

HISTORY OF APPANOOSE COUNTY (1878) - DEAN AND HILLTOWN

**DEAN, SHAW, SUMMERS, WELLS, TAYLOR, SKINNER, KLINKENBEARD,
KIRBY, SHAUVER**

HISTORY OF APPANOOSE COUNTY - DEAN AND HILLTOWN - WELLS
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DEAN lies in the southwest corner of Section 4, Wells, near where the Missouri, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad crosses Indian Creek, and is a station on that railroad. It was named after Henry Clay Dean, for many years a leading politician in Iowa, and who now resides on a farm four miles south of this station, just over the Missouri line.

The plat was surveyed April 12, 1873, by Henry Shaw, and was dedicated as a town by James W. Summers in July of the same year. About two-fifths of the plat lies south of the track of the Missouri, Iowa & Nebraska Railroad, which has a direction here from southeast to northwest. The streets from east to west are numbered, beginning on the south side of the plat, while those running north and south are designated by the letters of the alphabet, beginning on the west side.

For a time, the indications were that Dean would become a brisk little town; but, the valley proving unhealthy, several settlers withdrew. A store or two was established, but the business was abandoned, and, besides the depot business and post office, nothing but a drugstore is maintained.

Considerable coal-mining is done in the vicinity.

HILLTOWN

This is a little hamlet on Chariton River, in Section 16, two miles south of Dean, and known on the records as Pleasant View, which has for several years past done a brisk business in mining and hauling coal to surrounding towns. Latterly, however, this business having been abridged, those interested in maintaining the coal business at this point, have undertaken the construction of a railway track from Dean to the mines at Hilltown, so that cars can be loaded at the latter mines. When this is accomplished, these mines will become very valuable.

This town started as a collateral of the milling business established by **Col. Wells**, near by, in 1845, and is about as old as Centerville, although not regularly platted at so early a

