

Abelard Guthrie-Thomas Johnson-Delegate to Congress-Kansas Territory.

(From Wilder's Annals, under date of July 28, 1853.)

In 1855, a correspondent to the Chicago Press, made the statement that a convention was held at Wyandotte July 28, 1853, a territorial government organized, and a delegate to Congress nominated. Abelard Guthrie was put forward by a friend of Thomas H. Benton, and Rev. Thomas Johnson by the friends of D. R. Atchison. Guthrie received the nomination. Late in the fall, Thomas Johnson was brought out as a candidate, and was elected by Indian votes. He went to Washington, but the Territory was not organized, and he was not received as a delegate. The Washington Union spoke of him as "The Rev. Thomas Johnson, a noble specimen of a western man." In the New York Tribune of August 9, 1856, Mr. Guthrie gives his account of this "provisional government":