

PROCTOR, HUELTHLA.

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Henry Day,
Field Worker,
July 29, 1937.

An Interview With Huethla Proctor,
Hanna, Oklahoma.

I am a full blood Creek Indian. I was born November 1871, and I will be sixty-six years old on my next birthday. I belong to Weegufkee Town. I was born five miles south of the present town of Dustin on the South Canadian River bottom. My father's name was Ho-pi-yoche Proctor. He died in 1921. He was a Confederate soldier and he was a full blood Creek Indian. My mother's name was Slunker. She died in 1928. She was of Creek descent; she also belonged to the Baptist Church.

I will now start my story:- This story is concerning winter in my boyhood days. In the winter time if it was not too cold we boys would go barefooted. In those days we boys did not know what it was to wear pants like the boys do today. Boys wore long shirts during the summer and winter until they were about the age of fifteen or sixteen. When these early settlers did wear shoes they were not at all like the shoes we wear today, but the clothing they did buy was all very cheap. For instance

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the work shirts cost only 40 cents each and work shoes cost only 80 cents or 90 cents a pair. Early in the morning during the winter the young boys would get up early and they would all get in a single file and march to the creek and break the ice to go in swimming. They would do this in the month of November. They all used to look good and healthy and would never catch a bad cold, but today it is all different. If a boy should go in swimming in November, he would be sick with the pneumonia.

In my young days, we used to have lots of hogs and a few cattle and plenty of all kinds of wild game.