

MILLER, SEBRON

INTERVIEW

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225

Jefferson, Berryhill

Field Worker.

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226

Interview with Sebron Miller.
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

"CHITTO HARJO OR CRAZY SNAKE"

Chitto Harjo, or Crazy Snake as he was known, was a full blood Creek Indian. When the Dawes Commission was appointed to enroll the Creek Indians for the allotment of land, Chitto Harjo and his members resisted enrollment and refused allotment of land. So bitter was he against the Dawes Commission that in 1906, the Snake rebellion came and he and his followers armed themselves and began to steal and plunder. Mr. Miller said the band consisted of mixed breed Indians and mulattoes. Crazy Snake, He became so reckless the United States soldiers were called out to stop him, and when the soldiers arrived to capture him, he resisted and a minor skirmish took place. In that skirmish Chitto Harjo was shot and wounded but he did not die as has been stated. He left Oklahoma leaving his members, and he now lives in the state of Mexico with another tribe of Indians, living in the customs as he had lived in the days before the Dawes Commission came into effect.

Chitto Harjo did not want the enrollment and allotment of land because he did not want to give up his tribal customs of the Creek government. When he or his members

refused they were enrolled and given land by the government, and the lands given them were of little value for farming. But oil was found on them later and today there are some who are well to do.

Mr. Sebron Miller, who is now the star-witness in the "Barnett case", knew of Jackson Barnett better than any man alive of today, as they were brought up together in childhood days. He said Jackson Barnett was a person of weak or feeble mind even when just a boy. After he became a man he was the same as when a boy. His mind it seemed was affected. Although he was enrolled at Muskogee or at the Indian Agent's office as a full-blood Creek Indian, Mr. Miller said he knew his father and mother. His father was a full blood Creek and his mother was a mulatto, which made Jackson Barnett a mixed breed. Being of feeble mind he never had any children although had a common law wife.

Note:

(Mr. Berryhill writes his Indian interview as given by the Indian and no change is made in the wording of the Manuscript so that the Indian manner of speech may be preserved. Ed.)