

Sophia Caroline Pitchlynn

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Choctaw Indian Princess Who Raises Fancy Chickens

It took a woman to make the poultry fanciers of the country sit up and take notice. They smiled patronizingly when Miss Sophia Pitchlynn made her first entry at a poultry show a few years back. But they don't smile now; they take off their hats instead. Miss Pitchlynn has shattered all the pet theories of the poultry fanciers of this country, the fundamental and indispensable one being that success in poultry raising could not be attained without giving the fowls a good run. Miss Pitchlynn's chicks have only a brick-covered space, about the size of an old-fashioned English billiard table, for exercise, and that too, in the very heart of Washington, at 1104 6th street northwest, where there isn't a bit of vacant ground within a mile.

She has been the only woman exhibitor in the important poultry shows of the last few years in this country who has carried off prizes over the heads of men exhibitors. She is now preparing to invade this field in England, and has already selected her birds and is caring for and perfecting them for transportation across the sea the coming season. She has just returned from a visit to her people, the Choctaw Indians, Miss Pitchlynn bearing the distinction of being an Indian princess, the daughter of a Choctaw chief.

Her chicken yard is but 21 by 40 feet, yet within the rows of coops lining the area and the court in the center in which the fowls run she raises between five and six hundred brown leghorns each year. Her ambition to produce the finest single-comb brown leghorn in the world bids fair to become a realization. If intelligent industry can accomplish it, it is a certainty.

No lazy person she declares can raise chickens successfully. She is up at daylight every morning the year round and goes at once to her coops. When she appears in her gown of blue her chickens flock around her and cackle their morning greeting. But let this charming fancier appear in another color and these wily "girls and boys," as she lovingly calls them, come out and eat, but are not talkative or demonstrative.

The Washington Post, February 9, 1913 p. E53

She Can Carry A Pistol

Mrs. S.C. Pitchlyn First Woman in the District to Get a Permit

Mrs. Sophia C. Pitchlyn, a local poultry fancier, has been granted a permit to carry a revolver, being the first woman to obtain the privilege in the District of Columbia. Her home is located on Daniels road, near the Military road. The nearest car line to her residence is 2 miles distant.

Several weeks ago Mrs. Pitclyn wrote the judges of the police court asking a permit, assuring the judges that she could shoot straight, but would not make use of her revolver unless attacked. When she called in person upon Judge Pugh and related her case he ordered Francis A. Sebring, clerk of the court, to issue the permit. This was done after Mrs. Pitchlyn had given a bond of \$300. Her permit is only good for 30 days, at the expiration of which time it must be renewed, or the privilege is forfeited.

Pitchlynn. On Monday, January 5, 1942 at 325 Whittier st. n.w., Sophia C. Pitchlynn. Services at the S.H. Hines Co. funeral home, on Wednesday, January 7, at 3 p.m. Interment private. The

Evening Star, January 6, 1942, p. A10

Sophia Pitchlynn Dies; Was Choctaw Princess

Princess Sophia Pitchlynn, daughter of Peter Perkins Pitchlynn, chief of the Choctaw Indians, died yesterday in a local hospital. For many years her father represented the tribe in Washington.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Chief Pitchlynn sought to keep the Choctaw group neutral, while he himself remained loyal to the Union. He was a friend of Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay and was spoken of highly by Charles Dickens in his "American Notes."

The Princess was brought to Washington when she was 7. She was known for her charities to the poor. At one time--1908--she maintained a chicken farm here, sending the fowl to the reservation in Oklahoma to improve the native breed. As the years went on she sold her property to aid relatives and friends.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. tomorrow at the S.H. Hines funeral home, 2901 Fourteenth street N.W. Interment will be in Congressional Cemetery, where the Princess' father is buried.