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HARPER, SHAWNEE. INTERVIEW.

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Henry Day  
Field Worker  
May 19, 1937

Interview with Shawnee  
Harper by Henry Day,  
Indian-Pioneer History,  
Field Worker.

Mr. Harper answered the questions as follows:

I was born March 16, 1870, eight miles south of Dustin, Oklahoma. I am of Creek descent, Roll #8413. This makes me 67 years old.

My father, Ematha Yahola, was born near Hanna, Oklahoma, on South Canadian River, date of birth unknown. He died in 1914, west of Hanna, Oklahoma. He was a Union Soldier. They named him Little Creek during the Civil War. He belonged to Company C, but don't know what regiment.

My mother's name was Patsy. Don't know her birth and do not remember the year she died. She was of Creek descent.

Houses and church houses were built out of logs, daubed with red clay, mixed with crab grass and with a stick chimney. The houses had dirt floors, no windows and roofs were made of

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clap-boards.

Most Creeks belonged to the Baptist Church. They taught school in the church houses. English was taught,

I attended school 4 years at Wetumka Mission, five miles east of Wetumka, Oklahoma.

All the Indians loved to hunt and fish. There was lots of wild games, and the streams were full of fish. Lots of nuts, berries and fruit grew wild; we had blackberries, strawberries, plums and grapes. There was plenty of wild honey. Some Indians can locate bee gum easy, while others can't. I know one Indian who can locate bee gum when 3 or 400 yards away.

Most of our cooking was done on the fireplace. These fireplaces burned from 3 to 4-foot logs.

I know many of the old burial grounds but don't know the names. No tombstones in those days. Don't know of any bridges.