

for his claim.

(Well.)

Now here's what he done. He had a bunch of negroes working, slaves. And there's one of them named Peter and they was splitting out rails, fencing that prairie for John Ridge. And old nigger Peter, they called him, that's all I've ever heard--nigger Peter, they named that prairie after him. After that old man.

(Well my goodness.)

JOHN RIDGE WAS KILLED - KILLERS UNKNOWN

And, when they was at John Ridges' field there they killed him there--when them Indians went in on him--a bunch of Indians working on it to kill him. Just right out there from the cemetery there's a bunch of trees, and I talked to this fellow one day up there--we was just visiting. He said you see that bunch of trees way out yonder, that's where John Ridge was biried and killed. See that place yonder--I didn't really go out, he just pointed out yonder place. And Billy Stevenson was an old timer there and he said that on the east side of the graveyard, where the graveyard is now, whole bunch of niggers is buried there.

(Well.)

I imagine it's John Ridges' slaves. Probably them Indians killed 'em that night. I know they killed John Ridge. Vann Williams got away.

(Yeah.)

Well them Indians thought it was a law that anybody could be protected by the law. The old law, you know, they used to do that way back yonder.

(Yes.)

They could protect themselves. That's what the Indians thought.

(Yeah I know that many of them believed that same thing and they have harbored an ill feeling over that--)