

# The Chieftain

WEEKLY EDITION

D. M. MARRS, Publisher

VINITA, I. T., March 19, 1903.

And still the knockers knock.

Lawton goes us one better and has struck gold.

Oklahoma City, not to be outdone by Vinita, has begun boring for gas.

The "white man's burdens" will never cease. The Interior department now threatens to disinherit him.

The more the coal fields northwest of town are investigated the bigger they get. It is time to begin the boom.

Land in the newly discovered coal fields northwest of town is being leased by those who will develop the coal.

The Chieftain favors dividing the town into four wards, and not three. A better representation can be had with four.

The big vein of coal northwest of town causes the incoming capitalist's eyes to bulge out until they might be knocked off with a stick.

Editor Douglas of the Muskogee Phoenix has about consented to allow his name to head the republican ticket for mayor of his town.

Ida Ross of Blackwell, Oklahoma sued A. J. Blackwell and wife for malicious prosecution and got a verdict for \$5000 this week.

The Kansas City Journal reads ex-governor Stanley of Kansas a lecture on the importance of earning his salary as a member of the Dawes Commission.

Judge Springer, it is said, will now sue the government for his fee of \$6,000 claimed for service in the Lone Wolf case, which he lost in every court in the land.

The six weeks of winter predicted by the groundhog are up and the mud is beginning to show signs of getting thicker or stiffer, whichever may be the better word.

Intermarried citizens throughout the Cherokee Nation are engaged in getting ready to defend their interests in the Court of Claims where their status as citizens of the Cherokee Nation is now pending.

The conscientious independent voter has been, and is the salvation of the American government. To him is due the swaying of elections from brutal majorities to a safe conservative working force. The political landslide is never brought about through the strict party man.

As the weather gets warmer and the roads become more passable the crowds at the land office increase. From now until May 1, the office will be greatly crowded. No considerable portion of the people in this north end of the Cherokee Nation have had an opportunity to file.

The Leader organized a rump democratic ticket last year against a large and respectable element in both political parties. The election brought disaster to its hopes, and the town spoke out on the subject by an unusual majority. Will our esteemed contemporary never learn wisdom?

The town of Vinita has never in its history had an abler or more active set of municipal officers than the present one. The commercial, and all other interests are quite safe in the hands of these men. Yet from one certain quarter there has been constant criticism.

The number of substantial citizens in proportion to the whole population is greater in Vinita than perhaps in any other city in the territory, and the secret is their absolute independence in the matter of politics. There are more men in Vinita who don't care a hoot what a man's politics is so long as he is a reliable man than in nearly any other place of the size of it.

The visit to the coal fields northwest of town yesterday by a company of gentlemen from this city confirms the most sanguine reports as to the existence of one of the greatest coal veins ever discovered in the Indian Territory. The extent of this find of course is not determined, but that it covers a large area no one can question. It means much for Vinita. It will bring factories of various kinds, and will be the means of speedily developing this section.

Last year the rump faction of the democratic party in Vinita declared the only way to get candidates in the field in an election was the primary election. The disaster that overtook them last spring was of some use it seems inasmuch as the primary has been abandoned and the convention installed in its place. The number of good citizens who will follow these partisans to defeat is diminished even from last year.

The necessity for paved streets is manifest to every observant citizen in Vinita. The constant heavy traffic on the streets is too much for dirt roads. It is a great item of expense but the city would as well get ready to meet it. It will prove to be a matter of economy to do it right at the start. Sewerage will also have to be provided and it should not be neglected as the health of the community is largely dependent on it.

There are a few men in Vinita, and they are comparatively few, who have done all in their power to embarrass the municipal government during the year just about to close. It is not the part of good citizenship to try to make it as difficult as possible for officers to enforce the law. The man who is eternally criticizing the administration of affairs in this town will generally be found to have a large sore spot on him, which he insists on keeping raw by his own rubbing.

The name of J. C. Wilkinson has been suggested as an available candidate for mayor of Vinita and is meeting with favorable reception from every element in the town. Mr. Wilkinson is familiar with the laws and usages governing municipal corporations, and his rugged honesty, and sterling qualities as a public officer in this country are familiar to all. With James Wilkinson as mayor and J. F. Ledbetter as marshal, with as able a council as the present one Vinita would continue to be the best governed town in the Indian Territory.

A coterie of lawyers in Washington, and slysters at home, are trying to systematically and ruthlessly hold up and plunder the white intermarried citizens of the Cherokee Nation. In this cabal are two men, one an ex-member of the Dawes commission, the other an ex-member of the Congress of the United States. "Stand and deliver!" was the order given by the Daltons, the Cooks, Cherokee Bill and other outlaws who infested the Indian country a decade or less ago, and this challenge was no more peremptory, nor more outrageous, than the one now given this class of Cherokee citizens. They say to the white men and women who are part and parcel of the Cherokee body politic: "Divide your property with us or we will harass you in the courts of the country until you will wish you had." No intermarried citizen should be frightened into giving up one cent to these highwaymen. They should stand upon their rights as expressed in the Cherokee constitution, a right that has already been recognized by the courts of the country and the department of the Interior.

**TURN ON THE LIGHT.**  
The power and authority vested in a grand jury is very imperfectly known or appreciated in the Indian territory, and perhaps throughout the country. It is really a body above the court itself and is not subject to the dictation of the prosecuting attorney or even the judge on the bench. In

Minneapolis not long ago, in the investigation of the hoodlums of that city, when the prosecuting attorney attempted to shut off the investigation, the foreman of the grand jury ordered him from the room and proceeded with the investigation which resulted in the conviction of a number of the offenders and the exile of the mayor who is even now a fugitive from justice. The scope and purposes of the grand jury are imperfectly understood by our citizens as a whole, but the wisdom and efficacy of the grand jury system is coming more and more to be appreciated. There are a certain class of crimes committed in which it seems well nigh impossible to reach the offenders and they go unwhipped of justice and the body politic stands helpless. Not long ago some deputy marshals went out from Vinita and in seeking the arrest of an alleged horse thief, shot to death an innocent and unarmed citizen who happened to be stopping at the same place. So far as any one seems to know the boy that was killed never committed a crime in all his life, and had never been even accused of crimes. The friends and relatives of the slain are thus far unable to get the matter before a grand jury. If these officers were justifiable in what they did and that is not improbable, that matter should have the calcium light of the grand jury thrown on it.

### VINITA NEVER PARTISIAN.

Vinita has earned the reputation of being the best governed town in the Indian Territory, and this reputation dates back for nearly a generation. It is also a matter of history that the voters of this town have never divided on party line. Even under the old Cherokee regime the Downing and the National party lines were never drawn, but the elections were always conducted independent of partisan politics. Perhaps no one thing has contributed more to the success of the city as a peaceable and law abiding community than the fact that politics have been strenuously kept out.

The independent movement has spread to the great cities of the United States and the election of Rolla Wells in St. Louis last year is a prominent example.

Party politics in a town always breeds a lot of ward heelers that have in the past proven to be a menace to good government.

Vinita has set the pace in the past and will not now reverse herself nor break an honorable precedent.

### BETTER THAN RUBIES.

Judge Raymond in his excellent charge to the grand jury at Wagoner this week, among many other good and sensible things, said:

"My friends, these are important days in the life of this new country. Habit has very much to do with the outcome of every man's life; so the habits of the pioneer have everything to do with the future of a country. If in these days when we are aspiring to statehood we can fix upon the citizens the habit of observing the laws of the country, of seeking for the best guides to good citizenship, of establishing good homes, of doing all that lies in one's power to make life secure and investments and property safe, and the pursuits of happiness, which is every man's birthright, along legitimate lines, the men and women who come after us will always give praise to the men and women who were living in this country in the days preceding its admittance into the Union as one of the great states of the land. If every man will seek to give betterment to the community in which he resides, foster the education of children, the development of love for town and the district, the cultivation of patriotism for the state and Union; strive to allay strife and sustain a moral atmosphere in the territory, he will build for himself a name and a reputation which might be the envy of the best of us. Let every citizen help to sustain the religious life in the community, and the literary ambition of the boys and girls among us. These tendencies

# Badgett-Sanders Mercantile Company

Our showing for Spring in the various departments of our Big Store surpasses anything we have attempted in the past. It's our aim to make our store the best place in Vinita in which to trade. We have spared neither time nor expense in assembling our stock of merchandise for the spring and summer trade. The compliments we have received on our selections warrant us in the belief that we have the best selected stock that is now shown in this part of the Cherokee Nation. This is especially true of our DRESS GOODS stock in the various fabrics used for that purpose. Have you seen the line? If not we want to show you through. It contains everything desirable for spring and summer wear. When out shopping, be sure to call in and see us.

# Badgett-Sanders Mercantile Company

### AT LAND OFFICE.

Number Filed Yesterday ..... 77  
Cards Issued..... 6085  
Total No. Filed up to and including Tuesday, Mch. 17 ..... 3637

develop the best of men and women kind. Let us never forget that reputation is more valuable than rubies, and character better than cash. Let us all try to make the life of the law breaker an uneasy and distasteful one, and the life of the law upholder a life of profit and of honor."

**So Sweet and Pleasant in Taste!**  
Mrs. C. Peterson, 625 Lake St., Topeka, Kan., speaking of Ballard's Horehound Syrup says: "It has never failed to give entire satisfaction, and of all cough remedies, it is my favorite, and I must confess to my many friends that it will do, and has done, what is claimed for it—speedily cure a cough or a cold; and it is so sweet and pleasing in taste." 25c, 50c and \$1 bottle at People's drug store. dw

**A Faithful Employee.**  
Wm. D. Spyrer, for a long time an employe in the mechanical department of the Chieftain, Saturday severed his connection with the paper to take employment elsewhere. No more faithful man has ever worked in our composing room, a good printer and a reliable man in every walk of life.

**Dangers of Pneumonia.**  
A cold at this time if neglected is liable to cause pneumonia which is so often fatal, and even when the patient has recovered the lungs are weakened, making them peculiarly susceptible to the development of consumption. Foley's Honey and Tar will stop the cough, heal and strengthen the lungs and prevent pneumonia. Sold by Shanahan & Mitchell. dw

**Fire at the Jail.**  
The kitchen at the jail caught fire about noon Friday and had it not been discovered soon, a serious fire would have resulted. It was caused by the range getting too hot and too near the wall, which was in flames when discovered. Considerable damage was done to the building.

L. K. McGUFFIN, President THOS. T. WIMER, V-President  
W. R. McGEORGE, Cashier

## ...The Cherokee National Bank...

Vinita, Ind. Ter.  
CAPITAL \$25,000.00.

**DIRECTORS.**  
L. F. Parker, Jr. W. H. Darrough. W. R. McGeorge. Fred L. Kelley.  
Louis Bagby E. N. Ratcliff. Thos. T. Wimer. L. K. McGuffin.

Every Courtesy Extended that is Consistent with Sound Banking  
Interest Paid on Time Certificates of Deposit.

## First National Bank,

VINITA, INDIAN TERRITORY.

CAPITAL, \$100,000. SURPLUS, \$20,000.  
Oldest and Strongest National Bank in the Cherokee Nation.

**DIRECTORS.**  
OLIVER BAGBY, J. O. HALL, V-PRES. W. P. PHILLIPS, Cashier  
B. F. FORTNER, E. B. FRAYSER, A. L. CHURCHILL, E. N. RATCLIFF, W. A. GRAHAM, J. O. HALL, G. W. CLARK, W. E. HALSELL.

Does a Safe General Banking Business.

Foley's Kidney Cure makes the kidneys and bladder right. Contains nothing injurious. Sold by Shanahan & Mitchell. dw

**Ike Teeples Fatally Hurt.**  
City Marshal Ledbetter received a telegraphic message from Southwest City Saturday stating that Deputy Ike Teeples of this city had been knocked to the head by some unknown party and the skull fractured. Captain White left that afternoon for that place to investigate the matter. Teeples was sent from the office here a day or two ago to serve some writs in that section.

The best pill 'neath the stars and stripes; it cleanses the system and never gripes; Little Early Risers of world repute—Ask for DeWitt's and take no substitute. A small pill, easy to buy, easy to take and easy to act, but never failing in results. DeWitt's Little Early Risers arouse the secretions and act as a tonic to the liver, curing permanently. A W. Foreman. dw

**You Know What You Are Taking**  
When you take Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic because the formula is plainly printed on every bottle showing that it is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure, no pay 50c. w

**Muskogee Society Item.**  
There came in on the train yesterday evening a negro with an almost national reputation, W. W. Cox, husband of the postmistress of Idianola, Miss., who has caused so much agitation throughout the country recently. Cox visits this country, it is understood, to look over the situation with a view to finding homes for several hundred colored families in his state. —Phoenix.

**Foley's Honey and Tar**  
Cures coughs and colds.  
Cures bronchitis and asthma.  
Cures croup and whooping cough.  
Cures hoarseness and bronchial troubles.  
Cures pneumonia and la grippe. Sold by Shanahan & Mitchell. dw

## Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic

has stood the test 25 years. Average Annual Sales over One and a Half Million bottles. Does this record of merit appeal to you? No Cure, No Pay. 50c.  
Enclosed with every bottle is a Ten Cent package of Grove's Black Root Liver Pills.