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Turkey Traps

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Indian-Pioneer History
July 29, 1937

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Indian Method of Trapping Wild Turkey

For catching turkeys, the Choctaw and Creek Indians used guns and bows and arrows. But some of the Indians would trap the turkey without using guns or bows and arrows.

They would build pens out of logs six inches in diameter. The pens were twelve feet square and four and one-half feet in height and the tops of pens were also covered with poles. The Indians would dig a hole large enough for a turkey to crowd through under one side of the pen to reach the middle of the enclosed pen. The inside was covered with bushes and leaves and corn was strewn through the small tunnel into the pen and more corn was placed in the pen. When a turkey eats, they usually keep their heads down until they have eaten all they want.

When they would start eating the corn placed in the hole they would enter the pen through the tunnel and continue eating in the pen. As many as fifteen turkeys have been caught this way.