

he likes to tell some of the story of Zeke Proctor. On one occasion he relates that Zeke killed one of the Beck family. The 'fuzz' of that day charged Zeke with the killing and a trial was on the docket at the Goingsnake Courthouse. The Beck faction warned that if Zeke did not stand trial and be punished, they would kill him. On the day of the trial a large crowd was gathered at the Courthouse. Something went wrong, for before the trial got started groups sympathetic to both Proctors and Becks got into a gun fight. When the shooting stopped 13 men lay dead in the courthouse yard. Zeke was wounded, and it is said that his father and a brother were among those killed. Many stories surround the life and activities of Zeke Proctor, and that he was supposed to have killed 23 men in his lifetime. Rogers says some of the stories may or may not be true. He tells that from accounts told him by his older people that Zeke was hard to get acquainted with and stayed by himself much of the time. A most unusual man was Zeke as he had at different times lived on both sides of the law, and once as a marshall.

As we ride along Isaac tells that long ago, sometime before the Civil War, there was a place over west known as Jim Bean Salt Works. Jim Bean apparently did not have all the favor he needed among the Indians, for when the Cherokees returned from the Civil War they destroyed his plant. It is believed that the Salt Works was located at what is known as Oil Springs.

Our travel leads us past historic Baptist Mission. It is told that this church house was brought from Georgia and reassembled at its present location. It is also said that this was where many of the Indians made their first stop after arriving in Indian Territory following their forced removal in 1839, and the place was called Bread Town for a long time. The Rev. Jesse Bushyhead it is said was the person responsible for bringing the churchhouse to the new Cherokee Nation. Rev. Bushyhead lived out his time and was buried across the highway in the Baptist Mission Cemetery, perhaps one of the oldest burial places in the Indian Territory. The building has served as a school, a church, and at one time a newspaper was printed there. The building is still preserved and is used to-day as a church.

A mile or so to the northwest is the site of the old Henry Morris place. A very old two story house still stands which was the second home built by Morris. The first was a big log building. In its day, looking now at the old house, one can picture the beautiful, well kept home and grounds that once existed there. This prominent family of Indians also built the first Morris School a short distance to the west. In later years the school was rebuilt two or three times, the last being a stone and brick structure. But the school has been closed for many years and stands abandoned to time. At one time the Morris home was occupied by another Indian by name of William Musgrove, whose descendants are scattered all over north-east Oklahoma. Up on the side of the hill south of the old home is a little abandoned graveyard where William Musgrove's monument marks his grave.

Somewhere in that immediate area of Morris School once lived Robert Rogers. Adair historians relate that Robert Rogers was the father of Clem Rogers, and the grandfather of Will Rogers. In a little clump of scrub oaks about a quarter mile north of the schoolhouse in the middle of a small hay meadow are six graves. Robert Rogers was killed in 1843 and was buried there. His grave is identified but unmarked.