

Mrs. Allie Wall Lane, (Choctaw)
1219 Live Oak Street,
Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Jas. S. Buchanan, Investigator,
November 26, 1937.

I was born February 23, 1875, at Wallsburg, Choctaw Nation, a little town at that time situated three miles west of where the town of Jenson, Arkansas, now stands.

Wallsburg derived its name from my father as he owned much land surrounding its location. The town consisted of two stores and a small settlement and soon passed out of existence after the Frisco Railroad was built and the town of Jenson was started and the stores that were at Wallsburg moved to Jenson in the early 20's.

My father was Thomas Wall, of Choctaw and Scotch-Irish descent, and my mother was Elizabet. Riddle Wall, Choctaw and English. They were both born and reared in the Choctaw Nation. My parents settled on the place where I was born and reared their family there, and engaged in farming. Father also was deputy United States marshal for several years during my early childhood but I was too young to recollect anything of importance to relate with any degree of accuracy.

I was reared at the place of my birth and my

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early schooling was in the community Choctaw schools until I was fourteen years of age. I then attended the Indian Seminary for girls at New Hope, which was established and maintained by the Choctaw National Government. I attended that school four or one-half years.

Leaving the Seminary, I returned to my home where I lived until my marriage to John Lane, February 6, 1896.

Immediately after our marriage we moved to a farm in the Choctaw Nation five miles west of Hackett, Arkansas. We lived on that place three years, then moved to Stigler in 1900. Mr. Lane bought a farm one mile east of town, where we remained until 1920, when we leased the farm out and bought a home in Stigler due to the poor health of Mr. Lane, and our family consisting of five girls; we had no boys, to take over the responsibility of the farm.

Mr. Lane's death occurred in 1925 at Stigler.

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When I was a small child I remember my uncle, Jesse Riddle, constructed the first passable road across Backbone Mountain and operated a toll gate about two miles west of where the Frisco Railroad tunnel was later cut through the mountain in the early 80's. For many years this road was the only main traveled road going south from Ft. Smith. I remember seeing large herds of cattle being driven by our old home place over that road, sometimes as many as a thousand in one herd being brought from Texas on their way to market. Also large delegations of Indians would pass by on their way to Ft. Smith to trade and attend Federal court as all Federal cases in the Indian Territory were tried then in Ft. Smith before Judge Parker who was dreaded by all law violators. Many executions of outlaws took place at Ft. Smith in those days and they were looked upon as events of interest and many people would pass by our place going to Ft. Smith on such occasions.

The valley where our home was situated

between Backbone Mountain and Ft. Smith was teeming with an abundance of game when I was a girl. I remember seeing deer in the woods near our house and I have seen wild turkey by the drove in father's truck patch near the house and he would go out and shoot into the flock before they would fly away.