

INDEX CARDS

Removal--Cherokee

Orchards--Cherokee Nation

Interview with Myrtle Emery, by field worker, Carl
Sherwood, March 20, 1937

52

I, Myrtle Emery am now living on a farm in the Dutches Creek bot-
tom about 8 miles northeast of Texanna. My parents were Mr. and Mrs.
George Emery, who farmed in the Canadian river bottom about 4 miles east
of Standing Rock. My parents died before my recollection, and I was
adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Hiram H. Early, who lived at that time 8 miles
east of Texanna and one mile north of the Belle Starr Canyon.

Hiram H. Early was born in Harlan County Kentucky, October 15,
1846. Until the age of ten years he lived in his native country, where
he attended subscription schools, but at that date the family moved to
Missouri and his old occupations and associations were broken, resulting
in his absence from school until the final location in Hackett City,
Mo., where he again began his studies. After finishing his school
course, Mr. Early engaged in farming and carpenter work, keeping busily
employed. When the war broke out he enlisted as a soldier with the
3rd Kansas Battery in the Union Army, and was attached to the 7th Army
Corps for more than two years. He saw active service and was mustered
out on July 21, 1865, returning to Hackett City and resuming his farming
as soon as his hands had become accustomed to the plow instead of the
musket.

In 1879 Mr. Early made a trip to Colorado and spent one year in
prospecting and mining, but in 1881 came to Indian Territory and settled
in the district mentioned above.

On June 16th. in 1882 Mr. Early married Miss Susan A. Scott, the
daughter of Sterling Scott--both natives of Tennessee. She was born in
the Cherokee Nation near Fort Gibson, and received her education at

Interview with Myrtle Emery,
by field worker, Carl Sherwood,
March 20, 1937--#2.

53

Park Hill Seminary and at Dwights Mission. Her family came to the territory in 1829--at that time only a wilderness. A grand Aunt of Mrs. Early's walked all the distance from Tennessee to the Indian Territory without any companion. After many exciting adventures and experiences she reached Fort Gibson on Christmas day 1829 and one of the incidents of the journey that she related was the way she possessed herself of a blanket and a roasted coon from a negro while he was asleep at the foot of a tree. The blanket was made into moccasins and the coon meat saved her from hunger.

Mr. Early produced the finest sweet and irish potatoes, and fruits such as apples, pears, grapes, and peaches, and was the only farmer that could hold part of his apple and potato crops through the winter and have them on the market in Checotah and Muskogee in the spring.

- - - - -