

TEXANNA

By Carolyn Thomas Foreman

Several towns in Oklahoma acquired their names by combining part of the word Texas with other syllables: one of them was Texanna, now a ghost town in McIntosh County. The village was settled by the band of Cherokee Indians who located there after being driven out of Texas in 1830.¹ An everlasting spring on the site of the village was one reason for the settlement at this place.

There is something fascinating about the name Texanna. It causes one to wonder just who was the young Anna honored, and did she move to the Indian country from Texas. Although enquiry was made by the writer no certainty as to the origin of the name has been learned. One man who was born in the village recalls that the name had some connection with a girl.

In the early nineteenth century The Bowle, a chief of the Cherokees, became dissatisfied in the Cherokee Nation East, and with a number of followers emigrated to the West and settled for a short period north of Red River. Still not contented with the surroundings, with the aid of General Sam Houston he secured a patent of land from the Mexican government. In 1818 he settled on a tract thirty by sixty miles in extent, north of Nacodoches, Texas. Other Cherokees, some Shawnees and Delawares joined the Cherokees and lived there until Texas declared her independence and Governor Mirabeau B. Lamar drove the Indians out of the country, and, although The Bowle had taken no part in the controversy, he lost his life. His fellow colonists, compelled to leave, were scattered between Red River and the Arkansas on the Washita, Blue and Boggy rivers.

The Choctaws objected to their presence and almost all of the refugees located on the Canadian River near Edward's Trading Settlement. In 1840, one hundred and eighty Cherokees arrived from Texas in a starving state at Dutch's settlement above the mouth of the Canadian River. The fine old Cherokee Dutch² went to Fort Gibson in their behalf, and induced Colonel Matthew Arbuckle to furnish them with food.³

¹ Charles N. Gould, *Oklahoma Place Names* (Norman, 1933), p. 88. Texanna is on the southeast corner of McIntosh County, Oklahoma, west of Forum is on or near the Canadian River.

² Captain William Dutch, whose proper name was Tahchee, was one of the most active and well known Cherokees. For a sketch of this famous Indian see Carolyn Thomas Foreman, "Dutch," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XXVII, No. 3 (Autumn, 1949), pp. 252-67.

³ Grand Foreman (ed.) *A Traveler in Indian Territory*, (Cedar Rapids, 1930), p. 256; Grant Foreman, *Advancing the Frontier* (Norman, 1933), p. 166.

Colonel Ethan Allen Hitchcock in his diary of his travels in the Indian Territory confused The Bowles with Bowles the notorious white man who caused so much trouble among the Indians in the East before their removal to their home in the West.

From Texana, September 29, 1840, James Moss wrote to Honorable Joseph Waples as follows:¹

"Dear Sir: yours of the 16th came to hand bringing the cheering intelligence of my wife's Brother having been purchased in by the Indian agent [William Wilson] of the U. S. at Fort Towson—My brother in law Benjamin Pearce left here some time about the last of June to go to Fort Towson having heard that there was a boy of that name brought in there. But we have heard nothing since from either [of] them and had despaired of the news. But I think it is likely Benjamin had reached there ere this time and got his Brother."

The place at the mouth of the Canadian River was owned by R. M. Morgan who was wounded near Fort Gibson during the Civil War in a raid on a house in which two Federal Indians were fortified. He died and was buried near Texana in 1863.²

On March 8, 1870, Spencer S. Stephens, superintendent of the Cherokee public schools wrote from his office in Tahlequah to notify the directors of "the school called the 'Texana'" that he had appointed Miss Emma Drew to take charge of the school.³

Probably the best known citizen of Texana was Dr. Harvey Lindsey. He was undoubtedly one of the most useful persons who ever settled in that section of the Indian Territory. Harvey Lindsey was born in Henry County, Tennessee on July 16, 1825. His parents, Edward and Rachel Murphy Lindsey saw that young Harvey received his early education in a subscription school in Henry County and later in Benton County. After studying medicine he began practicing with Dr. Somers in Newport, Tennessee; he removed to Tyler, Texas in 1849, where, for twenty years he was actively engaged in the practice of his profession. In 1851, Dr. Lindsey was married to Miss Martha Saline Cowser by whom he had five children: Martha S., Hannah, who became the wife of W. N. Martin of Muskegee; Edward Allen, Harvey who married Ida Maxwell, and Thomas whose wife was Nancy Turnbolt.

At the commencement of the Civil War, Dr. Lindsey enlisted in the Confederate Army and served until the end of the conflict. On returning home he discovered that his wife had died and his children were being cared for by a faithful slave who remained with them until her death. Having lost all of his property, and

¹ Texas State Library (Austin), "Indian Papers."

² Newspaper clippings entitled "First Settlers of Webbers Falls," in a scrapbook compiled by H. T. Hanks of Webbers Falls. Names of papers were not preserved.

³ Document in Grant Foreman collection of Drew papers. Miss Emma Drew was a daughter of Colonel John Drew of Webbers Falls.

being disgusted with the carpetbaggers who had taken possession of Tyler, he decided to leave Texas for a new country of which he had heard much. So, in 1839 he removed to the Indian Territory and settled near Webbers Falls. He sent for his sons, but left his daughter to complete her education at Charnwood College in Tyler, Texas.

In 1872 Dr. Lindsey married Bettie Jane Hanks McCarty, a member of a prominent Cherokee family. He removed to Eufaula in 1874 and through many years devoted his energies to the alleviation of suffering humanity. There were no roads in those days and the Doctor was obliged to make his visits in a buggy in good weather and on horseback after storms, over miles of prairies and hills to patients from fifty to one hundred miles distant.

In the spring and early summer the physician found the prairie carpeted with myriads of wild flowers in colors that rivalled the most exquisite oriental rugs; he frequently encountered deer, while rabbits and quail were seen in great numbers. His long trips were entertained by the songs of numerous birds and at night by the dismal howl of coyotes. In the winter he ploughed through mud and snow, beat upon by the north wind, in an endeavor to reach the log cabin of some distant settler whose wife was bringing a new citizen into the world.

According to his grandson William Martin of Muskogee, Dr. Lindsey was "genial, friendly, sympathetic, always helpful, he soon made friends with both the red and the few whites who were then living in the Indian Territory. He sometimes was called upon to visit homes where he was obliged to furnish food as well as medicine. . . . His friends deplored his generosity, saying that his course would soon impoverish any man."

In his leisure hours Dr. Lindsey found great pleasure in hunting and fishing. He became so interested in his new home that he often declared that "he would not trade it for anybody's land even if he did not own a foot of it." At that period whites could not own real estate in the Indian Territory, but after the Doctor's marriage to a Cherokee citizen he became an adopted citizen and acquired land. The comfortable Lindsey home was well supplied with good furniture, fine damask, china, and silver. The owners were always prepared to receive and entertain guests in a gracious manner.

Dr. Lindsey was an ardent Mason; and he helped to organize one of the early lodges in the Indian country at Eufaula and he became Grand Master of the lodges in the Territory. After long years of devotion to his profession the Doctor decided to retire, and he moved to a farm near Texanna. He soon realized that he was not to be allowed to enjoy his well-earned rest as there were constant calls for his services and "his buggy and gentle team of horses were

traveling over ever widening roads when the infirmities of old age overtook him. The last years of his life were spent at home where he died at the age of eighty-nine years."⁷

The notorious Cherokee, Tom Starr, who lived in the neighborhood of Texanna, once performed a kindly act when he saw that young Miss Hannah Lindsey was terrified at the prospect of fording the Canadian River. He lifted the girl onto his horse and reassured her with the words, "Don't git skeered little gal," when they saw the train approaching.⁸ The girl did not recognize her helper, and if she had known who he was she would have been more alarmed than she was of the river, particularly if she had recognized him as the murderer of Mr. and Mrs. Vore when he set fire to their home and tossed a small child into the blaze as it toddled towards him with outstretched arms.

H. J. Vann, Clerk of the Canadian District, Cherokee Nation, on July 10, 1881, notified W. G. Roberson that he was appointed to act as clerk of the election at "Texann School precinct on the first Monday (1st day) in August, 1881."⁹

"War Talker" sent word to the *Cherokee Advocate*, November 2, 1883, that a young cyclone passed through the Texanna neighborhood. The houses belonging to Willie Whisenhunt were blown down, but no one was hurt. "All of our good neighbors gave Willie a lift, on the same day, and put his house up. The furniture was very much damaged. . . ." Whisenhunt was a tenant of Dr. Lindsey according to Miss Martin of Muskogee.

The Cherokee Council time was approaching. The councillors from Texanna were George Downing and Tom Walls: "They will soon start for old Tahlequah with their minds made up to do good for the red man."¹⁰

"Health very good around about here; no one bad sick, but little bad colds. Cotton plenty here this fall. Farmers keep our little trading point—Fisher Town—busy all the time. Cotton is worth from \$2.50 to \$2.75 per hundred pounds."

⁷The above quotations were taken from a paper written by the late William Martin of Muskogee, Oklahoma.

⁸Authority of Miss Sybil Martin Muskogee, Oklahoma, daughter of Hannah Lindsey Martin.

⁹Grant Foreman Collection. Herman Johnson Vann served as clerk of Canadian District in 1875, 1877, 1879 and 1881. He was judge of the same district in 1891, 1893 and 1897 (Emmet Starr, *A History of the Cherokee Indians* [Oklahoma City, 1921], pp. 289, 291).

¹⁰George Downing was councillor from Canadian District in 1883, 1885; Thomas Walls occupied a like position in 1875, 1881, 1883, 1893 (Starr, *op. cit.*, p. 289). According to Mr. J. W. Scott (Muskogee, Oklahoma), a native of Texanna, George Downing was a very smart fullblood Cherokee.

The Baptist missionary preacher, W. M. Hays, who lived at Texanna wrote about the extent of his work to the Reverend J. S. Morrow, the noted Baptist missionary leader, of the Indian Territory:¹¹

"Fishertown, Creek Nation, I. T.

April 7, 1887.

Dear Bro. Morrow:

"Perhaps some of the brethren and friends who read the *Indian Missionary*, are wondering if there is any Baptist preaching along the Canadian river east of Eufaula. . . . Going east from Eufaula to the State line, there are about 14 preaching points. At eight of these points is established a Baptist church. The work all along the river is very promising. I have been at work for the Home Mission Board of Western Arkansas and Indian Territory since the 15th of September, 1886. I have traveled 1,500 miles, preached 160 sermons, received into the three churches, of which I am pastor, 60 members, baptized 22 and witnessed about 50 conversions.

"I am pastor of Short Mountain church, Texanna church, and Rock Branch church. These churches seem to be getting along all right. There is a great deal of work to do yet, but the laborers are few.

Yours in gospel bonds, W. M. Hays,

Mbr. of Gen. Assn. of West. Ark., and Ind. Ter."

Missionary Hays began a protracted meeting in his home church at Texanna, on the Saturday before the first Sunday in August, 1887. He was assisted by "Bro. Wilson from Webber's Falls, Bro. Newton of Texas, and other brethren of the Territory."¹²

An appeal was printed in the *Indian Missionary*, December, 1887, by Hays to help build a Baptist church at Texanna, and Editor Morrow "emphatically endorsed Bro. Hay's appeal and bespeak for him prompt and liberal contributions." The missionary was holding another meeting in Texanna in July; he reported nine new members of the church and wrote of the great destitution in the country.¹³

On June 27, 1888, John Bryant was appointed the first post master of Texanna, Cherokee Nation. The office did not operate during the period between July 29, 1889 to August 25, 1890. Mail was sent to Fishertown.

This town must not be confused with a village of the same name in the Chickasaw Nation of which William F. Stone served as the first post master, having been appointed December 9, 1885. The

¹¹ *The Indian Missionary* (Atoka, Indian Territory), April, 1887, 3, col. 3. For data on Short Mountain Baptist Association, see Herbert Miner Pierce, "Baptist Pioneers in Eastern Oklahoma," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XXX, No. 3, p. 279.

¹² *The Indian Missionary*, September, 1887, p. 6, col. 4.

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 1, col. 1.

office was discontinued September 9, 1887, the mail being sent to Thackerville.¹⁴

The annual meeting of the Muskogee and Seminole Live Stock Association was held in "Phoenix Hull," Muskogee, on March 13, 1888, with John R. Moore of the Creek Nation as president. After a committee had been appointed to consider the applications for admission to membership Dr. Harvey Lindsey was duly elected along with five other men.

When a committee "on round-up" of cattle was elected that group made a report as follows: "District No. 1—to include all of the Canadian District, Cherokee Nation, and all of the Creek country east of the railroad between the Arkansas and North Fork rivers, P. N. Blackstone, captain; round-up to be held at Blackstone's ranch on Tuesday, the first of May, 1888."

Ten other districts for round-up were designated with officers and date of the meetings. This organization composed of a body of important men interested in stock raising, considered the matter of rewards for apprehension and trials of horse thieves. A proposition by the *Indian Journal* to publish the brands of the association and furnish each member with a copy of the paper at the rate of \$3.50, was on motion of Dr. Leo O. Bennett accepted. After all the business had been attended to the meeting was adjourned to meet at Okmulgee the following March.¹⁵

A notice was printed in the *Cherokee Advocate* (Tahlequah), January 2, 1889 by J. M. Hildebrand, Guardian of Effie O. Hildebrand, a minor child, warning all persons "not to buy a farm situated four miles above the mouth of Dutchess Creek, on Canadian, now in possession of one Samuel Replegle non-citizen. I claim said property as belonging to Effie O. Hildebrand. . . ."

The same issue of the *Advocate* contained a notice signed by Susan Eatly on December 10, 1888, notifying all persons not to purchase the improvement situated at Texanna. . . . advertised by the Sheriff of said District for sale as the property of one Replogal (sic) an intruder." Susan Eatly claimed the legal right to the property.

Among many interviews with pioneers in *Indian-Pioneer History*, are several concerning Texanna which give a clear picture of the village and its inhabitants. Elijah Conger (Route 2, Oktaha, Oklahoma) related that in 1887, he moved near Texanna. At that time, John Pierce owned and operated the gin and mill in the town. In

¹⁴ George H. Shirk "First Post Offices within the Boundaries of Oklahoma," *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XXVI, No. 2 (Summer, 1948), p. 46.

¹⁵ *Muskogee Phoenix*, March 15, 1888, p. 3, col. 4-5.

his reminiscent notes, Conger tells about the Canadian River ferries, ranching in the vicinity and the "Growth of Texas":¹⁶

"The Rip-A-Lowe Ferry, owned by Mr. Rip A. Lowe, was four miles south of Texanna on the Texas Road and it was this ferry that was used by all cattlemen and immigrants. When the river was up this ferry could not be used and the old Texas road was left at a point one quarter of a mile on each side of the ferry and ran to another ferry about one and a half miles up stream. This latter ferry, called the Shaver ferry, was owned by a Mr. Shaver.

"The Circle Bar Ranch, was owned by Cicero Davis and was located near Texanna [sic]. Jack Foreman was the foreman and he together with the horse wranglers and cow punchers usually handled about a thousand head of cattle each year. Their brand was 'O'. Cicero Davis' brother Sam Davis, owned the Half Circle Ranch and handled approximately a thousand head of cattle each year. . . ."

"Growth of Texas"

"The first and only store for a long time was owned by John Pierce, next came Forsythe and Ogden, then McKnight and Luman, etc. There was no bank. These merchants did all of the business. John Pierce furnished nearly all of the Indians as he was the first settler and better known. Months and years he furnished them and individual families owed him thousands of dollars. He depended upon these Indians receiving their government pay and then paying him. I am a white man but I still give the Indians credit of being honest for I don't believe that Mr. Pierce lost a single dollar they owed him. Texas at present is just a wide place to the road. I think there is a little country store. The populace continued to move to Checotah and Eufaula and other towns along the M. K. & T Railroad until the little town of Texanna is about left off the map."

One of the most interesting interviews taken from *Indian-Pioneer History* is that of Mrs. Susan Fields Toney. As she speaks no English her recollections were interpreted by her son Calvin Harrison Toney:

I (Susan Toney) was born in a refugee camp on Red River in the Choctaw Nation January 8, 1862, where my parents, with other Cherokees, had fled to escape the dangerous conditions that existed in the Indian Territory brought on by the Civil War.

My father was William Fields, fullblood Cherokee, and my mother was Sallie (Gist) Fields, the daughter of Teasey (Tessell Gist, the son of George Gist or Sequoyah, Cherokee).¹⁷

¹⁶ *Indian-Pioneer History*, Foreman Collection (WPA project S-149) in Indian Archives, Oklahoma Historical Society, Vol. 2, pp. 196-199.

¹⁷ According to Starr's history Teasee (or Toney, Tensee) was the eldest son of Sequoyah and Sallie or U-ti-yu. His wives are given as U-ti-yu and Rebecca Bowles. Teasee Guss or Gist, had reached men's estate when his father departed for Mexico in 1842, and he accompanied Sequoyah along with The Worm and six other Cherokees. When the Cherokee Cadmus failed to return his people became greatly worried about his fate and applied to Agent Pierce M. Butler for funds to finance a hunt for him. Butler, through the Secretary of War, secured \$200 of tribal funds to pay for the hunt for Sequoyah and bring him home. (Grant Foreman, *Sequoyah* (Norman, 1938), pp. 48, 59, 69, 70, 73). Teasee Guss served as senator from Canadian District in 1853. He was third sergeant in the company of Captain John Porum Davis in The Second Cherokee Volunteers during the Civil War (Starr, *op-cit.*, pp. 366, 270, 146).

After the Civil War my parents moved back to their home place at the mouth of Dutch Creek¹⁸ on the Canadian River where my grandfather, Tenny Gist, died in 1869, when I was seven years of age. I remember his burial in the old Cherokee burial ground on the hill beside the Old Dutch Creek trail and two and one-half miles southeast of Texanna, or one and one-half miles west of the old home place. I have known of this old burial ground of the Cherokees since my earliest recollection and it was a very old burial ground at that time. It was abandoned about fifty years ago. There are only two white people buried in the place. They were two little girls, children of a poor family that was living in the vicinity when their children died about 1911.

There were many of the early Cherokees buried at that place and it was always known as the Cherokee burial ground and had no other name. . . .

Calvin Harrison Toney, a son of Levi and Susan Fields Toney was born August 9, 1862, near the village of Texanna. He was reared in the immediate vicinity of his birthplace, and received his education in the Cherokee National Schools at Texanna and Prairie Gap, later attending Bacone Indian College at Muskogee. Mr. Toney lived on his mother's allotment where he reared his family, two and one-half miles southeast of Texanna.¹⁹

David B. Ogden came to the Indian Territory in 1896 and engaged in the mercantile business at Texanna. In 1902 he was joined by his brother, Lattie Davis Ogden who was born September 11, 1881 at Clarksville, Arkansas and educated in that state. Mr. L. D. Ogden gave an interview for the *Indian-Pioneer History* as follows:²⁰

"Texanna, at that time, was a thriving little inland town of about three hundred population, located on the old Ft. Smith and Guthrie trail, at that time, the only northwest-southeast road through this part of the Territory. In 1902 the firm of Forsyth & Ogden did more than \$100,000 worth of business. The firm also owned the only cotton gin at Texanna, and that year ginned more than 2,000 bales of cotton. In 1903 the firm established their second mercantile store at Checotah and continued to operate both stores until 1906 when the firm discontinued business. In later years Mr. Ogden engaged in farming but continued to make his home in Texanna."

Charles M. Randall was a prominent and well to do citizen of the Texanna vicinity. He was born April 10, 1860 in Copiah County,

¹⁸ This was the settlement of Dutch the great Cherokee Indian. Later the creek was called "Dutchess Creek," but the name originated from the Indian Yelchee, or Dutch.

¹⁹ *Indian-Pioneer History*, op. cit., Vol. 112, pp. 316, 317. Levi Toney, a full-blood Cherokee, was forty-three years of age at the time of *Final Rolls of the Five Civilized Tribes* were made. His mother was No. 17008 and the account is found in the Cherokee Roll, p. 342.

²⁰ *Indian-Pioneer History*, op. cit., Vol. 38, pp. 202, 203.

Mississippi and moved to Texanna in 1908, where he was employed as a clerk in the Forayth & Ogden General Mercantile Store.²¹

Dr. G. W. West of Eufaula, Oklahoma, related that Dr. Harvey Lindsey was the first doctor in that part of the Indian Territory. As there were no other physicians Lindsey was called upon to drive for miles to visit the ill. "He has been dead for years. He was a much older man than I. I came here as a young man, and practiced medicine with Mr. Lindsey."²²

That Dr. Lindsey was well and favorably remembered is demonstrated by the number of people who spoke of him when interviewed for the *Indian-Pioneer History*. Mrs. Mary B. Stevens of North McAlester, Oklahoma, who was born in Scott County, Arkansas in the year 1874, stated that her family removed to the Indian Territory in 1893 and located in the little Cherokee village of Texanna, twelve miles east of Eufaula. They lived on Dr. Lindsey's place and she said that Mrs. Lindsey was a full blood Cherokee. "Dr. Lindsey practiced medicine over the state. He was well known among the Indians. He was also a big land holder and owned lots of cattle and horses. . . ."²³

A prominent physician and business man of Texanna was Dr. Dayton Bennett, Jr., who settled in the place in 1894. He was born in Conway County, Arkansas January 24, 1869, and in 1887 he entered the medical department of the State University of Kentucky, at Louisville, from which he graduated with the degree of M.D., in 1890. When Dr. Bennett first located in Texanna he was obliged to use a buggy or ride horseback over the poor roads and trails through the woods and across the prairie. He evidently prospered as he acquired several hundred acres of land in the Canadian River bottom south of Texanna.

"There were no negroes in this part of the country. The farmers had free range for their livestock and it was very easy for everyone to make a good living and have some money in the bank each year. . . . He [Dr. Bennett] was the third physician to settle in old Texanna and is the only one now here. . . . [he] opened the first and only drug store in this place."²⁴

Riley and Bumgarner were given a license to carry on a mercantile business in the Cherokee Nation at Texanna, Canadian District, July 31, 1896. The *Muskogee Phoenix*, August 2, 1894 reported that Messrs. J. Frank Phillips and H. H. Phelps of Texanna were visitors in Checotah during the week.

²¹ *Ibid.*, Vol. 43, pp. 126, 128 (Interview with Ross Roundtree, Texanna, Oklahoma).

²² *Ibid.*, Vol. 49, p. 227.

²³ *Ibid.*, Vol. 82, p. 402.

²⁴ Interview with Latta Ogden, Texanna, Oklahoma, *ibid.*, Vol. 107, pp. 261-263.

James N. Scott of Mississippi and his wife Fannie Marrs Scott, a native of Georgia, settled near Texanna before the Civil War. Their son John W. Scott was born there in 1892 when it was a very small settlement. The lad attended school in Texanna and Tahlequah. There were a large log Indian school and another run by subscription at Texanna, along with Methodist and Baptist churches, a mill, a cotton gin, five general stores and one drug store. There was a ferry which belonged to Replogle.

In addition to Dr. Dayton Bennett there was a physician of the name of Moonshiam in Texanna; a missionary of the name of Atkins visited the town from his station in Muskogee.

According to Mr. John W. Scott about one-third of the people of the village were whites. Among those recalled by Mr. Scott were, Dr. Lindsey, Mrs. Mary Morris, Joel Quinton, Hickory Rogers, Dick Bertholf, Isaac Howell. Indian residents named by Mr. Scott were Mrs. Polly Triplett, George Downing, Charles Delano, Tom Watts, Isaac Grover, Jack Vickery, and W. J. McClure. Mrs. McClure was the mother of the Scott children, McClure being her second husband.

Mr. Scott states that the Reverend Ross Ballard was the first full blood clergyman he ever knew.²² Dr. Howell A. Scott a prominent Muskogee physician and a brother of John W. Scott, was born in Texanna. He married Miss Maud Saunders who was also a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.

The *Fort Smith Elevator* of August 24, 1900 reported:

The Old Settlers Association which was organized in Checotah recently, chose the following officers for the ensuing year: Capt. William Gentry of Checotah, president; Judge I. B. Hitchcock of Vinita, vice-president; Tom Downing of Texanna, secretary; Judge Herman Vann of Briartown, treasurer; and Williams Keys, of Checotah, sergeant-at-arms. The next meeting will be held at Checotah in August, 1901.

Judge Hitchcock is the oldest white resident of the Indian Territory, having been born in the Cherokee Nation seventy-five years ago, and has resided there all his life.

The death of John Dedrick Morgan, a well known Negro, who died at his home in Coffeyville, Kansas, on March 18, 1910, revived interesting memories of Mrs. Bettie Lindsey, widow of Dr. Lindsey of Texanna, Oklahoma, who wrote that the man, although born in slavery in 1835, had amassed quite a fortune. He was familiarly known as "Uncle John", but by the children of his owners he had been called "Toss". Mrs. Margaret Sevier Morgan, grandmother of Mrs. Lindsey, had owned John and his mother Ailsey as well as his sisters Zora and Sylvia. Colonel Gideon Morgan commanded the Cherokees at the Battle of the Horse Shoe against the Creeks in

²² The writer is grateful to Mr. John W. Scott of Muskogee for much information concerning his native town.

1812. Colonel and Mrs. Morgan in 1830 lived near the Chilhowie Mountains in East Tennessee about thirty miles from Knoxville on the banks of the Tennessee River; their estate was called "Citico," and there Mrs. Lindsey was born in 1834.

Mrs. Morgan, with her family and slaves, left Tennessee in 1849 or 1850, and settled near Tahlequah. The Negro youth there met Cynthia, a serving maid of Mrs. John Ross, and they were married in 1858 at Park Hill and lived happily together for fifty-four years. In 1862 they followed Chief Ross and his family to Philadelphia where they remained until the war was ended, and then they moved to Coffeyville.

When near death "Toss" sent word to Robert J. Hanks of Webbers Falls, brother of Mrs. Lindsey, "Come, I want to see your face once more," and Mr. Hanks left at once and was beside the aged Negro when he crossed the river of eternity.

At the present time Texanna is merely a tiny village, but the place lives in the memories of aged citizens as a prosperous town inhabited by people of refinement and high standards.