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AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. BETTY DOYLE  
7½ mi. so. & east of Pittsburg  
BY  
Charline M. Culbertson.

"SUFFERING DURING CIVIL WAR"

I moved to Indian Territory near what is now Wesley with my parents, Mr. & Mrs. W. F. Staples, when I was seven years of age, coming from Texas. We moved by wagon driven by mule team and rented some farm land and a frame house from John Pen Rogers. My father plowed some with oxen.

I went to school in a little log house about two miles from where I live at the present time, which is seven and half miles east and south of Kiowa. It was called the Brice school as that was the name of our teacher, in whose home I boarded and went to school. We had no grades as they do to-day; we were all taught the same thing. There were a few Indian children that went to this school. Their names were Ward and Rogers. Father and mother would get our supplies at Stringtown.

My father and three brothers were in the Civil War. The Federals tried to burn our house and barn but mother managed to put the fire out. They told her they would come back if she did so, but they didn't return. They captured my father and held him prisoner for several days. I re-

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member the Federals taking some little dishes of mine I had on the shelf and of which I was very fond. That was the only thing they took when they came to burn our house. During the War two soldiers were at our house greasing their guns when one of the guns accidentally went off and shot me in the head. I was unconscious for fourteen days but I recovered and have lived to raise nine children. It has been necessary for me to wear a silver plate enclosed in a band around my head. I remember my father telling me how they lived on parched corn and corn bread for days. He also told me of how they killed a beef and were cooking it and had it almost ready to eat when the Federals came in on them and they had to run and leave the beef for them to eat.

There was lots of sickness during those days such as pneumonia, sore throat, etc. We always had professional doctors. We of course used lots of home remedies. When I was accidentally shot it was necessary to send into Texas for a doctor.

During those days we didn't use sugar as we do today. We always had corn bread for supper. Our furniture consisted of stove, table, safe, a clothes press which were all home made. When a white man married an Indian woman he received 160 acres of land.

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I am in possession of an old churn my grandfather made about sixty five years ago. It is made of cedar with brass clamps used in putting it together.

I remember of a story of my father telling me of his driving cattle to this country from the plains. He told of their camping for the night, and during the night a blizzard came up and it was terribly cold. The next mornin' all they had left of the thirty head of cattle they were driving were two; the rest had frozen to death. He also told of a buffalo stampede. When they saw them coming they thought it to be a big black cloud as there were so many. As it grew closer they saw what it was and knew they would be right in the path but as the animals got nearer they divided and the men managed to escape. The ground they had passed over had been high in weeds but after they passed by it had been beaten into the ground.