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Name Mrs. Cornelia Hotema Pistokcha.

Sketch of "The Witch Killer."

From personal interviews with the daughter
of the subject. 702 East Jefferson St. Hugo,
Okla.

Hazel B. Greene. Field Worker. Hugo, Okla.

May 3. 1937.

Date of Birth. June 15, 1883

Place of birth, 1/2 mile NE Goodland school.
(on what is now the County farm.)

Father-Solomon Hotema.

Place of birth.- Choctaw Nation Mississippi.

Mother-Nancy Coleman.

Place of birth-Choctaw Nation Mississippi.

Buried at Goodland. Father-buried at

Atlanta, Georgia.

INDIAN-PIONEER HISTORY PROJECT S-149.
HAZEL B. GREENE. FIELD WORKER. HUGO. OKLAHOMA.
SOLOMON HOTEWA. "The Witch Killer."

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In an interview with Mrs. Cornelia Hotema Pistokcha, 50 years old, daughter of Solomon Hotema. She produced family records showing that Solomon E. Hotema was married to Miss Nancy Coleman, on April 15th, 1883, by the Reverend John P. Turnbull, who was a Presbyterian minister, and one of the leading exponents of education among the Choctaw people. He was well educated, in the Presbyterian ministry, and his descendant have become prominent in the affairs of the state."

Several children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hotema. One on February 15th, still born. Then the record showed another in December of the same year. Dec. 27th. Two children are now living. Cornelia Hotema Pistokcha of 702 East Jefferson St., Hugo, Okla. and Frank Hotema, who lives out near Goodland, Okla.

This old family Bible failed to show the birth-date of Hotema himself. However he died while a Federal prisoner in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1907.

Mrs. Pistokcha said that the Viney Coleman, whom her father killed, was her mother's brother's wife.

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Digging down into the old trunk that she kept her family Bible in, she brought out an apron that an old full blood Choctaw woman made for Mrs. Hotema fifty years ago. It is a master piece in needlecraft of white cambric, on the bottom hand knitted lace, four inches wide of the pine burr design. Above that is a four inch hem, topped with drawn work, and hemstitching. Above that is a band three inches wide, of grape vines, leaves and grapes. All done in red thread. The same design is on the two pockets and the ends of the strings. There is also 4 inches of the lace on the strings.

Mrs. Pistoksha said that her father went to school at Old Spencer Academy, in 1870, and was the only student there who could speak both English and Choctaw, and that he acted as interpreter the four years that he spent there. Then he went to Roanoke, Va. and studied law and for the ministry.

The old ledger, in which Hotema used to keep his accounts when he operated a store at Grant, Indian Territory, from 1888 to 1899, showed an account of things that he bought and sold. Some of the items bought were as follows:

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1 dozen brass lamps at 12-1/2 cents each.
 1 clock at -----\$4.75
 4 pairs red flannel drawers.-----\$4.00
 1 dozen quilts.-----\$6.00
 1 dozen pairs kid gloves.-----\$6.00
 Quinine-----per ounce-----\$1.50
 1 pair saddle bags.-----\$3.50

Some of the items charged were:

Gingham-----5 cents per yd.

Prints at 5 cents per yd.

Ostrich Plumes. 20 cts. each.

Another notation was where he had paid 16 & 2/3 ¢ per yd. for linsey. On another page it showed where he sold it for 19¢ per yd. Bought 36 pairs of "brogans" for \$36.00 20 lbs. of candle. \$2.10. On page 115 it shows that Robert Allison was charged on Dec. 31, 1899, with a marriage certificate, \$2.00; One box of shotgun shells, 50 cents; Borrowed cash, \$10.00.

(Robert Allison married Miss Elizabeth Roode, one of the first Mission teachers at the Goodland Orphanage,) and he is today an inmate of the Choctaw County Home. He was just a farm hand when he married Miss Roode.

On another page is shown where he paid Miss Minnie J. Turnbull, \$25.00, then a school teacher, for County scrip. She was a daughter of Reverend John P. Turnbull, and was afterward a Mrs. Hynson, and her daughter, Alice Hynson Wilson (Mrs. DeArthur Wilson), lives in Oklahoma City. Mr. Wilson is a "G"man in Oklahoma City. (That scrip was cashed in 1896)

Several pages show that he was administrator for the John Martin estate. One showed where he sold the belongings of John Martin's household plunder \$2.50. Sold 500 rails for \$10.00. 294 rails were bought for \$1.86. Then Sim Joe made 555 rails for \$5.55. Sold one burrow to Sim Joe, for \$6.00. Then appeared this entry after pages and pages of the business of settling the John Martin estate.

"I have, this day made out the report of the estate of John Martin, deceased, and forwarded the same to S. L. Oakes, at Atoka County Judge. This 29th day of May, 1899."

Signed S.E. Hotema.

An entry showed where groceries had been charged to Silas Bacon, founder of Goodland Orphanage.

Page after page of merchandise was charged to James Usary. Then this statement. "James Usary settled his account by selling to S. E. Hotema his interest in the store for \$500.00."

Dock Everidge had a page. He was the one-eyed fiddler.

Another item, was where he had loaned cash to the amount of \$42.50 to some doctor in Paris, later credit was given for the amount for "medical services for myself." signed, "S.E. Hotema." Other debtors were Morris Fisher, whose son, Willie, killed both his father and mother; Dr. Wm.D. Kendrick, doctor at Goodland; and Sam Willard, who was a parylytic, and went in a buggy all the time, and sat in a wheel chair at home, and was a nephew of Mrs. John Turnbull, and was distantly related to the famous Frances E. Willard.

Never, anywhere, did the \$ (Dollar Mark) appear in that Ledger. Nearly every one whose names appeared on those pages are dead now.

Cornelia Hotema Pistokcha has in her possession letters in the form of a diary, that were written by her father while he was a Federal prisoner under life sentence at Atlanta, Gorgia. She said that he recorded all of his dreams. What he would dream one night, he'd write down next day.

The enclosed picture was made of him while he was in Paris,