

PERSONAL HISTORY

Mrs. King has spent all of her life in Rogers County. She was born and raised in the Tiawah community. It is of the Tiawah Hills that she knows and talks about. Her father was David N. Coker, one of the early Cherokee settlers in this part of the Cherokee Nation. Mr. Coker was a farmer and cattleman, and was a first cousin of Will Rogers. On the north slopes of the Tiawah Hills was the home of the Coker family, and here Bertha was born and spent her girlhood. Through their farm ran a little creek fed by the waters of Coker Springs.

GRUBB FAMILY CEMETERY

To the south of their farm was the home and lands of the Grubb family. The Grubbs were full blood Cherokees. They were hard working and industrious and provided well for themselves. Their home was at the foot of the wooded hill. As was more the custom in those early days, each family seemed to have their own little cemetery. The Grubb family had a little cemetery up on the side of Tiawah Mountain. It was a most unusual location, in that it was on a high ridge that ended abruptly where the valleys on either side joined. On the ridge there was only width enough for one row of graves. It has been some sixty years since the last burial there, but the outline of some 14 graves can be seen. Around each grave is a row of stones, and a few rough sandstones mark the graves. Initials are scratched on two stones, a date on another, and "John" on one, and "Walker" on another. Mrs. King knew this little cemetery well and identified ten of the fourteen graves.