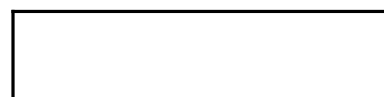


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# Exploring Oklahoma Through Books

ONE HUNDRED and three years ago, Samuel Austin Worcester, a New Englander with the courage and foresight of his race, ascended the Arkansas River to establish at Union Mission, and later at Park Hill, the first publishing house in Oklahoma. From his presses there issued between 1835 and 1859 more than thirteen million printed pages: books, tracts, pamphlets, many of them set in the difficult languages of the Five Civilized Tribes. In this work he identified himself as perhaps the first regional publisher in America, for his publishing interests centered in his region and the people who then inhabited it.

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