

to Virginia. That's where her home was. But I couldn't go. It was hard. They used to have to sign for them. Even when they go off to school. I wanted to go to Chilocco but nobody didn't sign for me. I had no one to sign for me, so I didn't get to go. And then when this woman want to take me, no one would sign for me so I didn't get to go. I wouldn't have been around here if she had took me. And then there was a Pawnee woman. Her name was Miss Eagle Feather, I think. She wanted to adopt me and take me home. And they wouldn't let her. I don't know why.

(Did she work at the school?)

Yeah, she used to be the boy's matron. And she married a man by the name of Paul Whitebear. Paul Goodbear, I mean. That's who she was married to. And she used to make my clothes and everything, you know, in school. She would make my clothes, and I would sew on my clothes. When I was working she made me some dresses to wear. And then when that school was out she went and asked the superintendent--his name was Mr. White--she asked him if she could take me when I get through with my work. I was going to have my vacation in July. And she would come after me. And they wouldn't let her. They said, "She belongs over here. She don't need to go away." See? It was funny. They didn't want me to go. I would have been somewhere else. Maybe I wouldn't have been this pitiful.

(Where would she have taken you?)

To Pawnee, to her home. Her husband was going to work over there. He was going to be the adviser of the boys at the Pawnee School. And she wanted to take me over there and put me through school there. But it seemed like I was unlucky. Anybody that wanted to take me and take care of me, they just couldn't get me--they couldn't make it, you know. I don't know why. They wanted me around here. I been raised right around here at Cantonment.

(You said you finished the sixth grade?)

Yeah.