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Chauncey O. Moore, Supervisor
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Frank J. Still
Field Worker.

January 27th, 1937

Interview: Ada Stratton, Tahlequah, Okla.

MEDICINE MAN AND EARLY TRADITIONS

"I was born December 14th, 1867 at Nowata, Oklahoma. My father was Dan Hubbard. My mother was Mernerva Johnson. My grandmother, Matilda Parris, came over the trail of tears, 1838-1839.

"Some had ox teams and some horses. My grandmother said the white people would laugh at them as they passed along the roads. If any one died on the way, they just stopped long enough to bury them by the road.

"They travelled until the teams gave out and then they would camp for the night.

"They pounded up corn on a mortar to make meal. They dug up dirt from the smoke house to get salt. They boiled it and used it to season with.

"They parched corn brown, then made coffee from it. I have heard my uncle, Coon Parris, say that they drank water out of streams with dead cattle in them.

"When I was a small girl I had some bad sores in my mouth. There was an old lady named "Rattling Gourd" lived near where Moody is now. My uncle took me up there so she could doctor me. She first took three beads, 1 red, 1 white and 1 blue. She threw them one at a time in a branch of water. They swam right back to her, then she said she could cure me.

"She took water in her mouth and squirted it in my mouth. She did this for 9 mornings. On the third morning, I fell like I was dead. She ordered all to be quiet and she blew her breath on me and I got all right and was soon well."