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Brown, John F.
Law enforcement--Seminole

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March 24, 1937.

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A. P. Shaw
His Residence with Chief John F. Brown and Life
Among the Seminoles

A. P. Shaw was born November 5, 1860 at Bates, Missouri, and came to Wewoka, Indian Territory, September 7, 1894. He hired to Governor John F. Brown, then Governor of the Seminole Nation, to work one month and, if he gave satisfaction, he was promised a job as a mechanic over the saws and all machinery of Governor Brown's mills. He worked for Governor Brown eleven years. One mill was located at Wewoka and one at Sasakwa. On his first trip to Sasakwa, Mr. Shaw stayed at a rooming house, but after that he always stayed at the Governor's house. Every evening after the work was finished, the Governor would call all of his work hands into his living room with his family and have family prayer. Governor Brown was a great leader for his country and his fellow man; he was everything for the betterment of his country, schools, church and the government. When the five governors from the Five Civilized Tribes made trips to Washington, Governor Brown would always be appointed to be chairman of all business transactions in Washington. Governor Brown was president of the Wewoka trading post; A. J. Brown, a

brother, was Treasurer and C. S. Long was Secretary.

Captain Larney was Captain of the Light Horsemen, which were about twelve in all. Court was held at the old Council House, and prisoners were punished by the lash law, their feet being tied together with a long pole between the feet. A Light Horseman would sit on each end of the pole. The prisoner's hands were tied together with a long rope thrown over a high limb of a tree and the two Light Horsemen would then pull the prisoner until his body was stretched to full length when he would be given his lashes on a bare-back. After he was whipped, he would put on his shirt with back bleeding and go on his way, with nothing being done for his wounds.

Mr. Shaw was present when the last prisoner was shot at Newoka. He asked Governor Brown if he might witness it and was given his consent. When the time came for the execution the prisoner came forward. He was blindfolded, sat on a large rock with a white piece of paper cut in the shape of a heart over his heart for the men to take aim at. The the signal was given; 2 shots were fired, and he fell over. A little girl 12 years old took his picture just as the prisoner fell.