

INDEX C RES

Immigration-- Cherokee Nation  
Marching-- Cherokee Nation  
Finance-- Cherokee Nation  
Cattle-- roundup

DAVIS RANCH

Carl R. Sherwood  
416

Sam Davis was a Georgia Cherokee who came to the Indian Territory years after the Cherokees from Tennessee and South Carolina had settled here.

His ranch was located about four and one half miles northwest of Porum, Oklahoma at the foot of a range of mountains. An ideal place for the ranch house and other buildings. Mr. Davis dealt in native cattle only, and in the Spring he would start his cowboys out buying up cattle from farmers and residents in small towns.

The boys did not have check books in buying up cattle, but would have several hundred dollars in their boots and a trusty 45 colt pistol on their hips. The nearest bank from this ranch was in Fort Smith, Arkansas<sup>in</sup> which he did his banking. The ranches in the Cherokee Nation had only small pastures at the ranch which was known as the horse pasture and another small pasture was used for cattle that he had bought and rebranded and held for some time. In this pasture he would keep a few of his milk cows which one wore a bell on her neck. In this way the new cattle would not wander off the range and drift back where they were purchased. The ranch cattle of the Cherokee Nation ranged from Fort Smith, Arkansas south to the Kansas line on the north.

After the shipping season was over, which was about the last of September, all cattlemen were notified of the fall round-up and each outfit was given a certain district to cover. Each cowboy had a book with all the brands of cattle from every ranch in the Indian Territory. Occasionally they would pick up one that had strayed two hundred miles from the ranch where it belonged. In this case the animal would be held and its owner would be not-