

Roe's fork of the Verdigris, ~~and~~ westward from Humboldt, where <sup>sufferings</sup> ~~their~~ <sup>and extreme</sup> ~~destitution~~ <sup>were</sup> gradually relieved.

Whether the Caddoes were largely engaged in the battles of King ~~of~~ Opothleyoholo, does not certainly appear; but I am inclined to think not. Baptiste Peoria <sup>was an intelligent and able Indian - some time</sup> ~~commissioned as agent of the United States to visit the tribes~~ <sup>chief of the Peoria tribe. He was born near Kaskaskia, Illinois, in 1800; died in Indian Territory, 1894. He speaks English and French.</sup> of the Indian Territory and adjoining regions to ascertain their loyalty or disloyalty to the Union, reported May 1, 1862, that "the Seminoles, Wichitas, Caches, Kickapoos, and Delawares, and some of the Creeks, joined Opothleyoholo, and, after two or three fights, were compelled to retreat north". Some have supposed (as Counsel for

<sup>Footnote</sup> \*Requests etc., and Argument for Deft. Inds., p. 55.

Baptiste Peoria were the Caddoes; but I am inclined to think rather that they were the Keechies, who, many years before, had had a village near one of the Wichitas at present Fort Sill. It is probable, however, that they were engaged in the fight of October, 1862, near their agency at Fort Cobb, of which Superintendent Coffin has given us the following account:

"The Washita [Wichita] and other affiliated bands of Indians have nearly all remained loyal to the federal government, excepting the Tonkaways, who, under the leadership of Colonel Leeper, the United States agent for the affiliated tribes, joined the rebels and attempted to carry the balance of the bands with them. This attempt resulted in a fight near Fort Cobb, on the 25th day of October, 1862, in which the ~~the~~ whole of the Tonkaway tribe was exterminated, including Colonel Leeper. Only one squaw was rescued by a Shawnee chief, who afterwards handed me a package of papers belonging to the Tonkaways, which I now have on file in <sup>this</sup> office. The affiliated tribes number about 1900, and are where they are being subsisted and otherwise cared for by their agent, now encamped on the Verdigris river, near Belmont, Kansas. <sup>known as</sup> ~~known as~~ E. H. Carruth, who is assisted by Frank Don Carlos. <sup>and the</sup> ~~and the~~ band of the [Penetathka] Comanches and some other wild tribes <sup>Caddoes</sup> belonging to the Washita agency have also been obliged to leave their country, and have repeatedly asked for assistance to be furnished them at the Big band of the Arkansas river, where they are encamped".\*

<sup>Footnote</sup> \*1863 Rep. Ind. Aff., p. 177.

The removal of the Caddoes and Penetathkas from Fort Cobb to the Big band of the Arkansas, was probably begun very soon after the fight in which the Tonkaways were so nearly extinguished;\* for the former,

<sup>Footnote</sup> \*The extermination, however, was less complete than was supposed by Supt. Coffin, and a ~~number~~ number of the Tonkaways still survive. "after wandering in the wilderness, in February, 1863, ..... landed on the Arkansas", as we learn from the following <sup>letter</sup> ~~report~~ of John W. Wright,



published in the 1863 Report on Indian Affairs:

"SIR: In pursuance of your instructions, I purchased a team of five yoke of oxen and a lot of carpenter's and blacksmith's tools and farming utensils for the use of the Caddo Indians, and employed a part of the mechanics you authorized, and the teams started from Atchison, Kansas, on the 8th of September [1863].

"On my way west I visited the Caddoes at the Big Bend of the Arkansas river, in the State of Kansas, and informed them as to your intention as to them, and requested them to appoint some of their principal men to go with me to select a country for their future residence. There is no person in the vicinity of the tribe that can speak English and Caddo, and all conversation had to be carried on by being first interpreted into Shawnee, or by the use of signs. As soon as they understood your wishes, a committee of five men was delegated to go with me, and the next day we reached Fort Larned. Before arriving there an alarm was given of an invasion from Texas, and all the Indians of the Plains were on a stampede to the north. My companions had to return to look after their families, and I agreed to furnish them a conveyance with a white driver at the end of the week. At the appointed time the head chief, Parkman, and his wife, with two of the principal men, arrived, and with Major Colley, the Indian agent, we selected a tract of land on the south side of the Arkansas river, and above and immediately adjoining <sup>[older Fort Lyon]</sup> the military reservation. At this point there is a wide bottom, and the water can be very easily taken from the river, and about 2000 acres of land completely irrigated. I caused the same to be levelled and estimated, and will furnish same to you.

"This place, on many accounts, is very suitable for the Caddoes. If they work, as I hope and believe they will, the fort will be a place of market, as well as the Santa Fe road, which runs on the north side of the river. The distance from Fort Lyon to Fort Larned is 246 miles, and from 50 miles below Lyon, for some hundred miles below Larned, the Arkansas river has been entirely destitute of water, and no reliance could be placed on it for water for irrigation below Fort Lyon.

"The Caddoes originally resided on the Brazos river, in Texas, where they cultivated farms and reared large herds of stock. About seven years since, they were removed to the vicinity of Fort Cobb, in the Indian country, where they again made farms. On the breaking out of

*Flouride* → ~~which~~ is shown elsewhere that the Caddoes did not all go to Indian Territory in one year, and that the last of them removed there from Texas in 1859. — F. W. C. the rebellion they were visited by the rebel agents and required to



take an oath of allegiance to the rebel government, and take up arms and join the Choctaws in raids on our people. This they refused to do, and secretly made arrangements to move north. In the spring of A.D., 1862, a large part of the tribe started on their way north, with their horses, cattle, hogs and sheep. After wandering in the wilderness, in February, 1863, they landed on the Arkansas.

"I do not know that there ever was any mission establishment in their nation, but they profess Christianity, and are as non-resistant as the Friends, in war, while their preacher speaks to them so loud in his discourse, you can hear him a mile. In their dress it is about one-half Indian. The provisions furnished them last spring by the government were principally eaten up by their kind neighbors, the Comanches and Kiowas. With these warlike tribes, and all others on the plains, the Caddoes are very popular, being universal favorites; but, at the same time, an Indian in the plains was never known to refuse to eat, and they have not only aided the Caddoes to eat their flour, but almost all their cattle. This was another reason for sending them to the vicinity of Fort Lyon, where the military could protect them against the kindness of the Indians of the plains.

"The Caddoes number at this time 426 persons, and have a large number of horses, twenty-seven cows, and one yoke of oxen. On selecting their future home, they were very desirous of immediately removing, and I agreed to meet them at their camp to aid them in their efforts. I immediately set the mechanics to build some cheap stone walls and to cover them with Mexican roofs, to protect the aged and sick from the colds of winter; and at this time three mechanics and five laborers are at work on the houses, and the team of oxen are breaking up the land. I returned to Fort Larned to aid them in moving to their new houses, and joined them at that point. I had promised them two wagons to enable them to move.

"Before my arrival there I had come to the conclusion that they ought not to move this fall. At Lyon there is little game, and corn costs about five dollars a bushel, and everything else in proportion. At Larned I made a contract for corn at one dollar and fifty cents, and the plains in the vicinity are covered with buffalo. The road between these places was destitute of both wood and water, and if a storm should occur, many of them would perish. I induced them to locate on the Pawnee river, about 20 miles above Larned, and remain there until spring. Major Colley and myself, under your instructions, designated Mr. George W. Davis as the mechanic to reside with them, and he is now industriously at work on their future homes.



"About one-third of the tribe still remain in the south and will join their brethren at the earliest moment they can do it; under no circumstances will they return south. They say they have been robbed twice by the Texans, and they will never trust them again. On leaving the south they left a large quantity of cattle, and each family was forbid taking more than one cow with them.

"Their saka for irrigation ought to be dug early in the spring and their ground planted, and they will not want any aid thereafter. Rock is abundant and houses can be built <sup>very</sup> cheap.

"An order ought to be issued by the Secretary of War to issue to these people half rations for four months, and to furnish them with tents in their temporary residence. I shall provide them with some corn that will last them until the first of January, which will expend all the means at my disposal.

"The Caddoes are deserving of the sympathy of all good men, and I hope will, in this their hour of distress, receive liberally the aid of the government.

"Yours, &c.,

"J. W. WRIGHT."

Hon. J. P. Usher,

"Secretary of the Interior." \*

\*1863 Rep. Ind. Aff., pp. 142, 143.

From the above communication, we see how far from their old homes in the Red river valley, some of the Caddoes wandered, and how little short the Caddoes once came of being <sup>for a period</sup> residents of the Territory of Colorado.

In June, 1863, S. G. Colley, ~~Ind. Aff.~~ agent for the Indians of the Upper Arkansas Valley, had found the Caddoes encamped in a beautiful grove at the mouth of Walnut creek, near old Fort Zarah, in the vicinity of the present town of Great Bend. About 450 persons were ~~in~~ then in this encampment. They had built themselves huts thatched with grass, had dug wells, etc., and were "anxious to know when 4th of July arrived", etc. They were "reliable, quiet and industrious". \*

\*L. c., page 138.

A part of the 450, however, were Penatethka Comanches, as we learn from other sources. This band of Comanches <sup>had been placed on the</sup> ~~had been placed on the~~ <sup>same reservation at Fort Cobb with</sup> ~~the~~ the tribes of Caddoan linguistic affinity.

On April 1st, 1864, Agent Colley wrote to the Indian Commissioner, "J. W. Wright has turned over to me the property he held for the Caddoes. He has erected three stone houses, containing three rooms each. I have to keep a man in possession to protect the property and



buildings. If the Caddoes are not to be settled on the land selected for them, I would recommend that the property be ~~transferred~~ transferred to the Cheyenne and Arapahoes; that all depends, however, on what disposition is made with the Caddoes. They are very anxious to have a home somewhere, where they can farm." \* L. c., 1864, page 248. *Footnote*

The Caddoes never occupied the stone buildings erected for them. Instead of moving up to them from the Pawnee Fork, where they had spent the previous winter, they moved down the river. *This must have been very soon after the writing of Agent Colley's letter of April 1st; ~~but~~ we read*

in another of the latter's letters, dated September 2nd, 1864, *1778* "The Caddoes have thus far kept out of all these difficulties *of the Plains Indians* [troubles with the whites, and especially with the troops and the people of Colorado]. They have moved down to a point between the Crow [Gow] and Turkey creeks, have planted the seeds they brought with them from Texas [Indian Territory], and have raised a crop which will assist in subsisting them during the next winter. I would again ~~and~~ earnestly call the attention of the department to these Indians, and request that some provision be made for their support, as I fear that the other tribes will *make war upon them if they do not assist them in their depredations*." \* L. c., page 244. *Footnote*

*While the Caddoes never settled in*

That portion of the Caddo Nation that had gone north remained in the Arkansas valley until 1867, when they were taken back, with the other ~~refugees~~ *refugees* of the affiliated tribes, to their old homes on the Washita river. During the latter part of their stay in Kansas, most of these tribes had become considerably demoralized by the introduction of whiskey among them, and by other vices consequent on their proximity to unprincipled whites. The instructions to remove them south, were received by their agent in April, but owing to delays in preparation, floods in the rivers, and finally an *epidemic* ~~outbreak~~ of cholera among them, which broke out with great violence first among the Wichitas, ~~and later successively~~ among the Wacos, Keechies, and Tawaconies, and finally among the Shawnees and Caddoes, and to which ~~47~~ *47* of the Caddoes fell victims, they did not *take final leave* ~~reach the Washita~~ of the Arkansas River until the 3rd of August, *and* ~~reach~~ *reach* the Washita ~~the~~ *the* ~~later~~ *later* in the same month.

Since their return to the Wichita reservation, the history of the Caddoes has been merely that of reservation Indians generally. Their agency headquarters has been at Anadarko, which is named for one of the tribes of close Caddoan affinity, now rarely distinguished <sup>2</sup> save by themselves from the Caddoes.

*Colorado they have, though the relocation and preparation of a home for them. These, left to the state, in tribal appellations, did not have a locality name in the form "Caddo" applied both to a river and to a village in Bent county within whose present limits the preparation for them was made.*



*Relative to Caddo culture and history in 1857 and later,  
~~which sketches, etc., are all very old and~~*  
we introduce here a few.

~~data from the testimony given in the~~ <sup>at Anadarko, Oklahoma,</sup>  
famous "Greer County Case" between the United States and Texas, in 1894,  
by Dr. J. J. Sturt, who had emigrated from ~~Tennessee~~ <sup>Tennessee</sup> to Waco, Texas, in  
1853, ~~and who in 1853, at the time, had lived in~~  
~~the~~ <sup>which latter</sup> ~~he~~ had taken up his residence with  
the Caddo Indians <sup>in June, 1857, and had</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>thereafter</sup> lived among them. ~~First on the~~  
~~was now located at Fort Belknap, and since 1859 in their Wichita~~  
~~reservation home near~~ <sup>or citing</sup> ~~him~~ <sup>some of the questions asked</sup>  
him by the attorneys in the case, and his answers to these, verbatim,  
though not always consecutively, from the Supreme Court Record, in  
which they are found.

Direct examination, by Mr. Allan, counsel for the United States:  
"4th question." "When did you move away from Waco and to what point?"

"Answer. I left Waco and came amongst the Indians that were in charge of Capt. Ross, father of ex-Gov. Sul. Ross, in 1857. I acted as farmer for the Indians on a reservation in Texas about twelve miles below Fort Belknap, on the Brazos river.

"5th question. Since that time where have you been living, and how have you been engaged?

"Answer. Since 1859 I acted as farmer for the Indians in the employ of the Government— among the Caddos, Anardarkos, Wacos, Ionis, Towakanos, Kiowas, and Keechis; have lived here ever since. During the war I was a good deal in charge of the Indians. I acted as agent part of the time and have acted in that capacity some since.

"6th question. With what tribes of Indians have you been familiar since you lived within the boundaries of the Indian Territory?

"Answer. With the Wichitas, Caddos, Comanches, and Apaches.

"7th question. Do you speak any Indian tongues; if so what?

"Answer. Yes, sir; I have acted as interpreter for the Caddos and Comanches. I have been to Washington city as interpreter in 1872, during Grant's administration. I have frequently acted as interpreter for the military.

"57 Q. What have been your means of familiarity with the Caddo habits, ~~and~~ manner, and customs?

"Ans. Well, I have a wife that is a Caddo. I took her up for a wife, according to the custom of the Indians, in the latter part of 1875 or early in 1876 —probably in Dec. or Jan'y; I don't remember which. Since that marriage according to the Indian custom I was requested by agent to marry her according to the white man's custom. The ceremony



was performed by him at the agent's building here. I speak their language and have been with them a good deal since I came amongst them in 1857.

"50 Q. Do you know ~~the style~~ the style used by the Caddos in the erection of their habitations?

"A. Yes, sir; I know the old style, and some of them still build houses in the same way. They built picket houses with a thatched roof.

"51 Q. I wish you would describe particularly the shape, style, formation, and material used by the Caddos in the building of their old houses as you have seen them.

"A. They split out pickets probably seven or eight feet long and dug a trench. They set up two forks probably twelve to fifteen feet high and lay a pole across these two forks, and <sup>then</sup> they set up the pickets, sometimes in a square with five or six openings, and the pickets are tied to these poles with pieces of bark skinned from ~~the~~ poles; then when the house is completed the inside of the house is made perfectly level, and on the outside they would bank up with dirt. They took poles and skinned the bark off and laid them up over the frame poles which were laid over the two forks, and then tied the rafters to these poles; took some small poles and laid them across the rafters, a good deal in the style that white people now lay sheeting to cover with shingles. They used grass; tied it on in bunches, what is known as a thatched roof in this country. They made a very good roof out of grass, that kept out the cold and rain too.

"52 Q. I did not quite understand the variation from the square which you referred to.

"A. There was another fork set so as to make it probably six-sided. They usually set the posts about eight feet apart, and then they set up others and made them sort of a circle.

"53 Q. Did their habitations vary in size much or were they generally uniform in size?

"A. They varied a good deal in size. It was just owing to the size of the family and number of beds that they wanted to put in. They used scaffolds instead of bedsteads.

"54 Q. When we adjourned yesterday I was inquiring as to the habits and modes of living of the Caddo tribe of Indians. Will you please now describe, if you can, with more particularity the shapes of the habitations made and occupied by them in years gone by?

"Answer. Their buildings were somewhat different from the other Indians that they lived amongst. They built their houses out of