

Fannie Geiger Thompson

(1857 – 1903)

Fannie Geiger Thompson, fourth KSDAR State Regent, was born Jan. 1, 1857 in Martin's Ferry, Ohio, and came to Kansas with her parents in 1867. They lived for a short time on the Kansas frontier at Ellsworth and then moved to Topeka. Fannie was the great-granddaughter of Lieutenant William Wallace, who was with Washington's army during the terrible winter at Valley Forge, and she naturally inherited that intense love of country.

Mrs. Thompson attended Bethany College in Topeka and was a member of Topeka Chapter of the DAR. She married a dentist, Dr. Alton H. Thompson, in 1875, and was the mother of a son and a daughter. Her daughter died in 1897, shortly after graduating from Bethany College.

At the fourth Kansas DAR State Conference in Ottawa on November 5, 1902, (in an address never to be forgotten) Mrs.

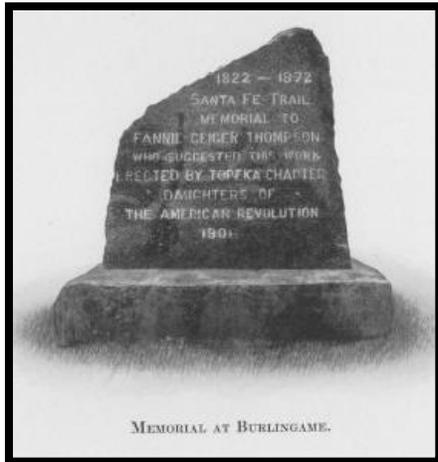
Thompson suggested the marking of the Santa Fe Trail through Kansas and asked the Kansas Daughters to take up this important work. It was her great desire that the chapters throughout the State should take up marking of historic sites. One of her interests was the Old Santa Fe Trail, which she hoped might be well

located some day and be marked by a line of monuments across the State; and it was her enthusiasm and persistence that first awakened interest in the subject. It was her hope that the Daughters of the American Revolution might be instrumental in accomplishing this historical work. The nominating committee unanimously chose Mrs. Thompson to serve another year.

This was not to be, as Fannie Geiger Thompson became ill with diphtheria and died at her home in Topeka on February 17, 1903. Her grave was marked by the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her untimely death prevented her from doing more than outlining the work. A memorial tablet to Mrs. Thompson was placed among the monuments along the Santa Fe Trail at Burlingame, Kansas by the Topeka DAR Chapter in 1906. It was rededicated in September, 1992.



FANNIE GEIGER THOMPSON (MRS. A. H.)



MEMORIAL AT BURLINGAME.