

*The State of Arkansas will sever the bonds uniting her to the Federal Government, during this week. Earnestly solicitous for the safety, integrity and prosperity of our neighbors, the Cherokee People, and knowing their interests to be identical with ours and liable with ours to be assailed, we hereby extend to them, through you, a prominent citizen among them, our heart felt wishes for their welfare, and also hereby request them to act with us.*

This is a letter from a group of leading citizens of Arkansas admonishing Stand Watie to use his influence as a prominent leader of the Cherokees and the other civilized tribes to arm themselves and join with Arkansas in the Confederate cause. The authentic reproduction on the left is of the original handwritten document. Below is a legible reproduction of the text. Letter: Courtesy General Lee B. Washbourne and Gladys Washbourne Howard.

Fayetteville, Arkansas  
May 9th 1861

Sir:

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Our advice, diffidently propositioning them, is, to this effect; that they put themselves in a state of armed neutrality, prepared and on the guard; to commit no act of hostility against the Federal Gov't, and to maintain their rights as Southern People; but in the event of any attack upon their rights, or in case that the State of Arkansas is involved in war, which is the same thing, we earnestly invite you to unite with us in defence against a common foe.

Not presuming to dictate, nor desirous of intermeddling with the laws and rights of the Cherokees, we respectfully recommend you to prepare yourself, and your people by organizing companies of warriors to repel any invasion of your rights, as Cherokees or as Southern People.

A letter of assurance that we can render, or that we can notify the State of Arkansas and the Confederate States to render the Cherokee and their neighbors the Creeks and others, will be cheerfully accorded: And as far as we are authorized or may speak for the State of Arkansas and the Southern States, we can safely assure the Cherokee People, that their rights and immunities, shall in all regards, be respected and maintained inviolate.

Should Mr. Lincoln commence or provoke, or carry out hostilities against the State of Arkansas, the Cherokees may know that their soil will be invaded, wrested from them, settled by northern hordes and their nationality, land, negroes and race be lost and scattered and destroyed; their only hope is in the Southern Government.

This not being an official letter we have taken the liberty of addressing it to you a distinguished citizen of the Cherokee Nation. We earnestly exhort you to take the same into serious consideration and to consult with your entire people, and through their proper authorities, with the Creeks, Choctaws, and others, concerning it.

Capt. Stand Watie  
Delaware District  
Cherokee Nation

Respectfully  
Your friends obbt serv'ts

C.W. Deane  
S.L. Marrs  
Geo. W. Clarke  
J.W. Washbourne

J.H. Stiman  
A.V. Crawford  
Jno Crawford  
L.R. Rue  
Henry Rieff  
A.W. Wilson  
W.D. Reagan  
T.R. Smith  
Wm Quesenbury  
D.C. Smithson

Dear Stand:

Above is a letter to you which explains itself. A thousand names could have been signed, but enough are down to satisfy you of the cause. Please act in the matter according to your judgement. There is no back down in the promises.

All well,  
Truly,  
J.W. Washbourne

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*Respectfully,  
Your friends & servants,  
C.W. Deane  
S.L. Marrs  
Geo. W. Clarke  
J.W. Washbourne*

*Draw for  
Crawford  
Henry Rieff  
A.W. Wilson  
W.D. Reagan  
T.R. Smith  
Wm Quesenbury  
D.C. Smithson*

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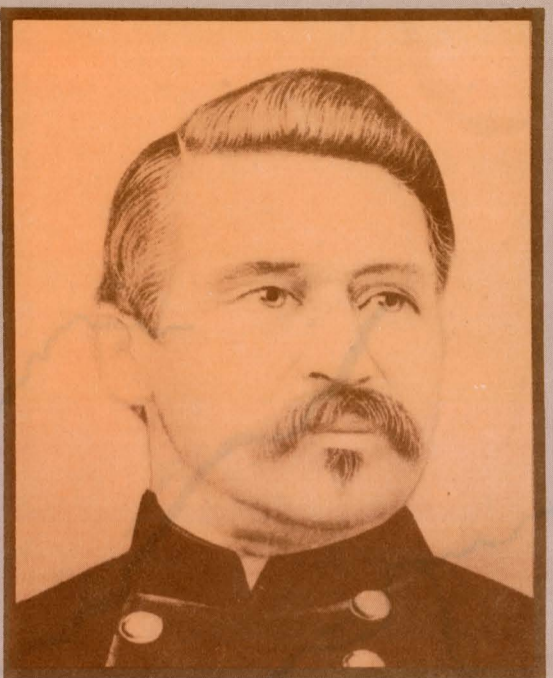
All well,  
Truly,  
J.W. Washbourne



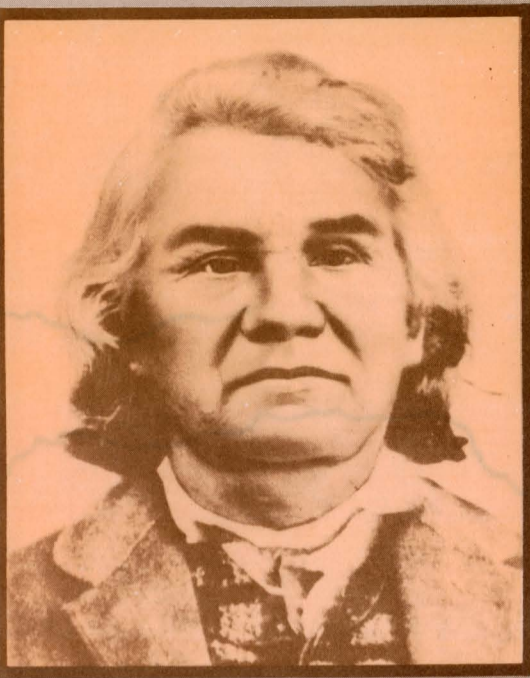
Civil War Side-Arms



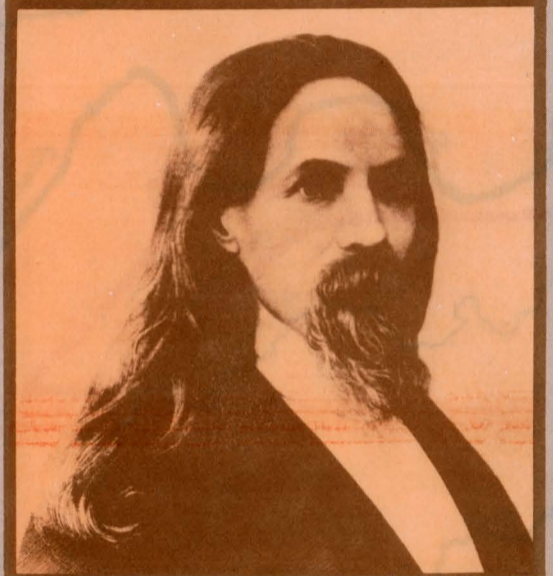
Captain George Washington, Caddo, C.S.A.



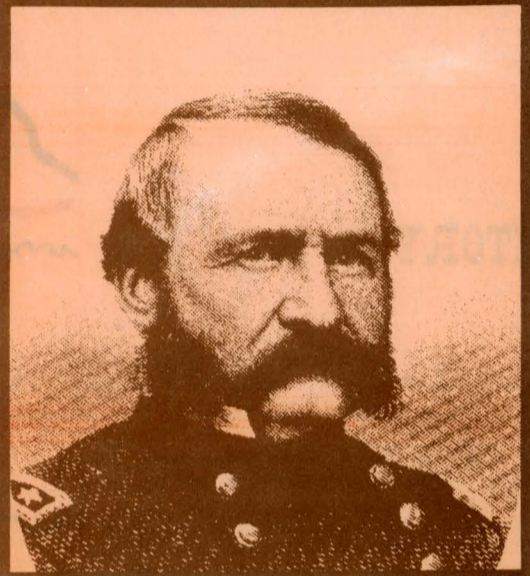
Major General James G. Blunt, U.S.A.



Brigadier General Stand Watie, C.S.A.

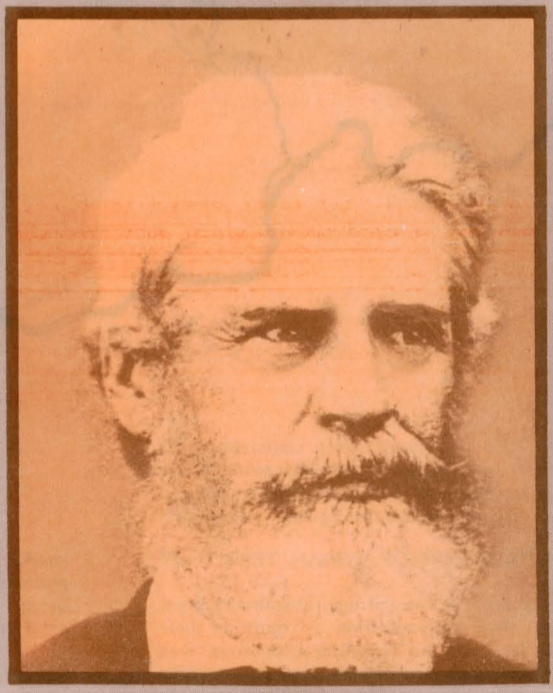


Colonel Daniel N. McIntosh, Creek, C.S.A.

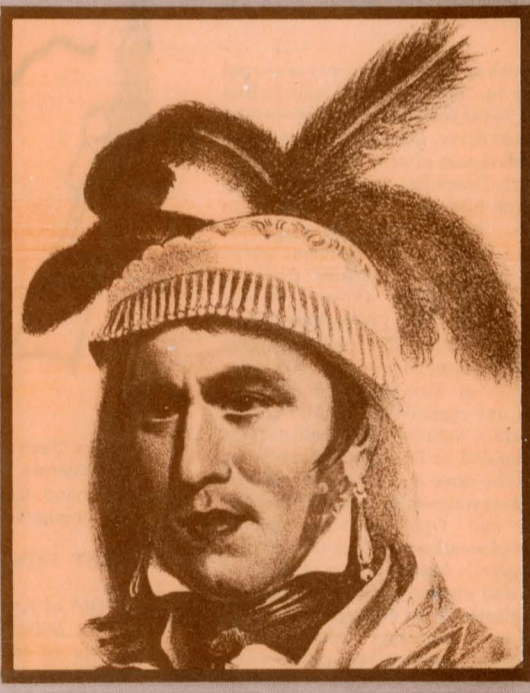


Major General William H. Emory, U.S.A.

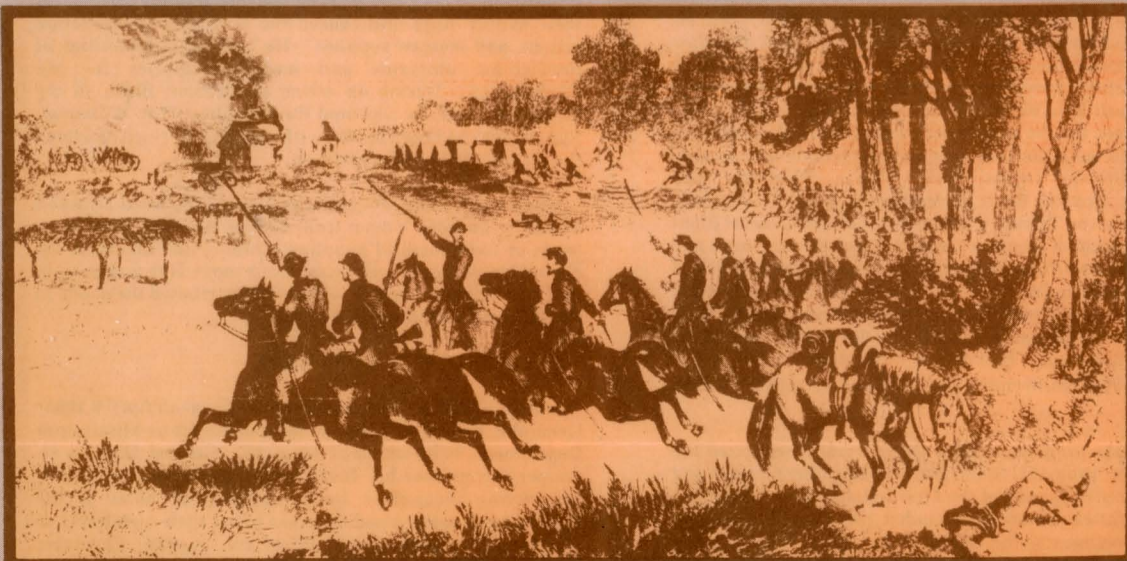
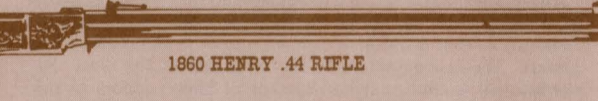
Photographs: Courtesy Oklahoma Historical Society.  
Letter: Courtesy General Lee B. Washbourne and Gladys Washbourne Howard.  
Cover: "Run of 1869" By Laura Gardin Fraser, Cowboy Hall of Fame, Oklahoma City.



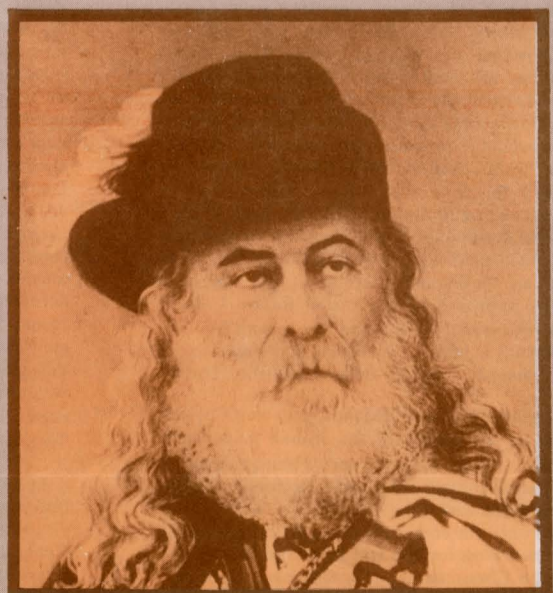
General Douglas H. Cooper, C.S.A.



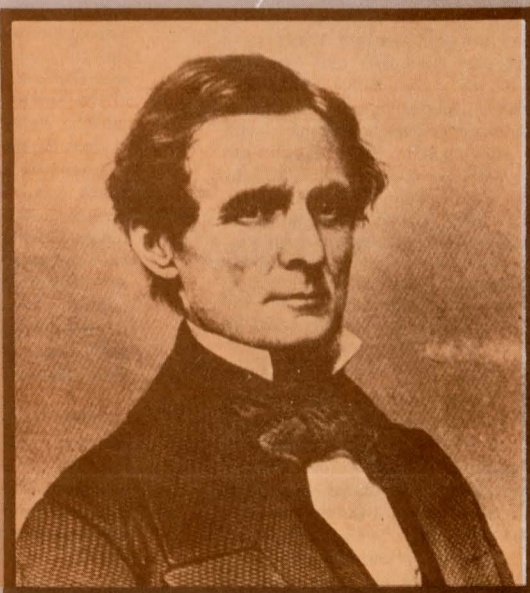
Chief Opothle Yoholo, Creek, U.S.A.



Battle of Honey Springs, July 17, 1863



Brigadier General Albert Pike, C.S.A.

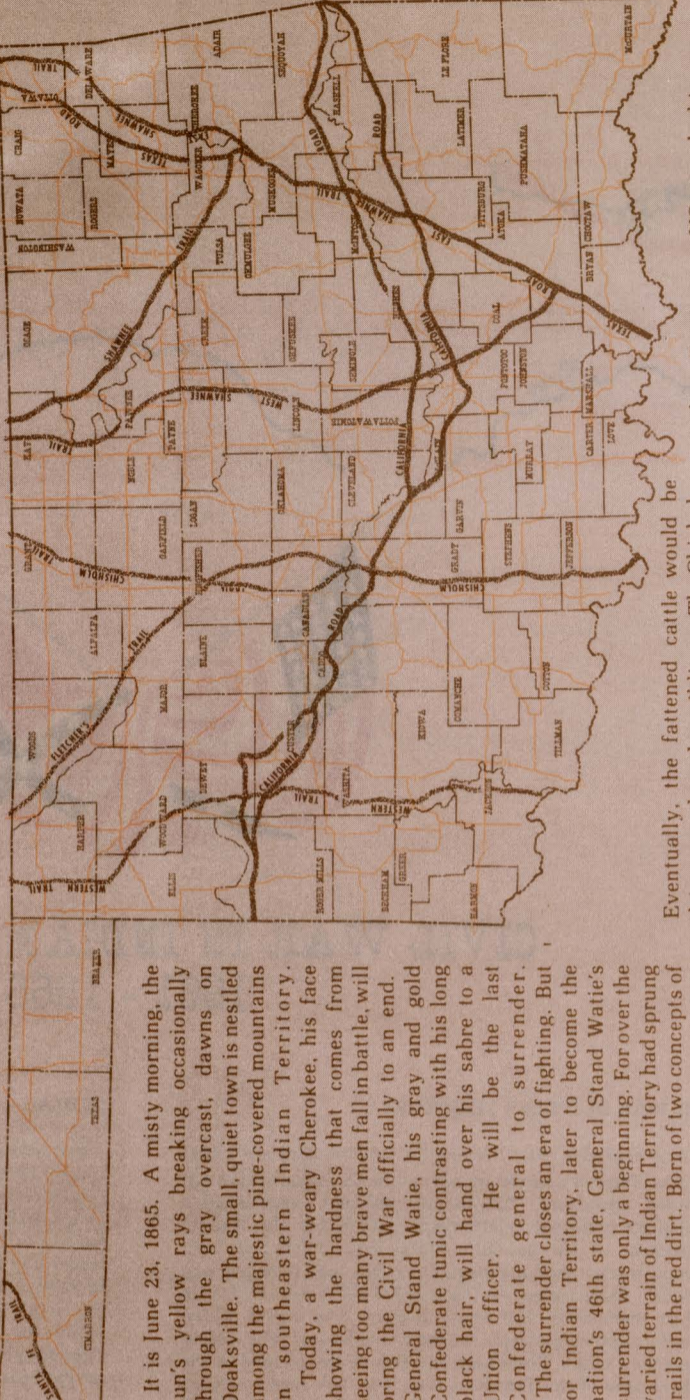


Jefferson Davis, Confederate President

# OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION-HISTORICAL MAP SERIES

## TODAY'S TRANSPORTATION MOVES ON HISTORIC TRAILS



Eventually, the fattened cattle would be driven north to the rail lines. The Chisholm Trail, crossing the Red River into Indian Territory and cutting straight across to Wichita, Kansas, became a well-traveled thoroughfare. So did the Santa Fe Trail, the Texas Road, the Butterfield Overland Mail Route, and others.

Many of today's highways follow these early-day routes. I-40 has replaced the California Road of the late 1800s. US 81 is aligned along the Chisholm Trail, part of which was also Colonel William Emory's route for withdrawing his Union troops from Indian Territory.

US 69, slashing across eastern Oklahoma, follows the old Texas Road and the Shawnee Trail. Yesterday's long, dusty voyages in "prairie schooners" on the Santa Fe Trail across Oklahoma's panhandle are now made much quicker and more comfortable in today's automobiles on US 69, located a few miles to the south.

Oklahoma's trails, roads and highways have helped to shape state history. Those roads are here today. The modern highways which cut out of Oklahoma's colorful history route for withdrawing his Union troops from Indian Territory.

