Interview with Mrs. Charles Roff, a white woman, who came to Indian Territory as a bride, from Cook County, Texas, in 1884. 315

By - Lula Austin, Field Worker.

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Her husband took her to a little log house six miles from Roff, Oklahoma, where they lived for a year, later moving eight miles west of old Fort Arbuckle. While living at Roff, her husband was in the cattle business, and in June they always rounded up all the cattle in that section for the market. Each ranchman would send out his cowboys, all in different directions and at night the bunch would make some ranch to be fed and spend the night.

It was all new to Mrs. Roff, and late one evening, she was frightened to see a bunch of cowboys ride up, un-saddle their horses, and make themselves at home. She asked the old Negro man that Mr. Roff had left with her, what to do. He said: "Miss Lizzie, you have to feed them and put them up for the night." So they prepared the meal, and after eating, they sat around and told stories until late, then made their pallets on the hall floor or in the yard, and retired for the night.

Nigger Bob said: "Missey, we will have to get up real early as they will want breakfast before going." So, at four next morning we gave them breakfast. There were thirteen

of them and I was the only woman.

The nearest house was six miles away. I lived there from April until July without seeing a woman. Mr. Roff kept eight cowboys and old Negro Bob.

After roundup they would cut out the cattle for market and drive them to Caddo. It took them three days for the trip. The cattle were shipped to St. Louis.

Mr. Roff would go to Gainesville, Texas in a wagon for our supplies.

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