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PRESSLEY, CHARLOTTE. INTERVIEW

Charlotte Pressley Nee Greece
1114 E. Morgan St.
Tahlequah, Okla.

Frank J. Still 26
Research worker

Born near Briggs, Okla., March 2, 1873. Father's name Ned Greece, born 1839. Mother's names Betsy Candy Greece, birth not known. She was a daughter of Tom Candy --grandfather. Tom Candy a white man--grandmother Susan Graves Candy. She was an old settler. Sam Candy was mother's brother.

I have my father's discharge given at Ft. Gibson, Creek Nation on the 31st day of May 1865, signed by W. A. Phillips. Co. G., Third regiment Indian Home Guards, also signed by Capt. Nathaniel Fish. Capt. Co. C., 3d. regiment Indian Home guards. Mrs. Pressley has a discharge of Arch Scrapper Co. D, 2nd. regiment, Indian Home guards, Volunteer, Sept. 2, 1862, signed by Mr Barker, Ass't. Adj. General.

She has a Cherokee law book dated Sept. 6, 1839. She has a letter written to her father, Ned Greece by John Springston in Oct. 23, 1894. It is written in Cherokee in large red letters. Starts off: Ned Greece, My Friend:

Marriage custom: When father and mother got married. He just went to her home and asked her if she would marry him. She said all right. So he just stayed there. That was their custom. During the war my mother and grandmother lived together and kept house. The soldiers would steal her cows and if a stray cow came along with a calf. Mother would put it up and milk it until they would steal them. They stole her horses and left their old broken down horse. She put them up and used them until they too would be stolen.

My mother went to Ft. Gibson to trade. She made some kind of nice cheese, she took three cakes and sold it for \$6.00 to buy medicine for Grandmother.

My father lost two children with some kind of throat trouble. Dr. I. D. Lasier waited on them. When the third one got sick father went to a fullblood Indian doctor. He said you must not believe in me as you have lost two children. He told father to go home and kill the first thing he saw and to let it lie there and bring a fresh bucket of water from the spring. The first thing father saw was an old rooster. He killed it and let it lie. Pretty soon the Indian came. He had mended his moccasins-- that quick.

My mother had little people. They belonged to the redhead clan. I have seen her several times. I saw her in the fence corner one day. My sister, Martha, was lost for these days. She could not talk when she left and when she came back she could talk, she was 18 months old.

I went to school at the public school. Mary Jones was my teacher. I started to the Female Seminary. Spencer Stephens was superintendent. Mother did Mr. Stephens washing for my board. I studied music under Prince Dalgoruki. My first school to teach was called the Green School in Going-Snake district and Starrs Chapel in Going Snake district. I taught the Grand river school near French's ferry. I then worked for J. W. Stapler and Son for seven years without a vacation. I am now supervisor over the W.P.A. Sewing room at Tahlequah, Oklahoma.