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"FOUR MEN ROUT A BAND OF INDIANS.

In 1861, J. H. Chrisman, T. B. Saunders, Ambrose Lathen and Pat Gallagher, left Camp Colorado to go to Gatesville for the purpose of getting fire arms repaired. Saunders was their guide and as he was riding in front of the others, he discovered, on ascending a high hill, a number of Indians driving a caballada of stolen horses. This was between Pecan Bayou and Blanket creek in Brown county. Mr. Chrisman immediately ordered the men to dismount and prepare for the conflict. Having examined their guns and seen that they were loaded the rangers remounted their horses and at once charged upon the Indians, who, by that time, had advanced within one hundred yards of them. The rangers as they charged upon the Indians, kept motioning back with their hands as if they were beckoning to others behind them to come on. The Indians, supposing they were the advance guard of a company, abandoned their stolen horses and took to flight. The rangers pursued them so vigorously they had no time to rally. The chase continued for a mile, and one Indian was killed. The rangers captured thirty-six head of horses, and it being late in the day, they started with the horses for the house of Jesse Mercer, ten miles away, where they arrived about nine o'clock that night and penned and guarded their horses until daylight. It was afterwards discovered that the Indians had found out that they had been stampeded by four men, and they had followed the rangers and would undoubtedly have taken their scalps if they had been a few minutes later in reaching Mercer's house, on Mercer's creek, in Comanche county.

After leaving Mercer's the next day they drove the horses to the town of Hamilton, where they penned and guarded them that night, and the following day drove to Gatesville, in Coryell county, and turned the horses in a pasture.