

NO. 4

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MUSKOGEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 801 WEST OKMULGEE MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA 74401

Volume 12 No. 4 December 1995

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Ernie Eugene Franklin
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Jean Vann
Morris Youngblood
Deone Duncan Penquite Member-at-Large
Linda Shackelford Brooks Member-at-Large
Floretta Reheard Leatherman Member-at-Large
Debra Hall Shamblin Editor

MEETINGS: Society meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 7:00 p.m. at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

<u>BOOK REVIEWS</u>: Reviews of donated books and materials will receive mention in the Quarterly and at society meetings. Thereafter, they will be housed in the Grant Foreman Room of the Muskogee Public Library for public use.

NOTICE TO NEW MEMBERS: Those who join during any month of the year after the membership month of January will receive all Quarterlies that have been published that year.

M.C.G.S. QUARTERLY: The Quarterly is published in March, June, September and December of each year. Queries are free to members; \$1.00 for non-members. Back issues are available at \$3.00 each, plus \$1.00 for postage.

The Muskogee County Genealogical Society and its Board of Directors do not assume responsibility for errors of fact or judgment on the part of contributors.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

How time flies!! This is my last letter as your President. It has certainly been my pleasure to have had this association. My thanks to the other officers, board members, and the membership who have helped make this year a success. I'm looking forward to next year working with the new officers and board members.

Thanks to all those who assisted with the fall workshop. It takes a combined effort to have a successful workshop. The facility was great and the meal was delicious. If you have ideas for future workshops, please let us know.

The Library's fall book fair was a success thanks to the dedicated efforts of several of our Society members. As you can tell, we are an active Society. There are many things to be accomplished, but we need your help.

By the time you receive this quarterly, the nominating committee will have presented a slate of officers for 1996. Please plan to be at the December 14 meeting for the election of officers and show-and-tell. You can get great research tips from these sessions. Bring your favorite Christmas snack item and enjoy the fellowship.

One person I have neglected to mention this year is Wally Waits, Assistant Reference Librarian. Thanks Wally for all your hard work. Our Society is fortunate to have a person of Wally's caliber at the Muskogee Library.

Remember: People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors.

Edmund Burke.

LIST OF "OLD SETTLERS" AND THE YEARS THEY CAME TO INDIAN TERRITORY

(From the Meetings Lists of 1943 and 1944 - continued from previous Quarterly)

LEDBETTER, Wiley, Muskogee 1882 LEMONS, G.H., Muskogee - 1904 LEMONS, W.F., Muskogee- 1900 LEWIS, P.A., Muskogee - 1870 LIGHTLE, Margaret, Muskogee - 1899 LOFTIN, Mrs. Willie, Muskogee - 1905 LOFTIS, Mrs. Willie, Muskogee - 1904 LOFTON, Mamie, Tulsa - 1882 LOFTUS, Elizabeth, Muskogee - 1920 LOFTUS, Mrs. M.E., Muskogee - 1873 LONDON, R.H., Muskogee - 1887 LONG, J.A., Georgia - 1884 LONG, Lillian - 1906 LONG, Nancy Ann - 1892 LONG, Nancy N., Texas - 1884 (1888) LUCAS, Red, Wagoner - 1882 MADDIN, Bessie, Muskogee - 1911 MADDIN, R.T., Muskogee - 1892 MADIGAN, Mrs. F.B., Muskogee 1903 MADIGAN, Virginia, Muskogee MANASKER, S.E., Keefeton - 1872 MANDLER, Elizabeth, Miss Muskogee - 1907 MANGRUN, Mary, Arkansas - 1903 MARLIN, W.J., Muskogee - 1899 MARSHALL, John, Muskogee - 1903 MARSHALL, Mrs. John, Muskogee 1903 MARSHALL, L.S., Muskogee - 1902 MARTIN, Mrs. Ben, Muskogee - 1896 MARTIN, Ben, Muskogee - 1897 MARTIN, Laura P., Muskogee - 1896 MARTIN, Mrs. R.L., AR - 1900 MARTIN, Richard, Muskogee - 1902 MATTHEWS, E.A., Muskogee - 1888

MATTHEWS, Mrs. E.A., Muskogee 1909 MATTHEWS, Martha Smith, Muskogee - 1898 MATTHEWS, W.M., Muskogee - 1910 MATTHEWS, W.M., Texas - 1910 MAY, Kitty, Muskogee - 1916 MAY, Mrs. W.B., KS - 1905 MAYTUBBY, Mrs. E.B., Muskogee 1918 McBURNETT, G.W., Muskogee 1892 McCARREN, J.K., Warner - 1878 McCLAIN, Mable, MO - 1901 McCOLLOUGH, W.H., Muskogee McCRACKEN, Cook, Muskogee 1864 McCRACKEN, Mrs. W.R., Muskogee 1917 McCRACKEN, W.R., Muskogee 1914 McCRAY, Dora, Muskogee - 1915 McCULLOUGH, W.H., Muskogee 1903 McDANIEL, Lizzie, AR - 1896 McDANIEL, W.H., Wagoner - 1878 McDONALD, Mrs. C.C., Wagoner 1907 McDONALD, Mrs. C.D., Muskogee 1907 McDONALD, J.H., Muskogee - 1902 McDONALD, Joe, Muskogee - 1878 McDONALD, Mrs. Ollie, Muskogee 1895 McENTEE, Mrs. J.M., Muskogee (1906, 1909) McGINNIS, Geo., Muskogee

McGUIRE, Louisa, Muskogee - 1904 McGUIRE, W.E., Muskogee - 1880 McINTOSH, T.T., Muskogee - 1867 McKINZIE, Julia, Muskogee - 1890 McLAUGHLIN, Nettie- 1883 McMAKIN, John G., Muskogee - 1873 McMAKIN, W.A., Muskogee - 1873 McMURRAY, Joe - 1892 McPHERSON, Mrs. S.N., Muskogee 1907 McPHERSON, S.N., Muskogee - 1907 McSPADDEN, Mrs. J.W., Tahlequah 1887 MEAD, E.W. - 1908 MELLIGAN, C.H., Muskogee - 1885 NELSON, Mrs. D.E., OK - 1919 MENESS, John W., Muskogee - 1903 MERK, E.J., Muskogee - 1898 MERLIN, L.H., Muskogee - 1901 MERRIMAN, Mrs. Geo., Muskogee 1888 MERRIMAN, George, Muskogee 1894 MILLER, James I., Muskogee - 1892 MILLER, Mrs. J. Lee, Muskogee 1904 MILLER, Mrs. J.M., Muskogee 1892 MILLER, Jessie, Muskogee - 1872 MILLER, Julius M., Muskogee - 1892 MILLER, R.V., Muskogee - 1901 MILLER, Mrs. W.L., Muskogee - 1872 MILLER, W.L., Muskogee - 1863 (born here) MILLIGAN, C.H., Muskogee - 1885 MOFFAT, Mrs. J.H. - 1894 MOFFAT, J.H., Muskogee - 1836 MONTGOMERY, Mrs. Ben, Muskogee 1909 MOORE, Edna, AR - 1908 MOORE, Mrs. J.N. - 1903 MORGAN, Fannie, Muskogee - 1898 MORIN, Mrs. J.N., Muskogee - 1910 OVERSTREET, C.A., Muskogee MORRISON, Mrs. D.C., Muskogee 1877 1904

MORRISON, Mrs. E.C., Penn. - 1904 MORROW, Mrs., Muskogee - 1880 MORTON, Hallie D., Muskogee - 1898 MOSER, Mrs. G.W., Tahlequah - 1890 MOSS, Lucy A., Miss, Vian - 1890 MOUNTCASTLE, R.M. MOUNTS, John T., Muskogee, 1880 MOUNTS, Mrs. John T., Muskogee 1882 MULL, D.A., Ft. Gibson - 1900 MURELL, R.H., Muskogee - 1882 MURRELL, Ina H., Muskogee - 1866 MURRELL, R.H., Muskogee - 1889 MUSBAUM, Bert - 1907 MUSBAUN, Mrs. Bert, Muskogee 1910 MYERS, C.E., Muskogee - 1902 MYERS, Mrs. Chas., Muskogee - 1902 NAFUS, Chas, Dr., Ft. Gibson - 1911 NAFUS, Ethel, Ft. Gibson - 1911 NASH, Francis A., Ft. Gibson - 1877 NASH, Frank (66), Ft. Gibson - 1877 NAVE. Julia. OK - 1855 NELSON, Eva, Muskogee - 1904 NELSON, Mathe, Boynton - 1909 NEWBAER, Mrs. Max, Muskogee 1908 NIX, Patsy Ann, Okla City - 1941 NOAH, Annie, Muskogee - 1916 NOBLITT, J.R.- 1888 NORMAN, Chester NORMAN, Mrs. W.T. AR - 1909 NORMAN, W.T. - 1903 NUSBAUN, Mrs. Bert E., Muskogee 1910 OLIVER, H.S., Braggs - 1903 OLIVER, J.T., OK - 1884 OSBORN, Mrs. Thomas, Muskogee 1907 OSBORN, Thomas, Muskogee - 1907 OTIS, Daisy, Muskogee - 1906 OVERSTREET, Mrs. C.A., Muskogee 1893

OWENS, Malzreen, Tahlequah- 1879 PUTTY, W.J., Muskogee - 1896 (born here) RAINS, Mrs. Marion, Muskogee - 1904 PACE, Jas. L., Council Hill - 1903 RAINWATER, Mrs. C.W., Council Hill PAGE, Mrs. C.R., Texas - 1911 1897 PAGE, C.R., Texas - 1911 RALEY, James D., AR - 1901 RANDALL, J.R., Muskogee - 1891 PARISH, Johnston, Park Hill - 1884 PARKER, Andy, Muskogee - 1892 RAY, Mrs. H.H., AR - 1917 PARKER, W.A., Muskogee - 1892 RAY, Willis, Haskell - 1902 PARKINSON, E.B., Wagoner - 1896 REED, Mrs. Chas. L., Muskogee PARRIS, Janna, OK - 1888 1893 PARTIN, Mrs. W.B., Muskogee - 1887 REED, Chas. L., Muskogee - 1893 PARTRIDGE, Cora B., Tulsa - 1901 REEVE, Arlie, Webbers Falls - 1865 PATE, Carl, Muskogee - 1900 (born here) PATTON, W.A., Lenard - 1874 REYNOLDS, Wm., Muskogee - 1889 PAYINGHOUSE, Gladys, Miss, RHODES, C.B., Muskogee - 1883 Ft. Gibson - 1904 RIDER, Frank, Muskogee - 1894 PAYNE, Mary E., Muskogee - 1900 RIGGS, Tulsa - 1873 PAYNE, Mary, Muskogee - 1860 RILEY, Mrs. S.A., Muskogee - 1910 PENDERGHAST, C.L., Muskogee ROBERTS, Belle, Muskogee - 1901 ROBINSON, J.C., Muskogee - 1868 1901 PENDERGHAST, C.L., MN - 1901 RODEN, Angie, Muskogee - 1881 PERRY, M.D., Checotah - 1900 RODON, John, AL - 1906 PERRYMAN, B.P., McIntosh CO. ROGERS, David, Muskogee - 1873 ROGERS, Mrs. H.C., Muskogee 1925 PERRYMAN, Beulah, McIntosh 1897 1907 ROGERS, Mary Jane, Muskogee PHERISON, M.C, Penn - 1907 1934 PHERSON, Mrs. S.N., Indiana - 1907 ROOT, Mrs. Charles, Muskogee PIGG, Mrs. L.H., Muskogee - 1924 1904 PINSON, J.C., Coweta - 1903 ROSE, Geo. L., Muskogee - 1910 PINSON, Mrs. J.C., Coweta - 1905 ROSS, Mrs. Robert B., Tahleguah PIPPIN, James W., Sallisaw - 1897 1901 PITCHFORD, J.D., Shidler - 1888 ROSS, S.W., Park Hill - 1871 PORTER, Cora Case, Muskogee ROSS, W.S., Park Hill - 1879 1914 ROSSER, Mrs. M.E., Muskogee PORTER, S.T., OK - 1899 1878 POWELL, George K., Muskogee ROSSER, M.E., Judge, Muskogee 1905 1894 ROTH, L.M., Muskogee - 1891 POWELL, Mrs. George K., Muskogee ROWE, Martin, Stilwell - 1876 1905 POWELL, Ova, Miss, Tahlequah ROWELL, Ella, AR - 1898 1904 RULISON, E.R., Jr., Muskogee - 1888 RULISON, Mrs. E.R., Muskogee- 1883 PRESSLEY, Della, Stillwell - 1903 RULISON, E.R., Muskogee - 1885 PRYOR, Mrs. George, TX - 1872 RUSSELL, Mrs. P.R. - 1900 PUTNER, O.J., Muskogee - 1908

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RUTLEDGE, A.B., Muskogee - 1902
SADLER, Margaret, Muskogee - 1881
SAMS, Myrtle Eddleman, Muskogee
      1894
SANDERS, Elizabeth, Muskogee
      1868
SANDERS, Mrs. Lee, Muskogee
      1907
SANDERS, Neal, Nowata - 1873
SANDERS, Mrs. Ollie, Muskogee
      1900
SAYLERS, S.L., Muskogee - 1909
SCHOFIELD, S.O., Muskogee - 1903
SCHRODER, Myrtle, Muskogee
      1880
SCOTT, Anna - 1876
SCOTT, Gibson R., Ft. Gibson - 1877
SCOTT, Mrs. H.A., Muskogee - 1892
SCOTT, H.A., Dr., Muskogee - 1885
SCOTT, Mrs. M.A., Muskogee - 1920
SCOTT, W.T., Muskogee - 1885
SCOTT, Mrs. W.T., Muskogee - 1943
SCOTT, Waitie, Muskogee - 1904
SCOTT, Wm. I., Muskogee - 1866
SEWARD, J.M., AR - 1896
SHACKLEFORD, Mrs. Ross
     Muskogee - 1889
SHAPARD, E.R., Muskogee - 1880
SHARPARD, E.R. - 1920
SHARWOOD, Carl R., Muskogee
      1882
SHELTON, Mrs. W.A., Muskogee
     1910
SHELTON, W.A., Muskogee - 1910
SHELTON, W.H., Muskogee - 1910
SHELTON, W.L., Muskogee - 1910
SHOENHAIR, W.B., Muskogee - 1902
SHOOK, G.E., AR - 1907
SICKENDICK, Mrs. B., Muskogee
     1882
SICKENDICK, Mrs. N.E., Tulsa - 1882
SIEBERT, Mrs. W.L., Muskogee
      1906
SLURDY, Ethel, Muskogee - 1904
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SMART, Bill, Muskogee - 1899
SMITH, Annie, Muskogee -1895
SMITH, Mrs. C.M., Muskogee - 1893
SMITH, Clara, Muskogee - 1914
SMITH, Florence, Webber Falls
      1883
SMITH, Minnie, Muskogee - 1900
SMITH, Mrs. Walter, Muskogee - 1900
SMITH, Annie, Muskogee - 1895
      (born here)
SNELL, Mrs. O.S., Muskogee - 1905
SNODDY, Mrs. G.E.B., Muskogee
      1904
SNODDY, G.E.B., Rev., , Muskogee
      1902
SNYDER, Russell, Odessa, TX - 1905
SPANIARD, Lizzie, Haskell - 1893
SPENCER, James T., Haskell - 1872
SPONSLER, Nannie, Muskogee
      1899
STAFFORD, Robt. C., Muskogee
      1914
STANLEY, Sam - 1893
STERLING, Joe, AR - 1914
STERLING, Joe, Muskogee - 1918
STERLING, Julia, MO - 1903
STERLING, Julia, Muskogee - 1903
STEWART, Mrs. Francis, Muskogee
      1912
STEWART, Frank, Muskogee - 1886
STEWART, Mrs. SAm, Muskogee
      1890
STEWART, Sam, Muskogee - 1890
STEWART, Susie A., MO - 1898
STEWART, W.A., AR - 1898
STIGLER, J.S. (85) - Stigler - 1880
STILL, Ella, OK - 1880
STONE, J.C., Muskogee - 1902
STORKEY, Lena, Wagoner - 1901
STREBEL, George, Muskogee - 1898
STROUP, John A., Muskogee - 1891
STUART, J.O., KS - 1901
STURDY, Ethel, Muskogee - 1904
SUMMERS, Cleon, Muskogee - 1914
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SWANSON, G.M., KS - 1894 WATTS, Mrs. Chas., Wagoner - 1878 SWANSON, Mrs. G.M., KS - 1894 WATTS, Richard - 1895 SWANSON, George, Haskell - 1895 WEATHERFORD, Mrs. Harve SWIMM, William, Muskogee - 1883 Ft.Gibson - 1907 SYKES, Mrs. J.H., Muskogee - 1904 WEATHERS, Mrs. J.S., Muskogee TABOR, Mrs. Britton H., Checotah 1910 1912 WEBB, Bertha, KS - 1894 TABOR, Mannie, Muskogee - 1907 WEBBER, Agnes, Muskogee - 1885 TAGGART, Mrs. C.B., Muskogee WEBBER, L.M., Muskogee - 1882 1898 WELCH, Mrs. J.C, Muskogee - 1900 TALLEY, Mary, Muskogee WELLS, Ida, Muskogee - 1906 (born here) WELLS, Sallie M., Muskogee - 1892 TATUM, Jennie, Muskogee - 1893 WEST, Dick, Muskogee - 1872 WEST, Dave, AL - 1885 TAYLOR, Mollie, OK - 1903 TEEL, Thos. H., Muskogee - 1932 WESTBROOK, George V., Okmulgee TERRAPIN, Jess, Tahlequah (born here) WHITE, Mary P., Muskogee - 1907 THAXTON, Clara, Muskogee - 1910 WHITE, Mrs. T.L., Ohio - 1906 THOMAS, Julia, Muskogee - 1900 WHITE, T.L., Ohio - 1906 THOMPSON, T.H., Muskogee - 1898 WILCOXEN, Mrs. A.C., Muskogee THORNTON, M.H., Muskogee - 1893 1898 (born here) WILEY, J.M., Muskogee - 1900 TINDELL, Ida, Muskogee - 1910 WILEY, Thomas J., Muskogee - 1892 TINDELL, Wm. F., Muskogee - 1901 WILIFORD, Mrs. Claud, Muskogee TODD, Mrs. J.A., Muskogee - 1900 1913 TODD, J.A., Muskogee - 1890 WILLIAMS, Lydia C., KS - 1905 TOOMBS, Roy, Muskogee - 1881 WILLIAMS, Sophie, Muskogee - 1910 WILSON, Dave H. - 1896 TOUNSEN, Mrs. Pleas, Muskogee WILSON, Mrs. Dave, Muskogee- 1904 1873 TOUNDSEND, Mrs. J., Muskogee WILSON, Mrs. John, Tahlequah 1873 1900 TROY, Mrs. J.B., Muskogee - 1902 WHITSEY, Mrs. A.B.- 1910 TROY, Mary J., Muskogee - 1902 WINFORD, W.T., Muskogee - 1880 TURNER, Mrs. C.T.- 1904 WINGFIELD, Tom (67) Muskogee TURNER, C.T. - 1903 1899 VANDIVER, John, Muskogee - 1890 WINSTEAD, Nora - 1911 VANN, Hazel, Registrar, Porum WISENER, Mrs. J.L., Muskogee -1903 1901 (born here) WOLSENBERGER, Mrs. E.R. VANN, Katie, Muskogee, - 1887 Muskogee - 1902 VANTUYL, G.I., Porter - 1904 WOLZENBERGER, E.R. - 1902 WALDEN, T.J., Ft. Gibson - 1906 WOOD, Mrs. Jessie, Muskogee - 1901 WOODAL, Oscar - 1885 WALLACE, Martha, Okata - 1887 WOODALL, Robert L., Muskogee WARD, Ida May, Muskogee - 1875 WATSON, Mrs. J.M. - 1872 1872 WOODALL, Robert L. - 1904 WATSON, J.M. - 1887

WOODY, Matilda, MO - 1894 WOODY, S.D., MO - 1887 WOOTEN, Mrs, A.E., Muskogee 1895 WOOTEN, A.E., Muskogee - 1889 WORLEY, Wm. I., Council Hill - 1893 WRIGHT, A.L., Muskogee - 1900 WRIGHT, Mrs. F.A., Muskogee - 1908

WRIGHT, R.W., Council Hill - 1908 WYLY, Mrs. W.B., Tahlequah - 1890 WYNE, B.B., Muskogee - 1872 WYNE, Mintie, Muskogee 1924 YOUNG, Edna, Muskogee - 1912 YOUNG, Mrs. J.D., Muskogee - 1912 YOUNG, Mrs. J.H., Checotah - 1912 YOUNG, Anna, Muskogee - 1880

Miss Robertson is Related to Teddy

Muskogee Congresswoman Claims Kinship With Former President's Family

Pittsburg, PA, Feb 19. -Miss Alice Robertson of Muskogee, Oklahoma, congresswoman, last night at a luncheon at which she was a guest with Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt here, told him in an address that they are blood relations.

Miss Robertson recalled that Colonel Roosevelt on his mother's side was a direct descendant of the famous Jonathan Edwards and then said on her father's side she was a direct descendant of Jonathan Edward's sister.

Muskogee Times Democrat, 19 Feb 1921, p. 3C

Note: Alice Robertson was the first woman elected to Congress after the passage of the women's suffrage bill. She was the first woman to preside over Congress and the first woman to receive the presidential salute. In 1885 she came to Indian Territory when she was called upon by the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian church to take charge and expand the Presbyterian Mission here. She was appointed Postmaster in 1904, served as Vice President of the National Education Association and held many prestigious positions during her lifetime.

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR ANCESTOR CHART? IF NOT, PLEASE INCLUDE IT WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 1996 AND IT WILL BE PRINTED IN THE NEW YEAR'S QUARTERLY. THE CHART WILL THEN BE PLACED IN OUR FAMILY FILE CABINET IN THE GENEALOGY ROOM.

FORT GIBSON NATIONAL CEMETERY HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The military post established in 1824 at Fort Gibson, the oldest town in Oklahoma, was used during the Civil War as a base for Union operations. Originally named Cantonment Gibson, the fort was named in honor of Colonel George Gibson, the then United States Commissary General of Subsistence, for the Cherokees, Creeks, and Seminoles, Fort Gibson was the end of the "Trail of Tears."

For a period of one year during the Civil War, the fort was renamed Fort Blunt after Brigadier General James G. Blunt. After the Civil War, a small garrison of federal troops was stationed at the fort until 1891, when the land was given to the Cherokee Nation. In 1901 the land was sold at public auction.

Among Fort Gibson's illustrious officers were such men as Lieutenant Jefferson Davis, General Zachary Taylor, General J.G. Blunt, and Captain Nathan Boone, the son of Daniel Boone, An interesting anecdote is that Jefferson Davis, later president of the Confederacy, was reported to have eloped with the daughter of Zachary Taylor, later president of the Union, from Fort Gibson.

East of Fort Gibson, a plot of seven acres was converted into a national cemetery in 1868. Previously, the United States regiments quartered at the fort had used the land for burial purposes. A few civilians were interred in the cemetery prior to 1850. The first soldiers laid to rest were members of the "Old Dragoons," the first regiment that was stationed at the fort in 1824.

Representatives of all the major wars in which the United States has participated are buried at the Fort Gibson National Cemetery. Most of the unknown had been moved to Fort Gibson from Fort Towson, Fort Arbuckle, Fort Washita, Fort Tahlequah, and other nearby towns.

Legendary people buried at Fort Gibson include Talahina, the Cherokee wife of General Sam Houston, who is buried in the Officers' Circle around the flag pole. One story says that she died of a broken heart when General Houston left her with her people to go down into Texas and Mexico to seek new frontiers. Another version states he sent runners back to Talahina asking her to join him, saying "I have built a kingdom for you." Always she answered him by saying he had returned to his people and she would stay with hers.

Captain Billy Bowlegs, an intrepid Seminole, is the only officer of an Indian regiment to be buried here, since most of the Indians fought with the South. However, many other Indian scouts and fighters are interred at Fort Gibson.

Others who carved a place in history and are well known include Major Joel H. Elliott, whose abandonment by General George Custer at the battle of Washita has never been explained, although the fact that Major Elliott commanded the Seventh Cavalry during the year Custer was suspended from his command and his rank as a result of a court martial may have been the reason; John P. Decatur who was the brother of the famous Captain Stephen Decatur of the U.S. Navy during the War of 1812; former governor and U.S. Senator Montfort Stokes of North Carolina, who was a revolutionary War hero; and several West Point graduates, including John W. Murray (the oldest marker in the Cemetery - February 14, 1831).

Another famous woman buried at Fort Gibson is Vivia Thomas. One of the many versions of her legend states she was a high-spirited daughter of wealthy Boston parents. She attended Boston society's finest affairs. It was at one of the balls held following the Civil War that Vivia met and fell in love with a handsome young lieutenant. After several months of courtship, their engagement and marriage plans were announced. Shortly before their wedding date, however, the lieutenant, more intrigued by Vivian's wealth and place in society than by her beauty, suddenly left. The note he wrote to Vivia stated he desired to go west in search of adventure, that marriage and Boston society were not for him.

Broken-hearted and bitter over the embarrassment caused her and her family. Vivia lest home in search of her lover. Learning from the military that the lieutenant was stationed at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, her long journey began. The trip was extremely hard, especially for a girl who had known only luxury. But her vengeful heart pushed her on toward her destination. She cut her hair, dressed in men's clothing, and joined the military; in which she served for over 20 years. She avoided recognition by the young lieutenant, though she frequently observed him. She discovered that he had an Indian girlfriend that he visited each evening. One cold evening in December, Vivia trailed the lieutenant, ambushed and killed him. An intensive investigation was held to no However, Vivia became remorseful. avail and the matter was dropped. Disturbed over the killing, she began visiting the grave at night. She contracted pneumonia from the continued exposure and, one night, collapsed near her lover's grave. She died shortly after. A priest Vivia had confessed to revealed the true story of Vivia. Her comrades were so impressed with the courage it took to come alone into the frontier, and to carry out a successful disguise as a male, that, rather than condemning her, they awarded her a place of honor for burial in the "Officers' Circle."

Mary Eliza Mix is, also, at Fort Gibson. She reputedly was a spy for the U.S. Government. Since she died before the Mexican War, the only war she could have acted as a spy in was the War of 1812; or some of the Indian skirmishes. Her secrets are buried with her.

The wife of D.H. Rucker, Flora, was laid to rest at Fort Gibson. D.H. Rucker went on to become the Quartermaster General of the United States, and was instrumental in the establishment of Arlington National Cemetery.

New names have been added to the historically famous. Acee Blue Eagle, Creek Indian artist, and John Reese, winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, lie side by side with comrades-in-arms Marvin Bradley, Cemetery Caretaker, who devoted over 20 years of his life to caring for the cemetery's gravesites, and Francis M. Brooke, Cemetery Director, who served veterans for nearly 35 years.

PFC John N. Reese, Jr., earned his Medal of Honor during WWII fighting against the Japanese. He was engaged in the attack on the Paco Railroad Station, which was defended by 300 determined enemy soldiers with machine guns and rifles, supported by several pillboxes, three 20MM guns, one 37MM gun, and heavy mortars. While making a frontal assault across an open field, his platoon was halted 100 yards from the station by intense enemy fire. On his own initiative he left the platoon, accompanied by a comrade, and continued forward to a house 60 yards from the objective. Under constant enemy observation, the two men remained in this position for an hour, firing and killing 35 Japanese and wounding many more. Moving closer to the station, the two men discovered a group of Japanese replacements attempting to reach pillboxes. The two men opened heavy fire on the enemy and killed over 40 more, stopping all subsequent attempts to man the emplacements. advancing to within 20 yards of the station. PFC Reese provided effective covering fire while his companion killed seven Japanese and destroyed a 20 mm gun and a heavy machine gun with hand grenades. With their ammunition running low, the two men started to return to the American lines, alternately providing covering fire for each other as they withdrew. During this movement, PFC Reese was killed by enemy fire as he reloaded his rifle. The two men's actions paved the way for the subsequent complete defeat of the enemy at this strong point.

Graves of the known and unknown are intermingled with soldiers, Indian scouts, civilians, wives, and children. Their stories of hardships, dangers, laughter and tears are, also, buried with them; but the legacy of the great country and the state they helped to carve out of a hostile land, and the many brave acts since to protect the peoples of our coutry and their freedoms, stands as a living reminder to us all of their sacrifices.

From the original 12 cemeteries established under the Act of 1862, the cemetery system has grown to a total of 128 federally-owned cemeteries. Arlington and the Soldiers Home Cemeteries are operated by the Department of the Army. Fourteen cemeteries designated as historic landmarks are operated by the Department of the Interior. The Department of Memorial Affairs, under the

Veterans Administration, is responsible for the operation of all others. As of 1988, there were 112 national cemeteries, with plans for new cemeteries in the future.

The amount of historical data within the Fort Gibson National Cemetery has brought many tour groups from around the country. Students of schools, churches, and boy scout groups from Oklahoma and Texas regularly make field trips to this national cemetery. Historians from all areas of the United States come to study and visit the burial sites of the famous persons interred at Fort Gibson.

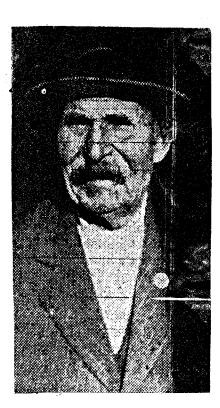
The cemetery has a total of 32.21 acres, with 13.2 of the acres located outside the fence at the back of the cemetery. A new Administrative Building is planned and there is a maintenance shop area that was built in 1950's. A Aarillon Bell Tower was donated to the cemetery in 1985 by the AMVETS. It is used to play taps at the end of committal services for veterans, adding to the dignity and reverence of the farewell.

As national shrines and monuments to our country's deceased veterans, each national cemetery is a bountiful resource of historical information. The national cemeteries exists because President Lincoln signed an act authorizing their establishment "for the soldiers who shall die in the service of the country." He believed in caring "for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan."

Thanks to Virginia Vann Perry for another successful year as chairman of the Fall Book Fair at the Muskogee Public Library. Virginia has had charge of this project for the past several years. Proceeds of the yearly event will benefit the children's department at the library.

VETERAN OF WARS

Muskogee Man Saw Service in Franco-Prussian Conflict and In Indian Wars



C.H. Lammers Fought in War Against France in 1870; Was Among First to Get to Scene of Custer Fight.

One by one in the memories of C.H. Lammers, veteran of a European conflict and of American Indian wars, the great, and near great in martial history file past as he sits on the front porch of his store-home at 824 South G. street, facing the west as he did in the days of his youth, and watching the autumn sun fall below the horizon.

Napoleon III, Bismarck, King William of Prussia, later the first emperor of the Germans, Custer, old Indian Chiefs, all march past in phantom step in the mind of the 82-year old veteran.

Fought Against France

It was the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71 that Lammers took part in Europe. It was that war, incidentally, that established the Hohenzollern dynasty as emperors of a consolidated Germany and laid the basis for the German army that 44 years later swept through Belgium and northern France again and precipitated the World War.

Lammers was born in Hanover, Germany in 1850. He was 20 years old when the Franco-Prussian war broke out and he marched away in German ranks to the frontier. Now the conflict was one of short duration, actual fighting took little more than a season, and the principal reason for its brevity was that the German armies were moved rapidly from one sector to another for action.

Thus Lammers took part in about 22 skirmishes and battles. He was at Sedan when the French army with its emperor, Napoleon III, was captured. There he saw the last of the Bonapartes, a prisoner such as his illustrious ancestor had been at the close of his career.

At Sedan, shortly after its fall also appeared King William, stern whiskers and all, and the historic Iron Chancellor of Prussia. Bismarck.

On horseback they rode in front of the victorious army while in a carriage, afforded all the courtesies of a valiant but vanquished enemy, rode the fallen Napoleon, shorn by his own government of his title inasmuch as the French founded a republic after Sedan's fall.

Lammers, therefore, standing at attention in the ranks of German infantrymen that flanked the historic journey of Napoleon to his imprisonment, saw with his own eyes that which is posterity's only in pictures.

The aged German, a resident of Muskogee for the past 43 years, also recalls a scene, short but vivid, that those of us of today listen to with interest. He remembers William II, the Kaiser of 1914, when a youth of 12. Dressed as befitting the ideals of German royalty the noble, who now is an aging exile at Doorn, Holland, strove to appear military in the uniform of a German cadet. Lammers saw the boy who as a man made history, far behind the fighting line.

Is Given Furlough

After Sedan there was still fight left in the French, frantic as it was and the German infantry poured upon battlefields in northern France.

Soon afterwards Lammers was wounded in the leg, not seriously but enough to be given a 10-day leave of absence.

Now behind him were numerous battles and before him, after the leave expired, were others. Lammers decided he had enough of Europe's troubles, and hiked to Hamburg. There he approached the captain of an English tramp steamer, tendered him the equivalent of \$20 in German marks and arranged for a trip from the fighting fatherland.

They placed Lammers in the boiler room, blackened his face, told him to speak to no one, and awaited the final inspection by German officers. They searched every corner of the steamer, they invaded the confines of the engine room, gazed at Lammers, then busily shoveling coal, and departed. Had he been recognized Lammers would have been shot for deserting and would have never seen America or Muskogee.

The English tramp departed too, only to touch at Birmingham a few days later, placing Lammers out of the reach of German officers. From there he caught a ride to America, eventually settling in 1872, in Cincinnati.

At that time all interest lay in the west. There stood an empire to be wrested from the Indian and the government yearned for the territory. So from the German city of Cincinnati to the pioneer west went the then young Lammers.

He located at Fort Riley, Kan., about the time Indian raids were claiming the lives of settlers. A call for volunteers was sent out and the ex-German infantryman who had left a spiked helmet in the fatherland took on the blue cap of the American soldier.

The fighter of Frenchmen soon discovered a new type of foe faced him. In northern France the fighting ordinarily took place on level ground. Germans and Frenchmen stood face to face and shot it out. But the Indians were different. They took advantage of every protection. If retreat offered a better advantage then they retired to a more strategic position. Lammers found himself skilled in European styles of battle and fighting an enemy that demanded a foe either to follow their methods or perish.

Learns New Fight

"Well", the veteran fighter reflects, "I am still Here." "I learned to fight the Indians the way they fought."

Up and down the frontier states, fighting Indians or trying to tame them peacefully went Lammers' company. Some would not listen to

reason and Lammers found himself bound for eastern Montana where the Sioux Indians were rising under Sitting Bull.

On June 24, 1876, Lammers and his company were stationed at an eastern Montana fort and started out to meet General George A. Custer, who was scouting the Indians' position. The world knows of Custer's fate, how he with around 300 men were overwhelmed by an Indian force 20 times its size and massacred to the last man.

They met Custer all right, Lammers recalls, but what a sight met them. The aged German in describing the discovery of the mutilated bodies of the Custer force, scorns the accepted versions of Custer's last stand as portrayed in pictures. Lammers declares the blue coated force was trapped in a ravine and the Indians poured rocks down upon them. "Those bodies were mangled beyond description," the veteran claims. "The ground was positively muddy from the blood, legs, arms were scattered around. Most of the soldiers had been killed by the rocks. The Indians had been above and consequently lost few men."

Lammers estimates that the battle of Little Big Horn took place about 4 o'clock on June 25, 1876. The bodies were found 18 hours later

Contradicting other reports, Lammers claims that Custer's body was never found. The troops were allowed to stay where they were and dirt thrown over them but Custer, he declares vigorously, was never found. He thinks the Indians took him away.

In 1836 Lammers returned to the battlefield when it was dedicated. However he had, soon after viewing the remains of Custer's men, been discharged from the army in which he had served as a sergeant His war days were over and he decided to settle down. He chose Muskogee and is still here.

Incidentally Lammers' son was also shot in northern France and received a wound that eventually caused his death. The son was not, however, fighting for the fatherland. He wore the khaki of the American doughboy.

Extracted from the Muskogee Daily Phoenix October 30, 1932

Obituary - Charles Lammers Muskogee Daily Phoenix, June 14, 1937

Charles Lammers, 87, of 702 South G. St. died early yesterday at his home following a lingering illness. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ida Lammers of the home, four daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Albert of Denver, Colorado, Mrs. Sadie Hettick of Muskogee, and Mrs. Dora Poulson and Mrs. Anna Chadwick, both of Seminole; and two sons, G.F. Lammers of Phoenix, Arizona and H.H. Lammers of Garland, Kansas.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by Lescher Funeral Home.

Note: Charles Lammers and other members of his family were buried at Greenhill Cemetery in Muskogee. Lescher Funeral Home Records show that Mr. Lammers' parents were born in Germany, but their names were not given.

NEW MEMBERS

STILES, Debbie, 1135 5th PL, Port Hueneme, CA 93041

Researching: HILER, Briartown, OK 1886; RIGGS, RIDDLE, HUSKEY, Checotah, OK 1937.

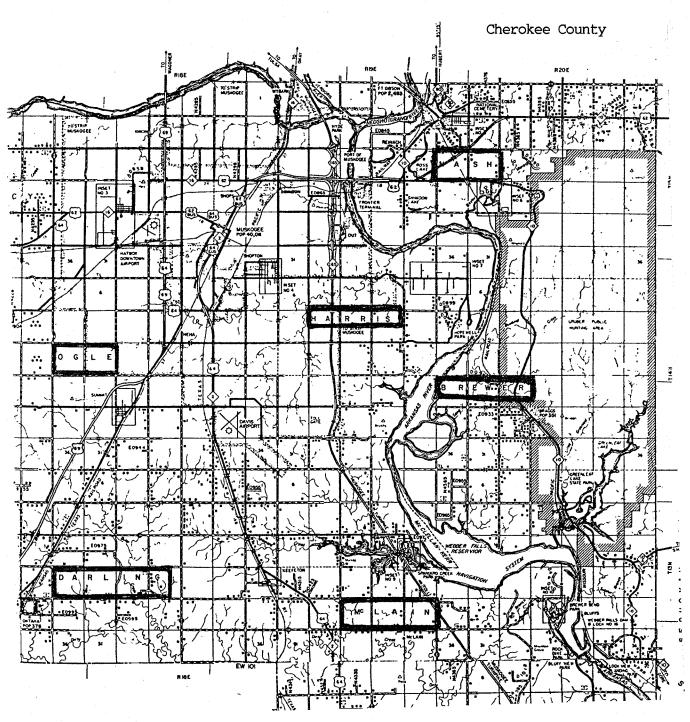
CRABTREE, Cheryl, 11709 Sundance Mtn. Rd., Oklahoma City, OK 73162-1520
Researching: CRABTREE, Otho, Granville, NC, 1850
WALLACE, John Thomas, b. Floyd Co., GA 1855
WILLIS, Hester Ann, d. 1826, Indiana
WHITE, William Rufus, b. Mine Creek, TN 1848

QUERY

Looking for information on these surnames in OK, MO, AR. Willing to exchange information. Eva Jo Bess, 10595 SW 71st St, Tigard, OR 97223

BESS. DAVIS. VANCE. LOGAN

Map Showing <u>Brewer</u>, Darling, Harris, Ogle & McClain Townships



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