

### **Notice of Copyright**

Published and unpublished materials may be protected by Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code). Any copies of published and unpublished materials provided by the Western History Collections are for research, scholarship, and study purposes only.

Use of certain published materials and manuscripts is restricted by law, by reason of their origin, or by donor agreement. For the protection of its holdings, the Western History Collections also reserves the right to restrict the use of unprocessed materials, or books and documents of exceptional value and fragility. Use of any material is subject to the approval of the Curator.

### **Citing Resources from the Western History Collections**

For citations in published or unpublished papers, this repository should be listed as the Western History Collections, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.

An example of a proper citation:

Oklahoma Federation of Labor Collection, M452, Box 5, Folder 2. Western History Collections, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.

BRADY, RACHEL DAVIS

INTERVIEW

#5945

269

BRADY, RACHEL DAVIS

INTERVIEW.

Form A-(S-149)

BIOGRAPHY FORM  
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

270

Field Worker's name Mary D. Dorward

This report made on (date) May 21 and 24 1937

1. Name Rachel Davis Brady (Mrs. W. Tate)

2. Post Office Address Tulsa, Oklahoma

3. residence address (or location) 620 North Denver

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year 1875

5. Place of birth Kensington, Georgia

6. Name of Father John Davis Place of birth Georgia

Other information about father emigrated to Oklahoma about 1893

7. Name of Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Place of birth Georgia

Other information about mother \_\_\_\_\_

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached 3

Mary D. Dorward, Field Worker  
Indian-Pioneer History S-149  
May 24, 1938

271

## RACHEL DAVIS BRADY

From a personal interview with the subject  
(620 North Denver Ave., Tulsa, Okla.)

Rachel Davis Brady, wife of the late W. Tate Brady, was born in 1875, in Kensington, Georgia, about six miles from Chickamauga where she was reared, completing her education at Ashville Female College, Ashville, North Carolina. She is of part Cherokee descent. Her father, John Davis, was the son of Martin Davis, who was, as Mrs. Brady recalls, on a committee which had something to do with the removal of the Cherokee Nation from Georgia to Indian Territory. However, his family did not accompany him to the Territory, nor did he remain in the west, but returned instead to his family and home in Georgia. Mrs. Brady recalls as a child reading a diary which her grandfather kept on this trip. This diary unfortunately seems to have been lost but in it he told how at night the travelers entertained themselves by card-playing and dancing, amusements of which he, an ardent Methodist, strongly disapproved.

Mrs. Brady's parents made a trip to Indian Territory before her birth but they did not remain permanently at

that time. They returned to Georgia within about a year. They crossed the Grand River by ferry, probably near where Vinita now is. There were two wagons to be ferried across. Mr. Davis took one across, leaving Mrs. Davis and her small child with the other. While waiting for his return Mrs. Davis was almost attacked by a panther. Its approach was first perceived by the horse which, hitched to the wagon, began most unaccountably to jump nervously from side to side. Soon the panther began screaming. Mrs. Davis, knowing instantly what it was and feeling that she had rather die by drowning than be torn to pieces by the panther, gathered up her child and a chair and hurried to the ferry landing where she awaited the return of her husband, ready to leap into the water should the panther approach any closer. The arrival of her husband made that unnecessary.

About 1893, the Davises returned to Indian Territory to make their home, settling near Claremore where two years later Mrs. Brady was married. After a year in Muskegee the Bradys came to Tulsa to make their home, Mr. Brady having a store in Tulsa. At that time Tulsa was a trading post for the Osages and Mrs. Brady recalls seeing them,

the Osages, drive in to Mr. Brady's store with great wagon-loads of pecans which they would exchange for whatever purchases they wished to make.

A trip from Tulsa to Claremore on the Frisco in those days was almost a day's journey. Passengers would leave Tulsa at four in the morning and not arrive in Claremore until afternoon. They had to ride in the caboose of a freight train, none too pleasant a place for such a ride, crawling as it was with vermin. A trip to Muskogee from Tulsa meant at least two days. This had to be made overland, the Arkansas River being forded at a point somewhere in the vicinity of the Eleventh Street or Twenty-first Street bridges in Tulsa.

Mrs. Brady has a chest full of early day newspapers, including copies of the Indian Republic, Tulsa Democrat, and copies of the Confederate veterans' magazine.