

SCOTT, BOSE INTERVIEWS.

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Carl. R. Sherwood,
Field Worker,
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Story of George W. Scott
Given by
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615 Spaulding Boulevard

George W. Scott was one of the large land owners of the Creek Nation in the vicinity of Checotah, McIntosh County. He was born near Jefferson, Marian County, Texas, and is a son of James N. and Mattie Drew Scott. James N. Scott was known as Captain Scott. His wife was one-fourth Cherokee and was a daughter of William and Delilia McIntosh Drew. Captain Scott's father, John W. Scott, was a white man of Scotch-Irish parentage. He settled in what is now Scottsville, Texas. Captain Scott grew to manhood near Jefferson, Texas, and was educated in Kentucky.

He was married soon after leaving school and at the beginning of the war raised a Company for the Confederate service. He was elected Captain of his Company and was with the Colonel LeRoy Morgan Regiment of Cavalry. He served in Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana. He was in the Federal raid on Shreveport when they secured most of the cotton in the warehouses and the homes of the farmers.

At the close of the war, he returned to his family and engaged in farming and stock raising.

In 1872 when he moved to the Creek Nation, Captain Scott settled on land now owned by his son, George W. At that time there was no railroad or settlement at Checotah. The nearest dwelling was that of Mrs. Drew, which was about two miles north of Checotah. A few families lived from three to eight miles out. At Henry Springs were two small stores; and the country around where Checotah is today was known as the Elk Creek Settlement. At that time there were not the large herds of cattle roaming over the country as there were later. However, there were plenty of deer, turkey and prairie chickens.

Captain Scott erected a log house and weather boarded it with clapboards. He dug a well soon after locating here as it was summer and water was getting hot and scarce. This well was on the south from other states into Texas and was known as the old Texas Trail. Other settlers knew Mr. Scott's place as one where they could get good cold water in the summer time. For this reason Mr. Scott became one of the best known men in that part of the country. In the summer time the people traveled by night, as the days were so hot and the green-headed ~~steck~~ flies were troublesome to the

stock. This fly is not in this country today and the small stock flies which we have now were not in this country then. They came out of Texas when they commenced driving and shipping cattle into the Territory.

A few years later, Mr. Scott moved to the North Fork of the Canadian River which was called Wells Switch at that time. Today it is known as Cathy, and here he lived until his death.

As a white man he could hold no official position, but was a man of considerable influence with the people of the country who were citizens and with white settlers who were moving in.

George W. Scott received his education at Tahlequah and Asbury Mission at Eufaula.

At the age of twenty-three he commenced farming on his father's place which is one mile east of Checotah. Mr. Scott was among the early brakemen of the Missouri-Kansas and Texas Railroad Company and in the spring when cattle shipping started out of Texas he would often work 36 to 48 hours without rest or sleep. One of the first race tracks of Checotah was a three-quarter straight track in the pasture of Mr. Scott's. Among the race horse men of that time were Robert Gentry, Mr. Moore of Brush Hill, Herman Van of Starrville,

Cub McIntosh, Captain John C. West of Porum and Frank Vore of Webbers Falls.

In 1888 Mr. Scott married Cora, the youngest daughter of Dr. Barney Evans and to this union were born two sons, James G. and Frederick T.

Mrs. Scott died in Checotah in 1903.