

ROSS, ELIZABETH

SALT MAKING.

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INDEX CARD

Salt Works--Cherokee

Elizabeth Ross,  
No. 4201-5490  
S-149  
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"SALT MAKING".

Common salt was an exceedingly scarce commodity during and for sometime after the close of the Civil War. When small quantities were found the price was very high, only a small quantity costing twenty-five cents, and often the person needing the salt had no money at all. The situation became so serious that a number of men who had returned to their homes upon conclusion of the conflict, decided to set forth upon a salt making expedition. Procuring a wagon and team the salt seekers traveled down in the hills and forests along the Illinois river and at length reached one of the abandoned salt springs, once the scene of activity, and utilizing an old iron kettle, engaged in boiling down the brine for some days. Eventually each man of the party found himself in possession of a bushel of salt and all returned to their homes, with sufficient salt to last them during a number of months.