

McPHERSON, J. M.

INTERVIEW

#4152

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Ruth Lee Gamblin, Interviewer
Indian-Pioneer History
May 19, 1937

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Pioneers of Tillman County.
Interview with J. M. McPherson
one and one-half miles south of
Frederick, Oklahoma.

We were married in Johnston County, Texas,
September 1, 1872. On November 1, 1900, we bundled
all our possessions into a wagon and started for
Oklahoma Territory, where I bought a claim in the
Hackberry Flat community.

This claim was all virgin prairie and I was
one of the first to break sod in that community. I
brought my stock with me, together with household
furniture and supplies. We were eight days making
the trip to Oklahoma.

Our house was a two room house. We had a
dug well, and the water was very good. We raised
good vegetables, also chickens and turkeys and hogs.

I bought my first plow, which was a sulkey
plow, from Mr. Bill Kelley. The only town around at
that time was Davidson; however, there was a country
store close owned by Mr. Esenhiser.

I sold this place in 1906 and bought a farm
in Collingsworth County, Texas, but my family never
moved on it; instead they moved to Frederick where
we educated our children.

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We go about doing the usual manner of chores that are required of the average farmer. My wife who is eighty-two prepares our meals and does the house-work just as she has done all the sixty-five years we have been married.

We have nine children. I farm 30 acres of land and do practically all my work myself.

I was born near Jasper, Newton county, Arkansas, February 16, 1851; and my wife was born in Parker County, Texas, March 25, 1854.

We have pioneered in two states, Texas and Oklahoma, and have had some peculiar experiences. We have been members of the Baptist Church fifty years. I have only had a doctor for myself four times in my life.