

GRAYSON, MARY.

SECOND INTERVIEW

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Jefferson Berryhill,
Interviewer,
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Interview with
Mrs. Mary Grayson,
Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

The Creek Indians had much trouble with the wild Indians; the wild Indians were Osages; the Osages would come from their own home land; they would come here to steal horses - seems the Osages liked the horses more than anything. Some of these Osages were chased many miles; when caught they were all killed.

The Indians would chase an Osage who had stolen a horse; they would catch him and kill him and on returning they would say, "He got away from us."

Mrs. Grayson said they knew what had happened when they'd say that.

The Osages were experts at stealing horses. They would come up, crawling on their knees or rolling up to where the horse was tied, untying the rope from the stake or tree, would lead the horse away by crawling on their hands and knees.

Old timers used to say they saw horses that had been tied up, straying away; they would wonder how the horse

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had loosened itself; and going up to the horse would find an Osage crawling like a snake; These Osages were shot where they were caught.

Once an Osage stole a horse by untying it from a stake; he tied the rope around his stomach and was just getting away with the horse, when all of a sudden the wind being very high that day, blew his blanket up in front of the horse he had stolen. It scared the horse so that it stampeded.

When the Creek Indians heard the horse running away and caught up with the horse, they found a dead Osage still tied to the horse.

It was said that the Osage Tribe knew how to make medicine or witchcraft. Many times the Osages stole horses by using witchcraft in putting the horse owners to sleep.

A TRADING POST.

Many years ago there was a trading post located three miles north, half mile west and about a quarter mile north of Okmulgee. The trading post was operated by a white man named Charley Shields and it was known

as Shieldville, and that was the only store.

THE BURIED TREASURE OF WATT GRAYSON.

Mr. Watt Grayson was a full-blood Creek Indian; he was a very wealthy man. Being an old man and about to die, he called on his wife's brother, his brother-in-law by the name of David C. Carr or "Buck", to take the money away from his place because he knew some people were after his money; so his brother-in-law, David C. Carr, took the money, loaded it into a wagon and brought it from south-east of Eufaula to about seven miles west of Okmulgee.

After David Carr took the money away Mr. Grayson called his wife to him; he showed her a five gallon jar of gold, telling her when he died, for her to use the money.

It is said after he died she died just a short time after. The money is still buried there.

When David Carr brought the money to west of Okmulgee, on his land, he buried the money some where around his place; that done, he had many people who threaten to kill him if he did ^{not} tell where he had buried the money.

David Carr never told; his son killed a white man. He was put in jail.

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David Carr got two lawyers for his son. He was told that if he could get seventeen thousand dollars, his son would be free so he could escape to Mexico, so one day David Carr took a sack and went to his buried treasure.

He counted out seventeen thousand dollars in silver dollars; he brought home late in the afternoon; his wife asked him if he was going to take the money to the bank; he told her he was going to bury the money till he saw the lawyers; he told his wife to go in the house, lock the door, to shoot any one who tried to get in the door; after giving instructions, David Carr took the money to a place a short distance from his home, where he buried the money and came home.

It is said that he died afterwards. After he died no one knew where he had hid the money. A group of old medicine men made medicine for his spirit to appear and tell where he had buried the treasure. It was told by the medicine men that when his spirit appear he was very angry; he got after them for disturbing him; say he would not tell them where he had hid the money; he told them that they were not worthy to find the money.

That ended the hunt on the part for the Indians who

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hunted it.

Yet many people including white people still hunt for the buried treasure, but no one has any luck in finding the buried treasure of Watt Grayson.
