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Alex Posey, Editor

NEWS ITEM OF THE SNAKES

When the commission to the Five Civilized Tribes opened the Creek land office at Muskogee in April 1899, there was a rush to file by those citizens of the nation possessing the least Indian blood. These people secured the cream of the Creek Indian land. Later the full-bloods began slowly to file upon their allotments, but in almost every instance they could find nothing to file upon but second and third grade land. The best lands lying along the streams and adjacent to thriving towns had all been taken up. After it appeared that all who would file had done so, there was a numerous remnant of the Creek tribe which had absolutely refused to accept the situation and accept their part of the common domain in severalty. They were arbitrarily filed by the Dawes commission upon lands

in the western part of the nation, lying for the most part twenty-five to fifty miles from their cabins and sofky patches. These people have made homes principally along the South and North Canadian river bottoms. The lands on which they live have been allotted in many instances to others. It is only a question of a very short time until these people will be evicted from their homes and be compelled to make new ones on their allotments to which they are strangers. This will work great hardships upon these people. There are several hundred families of these Indians thus situated and they are the real Indians which the United States Government has made so much talk and bother about protecting. These people are totally unfitted to face the conditions that now surround them in Oklahoma. Those of their friends among the more intelligent and well informed Indians think that their affairs should be taken in hand by a commission under the auspices of the United States government, which commission could realize in Mexico a new and better home for them in exchange for their allotments and share of the tribal funds of the Creek nation.