

Genealogical and Historical OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
**Review** Cody Family  
Association

VOLUME 52, NO. 2

JUNE, 2023

# ANNOUNCING

■ OUR ■



Voting closed on April 15, the ballots have been counted and our Reunion Chair, Kevin Cody reports that the results of our 2024 Reunion Site Survey are 19 votes for Beverly and 30 votes for North Platte. Thanks to all the participants who took their time to express themselves!

The Executive Board met on April 16 and voted to confirm the site of our next Reunion as North Platte, NE. Planning has begun and Kevin has already contacted local authorities to collaborate in creating an itinerary to attract attendees.

Fort McPherson was established in 1863 near the old Cottonwood Springs Pony Express Station. In 1866 North Platte was platted by Gen. Dodge as a Union Pacific Railhead. Most early inhabitants were railroad laborers, gamblers, and adventurers, making the place a rough-and-tumble frontier town. One account said "Neither property or life was safe." Within two years, the lawless hordes moved on with the railroad and North Platte settled down to become a city in late 1875. In 1878 Scout's Rest, the house of William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, was completed and the Cody family moved in.

# Our 2024 Reunion Preview!

We'll publish an action-packed itinerary with set dates and times in our next Review with a link to our website's 2024 Reunion Registration page where you can make your party's reservations.

For Old-Timers, we'll include a printable form in the next Review that you can save, print, fill out and send to us by postal mail along with your check or money order.

But for now, here's a sneak peek at some of the activities and attractions we are planning on including:

- Visit Buffalo Bill's famous [Scout's Rest Ranch State Historical Park](#), where we'll enjoy a private tour of the Mansion and Barn, hang out with the local animal life at the Petting Zoo, and even go Horseback Riding around the grounds!
- Shop for Souvenirs at the iconic [Fort Cody Trading Post](#), view Buffalo Bill's "Wild West in Miniature", and explore their [Old West Exhibits](#) for free!
- Experience [NEBRASKAland Days](#) including a PRCA Rodeo at North Platte's Wild West Arena!
- March in the Grand Parade to show your family spirit! For Old-Timers, we'll find you a place to ride comfortably.
- [Leisurely Float](#) down the relaxing North Platte River in your choice of Stock Tank, Tube, Kayak, Canoe, or Paddle Board!

- Discover North Platte's Railroad History at the [Union Pacific Railroad's Bailey Yard](#), its [Golden Spike Tower](#) and their Visitor Center!

- Visit the [Cody Park Railroad Museum](#) with its Life-Size Statue of Buffalo Bill at the [Wild West Memorial](#), once the site of the [World's 1st Spectator Rodeo](#)!

- Enjoy a Family Picnic in [Cody Park](#) where Tables and Restrooms are provided. Play some Horseshoes or Frisbee Disc Golf, go Swimming or just Relax by the Outdoor Pool. Feed the Native Wildlife in their Sanctuary, and hop on the Cody Carousel or the other Kiddie Carnival Rides all within the same Park!

- Tour the [Prairie Arts Center](#) and [Lincoln County Historical Museum](#). We'll also Shop and Discover Unique Items at the [Grain Bin Antique Town](#)!

- Stroll through the First United Methodist Church's [Alpha Omega Labyrinth](#). Quiet your mind as you move along a singular path leading to a sacred place deep within that engages you in the process of healing and transformation. This labyrinth is a symbol of unity and wholeness where the winding path becomes a metaphor for our own spiritual journey!

- Enjoy some Fun and Games at [Wild Bill's Fun Center](#), including Bowling, Laser Tag, and Arcade. We can also race each other at the [Cody Go-Carts](#) track!



[Visit the Fort Cody Trading Post!](#)



[All aboard at Cody Park's Railroad Museum!](#)



[March or ride with the Cody banner in the Grand Parade!](#)

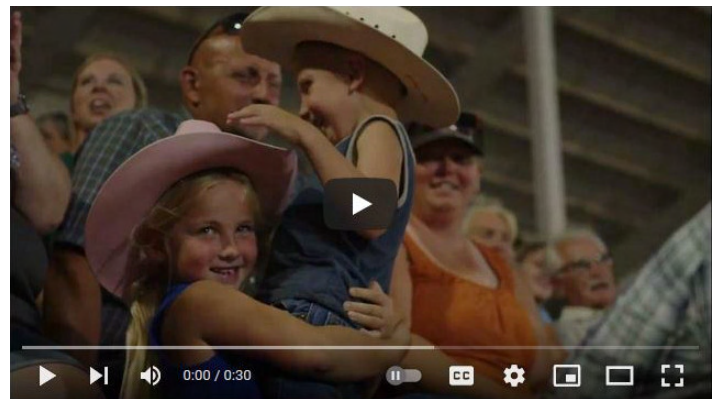


[Picnic and entertain the kids at Cody Park!](#)

# Our 2024 Reunion Preview!



**Visit Buffalo Bill's famous Scout's Rest Ranch!**



**Cowboy up at the NEBRASKALAND Days PRCA Rodeo!**



**Mount up for a Dusty Trails Horseback Ride!**



**Explore North Platte with Buffalo Bill!**



**Paddle Your Own Stock Tank on the River!**



**Discover Hidden Gems at the Grain Bin Antique Town!**



**Tour the UPRR's Bailey Yard and Golden Spike Tower!**



**Explore the Lincoln County Historical Museum!**



# CODY KIDS CORNER

VOLUME 9 June 2023

By Kellie Cody Edwards - 145/44331

Cody, WY Ambassador

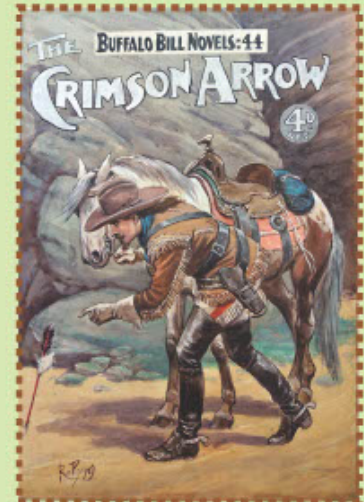
## BUFFALO BILL Dime Novels

Dime novels were paperback books produced between 1860-1915. Named for their cheap prices, dime novels were distributed at newsstands and stores for a dime or a nickel a piece. The books were simple in appearance and bound in cheap paper with a brightly illustrated cover. They were lightweight at only

about 100 pages long, easy to carry, and designed to tuck into a kid's pocket.

Dime novels typically told the dramatic adventure stories of a

single hero or heroine who often found himself or herself in the midst of a moral dilemma. These publications attempted not only to entertain their young audience, but to teach upright, moral values.



Because printing in the later 19th century was affordable, dime novels were cheap. They were traded with excitement, and, thanks to their affordability and a rising literacy rate, they were very popular!

Dime novels were published as weekly or monthly issues. The first of these stories were about the American Indians, but when the Natives were placed on reservations, the public's fascination with them began to fade.

Stories about cowboys in the Wild West,

outlaws, bandits, and train robbers became the popular topics.

Sometimes, the hero of the story was a historical figure, sparking the young readers' interest in history. America's first superhero was not Spiderman or Captain America, but the scout and showman Buffalo Bill Cody, whose Wild West show made him an international superstar in the late 19th century.

While the dime novel eventually fell out of favor with fans of popular fiction, Cody, however, did not fade from the limelight. As a character, Buffalo Bill easily made the transition to comic books. In this genre, Bill was featured in his own series and had numerous guest appearances in multiple titles. Today, the superhero genre, pioneered by Buffalo Bill, is more popular than ever.



**SOLVE THE PUZZLE: Buffalo Bill and Dime Novels**

e	l	s	s	f	t	w	o	n	n	o	B	o	u	s	l	y	o	o	k
w	a	d	c	B	u	f	a	n	u	r	e	a	n	d	i	l	c	b	
e	a	r	e	a	t	s	.	f	a	l	m	e	n	o	v	d	i	d	i
t	h	o	m	i															


Unscramble the tiles to reveal a message.  
 Each tile is used only once.  
 Use spacing, punctuation and common words to find adjacent tiles.  
 Some words may be split into two lines.

**Hint:**  
 Copy the tile clues onto slips of paper, put them on a flat surface and re-arrange them to find the solution.

Sources: <https://daily.jstor.org/dime-novels-and-story-papers-for-kids/>, <https://www.history.org.uk/student/resource/4512/american-dime-novels-1860-1915>, <https://history.denverlibrary.org/news/buffalo-bill-dime-novels-and-comic-books-exhibit>, <https://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/letter-tiles>

[Click here for the solution to the puzzle!](#)

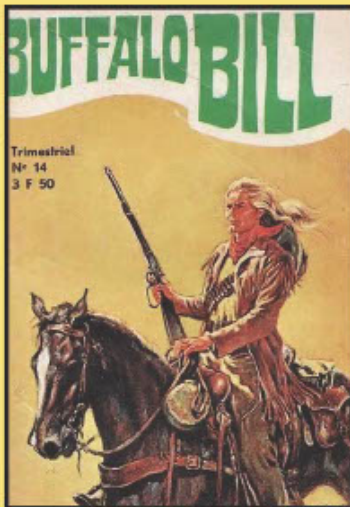
# BUFFALO BILL Comic Books

The Western genre found its way into comics with Harry O'Neill's newspaper strip Young Buffalo Bill beginning in 1928. A fictionalized Buffalo Bill was featured in over a thousand comic series in America and throughout Europe.



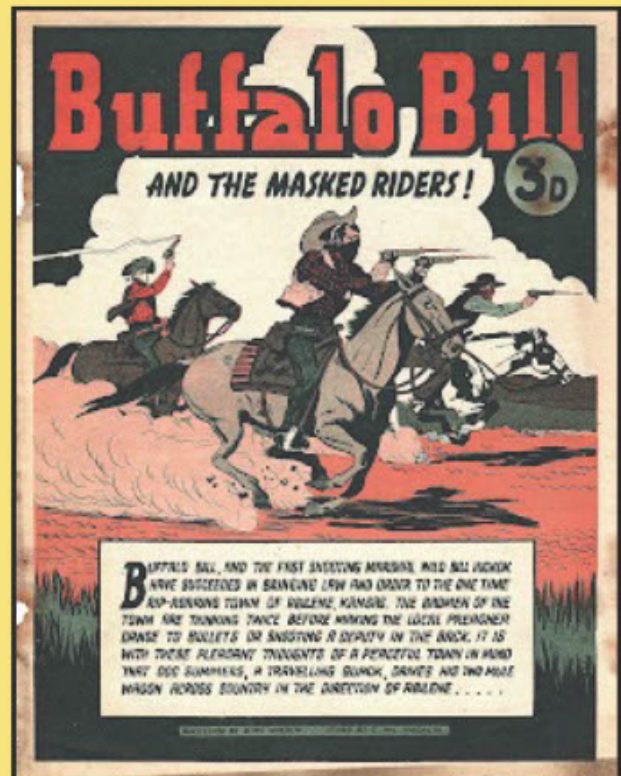
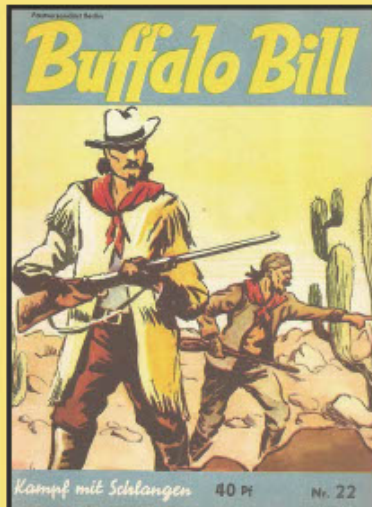
Classics Illustrated is an American Comic Book Series. The series began publication in 1941 and finished its first run in 1969, producing 169 issues.

Left: Issue No. 106 Buffalo Bill was first published in April 1953 and featured a Painted Cover.



Above Left: Comic from France. "Trimestriel" means "quarterly".

Above Right: Comic Book published in Germany.



Buffalo Bill and the Masked Riders! Published in Great Britain. These comics were printed on almost glossy paper, cover included, and often the story started on what would be the cover.



# California Extreme Weather Survey

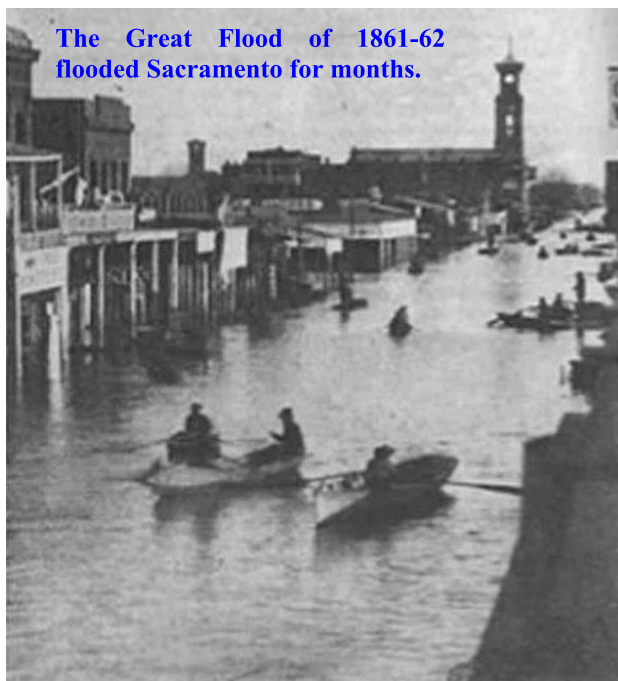
After viewing lots of California disaster news over the last few months, we surveyed our California membership for their reactions. Here are a few of the responses.

Bill 266/7231 says: LA County is ok, but my mountaintop communications sites took **big hits**. Snow loading on one tower bent the cross arm, falling ice smashed cables at the tower base. Many service roads were washed out and reservoirs are filling. There's a **new lake** in the Central Valley and a **new gold rush** from all the rain!

Nancy 273/3121 reports: My old ranch lost 30'–40' of commercial vegetable plantings; the pine trees we planted along the creek 48 years ago are gone. Rain fell in sheets across the streets, but I was okay, avoiding **streets flooded** downtown. Several neighbors had to re-roof their homes later.

Secretary Bret Hubbs replied: We got a **twister** that hit our new fence and ripped up our back awning. Our neighbor lost an oak tree that went through the roof, causing thousands in damages.

Deborah 203/46233 added: My 2-acre property took on **a lot of water**. I am still fixing problems from all the rain. I think we are in for much disruption but we will pull through."



The Great Flood of 1861-62 flooded Sacramento for months.



Our Treasurer, Dwight Cody 148/3423 gets an eyeful at the **Buffalo Bill Monument** near Oakley KS, commemorating the 1868 contest between **William F. Cody** and **William Comstock** for the "Buffalo Bill" nickname. Click for a video of a real **1910 buffalo hunt!**

## Milestones

*Please use the fill-in forms under CONTACTS on the website's home page to report family news.*

### Births:

266/213411111 Brantley Dean Robinett b Casper WY 5/11/2022

### Deaths:

266/23221 **Margie Marcille Moser** b OR 5/13/1925 d 4/27/2023 m1 San Diego CA  
8/8/1943 Alfred E Beaudoin b Hafford North Battleford SK 2/17/1920 d Portland  
Multnomah Co OR 3/14/1994 bur Mount Calvary Cemetery Portland Multnomah Co OR

270/3421 **Richard Alan Grosenbaugh** b Wooster OH 3/3/1937 d Peoria AZ 12/10/2022  
m1 8/3/1962 Della Boren m2 Springfield MO 7/18/1991 Edna Riley Bell

## ICFA Executive Board

Allan Cody, President  
[allancody@rcn.com](mailto:allancody@rcn.com)

Kevin Cody, Vice President  
[getkevin247@gmail.com](mailto:getkevin247@gmail.com)

Dwight Cody, Treasurer  
[dwightcody@gmail.com](mailto:dwightcody@gmail.com)

Bret Hubbs, Secretary  
[n6via@yahoo.com](mailto:n6via@yahoo.com)

Mark June, Chaplain  
[markanddonnajune@gmail.com](mailto:markanddonnajune@gmail.com)

Darcey Zumwalt,  
DAR Consultant

Special Thanks to Kellie Edwards  
for her Cody Kids Corner!

If you have a story, please reply to;  
[editor@cody-family.org](mailto:editor@cody-family.org)

Genealogical and  
Historical  
**Review**

OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
**Cody Family Association**

Published semi-annually by the ICFA, Inc.  
2 Pama Gardens, Apt. #1 Brighton, MA 02135

[www.cody-family.org](http://www.cody-family.org)

Send inquiries to: [editor@cody-family.org](mailto:editor@cody-family.org)

# Richard Alan Grosenbaugh, Editor & Webmaster



In our [July 2001 Review](#), Richard was introduced as the first webmaster of the newly launched [www.cody-family.org](#) website. In fact, [his original design](#) can still be found on our current site under its LINKS > Site Archives menu choice.

Multi-talented, Richard also edited over 9 issues of our [Review newsletter](#), from February 2000 through December 2005, a enduring contribution to the ICFA. We remember him from our [2000 Vancouver](#) and [2010 Tucson Reunions!](#)

In 2020, Richard donated 3 banker's boxes full of Buffalo Bill related items to the ICFA's [Buffalo Bill Legacy Gallery \(BBLG\)](#). "When I discovered several years ago that Buffalo Bill Cody was a distant cousin, I started buying anything with his name on it. When I moved to an independent living situation, I couldn't take my collection with me."

Being familiar with the BBLG, Richard confidently entrusted us with his [collection](#). He knew that everything will not only be securely stored and carefully preserved, but will also be digitally cataloged and displayed on-line for the public to view and admire.

His selfless devotion and kind generosity will forever be appreciated and remembered. We're proud to exhibit his collection on-line at our [Buffalo Bill Legacy Gallery!](#)

Happy trails and thanks again to you, Richard, for all of your many contributions and continued support of the ICFA!

"Richard was a pioneer and an 'old settler' who contributed much to our Association between 2000 and 2006 with both the important, technological advance of our website and as Editor of our *Review* which helped lay the foundations of our on-going operations." exclaimed our current President, Allan Cody.

Here's Richard Grosenbaugh's obituary as published in the [Springfield News-Leader](#) and posted on-line February 09, 2023.

Richard Alan (Dick) Grosenbaugh, a longtime resident of Springfield passed away after a life of service to his community. He was born on March 3, 1937 in Wooster, Ohio to Louis and Hazel Grosenbaugh who preceded him in death.

Richard came to Springfield in 1960 after receiving a degree in journalism from Ohio University to join the news department at KYTV. He served there for eight years, the last 3 as News Director. In 1968, Richard became Administrative Assistant (later, director) of Public Information for Springfield Public Schools, a position he held for most of the 27 years he worked in the school district.

Always involved in professional activities, he was a longtime member of the Society of Professional Journalists. He served as president of the Greater Springfield Press Club, helped found the Springfield Ad Club and was involved with both the state and National School Public Relations Association.

*(continued in the next column...)*

His community activities included the Springfield Park Board, Cable TV Advisory Board, History Museum Board, Westside Optimist Club, Easter Seals telethon chairman, Rainbow network, as well as Big Brothers, Big Sisters. He volunteered at Hammons, the Discovery Center, Crosslines, Wonders of Wildlife and served on the board as well as various committees of his church, Schweitzer Methodist.

Long interested in history, Richard was author of "[A Million Hours of Memories, a History of Springfield](#)" written for the city's Sesquicentennial (150th anniversary).

Richard and his wife Edna, traveled extensively, visiting such countries Turkey, Egypt, India, China, Europe, Russia, Scandinavia, Africa and Greece.

Richard spent the last years of his life in the Sun City and Yuma areas of Arizona with his wife, Edna Bell. Richard is survived by his wife of 31 years, Edna and his sister, Carol Grosenbaugh Cox of Tucson, Arizona. Donations may be made in his memory to [Crosslines of Springfield](#).

*(end of the Springfield News-Leader's obituary...)*

As the sands of time run through the hourglass, it's never too late to consider eventualities. If you have Buffalo Bill memorabilia you'd like to find a good home for, please contact [Kevin Cody](#), founder of the BBLG, for details about how to ensure your collection is preserved.



# News from the Frostproof Historic Museum!



**The Bartow DAR Chapter's Historian, Dorinda Garrard (right) presented the award.**

After 9 years, [Bea Reifeis](#) has retired as Director of the [Frostproof Historical Museum](#). As Director, she oversaw the replacement of the Museum's 100-year-old windows and roof and oversaw its recent 1000-square foot expansion. Bea started as a volunteer in 2011, working for Founder [June Felt](#), and is now succeeded by Frostproof native, Brenda Jones.

Bea authored the 3-book "Frostproof Treasures" series about local history; "[Frostproof to 1910](#)", "[Boom to Bust](#)" and "[Mississippi Rainmaker](#)" are all on sale at the Museum's website. Her upcoming, "[Raymon Theater](#)" is still unpublished. There's nobody who knows [Frostproof](#) like Bea!

Bea is now Museum Treasurer and Docent and enjoys curating items donated by ICFA members like Martha Murray 148/21321 and her Harriet Cody Marsh Teaset and George Skene 148/2742's Cody Villa artifacts.

Bea graciously hosted our [2020 Florida Meetup](#) with a private tour of the Museum and several Cody Family sites in Frostproof. She also helped us research Lindus and Amelia 148/2's migration to Frostproof for our website's [Cody Villa](#) and [Citrus Pioneers](#) webpages. Bea even solicited the ICFA's donation of memorial [Cody Banners for Polk County's Citrus Tour!](#)

In February 2022, Bea won the Daughters of the American Revolution's [Historic Preservation Recognition Award](#) for her dedication to the preservation of Frostproof history saying; "Bea has spent countless hours preserving artifacts and digitizing historical documents, worked closely with schools to encourage interest in history, authored books, and championed the cause for the expansion of Frostproof Museum."

We too, thank Bea for her enterprising spirit and Southern hospitality!

## The SNBBA is now the BNBBA!



**This postcard, depicting eleven of the Indians on the 1904 tour, is based on a photograph taken at Land's End, Cornwall, on Thursday, 29th May 1904.**

[Tom Cunningham's](#) Scottish National Buffalo Bill Archives has now been expanded and re-named as the [British National Buffalo Bill Archive](#) to include more about Buffalo Bill's "Wild West" tours of the United Kingdom. There, you'll find many of the successes Bill shared with his "Wild West" cast and crew.

Tom's coverage of their [1887-88](#), [1891-92](#), [1892](#), [1902-03](#) and [1904](#) seasons is ample testimony to the lure the "Wild West" had for Victorian Britain which [continues to this very day](#).

Tom's updated website includes many fascinating details about the adventures of the approximately three hundred [Lakota](#) men, women and children from the [Pine Ridge Agency](#) and elsewhere who toured Great Britain as honored guests while performing with [Buffalo Bill's "Wild West"](#).

Tom is a frequent contributor to the Buffalo Bill Center of the West's [Points West](#) magazine. In their [Summer 2012](#) issue, he recounts [Susette La Flesche](#) and husband [Tom Tibbles'](#) 1887 tour of the UK, speaking for Indian rights.

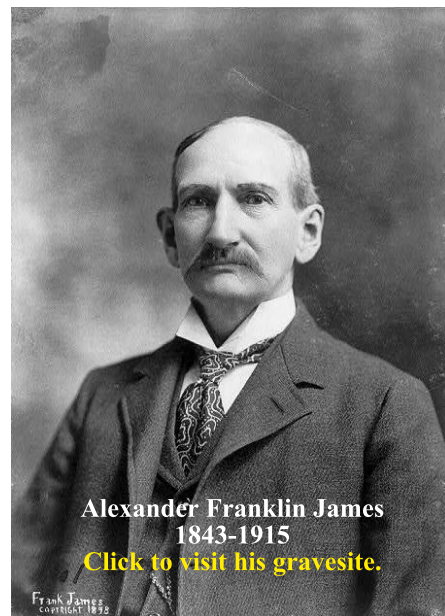
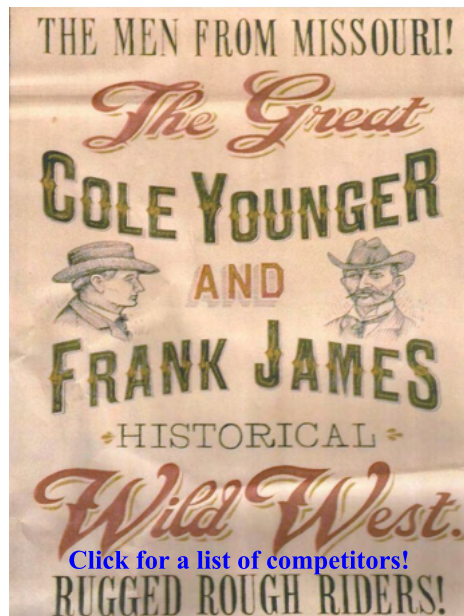
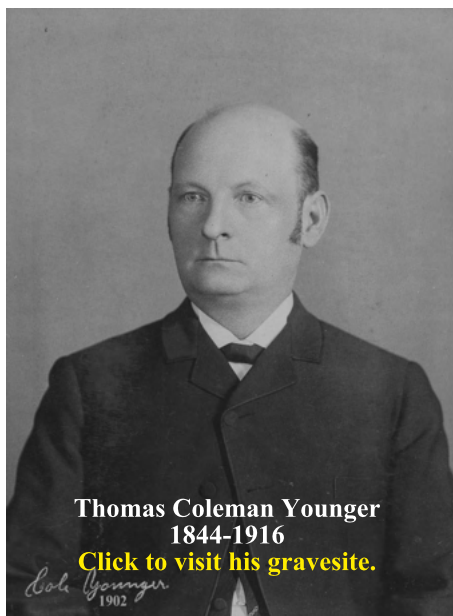
He followed up in the [Fall/Winter 2014](#) issue with "Rough Riding with Buffalo Bill's Wild West" describing how the "Wild West" turned into the "Congress of Rough Riders".

[Points West's](#) [Fall 2015](#) and [Spring 2016](#) issues ran his two-part "Seven Days in Glasgow with Buffalo Bill" where Tom describes the "Wild West's" performance and mentions S.F.Cody's competing stage play. [Samuel Franklin "Cody"](#) won fame as a pioneer aviator and was honored by the RAF.

Tom doubled up in the Spring 2016 issue with "[The One that Got Away...](#)", his recollections of a unique photo that captured the wonder the British felt for American Indians.

The BBCW's 2017 [Centennial Symposium](#) featured Tom's talk, "[Black Elk in Naples](#)" with [Mexican Joe's](#) western show.

# The Great Younger & James Historical Wild West!



“Cole” Younger, was born at the family farm at Lee’s Summit in Jackson County MO, the seventh of fourteen children.

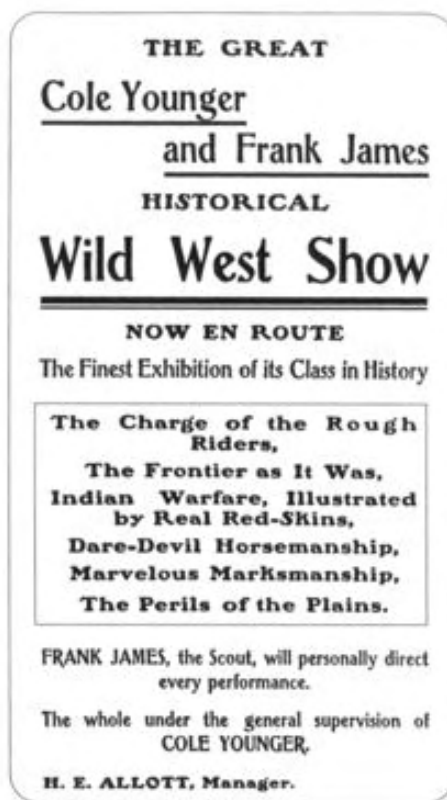
Following his father’s 1862 murder near Westport, MO, his sister’s arrest and injury, and the arson of the family home, Cole sought revenge with Quantrill’s Raiders and then enlisted in the CSA. After surrender, Cole and his brothers rode the outlaw trail with the James gang until he was sentenced to life at hard labor in Stillwater Prison. There, Cole met Bernard Casey who inspired his rehabilitation.

A model prisoner and always bookish, Cole was a prison librarian, started a newspaper, and heroically saved fellow inmates from a fire. Paroled in July 1902, Cole was 59 and starting over, so he and Frank tried show business, then he wrote his memoirs and lectured. Full of years, he died in bed at Lee’s Summit, the last of the James-Younger gang.



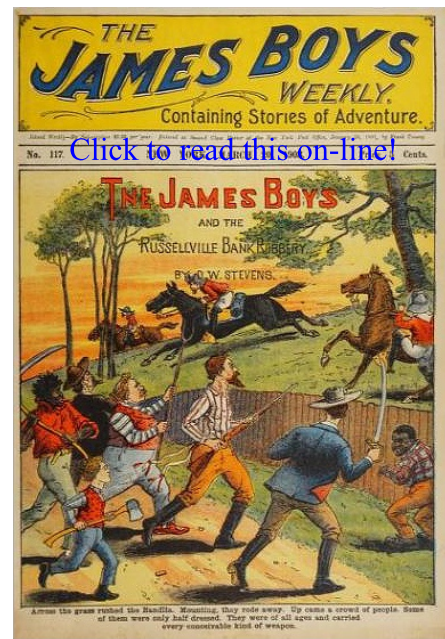
The Terrell Brothers of Paducah, KY renamed their “Buckskin Bill’s Wild West” to “The Younger & James Historical Wild West” and profited from Cole and Frank’s notoriety.

Poorly managed, the show made money anyway. Confederate vets and fans of the Lost Cause came to see their heroes recall their youth and explain themselves. So it is, one man’s traitor is another man’s hero!



“Frank” James was born in Clay County MO, son of a Baptist minister. At the outbreak of war, he briefly joined the State Guard and then Quantrill’s Raiders. When peace came, he accepted surrender, but Federal troops opened fire so Frank and Jesse with other survivors of that massacre, began their outlaw career by robbing the Russellville bank.

After Jesse’s murder, Frank turned himself in and was exonerated on all charges. A legend in his own time, Frank worked odd jobs until Cole suggested show business. When the show failed, Frank took to the lecture circuit with his story of redemption.



# The Great Younger & James Historical Wild West!



Above, the Younger - James Historical Wild West staff, [click for the full story in Bandwagon Vol. 29 #1.](#)

Below, Cole Younger standing with black hat, and Confederate veterans, [click for a good story!](#)



“Yes, as through this world I’ve wandered  
 I’ve seen lots of funny men  
 Some will rob you with a six-gun  
 And some with a fountain pen” - Woody Guthrie  
[Click for the story of Cole and Frank’s last showdown!](#)

# Wild Bill, a Biographical Sketch

James Butler “Wild Bill” Hickok, famous for his fairness and courage, is an Old West hero, soldier, scout, lawman, gambler, gunfighter, hunter and showman.

Born in 1837, he left Illinois for “Bleeding” Kansas in 1856 and sided with the anti-slavery faction led by James Lane. After a fight with a bear and the McCandles fracas, he served the Union as a sharpshooter, scout and spy until the end of the war. Now a gambler, he killed Davis Tutt over an insult, was exonerated and left for Fort Hays, Kansas where he became a lawman who pioneered gun control. In 1871, he accidentally shot his deputy after killing Philip Coe in a duel and retired.

After their initial success, “Buffalo Bill” Cody and “Texas Jack” Omohundro invited Wild Bill to join their theatrical “combination” in 1873. Hickok’s own exhibition buffalo hunt failed years before, plus he disliked acting and became anxious onstage, but still he tried. J.W. “Doc” Howard, who knew Wild Bill, stated that he left the stage “because the lights affected his eyes, so he had to give it up”. Charles Snyder, of Harvard Medical School, said that ophthalmia, was common on the western frontier and that Jesse James suffered from it too.

Frustrated, Wild Bill headed west in the spring of ’74. He was assassinated in 1876 at Deadwood while playing poker, holding aces and eights in his hand.



This photo inspired Allan’s song!

## Out on the Western Plain Trilogy, Part 1 - Wil’ Bill

This original song by Allan Cody 148/3422 is based on the American folk song “Jesse James.” [Click for the demo!](#)

Chorus:

Out on the Western Plain, Back in the saddle again  
Wild Bill can still be found, In the happy huntin’ ground  
Out on the Western Plain!

All lyrics Copyright 2023 All Rights Reserved.

With his guns in his hands  
Bill Hickok feared no man  
His honor he did maintain

Russell Majors Waddell  
Took him from his saddle  
A teamster he would be

Remember Davis Tutt  
Who called that girl a slut  
And swore that Bill was just a fake

As we all recall  
The varmint Jack McCall  
Who shot Bill in number ten

As fast as lightnin’ bolts  
With his navy colts  
He quelled the mob’s disdain

Drivin’ stubborn mules  
Playin’ by the rules  
A loyal employee

Bill met him in the square  
And he left him lyin’ there  
Sacrificed for honor’s sake

He bragged it all around  
And soon was gallows bound  
His necktie party to attend

Red silk sash  
Big moustache  
Sombrero on his head

There was a mama bear  
Who tried to take his hair  
On the trail to Santa Fe

Wild Bill addressed the crowd  
In a voice clear and loud  
A-saying that the fight was fair

Now Jack is hangin’ out  
In hell without a doubt  
A man without a friend

Fringed buckskins  
Beaded moccasins  
A plainsman born and bred

It was nip and tuck  
But finally good luck  
Saved his bacon that day

The trial was begun  
And when his case was won  
Wild Bill rode away from there

No one comes to call  
At the grave of Jack McCall  
Murder pays no dividend

A simple country boy  
From the state of Illinois  
He wandered down Kansas way

In recuperation  
At Rock Creek Station  
McCandles came to call

Down in Abeline  
Where outlaws have been seen  
Loafin’ at Philip Coe’s saloon

Dusty trails and muddy streets  
Cheap saloons and poker cheats  
His eyesight dimmin’ by the day

Jayhawker he became  
Protecting General Lane  
Huntin’ Bloody Bill night and day

Somebody blew it  
And before they knew it  
There was a free-for-all

Fear gripped the town  
When word got around  
Of a duel comin’ soon

Then aces and eights  
Opened up the pearly gates  
Maybe it was better that-a-way

Well he served with bravery  
In the fight over slavery  
The Union to sustain

Bill was assized  
And he apologized  
Give the widow all his pay

When Phil drew on Bill  
You know he meant to kill  
But Bill, he took better aim

Texas Jack and Buffalo Bill  
Still ride with Wild Bill  
Back in the saddle again

Bill chased the rebel band  
Onto Injun land  
They won’t be back again

So the magistrate  
Didn’t hesitate  
To send Wild Bill on his way

But accidentally  
The marshall killed his deputy  
It was such a cryin’ shame

They’ve found their final home  
Where the buffalo roam  
Out on the western plain

# Texas Jack, a Biographical Sketch

[John Baker “Texas Jack” Omohundro](#) was born July 27, 1846 at Palmyra, Virginia. At the young age of 17, he served in Major General J.E.B. Stuart’s 5th Cavalry Corps. After the war, Jack went to Texas and became an experienced cowboy. In 1866, he acquired his sobriquet of “Texas Jack” on a cattle drive.

By 1869, Omohundro was at [Fort Hays](#), Kansas, where he met “[California Joe” Milner](#) and “[Wild Bill” Hickok](#), who sent Jack to meet [Buffalo Bill](#) who was scouting for the 5th Cavalry at Fort McPherson, NE. Cody got Jack hired as a “trail agent and scout” for the 5th and they remained best friends for life.

In 1872, Omohundro and Cody were the lead scouts against hostiles and then, hunting guides to the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia’s hunting party under Lt. Colonel Custer. In December, they appeared on-stage in “[Scouts of The Prairie](#)” and soon Jack married the famous danseuse, [Guisseppina Morlacchi](#).

In late 1873, Wild Bill joined the two showmen in the renamed production “[Scouts of The Plains](#)” during the show’s second season. Throughout the late 1870s, Texas Jack and his wife continued their acting careers. After Jack’s [untimely death](#) in 1880, Buffalo Bill came and laid his gravestone.



This photo inspired Allan’s song!

## Out on the Western Plain Trilogy, Part 2 - Texas Jack

This original song by Allan Cody 148/3422 is based on the American folk song “[Jesse James.](#)” [Click for the demo!](#)

Chorus:

Out on the Western Plain, Back in the saddle again  
Texas Jack can still be found, In the happy huntin’ ground  
Out on the Western Plain!

All lyrics Copyright 2023 All Rights Reserved.

Texas Jack, Texas Jack  
He’s always got your back  
On him you can depend

While Jack was tendin’ bar  
He became a cowboy star  
Thanks to Ned Buntline

So suave and debonaire  
Romance was in the air  
Mother Nature is to blame

So we sing of Texas Jack  
His widow’s dressed in black  
It’s hard to hear her cry

Once a rebel scout  
He was without a doubt  
Bill Cody’s truest friend

From the dime novel’s page  
He leapt upon the stage  
How them footlights shine

Oh, the drama and the passion  
When corsets were in fashion  
Romeo rides again

Nobel to the end  
He was her closest friend  
Their love will never die

With their horses and their guns  
They had a lot of fun  
Huntin’ with the wild Pawnee

Jack bought a brand new hat  
Boiled shirt and red cravat  
Stuck with a diamond pin

She was Guisseppina  
The peerless ballerina  
Miz Omohundro she became

Even partners go their way  
Every dog has his day  
Only love remains the same

Many a desparate ride  
With an instant to decide  
Before what’s to be will be

Golden rings and tailored suits  
Fancy booze and fine cheroots  
The money kept rollin’ in

She danced like poetry  
Bounced a baby on her knee  
Their hearts were all a-flame

Gamblers hedge their bets  
Gentlemen pay their debts  
And deadbeats have no shame

From Virginy he did hail  
And took the Chisholm Trail  
Ramroddin’ a cattle drive

When dukes and baronets  
Lined up to place their bets  
Then Jack took careful aim

Winterin’ up in Leadville  
Jack caught a deadly chill  
Wheezin’ both night and day

With his pistols and his smile  
Winnin’ ways and southern style  
Texas Jack he made his name

After many days  
Camping at Fort Hays  
Drinkin’ in a local dive

They couldn’t get enough  
Until Jack called their bluff  
Their losses were his gain

She did what could be done  
To ease what was to come  
There’s nothin’ more to say

How he got his thrills  
Along with with the two Bills  
Acting in Scouts of the Plains

That Californy Joe  
And Wild Bill said you know  
McPherson’s the place to be

Sometimes they took it hard  
When he played the wild card  
And won the poker game

Jack lost his winnin’ magic  
His death was Oh-so tragic  
How the angels cried

In all the wild west  
Weren’t they the best  
Our heros they remain

Take our solemn word  
If you wanna sell your herd  
Talk to Bill Cody

Yet they paid deep respect  
When Jack came to collect  
For makin’ good his claim

With his friends all around  
They laid him in the ground  
Peaceful and dignified

Texas Jack is ridin’ still  
With Hicock and Buff’la Bill  
Out on the Western Plain

# Buffalo Bill, a Biographical Sketch

Born in Iowa in 1846, to Isaac Cody and his third wife, Mary Ann Bonsell Laycock, Willie's childhood was spent along the Mississippi, playing with his brother and sisters under [LeClaire's Green Tree](#). After brother [Samuel](#) was accidentally killed by a horse, the family moved to Weston, Missouri where Isaac's slave-holding older brother, [Elijah](#), outfitted wagon trains heading west.

As the struggle over slavery intensified, Isaac was [targeted and attacked](#), leaving him disabled. Fearing for his family, Isaac retreated to [Grasshopper Falls](#) in Kansas and farmed, selling hay at Fort Leavenworth and trading with the local Indians, where he was joined by his brother [Joseph](#) and nephew [Horace](#). Isaac became a marked man, hiding out and running scared as "Bleeding Kansas" descended into open warfare. These hardships wore Isaac down so that he never recovered from the stabbing and died when Willie was only 11.

As the oldest boy, Willie worked for neighbors until his mother agreed to take him to [Russell, Majors & Waddell](#), express agents, who hired him as an "extra." On his first trip out on the plains, Willie met [James Butler "Wild Bill" Hicock](#).

After the war, Bill worked for the Goddard Bros. as a buffalo hunter and won his nickname from "Buffalo" [Bill Comstock](#), 69 to 46, in a contest near [Fort Hays](#).



This photo inspired Allan's song!

## Out on the Western Plain Trilogy, Part 3 - Buff'la Bill

This original song by Allan Cody 148/3422 is based on the American folk song "[Jesse James](#)." [Click for the demo!](#)

Chorus:

Out on the Western Plain, Back in the saddle again  
Buff'la Bill can still be found, In the happy huntin' ground  
Out on the Western Plain!

All lyrics Copyright 2023 All Rights Reserved.

They call him Buff'la Bill  
His family called him Will  
At home so long ago

Elijah helped them out  
But without a doubt  
Better be on their way

Mormon raiders stole their mules  
Played them all for silly fools  
Burned the wagon train

They call him Buff'la Bill  
Bet you a dollar bill  
Everyone knows his name

Once he got his start  
He took the path with heart  
To see where it would go

The brothers did agree  
That what will be will be  
Daddy knew they couldn't stay

Afoot and feelin' beat  
With nothin' good to eat  
Walkin' back the way they came

He's been to every town  
He's traveled all around  
That's how he built his fame

Brother Samuel  
Died when he fell  
So they sold that frisky mare

They found a safe resort  
Selling hay at the fort  
Trading with the Kickapoo

Oh the sights he did see  
Osage and Commanche  
When they reigned supreme

The public came to see  
His western pagentry  
What a time they all had

How his momma cried  
So Daddy did decide  
To move away from there

Then came that fateful day  
When Daddy went away  
Willie knew just what to do

Willie found his new home  
Where the buffalo roam  
Beyond his wildest dream

But good times come and go  
Brother don't you know  
It leaves me kind-a sad

Visiting Uncle Eli  
In Weston Missouri-i  
Where he kept a general store

Momma said okay  
And from that very day  
Willie became a man

In the big contest  
To see who was the best  
Buff'la hunter in the land

That wild and wooly west  
The one he loved the best  
Can never be the same

Trouble found them there  
And gave them quite a scare  
Omen of the coming war

Asked the wagon master  
To put him on the raster  
That was Willie's plan

When sundown come around  
Our man had won renown  
Buff'la Bill became his brand

Texas Jack and Wild Bill  
Hung out with Buff'la Bill  
Their portrait speaks so plain

A southern sympathizer  
Bushwhacking terrorizer  
Elijah's employee

Joined a wagon train  
Crossin' the barren plain  
Headed for Salt Lake far away

Buff'la Bill, Buff'la Bill  
Never missed never will  
So they pays his Buff'la Bill

Texas Jack and Wild Bill  
Still ride with Buff'la Bill  
Back in the saddle again

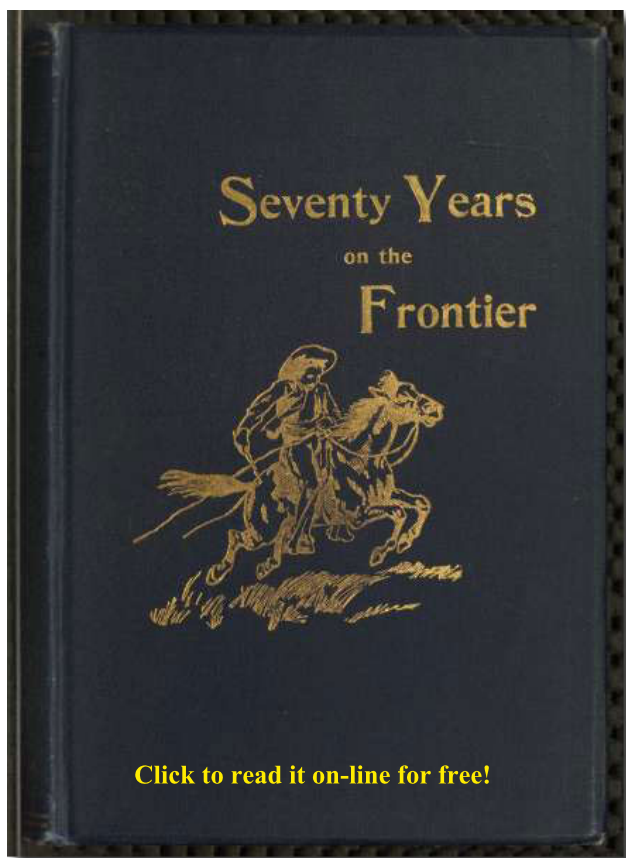
Cut Daddy with his knife  
Nearly took Daddy's life  
In the cause of slavery

Willie met Bill Hicock  
Boy how he could talk  
Tall tales of a bygone day

That's what his sisters sang  
Them and their girlish gang  
As angels, they sing it still

They all can still be found  
Tentin' on the old campground  
Out on the western plain

# Book Reviews



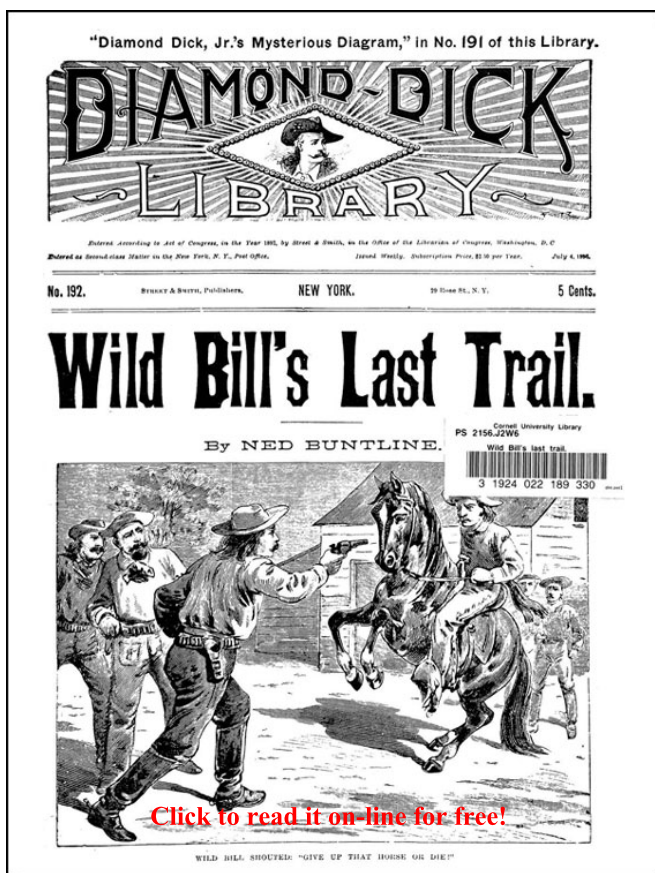
By [Alexander Majors](#), edited by [Colonel Prentiss Ingraham](#).

With 40 chapters and 325 pages, this is a big book, full of memories. Written in the style of the times, it contains a Preface by [Buffalo Bill](#). Like an atlas, it [describes the west](#) with its unique weather, mineral resources and native fauna and flora in general terms, with interesting chapters about [buffalo](#), [beaver](#) and [bears](#) plus preceptive and insightful comments on the effects of white settlement and its achievements.

He begins with [his migration](#) from Kentucky to Missouri as a boy, the rigors of pioneer life and his [father's adventures](#) on the Plains and in the Rockies. He then tells of the [Mormon persecution](#), their response and his respect for them. At the close of the [Mexican War](#), Majors became a [Santa Fe trader](#) and together with Russell and Waddell, plied the trade with Utah and founded the Pike's Peak Express and the [Pony Express](#).

Majors detours to tell us of his [love of dogs](#) and their utility in pioneer life as protectors and hunters as well as the advent of the [telegraph](#) and its effect on the frontier. He describes [Kit Carson](#) and trapper [Seth Ward](#), and mentions many famous mountain men along with the [Jayhawkers of 1849](#).

There's chapters about the [gold fever](#), the [graves of the pioneers](#) and the [mirages](#) that led some astray. He tells of the development of the [Platte Valley](#) and [Kansas City](#) before closing with his analysis of how the ["big" money](#) took over.



Here's a sample of [Ned Buntline's](#) dime novel style. The story is set after Wild Bill left the stage and returned to [Laramie](#) to go to the [Black Hills gold fields](#). Bill, brooding over his life, is feeling his mortality, confesses to feeling vulnerable, and announces his recent [marriage](#), which is all overheard by "the Avenger."

Buntline develops the plot as the Avenger sits down to supper, picking the brain of a fellow diner for details of a party of speculators about to head to the Black Hills with [Captain Jack Crawford](#) and [California Joe](#). The Avenger rents a room and conspires with [Persimmon Bill](#) against Crawford's party. The scene shifts to the corral where Wild Bill confronts a man about a horse, has a flashback and faints when a woman appears. California Joe revives him in the saloon and Wild Bill claims he's being haunted by the ghost of [Abeline](#).

Meanwhile, the Avenger gathers more news of Wild Bill's plans from a renegade collaborator while Wild Bill and his friends celebrate their last night in town. After losing at poker, Bill and his crowd raid the home of the woman from the corral, but she is gone and the scene shifts to that woman and the stranger as they ride to a midnight rendezvous. Buntline fills us in on the characters' past and develops his plot as they all ride into the Black Hills, pursued by the renegades.

Reaching [Deadwood](#), Bill buys a house and they celebrate their arrival. But joy doesn't last and when Bill is shot at the poker table, the real murderer is unmasked and tells a tale of revenge. While not exactly factual, Buntline spins a real yarn here!