

GASSAWAY, LILLIAN

LICKING BIRD.

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BIOGRAPHY FORM
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
 Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

Field Worker's name Lillian Gassaway

Report made on (date) November 30 1938

Name Lillian Gassaway

Post Office Address Anadarko, Oklahoma

Residence address (or location) 311 West Alabama

DATE OF BIRTH: Month March Day 25 Year 1888

Place of birth Anadarko, Oklahoma.

Name of Father J. J. Methvin Place of birth Georgia

Other information about father _____

Name of Mother Emma Beall Methvin Place of birth Georgia

Other information about mother _____

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and
 of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects
 and questions. Continue on blank sheets, if necessary and attach firmly to
 this form. Number of sheets attached 2.

Lillian Gassaway
Interviewer
November 30, 1938

Kicking-Bird

Kicking-Bird was chief of the peace element among the Kiowas. It was he who asked Battey to come among the Kiowas in 1873 to organize a school. Battey made Kicking-Bird's home his headquarters.

Because of his love of peace the chiefs of the warring Kiowas all hated him. They called him a woman and refused to listen to him. They called him a coward. One day he gathered a force of men and went to Texas on a raid. He came off victorious and had handled his men in such a way as to win the respect of the commander of his enemies.

Battey tells of one difficulty between Kicking-Bird and the other chiefs. The other chiefs had accused Kicking-Bird of lying about them to the Agent. A meeting was arranged at the Agency to talk it over. Every one was greatly excited and trouble was expected. As the Indians began to arrive they placed their bows and arrows in a convenient place and loosened their revolvers so they could be gotten hold of easily. When Kicking-Bird came in he took

in the situation at once and seating himself, he arranged his bow and arrows and gun in the same position. No one came with Kicking-Bird except his brother and one friend. When all were settled Kicking-Bird told the Agent these chiefs had accused him of lying about them and he wanted the Agent to tell them every thing that he had said.

When Kicking-Bird died in 1875, it was believed that his enemies had poisoned him but though an investigation was made it could not be proved. He died at peace with everyone. Kicking-Bird was of mixed origin, his paternal grandfather was a Crow captive taken when a boy and adopted into the tribe.

Kicking-Bird used his influence in saving Satante and Big Tree from execution, and eventually their parole. And when the Kiowas were impatient for the release of their chiefs he urged them to be patient, to wait a little longer and make no more trouble. He died, according to his own words; "holding on to the white man's hand". Agent Haworth took the body at the request of the family, and gave it a Christian burial. This was the first Christian burial of the tribe.