

Niangua State Gazette  
Oct 4<sup>th</sup> 1862

Address of Abner  
Quinn

English 91 aro ago I was  
a resident of what is now  
the State of Kansas. English  
ago "Solitary and alone"  
I proposed to the people of the  
then Territory to make  
an effort to secure a  
territorial government.  
This was the first act in  
that great national drama  
in which the whole human  
people are now actors, and  
the whole civilization  
intensely interested spectators.

The Republican party owes  
its existence to this movement.  
My proposition met with  
much opposition from gov-  
ernment officials and others.  
One of them, Col. Fannin,  
commanding officer at  
Fort Leavenworth, (and was  
now I believe of the rebel  
army) threatened to arrest  
me if I should attempt  
to hold the election. However  
an election for delegates to  
represent the Territory in  
Congress, was held on  
the ~~second~~ 2nd Tuesday  
of October, 1852, and I  
was chosen delegate.

We christened our new  
 Territory "Alaska", for as  
 yet it had no legal  
 name. I proceeded to  
 Washington and had my  
 petition and evidence of  
 election presented to  
 Congress, and virtually  
 succeeded in my  
 mission, by getting a  
 bill for organization  
 passed by the House of  
 Representatives, and a favorable  
 report from the Committee  
 on Territories of the Senate.  
 But the opposition to the  
 measure had been

very violent and  
obstinate. Throughout  
and the organization  
was not perfected  
until the res-  
session of Congress.

The South had already taken  
possession of this Territory, had  
planted its favorite institutions  
within it, and declared itself again  
in its stolen acquisition. —  
Kansas (then Nebraska) was the  
arbiter of the destiny of the Republic.  
This was well understood by the  
Douglas. Hence the desperate struggle  
so familiar to us all to secure  
the. Had she succeeded the  
Slave power would have been  
omnipotent for the Pacific  
States would have been  
irrevocable.

5  
with the Southern District  
and Kansas was the only  
link needed to perfect the  
chain which would unite  
those regions to a common  
destiny. I am assuming  
nothing more than the facts  
will warrant, when I say  
that my agency in calling  
public attention to this  
territory, and in pressing its  
claims upon the consideration  
of Congress, defeated the  
crafty and ambitious  
designs of the slave power  
and saved the beautiful  
and fertile country to free  
men and free labor. Kansas  
owes her civil existence to  
my efforts in her behalf.  
I have never before effected

6  
to the people for any  
acknowledgment of the  
services I have rendered.  
But the present seems a  
fitting opportunity to do so.

Abelard Yickman  
Quindaro, Kansas 6th Sept.  
1862