

#6427

410

THOMAS FRED MCINTOSH
 Checotah, Oklahoma.
 Interview - June 22, 1937
 Jas. S. Buchanan, Field Worker.

I (Thomas Fred McIntosh) was born November 2, 1867 at Fishertown, Creek Nation. My father was William McIntosh, Creek, the second son of Chilly McIntosh. His mother was a Miss Porter, a white woman, whose parents emigrated in the early days from Pennsylvania to Alabama.

January 8, 1848 William F. McIntosh was married to Eliza Iland by whom he had six children. His wife, Eliza, died in 1862. He afterwards married Bettie Bertholf who was part Cherokee, by whom he had three children including myself. My mother died in 1875. My father's third marriage was in 1881 to Mrs. Grayson, the widow of Thomas Grayson. By her he had one daughter, Lena.

He served in the union army during the Civil War as commander of a Creek regiment and when he was mustered out at the close of the war he devoted himself to the preaching of the gospel and

(2)

THOMAS FRED MCINTOSH

reorganization of the churches in the district which were in a demoralized state from the result of the war.

When the new Creek constitution was adopted William F. McIntosh was appointed District Judge of the north Fork District which office he held for several years until he was suspended in consequence of reports that were later proved false.

Chief Samuel Checote reinstated him but he refused to accept the office on reinstatement.

In 1881 he was elected prosecuting attorney, but owing to his religious scruples he would not accept that office. In 1887 he was elected a member of the House of warriors (Lower House or legislative body of the Creek government) which office he held until 1891. He was a very devout christian and served more than forty years as a preacher in the Baptist church which he greatly

(3)

THOMAS FRED MCINTOSH

advanced in the early days of the Territory.

I was reared in the vicinity of my birth place and my education was in the Creek public schools. In 1891 I was married to Kate Casey, a daughter of John Casey, Irish, and Julia McIntosh Casey, Creek. Eight children were born to this union, seven of which are now living as follows;

John L., born August 11, 1893.

Julia, born February 8, 1895.

Betty, born March 15, 1897.

Jewell, born September 23, 1898.

Roy, born March 5, 1900.

Edith, born March 12, 1902.

Vivian, born September 6, 1904.

Hellie, born September 23, 1906.

At the time of this writing I am living on the old home place that I staked out as a claim and began improving in 1886 and which was my

(4)

THOMAS FRED MCINTOSH

allotment when the Creek allotments were made.

My father, William F. McIntosh built and operated the old toll bridge on Elk Creek which was located one and one half mile north of Honey Springs on the old Kansas-Texas trail. This bridge was operated as a toll bridge for a number of years and was discontinued about 1889. The old trail crossed Spring Creek at Honey Springs which was a noted camping ground and watering place in the early days.