

MILLER, SEBRON

OPOUTHILI YAHOLA. 6751

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Jefferson Berryhill,

6751

Field Worker

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Interview with Sebron Miller.

Okmulgee, Oklahoma

"OPOUTHLI YAHOLA":

Mr. Sebron Miller is seventy-seven years old. He said he was six years old when Opouthli Yahola died. Of course Mr. Miller had heard and been told that Opouthli Yahola had died in Kansas, yet he said he was not buried in Kansas as has been stated.

Mr. Miller said he saw his grave many times at the home of Opouthli Yahola.

Yahola had a big herd of cattle and other stock, and his home was between Checotah and Eufaula. Sebron could not tell exactly the location of the place but he said it was known or called the Yahola's Wakv Hute (ee-w-pen). At that place his grave was located in the yard. Many times Mr. Miller said he visited the Yahola's home and his parents pointed out the grave and told him that that was Opouthli Yahola's grave. He said if Opouthli Yahola had died in Kansas, there was no doubt he was brought back to his home for burial as he was respected and loved by his people. Opouthli Yahola was a medicine man and a firm believer in its magic or its powers. Mr. Miller tells of one incident when Opouthli Yahola went to Washington on business for his people

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as he was a chief. The white people or the officials of Washington, D. C., had some way been informed of Yanola as a medicine man and the miracles he could perform, and when he came and stood before the officials, the officials asked him to perform some of his miracles. Yahola turned to his Indian followers and spoke to them in his language, and they produced a small ring about four inches in diameter. The ring was held out before him and all that time he had been making medicine as he stood, so when the ring was held out before him he went through the ring, and left much to the astonishment of the officials. It was hard to believe yet Mr. Miller said the officials of Washington, D. C., had the record of the performance of Opouthli Yahola as they themselves had witnessed the feat.

Mr. Miller states that there were eight whipping posts according to the districts in the state as of today. An old Council house which the Creeks used in the territorial days is located about four miles and a quarter west of Beggs, Oklahoma. Esparhechar held Council there many times.

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## AGENCY HILL.

The Agency Hill which is located at the west outskirts of Muskogee, Oklahoma, which is now the home of disabled soldiers, was used as the location of the Indian Agency. Mr. Miller said it was not for the Creeks only but for other tribes as Sac and Fox, Pawnees, Shawnees before they had established agencies for the others. These tribes mentioned came to the agency of Agency Hill as they, too, were as entitled as the others to advice and counsel there.

## Note.

(Mr. Berryhill expresses his Indian interviews very like it is expressed to him and practically no change is ever made in his manuscripts so that the manner of speech may be preserved. Ed.)