

Surveying in the Mountains.

The lands of the five civilized tribes of Indians in the Indian Territory are now being surveyed. The base line, the standard parallels and guide meridians are almost completed. About one half of it has been sectioned and the remainder will perhaps be completed within a year.

The roughest part of the Territory, which lays just west of Arkansas, is now being worked. The prevailing hot and dry weather has caused the surveyors in that district to suffer during the last few months. Many have been compelled to quit on account of sickness, while others have succeeded in getting transferred to other parts of the Territory.

Wagons are used to transport the camping outfits as near the work as possible, then a main camp is established. From this camp each party starts out with sufficient provisions to last a few days, packed on mules. Many would laugh to see us start out on one of these trips, each man carrying a canteen of water and the instrument he is to use and driving or leading a mule covered with beddings, tin pans, cups, coffee pots, etc. In addition to the above mentioned load each man geneally "toats" a big Colts 45-six-shooter. When the party reaches the place where the work is to begin a temporary camp is established and one man is left to take care of it. The party then goes into the field to work, leaving the one man to do the cooking, feeding of the mules, hunt water, and to do other chores around the the camp. It often happens that after the days work is finished the party is two or three miles away, and perhaps a mountain or two to cross. The man in camp fires signal shots from time to time so that the lost ones may find the way home. After supper is over each one tells his experience in his native state, or in other words, spins a yarn and goes to sleep. Reveille is not sounded next morning, but the wolves generally act the part of the drum major. The solar compass, which Bruce said was used for running the vertical lines, is used quite extensively on this work. The principles and formulas learned