

Colorado Springs Gazette Newspaper

July 4, 1903

Section: **Colorado City News**

Headquarters at the Office of the Colorado City Realty Co. - Post office

"Kinsman Closes Deal for Christian Church Site

H. C. Kinsman yesterday closed the deal for the sale of lots 17 and 18, in block 146, at the corner of Fifth street and Lincoln avenue (*now Pikes Peak Avenue*), from Leon Becker to the Christian church. The church will erect a new building on the lots in the near future. As a result of the sale of the lots upon which the church now stands for the Carnegie library building, about \$1,000 was netted as a building fund. This will be increased to about \$1,500 with the sale of the old church building.

Cuno Was Fined for Assault and Battery

Ernest Cuno, proprietor of the Merchants café, was arrested yesterday morning for assault and battery on the person of John S. Sherwood. The two got into an altercation in the café and Cuno struck Sherwood with a club, inflicting an ugly gash in his forehead. Cuno was fined \$5 and costs in Justice Faulkner's court. The fine was paid. Sherwood was much averse to testifying against his assailant at the trial.

He Drove the First Mule Team into Colorado City

Rensselaer Smith, one of the pioneers of Colorado City and El Paso county, and who is said to have driven the first mule team into Colorado City in 1862, is dangerously ill at his home, 421 Lincoln avenue, and small hope is expressed for his recovery. Mr. Smith is over 75 years old and is very well-known in this vicinity. His illness is due to Bright's disease. Mr. Smith has been prominently identified with the growth and development of Colorado City, and his friends are legion.

Colorado City Briefs

Fifteen Days - John Jones, living near the brick yards in Colorado City, was arrested yesterday and brought before Justice Allen on the charge of wife beating and was given 15 days for being a little too strenuous in the matter of pounding his wife when in a drunken state. This is not the first time he has been guilty of the offense.

Recovering - The son of O. B. Ford of the West Side, who has been seriously ill with membranous croup is reported better and on the road to recovery.

Will Preach - Rev. L. G. Thompson of Denver, state evangelist, will fill the pulpit of the Christian church here tomorrow morning in the place of Rev. A. N. Glover.

Installation - The Colorado City lodge of Odd Fellows, No. 77, held its annual installation of officers last night. After the installation a social was held and refreshments served.

Trouble Stopped - The trouble caused by small boys placing torpedoes on the street car tracks on Colorado avenue has been stopped by the police, upon complaint of the street car company.

Pulpit Exchange - Rev. L. C. Thompson of Denver, state secretary of the Christian church, will occupy the pulpit of the local Christian church for the pastor, Rev. A. M. Love, tomorrow at both the morning and evening services.

Order Will Meet - The Ancient Order of Protection will meet Monday to install officers. A full attendance is earnestly requested, as business of importance is to be transacted. Come all and greet your new officers.

Attend Ball Game - According to Manager George Geiger of the Eagles baseball team, the largest crowd of the season will go to Colorado Springs this afternoon to attend the big game between the Eagles and the Elks, which the Eagles hope to win.

Stock Sold - The stock of stoves and hardware belonging to the Range and Furnace company has been sold by C. O. Graves of the company to G. W. Taylor and Squire Pond. The new owners will take possession as soon as the invoice is completed."

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July 5, 1903

Drove First Mule Team and Fought Indians and Now He Has Crossed the Last Range
Obituary and Photo of **Renssalaer Smith**

"Renssalaer Smith of Colorado City died at his home, 421 Lincoln avenue, Colorado City, yesterday morning at 5:10 o'clock after an illness of over a year, during the last eight months of which he was confined to his bed. The immediate cause of death was paralysis.

In the death of Renssalaer Smith, Colorado City, El Paso county and the state of Colorado loses one of its oldest citizens. Mr. Smith was one of the first of the pioneers who came west in the early days to blaze a way for the civilization that was to follow. In 1863 he, with Ezra Baird and a party of settlers, drove the first wagon train into what is now Colorado City. Mr. Baird and his other associates are long since dead. The party came from DeKalb county, Illinois.

Mr. Smith settled in this vicinity and took some land on Camp creek where he engaged in farming for several years. He then moved to a farm on Fountain creek, a short distance south of this city. For a number of years he engaged in mining in Cripple Creek and Leadville. Old age caused him to abandon this and to dispose of his mining interests several years ago. At the time of the Indian troubles in this vicinity between 1864 and 1868 Mr. Smith was captain of the militia or citizen soldiery and most active in the defense of the settlement.

In the early '70's Mr. Smith served a term as sheriff of El Paso County. Under a Mr. Colton who held the contract for building the road up Ute pass, Mr. Smith superintended the construction work on the road that now runs up the historic pass. He also served at different times as justice of the peace in Colorado City. This earned him the title "Judge," by which he was best known about Colorado City. The deceased was a past grand master of the Odd Fellows.

He was 74 years old and leaves one daughter, Mrs. Rosa Longfellow, at whose home he died.

The funeral will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon from the Christian church in Colorado City. Rev. A. N. Glover will conduct the services. The I. O. O. F., No. 77, will attend the services in a body and perform their ritual service at the grave. Interment will be at Fairview Cemetery."