

BADGETT'S ANNUAL CLEARING SALE

JAN. 9 TO 14.

REMEMBER These dates and visit our Store during THIS SALE.

We will show you such bargains in suits as will not be seen in Vinita again in a long time. This is not a sale of cheap goods cheap, but of GOOD Goods CHEAP.

We have made large reductions all over the store, but the greatest cuts will be in Men's and Boys' Overcoats and Mackintoshes, Ladies', Misses' and Children's Cloaks and Capes; Heavy Underwear, Dress Goods, Jeans, Cassimeres and Flannels, and Boots, Shoes and Rubber Goods.

OVERCOATS, MACKINTOSHES, ETC.

In Overcoats and Mackintoshes we have a great many more than we mean to carry over. The fact is we are strictly opposed to carrying over any kind of seasonable goods, and we realize the fact that to close out this class of goods the price must be cut, and cut deep. That is what we are doing.

We offer a good Storm Overcoat at \$3.95, worth \$6.00. A better quality, \$5.25, worth \$8.00. A good Beaver Overcoat, \$4.85, worth \$7.50. Fine Melton Overcoat, \$7.85, worth \$12.00. A good Mackintosh, \$1.25. Extra Heavy Wool Mackintosh, worth \$6.00, for \$4.65. We have several medium and small sizes that will go during this sale at about HALF PRICE.

In Cloaks and Capes we have a few choice garments left that must be sold. Prices will do it and here they are: Ladies' Seal Plush Capes, worth \$5.00, sale price, \$3.25. Ladies' Crushed Plush Capes, worth \$4.50, sale price, \$3. Extra Heavy Boucle Cape, worth \$5.00, sale price, \$3.25.

In Misses and Children's Jackets we have taken off all the profit and in many instances a part of the purchase price. We mean to close them out entirely.

Our Underwear stock is all right, what we have of it, and if there is anything you want in this line, we are sure to make a trade.

DRESS GOODS,

Plain and Fancies. Prices reduced on every piece. If there is anything you want in Dress Goods we can please in both style and price. Jeans, Flannels and Outing Flannels are going very cheap during this sale.

In Boots and Shoes and Rubber Goods we lead any store in the Cherokee Nation.

We have the right goods at the right prices. During this sale we will make some mighty low prices on Men's and Boys' Boots and Heavy School Shoes.

Men's Heavy Boots, from \$1.25 to \$2.25. Boys' Boots, 75c to \$1.50. School Shoes, 75c to \$1.25. Ladies' Heavy Shoes, 85c to \$1.50. Fine Shoes, 90c to \$2.50, and a large line to select from.

Our GROCERY Department will be full of CHOICE Goods, at low prices. Specially low prices on Queensware in both Plain and Decorated, will be made.

Remember the dates, January 9th to 14th. Every day a Bargain day.

W. R. BADGETT MER. CO.

Indian Chieftain.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE. \$1.50 Per Year, or \$1.00 If Paid in Advance

Published Thursday by THE CHIEFTAIN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

D. M. HARRIS, Editor.

M. E. MILFORD, Manager

VINITA, IND. TER., JAN. 5, 1899

GLOOMY PROSPECT AHEAD.

A sigh of relief will go up from the people of the Cherokee nation when the commission now in session reaches an agreement with the Dawes commission, or failing in the effort, expires by limitation of law on the evening of the 14th instant. There is a wide spread belief among Cherokee citizens that no agreement will ever be reached as a result of the present negotiations. The feeling is also general that should an agreement be consummated that it would be rejected when submitted to a popular vote of the Cherokee people. The fact has developed that the division of the land would best be left to an outside and a disinterested commission for settlement. The fact has developed that nearly if not quite all leading, intelligent Cherokees have personal interests in the final division of the land which they are not able to overcome.

The people of the Cherokee nation are less and less afraid of the Curtis bill that has been held up to them as the scene of evil legislation. This sentiment has been engendered in part by the absurd proposition made by our commission to the Dawes commission a few days ago pertaining to the allotment of land. The sober, thoughtful Cherokee cannot fail to recognize in that proposition the great danger that menaces the common Indian in the matter of the final allotment of his land, and to prefer rather to leave himself and his people in the hands of the Curtis bill than to risk the consummation of so unjust a plan of the division of an estate in which all are alike entitled to share.

The talk of cutting the freedmen down to 40 acres is the merest idle chatter, never considered seriously, and only a sop thrown to the full-bloods to gain their acquiescence in formulating an agreement.

That the full-bloods will vote solidly against any agreement that can be made there seems to be little doubt. In the first place they are opposed to the whole scheme, and all their natural tendencies are averse to every proposition submitted looking to allotment and final abolition of their tribal autonomy. In the second place the plan urged does not comport with a full-blood Indian's sense of justice and equity. All these conditions are patent to every one at all posted as to the traditions of the Cherokees and no man can see in the immediate future anything but unrest and chaos, and it does not take a prophet to foresee the overwhelming rejection of any treaty that the present commission can make.

THE SELF-CENTERED MAN.

The ideal citizen is not the man with a single purpose, and not the man who simply wants to make money, and keeps his eye fastened upon the goal of wealth. But rather the man who along with great diligence in business, is looking also to the moral and social advancement of the community. The self-centered worshipper of the golden calf will get little more of the good things of this life than others after all. A story is told of an eagle sitting upon a cake of ice floating above Niagara Falls. Ever and anon he would look

around as though he expected to fly in due time before reaching the falls. After awhile the time came for him to rise as the cake of ice was nearly to the precipice; he lunged forward and spread his great wings but could not rise—his feet were frozen in the wool of the carcass upon which he was feasting, and in another moment he was dashed to death over the roaring cascade. An apt illustration of the man or woman who gets the idea that the only thing worth striving for in this world is money. As we enter the new year cannot we get a little broader, and cannot we have just a little higher ideal to set before the coming generation? Or shall we go on like the eagle and lose sight of all else but money till at last we reach the falls and are swallowed up in the whirlpool of death?

TREATY OR CURTIS BILL

Much anxiety is felt as to the ultimate outcome of the present negotiations with the Dawes commission. If the time allowed for completing the work expires and no agreement is made we will simply be in the hands of the Curtis bill. While there are some very unsatisfactory features of the Curtis bill, on the whole it is not damaging to the Cherokees. There are many inconveniences in the Curtis bill, and portions of it are undoubtedly unconstitutional and therefore will never be enforced.

The rule of the department of the interior restricting the holding of land to 80 acres to each Cherokee is not far wrong when the fertility of the land is taken into consideration, as 80 acres is perhaps as much tillable land as can be found per capita.

Unless there is a radical change in the views of the two commissions there will be no agreement reached. The time is now so short that the separate propositions would have to be agreed to very rapidly in order to get through.

The full-bloods are constantly writing letters to their representatives on the commission urging them to steadfastly refuse to treat, which is having a retarding effect upon the negotiations. There is a general feeling that the full-bloods will be able to defeat the ratification of any treaty that is made.

One of the problems the equalization board will have to deal with will be to determine what is taxable and non-taxable property under the law under which the town of Vinita is incorporated. According to the holding of the territory courts land is the only property designated as real estate in the Indian country, and all buildings are considered personal property.

We have heard of the sale of "blue sky," and of "salted mines," but it was reserved for the sale of a large school, lock, stock and barrel. The deal made yesterday by which Worcester academy swallowed up Clark's business college is unique in the fact that it is probably the only trade of the kind ever made.

It makes precious little difference to Vinita whether the commission makes a treaty or not; the town will continue to be the best town in the north country just the same, change or no change. Whenever the time comes titles to town lots will be forthcoming, and whatever the conditions are our people will own them, and the town will not stop to wait.

FROM THE COMMISSIONS

A Few Notes from the Center of Interest.

Capt. A. S. McKennon of the Dawes commission left Muskogee Saturday for his home in Arkansas, where he will spend a few days and return Tuesday or Wednesday.

Sagey Sanders and Wolf Coon, of the Cherokee commission, attended a fullblood meeting at Tahlequah Saturday and intended to join the commission at Muskogee today.

C. V. Rogers, J. E. Gunter and H. C. Lowrey spent Sunday at their homes.

It is said that Dave Muskrat and some other fullbloods are at Washington trying to keep the Curtis bill, and the Cherokee commission is at Muskogee trying to get rid of it.

Chief S. H. Mayes has been with the Cherokee commission, giving them many valuable suggestions.

He's No Reason for Complaint.

PORT MORTIMER, TEX., Dec. 28, 1898.

Thinking that the good readers of THE CHIEFTAIN are of the opinion that since war no more exists and the brave soldiers who so willingly volunteered their services, sacrificing their happy homes and dear sweethearts have all returned to their homes with the honors of victory, and feeling that I am the only one in the service, from the Indian Territory, I will write a short sketch of my experience as a soldier. I enlisted with the 3rd Texas volunteer infantry with the expectation of being in the battles that claimed some of my best friends. The first thing I learned was to live on a handful of beans and a piece of bacon about the size of a dollar, marching from twelve to fifteen miles every other day. It was then that I realized the ignominious ideas of a boy. On July 19 I was sent to Galveston and during the time that I was there I had the pleasure of meeting J. F. Wilson and Lee Wily, of Tahlequah, the last acquaintances that I have met since I have been in the service. Shortly after I was detached from my company, rejoicing at this place, not long since. I will be truly glad when I can once more shake the hands of my old friends at home.

I understand that the Cherokee nation is to be allotted within a short while. It is more than likely that I will not return for two years, and some pretty girl can very easily get my share by addressing the sergeant major at Ft. McIntosh, Texas.

I thought of all the good people at home Christmas day and longed to be there. I had no refreshments but an occasional egg-nog. Wishing you all a happy new year, I remain,

Yours respectfully,

M. M. Rowe,

Sergeant Major.

If every citizen in the Cherokee nation had 80 acres of land that was good enough to make a farm there would be very little of that kind of land left. The proposition of the Interior Department to allow each citizen to occupy not exceeding 80 acres is not an unfair suggestion. There are a few choice locations in the Cherokee nation of great natural value, and the land alone would on the open market bring a high figure. To knock off such locations to the present occupants at \$5 an acre would be a great injustice to the citizens of the Cherokee nation.

Among the applicants for Judge Yancey's shoes as Commissioner of the 3rd district are A. R. Query and E. Calkins, of this place, Jno. Taylor, of Claremore, and Hy Jennings, of Bartlesville, with others to hear from. Leo Bennett we understand, has the naming of the man whom Judge Springer will appoint. Judge Thomas has nothing to do with it.

—Tulsa Republican.

That Coffeyville Road.

It is difficult to ascertain the facts in regard to the proposed extension of the Coffeyville road into Oklahoma, but we get from pretty high authority the following as the real status of the extension:

By some means money was raised to grade, or partly grade the road to Bartlesville, in the Indian Territory. A proposition was then sent to the Santa Fe to take the road off the hands of the projectors, which required the Santa Fe to furnish the iron. The Santa Fe officials thought favorably of the proposition, and sent a representative to look over the road and examine the coal fields south of Bartlesville about thirty miles. The Santa Fe representative reported favorably provided the road was graded at once to the coal fields which lie twelve or fifteen miles north of Tulsa on the Frisco. The local company, it seems, was not able to do more, and so all the work stopped and the Santa Fe pursued the matter no further.

The Santa Fe had not intimated that it intended to do more than aid in building to the Wild Horse coal fields.—Times Journal.

A Frisco Party in Oklahoma City.

Bryan Snyder, general passenger agent, and Charles Hall, assistant general freight agent of the St. Louis & San Francisco line, accompanied by sixteen of the traveling passenger and freight agents of that line, were in Oklahoma City yesterday. They were the guests of B. F. Dunn, traveling passenger and freight agent, located there. He showed them over town in carriages. The object of the visit was for them to get acquainted with the people and familiarize themselves with the connections of the road. The party passed through here yesterday in their private car for Springfield, Mo. They will next go to Kansas City, arriving Wednesday night.

A Man of Sense.

The postmaster at Red Fork, Indian Territory, has received a letter from a party in Sebree, Mo., who states that he is a widower 56 years of age, white man of reputable character, and a farmer by occupation. He asks that the postmaster give him the address of twenty-five single Osage Indian girls, or six Osage Indian women who are matrimonially inclined, and promises to send the postmaster 25c for his services in the matter. He also states he has a son and daughter, and that the son is desirous of corresponding with Osage girls between the ages of 15 and 20. The letter is signed by J. H. Gillam.—Times.

Struck by a Train.

Mary Tucker, a negro, was struck by a Missouri, Kansas & Texas passenger train yesterday morning at Wybark, five miles north of here, and carried on the cowcatcher to this place, the trainmen being ignorant of the accident until the train reached Muskogee. The woman was seriously injured and is not expected to live.

LATER.—We have since been informed that Mary Tucker died last night from the injuries received by reason of the accident.—Muskogee Times.

St. Louis Cattle Market.

J. C. Smith of Sapulpa, I. T., marketed 25 head 886-pound steers at \$3.50 and 50 steers 975 pounds at \$3.85. J. O. Hall, Vinita, I. T., marketed two loads of 1,088-pound steers sold at \$4.15 to Armour & Co.

The Pauls Valley News last week printed a Christmas souvenir edition, descriptive and historical of the town, which is alike creditable to the publishers and to the city of Pauls Valley.

Friday Judge W. T. Hutchings and Mr. Kerns of St. Louis appeared before the Dawes and Cherokee commissions and argued the question of the Cherokee Freedmen. Mr. Hutchings is representing the Cherokee Nation and takes the position that the Freedmen are only entitled to whatever amount of land the Cherokees may agree to give them, while Kerns represents the negroes and claims for them an equal divide. It is now a question which is being considered by the two commissions, and is highly probable that 40 acres is as much as the Freedmen will get.—Muskogee Times.

If the Cherokee and Creek commissions do not agree upon treaties with the Dawes commission, it will be their own fault. Then, when the provisions of the Curtis law are being rigidly enforced, it will be useless as well as in very bad taste to be railing at a condition that they could have prevented. The government has been patient and lenient in its dealings with the five civilized tribes, so those of them who refuse the liberal terms offered, will have to abide the consequences, and they will have no just cause for complaint.—Wagoner Sayings.

A report was circulated on the streets this morning that a man from Oklahoma, stopping at the O K wagon yard, had smallpox. The attention of the Board of Health was called to the matter and an investigation immediately made by them which proved the report to be false. The report originated from the fact that a man from Oklahoma, stopping at the O K wagon yard, had a hard chill, followed by a high fever. He resumed his journey this morning to his destination.—Muskogee Times.

The editor of the Stillwell Times registers an emphatic "roar" because he was denied admission to a coroner's inquest, and declines to state what the verdict of a Christmas killing was. Don't take it to heart neighbor; the victim, previous to his demise, would have been glad to exchange places with you.

The charges against the parties last indicted for connection with the Creek warrant frauds, including Cashier Warth, of the Muskogee bank, is conspiracy. To secure a conviction it is not necessary to prove they profited by the transaction—to have aided in any way its perpetration is sufficient.

Special efforts will be made during 1899 by the citizens of Tahlequah, to secure the construction of a railroad into that city from Fort Gibson, on the Iron Mountain. The country between the two towns is very rough, but the people of Tahlequah believe they can get the road.

United States Indian Agent D. M. Wisdom has instructed the Indian police and United States deputy marshals to arrest any hunting parties who take game out of the Indian Territory.

The Texas railroad commission propose that sleeping car charges be reduced to \$1.50 for lower and \$1 for upper berths. It is time a reduction was made all over the country.

The town of Wagoner, has given a franchise for an electric light plant to J. C. Casaver. The power house and plant will be put in at once.

The sentiment of the Cherokee commission is unanimously against allowing the freedmen an equal share in the lands of the Cherokee nation.

The two commissions adjourned Saturday and most of the members went home to spend new year day.

COAST SIGNAL SERVICE.

There is a Perfect System Extending All the Way from Bar Harbor to Galveston.

After several weeks of work along the entire stretch of the Atlantic and gulf coasts the navy department has completed the most comprehensive and efficient system for observing the approach of a hostile fleet that has ever been put into operation. A new bureau has been created for the purpose known as the coast signal service, in charge of Capt. Bartlett, who attends to this as well as the work of the naval board of information. The system has the services of 2,300 men stretched along the coast from Bar Harbor, Me., to Galveston, Tex. These are divided into 34 central stations about 60 to 100 miles apart from the coast. The stations are in turn connected directly by telegraph with the coast signal office of the navy department, and operators are on duty night and day keeping the navy department in constant telegraphic touch with the entire stretch of Atlantic and gulf coasts.

Secretary Long projected this plan a month ago, and \$75,000 was set aside to establish the points of observation along the coast. After selecting the 34 central points from the towers, the navy department was given to build observation towers for the observers. The naval militia was drawn to man the different observation towers, and five militiamen with the rank of naval quartermasters are now on duty at each of these stations. The towers are completed and also the small houses for their living purposes. There are 233 of these militiamen now in service. The next step was to have the lighthouse service made an adjunct to this coast observation. This was done through the cooperation of the treasury department, and the lighthouse forces of 1,800 men, scattered from Maine to Texas, are assisting the work of observation. The life-saving service was brought into similar cooperation, so that now 1,060 life savers are added to the observation force. The 34 central stations with the numerous towers, and life-saving stations, make a complete chain of observation points, all connected by telegraph or telephone with one another and with the navy department.

By arrangement with the telegraph companies the reports from these observers take precedence over the private telegraphic business, so that the navy department is enabled to get immediate telegraphic notice of the approach of any hostile fleet or suspicious ship.

The work of observation has been thoroughly systematized. Watches are kept on the towers throughout the day and night. The life-saving crews in particular are assigned to night duty, and they patrol the beach throughout the night on the lookout for approaching ships. All the central points and towers, and life-saving stations, make a complete chain of observation points, all connected by telegraph or telephone with one another and with the navy department.

The results already secured have shown the efficiency of the plan adopted. Naval vessels passing along the coast are able to signal day and night by torches and otherwise with the naval observers along the beach and these signals are immediately telegraphed to the navy department here. Thus the naval vessels can be kept in constant communication with the department without the necessity of coming into port.

Capt. Bartlett sleeps throughout the night alongside the telegraph instrument, ready to convey to his superiors word of the approach of a hostile fleet. The first thing each morning reports are received from every point from Bar Harbor to Galveston stating briefly that everything is quiet or otherwise, as the case may be. Thus far the day reports have been uniformly assuring, but the night reports have been alarming. The observers, being alert and new to the work, report every suspicious light seen off shore and frequently attach serious significance to it. Since Capt. Bartlett has answered some of the scare reports with the laconic message, "sea serpent," the observers have been more cautious and the reports show evidences of careful observation. With the system in its present perfected condition the navy department feels assured that it knows exactly the condition of affairs along the entire stretch of Atlantic and gulf coasts. The system is simply a precautionary one, as the department has no reason to believe that Spanish ships were menacing points along the coast.

"This is Mr. Highbones, is it not?" "Yes, ma'am."

"I should have known you by your resemblance to your little daughter. I am Miss Billings, her teacher."

"Glad to know you, Miss Billings. Yes, I am often told that Kitty is remarkably like me."

"I regret to have to tell you, Mr. Highbones, that she doesn't learn well at all. I doubt if she will be able to keep up with her class."

"I am sorry to hear that. I was about to say, Miss Billings, that I very respectfully Kitty after my wife's people."—Chicago Tribune.

An Ohio Convict Is Going Through One of the Late H. H. Holmes' Experiences.

Angelo del Bello, a prisoner in the penitentiary at Columbus, O., is undergoing facial changes similar to those experienced by H. H. Holmes, the Chicago fiend. The prison physicians have noticed something peculiar about Del Bello within the last few weeks, though for a time they believed they were under an optical illusion. But repeated observations have confirmed them in the belief that Del Bello's face is actually changing form and shape. The left side of the man's face seems to be caving in, while the right side is bulging out, and the mouth is gradually moving toward the right ear. On one side Del Bello looks like an ordinary man. On the other side all the meanness with which his nature is filled comes to the surface.

Del Bello is the latest wearer of the title "prison demon," having completely dethroned Ira Marlett, who wore that title for years, until subdued by Warden Coffin's unvarying kindness. Marlett, however, became a demon because he believed he was unjustly imprisoned and unjustly punished, and he protested against this in the most effective manner he knew. Naturally a man of such temper, he became a prison terror.

Del Bello made his trouble from a naturally bad heart. He was convicted of a cruel and cold-blooded series of murders (to which respect he again resembles H. H. Holmes), and from the moment he landed in the trouble he sought to make all the trouble he could. A series of hand-to-hand fights with his guards followed in quick succession. He was given every variety of punishment that the regulations of the prison permit, and at last announced himself conquered and promised to be good. Following the usual rule with men of this character, he was released from solitary confinement and made to see that he was trusted.

His reformation did not last, although he knelt at Warden Coffin's feet to promise him good conduct. Hardly a week after he was set to a light task in the prison kitchen he made a desperate attack upon a guard with a knife, and went back to solitary. He is now confined in the prison asylum as the best place for him, though no one who has ought to do with him believes him to be insane. Demonic he may be, but nothing else.

For the last few weeks he has been unwell, and it is during this period that the remarkable change in the shape of his head and face became apparent. He absolutely refuses to talk, though he contrives almost as much deviltry as ever, despite the fact that he is held close prisoner in the cell.

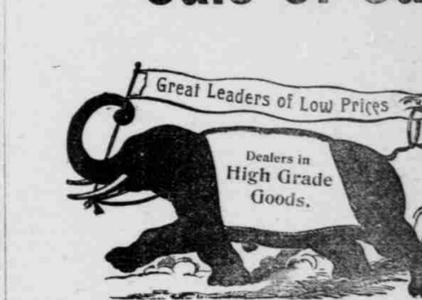
REMEMBER

—THE—

Sale of Sales

Great Leaders of Low Prices

Dealers in High Grade Goods.



Jumbo Clearance Sale.

Commencing

January 19th

Pay you to Prepare to Attend....

JUMBO STORE.

AUGUST SCHLIECKER, Jeweler and Optician...

VINITA, INDIAN TERRITORY.

Specialties. Engraving—Plata and Ornaments. Fine and Complicated Watch Repairing. Scientific Fitting of Spectacles and Eye Glasses.

Jan 28-99