

## TRIBAL MARRIAGE.

412

An interview with Robert Severs, age 64, 4½ miles south of Okemah, Oklahoma, Greenleaf town (tulwa), Senice Robison, town chief (tulwa neeko)

Billie Byrd, Field Worker  
Indian-Pioneer History, S-149  
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There was a certain tribal town (tulwa) not certain which town that followed certain rites for the proposal for marriage, the acceptance, and the tribal marriage itself completed. This was in the Muskogee-Creek Nation.

A man desiring a woman for a wife would go on a visit to the home of the woman in mind. There would be no word between the man or woman.

While at the home of the woman, the man would throw his hat or coat on the floor, or at night he would throw some part of his clothing on the floor anywhere. If the woman picked up these articles and took them up, it was a sure sign that the proposal had been accepted and acknowledged. But, if these articles were not picked up by the woman, the proposal had been rejected.

If the acts of the woman seemed encouraging and the proposal as good as accepted, the man would go out on a hunt. He brought whatever he had killed to the woman be it a deer, squirrels, or wild turkey.

After this, the man and woman would go to take part in the tribal dances. Whenever the accepted man led a

dance, the woman would dance behind him with turtle shells tied to her ankles. Thus the marriage was taken as being completed and the man and woman became husband and wife.