

without anything at all. And there was then about five different tribes. I guess that was Ottawas, Peorias, Seneca, and Wyandots, and Miamis. There was five tribes about that time. Well, I don't know what year that was, but I do know that he told about some terrible pitiful things was to see those people sitting up there just moved in there and didn't know a soul, and only subexistence they had was just what the government was putting out to them. I don't know how it really was. I did know but I was just spell bound listening to those stories about that.

(Would that have been around about the time of the Civil War?)

No, it was after the Civil War. Because my father, no, grandfather came to this country right after the Civil War. They were, instead of being driven to this country, they hid out, back in the mountains, 'course like a lot of those people, they stayed back there. My grandfather came to this country then, after the Civil War and they settled down around Stilwell, then moved on up to Cowskin Prairie

TRACES ROUTE HIS FAMILY TRAVELED FROM THE EAST

(Did your grandfather ever tell you anything about their way of traveling when they came from the eastern states when they moved over here?)

Well, when they moved to this country, they come to Chatanooga. And then they took the boat there, I guess, some place on the river. Then come to Ft. Smith. And then they moved all their, just the household furniture. But they didn't bring any stock. I don't know how they got to Ft. Smith on up to Stilwell. But one or another they got up there. Well, they had ox wagons. That was about the only thing they had to travel by. He was a man that took a lot of interest in the Cherokees up there while he never was in the council or anything like that. But he did do a lot of interpreting for the council. I don't know whether they what he had but by 18 - or close to 1870 that they moved on. He was only just the one other house besides their place on west end of Cowskin Prairie at that time.