

CUMMINS, GEORGE VINCENT. CLIPPING.

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Cummins, Scott

## SCOTT CUMMINS

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The final chapter was added to the picturesque life of Pilgrim Bard, poet and student of nature, when he succumbed after a short illness at the home of his son, Dewey Cummins, near Winchester, early Wednesday morning.

One of the early plainmen, Scott Cummins, better known as the Pilgrim Bard, made the run into the Cherokee Strip, settled near here and has ever since been a familiar character in Alva and in the entire community.

He was born in Ohio in 1846 but moved to Iowa with his parents when he was but two years of age. His father was likewise a pioneer and he settled among the Indians where the young son acquired their customs, traits and habits.

He rendered invaluable service as a scout during the Civil War, serving in Company A of the Third Iowa Cavalry. In the early seventies he settled in Barber county, Kansas, on what was then known as Mule creek. Here he established a freighting business, built a cabin and named it the "Last Chance Cabin." The name was attached because his cabin was the last chance for those traveling westward to eat and sleep under a roof.

Being close to nature he early developed a tendency to write about the things that were near him. The whole out of doors became his warehouse of information and as a result he developed a style that was both pleasing and original.

His works have been gathered together and several times published in book form.

The body lay in state at the Friends church this morning from 10 to 12. At two this afternoon a quiet family funeral was held at the church with Rev. Carl Byrd of the Friends church in charge.

At three this afternoon the public services were held at Herod Hall before a large audience. The Elks lodge had charge of the services. Interment was made in the A. O. U. W. cemetery.

A clipping from an Alva paper furnished by *George* Vincent Cummins.