

DYER, LAURA.

INTERVIEW

13181

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BIOGRAPHY FORM
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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Field Worker's name Levina R. BeaversThis report made on (date) February 11, 19381. Name Mrs. Laura Dyer2. Post Office Address Broken Bow, Oklahoma3. Residence address (or location) Lukfata4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month February Day 9 Year 18755. Place of birth Lukfata6. Name of Father Henry Clay Place of birth LukfataOther information about father Stockman and farmer7. Name of Mother Welsey Clay Place of birth LukfataOther information about mother Housekeeper

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 1.

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Levina R. Beavers,
Investigator,
February 11, 1938.

An Interview with Mrs. Laura Dyer,
Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

The oldest mission in this part of what is now Oklahoma was instituted by the Reverend Cyrus Byington immediately upon the arrival of the Indians from Mississippi at Eagletown near the western boundary of Arkansas. From the best information to be obtained Reverend Byington was a mixed-breed who had been educated in the colleges of the Eastern States and was the head of a large family by that name, now scattered throughout the old Choctaw Nation. One of his descendants was a practicing lawyer before the Choctaw Courts of the Nation, and was said to be a shrewd and successful lawyer.

Soon after the establishment of the Stockbridge Mission at Eagletown by the Reverend Byington, the Reverend Alfred Wright began his missionary work at Wheelock.

In the early days of Reverend James Dyer's ministry, the locality of Eagletown was supplied with ministerial work by him even up to his death a few years ago.