

He remembers when only travel by Indians was in covered wagon, horseback, or on foot. Some Indians did not even own a wagon. and the Indian who owned a saddle was considered well-to-do. Sometimes they would go as far as twenty miles to church in a wagon over rough roads or just trails thru the woods. They would camp at church for two or three days.

On Snake Creek Flats and on Rowe Prairie he says the timber is just the same now as it was then, just mostly scrub oak and blackjac.

He says that when he was small boy, Vinita, I. T., was the closest town of any size in this part of Cherokee Nation. He remembers when there was no town where Locust Grove is now. At one time he remembers that Rose, Okla. was a town, with five or six stores and several houses, but now nothing but post office and four or five houses.

He relates about early day Pryor, when a well was dug in middle of street, but ~~soon~~ artesian water came out and killed grass so the well was finally filled in and closed up.

Recalls old Indian convention grounds at Woodys, meetings at Johnson Prairie Indian Church and at Terisita.

In earlier days he recalls that cotton was grown around the area where he lives. In addition to cotton, the Indians also grew corn, oats and maize. Most early day Indian families each had a little tobacco patch. Sorghum cane was also an important crop as the Indians made their molasses each fall for winter use. Open range permitted cattle and hogs to graze and feed wherever they wanted. He tells of wild hogs running in the woods.

He tells about raising tobacco, and the work in tending and caring for it. He had special dislike for the worms that ate on the tobacco plants.

He reflects on how the country has changed in relation to land, people, and ways of living. He has traveled a little away from his home, but has kept up with news of other parts thru newspapers. He reads both Cherokee and English, and remembers when he used to receive the papers printed in Cherokee from Tahlequah.

Talks about other Indian tribes all having different language. He wishes all Indians spoke same language, but realizes from reading Bible that there is reason for different language among Indians. Also talks about Indians and their environments in different parts of the world, and how they have to adapt themselves to their part of the country.

He talks about times when Government fought the Indians, when he was supposed to be taking care of them. He don't understand about Gen. Custer or Gen. Arbuckle why they were bent on total elimination of Indian. They do funny, he thinks.

He believes the Indians still remembers the herbs, plants, and roots for food and medicines. He points to a plant outside the window which he says is good Indian medicine, but we could not identify, although it looked something like wild blackberry. He tells of an