

State of Texas

County of Denton,       SS.

Nancy J. Skaggs after being duly sworn says her age is 38 years and a Resident citizen of Denton County Texas, Pegg. Office Denton, Texas. Says that she is the niece of the late James Skaggs deceased who died at Kentucky Town in the State of Texas, in the year of A. D. 1877 Just before he died he called us and two of his daughters into his room and made the following statement in regard to the relation of the Skaggs family being related to the Cherokee Indians: He stated that he was going to die and that he wished to give the facts regarding the Indian blood before he died and he said our first ancestor, William Skaggs, came from Wales when he was 15 or 16 years old, and was a orphan boy, a short time after he landed in the United States he went a hunting and got lost and wandered into an Indian Village where he was retained so long his friends thought he was dead. He came back into the white settlements and only remained a short time until he returned to the Indians and married a Indian Woman by the name of Jones; said to be only 15 years old. There was seven sons born to them from the marriage. One of the sons was name William Jones Skaggs, and married a Cherokee Indian Woman by the name of Gaith and one of the sons was name Charles Skaggs and married a Cherokee Indian Woman named Thompson and that the branch of the family that he sprang from was the above named Charles Skaggs, he also stated that his grandmothers name was

Folly Thompson and that her mother's name was Betsey Thompson, and that the said Folly Thompson, was a half blood Cherokee Indian.

I have always known that Skaggs was related to the Cherokee Indians through the ancestry of the Jones, and the Thompsons and my Father who now lives at Durant, Indian Territory was named John Thompson Skaggs, for one of our relations by the name of John Thompson who was a Cherokee Indian and was my Father's Grand Father about 18 years ago he was in the Cherokee Nation and they there recognized us as Indians and told us that we were entitled to Citizenship and one of my cousins by the name of Thomas Thompson has since proved up his Citizenship and been admitted and one of my cousins by the name of Jones has since wrote us that they have proved up their citizenship and been admitted. One of them that had been admitted was Aaron Jones and lived on Grand river in the Cherokee Nation. We were always called Cherokee Indians and when people heard it is they would accuse us of being akin to the Thompson and Jones Indians, a great many of the Skaggs Families that I was acquainted with looked like Indians and it was always admitted by the Skaggs family that they were Indians.

Mary J. Skaggs

Sworn to and subscribed before me by Mary J. Skaggs on this 10th day of July A. D. 1898.

R. H. Bell,  
Notary Public,  
In and for Denton County Texas

( Seal )