

Mr. Fields recalls that in the England home dining room, there was a large round table. In the center of the table was what is known to-day as a "Lazy Susan". So, this item of modern day usage is not as new as the advertizers claim.

Another prominent Cherokee woman of those early days was Annie Snail, who lived down toward the mouth of Honey Creek. She was another of the people devoted to the welfare of the Indians. In her late years she was affectionately known as Granny Snail and there is a cemetery named after her. Mr. Fields remembers that a very old Cherokee by name of Jack Grasshopper lived on the Snail farm in a little one-room log house, and Annie Snail looked out for him. Jess remembers him as one of the strongest Indians he ever saw. He wore long hair that he kept braided. He could pick up two of the biggest fireplace logs and carry them in the house, one under each arm.

Jess reflects on the way people lived in his early days. Fences were only for protection of fields. Livestock and poultry ran loose and seldom required care. Neighbors were friendly and always saw to each others needs.

Mr. Fields remembers when the Courthouse of the Delaware District was in existence and located in Courthouse Hollow about five miles southwest of the present town of Grove. It was at this courthouse of the Cherokee Nation days that brought Indians together to settle legal matters, conduct court trials, and be informed of Cherokee business matters. Many were the leaders, political figures, advisors, and others of importance. John Gibson is remembered by Mr. Fields as one of the political leaders and at one time was speaker of the representatives at the Delaware Court House. George Butler, Samuel Muskrat, Eli Snell, Dan Tauuneacie, and Simon Snail were some of the prominent Cherokees attending the meetings and court sessions at Courthouse Hollow in the days before statehood. Jess remembers the old courthouse as being a large two-story frame structure that stood on the hill just above the springs that fed the Courthouse Hollow creek. During meetings and at court sessions a little store was maintained and operated near the grounds. Sometimes there would be traders selling their wares from a covered wagon. The upper floor of the courthouse was used to provide rooms for the officials of the court and others who would stay a week at a time on occasion. The rooms in the rear of the building were for the kitchen and dining areas, and the quarters of the custodian.

He recalls many of the old time Indians who were prominent in the community when he was a young man. He remembers particularly John Silversmith, who lived just across Honey Creek from his folk's farm. John was a master blacksmith and served his friends and neighbors well with his talent. Charley Cheater was another of the old Indians who done much for his community. Charley lived up on Clearwater Creek and ran a sawmill to take care of the needs of the Cherokees of his area.

Peters Prairie, one of the many flatland areas scattered throughout the Indian Nation was a fine farming country long ago. Mr. Fields talks about this place and how it was named. When the Cherokees were moved from their eastern home to Indian Territory, John Ridge was among the thousands who came. John Ridge was prominent in the affairs of the Cherokees, and was one of the signers of the Removal Treaty. Most of the Ridge family settled in the northern part of the Delaware District. John's father, Cap Ridge made his home just west of what is now Maysville, Arkansas, but in the Indian Territory. John and Major Ridge made their home on what is now known as Peters Prairie. By most any measurement of the