

HENRYETTA FREE-LANCE

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EDITORIAL ON ALEX POSEY

The citizenship rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes closed last Wednesday night at midnight. For several months the Dawes Commission has had field parties out hunting up and enrolling the new born.

In the Creek Nation, Alex Posey has looked after that particular work, as well as acting as envoy and plenipotentiary to the snake Indians. He proved to be of great service in that delicate task. He, at one time, induced Chitto Harjo to testify. However, on a subsequent occasion, he endeavored to get further evidence from the disgruntled old Chief, without success. In fact Chitto read the "riot act" in such eloquent and convincing language that Posey heaved a sigh of relief when he had escaped from the angry presence of the Snake leader.

Mr. Posey arrived in Henryetta last Tuesday and received applications for enrollment during the day Wednesday. Eight children from Hickory Ground were enrolled here Wednesday afternoon.

Under the law admitting the new born between the dates of March 4, 1905, and March 4, 1906, nearly a thousand applications have been filed. This shows a good, healthy increase in population, being nearly seven per cent of the total population of the Creek Nation as to Indians and freedmen.

Mr. Posey went out July 4th to make a final effort to get all of the new born of the Snake faction.

Other Creek citizens do not need to be hunted up -- they go to the Commission and ask to be filed. Not so with the Snakes. It is only with the utmost effort and with the employment of much diplomacy, that they can be induced to give the necessary data to enable the Commission to enroll the babies.

Not only are the rolls closed for all time, but the surplus land is just about exhausted. Mr. Posey thinks there yet remain a few little ones.