

HAMBLETON, S. A.

INTERVIEW

#4827

368

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

369
#4827

HAMBLETON, S. A. INTERVIEW.

Field Worker's name Thad Smith Jr,

This report made on (date) July 16, 1937

1. Name S. A. Hambleton

2. Post Office Address Chickasha

3. Residence address (or location) 316 Colorado Avenue.

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month September Day 28 Year 1852

5. Place of birth Missouri

6. Name of Father W. H. Hambleton Place of birth Not known

Other information about father Buried in Missouri

7. Name of Mother Matilda Campbell Place of birth Not known.

Other information about mother Buried in Missouri

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 _____.

An Interview with S. A. Hambleton, Chickasha, Oklahoma.
By - Thad Smith, Jr., Field Worker.
July 16, 1937.

In the spring of 1884 my wife, two children and I drove into the Northeast corner of the Indian Territory coming from Missouri.

We had our beds, our cooking utensils and a supply of groceries in our wagon and made our camp any place that night overtook us.

We got our drinking water from springs and clear streams.

We traveled a dim wagon road that ran southwest.

We had a small girl who was sick and when we got near Eufaula the child became so sick that we stopped traveling, and a kind settler took us into his home, where we could better care for the baby.

I went to Eufaula and got a doctor named Stovall to come and treat the child. The seventeenth day after we stopped traveling, the child passed away.

I went to Eufaula and got a coffin, made of walnut.

The graveyard was about six miles south of Eufaula,

across a river. The river was up and we couldn't ford it so we carried the coffin by hand across the railroad bridge to the graveyard. The procession followed afoot.

A Cherokee Indian Methodist preacher preached the funeral sermon.

The people were very kind to us during our sadness.

After I had fenced the grave with walnut posts and walnut planks, we resumed our journey, taking a southwest course.

We met a good many families traveling in covered wagons, coming from Texas and going to Missouri.

We crossed one bridge over a high bank, Dry Creek, where we paid a toll of 25¢ to an Indian woman.

We saw lots of Indians on our trip but none of them attempted to bother us. Most of the Indians were on horseback and traveled in single file.

We were about six weeks crossing the Indian Territory and on the nineteenth of June we crossed Red River on a ferry boat just north of Denison, Texas.

The charge for crossing was 50¢.

About the last of December 1902, I came back to the Indian Territory and settled near Temple, on the Comanche Reservation. My intention was to get a farm when the "big pasture" was sold. I scouted around over the reservation and got the land numbers off several quarters, so that I would know what to bid on and how much to bid.

When the auction was called I bid on twenty odd quarters of land, but did not buy any of them. The quarters I wanted most, I bid \$2,000.00 on, but others bid higher.

I leased some land and raised some cotton and corn. The cotton made a half bale to the acre and I sold it for .08 cents per pound. The corn made about forty bushels to the acre and was worth about .25¢ per bushel.

Some of my neighbors raised forty bushels of wheat to the acre and sold it for .50 cents per bushel.

I believe it was in 1904 that the Comanche In-

dians had a three day picnic at Temple. There were hundreds of Indians there.

There had been several head of steers barbecued and there was plenty for all including the white people who were present to see the Indians dance.

Geronimo, one of the Comanche Chiefs, was there. He had ninety-nine scalps.
