

## NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

CIVIL WAR LETTER  
FROM PARIS, TEXAS, 1861

Miss Louise Berry Walker of Claremore has sent *The Chronicles of Oklahoma* a photostatic copy of a letter written by a member of the Confederate Indian troops during the Civil War. Edward Butler was of Cherokee descent, a nephew of Peggy, the Cherokee wife of Chief William McIntosh of the Creek Nation. Butler had his family home and owned a store at North Fork Town before 1860. At the beginning of the Civil War, he assisted in recruiting Indians for both Stand Watie's Confederate Cherokee Regiment and Colonel D. N. McIntosh's Creek Regiment. Butler is reported to have served as interpreter to General Albert Pike, Commander of the Confederate Indian forces, early in the war. As an adopted member of the Creek Nation (calculated one-half Cherokee by blood) he was identified among the influential Creek citizens of the McIntosh party in the Indian Territory. After the Civil War, Edward Butler made his home at North Fork Town where he died and was buried probably in the 1870's. His letter written at Paris, Texas, presented here follows the original copy, with some paragraphing and punctuation for clearness in the printing:

Paris, Texas

July 3, 1863

Dr. Cousin

Myself and Family are Well. I arrived here three or four days ago to pay my Family a short visit, and will Return to the Nation in few days, and will have no time to visit you all, in consequence of which I will try and give you all the news which has transpired while up in the Nation.

Sometime about 23th. of April Last the Federal and Pens (Pins) surprised 4 four Companies of Col. Walty men at Webers Falls C. N. in which we lost Killed 2 — John Rogers and Wat. Holt. Wounded, 5 or 6 men. Since then Wounded are doing well. The Federal and Pens lost— Killed 6 men and wounded 8 — and Killed the Pens northern Agent and the Federal burnt Mrs. Vore, Capt. John Vann, John McDaniel, Dick Crossen Houses to ashes.

About 15 or 18th of May last Col. Stand Walty and Col. D. N. with their Command went over to Fort Gibson, and had a Skirmish with the Federal and Pens between the Port and Judge Fields Place Federal and Pens loses Seventy Killed and Wounded a great many and Captured from them Eight hundred mules and horses, our losses was one

1 The Cherokee "Pins" served as Federal scouts during the Civil War. The name was given for the pins worn on the lapel for identification.

of my old aunt give my love to her  
and all my comminations yours Respectfully  
Cousin E. Butler

For the Federal and the free and the  
negro have changed the name of  
his Gibson to Fort Blunt's  
on the last Sec. Col. Stand by  
take Jim Ross prisoner

Remain your Respectful  
Cousin  
Edward Butler

PAGE OF EDWARD BUTLER LETTER WITH HIS SIGNATURE, 1863.

Cherokee O. W. West & one White man Mr. Bean and one Creek man, & on about 24 or 25th of May last Col. D. N. in Command of his Regiment, and Col. Chillys and a part of Col. Martin Regiment of Texas, was ordered over Cross Arkansas River, and then to Will Rogers Cowpen or John Duncan Place to Capture large Federal Train was Coming down to Fort Gibson, but when arrived at John Duncan Place discovered the Train had psted on down. Our men then hastened on in pursuit of Train and did not over take them until they had Reached Mr. J. D. Wilson old Place, and attacked them and taking about fifty wagons, but the Federal were Reinforced immediately and Recapture them. So that made an intire failer. Federal losses Killed 24, taken prisoner 12. We did not lose but one man old Christophe was taken a prisoner. On about 4th of June, Col. Stand Walty & 6d Cherokee Regiment was Sent out on a Scout to Tahlequah and to Maysville on which he Killed 32 Pens our Loss was one Killed and on the Same time Col. D. N. and his Regiment was Sent on a Scout up to Grand Saline and Returned Safe to Headquarters, without having found any the Pens in that part of the Country. So you See our Soldiers have been all Round Fort Gibson trying to draw the Federal and Pens and Negroes out of there fortification, and could not do it, as they are well fortified and of course would not be Safe for our forces to attacked them, as they are Equal in number and Superior in Arms.

We have the Arkansas River Ficketed from Webers Falls to Conchartee Town. Some thirty or forty of Uchee went north, last Winter During the hardship, and very near all of the Cowans—Santrees, Went, and Louis Perryman and Family Went, Mrs. Mortay & Mrs. Elderidge Went, and Mr. Maxfield and Family Went.

Morning after I Reached North Polk I Sent your Letter to your Sister Jane Hawkins, and Stated to her I would be up, to See her in day or two to assist her according to your Request and on next day I heard she had Started on that day, to Doverville near Red River, and was told she said she did not wish to go to Texas, uncle Jo. Vann Requested me to Say to his Family, he was Well and Safe but had not yet Seen Carl Vann as he was at that time in Fort Smith.

The health of the Country and the army is verry Good there is plenty of Provision in the Country the Government now doing her part for the Indians. I Shall Return last of next month and hope then to pay you all a visit, Please Excuse my lengthy Letter I have Written it for the Satisfaction of my old aunt Give my love to her and all my Connection. Your Respectfully,

Cousin E. Butler

P. S. the Federal and the Pens and the Negro have Changed the name of Pert Gibson, to Fort Blunt. On the last Scout Col. Stand Walty take Jem Ross prisoner.

Remain your Respectfully

Cousin

Edward Butler

<sup>2</sup> Allan C. Ashcraft, "Confederate Indian Territory Conditions in 1895," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, vol. XLII, no. 4 (Winter, 1964-65) pp. 421-28.

## CHIEF JOEL B. MAYES OF THE CHEROKEE NATION

This biographical sketch is contributed to *The Chronicles*, by Mayme B. Mayes in memory of a distinguished member of the old and well known Mayes family of the Cherokee Nation:

*Joel Bryan Mayes,*

*Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation*

1837-1891

Joel B. Mayes, popularly regarded throughout the Cherokee Nation as one of its most patriotic chiefs, was born in Bates County, Georgia, near Cartersville in the old Cherokee Nation, October 2, 1833. In 1837, at the age of four, he was brought to what is now Oklahoma.

He was the second son of Samuel Mayes and Nancy Adair Mayes. His father was a white man from the State of Tennessee, whose ancestors could be traced back to England and Wales. His mother was a daughter of Watt Adair, a distinguished Cherokee who held many positions of responsibility and trust, and whose British ancestors were well known subjects of King George III of England.

Joel Mayes attended the public schools of the Cherokee Nation, and in 1851, entered the Cherokee Male Seminary, at Tahlequah, where he graduated in 1855. He taught in the primary schools near what is now Westville, Oklahoma. He married Martha J. Candy of the Cherokee Nation, in 1857. Their home was on a farm where he raised stock until the outbreak of the Civil War.

Joel Mayes entered the Confederate service as a private in Colonel Stand Watie's First Regiment of Cherokee Mounted Rifles, in July, 1861. The Confederate records show the enlistment of Mayes in 1862, as Assistant Quartermaster of the Second Regiment of Cherokee Mounted Volunteers, Colonel Wm. P. Adair commanding. Joel Mayes continued in this service to the end of the war in 1865.

After the war he returned to his home in the Coe-Wee-Scoo-Wee District, near what is now Pryor, Oklahoma, where he farmed and continued raising livestock. He was a great lover of fine horses and cattle, and took great pride in beautifying his farm, protecting his orchards, and in bettering the grade of his livestock. He inherited his love for horses from his father Samuel Mayes, who owned a string of race horses that he took to New Orleans, Shreveport, Miami, and San Francisco.

In 1869, Joel B. Mayes was appointed Clerk of the District Court and served until 1873, at which time he was elected Judge



(Oklahoma Historical Society)

JOEL BRYAN MAYES

of the Northern Circuit of the Cherokee Nation, and served eight years. In 1881, he was appointed Clerk of the Citizenship Court, an office created by an act of the Cherokee Council, for the purpose of hearing and determining the rights of persons applying for citizenship in the Cherokee Nation. As Clerk of the Citizenship Court, he made an enviable record. At the termination of his term, he was elected Clerk of the Cherokee National Council. During this work, he was elected Supreme Court Judge of the Cherokee Nation, later serving as Chief Justice of the Cherokee Supreme Court.

In 1887, he was nominated and elected Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, on the Downing Ticket. After a memorable and exciting campaign in the Cherokee Nation, he won. His administration was efficient and forthright, and he was reelected principal chief in 1891.

Immediately after beginning his second term in office, he became seriously ill with la grippe and died December 14, 1891. No man was more beloved and trusted by his people than Joel B. Mayes. He was a true friend of the people of his country. All said of him, "He was an honest man." Throughout his long public career, no scandal was connected with his name. Everyone had the utmost confidence in his ability and integrity of purpose, and hold the highest respect for his patriotism and statesmanship. No man wielded a greater influence among the Cherokee people than did Joel B. Mayes. The mention of his name to this day arouses a popular chord through-out the Cherokee Nation.

Joel B. Mayes was married three times: first, in 1857 to Martha J. Candy; second, in 1863 to Martha M. McNair; third, in 1868 to Mary Vann. No children survived any of these unions.

In physical appearance Mr. Mayes was a "heavy set" man, five feet and eleven inches tall and weighed around two hundred and eighty pounds. He had a kind disposition and was generous to a fault. No worthy object of charity ever escaped his assistance. He was a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Methodist Church. He was a man of intelligence, integrity, vigor and exceptional executive ability. Above all he was a conscientious, good man.

EULOGY<sup>1</sup>

## COMMISSION ADJOURNED

December 14th, 1891 Chief Mayes died at 6 o'clock this morning. December 18, 1891, Commission called to order and a substitute for Proposition 6 presented.

(Mr. Jerome) Mr. Chairman: This joint session this morning is for business purposes, yet, the gloom that has been cast over the people here, and which hangs over all that came in contact with the late Chief, has almost if not quite unfitted us for purely business purposes, or to discuss business matters at this meeting. A word of tribute at this time by the gentlemen of this Commission may not be inappropriate; fitting words for such an occasion have not been prepared by me and any allusion that I may make to this sorrowful event is simply what comes from my heart on the spur of the moment. It has been my fortune to have visited your capital city twice on this very business, that we are now engaged in, and in consequence I have met Chief Mayes many times, and have had many confidential talks with him, that have given me a profound respect for him, that I wish to express now. It gives me gratification to be able to say that in the relations that I have sustained to Chief Mayes during the long visits that we have had here with your Nations representatives they have been distinguished by that fairness and frankness in all things pertaining to official business that causes me to rank him among the great men of your Nation. Nature liberally endowed him with a large mind and in addition,-- so that she added a tenacity of purpose that would make him rank high in any station. In his manners, officially and otherwise, and in his scholastic attainments he was a high type, of what ought to be an example to the Cherokee Nation, of what your schools can do. I understand that his education was entirely procured at the schools of the Nation, and that every man that came in contact with Chief Mayes could appreciate that he had made the most of his advantages and that these schools are what has made this Nation pre-eminently in advance of all other Indian Tribes.

The lesson of the hour is that every man who has any responsibility resting upon him in national affairs should emulate the example of Chief Mayes and should push forward your schools and other civilized institutions that have made it possible to raise such men in your midst. It is my conviction that in Chief Mayes you had a man who in all conditions of life was an intelligent man, a man of sound judgment, a man of profound thought, stable purposes and a man that would do you credit wherever he mingled with the people of the civilized world. My hope is that notwithstanding your great calamity and loss of such a leader, that others may be reared up of equal ability to steer your national affairs on successfully. While his untimely taking off has cast

<sup>1</sup> This "Eulogy" was a part of a memorial service to Chief Joel B. Mayes in a meeting of the Cherokee Commission on December 18, 1891. Three days later—December 19, 1891—articles of agreement were concluded at Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation, for the sale of the Cherokee Outlet to the United States. Members of this Cherokee Commission who signed this agreement on the part of the United States were David Howell Jerome, Warren O. Sayre and Alfred M. Wilson. (This commission is sometimes referred to in history as the "Jerome Commission.") The commissioners who signed the agreement in the sale of the Cherokee Outlet (December 19, 1891), on the part of the Cherokee Nation, were Elias C. Boudinot, Joseph A. Seales, George Downing, Reach Young, Thomas Smith, William Triplett and Joseph Smallwood.—Ed.

a gloom over this Commission and almost unfit it to go on with its duties, that we are here to perform, still I can not overlook the fact that it must fall with still greater force upon you men here who knew him in life, as a leader and Chief. I have only discharged a duty that seems to have developed upon me in this public manner to state the estimate I have of the man, and the loss that this Nation has sustained.

(Mr. Sayre) Mr. Chairman: Two years and a month ago tonight, I believe it was, I first visited Tahlequah. That night I attended an exhibition at the Female Seminary, and there first met Chief Mayes.

Almost his first declaration to me then was one of fidelity to the Cherokee Nation, its constitution and laws. Since that visit I have been in frequent conference with him. Since then I have met him in Washington, and whenever and wherever I have seen him, there has always been that same declaration of fidelity to Cherokee interests. I never was in his presence but that I felt, and could not help but feel, that I was in the presence of a great and powerful man.

I have since that meeting, been a careful student of everything that has happened in the Cherokee Nation, that has been chronicled in the public press, and in every action that has been attributed to Chief Mayes in connection with the duty of the office which he held there has always been that same marked fidelity to the Cherokee interests. It may possibly be that in the fierce and angry political conflicts of your country he may have been a zealous partisan, but in official life, I am sure that he was always a patriot, and I know, and want to take this occasion to express it, that in my heart my grief is co-extensive and commingled with yours because of the loss of so great a defender of Cherokee rights, Cherokee homes and the Cherokee people. As to the questions affecting the relations between the United States and the Cherokee Nation, he and I differed, but we necessarily viewed the situation from different standpoints. But I have never had a feeling in my heart, or given expression to a word, but that ascribed to him an honest heart and a sturdy patriotic principle. Our differences never aroused in my bosom a feeling of hostility or anger, but in differing with me he always challenged my admiration and respect. And now Mr. Chairman, I express the hope, notwithstanding your great loss in the death of Chief Mayes, whom I regarded, without disparaging the capacity or attainments of others, as the giant and sturdy oak of the Cherokee forest; and notwithstanding the gloom that has involved this Nation, that Cherokee interests may not be crushed but that Cherokee patriots may again appear to maintain the Cherokee name and fame as he has done. It is my wish that you may not long be bowed down, and certainly not crushed, by this great calamity, but that you may rise above it.

Afflictions like this come to all people, and although you have been deprived of his counsel, and advice, and aid, and leadership, and can no longer have them I hope that other patriotic Cherokees may so emulate his example, that the Nation shall continue in the prosperity that seemed and was so dear to him.

(Mr. Boudinot.) Upon the part of the Cherokee Commission, Governor Jerome and Judge Sayre, we thank you for this kind ex-

<sup>1</sup> "Mr. Boudinot" here was Elias C. Boudinot (II)—generally known as E. C. Boudinot, the nephew of Elias C. Boudinot (I)—Elias Cornelius Boudinot) who had served as a member of the commission on the part of the Cherokees to the time of his death on September 27, 1890.—Muriel K. Wright, "Notes on Colonel Elias C. Boudinot," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XLI, No. 4 (Winter 1953-1954), pp. 382-407.



pression of sorrow in our great bereavement. We also appreciate your tribute to the qualities and merits of our great Chieflain; when he was living we respected him and loved him; we can now but deplore his death and cherish his memory. He was indeed the giant and sturdy oak of the Cherokee forest. As a public man if there was any one thing we admired him most for (he had many virtues and sterling qualities) if there was any one thing we admired him most for—it was his sterling integrity and honesty. This was so well known throughout this Nation that I can truthfully say that I never heard the purity of his public life questioned. Being so much younger than he was I know him more as a boy knows his father; I know how kind and gentle and loving he was in private life. Now that he is gone I know of no fitter tribute to pay him than a quotation from Shakespeare, it was the tribute paid to Brutus "His life was gentle and the elements so mixed in him that nature might stand up and say to all the world, this was a man."

That his character was the product of the Cherokee institutions we are more than proud, and I hope that our country may continue an existence that has shown that we are capable of producing such a man.

—Mayne B. Mayne

#### JOHN WATT:

#### A NAME ENGRAVED IN THE CHEROKEE NATION

This story on John Watt was contributed to *The Chronicles* by the late Sherey W. Rose who lived all his life in the vicinity of Park Hill, a member of the noted Rose family of the Cherokee Nation. His contributions on local history appeared on the editorial pages of *The Daily Oklahoman* and were widely read for many years before his death in 1960. Those who visit cemeteries over in the Cherokee country still see the name "J. Watt" on many of the oldest gravestones.

#### JOHN WATT: PIONEER STONE MASON

In oldest burying grounds in some localities of Northeastern Oklahoma may be found well-finished headstones and slabs of hard grey limestone. These memorials have well endured the changes of many seasons. Some were placed in position nearly one hundred years ago. They date from early years of the Cherokee Nation as a body politic in old Indian Territory. Upon the larger and more ornate stones, deeply graven in a lower corner, appears the name, J. Watt.

Back in the fall of 1846, when the Cherokee legislative bodies had acted favorably upon a message from the Principal Chief requesting an appropriation of funds sufficient to defray the expense of building the national seminaries, the sites for the institutions were soon selected. Experienced builders then became necessary. Such were hardly to be found in the then comparatively new Cherokee country, yet largely primal in aspect. A journey to outlying states in quest of competent builders was contemplated by Cherokee officials when the fact was ascertained that a group of skilled workmen had just completed a large public building in a southern state. The group was contacted and employed to construct the seminaries, the corner stones of which were laid June 21, 1847.

The builders were Scotsmen. One-half their number was employed at the site of the male seminary, two miles southwest of Tahlequah.

and the other half at the site of the female seminary, four miles south of the Cherokee capital, in the Park Hill locality.

John Watt, in charge of the builders, was the only one of the group, so far as known, who, after completion of the seminary, engaged in making stone monuments, slabs and tombstones, and also in constructing many durable stone chimneys.

Only persons of considerable means were able to procure marble or granite memorials in the decades of the forties and fifties of the Nineteenth Century, monumental firms being located in distant cities. The nearest such firm for some years, was situated at St. Louis, Missouri. In consequence limestone was utilized by John Watt.

In the original Park Hill burying ground, also called the "Old Mission" graveyard, stands an upright stone which marks the grave of Mrs. Sarah Worcester Hitchcock, a daughter of Reverend Samuel A. Worcester, early day missionary to the Cherokees. A graduate of Mount Holyoke seminary, Miss Sarah Worcester, as she then was, served as assistant to Miss Ellen Whitmore, first principal of the Cherokee female seminary, in 1851. Later Miss Sarah was married to Daniel Dwight Hitchcock, M. D., and died in 1857. The name of J. Watt appears in a corner. In other oldtime burial spots tombstones made by John Watt yet stand. But the largest upright stone long stood in a most lonely and isolated place.

Before the close of the 1840's, one Mrs. Elizabeth Stinnett, a relatively short time after the demise of her aged husband, "Uncle Billy" Stinnett, a pioneer store keeper, surprised her Park Hill neighbors by marrying a young man, who seems to have operated the store after the death of "Uncle Billy." Her second husband was Lorenzo Delano. The wife weighed some three hundred pounds, was afflicted with rheumatism of the feet, could not walk, and sat in a big easy chair while directing her hired help. Her death occurred in 1832.

The young widower inherited all money and chattels, a comfortable home, farm and orchard, but he, in course of no distant time, experienced a yearning for his native state of Ohio. He sold all of the property, except the land, to which the new owner acquired rights of occupancy, agreeable to Cherokee law. Thereafter he carefully assembled his quite considerable monetary wealth, and then bade a lasting farewell to friends living in the pleasant valley of Park Hill. He was a fine young man, oldsters once related. On sunshiny Sundays he could be seen walking along the road leading to the brick church of the Mission, wearing a decorous black coat and white trousers.

Before leaving Park Hill scenes young Mr. Delano called on John Watt and employed that master stone cutter to complete and place at the grave of his departed wife, a very heavy and durable gray limestone slab, of granite-like hardness, to stand upright at the head of the grave. Four feet high, three feet wide and fully ten inches thick, this heavy stone bearing the name, date of birth and death of Mrs. Elizabeth Delano, including a scriptural selection, stood for more than sixty years. On the wide front surface in addition to the inscriptions, was chiseled a weeping willow tree, and a dove flying obliquely upward carrying a streamer in its beak. Along the borders were quaint ornamental designs. And, in a corner, the name J. Watt.

This stone monument stood on a level bench of a high and wooded hill on the south side of the Park Hill stream. The stone would doubtless be intact today had not a gullible yokel become obsessed with the senescent belief that many gold coins lay hidden beneath the base of

the stone, which he shattered into fragments. A deep excavation was made but no money found.

The largest memorial completed by John Watt is the Major George Lowrey monument in the present Tahlequah cemetery. Lowrey, several times assistant principal chief, was a member of the Cherokee regiment in the war of 1812. He was elevated to the rank of Major after the battle of Tohopeka. He removed to Indian Territory in 1829 and established his home four miles south of the Park Hill Station. His death occurred in October, 1852, and the national council in regular session at Tahlequah, requested that burial be made in the original Tahlequah cemetery (removed to a new site several decades ago). The council also appropriated a sum of money for a monument. John Watt was employed to construct the monument. Marble had been found in a rugged region of the hills and John Watt began his labor, preparing the first monument made of Cherokee marble. Upon completion it was erected at Tahlequah.

Although Major Lowrey had served as an elder in the Presbyterian church at Willstown, Alabama, for thirty years, and was connected with the Park Hill church during the period he lived in Indian Territory, no mention is made in the inscriptions on the monument. Instead, it is said: "He was for many years a member of the church of Christ."

Nothing is said concerning Major Lowrey's military service, but it is noted that he met President Washington in 1791 or 1792, when a Cherokee delegate to the seat of the United States government, John Watt, of course, did not supply the inscriptions, but utilized those furnished him by some person now unknown, whose knowledge of important facts appears to have been rather hazy.

John Watt liked the Cherokee country, but being a non-citizen, could not acquire land therein, so he went to Arkansas, and found suitable acreage near Van Buren. There he built a substantial home and spent the remainder of his lifetime. On the occasion of a visit to his native Scotland, he brought as gifts to several ladies of Tahlequah and Park Hill some fine Paisley shawls. When well-advanced in years he paid occasional visits to these places.

In regard to disposition of his estate John Watt, in his will, left his property to a nephew in Scotland, but his wife was to possess the home as long as she lived. She also received a sum of money, but by no means all he was known to possess. Even the widow had no idea as to the correct amount. Her husband, she said, had always provided well for her, was not given to talking about his money, and she never questioned him.

With the exception of a young girl companion, the widow lived alone in the big house and after passage of several years peculiar sounds as of muffled blows were heard at night. Then came a stormy night, again the noise was heard, and suddenly one of the large stone chimneys crashed to the ground.

In the light of day was revealed a small and well-built vault beneath the fireplace. The mystery of what John Watt had done with his surplus money was now revealed. In some manner unknown the secret hiding place had been ascertained. The identity of the thieves was never discovered.

The Watt nephew in Scotland never visited the United States, never claimed the property, and so far as known the status of the home and farm remains unsettled.

—Shorey W. Ross

**REPORT: DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY,  
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Head of the Department of History, Dr. Homer L. Knight, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, has reported the activities of his department in October, 1966:

**REPORT**

The History Department of Oklahoma State University announces the following activities and staff changes effective during the summer of 1966: E. James Henderson of the University of Maine became associate professor; Charles M. Dollar of the University of Kentucky became assistant professor; Frances A. Dutra of St. Bonaventure University returned from a Fulbright Fellowship in Portugal and became assistant professor; John A. Sylvester of the University of Wisconsin became assistant professor; Olee A. Wilson of the University of Washington became assistant professor; Joseph Harsh, of Rice University became visiting associate professor; Theodore L. Agnew, professor, became visiting professor of American social and intellectual history at Emory University for the 1966-1967 academic year; Alfred Levin, professor, served as visiting professor of Russian history at the University of Michigan during the 1966 summer session; LeRoy H. Fischer, professor, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society; Sidney D. Brown, professor, was named a Danforth Associate by the Danforth Foundation; Berlin B. Chapman, professor emeritus, became professor of history at Florida State University; O. A. Hilton, professor emeritus, became professor of history at the University of Tulsa.

Nora Jean Shockeyford, part-time instructor, became instructor of history at Tyler Junior College, Tyler, Texas; LeRoy Hawkins, part-time instructor, became instructor of history at Oklahoma Panhandle A. & M. College; Charles W. Goss, part-time instructor, became instructor of history at Oklahoma Southeastern State College; James D. Williams, part-time instructor, became instructor of history at Florissant Valley Community College, Ferguson, Missouri; Melvin F. Regel, part-time instructor, became instructor of history at Oklahoma Southwestern State College; Richard Roughton of the University of Rhode Island and Joseph Harsh of Rice University served as visiting associate professors of history during the 1966 summer session.

Sidney D. Brown, professor, served as director of the National Defense Education Act Summer Institute on East Asian History, in which forty teachers from ten states participated; Dun-Je Li of New Jersey Paterson State College was visiting professor of Chinese history in the Summer Institute on East Asian History; David Abosch of the University of Colorado was visiting associate professor of Japanese history in the Summer Institute on East Asian History; Franklin Buchanan of Ohio State University was visiting assistant professor of educational transfer methods in the Summer Institute on East Asian History; David Plath of the University of Illinois, Chu-Tsing Li and George Beckman of the University of Kansas, and George Packard of the Washington Bureau of News-Week were visiting lecturers in the Summer Institute on East Asian History; John W. Hall, professor of history and master of Morse College at Yale University, accepted the 1966 Summer Lectureship in History and spoke on problems of modern Japan.

REPORT ON THE SALE OF RARE BOOKS  
OF THE STREETER LIBRARY, ON OCTOBER 26, 1966  
IN NEW YORK

Dispersal has commenced of the most outstanding private collection of Americana ever assembled. Throughout the years of his later adult life, Thomas Winthrop Streeter, of Morristown, New Jersey, devoted his great energy, keen intellect, and considerable personal fortune to the assembling of a most worthwhile and noteworthy collection. In his will Mr. Streeter appointed advisors to the collection: Lawrence C. Wroth, Librarian Emeritus of the John Carter Brown Library, Messrs. Charles and Lindley Eberstadt, Mr. Roland Tree, and Mr. Michael J. Walsh to assist in the cataloging and listing of the material.\*

Arrangements were made by the Trustees of the estate for sale through the celebrated galleries of Parke-Bernet, New York City.

One whose heritage is from the Southwest, Jerry E. Patterson, Vice-President of Parke-Bernet, Inc., was designated as the officer of the galleries, with the primary responsibility for the auction of the items from the Southwest, in addition to those of Mexico, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Indian Territory and Oklahoma.

In assessing the value of the Streeter collection, Lawrence C. Wroth has written:

The making of the Streeter collection was not the achievement of one who took up a hobby late in life and speedily brought together a group of high spots, books of the sort that Miss Belle Greene used to call "Oh my" books. It was a growth from within, a process of "book openeth book" indicative of the continuous intellectual broadening of its maker. Like all serious collectors he was happily dependent upon the industry, knowledge, and enterprise of his friends the booksellers, but to this was added his own peculiar gift of appraising and evaluating the books they offered and those which came into the auction market. Mrs. Streeter has told me of the beginnings of his collecting, of the interesting editions of English and American works of various sorts which he called "after dinner" books, show pieces for the delectation of guests. Along with this tentative venture in collecting, he had carried on with one of the main interests of his college days at Dartmouth, the reading and study of American history. Soon he began the purchase of early books in that field. He attended his first auction sale—*Historical Nuggets*—at the Anderson Galleries in 1920. About this time he began to realize that his slowly forming determination was to collect books on "beginnings," books relating to first explorations of states and areas, first settlements, and cultural foundations in the form of first and significant issues of the press in the individual colonies or states. He early realized the importance of maps in the general and particular history of the country and its geographical divisions. That aspect of his collecting he took up with zeal and gave to it more attention than was then customary among private and institutional collectors. In these early years and throughout his life he instinctively maintained in his buying a bal-

ance between value, that is, significance, and cost, a reversal of the truism that many people know the cost of everything and the value of nothing.

The Indian Territory and Oklahoma sections<sup>1</sup> of the sale comprised Items 540 to 609, inclusive listed in the pre-sale catalog, which were offered at public auction on Wednesday evening, October 26, 1966, at the Gallery, 980 Madison Avenue, in New York.

As directed by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society, I attended this portion of the auction with instructions to acquire, subject to certain price limitations, items needed in the collections and archives of the Society.

This section of the sale was rich in several classifications with special interest to the Oklahoma Historical Society: (a) original imprints of various Indian Treaties; (b) copies of early session laws and statutes of the various Indian tribes; and of great importance, (c) a special collection of imprints from Fort McCulloch promulgated by Brigadier General Albert Pike and dealing with his command and conduct of affairs within the Department of the Indian Territory as an officer of the Confederate States of America. Without doubt a number of the Fort McCulloch items are unique.

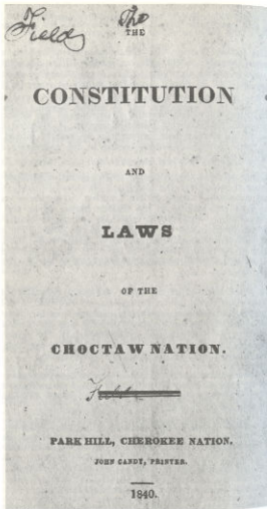
As since reported in the press, the event constituted the most important single sale of Americana yet ever held; and the total of the three sessions, comprising Volume I, of the Streeter sale, of which the Indian Territory material was the third and final portion, fetched in excess of \$600 thousand. The principal bidders were unnamed private collectors, bidding through agents, and the libraries of several of the eastern universities.

Without doubt many of these items will never again be offered for sale between private parties, and accordingly the prices realized constitute a most important matter of concern to everyone in Oklahoma.

The 1836 through 1838 numbers of *Annual Register of Indian Affairs within the Indian (or Western) Territory*, published by Isaac McCoy at Shawnee Baptist Mission fetched \$900.00; and a companion piece published by McCoy on the press at the Baptist Mission House, and titled *Periodical Account of Baptist Missions within the Indian Territory, for the Year ending December 31, 1836*, brought \$150.00.

The first printed copy of Choctaw laws after the removal

<sup>1</sup> The complete listing of these items with the prices realized is in the November 7, 1966, issue of *Antiquarian Bookman*.



(Courtesy Parker-Bernet Galleries, Inc.)

The earliest printing of Choctaw laws fetched \$2500.00.

of the tribe to Indian Territory, and described by Hargrett:<sup>1</sup> as "the earliest known printing of Choctaw laws and the earliest known printing in present Oklahoma of the laws of any government," and titled *The Constitution and Laws of the Choctaw Nation*, with the imprint: "Park Hill: John Candy, Printer, 1840" brought \$2,500.00. A somewhat similar item,<sup>2</sup> the *Laws of the Cherokee Nation* with the same imprint and dated 1842, brought the identical sale price of \$2,500.00.

Another volume<sup>3</sup> printed in the same year, in the Cherokee syllabary, titled *The Laws of the Cherokee Nation, Passed at Tah-le-quah Cherokee Nation, 1839, and 1840*, realized the even greater sum of \$2,750.00.

A similar volume<sup>4</sup> in English titled, *Laws of the Cherokee Nation, Passed at Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation 1844-5*, with the imprint: "Tahlequah, Published at the office of the Cherokee Advocate, 1845," brought the identical sale price, \$2,750.00.

The same figure, \$2,750.00, was fetched by the companion item,<sup>5</sup> *Laws of the Cherokee Nation, Passed at the Annual Session of the National Council, 1845*, with the identical imprint and the year date of 1846.

The greatest interest, however, seemed to be evidenced in a group of items pertaining to Brigadier General Albert Pike, especially those with a Fort McCulloch imprint. What a pity force and circumstance made it impossible for these items to be returned to the locality of their origin and to find a permanent home in the Oklahoma Historical Society!

A small volume, *Message of the President, and Report of Albert Pike*, with the "Richmond: Inquirer Book and Job Press, 1861" imprint set the pace at \$950.00. The highest prices were reserved however for the items published at Fort McCulloch. A 12 page booklet<sup>6</sup> of Louis von Buckholtz, titled *On Infantry Camp Duty*, published at Fort McCulloch in 1862, brought \$3,750.00. A collection of eight unnumbered General Orders<sup>7</sup> of Albert Pike bearing various dates at Fort McCulloch in 1862, realized \$1,500.00.

<sup>1</sup> Lester Hargrett, *Oklahoma Imprints, 1825-1890*, New York, 1951, p. 12 No. 31. Hereafter references to this bibliography will give only item numbers.

<sup>2</sup> Hargrett op. cit., p. 44.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 43.

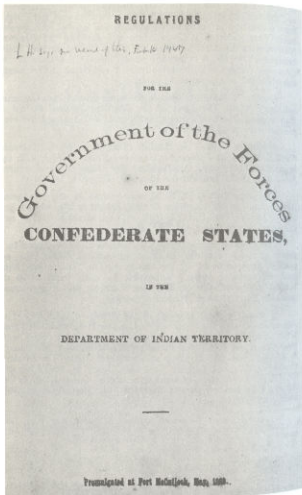
<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 78.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 96.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 203.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 265, 206, 207, 208, 210, 211, 314, 316, 317. Only two of these orders are in *Official Records of the Rebellion*. See Series I, Vol. XIII, pp. 663 and 670.





(Courtesy Parks-Serret Galleries, Inc.)  
The highest price of the entire Indian Territory portion of the sale was realized by this Fort McCulloch Imprint, \$7000.00.

A broadside<sup>9</sup> dated 10th June, 1862, from Fort McCulloch and headed *Indian Troops Wanted!* wherein Pike offered a "bounty of \$50.00 and \$25.00 clothing money" for new Indian troops, saying that the first Choctaw Chickasaw regiment would soon be discharged and Indians were not within the provisions of conscription act, realized \$1,750.00. Another broadside<sup>10</sup> of Pike dated at Fort McCulloch, July 3, 1862, was the famous denunciation by Pike of Major General Thomas C. Hindman, which brought the severe displeasure<sup>11</sup> of President Davis. This item realized \$1,700.00.

Another Pike broadside,<sup>12</sup> dated 31st July 1862, addressed *To the Chiefs and People of the Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Chickasaw and Choctaw*, telling of his resignation from the command fetched \$2000.00.

The highest price of all of the Fort McCulloch items, \$7000.00, was realized by a small booklet<sup>13</sup> titled, *Regulations for the Government of the forces of the Confederate States in the Department of Indian Territory*, with the imprint: "Promulgated at Fort McCulloch, May, 1862." Another volume<sup>14</sup> titled *Part II, Respecting the Rights, Duties and Business of the Officer and Soldier* brought \$2,000.00.

A most interesting item dealing with the present Oklahoma Panhandle was a 20 page booklet published in Dodge City in 1886. Authored by O. G. Chase, the pamphlet was intended for those interested in settling in the Neutral Strip, and titled *The Neutral Strip, or No Man's Land, The Cimarron Territory. The Best was Reserved for the Lant, Squatter Sovereignty is the Natural Right of Man to God's Footstool, Inherited from the Creator from the time Adam and Eve squatted in the Garden of Eden. Common Sense Remarks and Suggestive Rules for Acquiring Title to Unsurveyed Public Lands in the United States.* The "Neutral Strip," and especially Beaver City, are described in detail, the latter having "all been built since June, 1886." This unusual and perhaps unique item realized \$2,800.00.

A book published in 1892 at Trinidad, Colorado, by the Bessel Directory Company, with the title *Directory of the Cities and Towns on the M.K. & T. Railroad between Parsons, Kansas,*

<sup>9</sup> Hargrett, *op. cit.*, p. 218.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 224.

<sup>11</sup> The rebuke of President Davis may be found in *Official Records, Series I, Vol. LXIII, p. 822.*

<sup>12</sup> Hargrett, *op. cit.*, p. 225. *Official Records, Series I, Vol. XIII, p. 808.*

<sup>13</sup> Hargrett, *op. cit.*, p. 219.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 226.

OF  
**OUTPOST DUTY,**

FOR OFFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF CAVALRY,

BY

**LIEUT.-COLONEL VON ARENTSCHILD,**

First Hussar King's German Legion.

WITH

AN ABRIDGMENT OF THEM

BY

**LIEUT.-COLONEL THE HON. F. POWSONBY,**

Twelfth Light Dragoons.

—  
Farr McCulloch, June 1861.

(Courtesy Parke-Bernet Galleries, Inc.)  
Dated 1861 instead of 1862, this product of Albert Pike's printing press  
at Fort McCulloch realized \$3750.00.

and Denison, Texas, 1892-3, brought \$900.00. The book names Muskogee as "the most important town in Indian Territory."

Two items of special interest were the original of printings of two constitutional documents, that of the proposed State of Sequoyah and that of the State of Oklahoma.

The State of Sequoyah was an item of 67 pages with a folding colored map, titled *Constitution of the State of Sequoyah*, with the imprint "Muskogee Phoenix Printing Co., 1905." At the end of the pamphlet is the date 8 September 1905, and the certification "F. Porter, Chairman, Attest: Alex Posey, Secretary." This brought \$1300.00. A similar pamphlet of 176 pages denominated, *Constitution, Certificates, and County Boundaries and Election Ordinances of Oklahoma*, with the imprint "Leader Printing Company, Guthrie, 1907," fetched \$250.00.

Much may be learned from this historic sale and the prices knowledgeable collectors and institutions were willing to pay for acquisition of material of this nature. Perhaps we here in Oklahoma, and especially the officials and staff of the Society, have been taking too much for granted, and have treated of little consequence things that are recognized by others for their worth. Even more so, however, is the realization that our own archives are of fantastic monetary value and that they constitute truly one of the great cultural assets and are a priceless heritage of the Sooner state.

—George H. Shirk