

**Fort Towson's Representative Town Builders  
Not Boomers, But Wide Awake Citizens  
Who are in Line for Progress and Prosperity**

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**R.D. Cheatham**

This genial gentleman first came to Fort Towson in charge of the A. & C. Railroad building department and erected the depot and section houses at this place. Having his eyes open for a good proposition he located here in the spring of 1902, and as contractor and builder soon had sixteen houses under construction at one time. Later he incorporated the Fort Towson Telephone Co., and as general manager built 66 miles and a few branches of a telephone line, which he now owns and operates as Cheatham's Telephone Exchange. He is interested in several other enterprises, and carries a complete stock of builders' material.

As a contractor and builder, Mr. Cheatham stands at the head of his profession, and as evidence of this fact he constructed 150 houses at Winthrop, Ark., for Black & Williams, townsite agents, during his four years' residence at that place prior to removing here. He is a native of Alabama, but has been in Arkansas and Indian Territory long enough to have become naturalized.