

FAMILY HISTORY

My mother was Eliza Adair Markham born near Ft. Gibson on a farm about three miles northeast of there. My father was Carter D. Markham. My mother saw her house burned down when she was nine or ten years old by Union soldiers. They had a piano and a cookstove (she said that they were the first to come in to this part of the country). The soldiers took an axe and broke the piano and cookstove to pieces and all they had left was a feather bed and mule team. They went on down toward Texas and lived after that. None of my folks came on the Trail of Tears. Father was born here in Indian Territory 1845. His father (my grandfather) was a Virginian and was sent out here to teach the Cherokee Indians how to make wagons. He was a wagon maker and gun maker. He always said the Cherokee didn't have trouble getting guns during the Civil War, but they did need help in making wagons. My father knew a lot about the guns. My grandfather, Leroy Markham married a full blood Cherokee woman by the name of West. She owned a salt mill on the east side of the Grand River--before you go in to Chouteau.

EDUCATION

I attended Northeastern Normal School, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, graduated in 1904. One of my teachers was Jack Brown--when I attended the Male Seminary in the grade school department. He also had a military drill team and was the captain of the Company. They had very snappy uniforms and drilled on the square in Tahlequah. One of my classmates was Sam Eubanks, he became distinguished for his art work. We (my twin brother and I) left the Seminary at Tahlequah, then called Northeastern Normal School, graduated from Junior College specializing in manual arts work. We had a distinguished teacher, Mr. Emil Kronquist who now lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He graduated from Denmark University. He was the head of the Manual Arts.