

**Fort Towson's Representative Town Builders
Not Boomers, But Wide Awake Citizens
Who are in Line for Progress and Prosperity**

The Ft Towson Enterprise August 11, 1905 - transcribed & contributed by Ron Henson

S.W. Kelly

After having spent fifteen years in business at Paris, Texas, S.W. Kelly wisely decided to locate at Fort Towson. He removed here in the spring of 1902 and erected the first, now the largest, building in town. In what is known as the Kelly block is a first class hotel, a large mercantile establishment, ice cream parlor, bowling alley, wholesale ice, lumber and a livery stable. Mr. Kelly brought a \$15,000 stock of merchandise here, but soon disposed of it. Later he put up another business house which is now used for hotel purposes and also built five residences. He has the honor of hauling the first load of lumber to Fort Towson and is the pioneer of the new town. Along with all of Mr. Kelly's good traits, he is an enterprising citizen, has great faith in the future progress of Fort Towson and ere long will realize that his efforts to build well [sic] have been rewarded.