


out there that night and wait until the next morning before taking him to jail.

When they arrived at Muskogee, the other officers asked where the third prisoner was and the United States Marshal said that he was not ready to release him, so they went out and spent the night with Mr. Roper's cousin.

There was never any further trouble between the Indians and the white people. One night the whites received news that the Indians were going to make an attack on them. The people all left their homes and hid out. Later they learned that the Indians had received news of an attack from the white people and had gathered to protect themselves.

A few years ago an ex-convict spoke on the streets of Ada and tried to make the people believe how badly the prisoners were treated. Mr. Roper happened to know him as they had served time together. He said he had opened the gate for this man hundreds of times and knew that he had been a very rough character, and had been put in the dungeon on bread and water.

Mr. Roper just mounted the platform and told the people that what they had heard was untrue, and



explained to the public just why the speaker had been treated so badly.

Mr. Roper said he was not ashamed or sorry that he had taken part in the burning of the boys, as they were twenty-two and twenty-three years old and knew they were doing wrong. He stated that if they had been white boys he would have helped mob them just the same.

Mr. Roper is now eighty-nine years old and in good health. The day I interviewed him he was fixing to leave for several points in Texas. He was to drive overland, accompanied by Mrs. Roper.