

NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

INDEX PUBLISHED FOR *THE CHRONICLES*, VOLUME XXVII (1949)

Members of the Oklahoma Historical Society and all others receiving *The Chronicles* regularly can secure the published Index for Volume XXVII, 1949, compiled by Mrs. Rella Looney, Archivist, by addressing a request to the Oklahoma Historical Society, Historical Building, Oklahoma City 5, Oklahoma.

CONFEDERATE

MEMORIAL SCROLL TO THE INDIAN OFFICERS IN THE
WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

An outstanding project for the Confederate Memorial Hall, sponsored by Mrs. Jessie R. Moore, Member of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society, has been completed and is now on exhibit to commemorate the part the Indian nations had in the War between the States. A Memorial Scroll compiled by Mrs. Helen Gorman, Custodian of the Confederate Hall, gives the names of 640 staff and line officers of Indian blood who commanded approximately 11,875 troops in the Confederate States Army, from the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, Seminole, Caddo and Osage nations in the Indian Territory. This Scroll beautifully executed in pen text is a contribution to the history of the State, listing together for the first time the names of leaders in the Indian Territory of ninety years ago who served the land that is now Oklahoma.

SAN JACINTO MUSEUM OF HISTORY ASSOCIATION WILL SPONSOR
PUBLICATION OF *TLALOCAN*

San Jacinto Museum of History Association, San Jacinto Monument, Texas, has sent the following notice through Director Dorothy W. Knepper, to the Editorial Department of *The Chronicles*:

"Beginning with Volume III, No. 1, the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, San Jacinto Monument, Texas, will sponsor the publication: *Tlalocan*, a Journal of Source Materials on the Native Cultures of Mexico, published by La Casa de Tlaloc, Azcapotzalco, Mexico, D.F. The Journal was founded by George Smisor and Robert H. Barlow. Mr. Barlow is the editor. The board of editorial advisers consists of: Paul Radin, Professor of Anthropology, Black Mountain College, North Carolina; Frederico Gomez de Orozco; Carl Sauer, Department of Geography, University of California, Berkeley; Rafael Garcia Granados, Facultad de Filosofia y Letras, Universidad Nacional de Mexico, and Wigberto Jimenez Moreno, Departamento de Etnologia, Museo Nacional de Antropologia, Mexico, D.C.

"All institutions in the United States interested in receiving *Tlalocan* on an exchange basis are requested to communicate with the San Jacinto Museum of History Association, San Jacinto Monument, Texas."

FORT BELKNAP SOUVENIR PLATE

Old Fort Belknap, in present Young County, Texas, has always been of special interest to students of Oklahoma history, for this old army post, originally known as Camp Brazos, was really an offspring of our own Fort Washita. Carolyn Thomas Foreman, in her fine article on Gen. William G. Belknap, in Volume XX of the *Chronicles*, page 124 (June 1942) tells how Camp Brazos was first started by troops from Fort Washita, and that its founder and the officer for whom the post was named did not live to return to Washita.

Camp Brazos was designated Fort Belknap by order dated 3 Nov. 1851 by Gen. P. F. Smith; and with its sister post, Fort Phantom Hill, it served for many years as an outpost of Fort Washita. The buildings were restored in 1936 in connection with the Texas Centennial Celebration; and the site, a few miles south of New Castle, Texas, and at the terminus of State Highway 251, is beautifully maintained and well kept, and includes a museum and replicas of the principal buildings.

The Fort Belknap Memorial Society has recently issued souvenir plates, nicely illustrated with scenes of the old post. One of these makes a fine addition to an Oklahoma history souvenir collection. They may be obtained from Mrs. J. W. Bullock, Secretary, Fort Belknap Memorial Society, Newcastle, Texas.

Flower and Feather

WITH ANOTHER MEMORIAL TO SEQUOYAH

Another memorial among many in the United States to Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet, was dedicated on November 6, 1949, under the auspices of The Chattanooga Audubon Society of Tennessee when Robert Sparks Walker, author-naturalist and founder of the Society, christened a tree in "Literary Acres" in The Elise Chapin Wild Life Sanctuary, to the famous Cherokee, stating in part:

"After twelve years of devotion to devising an alphabet without thought of monetary reward, Sequoya succeeded in perfecting a syllabary by which an Indian might soon learn to read and write. He thus became the only literary person in America to be voted a pension for life. It came through the Cherokee Nation. It is therefore, fitting and proper, that we christen this native red cedar tree, which stands at the beginning of the Sequoya Trail, for him. Here it shall grow as a symbol of the noble character of one of America's greatest aborigines."

Oklahoma was represented at this tree christening by Mrs. A. W. Hancock, a Cherokee and Baptist missionary whose home is in McAlester, Oklahoma, who was visiting friends on Missionary Ridge, Chattanooga, during the Audubon Society ceremonies in November. She herself had a part in the program, wearing beautiful Indian

costume and was addressed by her Cherokee name *Sallateeska* which means "Lifting Up." A tree in "Military Acres" was dedicated to the memory of John Ross when she christened a red cedar in the following words:

"A century and a half ago, some of the most prominent Cherokee chiefs occupied the lands of this region, which included what is now *Military and Literary Acres*. The most highly educated and most respected of the Cherokee chiefs was John Ross, whose grandmother was born almost in sight of Military Acres. Doubtless John Ross in his youth often walked these very acres, and his feet pressed the sod on which we tread today. He was a man whose character and integrity were beyond reproach. He enjoyed the esteem and confidence of both whites and Indians. He joined the United States Army and served under Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812. It is therefore fitting that he be honored today by bestowing to this young red cedar the name *John Ross*."

The above notes are made from *Flower and Feather* (Vol. VI, No. 1, January, 1950), published by The Chattanooga Audubon Society, sent to the Editorial Department of *The Chronicles* through the kindness and interest of Mrs. Grant Foreman, of Muskogee, Oklahoma. Among a number of trees dedicated by the Chattanooga Society, in November, was one newly set, christened in the following lines: "To Robert Sparks Walker, author-naturalist; born on these acres, he escaped from his rural beginnings to become a foremost authority in his profession."

Robert Sparks Walker is the noted author and historian on the early Cherokee, of Tennessee. His *Torchlights to the Cherokees; the Brainerd Mission* (New York, 1931) is well known in the Oklahoma Historical Society Library.

DEDICATION PROGRAMS FOR HISTORICAL MARKERS IN OKLAHOMA

The fifty roadside Historical Markers erected in 1949-50 by the Oklahoma Historical Society and the State Highway Commission have been received with much interest by Oklahomans and the traveling public on the highways in the state, from reports coming in to the Historical Society.

The dedication programs for two markers in Roger Mills County were outstanding on April 19, arranged by the California Road Committee, Melvin Harrell and U. L. Harshfield. The marker "Battle of the Washita" (Nov. 28, 1868, Cheyenne village on Washita River wiped out by Col. Geo. Custer's command) erected on the court house square at Cheyenne, County Seat of Roger Mills, was dedicated by a program in the American Legion Hall at 11:00 a.m. Special features of this program included songs by the Cheyenne public schools, under the direction of Mrs. L. L. Males, and by the Apollo Club of Cheyenne; also, square dancing by pupils from the schools, in colorful pioneer and cowboy costumes, and talks by two of the County's well known pioneers, Mrs. Dunn and Colonel Alvin

Moore. Radio Station K.A.S.A., of Elk City, made recordings and broadcasts. In the afternoon on April 19, the marker "California Road," erected about fifteen miles north of Cheyenne, near Roll on U.S. Highway #283, was dedicated by a special pageant, written by Melvin Harrel, showing incidents of the opening of the famous Road (or Trail) through Oklahoma in 1849 by Captain Randolph B. Marcy and "the gold seekers" on the way to California, with horses, wagons, and mounted Indians in the train. The notable pioneer of Roger Mills County in the afternoon's program was Mrs. Augusta M. Metcalf, Oklahoma's outstanding artist of the quarter horse and other work in oils. Schools participating in the music were Crawford, Cheyenne, Strong City, and Breezy Meadow of Roger Mills County.

Dedications have also been held at Okmulgee, "Creek Capitol," Okmulgee County, March 8; at Red Fork (Tulsa), "First Oil Well in Tulsa County," March 24; near McAlester, "Perryville," Pittsburg County, April 18; near Sallisaw, "Dwight Mission," Sequoyah County, April 30; at Wayne, "California Trail," McClain County, May 10 (postponed to May 17); at Fort Gibson, "Fort Gibson," Muskogee County, May 28; at Rush Springs, "Battle of the Wichita Village," Grady County, June 6; near Sequoyah, "Claremore Mound" Rogers County, June 22; and at Eufaula, "North Fork Town," McIntosh County, June 6.

Word has been received by the Historical Society that dedications are being planned for other markers over the state, including "Atoka" and "Old Boggy Depot," Atoka County; "Choctaw Capitols," Pushmataha County; "Sac and Fox Agency," Lincoln County; "Wheelock Mission," McCurtain County.

(M.H.W)

DEDICATION OF THE CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL HALL IN 1918

One of the few existing copies, if any, of the Dedication Program of the Confederate Memorial Hall in 1918 was discovered recently by Mrs. Helen Gorman, in an old file and scrapbook of notes presented to the Confederate Hall. This rare item is especially interesting for the names of those among well known leaders of the State who had a part on the program and who have since passed on:

DEDICATION OF THE CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL HALL

AT STATE CAPITOL

June 3, 1918, 2:00 P.M.

General T. D. Turner, Presiding

PROGRAMME

Song America

Invocation Rev. Theo. F. Brewer, D.D.

Song "We Are Old Time Confederates."

Presentation of the Hall,

Governor R. L. Williams

Acceptance of Hall, behalf of the Sons,	General Tate Brady, Commander Sons
Acceptance of Hall, behalf of the Daughters,	Mrs. W. F. Purdy, President U.D.C. of Oklahoma
Song	The American Girls.
Short History of the U.D.C.	Mrs. J. H. Gill, 1st Vice Pres., U.D.C. of Oklahoma.
Reading	Selected
Confederate Pensions,	Mrs. Ben Davis
Reading	Gen. Wm. D. Matthews, Commander, 1st Brigade.
Song—Ladies Quartet,	Miss Ida Lou Spivey.
	Miss Velma Peoples,
	Mrs. G. W. Salter
	Mrs. T. M. Wells,
	Mrs. E. E. Hunter.
Short talks by,	Col. R. A. Sneed, Gen. R. B. Coleman, J. C. Graham, and others.
Song	"Onward Christian Soldiers."

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PAYNE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CONCERNING THE SITE OF THE FIRST BATTLE OF THE
CIVIL WAR IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY

In *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XXVII, No. 2 (Summer, 1949) is the article by Doctor Angie Debo entitled, "The Site of the Battle of Round Mountain, 1861," presenting printed and archival evidence that the battle site was near the Twin Mounds, sixteen miles east of Stillwater, in Payne County.

The Payne County Historical Society, through its president, Doctor B. B. Chapman, has submitted to the Oklahoma Historical Society a manuscript volume of sixty-seven pages containing printed articles and photostatic copies of documents pertaining to the site of the battle, including a photostatic copy of a statement of March 17, 1868, in which some of the participants in the battle told of following Opoth-le-yo-hola's trail leading in a "Northwestward direction" toward the Cimarron River. Doctor Chapman asked that all persons who can find any additional material whatever concerning the location of the battle site be urged to submit the same to the Oklahoma Historical Society.

The volume submitted by Doctor Chapman is now being read by the historians and persons qualified to reach conclusions on the subject, in order that the location of the "Battle of Round Mountain" might be definitely determined. Since at least each of two other places in the general region of Keystone at the confluence of the Cimarron (Red Fork) with the Arkansas River has had strong support as the possible site of this first battle of the Civil War period in the Indian Territory, the Twin Mounds location in Payne County has raised something of a controversial subject in State history.

As the summer (1950) number of *The Chronicles* goes to press, a letter has been received from Doctor Angie Debo, one of Oklahoma's outstanding historians and author of the above mentioned article in the summer of 1949, asking that the following statement from her be published by the Historical Society:

"In preparing my article on the Battle of Round Mountains (incorrectly designated as 'Round Mountain' in the *War of the Rebellion: Official Records*) for Summer, 1949 issue of the *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, I tried to discover whether the Twin Mounds in Payne County constituted an early-day recognized landmark, which might logically give their name to the site. I found the location plainly marked on the map of the Creek boundary survey of 1849-50, published in House Executive Documents, 35 Cong., 1 Sess., No. 104 (Serial No. 958); but I was puzzled to find *one* conspicuous round hill instead of two. Recently, through the courtesy of Dr. Grant Foreman, the A. and M. College library acquired copies of the original maps prepared by the U. S. Army Corps of Topographical Engineers, and it is now possible to clear up this point.

"In the summer of 1849 Brevet Captain Lorenzo Sitgreaves, with Lieutenant Israel Carle Woodruff as his assistant, directed the survey from Fort Gibson to a point on the boundary three miles north and approximately one mile west of the present Yale. His large-scale map (4,000 feet to 1 inch) shows an accurate survey of Mud Creek, which passes through Yale, and the two hills lying conspicuously to the southwest. The next summer the survey was resumed at this point by Woodruff, who carried the boundary 120 miles farther west. The small-scale map (1:600,000) of the completed survey shows Salt Creek and a merged outline of the two hills. It was this blurred drawing that was telescoped into one hill by the Washington draftsman who prepared the map for publication in the House Document eight years later. The Twin Mounds were clearly and accurately marked on the original map. Thus, it can be stated that these hills were recognized as a conspicuous landmark at least twelve years before the outbreak of the war."

"ARKANSAS'S OLD STATE HOUSE"

A reprint of the story of "Arkansas's Old State House," by Clara B. Kennan, appearing in the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* (Spring issue, 1950), tells the interesting history of Arkansas's first capitol now undergoing reconstruction and repair to preserve it as an historic shrine in that state. Both old and modern views as illustrations, with explanatory notes, are a valuable addition to this story. Miss Kennan, of Little Rock, will be remembered by readers of *The Chronicles* for her contribution "Neighbors in the Cherokee Strip" which appeared in Volume XXVII, Number 1 (Spring, 1949).

A CORRECTION

In the article on *Women Teachers of Oklahoma 1820—1860* by Ethel McMillan, published in the *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Vol. XXVII, No. 1, Page 19, there is an error in stating that Priscilla

G. Child became the second wife of Cyrus Kingsbury. By the authority of the *History of American Missions* published by Spooner and Howell 1840, p. 338, there were two previous wives, so Miss Child became the third.

This error was pointed out by Doctor Ebenezer Hotchkin of Sherman, Texas, one who would be especially sensitive to such a mistake for he is the descendant of a long line of distinguished missionaries being the grandson and namesake of Ebenezer Hotchkin, who was born in Lenox, Massachusetts in 1803, educated for the Presbyterian ministry, came west in 1829 to Goshen, Mississippi, as a missionary to the Choctaws and in 1832 with his wife accompanied them to the Indian Territory where their lives were spent in this service.

His Grandmother Hotchkin was Philena Thacker of Hereford, Pennsylvania, who likewise came to Goshen, Mississippi, to the mission among the Choctaws as a teacher. The marriage took place on November 2, 1830. Mission work in the Indian Territory was later established and valued results were had in a thriving school for Choctaw girls at Goodwater, called Kunsha Seminary.

His father, Henry W. Hotchkin was born to them and, though not actually engaged in teaching or in the ministry, exemplified the spirit of the movement in admirable family and community living. Mary J. Semple, carefully educated and socially advantaged in the best which Ohio offered at Steubenville, came as a teacher to Wheelock Academy in 1857, became the wife of Henry W. Hotchkin and continued her work as a teacher. To them was born Ebenezer Hotchkin on July 5, 1869 at Livingood [Living Land? —Ed.], Indian Territory. He assisted his mother in establishing the school which became the Presbyterian College of Durant, was long a teacher of Bible there and became its president, also served as superintendent of the Indian Presbytery U.S. for many years. As a member of the House he represented Bryan County in the Eighteenth State Legislature of Oklahoma. He now serves as chairman of the Historical Committee of the Synod of Oklahoma and of Indian Presbytery. U. S.

—Ethel McMillan.