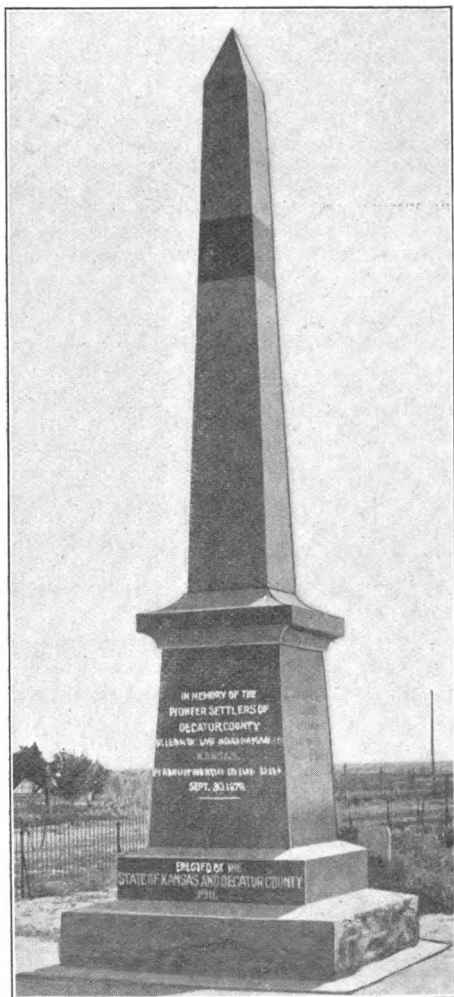


## MARKING AN EPOCH—THE LAST INDIAN RAID AND MASSACRE.

On the 30th of September, 1911, there was unveiled and dedicated at Oberlin, in Decatur county, a monument not only to the memory of certain massacred pioneers, but a marker of the last Indian raid in Kansas, marking the date when western Kansas escaped from the violence of Indian warfare and entered into a permanent state of peace, comfort and development. On the 30th of September, 1878, a party of Northern Cheyennes made the last Indian raid into Kansas, killing nineteen citizens of Decatur county. The band was composed of about 400, led by Chief Dull Knife. The legislature of 1909, through the efforts of Hon. J. D. Flannigan, donated to Decatur county \$1500, to be expended upon such a marker. The commissioners of Decatur county for \$300 placed a substantial cement foundation. The monument is twenty-two feet high above the base. On the west side is this inscription: "In memory of the Pioneer Settlers of Decatur county, killed in the last Indian Massacre in Kansas, by a band of Northern Cheyenne Indians, September 30, 1878"; also on the west side is this inscription: "Erected by the State of Kansas and Decatur county, 1911." On the north, south and east sides are the names of nineteen persons, as follows: John Young, James S. Smith, William Laing, sr., William Laing, jr., John C. Laing, Freeman Laing, John Humphrey, E. O. Humphrey, John C. Hudson, George F.

Walters, Moses F. Abernathy, Mr. Lull, Ferdinand Westphalen and son, John Irwin, Marcellus Felt, John Wright, Edward Miskelley, Frederick Hamper. Hon. W. L. Brown, of Kingman, was the orator of the occasion. There can be no more significant marker than one indicating a change from the red to the white man.

This last raid is a most interesting and startling period in the history of Kansas—interesting because it was the last, and startling because of the circumstance of a band of Indians spending two weeks in crossing the state from south to north, murdering citizens and destroying property, the people along the line of their march daily calling for help, the only government troops being infantry, and a major general constantly



MONUMENT AT OBERLIN, KAN.