located twenty-three miles west of Abilene

**Santa Fe Road:** the 19<sup>th</sup> century designation for what is now known as the Santa Fe Trail

**Shops:** the maintenance building at army posts which housed several trades: carpentry, blacksmithing, saddlery, etc.

**Wearing your heart on your sleeve:** a 19<sup>th</sup> century expression meaning you show your emotions easily to the public

**White traders:** men who were in the business of trading manufactured merchandise to Indians, often for furs and hides