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CREEK HISTORY

A tragic romance of the early days of Creek history has just been brought to light from the old court records of the nation, dating back to the year of 1812. The notation is found in the records of the Creek supreme court in the trial of a case in 1873. The right of two plaintiffs to a claim of \$457 depended upon the proof of their ancestry and evidence was recorded showing that these two Indians were decendants of white girls who had been captured during the war of 1812 and afterwards were adopted by the tribe.

There were four of these little girls none of whom were over 12 years of age. They were brought to the Creek village by Sowana Harjo, a Creek warrior. How he captured them was never known. This secret the warrior kept to himself and it was buried in his grave when he died. The girls were never able to give a

lucid account of the capture, though it is a legend told to this day that the four were children of neighbors and played together. They had a play house on a small brook near the home of their parents. During the unsettled times of the war mentioned roving bands of Indians were all over eastern Alabama and Sowana suprised and captured the little tots, some of whom were not more than four years old. At last, Sowana returned from the east with his captives to the Creek villages then in Alabama, and one of the little girls still had her doll with her. The four were turned over to Konis Harjo, mother of Sowana and were made to cook and wash dishes for her and do all the other menial work about the tepee. When the white girls grew to womanhood they married fullblood Creek bucks and were formerly adopted by the tribe. Many children were born to these white girls and some of these half bloods came to be the most noted men of the tribe. It is interesting to note that about this time there was a good deal of white blood introduced among the Indians of Alabama and Georgia. In the records and now and then in tracing ancestry of Indians applying for enrollment genealogy leads straight as a die back to parentage from these four white girls who were made

captives and afterwards members of the tribe.