

Being a railroad physician, I, of course, carried a pass over all their system and associated lines, so I decided to avail myself of this opportunity to visit the west, which even in 1902, when I came here, was, back home, considered wild and woolly and really dangerous. The trip was discussed pro and con, the merits of the plan, the possibility of profit, and the dangers of being scalped. So my folks were greatly relieved when they got my first letter and to know I was still alive and in comparative safety.

I first came to El Reno, Oklahoma. My trip was via Memphis and Dallas. I came over the L. & N. Railway through Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas. In crossing the Ohio River I saw the first practice or the first working of the Jim Crow law, as all negroes had to go to a coach set apart for them. In Indiana I had grown up under another custom and couldn't keep from noticing the absence of negroes in public conveyances with whites. Of course, I saw great numbers of Indians, and lots of the blanket type, especially around Lawton where I attended a large

gathering of Indians and witnessed their dances and other rites carried out. It was most interesting to me, and the letters of description I wrote back, were, of course, enjoyed by my people.

I practiced around over the state for thirty years, too many places I guess for my good. I was at El Reno and Medford. I practiced several years, probably my longest stay in one place, at Guthrie, but the town seemed to decline after the removal of the Capital to Oklahoma City. A lot of my practice was on horseback or in a buggy and I carried quite an assortment of medicine, as drug stores were far apart. Then I practiced at Ada and was at Shawnee one year; was at Ada about six years. I was connected with the State Industrial School at Tecumseh for a period of time.

To try to relate the many incidents connected with my practice and experiences would be too big an undertaking. Enough to say I have enjoyed it here, and have no regret for having cast my lot with the settlers of this great state.