

SHELTON, MARY E.

INTERVIEW

10544

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NICHOLS CENTER
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Indian-Islander History Project for Oklahoma

CHICKASAW, MISSISSIPPI INTERVIEW 10574

Name of informant Julius B. Bland

Date of interview (date) April 28, 1938

Name of informant Mary E. Bland

Home Address Alton, Oklahoma

Residence address (or location) 410 N. Spurgeon St.

Date of birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Place of birth Tennessee

Name of father Mr. J. Bland Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about father _____

Name of mother Nancy Bland Place of birth Tennessee

Other information about mother _____

Note: This is a narrative by the informant dealing with the life of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for details and subject. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to form. Number of sheets attached 8.

BILLIE H. LEWY L. I. VI 10564

Zaizee B. Bland,
Journalist,
April 22, 1948.

An Interview with Mrs. Mary J. Shelton,
101 S. Sperry St., Altus, Oklahoma.

James M. Shelton was born November 10, 1862, in Tennessee, son of William J. Shelton and Mary Ellen Shelton, both natives of Tennessee.

Mr. Shelton was the second of five boys born to his father in Jack County, Tennessee. He was the only one to remain in the home for a long time. He was educated in the common schools and attended only one year of college. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was a member of the Altus Board of Christian Education. He was a member of the Altus Board of Christian Education. He was a member of the Altus Board of Christian Education.

One quarter of the Shelton family still remains in the West, although they have lived in Oklahoma nearly forty years.

For several years before the war he spent his time in the army. He fell ill at the birth of their first baby both baby and mother died. He was terribly discouraged but did not give up. He sent to Texas for his sister and her husband to come up and he would help them to get a start.

BALLET, MARY M.

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He watched his neighbors get these things and sell
 at improvements for a substantial leave, he often gave of
 his paper store to help them get it if the country at
 some times of leaving he was as a very good man
 and it out. People learned to be very good
 social advice, and just to be friendly with a
 as a sure the best about to obtain before
 and he and his possessions.

Society.

There was no...
 were...
 cowboys...
 waiting for the later to...
 when several...
 birth... that...

Wild Life.

There were a few...
 were also badgers, prairie dogs and...
 prairie chickens and quail were the...
 were... there were owl and hawks, but only a very
 few... birds were present. But after a few years when the

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settlers got fruit trees out of the brush and sciss re-
tails case, as well as some other articles.

Once when Mr. Shelton and some other men were over
in the territory getting a cloud cake up and as they
were already loaded up they went on to the river
across the river to get it raised. They did not want to
stay all night but were in a little draw, no better
than out of the way of marshals and Indians. Down in
this draw they found plenty of very good deer all the time,
although there were none of them left. One of the men
killed a snake and had to hide from the Indians. One of the
men was running an antelope. Every time the antelope
they still make for the highest point and run like hell,
so these Indians were on the other side of the ridge. The
antelope was on the ridge, I think the antelope was
killed.

The men got hooked up and started, well on the way
and Mr. Shelton about that, I think. One of the boys had
an old black dog along which kept baying rattlesnakes every
little way.

Some of the boys wanted to stay and kill a lot of
rattlers but Mr. Shelton said, 'No, no, boys, lets get back

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... talkin' ... he was surely very afraid ... As ... the ... away by sayin' ...

... At the ...

Mr. ...

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Mr. Shelton told Mr. McCarty, the well owner,
 to have his rig over and get the well down to a depth
 of fourteen feet that it is to fill with
 water and Mr. Shelton said ^{an} it is clear and
 light water but very salty. The water is
 not good for drinking and it is not good
 for the horses to drink. A salt water
 horse likes this water so well that it
 would ever prefer it to Mr. Shelton's
 land, but his horses do not like it as the
 other horses did.