

WITH THE LAMANITES

Frank B. Woodbury Tells of the Indian Territory Indians.

CHEROKEES' PAST AND PRESENT.

Interesting Facts Relating to the Most Civilized of the Aborigines Nations.

In response to an inquiry regarding his recent mission in the Indian Territory, and the history and condition of the native tribes with which he was best acquainted, Editor Frank B. Woodbury made the following report:

On the morning of the 10th of October, 1901, I boarded the R. G. W. train at Salt Lake City and was soon speeding on my way to the Indian Territory, without a moment's delay to meet the messengers of life and salvation to a portion of the houses of Israel. As I crossed the prairie of eastern Colorado and Kansas I longed to see a mountain, or even a hill, this being my first view of such a vast amount of territory without a mountain to obstruct it in any direction. After leaving the Pacific and Kansas City the journey was continued, and on the morning of October 19th I arrived at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory.

This fort was used during the war by the Confederates as a military post, and was for some time the home of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, whose residence is still standing, though it has been considered a dwelling for some time.

From Fort Gibson we took stage for Muskogee, a distance of nine miles, where we were met by the Hon. Wm. H. Hendricks, with whom the Elders always find a home. When the Elders first went there, having been turned away from many doors through prejudice, Mr. Hendricks and his noble wife took them in and made them welcome.

An attempt was made by the Elders in 1890 to obtain a tract of land on which to erect a building for Church and school purposes, but they failed in this, and Mr. Hendricks furnished some land and a house was built thereon.

This is the only meeting house owned by the Indians in the territory. There they can hold meetings when they choose. Many of the other churches and schoolhouses are closed against them.

On the way from Fort Gibson to Muskogee the National cemetery is passed. It is enclosed by a rock wall about five feet high. Inside stands a new stone cottage, where the superintendent, Mr. J. H. Dixon, resides. The cemetery contains a fragment over five acres of land, in which are interred the remains of 2400 soldiers, 2000 of whom are unknown. The graves are lined with a

variety of made trees and flowers. Among other things are box trees, cottonwoods, poplar, pauli, elm, cypress and wild rose—all natives of the territory, though not as common as the rest, of which there are hundreds of six varieties, the history, the present, and the future.

The Indian Territory, which lies west of Arkansas, and between Kansas and Texas, was a portion of the Louisiana purchase, and was not apart from the colonization of peaceful tribes. There is a territorial government, each tribe or nation having the management of its own affairs. Oklahoma is a tract of land which was added to the United States by the Creek and Seminole in 1890 to be used as a home for the civilized Indians as the United States government is able to do so.

In 1890 this tract was thrown open for settlement by the whites, and was the signal for a rush of settlers such as never before. The first settlers were from the north, and were from the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. The first settlers were from the north, and were from the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. The first settlers were from the north, and were from the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

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About the year 1790 their nation consisted of sixty-four towns. Those living in the upper part were situated on the Tennessean river, were continually at war with the Northern Indians, while those of the lower towns on the Osage and Neosho rivers were harassed by the Creek. Near their tribes and with their red brethren, for they were also at war with the French and English at different periods. From these causes and the terri-

ble scourge of smallpox, the Cherokee were, in 1790, reduced from seven thousand to five thousand warriors. At this time they had not been brought into contact with the whites, and were still in their wild, unquarrelled state. Their warfare was in the past of having their home shared, leaving only a small band in the two parts, which was surrounded with plenty, while their own were not. They were a very fine looking people, and indeed they are said to have been the most proud of any of the Indian tribes. This trait was especially evidenced in their early intercourse with the Europeans, the warriors refusing to associate with any but the greatest and bravest of the whites.

The first treaty made by the Cherokee was with the British government, and was concluded in 1763, June 20, 1763, and made appearing to be a change of their land, and placing them in a new society. In 1763 Henry Toulouse, a lieutenant in the British army, in order to facilitate treaty relations with the Cherokee, visited the town of the Cherokee and Tennessee rivers and concluded three powerful treaties to accompany him to England. They were presented to George the Third, being introduced as envoys by Colonel Bouquet. These they exchanged a dignity and dignity being with their rank and influence as representatives of a great nation.

During the war of the Revolution the Cherokee remained faithful and were powerful allies of the British against the war of 1776, when they owned land in the Cherokee country. The United States government, their first treaty with the United States was signed in 1786, at Hopewell, South Carolina, November 16, 1786, and was the commencement of a series of treaties whereby the Cherokee were ceded, or forced by circumstances into relinquishing their rights to the land east of the Mississippi. Many places and sections were ceded to the United States, and they were forced to give up their land, and they were forced to give up their land, and they were forced to give up their land.

In the year 1810 the Upper and Lower Cherokee began to develop a difference in taste and habits of living. The former were taking considerable progress in agriculture, while the latter, who chiefly subsisted on the proceeds of the chase, were becoming discontented with the growing scarcity of game, and as a consequence a party of the latter started for the White river country in Arkansas, with a view

to finding a better hunting ground. In the year 1810, and in 1811, they were successful, and in eight years from the date of their first settlement there were three thousand hunters of the tribe located on the White river and its tributaries. In 1810 the treaty of 1810, whereby the United States government ceded much of the land which was in the Cherokee country, and transferred the same to the great river in Arkansas, and the Cherokee were divided into two parts, the one remaining in the Cherokee country, and the other in the White river country. The Cherokee were divided into two parts, the one remaining in the Cherokee country, and the other in the White river country.

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quish, Saline and Co. were engaged, in each of which is a distinct count, the judge being elected for a term of two years at a salary of \$100 per year.

Each district sends to the national council two members and from these to each of the highest, emulating courts. These are the highest, emulating courts. These are the highest, emulating courts. These are the highest, emulating courts.

At the breaking out of the war of the Revolution many of the Cherokee were wealthy slaveholders and in sympathy with the South. As a consequence a party was organized under the leadership of Red Jacket, and another under the leadership of Red Jacket. The party was organized under the leadership of Red Jacket, and another under the leadership of Red Jacket.

In the spring of 1861, after the government had returned the refugees to their homes in time to plant their crops, Red Jacket, with about eight hundred warriors, secured the country in the vicinity of Tahlequah, and drove before him the frightened tribes of the west, who fled for safety to Fort Gibson, and about six thousand refugees were gathered there. They had brought with them supplies and agricultural implements, and were all full of the possession of Red Jacket and his followers. When the loyal party returned their allegiance to the government in 1862, they passed an act of council mandating all property belonging to the southern refugees, who were then living in the greatest destitution on the banks of the Red river. These tribes such a bitter feeling between the two parties that it was expected a new civil war would have to be fought for a short time, but the death of Chief Ross in 1865 moderated the party feeling and they were allowed to return and dwell among their people, since that time they have lived together in comparative peace, being divided into two political parties—National and Democratic—each having held the reins of government at different periods. The former is now in power, having

gained the last election, which was held during the past summer.

The Cherokee as a people are better educated and have better educational facilities than perhaps any other of the Indian nations. There are about 15000 Cherokee, and the highest schools and national academies, where the students are prepared to prepare the students for the highest, emulating courts. These are the highest, emulating courts. These are the highest, emulating courts.

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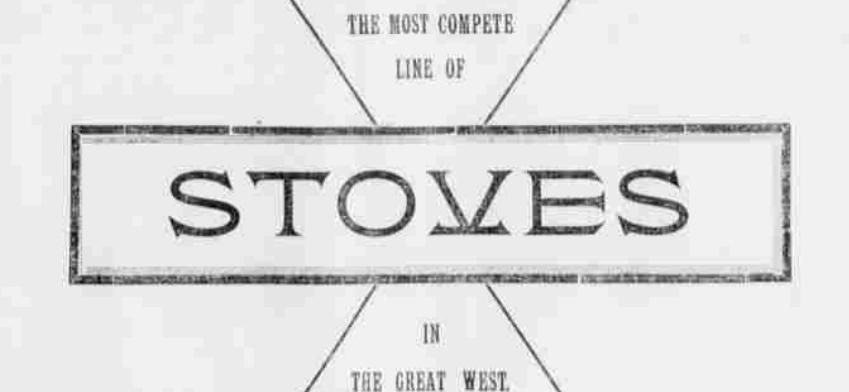
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