

Biographical Sketch
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G. W. GRAYSON

A notable figure as well as a most unique personality passed from the life of Oklahoma with the death of Captain George Washington Grayson, at his home in Eufaula, on Thursday, December 2. Captain Grayson was born in 1843, of parents who were of mixed white and Muskogee Indian descent. He was carefully educated, having graduated from the Asbury manual Training School, near Eufaula, and was a student in Arkansas College, at Fayetteville, when the Civil War began. Although but eighteen years old, he enlisted as a private in Colonel Chilly McIntosh's Second Creek Regiment, in the Confederate Army, where he was soon promoted to the rank of captain and commanded a company during the greater part of his service, which ended with the war, in 1865. From that time onward, he took an active part in the affairs of the Creek people. He was secretary of the inter-tribal council at Okmulgee, which framed the proposed constitution for the Indian Territory, in 1870. He served as treasurer of the Creek Nation, held other

positions of honor and trust under the tribal government and frequently represented it in negotiations at Washington. He was a master of the Creek language and was often called upon to act as interpreter in conferences between Government officials and full-blood fellow-tribesmen who could not speak or understand English. He was chosen as principal chief of the Creek Nation in 1917. In his last years, he gave a great deal of attention to the history of the Creek, or Muskogee people, and he was engaged in writing a history of the tribe when he was stricken with his last illness.