

MASON, ETTA D. JUDGE WILLIAM HARRISON JACKSON. 1955

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Etta D. Mason,  
Investigator,  
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The following sketch of Judge William Harrison Jackson was copied from an old scrapbook belonging to Mrs. Elizabeth Hosmer Norwood, now deceased.

Judge Jackson was a splendid type of the pioneer white man of the Indian Territory. He lived at Bromide, the health resort which he founded.

Until the adoption of an amendment to their constitution placing the government exclusively in the hands of men of Indian blood, the Chickasaw Indians probably never conferred as many honors upon a person outside the tribe as upon Judge Jackson. In view of the fact that no tribe of Indians in America ever had a more perfect system of government or conducted it with more regularity and regard for the interests of their people, the honors Judge Jackson received differ materially from, and are of far more interest than those given by any other Nation of red men to their white citizens. He came among those Indians forty-five years ago, a boy of eighteen, with a young Chickasaw who lived in Lebanon, Tennessee. The Chickasaws all but adopted him into the tribe, and after his marriage to a girl of

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Indian blood, whose antecedents were the notable family of Maytubbys, he became as near one of the tribe as a white man could be.

Judge Jackson's first experience in this country was as a cowboy on the old ranch of David A. Fulsom on Blue River at Neil Crossing; a point of historic interest because of its being a station on the Military stage coach line between Fort Smith, Arkansas, and El Paso, Texas.

At the age of twenty-three Judge Jackson was elected County Judge of Pontotoc County, then one of the most progressive Counties of the Chickasaw Nation. He held this position for two years.

His interests were always with the Indian people. He was in the Legislature during the Boomer Invasion and was Attorney General for the Chickasaw Nation. During this period the question of citizenship was the most important question that came before the Nations' legal advisor.

Later he was selected as superintendent of Rock Academy, afterward known as Wapanucka Institute. He held this position five years. He then became superintendent of Collins Institute, a school for Chickasaw girls, located near old Stonewall.