

## Chapter 305 – Kansas Finally Becomes A State



**Dates:**  
January 29, 1860

**Sections:**

- The Wyandotte Constitution Becomes Law

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### The Wyandotte Constitution Becomes Law



Finally Waving The Flag

The end of January 1861 brings closure to the “Bloody Kansas” conflict that plagues Buchanan during all four years of his presidency.

It begins on the day of his inauguration, March 4, 1857, when the Territorial Governor John Geary hands in his resignation after resisting attempts by the Missouri “border ruffians” to impose their pro-slavery will on the free-state majority of actual Kansas residents.

In accepting Geary’s departure, Buchanan becomes the symbol of a politician willing to abandon the principle of free elections to decide government policies in favor of surrendering to the dictates of the Southern Slave Power to stay in office.

As such, he stands as the sponsor of the corrupt Lecompton Constitution and of expanding the institution of slavery across the west and further into Mexico, Cuba and central America.

These are taints he can never overcome, and that will drive him from the White House with a reputation for ignominy and incompetence.

How ironic than, on January 29, 1861, that after four years of resistance, he signs a bill admitting Kansas as the 34<sup>th</sup> entry into the (collapsing) Union under the Free State Wyandotte Constitution.

The Wyandotte document is the fourth and final declaration from the Kansans. Like its three predecessors, the topic of excluding all blacks from the state is considered, but rejected in the end. The final vote comes in at 10,421 in favor and 5,530 opposed.