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BURK, L. A. INTERVIEW.

#5211

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Scullyville

Early Schools

Mrs. Green LeFlore

Carl R. Sherwood,
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An Interview With L.A. Burk
551 South Main Street,
Muskogee, Okla.

Scullyville.

A pioneer town no longer in existence.

Scullyville had been rather a noted Indian town for many years, as here many of the Choctaw Indians first settled after the removal from their Mississippi homes. Among the prominent families living there were Robert Ward, Peter Ainsworth, Thomas Ainsworth, and Doctor William R. Foyil, for many years its Postmaster.

The word Scully, is money in the Choctaw language. This town was built and practically owned by Tom Ainsworth. One of the first Indian schools for girls was located here. In later years it was moved to Tuskahoma which is now the Tuskahoma Female Institute.

The farming land is of rich sand hills which produces the finest fruits and vegetables for a radius of twenty miles. This town was known by the commercial traveling men as their stop-over, which was half way between Cowlington and Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Mrs. Green LeFlore, a Choctaw citizen, operated one of the finest boarding houses in the Choctaw Nation. She was well educated and an excellent cook. The house was a two-story log house of eight rooms with a large hall through

the center. The dining table was full of fresh fruits, canned fruits and vegetables at all times, which came from her own orchard and garden.

The traveling public who were regular patrons of Mrs. LeFlore's boarding house could not understand how she could serve fresh pork chops, steaks, roast, and fresh side meat in the hot summer months without ice. This is her answer to the ice question. The Indians and old settlers have always had fresh meat in the summer by using a fifty gallon oak barrel which was filled with fresh pork and covered with a salt brine that was strong enough to float an Irish potato. Besides this she had fat calves and chickens at all times. The foods she could not raise were purchased in Fort Smith, Arkansas, which is a distance of sixteen miles.

Immediately following the building of the Kansas City-Pittsburg-and Gulf Railroad through this section of the country, the inhabitants of this town moved to the railroad a distance of two miles and built the town of Spiro. The farmers of this district are now producing about two thousand five hundred dollars per day through the potato season. Cotton production is now one of their staple crops.