

Mrs. Murphy has traveled among and lived with the Indians of the many tribes of northeast Oklahoma. She attends many of the Indian gatherings and meetings. On occasion she wears her native Indian dress of fine doe skin and beautifully decorated in beadwork. When she was having the dress made, the Indian dressmaker told her that it was the 100th dress she had made.

She tells that many of the old Indian customs are retained and practiced by the Indians of her part of the country. She tells that one of the most impressive ceremonies is that of a Quapaw burial. The sincerity and ritual in which it is conducted surpasses any Anglo service she has ever seen. Every part of the ceremony has a special meaning, even to observing that no food is left after the funeral feast.

Her interest in historical work is gathering material and artifacts for their County Historical Museum. She particularly hunts for old Indian records, pictures of Indians, and things made by Indians. She tells that she has found an ancient bow made by an Indian which is delicately carved with a snake head, bear claws, and other features in relief relating to the likes and fancy of an Indian.