

Charles Edward (Edouard) Alioth

Owner of "Springdale Ranch", which encompassed the future site of Herington, KS

Born: November 3, 1844 in Lausanne, Vaud, Switzerland

Died: December 5, 1907 in Switzerland or New Jersey

Charles Edward Alioth, son of Marcel Alioth and Mathilde *du Bouchet* Alioth was born in Switzerland around 1845. He lived in Lausanne, Switzerland before coming to the United States. He settled in New York and was married¹ on May 10th, 1870 to Annie Augusta Bowne (born: 11/24/1848 in New York, NY, died Aug 12, 1927 in Rahway, New Jersey), daughter of prominent New York lawyer Richard Hartshorne Bowne and Emily Louisa (Cock) Bowne.

On July 26, 1869, Charles Alioth, Richard Bowne (Alioth's future Father-in-Law), Mrs. Bowne and their daughters, and some friends from New York, along with a cattleman Henry A. and Mrs. Mary (Parsons) Boller of Junction City, KS, travelled by train to the "end of the track" at Sheridan, KS the then terminus of the Kansas Pacific Railway, and then to Hays, KS to see Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Show where they commented that they were impressed with the people of this "wealthy and flourishing metropolis."² Henry Boller, a relative of the Bownes by marriage, was also engaged in the cattle business and living in the Junction City area. Apparently, encouraged by the prospects of Kansas, and perhaps at the urging of his father-in-law and Mr. Boller, Alioth purchased about 1,400 acres of land in Dickinson County, KS. This land was located about 30 miles South and West of Junction City, Kansas, through which ran about 3 miles of Lime Creek. He formed a farming and ranching operation under the partnership of "Alioth and Bowne" with his brother-in-law Thomas C. Bowne (1841-1902). Alioth named the ranch "Springdale."³ Charles Alioth, along with his wife and son, began their "Springdale Ranch" operation in the summer of 1871 and by 1876 had about 400 cattle, numerous stables and outbuildings, a ranch house, about 11 miles of board and stone fence, and between 300 and 400 acres of cultivated land. He employed local settlers in the Dickinson County area such as David Ballantyne as ranch hands. These men became quite well known for their breed of American Shorthorn cattle. Around 1874, Alioth and Bowne dissolved their ranching partnership and Bowne then partnered with Ballantyne to form "Ballantyne and Bowne" and to begin their own ranching operation southeast of the present town of Herington. By January of 1879, Alioth began advertising his Dickinson County land for rent in the area newspapers⁴. Around March of 1879, Mr. Alioth began auctioning off his livestock and farming equipment⁵. Mr. Monroe Davis Herington saw an ad in the Bloomington, Illinois newspaper offering the

¹ The New York Times – May 14, 1870

² Junction City Weekly Union - July 31, 1869

³ Lawrence Western Home Journal – April 6, 1876

⁴ Council Grove Republican – Jan 25, 1879

⁵ Junction City Union – Mar 22, 1879

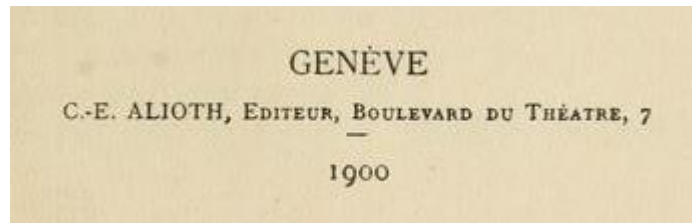
sale of Alioth's "Springdale Ranch". In August of 1880, M.D. Herington purchased the 1,400 acre ranch and in 1881 the Herington family moved into Alioth's ranch house.

Charles Alioth was apparently associated with the "Church of the Ascension" (or possibly the "Church of the Covenant" which was originally "St. John's") Episcopal Church in Junction City, KS and along with early settler James R. McClure, served as delegates to the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas' annual conventions in the 1870's and 1880's⁶.

It appears that Alioth was also in a Banking partnership in Junction City with Mr. J. Monroe Smith under the business name of "Alioth and Smith."⁷ Alioth sold his part of the partnership sometime in 1881.

Charles and Annie Alioth had one son, Richard Bowne Alioth (born: 1871).

It is apparent that the Alioth family made frequent trips back to Switzerland. In the early 1880's, Charles and Annie Alioth moved to the Rahway, New Jersey area after selling their ranch in Kansas. Charles Alioth entered the publishing profession and was also employed by the Swiss agency of L'Agence Générale de Genève as the New York agent for the distribution of newspapers and periodicals to/from the United States and other countries to/from the Geneva and Vaud area of Switzerland.



Charles Alioth is reported to have died either in Switzerland or in the New York/New Jersey area on December 5, 1907. His wife Annie Alioth remained in the Rahway, New Jersey with her family where she was active in the local chapter of SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) and she died there on August 12, 1927.

⁶ 1880 Protestant Episcopal Journal

⁷ Junction City Weekly Union – Nov 13, 1880