

long, saved their money and moved up into the Indian Territory where they separated and made their homes.

He tells of two of his uncles who went west to work as drovers in Texas, Colorado, and the Panhandle Country. He remembers hearing them tell of a cattle stampede. One night a storm was brewing and the herd boss told them if the storm caught them they would have a stampede that night. The drovers were all out riding around the herd to try to keep them quiet. Along about two in the morning lightening began to flash and play along the steers horns. Then a big clap of thunder came, and the trail boss told them if another clap of thunder came the herd would take off. The second thunder did come and the steers snorted and took off. The boss had told them if the herd did stampeded for them to tie the reins and let the horse go. His uncle related that the horses seemed to know just what to do, and run right with the herd through the stormy night. Sometimes they would jump gullies and ditches that seemed to be 20 feet deep, but by some miracle they kept going. After going for a long time, the herd grew tired and the cowboys got them milling around in a circle and quited them down. When daylight came, they were eighteen miles from where they started.

On another time, his unele told of catching a ride on a freight train out of west Texas heading back home. They were sitting up on some cattle cars and a blizzard came up that night. They were getting cold and crawled down in the ventilator hole atop the cattle car. To keep from freezing they rode all night sitting on top of the cattle. The cattle were packed tightly in the cars and the heat from them kept them from freezing.

His aunt Corelda and her husband homesteaded on land in western Oklahoma in 1893, far out on the prairie country. They lived in a sod house for the first few years. When her husband was not off working as a carpenter he was at home plowing and raising corn. They planted corn with a sod gun. They were 40 miles from the nearest town, the nearest place they could get coal. The