

- ROSS, ELIZABETH. A PIONEER RESIDENT AND HIS HOME.

#124852



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A PIONEER RESIDENT  
AND HIS HOME.

12489.

-2-

as a delegate on behalf of the western group or nation. When the new Cherokee government became operative, Looney Price was chosen as Associate Justice of the Cherokee Supreme Court, but upon being stricken with severe illness in the midst of an important trial, he resigned his position and did not thereafter aspire to any other official position.

The Cherokee country was largely in its original state when Looney Price, in 1846, built his home at the border of a large woodland, with a prairie lying southeast. The home was built of large logs from oak trees. These logs after having been hewn to correct dimensions, were "raised" by a number of men and the new house was covered with hand-made boards. A huge stone chimney was added and the house thereafter was occupied several years by its owner and his family.

An accurate description of Looney Price has come down from the bygone time. He was a large man, strong and powerful, of florid complexion, very generous and kindly. No night was too dark, nor the weather too cold

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-3-

or disagreeable to prevent Judge Price from answering the call of distress, it has been related of him. If someone were ill and in need of assistance, he lighted his old-fashioned lantern and set out for the purpose of doing whatever he could to alleviate pain and anxiety. In case someone suffered the agonies of toothache, Judge Price, with his forceps, pulled the offending tooth. If some person or persons were in need of the necessities of life, Judge Price relieved them without question or any hesitancy. He was "the good man" of the neighborhood.

Along in 1852, Judge Looney Price decided, for some reason not now definitely known, to move to a distant section of Texas. Soon he filled his wagons with household effects and drove away, never to return. During many years he lived at the small town of Gonzales. It is possible that at the time of his death, during the eighties of the last century, he was the last member of the delegation on behalf of the Western Cherokees who signed the Act of Union on July 12, 1839. He was well past eighty years of age when his life came to its close. His wife was a daughter

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-4-

of Joseph Coodey, (himself a notable character) and of Mrs. Jane Ross Coodey, a sister of John Ross, Principal Chief.

At this time (1937) ninety-one years after its completion, the former home of Judge Looney Price is yet occupied. It is weatherbeaten and time-worn, but the logs composing the walls are in quite sound condition. Several years ago, Monty Price, son of the original owner, visited the old home place. He had once previously come to see the house in which he had lived as a boy. Without hesitancy Monty Price, though some years past the age of eighty, pointed out once familiar spots and stood near an old tree under which he had played prior to 1852. Monty's full name was Montezuma.