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Oktibbeha County

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HISTORY OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

CHAPTER ONE: FORMATION OF THE COUNTY

Oktibbeha County, situated in the northern part of the State, was created by Act. of the Legislature on December, 23, 1833, and was one of the numerous Counties formed out of the Choctaw Cession of 1830. The organization of the County was completed in 1834.

The first court was held under a tree about 3 miles from where Starkville is now located. Gen Reuben Davis was District Attorney and R. A. Lampkin acting Sheriff.

The shape of Oktibbeha County is practically square, being slightly wider east and west, with a slight irregular line in the northeastern corner, where it runs along Line Creek.

BOUNDARIES

The original Act defined its boundaries as follows: Beginning at the point where the line between ranges 15 and 16, east, leaves the one between townships 16 and 17, and running from thence north with said line, between ranges 15 and 16, east, to a point directly west of the junction of the Buttahatchy River with the Tombigbee River; form thence west to the line between ranges 11 and 12, east; from thence south, wita said line between ranges 11 and 12, east, to the line between townships 16 and 17, and from thence east, with said line between townships 16 and 17, to the place of beginning A part of its northern area was taken on May 12, 1871, to assist in forming the new County of Clay, which County and

and Webster lie to the north; Lowndes County on the east; Winston and Noxubee on the south, and Choctaw County on the west.

The old Robinson road ran through the southern part of Oktibbeha, and in the southeastern part was the old Choctaw Indian Agency. Numerous mounds and the many streams and towns with Indian mounds, are constant reminders of the old Choctaw occupancy.

The total area is 457 square miles, and of this an area, about 121,000 acres, are cleared land.

The population in 1840 was 4,276, in 1850, 9,171; in 1860, 12,977, including 7,186 slaves and 873 voters; in 1870, 14,891; in 1880, 15,978; in 1890 17,694, made up of 5,585 whites and 12,109 negroes. In 1930 the population had increased to 19,119.

NAME

The County derives its name from the Creek which was called Oktibbeha by the Indians. This stream divided the territories occupied by the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians, and it was along the banks of this creek, back in the early days, where several bloody battles were fought between the tribes. According to some authorities, Oktibbeha means "fighting waters" in the Indian language, the stream being so called by reason of those encounters. However, according to Prof. H. S. Halbert, an authority on the Choctaw language, the name Oktibbeha is derived from an Indian phrase, meaning "ice therein", and he states that the creek was so

titled because, when first discovered by the natives, there were pieces of ice floating in the waters. The name of the creek has since been abbreviated to "Tibbe."

COUNTY SEAT

Originally, the County Seat of Oktibbeha was Boardtown, so called because of the board walks. After the organization of the County, the town grew rapidly and the name was changed to Starkville, in honor of Genera' Starks, of the Revolutionary War. Many descendants of the old pioneers are still living in and around the town.

The site on which the town of Starkville stands, was at one time a camp where a tribe of Choctaw Indians congregated. The Indians chose this site for a camp probably because of a spring nearby, known as the Hicashebaha, meaning "Sweet Gum Grove"-because of a beautiful grove of sweet gums that grew around the spring. The Methodist church stands on the spot where the Hicashebaha Spring was.

The first county officials were: David Reese, Probate Judge; Charles Dibrell, Probate Clerk; Joseph Yeates, Circuit Clerk; J. W. E. Eastland, Sheriff; Robert Bell, Treasurer; James Wirman, Ranger; and Elijah Hogan, President of the Board of Police (the same who kept the first hotel). R. A. Lampkin was the first Postmaster and carried the mail in his hat. The first justice of the peace were: For Mayhew District, W.N. Valentine and James Copeland; for Southern District, Cabaniss

and David Ames, and Northern Districts were Squire Clark and H. B. Vaughn.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS

Another old community was built up around the Choctaw agency. This community covered some eight or ten miles in each direction, and furnishes some of the gomes of most historic interest.

Old Gibson was built over a century ago. This home was perhaps built by David Folsom, an Indian Chief, and was used as an Inn. Another home in this community is the old Folsom Inn, which was built in 1826. The town of Folsom is reported by Dr. Riley in his acccount of the "Extinct Towns of Mississippi". Two of these are in this county, Folsom and Whiteson. The old Dorsey Outlaw home is located in this same section. The Byington School and Church was located in this community. This was the first Baptist Church in this section. From this church, the later Salem Church was developed. Here was located one of the first saw and grist mills. Other old homes of this community have long since disappeared. The Robinson Road ran through this section and came to be one of the main thoroughfares from sections north and east through to points west. A ferry was first used, but later a bridge was built across this stream. This was a private crossing, and advanced in price from $500 to $30,000 in a few years, so great was the traffic during the heyday of transportation

on this highway.

Bell School Community extends several miles in every direction from the old school. Neighbors in those early days were from ten to fifteen miles apart. Part of the old community is now in the county of Clay, but then a part of Oktibbeha. One can imagine the hardships of those early days with practic lly no roads, no bridges over the many sm ll streams, few doctors, teachers, ministers--even [illegible] graveyard was, in many instances, miles from some of the community homes. At most of the homes, one can see the foundation of old blacksmith shops, tanneries, loom rooms, where were kept the family spinning wheel, loom, etc. The old grist mill was often down on the small stream run by an almost continuous flow of water. Here often the wheat was ground, the lumber sawed, if such were used in the old home, or else it was cut out by the old whip saw method; or, worse, the old pack saw.

The water of all the old homes of Bell Community, was furnished from cisterns. Men went over the community as cistern makers, as did the shoe makers, harness makers, and other more rare home necessities. The cisterns were often fifty, seventy-five, or even greater depth. The bowl was made in the solid lime rock and the depth was determined by the depth of the lime rock. The upper part of the cistern was small and bricked to the top. This was to keep out seep water from near the surface as it was hard water. The water was drained into the cistern during the winter season and remained cold during the hottest summer.

CENTER GROVE COMMUNITY of today, was known in the early days, when the settlers were coming from the East to find a desirable place for their future home, as Cousin Community, or Cousin Town; due to the fact that these settlers of 1845 came to the section where their relatives were already settled. If they were not cousins, at least relations of some nature could be found. The earlier settlers came fr m the East, even as far as Ireland, one or two graves in the old Chestnut Log Church cemetery state this fact. Later, we note that their relatives, who had earlier come into the eastern Tombigbee settlement with Alabama, now took courage and crossed the prairie to settle with their old homefolks. According to Mr. J. D. Love, many of the earliest settlers refused to cross the prairie, due to the belief that a kind of miasma arose from that soil that was sure death if breathed. This must account for the later migrations of settlers that had at first settled in Alabama. The first school and church were called "Chegre Hill," or perhaps, Chigoe Hill, and were built of chestnut logs. Families that made up Cousin Town were the Fulghams, Blakes, Tucks, Harpoles, O'Briants, Parkers, McQuery, Saflers, Hugers, Coxes, and later, a doctor known as Heddleston, and one Frierson. The earliest representative of the medical profession in Cousin's Community, was Dr. Bedbetter. Of course, the schools of the community, where the next-door neighbor was some miles distant, were small and of short duration. Mr.

Cushman built an academy at a very early date. He lived among the Choctaw Indians, and taught and loved them as his own people. In 1866, a Mrs. Joe Ramsey taught school in this community. In 1867, Wash Foster taught a school attended by forty-two men and boys, but not a single woman or girl ever appeared. This gentleman taught for seven years at this place, and did a great service otherwise, being recognized as councilor for the tribe.

Spark's Memories of Fifty years, Pages 331-32 states, that in Mississippi, the population was too thin and too scattered to collect the children into a neighborhood school, and the people were too poor to employ private tutors . The children did not, therefore, enjoy the advantages which were afforded in other sections.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS

In Beat 5, was a community called Oktoc, where David Folsom, a half-breed cjief, reserved a large body of land and built a log house that was known as Folsom Inn, a stop for the stage coach on its way from Alabama to Natchez; a haven for solitary travelers and sturdy pioneers coming to this "land of the magnolia" to build their homes. Folsom Inn became so famous that the land about it was divided into town lots and a village sprang up and flourished, but very soon died. At present, (1936) there is nothing to indicate

a former town, except part of the old inn and a small cemetery, one labeled Elizabeth Shaw, one Jane Shaw, wife of Joseph J. Shaw, who died October 21, 1835, aged 23 years, and a foot-stone labeled J.J. S., presumably for Joseph J. Shaw.

In the northwestern section, two settlements have borne the name of Double Springs, which derived its name from two very old springs near the sire. As early as 1836, a blacksmith shop, a woodshop, a postoffice and a Presbyterian Church was there. In 1837, the Methodists est blished a Church; and the following year, the Missipnary Baptists organized.

Other early settlements of Oktibbeha County include: Bell School-house Community, Cousins' Town, Whitfield, Mayhew Mission, and Choctaw Agency.

EARLY SETTLERS

Oktibbeha County's first white population included the Davis, Hunt, Hannah, Crawford, Morrison, Franklin, Huntley and Norville families. This section had natural resources of good mild climate, and forests. Aided by these resources, these first settlers built homes of logs which were poorly constructed. The houses usually consisted of only one room, and in some instances, they had dirt floors. In later years the crude log houses were often replaced by better ones.

These first settlers had no material wealth, but this they immediately began to acquire, as their human needs prompted its pursuit. They were possessed with an abundance

of spiritual wealth--wealth of capacities and character. They were united in one great and grand design-a forward move of their entire community. Most of them had only a limited education, such as the opportunities of their day afforded. Schools of engineering, agriculture and architecture were not accessible to them. Yet they were sufficiently educated to strive to build social welfare and civilized society around them that their children and grand-children are today proud of. They taught their youth to acquire useful knowledge and to produce more than their consumption, they had no idlers around them. Thus, their individual welfare was preserved and their social welfare promoted.

This section had only one industry--that of agriculture, then called the "domestic system. They manufactured their clothes shoes, hats and all their necessities at home.

The first churches and schools established in western Oktibbeha, were at Pleasant Ridge, located about two miles north of the village of Bradley of today; Wakeforest, one mile north of the town of Sturgis, and the old Field or Whitefield M. E. Church, located in the town of Sturgis.

In the early settlement of Oktibbeha, the western portion of the County was blessed with several medical doctors. These were: Doctor Cotton, residing in what is today known as the Big Creek Community, Doctor Walker, in the Whitefield Community, and Doctor Cooper in the southeast part of the county.

An extraordinary drouth visited this section in 1833. A certain settler planted corn in March of that year and it lay in the ground until September without germination, on account of lack of rain or moisture.

William Hannah, one of the first settlers, purchased land in Section 8, township 17, range 12, in 1838, and established his home there. For a few following years, he paid W. F. Westbrook, then the Sheriff and Tax Collector of the County, the sum of $3.63, total taxes for each year on this land.

In 1849, Stephen E. Nash went to Noxubee County from Sumpter County, Alabama, and from there to Oktibbeha County, where he reared his family. He married Jane Staunton of Sumpter County, Alabama. They had three sons, Wiley N., James, and William Warren Nash; and four daughters, Ella, Maggie, Della and Emma. Wiley N. Nash married Alice Ervin; they had two children, Harry Evan Nash and Eva Nash; William Warren Nash married Ella Bridges and they had four children, Julia, Stephen E., John Calhoun, and Willie Warren; Della Nash married Cephas L. Wilson, of Mt. Hebron, Ala. Their children were Cephas L. Jr., Emma, Robert B., and Emma Nash, and William Wilson.

Other early settlers were: J. L. Martin, the oldest merchant in Oktibbeha County, owns and operates an Undertaker's Parlor. Mr. Martin was born in 1861 in Oktibbeha County, and has never lived out of its bounds. At 14 years

of age he was a clerk in the hardware store "Bell and Martin"; later, he entered business with his father, and married Lula Montgomery, (daughter of W. B. Montgomery). Martin's father was a German, coming to America when a very young man to avoid training in the German army, which he did not believe in. He married a girl who lived in Mississippi. During the War between the States, Martin was not required to go, but he enlisted because he felt that he was a citizen of the South, and because he wanted to help defend his adopted country. J. L. Martin has five children, two girls, Lela--Mrs. Ed. Williams, Ruth--Mrs. R. S. Hill, three boys, Roy, Lewis and Frank, all in Starkville.

John Thornton was born in Lexington, Va., May 19, 1795, and at the age of 17, fought in the War of 1812. He was married to Jane Edgar in 1824, and one daughter, Mary Thornton, blessed this union; they moved to Florence, Alabama, and later to Columbus, Mississippi, in the year 1842. Soon after, he moved to Starkville, then a mere village, and located on the lot now owned by Sam Phillops. As he drove his ox wagon down the streets of Starkville, he had to use great care to keep from striking one of the many stumps that were still in the streets. Thornton was an architect, but had very little use for his profession in this backwoods town, however, he built a log house and boarded it up with

lumber from Outlaw's mill on Talking Warrior Creek.

Thornton served as Justice of the Peace in 1859, and as Postmaster for several years, delivering mail in his hat. He died in 1865.

In 1851, John S. Worley married Mary Thornton, two children were born to them--Florence, who married Dr. John Allen, of Starkville, in 1873; and Mary Edgar, who married Sam M. Ware, Starkville, in 1896. Florence died shortly after her marriage, and her husband now lives in Dallas, Texas. Mary Edgar, known throughout the community as Eddie, in 1936, was still living. The great grandmother of Mrs. Ware was born in Belfast, Ireland.

Bernhard Blumenfeld was one of Starkville's pioneer merchants, he was born in Germany, in Salzkotten, in the province of Wesphalia, in the year 1853; In 1871 he came to Starkville after a sojourn in Alabama, where he had an older brother, He first entered the mercantile business with Beno Long, also of Alabama, as his partner. Mississippi was then still in the throes of reconstruction and the young German entered fully and sympathetially into the lives and problems of the Southerners. Years afterwards, his children, hearing him talk of those early days, would smile and say," One would think he had an old grey uniform folded away in a trunk, instead of his naturalization papers." so much a part of the Old South had he become. Beno Long soon moved to New York, and in 1876, Blumenfeld took as his partner, Simon Fried, thus founding the

firm of Blumenfeld & Fried, one of Starkville's first business houses, a firm which is still in existence (after sixty years) and maintains the high standards of its founders. Simon Fried was also a German, being born in 1843, in the province of Bavaria. Both Simon Fried and Bernhard Blumenfeld became thoroughly identified with the life of the community, and were instrumental in building it up. Both were men of vision and high ideals, and both believed in progress, being keenly interested in civic betterment. Their names are linked with many advances and improvements in Starkville and in Oktibbeha County. In 1888, Bernhard Blumenfeld married his partner's eldest daughter, carrie Fried, their two children were Simon Fried, and Mena Blumenfeld.

Blumenfeld & Fried carried on in those early days, a supply business, as a large part of the retail trade was with planters, and they did not get to town very often, hence their visits were quite an event, sometimes lasting for several days, during which the merchant played host. The planter replenished the stock of goods in his commissary--mostly inexpensive dress goods, work shoes, and staple groceries--goods carried for the convenience of his "hands"; he bought better things for himself and his family. Sometimes the hands came to town in big wagons, and that was a gala day, indeed. They did their own trading then, and the merchants kept all these accounts separate, under the name of the planter for whom

each hand worked-- a prodigious amount of book-keeping. Pay-off time came in the fall when cotton was sold. Most of the merchants were cotton buyers, as well as merchants. If the price of cotton was good, it was a time of settlement and celebration all around, and the merchant paid off his notes at the bank. If the price of cotton was low, the merchant "carried" the planter a while longer, and the bank "carried" him--with added interest. Most of the merchants had to have New York bank accounts, as the eastern houses from whom they made their purchases, demanded New York exchange.

OLD LAND GRANTS

There are as many as twenty original land grants held by citizens of Oktibbeha County, with probably several more which have not come to light. All were issued during the administration of Martin Van Buren and all read exactly alike. Some were sent out from the Washington office, some from the Choctaw Agency

THE NOXUBEE RIVER

Noxubee River rises in the eastern portion of Choctaw and the western portion of Oktibbeha County and flows in a southeastern direction to the Tombigbee. It was wholly within the ancient Choctaw territory, and was, generally

speaking, the dividing line between their permanent homes in the pine lands to the south, and their summer hunting grounds to the north and east of the river, embracing the prairie of the present Oktibbeha, Lowndes and Noxubee Counties, in which fish and game abound.

The crossing first in importance, within the historic period at least, is in the southern part of Oktibbeha County, very near the Nocubee line. This place was brought into prominence in 1826 by the opening of the Robinson or U. S. Government Road from Columbus to Jackson. The first owner and occupant of the place was David Nail, a half-breed Choctaw.

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CHAPTER II

TOPOGRAPHY

Oktibbeha County presents three rather distinct topographic districts, which correspond, in a general way, with the location of the principal geological formations.

The first district, on the western side, is occupied by a divide between the numerous streams which flow through the eastern part of the county. Starkville is situated on one of the highest points of this divide, and several streams have their source within its corporate limits. Approaching this district from the west, its topography seems very rugged, for it is then entrusted with the flatwoods, The harder stratum of the Selma Chalk has withstood the ravages of erosion better than the less-enduring lignitic clay of the flatwoods.

The streams in some places are deepening their channels as a regult of an increased volume of water.

Vertical walls and clean-swept beds are evidence that they are not depositing, but eroding streams. The destruction of the forest and the attendant undergrowth is also causing rapid changes in the configuration of some parts of the chalk district.

The rapid cutting away of the yellow loam mantle has given rise, in some localities, to a sort of "bad land" topography, which is very noticeable in the northwestern part of Starkville and in the Thompson hills, five miles to the north. The highest and most abrupt chalk hills are on the southern border of Line, Sand and (Catalpha) Creeks; the topography of the eastern part of the chalk district is that of the rolling plains, and much of it is prairie lands.

The topography of the red hill section is rougher than the chalk district. The hills are higher, but the slopes are not so abrupt--a condition generally true of softer strata. These hills are composed of lignitic clay, overlaid by a stratum of the Lafayette , which is, in turn, overlaid by a layer of yellow loam. These are found on the slopes. and not on the crest of the hills. In such places the rate of erosion is rapid, and a rugged form of topography is fast developing. In many places the LaFayette sand, and the lignitic clay, which underlies the sand, are protected by layers of ironstone, or ironstone nodules, which are abundant in the LaFayette; in some places the irregular ironstone nodules are united in a rather compact layer, which may be several yards in extent. In some places the LaFayette formation is absent and the lignitic clay is protected by a layer of iron-stone, which occurs in an upper horizon of that formation.

WATER-SHEDS

Oktibbeha County has a splendid drainage system, in its numerous rivers and creeks. Noxubee River, the largest stream, flows east along the southern border, not more than a mile and a half from the line at any point. Oktibbehaw or Tibbee, Creek has its origin near the northeastern corner of the county.

Line Creek forms near the center of the Northern boundary line, at the juncture of Sun and Trim Cane Creeks, and flows along the northern boundary of the eastern part of the county. Josey and Lick Creeks, flowing northeast and southeast, respectively, are tributaries of Trim Cane, which is the principal tributary of Line. Cushman Creek, originationg back of the court-house, flows in Basker Canal for one mile, then empties into Trim Cane. Golden Horn Creek flows southeast into Noxubee River. Bougheolo rises in the southwest, flows north into Big Sand, and Big Sand flows southeast into Noxubee River.

Other creeks of the county are: Sturgis, Cypress, Big, Little Hollis, Talking-Warrior, Catalpha, ByWy, Jordan, Ash, Dancing Rabbit, Chincahoma, Skinner,

Hearon, Browning, Rocky, Wier, Ittobedhi, Turkey, Dog, Red Bud, Sun, Self, Show, Cleer, Long Branch, Crows, Chotbog, Tobacco Juice, and Oktoc.

These streams drain the county well, thus making it healthful, and improve the soil for farming and pasture.

ELEVATION

The highest point of elevation is at Maben 444 feet above sea level. Starkville and Sturgis are next. The lowest point of elevation is the J. C. Hulbert place, on the Noxubee River, 300 feet above sea level.

The bottom lands lie principally along Noxubee River and its tributaries, and other small streams in the southern part, and along Trim Cane Creek, in the northern part.

The prarie section lies in the northeastern and eastern part, around Osborn, Hickory Grove, and below Sessums.

The flatwoods begin just south of Adaton and run south beyond Longview to the swamp of Chin cahoma, and southwest of Starkville, running south to the swamps of Talking-Warrior Creek.

The rugged regions begin in the hills at Maben and run south beyond Sturgis to the Winston County ling. There is a range of hills just north of Starkville, running southeast.

LAKES? SPRINGS AND MARSHES

One large artifi ial lake in Oktibbeha County is nineteen acres in size on Chicamow Creek, and was built by the government. Artificial lakes or ponds are found on nearly every farm in the county, used to supply water for live stock, etc.

There are many small sloughs near the southern boundary line in Noxubee River Swamp, and Trim Cane swamp in the northeastern part, where streams have

changed their course. The only two sloughs of note are Parker's and Gum Slough. These are breeding places for mosquitoes and the soil lying near them over-flows easily. The poorly drained land is not good for cultivation and makes poor pasture.

WELLS , SPRINGS

Artesian wells are in the extreme northeast corner, where the over-flowing strata runs just inside the county. The Eutaw formation, which is about 400 feet thick, is the principal source of Artesian water, Where the surface is 200 feet or less above sea level, the water-bearing beds are reached at depths of 290 to 350 feet. Many of the wells in the northeastern part overflow, the static head of the water being from a few feet to ten feet or more above the surface.

From the northeastern part the Cretaceous strata dip west by south, at the rate of 30 to 33 feet to the mile, whereas the land surface gradually rises, so that, at Starkville, where the elevation is 362 feet above sea level, the depth to the first water-bearing bed of the Eutaw is about 800 feet.

In the intervening area are many wells that range in depth from a minimum of 290 feet in the northeast to 1,000 feet or more along the Cretaceous-Eocene boundary. The static head of the water is at successively greater depths from east to west owing to the increasing elevations of the surface in that direction. At Starkville, the static head is reached at a depth of 150 feet, but at the waterworks this has been reduced 25 feet by pumping.

At Longview, seven miles southwest of Starkville, where the surface lies about 290 feet above sea level, the first water-bearing bed of the Eutaw is reached at a depth of 902 feet and the static head is 85 feet below the surface.

The village of Muldrow and surrounding districts are advantageously

situated for obtaining artesian water supplies. Many wells in depth from 290 to 400 feet, nearly all of which flow and are in use; while at the village of Osborn 25 or 30 feet higher above sea level than Muldrow, flowing wells are not obtained. However, the static head of the water is in general less than 40 feet below the surface and therefore easily within the reach of pumps. The wells range in depth from 400 to 700 feet.

Sessums is near the western edge of the Black Prarie Belt, and nearly the full thickness of the Selma chalk must be penetrated in order to reach the water-bearing sands of the Eutaw formation. The wells range in depth from 400 to 750 feet.

The municipal waterworks at Starkville is about 100 yards west of the Union station on ground two or three feet lower than the track. The water supply is derived from two sells, one 900 feet deep (No. 32) and the other 910 feet deep; these wells penetrate two water-bearing sands in the Eutaw formation beneath the Selma chalk.

Mississippi State College, one and one half miles east by south of Starkville, is equipped with waterworks and obtains water from the Eutaw formation by means of two wells, respectively 995 and 1,008 feet deep.

A few small springs occur in the hilly area underlain by the sandy strata of the Ripley formation east of the center, and also in the hilly tract in the western and southwestern parts that is underlain by the Ackerman formation. In the same areas shallow wells are used to provide domestic supplies. Springs are rare or absent thro ghout the Black Prarie belt in the eastern part, which is underlain by the Porters Creek clay. Residents of these sections who do not have deep wells depend for water supplies chiefly on cisterns and surface pools designed for storing rain water.

There is a spring eight miles south of Starkville, on the west side

of Hollis Creek, on what is known as the Old Lucenda Hollingshed Place; this spring flows from the foot of a bluff with a large red oak tree growing at the head of it.

MINERAL ANALYSIS

The mineral analysis of ground waters from Oktibbeha County are : Silica (SiO_2) Iron (Fe), Calcium (Ca), Magnesium (Mg), Sodium and Potassium (Na & K), Carbonate radicle (OO_3), Bicarbonate radicle (HOO_3) Sulphate radicle (SO_4), Chloride radicle (Cl), and Nitrate radicle (NO_3).

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HISTORY OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

CHAPTER I.

PHYSIOGRAPHY

Geography---A study of the geography of a country is as essential to the understanding of its economic, social, and political life as is the study of the geography of a state or nation. Even a cursory reading of the geography of Oktibbeha county presents a fascinating picture of its antiquity. The surface of the county is made up largely of the disintegrated rock deposited ages ago in salt or fresh water seas, bayous, and lakes. Fossil remains, both plant and animal, give evidence of an era of an ancient period when living organisms abounded. The entire county lies within the Costal Plain that embraces the lands of seven of our Southern States.

Naturally, in the bottom lands, valleys, level prairies, foothills, and Flatwoods, the richness of the soil varies. In the higher sections, the soil is not so fertil, except sections that are supplied with native limestone or phosphatic sands, and is sometimes rough and very poor. It may be used for pasturage, orchards, or cover crops. In the Alluvial sections of the lowlands are grown bountiful crops of cotton, corn, potatoes, oats,

grasses etc.

One of the county's major problems today is combating soil erosion. It is estimated that 400,000,000 tons of soil from the fields of the Mississippi Valley alone, are carried by our many streams to the Gulf of Mexico annually.

The lines therefore, that would divide the county into topographic belts, is more than a separation of the county's physiography. It tends to be the dividing lines for urban and farm centers; large and small, economic, social and educational elements. Even the number of farms occupied by the owners and tenants, whether densely or sparsely populated. These facts stand as evidence that where the early pioneer built His hut or his plantation home, influenced his destiny.

Boundary---Oktibbeha county is bounded on the south by the counties of Winston and Noxubee, on the west by Choctaw, on north by Webster and Clay, and on the east by Clay and Lowndes. In extent, at the present time, it is 24 miles east and west, and 19 miles from north to south. It was formerly 26 miles north and south in the original survey. It has an area of 456 square miles which includes the ranges, 12, 13, 14, and 15 east of the prime meridian; and the townships, 17,18, 19 and part of 20, north. The county lies between the parallels 33 and 34 latitude, and the meridian of 89 passes through the western boundary about five miles from the line.

Watersheds--- The county presents three rather distinct

topographic belts which corresponds in a general way with the location of the principal geologic formations. The first belt occupies the prairie or Selma chalk division which is in the eastern section of the county covering all of Range 15 and part of Range 14. The second belt, known as the "Flatwoods", is of Lignitic structure. It covers the remainder of Range 14 and part of Range 13. The third belt, or Red Sandhill district occupies the remainder of the county to the west. Lying between the eastern belt or prairies and the central belt or Flatwoods, is the rugged divide which separates the streams of the east and south flowing into the Noxubee river which borders the southern boundary of the county; from those of the west and north, flowing into Line creek, which borders the county on the north and ultimately flows into the Tombigbee river. The county divide is made up of both geologic formations, one projecting into the other. The Lignitic clays are soft and easily eroded while the Selma chalk is more enduring. This has caused much erosion all over the divide especially on the side next to the streams. Starkville, the county seat, is located on this divide and thus streams have their origin or source within its boundary which flow in both directions. The highest elevation of the county, something over 400 feet from sea level, is located near the county seat. The county itself, belonging to the highland part of the coastal plain of the state, is situated on the western watershed of the Tombigbee river and on the eastern side of the ridge forming the divide between that river and the Pearl river system.

1. Logan, W. N. Geological and Industrial Survey of Mississippi. 1903. State College Miss.

This ridge lies along or within the western border of the c
It will be observed then, that all the streams of the county
long to the Tombigbee system; while within the county; the pos
of the streams has been determined, to a large extent, by the
character of the soil. The softer soils have captured and held
the main drainage lines of the county. For the northern part of
the county, Line Creek and its tributary, Trim Cane, form the chief
drainage course, while the Noxubee and its northern branches form
it for the southern part of the county. These streams in order to
reach the Tombigbee River to the west, must cross two strata of
entirely different character--the first lignitic and soft, the
second, Selma chalk of the prairie, hard and more enduring. This
county tributaries mentioned above should naturally run directly
west to reach the Tombigbee by the nearest route, but instead they
cross the softer stratum, the lignitic clay, diagonally and the
harder clay in a direct east-west line which is according to the
law of stream development, taking the longer route in the soft
material and shorter route in the hard material. The general
direction of Line creek, then, and its principal branches is east
and northeast. This stream receives its name from the fact that
it was the boundary between the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations.
Trim Cane is its chief tributary. It enters the county in Range
12 E. and T. 19 N. and flows southeast, then east and then north-
east into the Line creek. There are three theories for the name
of this stream: First, it was claimed that the Chochumas stripped

Sherman, C. E. Inspector of Topographical Surveys of Ohio
., Springfield, Ohio. 1910.

the cane on this stream when they were being driven from this territory. Second, That the great number of wild and domesticated animals kept the cane stripped of its foliage. Third, the Indians kept the cane trimmed as in this manner, it made better material for basket making.

Sun creek enters the county in R. 13. T. 20 and flows east into Trim Cane in R. 14-T. 20 N.

Smith Branch begins in R. 13. E.-T. 19 N. and flows into Trim Cane. This stream receives it name from one of the early pioneers of this part of the country.

ByWy Creek begins in R. 12. T. 20. N. and flows south - east into Trim Cane.

Long Branch has its source in R. 12. T. 20 N. and flows southeast into ByWy. This is the longest tributary of ByWy. Hence its name.

Lick Creek has its origin in R. 12. and T. 19. N. and flows southeast into Trim Cane. Lick Creek was so called from the animal salt licks found there in the early days of the county, hence the early settlers would go out to the "licks" to hunt. The creek near by became "lick creek".

Self Creek begins in R. 12. and T. 19 N. and flows south- east into Trim Cane Creek. In the early history of the country several families of Selfs lived in this section.

Josey Creek has its origin in the same range and townshi and flows southeast into Trim Cane. It received its name from Emanuel Jose who conducted a tavern in this section of the coun in the early thirties.

Welborn, John H. Map of Oktibbeha County, 1909. Starkville, M

The Noxubee has a larger number of tributaries which drain the southern section of the county. Oka Noxubee---(Oka Nokshabi Indian). In the Indian language this word means stinking water, but its name did not come from the dead fish or animals in the stream as was once thought, but due to the great amount of the vegetable matter that decayed in the swamp about the stream which gave it the unpleasant odor often found in the vicinity after a long overflow.

The Bougheolo Creek rises in R. 12. and T. 17 N. and flows northeast and enters the Big Sand Creek, which, in turn flows into the Noxubee. This stream received its name from a young Indian chieftain.

The Big Sand Creek originates in R. 12. T. 18 N. and flows southeast before it enters the Noxubee.

The Golden Horn begins in R. 12. T. 17. N. and flows south- east and enters the Noxubee River. No explanation has been given for this unique name.

Cypress Creek has its origin in R. 12. and T. 18 N. and also flows southeast into the Noxubee. It received its name from the great number of cypress trees found in the swamps.

Little Creek enters Big Creek but both have their source in R. 12. T. 18 N. Big Creek enters Cypress before its confluence with the Noxubee.

Talking Warrior originates in the confluence of Chinchahoma Creek, Tobacco Juice Creek, Dancing Rabbit Creek, Hollis Creek.

Hand, W. F. Ground Water Resources of Mississippi, State College, Miss.

It then flows into the Noxubee in Sec. 27, R. 14. T. 17. N. Glenn Creek, Skinner Creek and Jordan Canal all flow into Hollis Creek which in turn enters the Talking Warrior as stated above.

Show Creek has its origin in the eastern section of the county and flows south into the Noxubee.

Hearon Creek has a similar origin and flows south into the Noxubee. Its name was derived from one of the early settlers of the county.

Brown Creek flows south out of the county before entering the Noxubee.

Crow's Shot Bag also drains the eastern section of the county and flows south out of the county. Due to the many crows that infested this section of the country.

Rockey Creek originates in the eastern section of the county and flows south out of the county. Its name is self evident.

Catalpa Creek begins in R. 14. T. 18. and flows south after it is enlarged by the confluence of Turkey and Wier Creek, out of the county.

Sand Creek, Dog Creek, Ittobedhi Creek, Ash Creek all flow east out of the county but ultimately into the Line Creek.

Tobacco Juice Creek---- this name was given by the Indians due to the color of the water. The leaching of the soil and vegetation caused the water to appear brown. The Indian name for the stream was "Hakchuma okchi" but due to the difficulty of pronunciation, the English derivative was adopted by the white settlers.

Ibid

Chinchahoama Creek---Crooked Stream. This little creek is located on the Louisville road between Starkville and Louisville, Miss., and took its name from a young Indian captain who resided in the county.

Turkey Creek---This stream is located a short distance east of State College and was so called from the vast number of wild turkeys in the vicinity in the early days of the county.

Dancing Rabbit Creek---(Chukfi hila) This stream takes its name from the Indian myth that the rabbits gathered there on certain intervals to carry on their revels.

Cushman Creek runs through the city of Starkville by the Old Hebron Mission and this accounts for the name of the founder of the mission, Calvin Cushman.

Oktoc Creek--Okatark. This stream is also a tributary of Noxubee and is located in the southern section of the county.

This will give the reader some idea of the excellent system of drainage of the county making for health as very little stagnant water is found in any section to breed mosquitoes and other dangerous germs. It also makes for ideal conditions for agriculture and stock raising. There are no flat lands in the county which cannot be drained at a small cost by canals. Nearly all the streams have an elevation of something like 300 feet hence the run-off is further accelerated by the fact that most of the streams are still young and are still cutting their beds and have moderately precipitous

1. Geology of Oktibbeha County, Logan, W. N.

water sheds. Then too, as the timber is cut and fields cleared we may expect still further changes in the topography of the county. The vertical walls and clean-swept beds are evidences that the streams of the county are not depositing but eroding streams. This too, makes many streams that were once continuous throughout the year, of the intermittant type. As a result of this erosion, the topographic features of the county are of the gradational type and not produced by folding of the strata as is found further south and west. The erosive action of the streams have carved out valleys and the hills are only the remnants of the plains left after this erosive action and owe their existance to a capping of hard rock. An example of these hills is found on the south side of Sand Creek in the vicinity of Black Jack church. It is the highest point in this section of the county and is due to a capping of ironstone concretions.

Topography---It is scarcely necessary, in this day of scientific study, to enumerate the various uses of a Topographic study of Oktibbeha county. In the county seat, we have had a very expensive demonstration of such a survey as every line of sewage has had to be removed and re-laid after this survey has been made.

The Administrative purposes of such a survey is evident, as it is on such that the water sheds of the county are located. They are used in the building of canals, the Rail-way Commission can use them to check up the milage of the railroads; and will answer many questions affecting legislation, and court decisions.

Ohio Topographic Survey---C. E. Sherman, Inspector, Publishing Co., Springfield, Ohio. 1910.

Agricultural ---- The lay of farm lands--how much hill and how much bottom lands--can be seen by a prospective purchaser, without visiting the premises especially if a soil survey is also available.

Educational ---- All such enterprises are greatly facilitated by the use of such a survey, such as railroad building, canal construction, water projects such as water sheds, fall of streams, and volume and flow of county streams can be ascertained. All public improvements in the county or towns of the county will be served by such studies as they solve the question of drainage, ditch building, and terracing etc. Last but not least the subject just now of vital interest, that of conservation, will find such maps and studies most essential to its proper solution.

The topography of the red hill section is the most rugged in the county. Here the hills are higher but the slopes are not so abrupt as we sometime find in the lignitic and chalk districts. This condition is generally due to the softer strata found in that section. These hills are composed of lignitic clay overlaid by a stratum of the Lafayette which is in turn overlaid by a layer of yellow loam in places. Usually the thickest deposits of yellow loam are found on the slopes and not on the crest of the hills. In some localities the yellow loam has a thickness of 30 or 40 feet. In such places the rate of erosion is rapid and a rugged form of topography is fast developing. In many places the Lafayette sand and the lignitic clay which underlies the sand, are protected by layers of irontone nodules which are abundant in

1. Ibid

the Lafayette. In some places the irregular irontone nodules are united in a rather compact layer which may be several yards in extent. The effect produced by these hard layers which is the protection of the underlying soft clays and sands from erosion. In some places the Lafayette formation is absent and the lignitic clay is protected by a layer of irontone which occurs in an upper horizon of that formation.

H Hydrography---Oktibbeha county at one time had many springs which were generally connected with the Lafayette formation. These were found mainly along the line of contact of this formation with some other strata and were most abundant in the western section of the county or where the Lafayette overlies the lignitic. Two or three or these were found in the vicinity of where Starkville is now located. These springs occur along the line of contact of the Lafayette with the Selma Chalk. One of these springs occur in a cut on the Illinois Central Railroad. The strata of the Lafayette here is about 30 feet thick, yet the spring supplies water to several families throughout the year. Another spring occurs about one-half mile south of the cotton mill and furnishes a constant supply of water. This strata covers about three or four acres. A spring in the southeastern section furnishes a constant supply of water. Several springs in the vicinity of Starkville, once furnishing a constant supply of water are entirely dry now due to being cut out by deep wells or denuding the soil of all vegetation, thus causing all the water to flow off the surface rather than be absorbed into this strata, anyway these examples furnish the storing properties of this formation. A few springs also occur in the yellow

1. Ibid

loam formation in the western section of the county. In these cases this loam is very sandy and near the Lafayette or Ripley deposits. The sandy layers of the Ripley deposits in the northern section of the county also furnish or did furnish several springs in this and clay county which was a part of Oktibbeha until 1872. The chemical character of the water of these springs depends on the character of soluble substances with which the water comes in contact before it comes to the surface. In some places the water comes in contact with calcium and sodium salts, while in other sections it contacts magnesium salts. All of these are very soluble and in most instances impregnates the water, making hard water. In the same area shallow wells are used to provide domestic supplies.

Springs are rare or entirely absent in the black prairie belt in the eastern part of the county, which is underlain by Selma Chalk and also in the Flatwoods area, which is underlain by the Poter Creek clays. In these areas water is supplied either by deep wells or cisterns or surface pools for storing water. The minerals found in these waters according to the analysis of the Chemical Dept. of State College are--SiO_2, Fe, Ca, Mg, Na_4K, CO_3, SO_4, Cl, NO_3. Most of these are soluble and this effect the water more or less.

The county is also supplied with an abundance of artesian water, the depth depending on the dip of the water bearing stratum. In the northeastern section of the county it may be found at a depth of 290 feet, while in the southeastern section it is found at a depth of 1,175 feet. At Muldrow, in the northeastern part of the county, at an elevation of 230 feet above sea-level,

1. Ibid. pp375 and Logan, W. N.

the underflow is reached at a depth of 300 feet or 70 feet below sea-level, water is obtained at a depth of 798 feet or a depth of 436 feet below sea-level. This gives a dip of the stratum of 33 feet per mile. At Mayhew, with an elevation of 214 feet above sea-level, water is obtained at a depth of 400 feet or 186 feet below sea-level. This is a dip of only 25 feet per mile from Mayhew to Starkville. There is a possibility of water being found at a higher level in the western section of the county due to the special formation of sandy marl which overlies the Selma Chalk. This sandy marl is water bearing formation. This should make the general use of these wells in the western section for both home and domestic use. There are some 30 artesian wells now located along this strata mentioned in the central section of the county. At Mayhew there are five or six all of which are over flowing or of five or six feet of the surface. There are six at Hickory Grove that come within 60 or 70 feet of the top; at Osborn there are five which rise near the surface; at Muldrow most of the eight wells are overflowing; at Starkville and State College, they come to within 150 feet of the surface; at Sessums to within 60 or 70 feet of the top while at Artesia within 20 feet of the surface. The wells at Starkville and the College have been further deepened and the mineral are entirely removed as the stratum is entirely free of such objectionable solvents. This is the Tuscaloosa formation which is abundantly water bearing. The wells had to be sunk to a depth of 1100 to 1200 feet to secure this fine water at Starkville. In the northeastern part of the county the uppermost

1. Ibid

beds of this stratum should be reached at a depth of 650 or 700 feet. The catchment area of these strata in Oktibbeha county lies to the northeast, in Lowndes and Monroe counties in Mississippi and on in Lamar county in Alabama, where these strata comes to the surface. This catchment area is much higher above sea-level than any part of Oktibbeha county, hence the great pressure which is sufficient to cause over lowing wells in various sections of the county and to bring the water high enough in the wells in other parts to be within reasonable reach of the ordinary force pumps. Local supplies at Starkville is secured from two wells--the city and Borden and the one at the College, all are connected in the event of an emergency. These wells all go to the Tuscaloosa strata at from 1300 to 1452 feet as followers: Log of wells beginning at an altitude of 360 feet above sea-level. Surface soil, 12 feet; soft limestone, 60 feet; compact sand of the Ripley formation, 26 feet; Selma Chalk, 582 feet; Eutaw formation, some 300 feet. This gives the old wells to a depth of 900 feet. A new well was then bored to the above depth through clay boulder, sand, rock, iron clay, sand clay, lime clay, sandy shale, humbo, sand and lignite, sandy shale, gumbo and shale, white sand, shale, gumbo, hard lime, gumbo, brown sand of the Tuscaloosa stratum. The static head in the Starkville city well is 130 feet, the Borden Milk Condensary, 140 feet; and the State College, 142 feet. The wells furnish some 700 gallons per minute or near 200,000 gallons per day. The writer is confident that the same overflowing wells that now exists in the county could be duplicated from this Tuscaloosa strata if the owners could extend their wells to

1. Ibid

this depth. A number of wells that range from a depth of 750 to 800 feet have been drilled in the vicinity of Oktoc in the southeastern section of the county.

Two wells near Longview are the only ones reported west of the Cretaceous-Eocene contact that are deep enough to reach the water-bearing beds of the Eutaw formation; they are 894 and 966 feet deep. The log of the 966-foot well follows:

Log of the Seitz well, Longview

(Altitude of mouth of well about 290 feet above sealevel)

	Thickness feet	Depth feet
Surface soil and clay (residual from Porter Creek.....	26	26
Eocene, Porter Creek clay - dark brown clay.....	132	158
Upper Cretaceous		
Selma Chalk (probably some Ripley sand and clay in upper part)		
Blue limestone.....	500	658
White limestone.....	30	688
Shells and blue rock (probably includes some Eutaw)	214	902
Eutaw formation		
Sand, water bearing.....	12	914
Sand, rock.....	15	929
Sand, water bearing.....	37	966

On the assumption that the surface at the mouth of this well is 290 feet above sealevel, the base of the Eocene, as indicated in the log, would be 132 feet above sealevel. The base of the Eocene at Starkville is about 360 feet above sealevel, a difference of 228 feet in 7 miles, which indicated a dip of the Cretaceous-Eocene contact of 32 feet to the mile.

Ibid

The village of Osborn is 25 or 30 feet above sea-level than Muldrow and flowing wells are not obtained on this upland. However, the static head of the water is in general less than 40 feet below the surface and therefore easily within the reach of pumps. The wells range in depth from 400 to 700 feet.

(See wells 20-24) The log of one well follows:

Log of well of A. A. Montgomery, Osborn (No.20)

Altitude of mouth of well, 255(?) feet above sea-level. Adapted from description by Logan and Perkins.

	Thickness feet	Depth feet
Soil (residual from the Selma).....	2	2
Selma Chalk: Limestone (Chalk).....	350	352
Eutaw formation: Sand and hard rock, water bearing	131	483

*Logan, W. N., and Perkins, W. R., op. cit. p. 42

Hickory Grove - The ground-water conditions at Hickory Grove are essentially like those at Osborn, except that the surface is a little higher above sea-level, and consequently the wells average somewhat deeper (450 to 550 feet), and the static head of the water is in general farther below the surface (30 to 70 feet).

Sessums - The village of Sessums is near the western edge of the Black Prairie belt, and nearly the full thickness of the Selma Chalk must be penetrated in order to reach the water-bearing sands of the Eutaw formation. The wells range in depth from 400 to 750 feet.

Mineral analyses of ground waters from Oktibbeha county

(Parts per million. Analyzed by W. F. Hand, State College, Miss.

1. Ibid

Chemical Laboratory. Numbers at heads of columns refer to corresponding well numbers in preceding table)

Silica	15	7.8	16	12
Iron	1.2	2.0	.55	1.1
Calcium	11	23	8	10
Magnesium	2.3	5.6	.5	3.2
Sodium & Potassium	220	166	213	328
Carbonate radicle	16	.0	8.4	.0
Bicarbonate radicle	372	339	333	478
Sulphate radicle	6.3	12	3.7	6.4
Cloride radicle	131	120	130	236
Nitrate radicle	.00	2.0	.00	.00
Total dissolved solids 180 C	601	578	521	840
Total hardness as CaCO 3	37	80	22	38
Date of collection	Apr. 1914	Nov.1911	June 1914	Apr.1914

Geology---While this is recognized by scientists, no survey of this nature has yet been made in this county, it is necessary therefore, to confine this chapter to a superficial geological survey which will show the five outcrops of strata as they effected its topography: 1. The oldest of these formations is the rotten limestone or Selma Chalk which forms the bed rock for the superficial deposits of soil and yellow loam in the eastern part of the county. On many of the slopes this superficial covering has been removed by erosion and this limestone forms the surface.

2. The next oldest formation is the Ripley. This formation is represented by only a few small outcrops. The most important of these are found six miles north of Starkville, between Line Creek and Sand Creek. It is recognized by the color, being bluish in the lower part and yellowish-gray in the upper part. It consists of marl containing

1. Ibid

green sand and some mica.

3. The third formation is the Lignitic. This formation forms the bed rock for the western part of the county. It consists of a grayish clay containing ironstone and lignite. It forms the surface in that part of the county known as the Flatwoods, while in the western section of the county it forms the bed of the red sand hills.

4. The fourth formation is the Lafayette or orange sand formation. This stratum is found in isolated areas overlying the other formations, mentioned above except in the western section of the county where it forms an almost continuous capping for the Lignitic clay hills. In the limestone districts in the prairie regions, it is found in only a few isolated areas. It is thought by geologists, that it might at one time covered the entire surface of the county but has been removed by erosion since the lands have been denuded of its forests.

5. The fifth formation is the Yellow Loam. This is the most widely distributed formation in the county. It occupies the surface of all the older formations, mentioned above, except where it has been removed by the erosion of wind and water since the white man came. In the Flatwoods, it has been almost entirely removed except in a few isolated areas which is usually marked by the growth of broom-sage gress and the absence of timber. In the limestone area it has been removed to a less extent and thus prevents the soil from receiving the beneficial constituents of this limestone or marl.

As a basis for the future study of the topography of the county, as well as to better understand the nature of its soils from an economic and agricultural standpoint, it will be of

1. Ibid

interest to the reader to make a critical study of these geological formations represented by outcrops forming the surface soils in the various sections of the county.

Beginning again with the Selma Chalk which was deposited when the Gulf of Mexico penetrated this county during this geological epoch. We will make a more critical study of these five strata. At the beginning of the epoch a great amount of other sediment was first carried into this part of the gulf from the surrounding land area; as a result the lower part of this stratum contains much foreign matter. Later as the gulf became deeper and encroached further on the land, the water became clearer and the chalk-forming animals were deposited comparatively free of all foreign matter. This period extended over millions of years and thus the deposits at its maximum thickness, is about 800 feet, while on the borders of the inland sea, it ranged near 250 feet. At Starkville, it ranges near 749 feet; at Mayhew, it is about 350, while at Muldrow it is about 250 feet.

When the upper part of the formation was deposited, there had been a gradual rise of the surface of this valley, resulting in a contraction of the gulf, and thus the streams began again to leave shore derived sediment with the lime deposits. Thus in the upper part of the formation there are beds of almost pure sand or sandstone. These beds are never very thick nor of great extent. One of these beds is found on the Maxwell farm southeast of Starkville. This sand has been used by the people of the community for making cement for chimneys, hearths, and foundations. Another bed is found abo t three-fourths of a mile northwest of Starkville, which has a thickness of about three feet. It is composed of

1. Ibid

sand, gravel, and shells, or fragments of shells. In places this mixture is cemented and splits into plates of moderate size. This layer of sand is found in the cut on the Illinois Central Railroad mentioned above, near the county seat. An outcrop of this sandstone is found on the old West Point road about three miles southwest of Harmon Lake. This layer ranges around a few inches and is used locally for economic purposes. Small sand pockets have been found in a number of outcrops of the upper layer of the Selma Chalk in this county. Along the Sand Creek and the Catalpa Creek, concretionary forms of iron pyrites are found in outcrops of Selma Chalk. These are nodular in shape and vary in size from a plumb to masses ten or twelve inches in diameter. These nodules are made up of crystalline cubes and glitter like gold but of course gold does not occur in such sedimentary rocks. In other deposits of Selma chalk, small deposits of asphaltum have been found. These vary in quantity from a few pounds to several tons. This is a product of vegetable distillation and are common in such deposits but are not found in paying quantities. It will be of interest to the reader to note the abundant and varied animal life, both invertebrate and vertebrate, found in the Selma chalk of this county. These range from almost microscopic shells to bones of large prehistoric animals unknown today. It is not unusual to find the teeth of sharks and the vertebra of large fish that at one time inhabited this inland sea eons ago.

The Ripley formation, no doubt, covered large sections of this county in its early history, even before the white man came; but has been removed by the process of erosion, leaving

1. Ibid

the limestone which it covered, bare to the weather. As stated above it is recognized by its micaceous green sand marl. This outcrop is found in various sections in limited areas. One of these areas is found on the divide between Sand Creek and Trim Cane Creek; another is located on the Mayhew road, east of the college about two miles from Starkville. This strata contains both yellowish and green micaceous marl. Some small layers of this formation are found in the Thompson hills north of Starkville, another is found on the Osborn road about six miles northeast of Starkville. Part of this outcrop is covered by a deposit of Lafayette sand. Some small outcrops are found around near the county seat and is recognized by its micaceous green sands. It also contains many small fossils of animal life.

The next formation mentioned above is a grayish, laminated clay, known by geologists as lignitic outcrops. This is found along the western border of the Selma chalk. When exposed to the weathering conditions of the atmosphere it rapidly disintergrates into flakes. In higher layer ironstone concretions are found in abundance, which in some places are continuous over large areas, thus forming a protection for the clay and thus accent the topography of the region on which such layers occur. In some areas this clay is micaceous, giving a bright glistening appearance which give rise to rumors of the discovery of gold in that section of the county along the Illinois Central railroad. One mile west of Starkville, on this road, such material may be found some ten or more feet thick. East of this cut, the lignitic clay is covered more or less by yellow loam. Near Sturgis

1. Ibid

this clay reaches the thickness of 35 feet and is nearly half a mile in length. This clay is often covered by this ironstone which is eight or ten inches in thickness. This sometimes causes the clay to become yellowish-gray in color.

Lying on the lignitic formation was the orange sands of the Lafayette strata which, no doubt, entirely covered the surface of the county but has been removed almost entirely by erosion. As a result it occurs in only a few isolated areas in the central and eastern sections of the county. In some places it is not observed as it is now covered by the last formation, the yellow loam. In the main this formation is recognized as a fine sand varying in color from white, through yellow, orange, to red. It is found on all the lower strata mentioned above--the Selma chalk, Ripley sands and the lignitic clays. This formation of sand lies in strata and often has greenish joints where it lies on the Selma chalk. It also contains ironstone from the size of the thumb to boulders of considerable size. Outcrops of such concretions are found all along the hills bordering the Flatwoods. Beds of this material is found west of Starkville.

The last formation, overlying all others except where it has been removed by erosion, is the Yellow loam. At the present time it is not of great thickness, varying from a few inches in places to twenty feet or more in others. It reaches its greatest thickness in the western section of this county on the slopes of the Lafayette hills. The character of this formation varies with its underlying formation, that is whether it lies on the lignitic clay or the Selma chalk. In one it contains lignitic clays, in the other lime clays. If it lies naturally

1. Ibid

on the Lafayette formation, the yellow loam is distinctly sandy and the gradation from the one to the other is scarcely observable. This yellow loam is unstratified and its upper part somewhat loess-like. The lower part clay-like. In most places the sand of the upper layers of the Lafayette, has been removed by erosion and the yellow loam deposited upon the surface of the clay.

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HISTORY OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

CHAPTER VII

FLORA

FOREST RESERVE

A National Unit of the Forest Reserves in being set up, (July, 1936) in northeast Mississippi called the Northeast Mississippi Forestry . Game Conservation and Grazing Projects of the Resettlement Administration, which involves the purchasing of 15,000 acres of land in this county. This is being developed for the purpose indicated, which includes fire protection and recreational facilities.

Administrative headquarters for the Northeast Mississippi Forestry, Game Conservation and Grazing Project is located in the Experiment Station Building, State College, Mississippi, near Highway 82. Field headquarters is located at Betheden, in Winston County, about 25 miles from Starkville-Louisville Road.

The project area can be reached from Starkville by following the Louisville Road; from Sturgis, by following the Sturgis-Craig Road.

A road of historic value is the Old Robinson Road, which crosses the area in Section 26 and 35 of Township 17, North, Range 14, East Oktibbeha County.

About $80,000. will be spent in the development work in the Oktibbeha County part of the project. The amount to be expended for land will exceed $100,000. as the average price per acre is $5.35.

The proposed uses of the project after completion includes reforestation and forest improvement of 7,000 acres; the converting of approximately 8,000 acres into pasture or grazing acreage, and the setting aside of 10,000 acres along Noxubee River for the conservation and protection of all kinds of wild life.

Under Forest Development fall the following: fire towers, forest improvements, and telephone lines for communication in case of fire.

Under Pasture Improvements come seeding, preparation of land and planting; fencing pasture, ponds and reservoirs, corrals.

Under Wild Life, nurseries, 'wherein fruit-bearing trees will be grown to be transplanted to wild life area); wild life crop preparation and planting, (food and cover crops for wild life).

A lake, located in the northeast coener of Noxubee County and a part of Oktibbeha County, when enlarged and completed, will cover approximately 1,000 acres. A road will be constructed across the dam and across Noxubee River, which will make the lake accessable to Starkville and Oktibbeha citizens, by way of Oktoc.

It is planned to erect in the south side of thie lake a large recreational center; picnic grounds, cabins and other conveniences for use by the public. A power line will tie-in with an approved Rural Electrification Project for Oktibbeha County.

The recreational facilities inculeds: A nine-hole golf course, 300 acres in size, located northeast of the Y. M. C. A. building, about 1000 feet from the main highway; six tennis courts, adjacent to the chemical laboratory, near the college railroad station; a swimming pool at State College, Mississippi, immediately in the rear of the gymnasium, to be 65 feet wide, 160 feet long. This pool has a complete bath house, flood lights, and all the latest and most modern equipments; a soft-ball diamond is placed on the east side of Lindberg Boulevard. There is a forest nursery on the campus of State College, on the Black Jack road, which is 15 acres in size.

FOREST TREES

There are 196,000 acres of woodlands in Oktibbeha. The county is divided into three sections: The northeast prairie, which originally had no trees, but now red cedar and osage orange grow there ; the flatwoods produce post oak, shortleaf and loblolly pine; the hill section produces shortleaf and loblolly pine. The western half of the county produces most of the timber.

The cone-bearing trees in Oktibbeha are: the pine, cedar and cypress. The loblolly pine, an evergreen, is sawed into lumber for building purposes and for railroad cross-ties. The dense pine, sometimes called the longleaf pine, is a close-grained, hard textured tree, with much heartwood. This pine makes the best lumber.

PAGE 4 MISSING

Cedar is also an evergreen, and the smaller trees are used for Christmas decorations. The wood is red and very durable and is manufactured into chests, closets, lead pencils, rustic work and for fence posts; it takes a pretty finish. Cedar grows in our hilly sections.

The cypress is a tree found exclusively in deep swamps which are flooded for long periods at a time. It has a straight trunk with numerous ascending branches, and narrow conical outline.

HARDWOODS - OTHER TREES

The hardwood trees of Oktibbeha County are: Oak, hickory, elm, gum, maple, hackleberry, burdock, locust.

The fruit trees are; pecan, walnut, and scaly bark, hickory nut. The black walnut grows into a very large tree, whose nuts are edible and highly nutritious. The wood is dark-brown and takes a beautiful finish, and it is used to make furniture.

The pecan tree has strong, tough, heavy hardwood. It is used for making handles and parts of bicycles.

Of the oaks, we have the red, white, post, water, pin, and the blackjack.

The white oak is one of the most important timber oaks. The wood is useful and valuable, being heavy, strong, hard, tough, close grained and durable. It is light brown in color and excellent for ship-building, tight cooperage, furniture, wagons, implements, interior finish, flooring and fuel.

Red oak wood is heavy, hard, strong, and is used for rough lumber and furniture, chairs, tables, etc. The tree is very beautiful for shade and ornamentations. Blackjack oak is used only for fuel and charcoal. The other oaks are fashioned into furniture, implements, flooring, wagons and interior finishing.

The hickories are: pignut, scaly-bark, southern shagbark and white hickory, found in all parts of the county. This wood is very strong and durable, and used in the manufacture of wagons, axe and pick handles, etc. The nuts are edible.

The red and white elm grow in Oktibbeha County. The wood of the White elm is all white; the red elm has red heartwood. The elm is good to make hub wheels, saddle trees, boats and ships, barrel hoops, veneer for baskets and crates. Elms are most desirable shade trees.

Red and silver maples grow wild here. The silver maple is planted for beautifying the surroundings of dwellings, and is a tall tree, with the limbs beginning near the ground. It gets its name from the silvery film on the under side of the leaves and on the bark.

The common maple is a smooth-bark tree; the wood is hard and is used for table legs, rolling pins, etc.

The dogwood is a small tree with a pretty white or pink blossom, suitable for raodside and ornamental planting. The wood is used to make shuttles and other articles.

The red or sweet gum is a large, valuable forest tree that grows in old fields and on cut-over land. It is a very beautiful, ornamental tree; its wood is largely consumed for flooring, interior finish, paper pulp and veneer.

The black gum has a tough, cross-grained wood, not durable in contact with soil, hard to work, and warps easily. It is used for crate and basket veneers, rollers, mallets, rough floors, pulpwood and for fuel. In the old days it was used for bee hives.

The black, or wild cherry, is the only variety of cherry in the county. It is a small tree; the largest would not measure over eighteen inches across the stump. It has small red berries; the wood is red-brown and is used to make furniture .

The Black Locust, or the honey locust, grows in this county, and has many thorns over it. It makes good fence posts and crossties because of its durable qualities, and is planted in the county for erosion control.

The Buckeye is a small tree (or bush) and has red flowers on it in the spring. It grows on ditch and creek banks and in swamps . It is poisonous to cattle.

There are two kinds of willow trees in the county, the weeping and the button willow. The weeping willow grows tall and the young branches hang down in long streamers. This tree doesn't require a wet place to grow, as the button willow does. The latter grows abundantly around streams. It is used for wicker work, making chairs, tables, and other furniture and baskets, and in the manufacture of artificial limbs.

CHAPTER VII

The Sassafras is a small tree found along hillsides, generally in clusters. The roots are brewed into a flavoring or tes. The wood makes excellent fence posts, boats and ox yokes.

Ths Osage Orange occue in our prairie section. It is also called burdock. It has pithy balls about the size and color of an orange, with thorns on the small branshes. The wood is yellow and excellent for posts or railway ties. The Indians used it for bows and war clubs, and the bark for tanning leather. When set in contact with the ground, it is the most durable of all woods.

The Cottonwood is a soft-wood tree that grows tall. It is used to make egg crates, boxes, veneering base and a common grade of lumber.

The Poplar thrives in low lands, and has a large yellow blossom. The wood is used to make wagons and boxes, and where a durable soft wood is suitable.

The Mulberry is a small tree growing in the swamps and on creek and ditch banks. It bears a black berry about one inch long that ripens in May or June. The berries are made into pies and preserves. The wood makes posts that lasts for years, and the tree is often planted as the berries are food for birds.

The Ash is a fast-growing hardwood of the swamps and branch bottoms. It is used to make hay forks, hoe handles and furniture.

The Hackberry is a scrubby tree, suitable only for fire wood. It has small, hard berries which the birds feed on in winter. It makes a nice shade tree.

CHAPTER VIII.

Boxwood is a scrubby tree with a soft wood that is good for fuel.

TheSycamore is a large tree with light-colored, smooth bark. The timber is used for lumber and for blocks in butcher-shops. Holly is an evergreen and has small red berries. Its most familiar purpose is for Christmas decorations. The wood is close-grained and hard and is used for shuttles, for cabinet work and wood turning.

Small shrubs that grow in Oktibbeha County are the haws, thornbush and huckleberry.

The magnolia is a slow-growing evergrees tree, and in the spring of the year has beautiful large white blossoms, which are prized as decorative purposes.

The chinaberry, chinquapin, coffee, mimosa and sumac trees grow in the county.

CHAPTER VIII FRUIT BEARING TREES

Fruit trees of Oktibbeha County are; apple, plum, pear, peach, apricot, cherry, pomegranate, fig and quince. The fruit from these trees goes into preserves, jelly and in canning.

The persimmon is a small tree with dark, rough bark. It bears a yellow fruit, the shape of an apple, but smaller. The wood makes shuttles and golf-stick heads.

ECONOMIC VALUE OF WOODLANDS

In addition to the value of the home forest as a source of direct income to the farmer each year, trees should be maintained on the farm because they make living on the farm itself and in the community more comfortable and attractive, and supply needed posts, rails, poles, rough building lumber and firewood.

Fully stocked woods contain little, or no grass, but afford a shade which prevents the soil drying out. The rich vegetable fertilizer formed under the old field pines and hardwoods of the south are worth millions of dollars a year.

PRODUCTS FROM COUNTY FORESTS.

Another means of income to the farmer is the portable saw mill. These go from one section of the country to the other and saw all kinds of timber into a great variety of lumber. This lumber is sold to lumber yards or to the three larger saw mills of the county. One or two small handle factories have been established in the county. There are now operating four statinnary saw mills.

CHAPTER VI

One of these operated at Maben, under the direction of W. M. Sheffield; one at Sturgis, under the direction of C. G. Brooks; one at Long View, managed by W.W. Magruder, Jr.; and one at Bradley, under supervision of O.C. Moore. Four of these mills operate dry-kilns and planing mills, and turn out a very fair quality of lumber. They all use ordinary circular sawa, and employ twelve or fifteen men at each plant for all purposes, running most of the year, and buying lumber from local farmers. These mills have a capacity of from 15,000 Or 20,000 feet per day each. The lumber is dried, planed and shipped to all sections of the country as ordered nu carload lot or by truck. Other products from the forest for the home are fence posts , fuel wood and miscellaneous lumber for general repairing.

The cutting and handling of timber on the farm, is done by farmers who usually sell the timber to local buyers.

COUNTY WORK IN PROTECTING FORESTS

We have no organized protection in Oktibbeha County against fire, fungi, insects or waste. There are no fore Wardens , Forest Rangers or CCC camps.

STREET AND HIGHWAY TREES

In the improvements of home forests, over county this year , (1936) is offering $1.00 per acre to anyone that will plant trees, and approximately a dozen are availing themselves of this opportunity.

CHAPTER VIII

A County-wide highway tree movement has been started. Trees to be planted include: Pin oak, water oak, willow oak, sycamore, hackleberry, red cedar, magnolia, red oak, loblolly pine, short leaf pine and poplar. Crepe myrtles are being set out along ths streets of Starkville. An effort is being made to make Starkville the Crepe Myrtle City of the South.

COUNTY WILD FLOWERS

The following is a list of names and descriptions of some of the wild flowers in Oktibbeha County:

Broad-leaf cat-tail, a marsh or aquatic plant, usually growing in thick colonies from perennial rootstock provided with fibrous roots, and attaining a height of 4 to 8 feet. Leaves are numerous, linear, flat, swordlike, sheathing the stem at the base and stiffly ascending. It is common everywhere in marshes and swamps, flowering in June and July.

Spider Lily is a tall, smooth plant, with long, pointed leaves, often a foot long, and one-half to one inch wide along the middle. Flowers are in clusters on a slender stalk, with three small and three large petals of bluish or purplish color.

Day Lily, a tall herb with fibrous roots usually grows in dense clusters, bearing 6 to 15 flowers on short pedicels.

Star-Grass; Leaves spreading, forming a dense cluster, pale yellowish-green, 2 to 7 inches long, one-fourth to 1 inch wide, the white or yellowish flowers erect on short pedicels.

Spikenard, with rootstock, thick and fleshy stems, irregular and ringlike, and the flowers are white. The fruit is a red, aromatic berry, speckled with purple.

CHAPTER V III

The star-flowered Solomon's seal is scarcely less abundant, but seems to prefer thickets and banks with more moisture. The leaves are small and narrow, the flowers, few in number, are in large, white clusters; the berries are green with six black stripes. or entirely black.

The sweet-scented white water lily has a thick horizontal rootstock and round, green and shining leaves that are reddish-purple beneath. Its flowers are white, or, in some varieties, pink or rose-colored, 3 to 6 inches broad, very fragant, with four oblong, blunt petals, and stamens numerous and yellow. It grows in ponds, lakes and sluggish streams, and blooms from June to August.

Buttercup:- A plant usually hairy when young, with small yellow flowers, having five oblong petals.

May apple, with basal leaves often a foot in diameter and light green on the lower surface, darker above, has flowers 1½ to 2 inches broad, white and fragant, on stout, nodding stems, one-half to 2 inches, appearing from the base of the upper leaf or usually from the fork between the two leaves, forming fruit, a large, yellowish, oval, edible berry, the numerous seeds being enclosed within the fruit. The fruit is acid and used for making jelly.

Wild, or scarlet strawberry has dark green, foliage with spreading hairs, and bears several white flowers, one half to three-fourths of an inch broad; the fruit is a red berry

Old Field Clover is an erect, usually much branched annual, 5 to 18 inches high, with silky, downy, short leaves of dark green, with very silky, whitish or pinkish, oblong flower heads, one-half to one inch long.

Wild Sweet Pea, with stems from a few inches to nearly 2 feet high, few or many in a dense cluster, grows erect or nearly so, from a stout, perennial root which is elongated, tough and fibrous. The stem and leaves are silky, with whitish hairs. The flowers are crowned in a terminal-like cluster. Purple or Pink Azalea has ffagant flowers, pink or nearly white, usually opening before the leaves are fully expanded or, in shaded situations, opening with the leaves .

Swamp Milkweed has slender stems, is often 2 to 5 feet tall and leafy throughout; the flowers are numerous, in many-flowered terminals, red or rose purple.

Mullin; stems are erect, amooth and occasionally branched. It grows from 2 to 6 feet high, and the flowers or white, in loose terminal clusters.

Cardinal Flower is a tall, stifly-erect herb, 1½ to 4 feet high, with smooth stems from a perennial root, rarely branched, leafy, bearing an elongated, rather one-sided spike of several bright red flowers.

The Wild Aster stem is very leafy, and from a perennial root, 6 to 24 inches high. The leaves are spreading, stiff, rough and three-fourths ro 1½ inches long, with flowers, ten to fifteen in each head, violet or rarely white, one-third to one-half of an inch long.

Black-eyed Susan, or yellow daisy, has a long slenderm rough stem and golden petals, with dark brown centers.

Chapter VIII

The Swamp Sunflower has stout and branching stems 2 to 6 feet high from a perennial root. The leaves are firm, oblong and pointed, with large golden-yellow, aromatic flowers, 2 to 4 inches in diameter.

Swamp thistle has leaves, when young, densely white on the under surface, becoming green on both sides, or somewhat hairy on the upper surface with purple flowers, all tubular.

Goldenrods and Wild Asters are numerous. The aster stems are slender, and grow from 1 to 5 feet high, usually several or many plants together spreading by underground rootstocks, and the flowers are small.

Chapter VIII

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10. U.S. Dept. of Agri. Bulletin #1071 by Wilbur Matton, issued by Washington, D.C. 1920, Page #23.

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STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Topic: Tree Survey
Assignment #25
By: Marie Tallichet
April 8, 1937

(1)There is a most interesting old Pecan tree on the campus of Mississippi State College several yards from the greenhouse. Its circumference four and onephalf feet above the ground is ten feet. Its spread is 125 feet. Apparently it is 100 years old, as it was first noted by Dr. A. B. McKay fifty years ago, and was a large tree at that time. It bears nuts annually.

In 1927 the tree was struck by lightning, and the injuries were treated by a Mr. Davy, tree surgeon. The cavities were filled and the large branches were braced with cables. The large cavity was filled in 1936. The tree is now being treated by experts at State College.

(2)Standing near the State College greenhouses is a Pecan tree which the writer has given the best possible care since September 1884. During this period of over fifty years it has been a favored meeting place for many social gatherings. Teachers have spent many hours with their classes beneath its branches. During all these years it has been a play center for children with their parents and nurses. In the quiet of the evening and on moonlit nights more than one pair of lovers have whispered their love story each to the other and both the tree and the moon smiling through its leaves and branches have kept the secret inviolet.

Some years ago lightning shattered some of the larger branches

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1--Information furnished by Mr. F. S. Batson, State College, Miss.
2--Information furnished by Dr. A. B. McKay, State College, Miss.

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and to some extent injured the tree's trunk but timely pruning and other needed attention have nearly restored it to its original shape and pleasing outline. Viewed from a convenient distance the tree is a half globe or dome shaped. A few days ago measurements of the lower branches on opposite sides of the tree showed a reach of slightly over 100 feet. The circumference of the tree trunk five feet above ground is slightly over 10 feet. A small trunk for the length of branches.

It seldom fails to mature a good yield of nuts. Competent judges say 100 to 200 pounds per year. The nuts are small but better flavored than the average paper-shelled pecans. No pecans from this tree are ever sold. As they mature and fall to the ground students and visitors gather them. Squirrels--a goodly number of them--spend much time during harvest season playing among the branches and are undisturbed and free to gather and to eat their share of nuts.

This much prized tree might be appropriately called or known as "The Friendly Tree". It would be sadly missed by hundreds of people, young and old, who have enjoyed its shade and fruit. The value of such a tree cannot be estimated in dollars and cents.

Ibid.

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(1) On the property of Dr. F.B. Long, on West Lampkin street, in Starkville, there is a large Red Oak that measures 11 feet in circumference with a spread of 100 feet, and a Burdock that is 10 feet 9 inches with a spread of 51 feet.

There is a large Pecan tree on the property of Miss Betty Sanders, 214 Washington st., Starkville, that measures 8 feet 5 inches. Mrs. R.C. Bridges, who also lives on Washington street, owns a Pecan tree 110 years old, which is 7 feet in circumference with a spread of 75 feet 3 inches. Mr. C. A. Hogan's residence on Greensboro street is noted for its cedars, mimosas, crape myrtle, and ood boxwood.

Mr. B.M. Walker, Jr. has a beautiful home set back in a grove of trees. It is located in Starkville on Greensboro Street. There is a Red oak 11 ft. with a 95 foot spread; a Sycamore 8 feet 8 inches with a 70 foot spread; a Gum 8 feet 6 inches with a 65 foot spread; and a White oak 7 feet 8 inches with a 66 foot spread. The grove includes Walnut trees, hickorys, persimmons, burdocks, cedars, red-buds, and haws.

On the old Mariner place, about three miles north-west of Starkville, there is an old oak tree that marks the spot where the first court was held in Oktibbeha County. It was under an old oak tree that measures 13 feet 6 inches in circumference with a

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1---Personal visit and observation by staff.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

spread of 76 feet, that Judge David Ames held the first court. The first jail was near this place and an old cistern still marks the spot.

On Mr. Dick Lewis' place in the same neighborhood there is a Water oak about one hundred yards west of the house. This oak is 9 feet 6 inches with a 100 foot spread. It is close to this oak that the old Chochuma Indian fort used to stand. Several hundredsyards away an old Red oak 8 feet with a spread of 50 feet stands where Horatio Cushman's Hebron Mission used to be.

Col. J. A. Glenn lives on the West Point road about four miles east of Starkville. In front of his home there is alarge old MagnoliamTree with a circumference of 8 feet 8 inches and a spread of 48 feet. It is 60 years old, and was planted by Mr. Glenn. There is also a Cedar that measures 7 feet 9 inches.

Mr. Lawrence Beverly's home on the Whitefield Road, Highway 12, also has on it a Magnolia. This one is 8 feet 5 inches in circumference with a spread of 47 feet 4 inches. His home is known as the "Magnolia place" because of the many beautiful trees of this variety. Also on Highway twelve there is a short leaf pine that is 9 feet 1 inch with a spread of 56 feet.

There are two beautiful red oaks on the Walker place on Greensboro road; one is 10 feet in circumference and the other 12. The spread of one is 164 feet and the other 175.

Ibid.

(1)The home of Miss Sally and Miss Alice Hollinshed on Robinson Road has many lovely trees growing around it. There is a large Post oak in front of the home that measures 12 feet 8 inches with a spread of 96 feet. Many years ago an iron ring was driven into the tree to serve as a hitching post, and now a knot has grown around the ring. There is also a Red oak that is over two hundred years old. It has been in the hands of this family for 130 years, and measures 15 feet in circumference with a spread of ~~96~~ 150 feet. The tree is covered with gray lichen.

1--Personal Observation and visit.

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(1)The Dorsey Outlaw home on the Oktoc road is famous for its magnificent cedars. One of the largest measures 6 feet 2 inches in circumference. They are very tall and stately and make a lovely picture.

(2)On the old Ray homestead, five miles north of Sturgis, there are several very beautiful large trees. One oak tree is 9 feet 8 inches in circumference. There is a pine that measures 7 feet and a Cedar that is 7 feet 5 inches.

(3)Mr. H. H. Reynolds has many beautiful trees on his place, which is located on the Greensboro road in front of the high school building. There is a Post oak 9 feet in circumference with a spread of 95 feet; a Water oak 7 feet 8 inches with a spread of 85 feet.

Mr. W. P. Sellers lives in the Bell Schoolhouse Community, and has many beautiful and unusual trees on his land. Among the large trees are a cedar 5 feet and 9 inches; a beautiful flowering crape myrtle 14 feet 10 inches; a knobled and knotty mulberry tree 14 feet 2 inches and a spread of 50 feet (one of the knobls measures 8 feet 10 inches in circumference); a Red oak 14 feet in circumference with aspread of 70 feet. Among the freak trees there is a crape myrtle 3 feet 10 inches in circumference. It is one tree, but about two

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1, 2, 3--Personal observation and visit by staff.

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feet above ground the trunk twists into three parts as if it were plaited together and then branches sharply out. There is another freak hickory tree that grows bent over in an extremely wide arc. A large flowering dogwood has a circumference of 7 feet.

(1)Mrs. A. Blocker on the Robinson Road owns many large trees, among them are a Pin oak 18 feet 6 inches with a 110 foot spread; a Red oak 17 feet 6 inches with a 114 foot spread.

(2)Old Agency, the home of the famous Indian chief David Folsom, has a large elm tree 12 feet with a spread of 90 feet. Two or three miles away on Robinson Road is Folsom Tavern which is surrounded by tall stately Cedar trees. One of these measures 8 feet 5 inches.

(3)Old Salem Church is surrounded by several large trees. There is a White oak 10 feet 2 inches, with a spread of 65 feet; another Post oak 8 feet 6 inches which is a freak tree, being covered with tree fern in every limb. It grows straight up to a great height; then the main body of the tree curves sharply to one side and three large branches grow straight up. There is also a scaly-bark tree 7 feet with a 52 foot spread; and a hickory tree 6 feet 8 inches with a 45 foot spread.

In front of the Oktoc Club on the Robinson Road there is a Post Oak 15 feet 3 inches in circumference with an 80 foot spread.

1--Mrs. A. Blocker, conference
2--Visit by staff to Old Agency
3--Personal Visit.

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(1)On Greensboro Street where J. M. Pruitt's home is located, there is a Red oak that measures 15 feet in circumference with an 108 foot spread.

Also on Greensboro at the home of J. G. Bryan there is a Red oak 14 feet 6 inches with a spread of 96 feet.

In the Bell schoolhouse Community W. P. Sellers grows old-fashioned boxwood, one of which has a circumference of 15 feet. The old Hearon place in Starkville is also famous for its boxwood; this beautiful shrub lines the front walk.

On Hogan Street, Mrs. J. W. Maxwell owns Twin Hack-berry that is 11 feet inncircumference with a apreak of 85 feet.

Mrs. D. E. Slaughter, who lives on Montgomery street in Starkville, owns a Red oak 110 years old. It measures 16 feet 6 inches in circumference with a spread of 110 feet. There are also beautiful boxwood bushes, a walnut tree and a quince tree on her property.

Mr. B. F. Bell's home on Lampkin street in Starkville boasts a beautiful Water oak, 10 feet 5 inches with a spread of 95 feet.

Also on Lampkin street is Mr. T. G. James' property, upon which is a Water oak 10 feet 6 inches in circumference with a spread of 100 feet 8 inches.

There is a luxuriant forest just outside of Sturgis in which are growing many beautiful trees. On the high hills and deep

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1--Pessonal visits by the staff.

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vallies are growing dogwood, red-bud, wild honeysuckle, pines, oaks, sycamores, hickorys, sweet-gums, and haws. One short leaf pine measures 11 feet in circumference and one Sycamore measures 12 feet in circumference.

About five miles south of Sturgis there is a spot that the natives call "Woodward Mountain". It is a place of very high hills and deep vallies, and gets its name from a nororious Wood-and family who lived there. There are two springs at Woodard mountain, one of which is the famous Nemo spring. Almost every tree that can grow in the south is growing on Woodard mountain. There are chestnuts, chinquapins, oaks, pines, hickorys, cedars, scaly-barks, sycamores, sweet gums,as well as many vines including bamboo vines, possum grapes, summer grapes, etc. The largest pine ever grown in the county grew on Woodard mountain, but has been cut down. The huge stump remains.

The Old Indian Council Ground on the Noxubee River, about twelve miles out of Starkville, is one of the most historic spots in the county. It is a large falt knoll of about ten acres surrounded on three sides by the Noxubee river. On the banks of the river many large trees are standing. There is a Twin Sycamore 18 feet in circumference with a spread of 102 feet; another sycamore 8 feet in circumference with a 66 feet spread; a Red oak 9

Ibid.

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feet with a spread of 80 feet; and a sweet gum 9 feet in circumference with a 60 foot spread. Besides these trees there are hickorys, elms, scaly-barks, all kinds of oaks, buckeyes, thorne, etc. The trees are covered with vines, among which are grape vines, muscadine, bamboos, Virginia creeper, wax vine, and stretch-berry vines.

Many years ago on Noxubee river there used to be an old Toll bridge and down the river a little distance was a ford where those who were not minded to pay toll crossed. The bank down to the water is covered with red oaks, water oaks, post oaks, white oaks, elms, cyresses, and sycamores. Near the Toll bridge is a large sycamore that is 11 feet in circumference with a spread of 80 feet. Growing on the bank close to the ford is an unusually large willow tree. The trunk measures 8 feet in circumference with a 90 foot spread. In a small hollow in the trunk. dirt has collected and violets have taken root and are growing there. Locust trees are also growing on the bank. Most of the trees are covered with bamboo vines.

Ward's Mill, located on Nash street in Starkville, is standing on another historic spot. It is here that the Indians had a camping ground by a spring that has since dried up. On the spot stands a beautiful Post oak 12 feet in circumference with a spread of 110 feet.

At the Methodist parsongge on the corner of Lampkin and Nash streets a large Red oak is growing. It measures 12 feet 9 inches

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Ibid.

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in circumference with a spread of 100 feet.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Odie Danials own a lovely home on the corner of Lee and Montgomery streets which is surrounded by large beautiful trees. One elm measures 11 feet 6 inches in circumference with a spread of 104 feet. A Red oak is 9 feet 6 inches with a spread of 110 feet. There are also Black oaks, water oaks, and Poplars. Mrs. Danials home is also famous for the lovely and luxuriant Wisteria vines growing there.

On south Montgomery street in Starkville is the home of Mrs. Inez Robinson. She is the owner of one of the few Catalpa trees in town. The trunk measures 5 feet 4 inches with a spread of 52 feet. If the tree is cut up in posts and set out it will grow and make a hedge.

On the John C. Hines place on highway 82 there are many old trees. A Pecan tree that has been there for 100 years measures 10 feet with a spread of 83 feet. There is a cottonwood that is 5 feet 9 inches and an oak that is 10 feet 9 inches and is covered with mistletoe. In the woodland are growing cedars, burdock, and evergreens.

Mr. T.J, Gladney's home on Greensboro street is made more beautiful by a large elm tree that is 9 feet in circumference. Cape jessamine and lilac also grow on his lawn.

Mrs. Will Gunn, who also lives on Greensboro street, is the

Ibid.

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owner of a large oak tree, measuring 10 feet in circumference. About forty years ago there was a large cavity in the roots but it has gradually closed with the years until now only a small hole remains.

The old Rice home outside of Starkville on the Oktoc road is famous for its beautiful crape myrtles.

The home of Miss Fannie Page on Lampkin street in Starkville is surrounded by several old magnolias which are unusually large.

The flowering trees of the county include: Catalpa, Crape Myrtle, Holly, Dogwood, Magnolia, Rd-bud, Azaleas, Haws, Buckeyes, Wild Cherrys, Willows, Persimmons, China-berrys, Mulberrys, Cape Jessamine, Lilac, Pear trees, Peach trees, Apple trees, and Plum trees.

Ibid.

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List of Trees

1--Pecan Tree on campus of Mississippi State College near the greenhouse.

2--Red oak on home of Dr. F. B. Long, West Limpkin street. Also Burdock tree.

3--Pecan Tree on home of Miss Bettie Sanders, 214 Washington St.

4--Pecan Tree at home of Mrs. R. C. Bridges, Washington St.

5--Cedar, Mimosa, Crape Myrtle at residence of Mr. C. A. Hogan on Greensboro St.

6--Red oak, White oak, sycamore in grove of Mr. B. M. W lker, Jr. residence on Greensboro St.

7--Oak tree that marks spot where first court was hold in Oktibbeha county--the old Mariner place north-west of Starkville.

8--Water oak on property of Mr. Dick Lewis, one hundred yards west of house, where the old Chochuma Indian fort used to stand.

9--Red oak tree on Mr. Dick Lewis' place, where Horatio Cushman's Hebron Mission used to be.

10--Large Magnolia tree on property of Col. J. A. Glenn.

11--Magnolia grove on Mr. Lawrence Beverly's residence, Whitefield Road, Highway #12.

12--Short Leaf Pine on Whitefield Road, Highway #12.

13--Red oak, White oak on the Walker home at 535 Greensboro St.

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List of Trees

14--Post oak, Red oak at home of Misses Sally and Alice Hollinshed on the old Robinson Road.

15--Cedars at home of Mr. Dorsey Outlaw on Oktoc Road.

16--Oak and Pine on old Ray homestead, five miles north of Sturgis.

17--Post oak, Water Oak at home of Mr. H. H. Reynolds, on Greensboro St. in front of the high school building.

18--Cedar, Mulberry trees on property of Mr. W. P. Sellers in Bell Schoolhouse Community.

19--Pin oak, Red oak at home of Mrs. A. Blocker, on Robinson Road.

20--Elm tree, at Old Agency, home of the famous Indian chief, David Folsom, on Robinson Road.

21--Cedar at Folsom Tavern on Robinson Road.

22--White oak, post oak, Freak tree at Old Salem Church 9 miles south-east of Starkville.

23--Post oak in front of the Oktoc Club on the Robinson Road.

24--Red oak at Mr. J. M. Pruitt's residence on Greensboro St.

25--Red oak, very large, at Mr. J. G. Bryan's Residence on Greensboro St.

26--Old-fashioned Boxwood, at home of Mr. W. P. Sellers in Bell Schoolhouse Community.

27--Hack-berry Twin tree, at home of Mrs. J. W. Maxwell, on Hogan street.

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List of Trees

28--Red oak 110 years old at Mrs. E. D. Slaughter's residence on Montgomery St.

29--Water oak on property of Mr. B. J. Bell, on Lampkin St.

30--Water oak at residence of Mrs. T. G. James on Lampkin St.

31--Short leaf pine in the beautiful forest outside Sturgis.

32--Pine Tree, largest on Woodard Mountain at Sturgis.

33--Sycamore Twin, at Old Indian Council Ground on Robinson Road.

34--Sycamore near Old Toll Bridge on Robinson Road.

35--Willow Tree unusually large, near the old Ford, on Noxubee River.

36--Post oak, one of the largest at Ward's Mill on Nash St.

37--Red oak at Methodist Parsonage on corner of Lampkin and Nash.

38--Elm at residence of Mr. G. Odie Danials on Lee and Montgomery.

39--Catalpa at home of Mrs. Inez Robinson on south Montgomery St.

40--Pecan tree, one of the oldest in the county, on John C. Hines' place, on highway #82.

41--Very tall Elm on residence of Mr. T. J. Gladney on Greensboro.

42--Oak tree with peculiar history at home of Mrs. Will Gunn on Greensboro St.

43--Crape Myrtle at Rice home on the Oktoc Road.

44--Magnolias at home of Miss Fannie Page on Lampkin St.

45--Flowering trees of the county

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Compilation-
R. C. Morris

HISTORY OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

CHAPTER IX.

DISCOVERY

FOREIGN CLAIMS---The section of Mississippi now known as Oktibbeha county as organized in 1833, has been claimed and partly under the jurisdiction of three nations and one state before it became a part of the Mississippi territory.

In December 1540, DeSoto intered this section and perhaps crossed the entire length of this county from the Noxubee River as he was seeking the Golden Cities of the west. F or a period of 400 years, not another white man entered this territory. The French now laid claim to this entire southern country and in order to gain control over the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians, Bienville made two expoditions against the Chickasaw Indians.and finally made terms with these nations. In 1763 at the close of the Seven Years' War the French were driven out of America and this territory came under the jurusdiction of the English and this section was known as a part of the "District of Illinois". During the control of the British over this territory many traiders entered this section and carried on a very profitable bisiness with these two nations of Indians.

During all this time the state of Georgia claimed this territory under the Georgia Grant from the King of England which extended her boundary from "Sea to Sea".

At the close of the American Revolution, this territory became a

part of the United States Government by an act of Congress in 1798. It declaired that "all that tract of country bounded on the west by the Mississippi, on the north by a line drawn due east from the Yazoo river to the Chattahoochee river, on the east by the Chattahoochee river, on the south by the thirty- first degree of north latitude, shall be called the Mississippe Territory." All north of this territory was claimed by Georgia but in 1802 she finally ceded all this territory to the United States Government. In 1804 this was then added to the territory of Mississippi. At this same time the "twelve miles strip" which was ceded by South Carolina, was added to this territory.

During all this time no recognition was given to the ownership of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations of Indians that were the real owners of the lands. While all this was taking place, these Indians were going serenely about their daily avocations, thinking little that they were being the unwilling "chess men" being played about by the nations who ultimately intended to gobble them up under their law of the "survival of the fittest."

During the War of 1812, Tecumseh, the great chief of the Shawnee Indians, more wise than the others, appeared to sense the whold diabolical scheme, came into this territory and met with the Chickasaw and Choctaw chieftanis to persuade them to form an alliance with him and all the Indians of the South, in view of waging war against the United States and drive out or destroy all the whites now taking possession of their lands. The Creeks to the east of them had already joined the alliance but the zeal of Tecumseh

and his strong arguements had no influence on the Chickasaws and Choctaws who not only refused to joun the hostile Creeks but gave aid to the American forces when the condlict came. The people of this great state should never have forgotten that they were befriended by the powerful Choctae nation at a time when they were able to have destroyed the last white man, woman, and child in the "Old Historic South West."(1)

THE INDIANS---Oktibbeha County is fortunate in having a great number of valuable historic data relative to the Indians. It was occupied primarilly by the Choctaw Nation, but partly by the Chocchumas in the west and partly by the Chickasaw nation in the north. All were large and influential tribes at some period of their history. Later but before the white man appeared, the Chocchumas had been extreminated by the combined effort of both the choctaws on the south and west and the Chickasaws on the north. T heir last stand is graphically told by H. S. Cushman's History of the Choctaws, Chickasaws and Natches Indians. This place is located at Lyon's Bluff which is about none miles northwest of Starkville on Line and Trim Cane creeks. No braver warriors ever faced a foe nor more chivelrous heroes ever didd in the reported annals of history. Legands of these prehistoric days tell us that so fierce was the conflict that every dog, cat, and chicken were killed in the holocaust of sloughter with the exception of one beautiful Chocchuma maiden who hid herself away until the fierce anger of the Choctaws and Chickasaws had subsided when she then made her appearance and was permitted to live. She later attended one of the mission schools and

(1) Mississippi, Biographical and Historical Memoirs, The Goodspeed Publishing Company, Chicago, Illionis, 1891.
F. L. Riley, History of Mississippi, Johnston Publishing Company, Richmond Va., 1915.
Dunbar Rowland, Mississippi, Southern Historical Publishing Company, Atlanta, Ga., 1907.

became a very influential woman among the people who had addopted her. It is stated that she lived to be over 100 years of age.

THE CHOCCHUMA NATION---The Chocchuma Indians who had occupied a strip of land between the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations in Mississippi, were a part of a very large nation who had lived across the Mississippi river in northern Lousiana and southern Arkansas. T hey had occupied a considerable section of Mississippi territory along the Yalobusha river and west to the vacinity of West Point, Mississippi. In this section they had occupied some of the western section of Oktibbeha county and a narrow strio along Line and Tibbe creeks which had served as a kind of "no-man's land" between the Choctaws to the south and the Chickasaw to the north. These Indians however, had proved worse than either of the nations, north or south, as they were enemies to both. They built numerous "forts"over their territory, several of which were located in Oktibbeha county, and set up poles with all manner of scalps, heads, bones and other articles on them, and when the wond blew through these trophies, causing them to rattle, their prophets warned that this was the voice of the Great Spirit informing them that some Chictaw or Chickasaw was destroying a Chocchuma. Forthwoth a party of young braves would go on the war path and the first enemy among these nations, discovered, whether old or young, male or female, innocent or guilty, they would fall upon and kill. After which, they would them return home and hang the scalps of their victims on the pole and wait for another message from the spirits. Prehistoric stories of such hostility, frequent horse-stealing, and game poaching into the Choctaw and Chickasaw lands let to

(1) James Adair, The History of the American Indians, Edward and Dilly, 1775.
(2) American Historical Magazine, Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn.
(3).W. A. Evans, Aberdeen Examiner--Mother Monroe. 1936-1937.

the war in which quarter was neither asked or given on either side. Around these "fortresses", the farmers, even of the present day, often plow up the bones and war inpliments of these combatents of centuries ago with the final assault as stated above. Thus ended one of the greatest nations to occupied this county before the white man came.

THE CHICKASAW---The Chickasaw Nation was closely related to the Choctaws, but differed from them in disposition and character. This nation of Indians lived in the northern part of the state and their territory extended as far south as Line and Tibbee creeks which separated them from the Choctaes. From the source of these streams, a line to the northwest extending to the Mississippi river, was also the dividing line between these nations. Thus part of Oktibbeha county, in its original survey, extended into the Chickasaw territory for several miles, north and south, east and west.

At the time of the last treaty made with these Indians, their territory as well as their population was much smaller than that of the Choctaws, yet they were fierce warriors and this were able to hold their lands against all invaders since the days of DeSoto until the American Nation was organized. They took great pride in saying that they had never raised their hands against this nation but boasted of their friendshop and loyalty to it. They went with Andrew Jackson in his offensive against the Creeks and English at New Orleans and through their fierce fighting he was able to rout the enemy in short order. The Chickasaws were said to be fierce, houghty, insolent and cruel. They were great robbers. When not in war or on the hunt, the

men slept, played on the flute, or gambled. They were great hunters and were able to track all kinds of animals to their lair or shoot an arrow with unerring aim to the heart of their pray on the trail. These hunters never killed more than was needed for immediate use. They never killed for sport but only for food. After killing their dinner, they would return home, braaking small branches along the route, and send their wives on one of the small Indian ponies to bring home the slaughtered animal, which was done in short order. The animal was then prepared for food and cooked.

The men were tall, slender and athletic; their women, clean, lithe, and beautiful. Every one -- men, women and children were excellent swimmers. Their children were taught to swim in the pools or clay holes of up turned trees, which remained filled with water during the entire summer unless it was remarkably dry. As stated above, they were notorious thieves, often invading the territory of their neighbors and carrying away slaves and plunder. Their warriors would not cultivate the soil as they considered this beneath their dignity but required their women to do all their menial labor.

The Indian chief practiced plural marriage but were not polygamous, this being their method of caring for their surplus women. Their religion suited their nature. They believed in a future life of eternal bliss, youth and plenty. They had no fear of death. They did not take to the religion as taught by the Missionaries as readily as did the Choctaws.

While the men refused to farm they were great stock raisers and

as a result the woods were alive with their cattle both domesticated and wild. It is told that Levi Colbert a Chiclasaw halfbreed, owned over 4000 head of cattle and sold at one time over 800 steers. Colbert became one of the wealthy citizens of the nation and had a beautiful residence constructed by a carpenter by the name of Carter who later married his daughter and was given the house he had built, for his own.

These people were in no sense an inventive nation. Their homes tools, bows and arrows, were of the crudest type and remained thus during their entire national history until the white man gave them their modern ideas. T hey had no written and a very meager spoken language. As a result had to content themselves with a great many gestures when attempting to carry on a conversation. They thus continued a sign language with a few mono-syllabic words in expressing their thoughts.

To the Chickasaws must be given the credit of holding the Mississippi for the English and ultimately for the Americans after they had gained their independence. Without their valiant courage in driving back the Spaniards and later the French, the history of this valley might have been entirely different. When France lost Canada to the English and the Valley to the Indians, Napoleon was then willing to dispose of Lousiana at the best possible prive, to the Americans. When the Americans won the Revolution, the Chickasaws immediately transferred their allegiance to that nation and remained friendly throughout, in spite of the ligislation of 1829 by which the Legislature of Mississippi took over all their territory under the jurisdiction of the state. This was then followed by a series of treaties inding in 1832-1834 termination in removing these natives to

a land beyond the Mississippi river. While this was taking place, the country was over run by the white and speculators in spite of the fact that the Indians had been given every assurance that their lands would held inviolate by the Government until the treaty was ratified and the Nation removed beyond the river. The Government, on the appeal of the leading Indians made a feeble effort to keep the invaders out but without avail. James Colbert wrote "our fate requires that some person shall interpose in our interest and require complicance with the treaty. A host of speculators are going over the country hiring all half-breads to use their influence with the trivesmen, to made contracts giving them five or ten dollars to aid. As a result these men are signing away their rights without knowing what they are to receive." It was finally agreed that all Chickasaw lands were to be sold by the Government and the proceeds held for the nation. T his was done. With these funds they were required to pay the expense of their removal. The Indians requested that their superintendent be authorized to purchase such provisions as they required and have them distributed along the route. These, it was estimated would cost them over $100,000.00. Instead hundred of thousands of dollars were expensed for flour and pork and distributed at Fort Coffee, and Gobson where it was left in the sun to spoil The I Indians had a great amount of private funds which was expended in a most reckless manner at the urgent demands of merchants along the way. Col. Upshaw saw two women buy $700.00 worth of goods in less than two hours. The Chickasaws purchased sufficient lands of the Choctaws and had learned many lessons from their removal. They purchased hundreds of waggons,

ponies, and prevailed on the Government to transport them as far as possible by steamboat. In spite of all precautions there was much sickness, many of their ponies were stolen along the route and the roads, even the best were impassable. From six to twelve miles per day was all the company could make. On August the twelfth the following report was made: "The scarcity of provisions and the difficulty of procurring them on the route, renders it necessary to transport almost all the supplies from Little Rock; accordingly this day was taken up in bringing the sick and scattering Indians to the principal party and procuring wagons to send them to Little Rock for provisions." Many of these emigrants arrived too late to make a crop and too, the season was very dry so that a petition for help was made by their leading men stating that many of "our people have died and the general drought has been disastrous. For these reasons together with the fact that many of our people arrived too late to make a crop, makes it our duty to apply for help." It took immediate action to save them from starvation. By 1846 practically all had been removed and the land taken over by the whites.

THE CHOCTAWS---The Choctaws occupied most of the entire state of Mississippi and a large part of Alabama and Tennessee. They were not a migratory prople but lived and died at one place. In 1805 the Choctaws made their first cession of land to the United States. This embraced several southern counties north of the thirty-first degree and east of the Natches District. Their last cession was made in 1830 which embrased the territory now taken by Oktibbeha county. Between these two dates the Reverend Cyrus Kingsbury entered their territory and organized the first mission school among these people. From him and his co-workers

1. H. B. Cushman, History of the Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Natches Indians. See also Florence Rebecca Ray, Chieftain Greenwood Leflore, Davis Printing Co. Memphis, Tenn.

we gain the most intimate facts we know concerning the life of these Indians.

Even before the Missionaries came these people had ceased to be a nomadic people and had settled down to a fixed abode. They held to a very vague type of superstitious belief. The Westeys may have made a brief visit among them and one or two Catholic priests may have given some religious training but not until the establishment of the Mission at Elliott and later at Mayhew in this county did actual training begin in an effectual manner. Before this time their beliefs were common to that of the Indian race in general. They made their happy hunting grounds the future abode of the brave, the self-sacrificing, the loyal. These people believed in witch-craft, conjury, spirits, and ghosts of the dead. Their supertitious mind caused them to regard the sudden appearance of birds, their chirpings, and twitterings, the howl of the wold, and the lonly hoot of the owl; as omens of evil, while others of the same nature, as omens of good. The spiritual significance of which, he interpreted according to the dictates of his own judgment. The misteries of nature had their influence upon the untutored minds of all Indians. Its various phenomena were represented by inferior sperits that surround the Great Spirit, who was the controlling deity. To him they all turned in gratitude for blessings, and for aid on all the affairs of life. Through certain rites and ceremonies they expressed their belief in their dependence on the Great Spirit. These were offerings of corn, bread, and fruits, etc. instead of the sacrifices of animals. They sought omens in the actions of living animals rather than an augury in the entrails of dead animals as did the Romans of old; yet their sincere feelings of pity, of gratitude and dep endence; which gave origin to those offerings

gave rise to that universal habit of self-examination and secred prayer to the Great Spirit, so characteristic of the Indian race. They believed that the Great Spirit communicated his will to men in dreams, in thunder and lightning, eclipses, meteors, commets, in all the prodigies of nature and the thousands of unexpected incidents that occur to man expressed today as "hunches". Cushman tells us that the Missionary found the Choctaw to be a people with immovable faith in a supreme being and possessing a great reverence for powers and abilities superior to those of earth. They regarded the Great Spirit as the source of all general good, and of whom they asked guidance in all their undertakings. They implored their aid against their enemies, in warking off the baneful influences of the Evil Spirits; to whose powers they ascribed favors and frowns, blissings, successes and disappointments, joys and sorrows. It was, therefore, the ambition of every Choctaw to be able to concentrate his mind upon the lands which were inhabited by spirits that dwell in the invisible world above. The spirit lands were inhabited by two spirits-the good who always seeks the best interest of the Indian; and the bad, who attempts to destroy his soul and upset his plans. This latter spirit the Choctaw sought to propitiate in every conceivalbe manner. He never bothered much about the good spirit except to aid in appeasing the evil, as they always had his good at heart anyway. In such manner did the old Babylonians have similar ideas of their gods. The Choctaw never went upon any enterprise, before consulting the signs of omens as did the Ancients, to determine the wisdom of attempting the mission. This too, was determened by the direction of the winds, flight of birds, the howl of the lone wold etc. It was not

unusual to find these people sitting in a reverie reflecting on the will of the good spirits. In such light as they had they wolked with ready and sincere acknowledgment of human dependence on super-human aid and mercy. The rites of the medicine man was a religious ceremony for the propitiation of the invisible spirits.1.Cushman gives an interesting account of the death of Illichih which illustrates the operations of the medicine man and the Choctaws' belief in conjury. A Choctaw girl was visiting some thirty miles away from her home and was taken sich. An old Choctaw woman- a conjuring doctress-proposed to cure her. She was at once employed in the case. After giving the patient a varity of root and herb decoctions, she began chanting her incantations and going through her wold ceremonies over and around her patient. She then pronounced the girl on the road to recovery and her father was told that she could be taken back home. To show his appreciation he gave the doctress a pony. During the night the daughter suddenly became worse and died. It was at once decided that her death was caused by a witch ball (isht-ul-bih), shot from an invisible gun in the hands of the witch. Illichih was pronounced the witch. She was very old, gentle and kind but in spite of these beautiful traits, she was seized by the hair and in a moment, was stretched on the floor of her cabin a bleeding corpse. There were two kinds of medical religious ceremonies among the Choctaws. These were the tribal and the individual. Each had its place in their worship. The tribal medicine men was regarded as the protector of the tribe, in fact, the visible embodiment of the promise of the good spirit to provide for the trive all the necessities of life and to protect them from all enemies. The individual medicine

1. H. B. Cushman, History of Choctaw, Chickasaw and Natches Indians.

man was to the individual what the tribal was to the tribe-his assurance in danger, has safty in battle, and his success amid all the vicissitudes of his earthly career. Every warrior kept his own totem or medicine bag, which was a small sack containing various and sundry articles. Should the contents of the bag become known, they ceased to be of power, and should they be captured, the tribe fought in desperation to recover it from the enemy. Mr. Cyrus Byington tells of an experience of on old Choctaw who was interested in his story of the cross but said, "Your talk is, no doubt, true and good, but it is strange and dark to me-the great spirit tells me that it will lead me to the happy hunting grounds of the Indians, and that is sufficient for me. A letter writen by Tunapinachuffa, a very old Indian warrior, to David Folsom, his nephew will illustrate the eagerness with which these people accepted the Christian Religion it was written in 1828 as follows: "Brother:--Long time had we been as people in a storm which threatened destruction, until the missionaries came to our land; but now we are permitted to hear the blessed Gospel of truth. You, our brother and chief, found for us a good and bright path, and we would follow you in it. You are as our good father, and your words are good. Your messengers (the missionaries), that you sent to us, we hear. When we think of our old ways, we feel ashamed. This blessed day I have given a true talk. The black and dirty clothes I used to wear I have taken off and cast away. Clean and good clothes, I now put on. My heart, I hope, had been nade new. My bad thoughts I throw away. The words of the great Father above I am seeking to have in my mind.

The missionaries, in the Choctaw Nation, salute. Themissionaries, chiefs, and people, I salute. O my chief, I, your uncle, salute you. I am your warrior. You must remember me in your live. The letter which I send you, youmust read to your captains, leaders, and warriors. As I feel today, I wish to have all my Choctaw brothers feel. I am the first of the Choctaws that talk the good talk. My chief, as you go about among your people, you must tell them this, the dark night to me has gone, and the morning has dawned upon me. The missionaries at Mayhew, I salute you. Mr. Kingsbury, when this letter you see, you will forward it to Miko (chief) Folsom. Later this old Indian sent this message to Dr. Cyrus Kingsbury. "I so love the savior with all my heart and aoul. I take great delight in the sabbath, and love to pray. Today heaven is near; it is not far away-I know it is near- I feel it." And who can say it was not? Such was the solicitude of the aged, among the Choctaws for the young, that they always expressed more concern for the welfare of the rising generation than for themselves. Like the Greeks of Early Ruropean History, the Choctaws believed that all nature was but a manifestation of the Great Spirit-the thunder, reverbrating from hill to hill, the wind as it roared in its devestation of the forest, the flash of lightning, the roaring huricane or the murmer of the gentle zephyr-all spoke in a language most potential. Their immortality and future existance in another world, they never doubted, though their ideas of future rewards and punishment beyond the tomb were feeble and confused. They mourned for their dead for twelve months, not as one without hope, but due to the sacred family ties that had been broken. Their burial

took place after the body had been placed on a high platform where the flesh decayed and was later picked clean from the bones by the "bone picker". After this the burial took place upon the great mound, with great lamentations. Cushman says that the many mounds found scattered over this and other counties of this state are "but cemetaries of the ancient Choctaws." Each burial took place on top of the former one and each deposit was covered up with earth to the depth of three or four feet. Thus by a continued accretion through a long series of years, they became the high mounds we find today. Like the Egyptians, the Choctaws believed the spirits of the dead had to cross a fearful river which stretched its whirling waters across their way. There was one way to cross which was a cleanly peeled sweet-gum log. If the spirit was that of a good person, the guardian of the log gladly permitted it to pass; if that of a bad person, it was hindered by the guard until it fell of into the mad waters and was carried away to a barren desert-naked, cold, and hungry. In common then, with the believers of the Holy Scriptures, they held the doctrine of future rewards and punishments. Heaven, or the Happy Hunting Grounds, was similar to the Elysian fields of heathen mythology, where the spirits of those who had been honest, truthful, and virtuous, would enjoy eternal rounds of games, with no sorrow, care, or sufferings. Due to this belief, which was so close to that of the Christian, it was not difficult for the Indian to make the transfer to Christianity. They were overjoyed at the teaching of the Missionaries and readily accepted their faith in a merciful God and divine restitution for sins. It was their religion as much as their literary instruction

and vocational training that made the missionary welcome. Mayhew was over-crowded in a very short while and the Choctaws in this community and the other missionaries, induced Calvin Cushman to establish a mission at Hebron, about two or three miles north-west of Starkville. The Indians called it Chocchuma Fort as it was one of the many forts constructed by these Indians when they occupied this section and no doubt, represented one of their last stands against extermination. The Choctaws believed it to be haunted and that the religion of the white man would drive them off, but through the self-sacrificing life of those holy workers, the Indians soon learned the truth of life, and death and a future life. Through the work of the missionaries at Mayhew, Hebron, and Folsom, hundreds of these men and women and especially their children became followers of the true religion. One of the interestion effects of the Missionary was the temperate life lived by all who came under their influence.

Liberty, fraternity, and equality were always cardinal principles among the Choctaws. No one regarded himself better than his fellow. The entire tribe was held responsible for the acts of any of its members according to the nature of the offense. Fraud, misrepresentation, or oppression, were absolutely unknown among these people. They had their dimestic government and the head of the family was responsible for all infractions of tribal rules. The family named decended through the mother rather than the father and an older brother or uncle was head; the parent being required merely to assist in such duties as devolve upon them. The tribal or national government was vested in the royal family. Their crimnal code was simple- a life for a life, irrespective of the cause-accident, self defense, or in the defense of their

name. One of the outstanding traits of the Choctaw Indian was his unfeigned hosptiality. When one entered the home of one of these Indians, being his friend, mere acquaintance, or stranger, he was extended the hand of welcome- and it was sincere. The visitor was then invited to be seated after which a profound silence was observed to determine the purpose of the visit. Their politeness was truly remarkable. If the Indian met a person with whom he was acquainted, he would take the prefered hand with a gentle presure and a forward inclination of the head, saying in a gentle tome, "I am glad to see you". The young Indian warrior was a specimen of perfect manhood. His body is entirely free from hair except the top of his head. Cushman said, "He seemed to be as perfect as the human form could be." He was tall, lithe, straight, graceful, active, with a demeanor of lofty independence; he appeared to be the monarch of all he surveyed. His black piercing eye seemed to penetrate and read the very thoughts of the heart. Nor did the women fall behind in all that pertain to feminine beauty. Again Cushman said, "I have seen as beautiful young women among the Choctaws as could be found among any nation-civilized or not. They were truly nymphs of the woods. They were of such unnatural beauty that they literly appeared to light up everything around them. Their black dresses hung in flowing waves extending nearly to the ground. The beauty of their contenance was so extraordinary that if such were seen today, they would be considered as a type of beauty hitherto unknown. Their knowledge of social amenities was suprising for one brought up in the solitude of the forest." Whether they assembled for social conversation or dibate there never was

1. H. B. Cushman, History of the Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Natches Indians.

but one that spoke at a time, and under no circumstance was one speaker interrupted. In the home the husband was lord and it was unbecomming for him to do any menial work. The wife was expected even to go out and find the deer or turkey killed by the husband and bring it in to dress and cook it for the family. She never called him by name but addressed him as "son". The Choctaw never liked to give his name and it was impossible to get it unless someone was near to give it for him. The Choctaw never forgot a favor, however small, and was never satisfied until it had been returned many times-if possible without the knowledge of the beneficiary. Never was a race more sensitive to kindness nor more grateful for every little act of benevolence exercised toward anyone in whom he is interested. The Missionary would take their children and feed, clothe, and educate them; but under no circumstance were they to get by without the parent doing everything to compensate. His money, cattle, hogs,-everything were subject to the use of the teacher. He was by nature a gentlemen-never familiar, coarse, or vulgar. Should he eat with the missionary, he would observe and follow carefully his example with as much decorum and ease as if he had been accustomed to such usages from his childhood. He was never so selfish as to smoke alone in the presence of others. The pipe was passed from friend to friend until the assembly was ended. The women never indulged in the use of tobacco in any form except a few of advanced years. They had their amusements but hunting was not one of them. They never killed for the fun of it. Their chief amusement was the Indian Ball Game in which they took much pleasure and pride of achievement.

When the men of a village wearied of the monotony of everyday life,

1. H. B. Cushman, History of the Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Natches Indians.

and desired a change, they sent a challange to those of another village of their own tribe, to engage in ball-play. The challange was nearly always accepted. Then the challanger set the day, and the place for the game. Upon the ground two or three-hundred yards apart they set two posts close together about six inches in diameter and fifteen feet long. These were the ball posts. During the intervening time between the challenge and the day of the ball-play, great preparations were made on both sides by those who intended to engage in the sport. The night preceeding the day of the game was spent in painting with the same care as if preparing for the war-path. In the meantime, tidings of the approaching play spread from village to village for miles away, thus during the first two or three days preceding the play, hundreds of Indians fans- old and young, of both sexes, could be seen coming to the place with their ponies loaded with every kind of article of value to an Indian, to stake upon the results of the play. On the morning of the appointed day, the players, from 75 to 100 on each side, entirely in a nude state, excepting a piece of cloth around the hips, were heard in the distance advancing toward the plain from opposite sides, making the foreats ring in their exulting songs and defiant banter as intimations of the great feats they were going to display before the eyes of their friends. When the players met on the field, they mingled together and exchanged joyous greetings, after this a dead silence fell, in which time the betting was going on. Each side put what they bet in one large pile. Whichever side won took the pile and divided it among themselves. After the betting was done each side took their places, each furnished with two

kapucha (ballsticks) three feet long, and made of seasoned hickory. At one end of each stick was a device in the shape and size of a half closed hand, these were made from the sinews of animals, In these they caught the ball. It was supprising with what accuracy they could catch and throw the ball with these sticks. In taking their places at the opening of the play, ten or twenty, according to the number of players engaged, on each side, were stationed at each pole; and in the middle of the field were stationed the same number from each side. Then the medicine-men tossed the ball and whichever side caught it tried to throw it to their men at their goal or ball-pole and their men were to get it and strike the pole with the ball to score. The men of the other side that were stationed at the pole, were to prevent this and get the ball and throw it back to their side at their goal post, and so went the game. As there were not many rules, as to fair play, bones were often broken and sometimes necks. The Choctaw enjoyed the dance but they participated in this only as it was connected with some other idea. They had, for instance, the ball-dance, war dance, scalp dance, and eagle dance. Each of these had their own significance and lasted for various periods of time. The war-dance had for its purpose the creation or stimulation a fierce desire to wreak vengience on their foe.

(1). The primitive method of courtship and marriage among the Choctaws was carried out in the following manner: "When the young Choctaw brave went out to find himself a housekeeper, after definitely deciding upon it, he proceeded first to find out his own estimation in the affections of the one he loved. When he went to the home he usually walked into the

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1. Florence Rebecca Ray, Chieftain Greenwood LeFlore, pp. 24-25, Davis Publishing Co., Memphis, Tennessee, 1936.

room very unconcerned where she, with her family, were all gathered. While they were conversing he found an opportunity to shoot at her a little stick or pevvle. She knew the meaning of these missils of live. If the young brave's affections were returned the maiden sent the sticks back as slyly and unobserved as they cane. If she rejected his live she started up suddenly from her seat so showing him by the expression on her face that he was not accepted and silently left the room. This was the end of the courtship although not a word had been spoken between the two. But if the stick shot back to the young red-skin, accompanied with the love light from a pair of black eyes, he understood fully the meaning and after a few minutes had elapsed as he went to the door he said his formal Ea (I go). The father or mother gave him permission to leave in the same informal way, Omih (very well).

In two or three days the lover returned to obtain the consent of the parents as well as to present them with gifts. After the parents approved the marriage there was always a feast prepared to which their friends were invited. After the guests had assembled, the groom was shown into one room and the bride into another, then the doors were closed. A space of two or three hundred yards was marked off, a small pole was set up and at a certain signal the bride's door was opened and immediately with the lithness of a deer she started for the pole. When she had gotton a few paces ahead of him. to prevent his overtaking her, if she so wished it, the door of his room was thrown open and with seemingly winged feet away he flew, causing wild laughter to break forth from the spectators.

Sometimes when she wished to try the sincerity of his love she would

(1). Florence Rebecca Ray, Chieftain Greenwood Leflore, Davis Pub. Co. Memphis, Tenn. 1936.

not let the ardent pursuer overtake her until she had almost reached the pole. When a few words had been said between them, after he had c caught her, he took her by the hand and gently led her back to the women friends who met them half way from the pole and they in turn led the bride into the yard in front of the house and seated her upon a beautiful Indian blanket which was spread in the ground. The women formed a circle around the bride and each holding the gift they had brought began to throw them at the bride's head. Then a grab game was begun. Each time a present hit the betrothed's head, it was just as quickly snatched away by one of them. Many times more than a dozen made a grab with little feeling for the poor bride and the fingers of the snatchers often became entangled in her long black hair. When all the gifts were distributed, of which the wife recieved not a single one, the two young lovers were wed and known as married folk. The feasting took place and the merry makers returned to their homes."

A cozy little cabin was built by the groom with the help of his friends, in some lovely spot in the woods. The only cooking utensils to fill their requirments were a small iron kettle in which to cook their food and a wooden bowl in which to serve it after it was cooked. They sat upon the ground. The bowl was placed in the center of the cabin and, using a wooden or horn spoon, they helped themselves one after the other. "A blanket of skins well tanned, served for bed and cover. The groom may live with her his entire life or not as he desired. As soon as the white man began making his appearance, the Indian made certain laws governing marriage of Indian women with white men. He must have a certificate of

(1). The Choctaw Insian, in common with all Insians, had no surname, yet their names were peculiar, and most always significant, expressive of form particular action or incident, even as the names given to their hills, rivers, creeks, towns, and villages. The white missionaries had their own peculiar title as they impressed the imaginative mind of the Indian. Cyrus Kingsbury, the founder of the Mission at Mayhew, was "Nashoba Nowa," "Walking Wolf". The writter has never been given the reason for such a title unless it was his peculiar walk. Cyrus Byington was known as the Sounding Horn from his pleasing oratory or melodious voice. His mission in the Noxubee in the vacinity of Gibion, the home of David Folsom, was called "Yakni-O-Kchaiya" or"Living Land", which menat in English, "The Missionary Field". This was the site of the Mission school and church established by Byington. Double Springs was Dall Oka Apokta No doubt so called from the fact that the two large springs formed a considerable creek, large enough to drive a water wheel. The Chocchuma Indians were "Shakchi Huma," meaning red crawfish. One of their great chiefs was Hummingbird or Likukola which was due to his ability to " "flit" from one section to another, unnoticed and with great speed. The Noxubee was Oka Nokshabe, which in the Indian language meant "stinking water." Dancing Rabbit, or Chukfi hila", menaing the rabbits dance there. Ootok Creek or in the Choctaw language Okatark, meaning a prairie or prairie stream. The Chinchahoama creek has retained its Indian name and means in their language, "crooked stream." Talking warrior, was Nakni Anumpa, after a young Indian brave who lived on the bank of this

1. Walter Hough, Dictionary of American Bipgraphy.

menial work as digging the garden or field or carrying in wood or even the game he had killed during the day for the family table or clothes. This was all expected to be done by the women and they expected and wanted to do them. The wofe raised corn, pumpkins, tobacco, potatoes, made baskets in which they were kept, tanned the hides for clothing, and later raised cotton, flax, or hemp, and wove the cloth for garments, cover for the dead and cover for the beds, etc. On the coming of the Missionaries they were taught many household duites, such as cooking, sewing, blacksmithing for the boys, carpentering and shoe making for the older students. Their religious training was greatly improved. They became more thrifty, industrious, and frugal-even the men were seen plowing the small Indian ponies in cultivating their crops. They were great imitators of the white race and soon adopted all their customes, even to manual labor by the men. Their willingness to work ran paralled with their progress and advancement in Christian knowledge. They would even seek work in other places to gain more for their families. Soon large quantities of cotton clothes were made by the Choctaw mothers and daughters while the revived fathers and sons raised corn, sweet potatoes, peas, beans, and various kinds of vegetables for better living in their homes. Their homes became models of cleanliness under the direction of the saintly missionary, and their culinary skill surpassed all expectation. Each Indian community bacame self-supporting. All the necessities of life were to be found in their own immediate vacinity. As a result, trade, transportation, and commerce, were scarcely known until the white man came with his trinkets which ~~were scarcely known until the white man came with his trinkets which~~ were traded for their skins, tobacco, and surplus foods.

stream. He visited Washington with a delegation of Indians to protest the manner in which the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit was being carried out. Tobaccon Juice was, with the Indians, Hakchuma Okchi, which was due to the color of the water that flowed in the stream. Thus we see that the Indians had a system of nomenclature similar to the old Hebrew of Anglo Saxon, according to some peculiar attribute or characteristic of the person, place, or thing to be named.

The Indian was truly nature's gentleman, ever refined and courteous, If he were asked to dine with you and was unaccustomed to the manner in which the food was taken, he would eat exactly as you ate with apparent ease, and would follow every move you made. If one were invited to the Indian's home, he was shown a genuine hospitality. It made no difference whether an old friend or a stranger, each was given a genuine welcome. After a few words of greeting and the guest given a seat there was the utmost silence until the guest gave a reason for his visit. When food was served, it was to the duty of the guest to partake of each kind of food that had been placed before him or his host would think his hospitality had been held in disdain. The most popular of all Indian foods was pisnofa, which was cracked corn cooked until it was half done, than removed from the fire, dried and mixed with equal portions of fresh meat either pork or beef; then this mixture of meat and corn was cooked in a pot until it was done. Another fine dish with the Choctaws was the tafula, and, in fact, one of their most tasty dishes, made by parching corn then sweetining it after grinding it into a powder. The most popular deserts were wa husha and bahar. The first was made of corn meal dumplings cooked

1. Florence Rebecca Ray, Greenwood Leflore

with wild grape juice and sweetened with cane syrup.

It is the regret of all civilization that there is no record, no history of this romantic people, not even an alphabet; for had there been anything at all to disclose the customs and picturesque living of these children of the forest, what an all-absorbing and interesting story it would be, for beyond all question, they have had one, as all nations do; but only the echoed silence of the ages past, come back to us from impenetrable darkness. All that we have to day, has come to us through the stories handed down form generation to generation. The old sages of the nation would sit and tell their respectful listeners everything that had been related to them by their fathers and what they themselves had found out in their own lives. The historical occurrences that had taken place in their past- their trials, their triumphs, the illustrious achievements of their brave and fearless chiefs and warriors, together with their own brave deeds in fighting and hunting; were all events for constant repetition, around the evening fires. These traditions, no doubt, were always based on facts though abounding perhaps with many errors and corruptions in the cycle of ages through which they have passed. They have overgrown with the weeds of popular fancy like ruins of ancient castles covered with ivy. However the names of those brave predecessors have completely disappeared and the time will never come now in which these secrets of the centuries will be ever known again.

The Choctaw Indian was very fond of gaudy attire. Thus he resorted to all manner of paints made from the colored earth or vegetable products, with which he colored his skin, his mails, and his wearing appearal. The summer dress of the men was generally a short apron made

of the pelts of wild animals, the women being clothed in skins from neck to knees. In winter both sexes wrapped themselves in large robes of similar material. The children wore few clothes, if any, in the summer time and very few more in winter. As a result the Indian family was small due to infant mortality. The lack of food, of sanitary conditions may have also entered as a factor in reducing the size of the family. The children lived in squalor, their bodies being dirty and often covered with vermin.

In intellectual activity the red man did not occupy so low a scale as has often been assigned to him. Curiosity was one of the chief characteristics of the Choctaws and held a prominent position in their minds. They were desirous to know everything peculiar or strange that was transpiring about them; not more so, however, than others of the human race. The Choctaw asked no questions, nor manifested any surprise whatever, no matter how strange or incomprehensible to him, but walked around with an air of seemingly perfect indifference; yet was attentive to any and all explanations that were being made by others. The warrior was noted for his sagacity, subtile wit, quick conception, and a brilliant imagination. These Indians had no alphabet nor written language. Their knowledge was conveyed to the eye by rude imitations. In the pictures of various animals which had been drawn on smooth substances, a piece of bark, or tree, there he recognized a symbol of his tribe; and in these various figures which he saw sketched here and there, he red messages from his friends. The rude paintings, though silent and unitelligible to the white man, told its tale to the Choctaw. They had no calander, but reckoned time by

the moons for months, and the years by the killing of the vegetation, by the wintery frosts. Huskuh illi tuklo meant two years or the grass killed twice. Their almanac was kept by the flight of the birds of the air, whose coming and going announced to them the progress of the advancing and departing of the seasons, thus the progress of the seasons and the changes of the time was noted not by figures, but by days, sleeps, sun and moons-signs that spoke the beauty and poetry of nature. If a shorter time than a day was required to be indicated two parallel lines were drawn on the ground, a certain distance apart, than pointing to the sun, to show that it would be as long as it would take the sun to move from one to the other line. To keep appointments a bundle of sticks containing the exact number of sticks as there were days, from the day of appointment to the appointed, was kept; and every morning one was taken out and thrown away, the last stick announced the arrival of the appointed day. This bundle of sticks was called the Fuli kauah or broken sticks. The tendency of the Indian mind was thoroughly practical, ster, and unbending. It was not filled with images of poetry nor high strung conceptions of fancy. There were many natural orators among the Choctaws, there orations were very concise, animated, and abounding in many beautiful metaphors; and who had they possessed the embellishments of a refined education, would have compared well with any race of mankind that ever existed. The Choctaws deliberated with great dignity and solemnity on national affairs and in all their assemblies, both national and social, everything was carried on in the best order and unassumed decorum. The Choctaws has several classes of dignitaries. Among them who were held in the highest reverence, were the Medicine man or Prophet, The Rain Maker, and teacher.

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Before the Missionary came, the Choctaws, in common with all Indians, depended entirely on nature and necessity for the training of their children. The young soon learned the secrets and laws of nature and how to cope with them. As stated above, they had no alphabet nor written language, hence their knowledge had to be passed from generation to generation by the living word. One old Indian told Byington, the missionary, that his father had told him of the flood and it had come down for generations. However, they were very eager to learn and as soon as they found that such was being offered they sought such aid. On the advice of Pitchlyn who had become a Choctaw by adoption, they applied for instruction and immediately began to set aside their annuities and cattle for such work. The American Board of Missions under the auspicies of the American Government, then began establishing schools among them and in 1819 one was established at Elliott on the Yalobusha river and in 1820 one was e established at Mayhew in this, Oktibbeha, county, by Cyrus Kingsbury, David Folsom, and John Pitchlyn, and interpreter for the government. Soon the news spread throughout the nation and applications poured in for similar institutions. To prove the sincerity of their applications, appropriations were made in various parts of the nation for churches, schools, and shops, etc. Each of their districts soon had flourishing schools where their children were given the best training. A considerable literature was soon prepared, by Dr. Byington through which the young Choctaws, both male and female received thr rudiments of an education. Many of the useful arts of civilized life was intruduced, such as sewing, cooking, agriculture, and shop work, etc. Soom after a mission was organized at Hebron by Calvin Cushman and one at Agency by David Folsom and

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Cyrus Byington to enable the students to stay as near home as possible. All the schools in the county were well attended and the interest of the parents the greatest. It was not unusual for them to visit the school and express their approval of the work being done by these efficient teachers. Perhaps the one that did the most in making the education of the Choctaws possible, was Cyrus Byington who made an alphabet of the language, a grammer, and translated the literature of the schools into their tongue. Cyrus Byington was not only a teacher but a minister of the gospel and a typical Christian gentleman. Calvin Cushman too, ranked as one of the great teachers and spent his entire time aiding his wards while they remained in this county. After the Indians left the county, he purchased the Hebron Mission reservation and resided there the remainder of his life. These Mission Schools was the beginning of the educational system of the county and set a standard of efficiency for all to follow.

The National government of the Choctaws was vested in a royal family. They had both a crimnal and civil code. Their crimnal code was very simple. It was an "eye for an eye" or better still a "life for a life" irrespective of the cause, be it an accident, self-defense, or in the defense of one's name. In civil cases, the punishment was milder, according to the seriousness of the offense. The whipping post was common but fines may have been imposed for certain offenses. A few of these laws will illustrate. Should any warriors among the Choctsws, go over the line among the white people and buy whiskey, and bring it into the nation to buy up the blankets, guns, and horses of the red people, and

get them drunk; the whiskey is to be destroyed.

Should a choctaw woman kill her infants to keep from providing for them, she was to be tied to a tree and whipped. Her husband also received the same punishment for not restraining in the destruction of the child.

Should any Choctaw be caught stealing hogs and cattle to kill and eat them, he was to be tied to a tree and be given 39 lashes. This was later increased to 50 lashes for the first offence; a hundred for the second offense, and death by the rifle for the third. Should a Choctaw husband or wife run off with another wife or husband, each was to receive 39 lashes. The Councils and great assemblies of the nation were conducted with the utmost order and decorum. These were often conducted at night around the Council Fire where all were seated in order of rank. The aged and learned man which included the chiefs, occupied the inner circle and the soldiers and younger men and women were seated in the outer circle according to importance or heroism. Each had his turn in speech making and never did but one speak at a time.

The principal duties of the chiefs were to entertain the important visitors to the camp and the selection of their camping places, to negotiate for peace and war, and to lead their warriors to battle. They had no outward signs of authority, no power to give commands, not even a bodyguard, but held their places of honor solely on the good opinion of their tribe. This honor was bestowed upon one who had merited it by wisdom, bravery, and skill in outwitting the enemy in council or on the war-path. The Choctaw Nation never invaded an enemy's territory if it was avoidable, but woe to these who thought it lack of bravery for they were ready to

1. H. R. Cushman, History of the Choctaw Indian page 150

repel the adversary with the most desperate fighting known to man. Adair, who lived among these Indians for years and wrote the first account of them, characterizes them as "base, ungrateful, thievish, and fickle and treacherous-ready-witted, and endued with a surprising flow of smooth artificial language". Except the intensive love they bear to their native country, and their utter contempt of any kind of danger in defense of it, I know of no other virtue they possess." This is quite at variance to the ideas given by their great admirer, H. B. Cushman who wrote: "In war, he was daring, cumming, reckless, self-denying, self-devoted; in peace strictly just, generous, proverbially hospitable to strangers as well as acquaintances, modest, revengeful, supertitious, and truthful to the greatest degree, even faithful to the last to his promised word."

On the advent of the missionary, the custom of both crimnal and civil customes among the Choctaws, were changed to meet the ideas advocated by these teachers. They organized a company of mounted police called "Light-Horse Men" who were given the power to arrest and try all violaters of the law. These men served as Judge, sheriff, and jury and were men of the keenest eagle eyes. When an offender was apprehended, his case was handed over to these men who heard the evidence and rendered a verdict. The sentence was then passed, if guilty and punishment executed. Punishment varied with the crime from fines to death. If the sentence of death was given, the offender was given thirty days to settle his affairs. At the expiration of this period he was to appear at the appointed place for execution. No prison was ever built to confine prisoners as this was not a method of punishment and one was never known to fail to arrive at

1. James Adair, The History of the American Indian, Edward and Dilly, 1875.

the appointed place and date.

The Choctaw Nation was strictly democratic in its governmental organization, perhaps better to say, a pure democracy as all sat in and passed his individual judgment on all decisions and might refuse to be bound by any decision. It was seldom that the entire tribe or nation united in an important enterprise. It was this weakness in organization which caused the Nation to yield before the white colonists and government, who understood the value of the face of a common foe. It was not unusual for the white man or government official to play on this small jealousy among the Choctaws to accomplish their purposes, even to displacing the chief set up by one faction; in favor of one, set up by another. This was carried into effect in the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek in making Greenwood Laflore chief for the entire nation in signing the treaty. This displaced two other chiefs, Moshuli-topee, Nittakechi who were full blooded Indians and represented the feeling of a great majority of their fellow citizens in opposing any treaty, Had it not been for Col. Gaines, who acted as pacificator, bloodshed would have resulted. In spite of all opposition the treaty was enforced and the Choctaw Nation was deprived of the last vestige of their lands east of the Mississippi river.

When the white man first found the Choctaw Indian in his native abode, he had already settled into villages and had begun the cultivation of crops. However, nature continued to furnish in gorgeous abundance all the necessities of life, in the forest. Bountiful springs of pure sparkling water was in easy reach of every village, strawberries were scattered among the grasses of the prairies, along the rivers and creek banks, and

1. H. B. Cushman, History of the Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Natches, Indians. page 198.

among the hills and valleys; during the spring. In summer time black berries in abundance were found in every nook and corner while, in the fall muscadines, wild grapes of delicious flavor, and nuts of all kinds supplied the needs of both man and animals, times over. Throughout their primitive parks wild deer grazed among wild cattle and horses, and wherever the eye ranged great flocks of wild turkeys, gobblers and hens, could be seen feeding under the trees among the tree tops lived countless nembers of squirrels unmolested until a swift and straight arrow from the bow of a Choctaw brought down food for the next meal. In the dense cane brakes miriods of fur bearing animals furnished skins for clothing. It will be seen then, that the matter of a livelhood never gave much worry to these early denizens of the woods. However as the white hunter appeared and the colonist began to settle with his larger demands, these soon began to leave for undisturbed quarters and life became a serious matter of providing a bit of food and clothes for an ever enlarging family. On his hunting expeditions the Choctaw nearly always went along save his bow and arrow or later his rifle and after his game was killed, he lttk a straight course was taken on his return home. Upon his arrival, his wife took the Indian pony and following the way of the bent twigs of the hunter, was soon in possession of the slaughtered animal and home again. The food was prepared for the meal and immediately consumed by the hungry family. The field crops were first Indian corn which was served in many forms, beans, peas, and pumpkins, were also grown. The work was done entirely by the women until the Missionary came and showed the better way when the pony was driven by the man and boys in the cultivation of the crops.

To maintain business relations with the Choctaws of this section, the government established an agency on the Robinson Road, near where it crossed the Noxubee river and put an agent in-charge of it to keep in tough with the various traders. Through this agency government business was conducted. Often run-away slaves who had escaped from their masters were brought here by the Indians and left to be returned to their masters. While each Indian communtiy was self-supporting there were still considera able inter-trade among them, resulting in trails from one comminity to the other, so when the white traiders came and later the colonists they found a system of barter already in operation; in fact this was one of the incentives to colonization. The introduction of the European blanket soon revolutionized the method of dress and furnished additional stimulus to trade for the Choctaws dearly loved a brightly colored blanket. So rapid was this change that it was not long before the Indian became dependent on the whites for nearly every article of dress and ornament, and also for tools and weapons. These articles were traided or exchanged for furs. In these trades the Indian was often cheated and robbed. Some of the ordinary articles of exchange were: scissors, knives, razors, axes, thimbles, buttons, bells, jwes-harps, mirrors, finger rings, bracelets, armbands, buckles, gorgets, hoes, pistols, bullets, bullet-molds, paints, steel traps, locks, saddles, guns, blankets, flints, salt, etc., for which they gave in exchange:

For one gun----------30 buck skins.
one postol----------20 buck skins.
50 bullets----------1 buck skin.

one hatchet----------1 buck skin.
1pair sissors----------1 " "
1 axe----------4 " "
Petticoat one----------12 " "
1 shirt----------4 " "
1 duffel blanket----------14 " "
Beads, 3 strings,----------1 " 2
Salt---as you can----------

A deer skin sold for 25 cents, a reccoon skin, for 12½ cents each, Otter skins for $3.00 each, cow hides for $1.00 each, tiger skins for 75 cents each, corn for 75 cents per bushel, a cow and a calf for $10.00 each, cow for $8.00 each, yearling for $4.00 aged deer for $10.00 three year old deer for $8.00.

He was bullied and browbeat and taught to use intoxicants. This often resulted in trouble but the news of such transaction rarely ever reached the ears of the governing authorities. The colonist felt that the Indian was not making the most of his lands so insisted on the law of the survival of the fittest, while on the other hand, the Indian felt that the new-comers would, after a few years of occupancy, pass on and leave the tract again to the natives. It was to be a struggle of civilization against savagery. No sentimental notions could prevent it. At the end the savage, the Choctaw, went the way of all weak nations and left the lands to the stronger. As the white man came and taught them the arts of civilization, they soon adapted and adopted their ideas of dress, cultivation of crops, domestication of animals, better cooking,

1. Peter A. Brannon, The Southern Indian Trade, page 45ff.

homes, all of which they soon learned to make. Basketry became quite an art and, today, the C hoctaws in the west are adepts at such work. The Indian soon learned to manufacture blankets, earthenware utensile such as bowls, bottles, many of which are to be found in their mounds today. Before the advent of the white man, however, he had not made any improvement along technical lines during his entire existance. He continued to use the same crude implements we found among them and for the same reasons.

The Choctaws were not as noted as the Chickasaws as cattle growers but were better farmers and grew much more and varied products on their small holdings. Perhaps the most noted trader among the Choctaws were John Pitchlynn, and Gideon Lincecum. Dr. Lincecum was greatly liked by all the Indians because he made liberal trades with them and treated them generously on every occasion, buying everything they brought to his store, even to hickory nuts, grapes, and herbs for medicine. Pitchlyn was a notorious drinker and was very abusive when drunk. He had grown very wealthy and had married an Indian woman and reared a large family. Other traders were Malcomn McGee, James Colbert, James Boyd, John Buckles, Grabrel Lincecum and others. These men had connections with houses in some of the eastern cities and disposed of all raw materials at a great profit. They also supplied their stock from such places with sugar, whiskey, blankdts, guns, etc. Many of these old Indian relics may be found in the homes of citizens of the county today-left by the Indians on departing, many times under pressure, for the west.

Mounds One of the most reverenced places left by the Indians, was his old burial mounds. Many theories have been advanced for these mounds

but it is well to let "Requiescat in Pace" be their final epitaph. It shall be our purpose here to locate a few of the more prominent ones found in this county today as a matter of interest for each represented, beyond question, an Indian community, at one time or another. Most of these settlements were made on the banks of creeks, hence the land on either side was usually low and easily inundated when an excess of rain fell in that section. It was necessary therefore, to build large mounds near by to retreat to on such occasions. In some cases a natural hill or promontory from and adjacent highland was sufficiently near to furnish a refuge. It has now been over a hundred years since the Indian left these sacred places in the hands of the white invader who was entirely uninitiated and ignorant of their purpose. In some cases the ground has eroded so that the mound is almost on a level with the surrounding earth. Cotton and other crops have been planted over the tops of others. A house has been built on the top of one of the burial mounds, and no one knows anything of its history. Skeletons have been found just as left by the early inhabitanys of this county long before we knew of them. This is on the old Hogan property, northeast of Adaton about one mile. This is perhaps the largest place on which skeletons have been found. Some claim this elevation to be a natural hill as it is about 200 yards in diameter and 40 feet high. It is about one mile off the road.

There is another place located near Adaton located in front of the house where General Wiley N. Nash was born, on the old U. S. Highway 82. This too, resembles an old Indian mound, but there is absolutely no proof of it. It is now about 20 feet high and 30 yards in diameter. In years gone by it was evidently much higher. It is now very much eroded. About

three miles south-east of Sturgis on the Hutchinson plantation, stands one of the largest mounds built by the Indians. The diameter of this mound is 40 yards in one diameter and 50 yards in the other. The owner of this plantation states that this mound was originally much larger. Few people have ever seen this mound as it is located down in the valley of Sand Creek a mile or more from the highway. It is some fifty yards distance from the stream and makes an odd picture rising up suddenly from this flat valley area. Another mound similar to the one located on the Hutchinson plantation if found on the McGee place, now owned by a Negro. The mound is on the west side of Hollis creek about one mile north of the fork and a mile southwest of the John White residence. This locates the mound about eight miles south of Starkville. Like the mound found on the Hutchinson plantation this mound rises directly from a low creek valley. It is called by the citizens of the community, "The Indian Knoll." It is now about 15 feet high but due to weathering and erosion, it is much lower than in the early days of the county. It is somewhat oblong at its base, being 30 yards in diameter in one direction and slightly more in the other. Skeletons have been found here and even today an occasional piece of broken pottery may be found across its top or around the base.

In the western section of the city of Starkville, on what is known as the J. C. Hines place is located a small mound now in the yard of Hon. Buzz Walker, Jr. This mound is about five feet high and 20 yards in diameter. It was undoubtedly much larger than it is today and represrnts the the lication of a large community of Indians at one time. Large trees grow mear the base.

There is a large mound on the old Sand Creek place about six miles

southeast of Starkville, There is another large mound on the Askew farm about two miles east of Sessums on the south side of the Catalpa creek. There are two others, one north of Starkville, the other west of Starkville, from two to five miles, on the Aiken farm. These are now on the Mose Seal farm and the Dick Lewis farm. There is one located on the Curry farm and one, a half mile out of the Alva Lewis plantation. There are two other mounds found in this county of great interest. These are licated on the north side of Harmon Lake and the other on the north side of Line Creek. Mrs. W. C. Love has written, "This mound is now about eight feet high and excavation have been made to the depth of fifteen feet from the top. There were found several floor levels. Each floor had been made of baked lime and numerous fires had been burned on each level, showing that this was a ceremonial mound. Burned corn, if a fair state of preservation, was found near several skeletons. At the base of the mound were found several skeletons barely covered with dirt and lime. It is thought that they were warriors who were left just as they fell and had been covered by the dirt and lime as it washed down the side of the mound. "The pottery found around in these shallow graves is unique. Some of which had a design similar to the modern hob-nail glass found for sale, while other pieces were painted red and white, while still others have scenes painted on them. An immense pipe which would take both hands to hold in position, was found in the vacinity of the mound some forty years ago. Near by, directly on the creek bank, was found a human skull and bones. The later two mounds are now in Clay county but were, at one time a part of the history of this county.

No account of these denizens of the woods, would be complete without a study of some of the outstanding personages-Indian and white, immediately conceled with their last years in this county.

David F olson. (1) The subject of this sketch was born January 25, 1791, and died in the territory on September 24, 1847 about twelve years after leaving his ancestral home here in Mississippi. He was a half-breed, but a gentleman. While he was given a large estate by the government, who was driving his people away to an unknown county, he sold it and went with them, and shared in their suffering. He was their first elective chief. He was just 56 years and eight months old, and it is needless to say that he died of a "broken heart". Dr. Byington placed these words on his marble slab ~~xx~~ that fittingly expressed the true character of the man. "He being dead yet speaketh." The great American nation has been very careless of commemoration the lives of the great Choctaw characters who stood valiantly with her in the days of dire need. Pushmataha, and Col. David Folsom are among this number. As to an education, we connot place him with such men as Gladstone, Washington, or even Greenwood LeFlore, but in character and honor, he ranked with the highest.

When a boy of sixteen years of age, David Folsom started off on a journey of at least 250 miles from home to attend school on the Elks River, Tennessee. He was there only six months. This together with one month in an Arithmetic school made up his entire scholastic training. Yet he was an educated man, able to cope in intellect with statesmen. In 1820 he was one of the Indian Chiefs to sign the treaty of Doak's Stand with Andrew Jackson and General Thomas Hinds. Shortly after the conversion of

Tuna pin a chuffa, he wrote a letter to his nephew, Col. Folsom, telling of his wonderful experience as a Christian. About 1828, David Folsom, himself, was converted and we find him ever after giving his entire time to the cause of his people. In order to accomplish the most for them, he moved his home from Pigeon Roost on the Natchez Trace to a place on the Robonson Road. Here he would be near the Choctaw Agency, where the U. S. Government carried on all its dealings with his people. He was elevated to the chieftancy at the time his services were most needed. His people were just coming into the light of Civilization of the white race. Christianity was amaking inroads on superstitious and idolatrous rites of a people fully awake to its needs. New governments and new morals came as a result and lastly the exchange of their homes and country for another in the remote west. All brought about many confliction imotions--gloom, sadness, anger, yet among this all stood thos prominent hero . Prudent, wise, and wholesome in connsel he was oil upon the trouble waters which conspired to make him above all others, the chief influence for good. He had been the chief counsel to Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury in locating the mission at Mayhew, at Emmaus, at his home. He had advised with John Pitchlyn, the Government interpreter, in how best to approach his people in matters of business; he had advised with the government officials at Doak Stand, and Chacing Rabbit. He it was, that now came to his people in their days of disillusionment, when they recognized they had been duped, defrauded, and coerced from their last foot of soul, and attempted to allay their fears, for he said, "Behold, I will be with you and if suffering comes, I shall suffer with you in our new homes." He did this of his own volition,

for he had been given large tracts of land, four sections, in his own home-state, and he could have remained as did Greenwood LeFlore, but he sold it all and went with his people.

But the greatness of the character of this statesman shown out to the best advantage in his own home. Here his virtues were displayed in all their unvarnished beauty. This was his chosen field of action; here he delighted to entertain all those who came within its portals. Rich or poor, high or low, friends, who were privileged with his intimate acquaintance--all were welcome to the warmth of his sincere affections, his true geniality, and Choctaw hospitality. If his grust was in trouble, he received the Chief's sincere sympathy as prompt and tender as though a child if his unselfish spirit. His generosity of nature was conspicious, not only in the ordinary sense of the tern, but in its fullest and broadest sence, to everyone alike.

The following letter to Dr. Cyrus Byington, indicated his broad humanitarian sympathy:

"My Dear Friend, Rev. C. Byington:-

"I am informed you have gone to Columbus, and I do not know it is best you were there with the lame hand you had. I did not like the look of your hand the o the other day. I think it would be well for you to be very careful hereafter and end-eavor to get your hand well. As to your appoint at Aiijuna, you need not feel any disappointment. I shall try to go agreeable to promise, it was made to the people. If I should be permitted

to go by the Almighty hand. I shall try to go see the people.--if I only just go there and shake hands and see the people. Mr. Williams will be there, and he can p preach to the people if it be necessary to do so. I trust if I am not deceived, the Lord had done great things for my soul. Pray for me, brother.

"I am, dear sir, your friend,

D. Folsom."

His people honored him be electing him by ballot in their new home. The first to be thus honored. He was one of the characters that naturally come to the front in all matters, possessing, as he did, many of the chararacteristics of a leader of men. That he served his people under the most trying circumstances, for thirty year, attests his superior qualities of statesmanship. These years of rule ruling among his people had given a touch of kindliness to his general appearance and his tone and manners had somthing of that look and demeanor which is seen in renowned statesmen and famous warriors. Continually filling offices of greater of less importance in his county, still he ever carried the traits of honesty, faithfulness, zeal, and energy into every position. If posterity shall do justice to his memory, history will accord to David Folsome high rank as a just and honest ruler, a noble patriot, an exemplary Christian. Thus reads his epitaph:2."To the memory of Col. David Folsom, the first Republican Chief of the Chahtah Nation, the promoter of industry, education religion, and morality; was born January 25th, 1791, and departed this life, September 24th, 1847, aged 56 years and eight months. "He being dead yet speaketh!"

1. H. B. Cushman, History of the Chootaw, Chickasaw, and Natches, Insians.
2. Ibid.--Page 349.

Cyrus Byington. One of the most outstanding missionaries to the Choctaw Indians was that of Dr. Cyrus Byington. The Indians called him "Lapish O-la-han-chih, The Sounding Horn", due to his wouderful oratory. He was a great teacher and soon after organizing the work at Mayhew he was assigned to a new field on the Robinson Road called by the Indians "Yakni-O-Kihiyi" which means "Living Land" where he joined David Folsom in in furnishing the elements of an education to the young Indians in that section, thus bringing the school as near as possible to the homes of the students. Here he devoted his entire time to his wards until they were forced to leave their homes for new lands west of the Mississippi river. Evin then he did not desert them in their days of sorrow, but like Cyrus Kingsbury followed them to their new homes and continued his work among them until his death. Walter Hough, in the Dictionary of American Biography furnishes the following biography: (1). Byington, Cyrus, March 11, 1793-Dec. 31, 1868, missionary to the Choctaw Indians, one of nine children of Capt. Asahel and Lucy (Beck) Byington, was born at Stockbridge, Mass. His father was a tanner and farmer, industrious and respected, but the family being in humble corcumstances, the future missionare to the Choctaws necessarily received a limited early education. Grown to be a sturde lad, his career began when Joseph Woodgridge received him into his family and taught him Latin and Greek, a most important aid in his life-work. Apparintly law was prescribed by Mr. Woodbridge as a profession for his protege, and in fact Byington became a lawyer and practised for a few years in his native town and at Sheffield, Mass. The profession of law seemingly would have satisfied him but for the fact that he became, as he

said, "a subject of divine grace," and was tuened toward the ministry. Entering the Andover Theological Seminary he graduated in 1819, receiving ordination as a minister of the gospel, and was licened to preach. Intent upon missionary work and hoping to go to the Armenian to Turkey, he bided his time till an opportunity should offer. Meanwhile he continued to preach in various churches in Massachusetts. At this time (1820) recruits to the number of twenty or twenty-five persons set out for Hampshire County, Mass., under the direction of the American Board, for the Choctaw Indian nation then in Mississippi. With them went Byington, who was placed in charge of the party. They procedded by land to Pittsburgh, by flatboat down the Ohio and Mississippi to the mouth of the Yalobusha River, and by another land journey of 200 miles to their destination. Byington soon began the preperation of a Choctaw grammer and dictionary. Without the help of modern Philological science, he had to take up the subject de novo. Assiduously he labored at the grammar and at the time of his death, nearly fifty years later, was making the seventh revision. The dictionary, representing a work of mignitude which he never concluded to his satisfaction was of good use to him in translating into Choctaw several books of both the Old and New Testament, and in preparing Choctaw almanacs and a Choctaw definer. His grammar was published posthumously, idited by Daniel G. Brinton, in proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, 1871, XII, 217-67, and his dictionary, edited by F. R. Swanton and H. S. Halbert, in Bulletin 46, Bereau of American Ethonology (1915). Byington's work is highly regarded by philologists. His portraits shows

an alert and enthusiastic face, with clear, piercing eyes and tender mouth. Garbed in a long black coat with broad lapels, a soft collar, and flowing tie, th typified the clergyman of more than a hundred years ago.

Calvin Cushman. ~~Calvin Cushman~~ Of the early life of this great missionary, social leader and statesmen,we know little. In 1820 he was sent as a missionary by the Presbyterian Board of Missions of Boston, Mass., to serve with Cyrus Kingsbury in the New Mission just being organized among the Choctaw Indians at a place called Mayhew in honor of one of the founders of the Mission. These missionaries came through Philadelphia and were joined by others including Dr. Cyrus Byington. They then made their way to Pittsboro and took a flatboat on the Tennessee River for the nearest point to their destination. Calvin Cushman and his wife landed somewhere about Muscle Shoales and took a wagon which they had brought along with them and safely arrived at Mayhew after being about three weeks upon the road after landing. He arived early in 1821 and began at once on his new wor. So excellent were his services both as a minister, teacher and administrator, that he was prevailed upon in 1823 to establish a sub-mission at a place which he called Hebron. The location is in sec. 29., T. 19., R. 14., and is about three miles N., E., of the present site of Starkville, Here he erected a residence, Church and mission school and no doubt cleared some fields on the lands donated to the mission by the Indians. This mission school was located in the old Chocchuma fort. Wm. Cushman a brother of the missionary, came into this section about this time and he, Dr. Araunah Bardwell, and Calvin Cushman bought several tracts of land from the Indians paying them one dollar to two dollars per acre.

Walter Hough, Dictionary of American Biography,

When the treaty of Dancing Rabbit was fourced upon the Indians, hundreds of them gathered around this old mission and camped around the home of this great teacher for several days before taking their final journey to the west.

Calvin Cushman remained in the newly organized county and bought the old mission site from Bobt. Folsom a brother of David Folsom and made this his home and in every way possible saw that the Government's Contract with the Indians were carried out.

He was elected one of the first Justices of the Peace of the central district of Oktibbeha county and 1836 succeeded Elijah Hogan as president of the Board of Police of the county. Early in 1840 he removed his membership from the Mayhew Presbyterian Mission Church to the newly organized church at Starkville. Early in 1837, the central district, in a special election was called the Cushman beat or district. During this time Calvin Cushman served as Justice of the Peace and president of the Board of Police. It is interesting to note that during his term he required officials of the county to take as oath of office, the first in the history of the county. As Justice of the Peace he would give the oath of office, and than as president of the Board of Police, he appreved the oath. He reared a family here, two of them being twins. These were Alonzo who died at the age of 33 years, and the Haratio B. Cushman who erected a school in the western section of the county where he taught for a few years, later moving to the county seate where he identified himself with the early surroundings of this place, he later moved to Texas where he lived to a ripe old age. A daughter of Calvin Cushman married Wm. Ward who built a

brick house where the C. R. Stark residence is now located. He died early in 1840 and was burried in the old cemetary of the First Presbyterian Church which is located on Lousiville Street.

The man who organized and administered the mission work among the Choctaws was Dr. Cyrus Kingsbury. He had already been in service among the Chirokees in Georgia and had organized a mission at Brainerd in 1817. At this time through the influence of David Folsom and John Pitchly, it was decided to organize a mission among the Choctaws. No other person had shown qualification to accomplishsuch a task, hince in 1818 The Board of Missions decided to send Kingsbury among these people. Late that year he drove through the tractless forest, a distance of 400 miles on a wagon to the banks of the Yalobusha river and organized the first mission which he called Eliott. In 1820. With the aid of Folsom and Pitchlyn he organized a mission at Mayhew which was followed by the organization of several other missions among these people, two of which were located in this county. Dr. Kingsbury then moved to Mayhew in order that he might better supervise the work. Here in 1822 his wife died leaving two small children, Cyrus Jr. and John. The school at Mayhew grew very rapidly and in a short while 70 students were enrolled. There were four families and two single persons as instructers together with several hired laborers which included one or two farmers, a mechanic, blacksmith, and housekeepers. The white families had separate homes but all eight had a common table on which was served well prepared beef, pork, cornbread, milk, and butter. They served very little coffee. The furniture of the homes, both in the dormitory and in the teachers home was of the plainest type. The food was served from pewter dishes and all drank

from ten cups. The clothing was woven and made into garments by students of the school and all both white and Indian dressed alike. Cleanliness of home and grounds was strictly observed.

After the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Dr. Kingsbury and Byington left with their wards for the territory, here they remained at Pine Ridge Mission until it was closed in 1859. He remained here as a citizen until 1870. At his death he was burried at Boggy Depot.

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or turkey killed by him and bring it in to dress and cook for the family; she was expected to do all cultivation of the farm and garden and gather the crops.

The Choctaw never liked to give his name, and it was impossible to get it unless someone was near to give it for him.

Indians made baskets, tanned hides for clothing, and in later years raised cotton, flax, or hemp, and wove the cloth for garments, covers, for the head, and covering for beds.

On the coming of the missionaries they were taught many household arts, such as cooking, sewing, blacksmithing, carpentering and shoe-making. Their religious training was greatly improved. They became more thrifty, industrious and frugal--even the men were seen plowing the small Indian ponies in cultivating crops. They were great imitators of the white race an' soon adopted many of their customs. In later years large quantities of cotton clothes were made by Choctaw mothers and daughters, while the fathers and sons raised the corn, sweet potatoes, peas, beans and various kinds of vegetables.

Soon the common Indian paths were opened into roads, for the civilization that was to overwhelm them in its greed for more lands.

One of the outstanding traits of the Choctaw was his unfeigned hospitality. When one entered the home of an Indian, he was extended the hand of welcome and then invited to be seated, after which a profound silence was observed to determine the purpose of the visit. If the Indian met a person with a gentle pressure and forward inclination of the head, say in a mild gentle tone, "I am glad to see you."

The Choctaws were, first of all, warriors and hunters. The young warrior was a specimen of perfect manhood. His body was entirely free from hair, except the top of his head. Cushman said, "He seemed to be as perfect as the human form could be." He was tall, lithe, erect, graceful, active, with lofty independence; he appeared to be the monarch of all he surveyed. His black, piercing eye, seemed to penetrate and read the very thoughts of the heart. Nor did the women fall behind in all that pe rtained to feminine beaut y." Cushman said, "I have seen as beautiful young women among the Choctaws as could be found among any nation-civilized or not. They were truly nymphs of the woods. THEy were of such unmntural beauty that they appeared to light up everything around them. Their black tresses hung in flowing waves, extending nearly to the ground. The beauty of their countenance was considered as a type of beauty hitherto unknown. Their knowledge of amenities was surprising for one brought up in the solitude of the forest."

Whether they assembled for social converstaion or debate one spoke at a time, and under no circumstances was the speaker interrupted.

Liberty, fraternity and equality were always candinal principals among the Choctaws. No one regarded himself better then his fellow. The entire tribe was held responsible for the acts of any of its members, according to the nature of the offence. Fraud, misrepresentation or pooression were rare among these people. They had their domestic government, and the head of the family wasresponsible for all infractions of tribal rules.

The family name descended through the mother rather then the father.

The tribal (or national government) was vested in the Chief's family. Their criminal code was simple--a life for a life, irrespective of the cause, accident, self-defense, or in the defense of their name. For a minor offense, punishment was inflicted according to its seriousness. The whipping-post was

common, but fines may have been imposed for certain offenses.

THe Choctaw councils and great national assemplies were conducted with the utmost order and decorum. These were generally conducted at night around the Council Fire. The aged and learned occupied the inner circle, and the sildiers and younger men and women in the outer circles, according to rank and heroism. Their c iefs held a place of leadership and their strongest men held dimilar positions. The chieftanship was not inherited, but always went to the strongest and bravest. Such men as Greenwood LeFlore, Pushmataha, Folsom and others represent the type of man who held such positions.

Nittakeshi was the principal chief of Oktibbeha Count y.

THe Choctaws were not as neat in their homes as the Chickasaws, but under the direction of the missionaries, they surpassed all expectation. Each Indian community was self-supporting. Trade, transportation and commerce were scarcely known until the white man came with his trinkets, which were traded for skins, tobacco, and food, Among the Indians there were no professions, unless the medicine man and the chief may be called such.

To maintain relations with the Choctaws, the Government established an agency on the Robinson road, near where it crossed the Noxubee River, and put an agent in charge of it to keep in touch with the Indians. This building had a brick basement which was used as a prison. It was supplied with stocks. Often the Indians brought escaped negro slaves to this agency and left them there to be returned to their owners.

LANGUAGE

Before the missionary came the Choctaws had no alphabet nor written language, hence their knowledge had to be passed from generation to generation by the living word. One old Indian related to Byington, the missionary, who lived among them for years, that his father had told him of the flood and it

had come down from generations. They attempted to convey thoughts to the eye by means of pictures of animals and other crude imitations. Each had a symbol of the tribe and in various figures, sketched here and there, he read messages from his friends. The crudest painting, though silent and unintelligible to the white men, told its tale to the Choctaws. They reckoned time by the moon or the seasons of the year. The flight of the migratory fowls of the air announced to them the progress of the advancing and departing seasons.

If a shorter time than a day was required to be indicated, two parallel lines were drawn on the ground and they waited for the sun to move from one to the other. To keep appointments a bundly of sticks, containing the exact number of sticks as there were days to the appointed time, was kept; every morning onestick was taken out and thrown away; the last stick announced the arrival of the appointed day. This bundle of twigs was called Fuli kauah, broken sticks.

BALL GAMES

When the warriors of the village wearied of the monotony of everyday life and desired a change, they sent a challenge to those of another village of their own tribe, to engage in ball play. The challenge was nearly always accepted. Upon the ground, 200 to 300 yards apart, they set, close together two posts, about six inches in diameter and 15 feet high. These were the goal posts.

During the intervening time between the challenge and the day of the ball-play, great preparations were made by both sides. The night preceeding the day of the game was spent in painting and decorating themselves with as

great care as if preparing for the war path. Tidings of the approaching play spread from village to village, and for several days preceeding the play, hundreds of Indians, old and young, of borh sexes, could be seen coming to the place of the game with their ponies loaded with every kind of article of value to an Indian, to stake upon the players.

SUPERSTITIONS, RELIGION

The rite of the medicine man was a religious ceremony for propitiation of invisible spirits. There were two kinds of medical-religious ceremonies among the Choctaws, the tribal and the individual. Each had its place in their worship.

The tribal medicine bag was regarded as the protector of the tribe, the visible embodiment of the promise of the Good Spirit tp provide for the tribe all the necessities of live, to protect them from all enemies. The individual medicime bag was to the individual what the tribal one was to the tribe--assurance in danger, safety in battle, and success amid all the vicissitudes of earthly life. Should the contents of personal medicine bags become known, they ceased to be of power, and should one be captured, the tribe fought in desperation to recover it from the enemy.

It was the ambition of every Choctaw to be able to concentrate his mind upon the spirit land, which is inhabited by two spirits, in an invisible world above; the Good Spirit, who always sought the best interest of the Indians, and the bad, who attempted to destroy his soul and upset his plans. This bad spirit the Choctaw sought to propitiate in every conceivable manner. He never bothered much about the good spirits, as they always had his good at heart anyway.

It was not unusual to find these people sitting in a reverie, reflecting on the will of the good spirit.

Mr. Blyington tells of an experience of an old Choctaw who was interested in thestory of the cross, but said: "Your talk is, no doubt, true and good, but it is strange and dark to me; the great spirits tell me that it will lead me to the happy hunting grounds of the Indian, and that is sufficient for me." The Choctaws believed that all nature was but a manifestation of the Great Spirit--the thunder, reverberating from hill to hill, the wind as it roared in its devastation of forests, the flash of lightning, the raging cataract, or the murmuring of the brook--all spoke a powerful language. Due to this belief, which was so close to that of the Christian, it was not difficult for the Indian to make the transfer to Christianit y. They were overjoyed at the teachings of the missionaries, and readily accepted their faith in a merciful GOd and merciful restitution for sins.

The Choctaws and other missionaries induced Calvin Cushman to establish a mission at Hebron, about two or three miles northwest of Starkville, which they called Chocchuma Fort, as it was one of the last stands made by these Indians in their extermination by the Choctaws. The Choctaws believed it to be haunted and thought that the religion of the white man would drive the haunts off, but through the self-sacrificing lives of these holy workers, the Indians learned the truths of life and death.

Through the work of the missionaries, the Folsom, at Mayhew, thousands of these men and women, and especially their children, became followers of the Christian religion.

BURIAL

Their burial took place after the body had been placed on a high platform, where the flesh decayed and was later picked from the bones. The flesh was burned; the bones were carried to the bone house, where they remained until the house was filled, then a general burial took place, to which people came from far and near.

With loud lamentations they bore the baskets of bones to their last of rest and there deposited them. They were then covered with earth, forming a conical mound. As often as the bone-houses were filled, the baskets of bones were carried out and deposited on the previously made heap, each deposit being covered with three or four feet of earth, and thus through a long series of ages, became broad, high mounds.

MARRIAGE CUSTOMS

The marriage ceremony was simple and lasted but a short while. The bride was let out of a room to run to a small pole. The groom was then let out. If he caught the girl he desired to marry,she was his, and the ceremony was completed with gifts, a feast and dancing.

He then built a little log hut, and was set up for house-keeping with a pot and wooden bowl. A blanket of skins, well-tanned, served for bed cover. THe groom might live with her his entire life, or quit her, as he desired.

As soon as the white man made his appearance, the Indian made laws governing marriage of Indian women with white men, who must have a certificate of good moral character, be divorced from his former wife, if married, pay twenty-five dollars, and must be adipted by the CHOctaw nation.

INDIAN MOUNDS

There have been many theories of the origin of the Indian mounds, found in all parts of America. Cushman's History explains the various uses mounds were put up by the Indians in this section. We find them often on natural elevations. These were, no duubt, used for signal fires, or smokes. He has seen them build the fires on such pla es and sig al for miles to other Indians, who were able to read their import.

Mounds were used for the homes of chiefs, council houses, temples, etc. It is evident, in some cases, that they were used for fortifications in the case of an unequal contest. Cushman specifies the forts at Hebron, "Shachich Hummat and Lyon's Bluff as fortifications of the Chocchuma Indians, in ages past.

We havewhat is called Indian Breast Work in the vicinity of the old Sudduth home, in the Bell School community, where numerous skeletons were found in the flatwoods, no dougt, were used as a means of protection, as well as to entrap game in pitfalls covered with brush.

The "forts" showed a high grade of military skill; but Cushman believes the main use made of mounds in this section, by the Choctaws, were for burial. They would carry earth up to the top and cover bones of the dead to the depth of three or four feet. This was done for years, until the mound became so high as to be impracticable for further burials, then a new one was begun. Trees would grow on these, as no one was permitted to mosest them for any reason.

Most Indian settlements were made on the banks of creeks. As the land on either side of creeks is usually low, it was necessary for the Indians

to build a large mound near by, for refuge when excess rain caused the waters of the creeks to overflow. Sometimes it was not necessary to build a mound, however, as in some cases a natural hill was close by.

It has been over a hundred years since the Indians lived in this county, and few people know anything about these mounds. In some cases the mound soil has eroded so that it is almost on a level with the surrounding earth. Cotton and other crops have been planted over the tops of others.

A house has been built on the top of one of the burial hills and skeletons have been found near the surface on top of the mound. This mound is located on the old Frank Hogan property, northeast of Adaton.

About three miles southeast of Sturgis, on the Hutchinson place, stands the largest of the mounds, built by the Indians. The diameter of the mound is 40 yards one way and 50 yards the other. The present owner said that this mound, like most others, was originally much larger. John H. Hutchinson inherited this property from his father, A. J. Hutchinson, who came here on Dec. 22, 1862, from Alabama. Few people have ever seen this mound, as it is located down in the bottoms, a mile or more off the road. The road leading up to the front part of the Hutchinson place is known as the Betheden Road. The mound is about 50 yards from Sand Creek, slightly to the northeast. All around the mound cotton is planted. This rich bottom land produces fine crops. The mound creates an odd picture, as it rises up suddenly in this flat, low area.

A mound, very similar to the one located on the Hutchinson place, is found on the old McGee place. This property is now owned by a negro. The mound is on the west side of Hollis Creek, about a mile north of where the creek

forks. Like the mound on the Hutchinson place, this one rises up suddenly on flat, creek-bottom land.

This Indian Knoll, as it is called by the families in the neighborhood, is now about 15 feet high and about 30 yards in diameter at the longest point, and a little longer than it is wide. Skeletons have been found buried here, and even today an occasional piece of broken pottery may be found here and there near the top surface.

On the west side of the city of Starkville, on the J. C. Hines place, Buzz Walker, Jr., has built a beautiful home. One of the attractions of this place is a shady mound on the west lawn, 5 feet high and about 20 yards in diameter. It was, originally, much larger than now. Not long ago it was cut down, when a gold-fish pool was built near the center of the top. Paths wind over and across the mound in an unique way; large trees grow near the base, and buckeye bushes are scattered about the sides. Dr. Walker, grandson of Mr. Hines, and father of Buzz Walker, Jr., remembers playing on this mound when he was a little boy.

There is a mound on the old Sand Creek place, about six miles southeast of Starkville; one on the Askew farm, about two miles east of Sessums, on the south side of Catalpa Creek; and others north and west of Starkville, from two to five miles; on the Aiken farm, the Moss Seal or Dick Lewis place; the Curry farm, and one about a half-mile south of the Alvia Lewis place.

There are two mounds of importance in the same part of the county. One of these is on the north side of Lake Harmon, and the other on the north side of Line Creek. The latter has an especially interesting history. Mrs. W . C. Love has written:

"This mound is now about eight feet high and the excavations extend about fifteen feet from the top. There were found several floor levels. There were numerous fire places on each level, showing distinctly, according to the archeologist, that this was a ceremonial mound. Burned corn, in a fair state of preservation, was found near several skeletons. At the base of the mound many skeletons were found, barely covered with dirt and lime. They were, probably, the warriors who were left just as they fell, and nature covered them as time passed.

"The pottery found around in these shallow graves is unique. Some of it had a design similar to the present hob-nail glass-ware. Other pieces were painted red and white, while still others have scenes on them. An immense pipe, which would take both hands to hold in position, was found near this mound about forty years ago. Near by, directly on the creek bank, was found a human skull and bones."

MISSION SCHOOLS

Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury entered the Choctaw territory in 1818 and organized the first mission among these people.

About 1823, Calvin Cushman established another mission and school at a place about two or three miles west of Starkville. It was later known as Hebron. He ranked as one of the great teachers, and spent his entire life aiding the Indians. This was the beginning of the educational system of the county. They were very eager to learn and sought such aid as could be given by the white man.

On the advice of Pitchlyn, who had become a Choctaw by adoption, they applied for instruction and immediately began to set sums aside, from their own annuities and cattle sales, for such work.

The American Board of Missions began establishing schools among them and in 1819; one was organized at Elliott. Later, in 1820, one was established at Mayhew, by Cyrus Kingsbury, David Folsom, and John Pitchlyn, an interpreter for the government. Soon the news spread throughout the nation and applications poured in for similar stations and schools. To prove the sincerety of their applications, appropriations were made in various parts of the nation for churches and schools.

The Choctaw nation was then divided into three districts- upper towns, lower towns, and six towns. Each of these districts soon had flourishing stations where their children were given the best training. A school system was

established, through which the young Choctaws received a good education. Many of the useful arts were introduced, such as sewing, agriculture, etc.

The mission organized at Hebron by Cushman, and the one at the Agency by Byington, enabled the students to stay as near home as possible. All these schools were in this county, but on the removal of the Indians in 1832, all evidence of them has been obliterated.

At Mayhew there is an old cemetery but no vestige of a building; at Hebron are signs of an old spring or two, now dried up, and a few bones may still be dug up in the old Indian grave yard. All else is gone.

Hebron was, at one time, the site of government and the first trial ever held in the county was held here under the shade of a large oak tree, in 1834. Judge Trotter and District Atty. Reuben Davis held the court.

The court of the Agency was first conducted in the home of David Folsom during the years 1827, '28, '29. Byington constructed a school and mission about two and one-half miles to the east of this home. The location of this school is in doubt; it was to the north, and behind the Allison Randle home, It is known as Mission Field today.

Dyrus Byington made an alphabet of the language, a grammar, and translated the literature of the schools into their tongue. He was not only a teacher but a minister of the gospel.

PROMINENT INDIANS

The most prominent Indian men include David Folsom, who was owner and proprieter of Folsom's Inn, on Robinson Road. (This inn was very outstanding in its day, and many people spent the night there in their travels). Humming Bird was another important chief. This noted Choctaw Chief was buried on the Robinson Road, at Choctaw Agency, with military honors in 1928. Pushmataha, Danial Nail, and Nittakeshi were prominent chiefs in Choctaw history of the county.

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OLD HOMES

Folsom Home

(1)The home of David Folsom stands on the top of a rather high knoll to the north of the Robinson Road, about two miles east of the old Choctaw Agency and some thirty yards off the highway. It is a large one and one-half story building, with a hall-way running north and south, separating both the lower and the upper rooms. Two shed rooms made of heavy boards are located on the north side of the building, which were possibly used as bed-rooms. A piazza is located on the front side to the south, which was the main entrance. In the back hall to the left side, is a stairway of twelve steps leading up to the upper half-story. A closet was under the stair-case, but the door is now removed. There was a stairway entrance to the upper roo,s in the main west room of the house as well.

In the upper hallway to the north side, there were eight holes where pins had been driven to support saddles, bags, and other packs of the traveling public of thos days. There were fireplaces in both lower and upper rooms. All windows were small, and were closed at one time with shutters.

The dining room and kitchen stood about twenty feet to the north rear of the building, both appear to have been about 18x20 feet. These are gone. There was a cellar beneath the west room, but it is caved in until it is very shallow today, The barns were located

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(1)--A personal visit.
Cushman's History of the Choctaw, Chicasaw, and Natchez Indians.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor.

Folsom Home

about twenty yards to the north of the residence and the slave quarters appear to be about the same distance to the west.

The old cistern, nearly 100 feet deep, is located about ten yards to the west, convenient to the kitchen and also to the front porch, near a large cedar tree. One or two other trees stand in the front of the building, an old cedar and one or two gnarled old white mulberry trees, giant sentries of a distant past. The ground slopes equally in all directions, facilitation rapid erosion both by rain and wind. Four feet of the surface has already been carried away in the 110 years of the history of Folsom Inn.

A small graveyard is located some few yards to the north of the home--just a family grave or two of the old Shaw family, who lived there in the distant '40s.

This home--the oldest in Oktibbeha County--constructed in 1825 by its owner, who had moved into the community from the Pigeon Roost to be nearer the activities of his people and to aid them in their development along economic and educational as well as religious lines. He was a half-breed of the Choctaw tribe. It is now simply an "old log house" to any passer-by. Here has been enacted some of the greatest dramas of the county in its frontier days. Old Folsom has heard the whoop of the angry Indian, when he had discovered he had been made the dupe of the wily white man; here too, the mad revelers of the Murrell clan made the night hideous with their wild flights after carraling the best horses of the community into the confines of another state to

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Ibid.

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Folsom Home

sell to some innocent purchaser. The wells or cisterns of this section, even the deep well at the old home, may have been made to resound with the cry of some lonely traveler, as he was caught by this same gang of cut-throats and robbed of his money belt, then thrown headlong to the bottom for quick disposal.

The old building is now just an old barn, and belongs to the Allison Randle estate,

One may not visit this old landmark, known as Folsom Inn, of early history of this county without feeling a spirit of awe. Here some of the county's greatest statesmen came to talk over matters of vital importance to the entire citizenship of the community--Indian and white. It is certain that Jefferson Davis was a guest at this Inn when he spoke at the Agency; no doubt Greenwood LeFlore, Pushmataha, and other notables, both Indian and white have entered its doors, now old and dilapidated. The old building is now in the last stages of decay. The home of one of the greatest Indian statesmen, educators, and Christian gentlemen is now forgotten by even the citizenship of of the community of which it is a part.

Pioneer Citizens

(1) The subject of this sketch was born January 25, 1791, and died in the territory on September 24, 1847 about twelve years after leaving his ancestral home here in Mississippi. He was a half-breed, but a gentleman. While he was given a large estate by the government, who was driving his people away to an unknown country, he sold it and went with them, and shared in their suffering, He was their first

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1- Cushman's History of the Choctaw, Chicasaw, and Natchez Indians.

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elective chief. He was just 56 years and eight months old, and it is needless to say that he died of a"broken heart". Dr. Byington placed these words on his marble slab that fittingly expressed true character of the man. "He being dead yet speaketh". The great American nation has been very careless of commemorating the great Choctaw characters who stood valiantly with her in the days of dire need. Pusmataha, Greenwood LeFlore, and Col. David Folsom are among this number. As to an education we cannot place him with such men as Gladstone, Washington, or even Greenwood LeFlore.

When a boy of sixteen years of age, he started off on a journey at least 250 miles from home to attend school on the Elks River, Tennessee. He was there only six months. This together with one month in an Arithmetic school made up his entire scholastic training. Yet he was an educated man, able to cope in intellect with statesmen. In 1820 he was one of the Indian Chiefs to sign the treaty of Doak's Stand with Andrew Jackson, and General Thomas Hinds. Shortly after the conversion of Tuna Pin a chuffa, he wrote a letter to his nephew, Col. Folsom, telling of his wonderful experience as a Christian. Shortly after, in 1828 Folsom, himself, was converted and we find him ever after giving his entire time to the cause of his people. In order to accomplish the most for them, he even moved his home from Pigeon Roost on the Natchez Trace to a place on the Robinson Road. Here he would be near the Choctaw Agency, where the U. S. Government carried on all its

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Ibid.

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dealings with his people. He was elevated to the chieftaincy at the time his services were most needed. His people were just coming into the light of Civilization of the white race. Christianity was making inroads on superstitutions and idolitrous rites of a people fully awake to its needs. New governments and new morals came as a result and lastly the exchange of their homes and countny for another in the remote west. All brought about many conflicting emotions--gloom, sadness, anger, yet among this all stood this prominent hero, prudent, wise and wholesome in counsel was oil upon the troubled waters and conspired to make him above all others, the chief influence for good. He had been the chief counsel to Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury in locating the mission at Mayhew, at Emmaus, at his own home. He had advised with John Pritchlyn, the Government interpreter, in how best to approach his people in matters of business; he had advised with the government officials at Doak Stand, and Dancing Rabbit. He it was, that now came to his people in their dark days of disillusionment, when they recognized they had been duped, defrauded, and coerced from their last foot of soil, and attempted to allay their fears, for he said, "Behold, I will be with you and if suffering comes, I shall suffer with you in our new homes." He did this of his own volition, for he had been given large tracts of land, four sections in his own home-state, and he could have remained as did Greenwood LeFlore, but he sold it all and went with his people.

Ibid.

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But the greatness of the character of this statesman shown out to the best advantage in his own home. Here his virtues were displayed in all their unvarnished beauty. This was his chosen field of action; here he delighted to entertain all those who came within its portals. Rich or poor, high or low, friends who were priviliged with his intimate acquaintance--all were welcome to the warmth of his sincere affections, his true geniality, and Choctaw hospitality. If his guest was in trouble, he received the Chief's sincere sympathy as prompt and tender as a child's; if he sought advice, it was given with good judgment--wise, prudent, and whole-some. If he needed aid, his philantropy was broad as his unselfish spirit. His generosity of nature was conspicious, not only in the ordinary sense of the term, but in its fullest and broadest sense, to everyone alike.

The following letter indicated his broad humanitarian sympathy:

"My Dear Friend, Rev. C. Byinton:-

"I am informed you have gone to Columbus, and I do not know it is best you were there with the lame hand you had. I did not like the look of your hand the other day. I think it would be well for you to be very careful hereafter and endeavor to get your hand well. As to our appoint at Aiikuna, you need not feel any disappointment. I shall try to go agreeable to promise, it was made to the people. If I should

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Ibid

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be permitted to go by the Almighty hand. I shall try to go see the people--if I only just go there and shake hands and see the people. Mr. Williams will be there, and he can preach to the people if it be necessary to do so. I trust, if I am not deceived the Lord has done great things for my soul. Pray for me, brother,

I am, dear sir, your friend,

D. Folsom."

His people honored him by electing him by ballot in their new home. The first to be thus honored. He was one of the characters that naturally come to the front in all matters, and he possessed many of the characteristics of a leader of men. That he served his people under the most trying circumstances, for thirty years, attests his superior qualities of statesmanship. These years of ruling among his people had given a touch of kindliness to his general appearance, and his tone and manners had something of that look and demeanor which is seen in renowned statesmen and famous warriors. Continually filling offices of greater or less importance in his country, still he ever carried the traits of honesty, faithfulness, zeal, and energy into every position. If posterity shall do justice to his memory, history will accord to David Folsom a high rank as a just and honest ruler, a noble patriot, and an exemplary Christian, for,

"He being dead yet speaketh."

Ibid

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OLD HOMES are still scattered over this section but are rapidly disappearing, as new ones take their places. One of these is the Old Home of Isham Henry . The beautiful, tall cedars still remain, the crepe myrtle, rue, thyme, and other mints, and occassional rose bush and still the old mulberry, gnarled and broken by the hand of time. This old shrubbery and flowering plants and medicinal plants were transported when these good people first came to this section. In some of the old fire places one may yet see the remains of the pot hook, spit for roasting meat, etc. Even the old coach may be resurrected out in some old shed. State College has just received one from this community. It is held as one of the old landmarks.

An ancestral home, which has a great historic interest in Oktibbeha County is located in the Bell School House Community, seven miles north of Starkville and occupied by Mrs. E. M. Newbern and her daughter.

The old home was bequeathed to Mrs. Newbern by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Miller, Sr., and was built prior to 1820, and remains much as it was when she took possession of it. The yard and flower beds remain as laid out years ago, except more intensely cultured, and the quaint furnishings are still intact.

A novel circumstances with the beautiful flower garden is that with just a few lily bulbs presented to her when she was girl in her teens she has now growing thousands of lilies in her fields, and by selling these and other blooms and bulbs she had developed quite an industry.

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Both mother and daughter are perfectly contented to remain away from the crowd and obtain a large amount of happiness out of life from daily contact with nature and its beauties. They have propagated rare and beautiful flowers and shrubs that are marvels to men of experience and culture, some of whom teach in the Mississippi State College, a short distance away. Frequent visits are made by these same professors to the Newbern home, getting ideas and inspiration. A very pretty and hardy rose, unlike any other known to these well trained men, has for years been grown by Mrs. Newbern, and has recently been named for her by scientists, the name given it being Edna Newbern. The rose is semi-climbing and very hardy. The blossom is very large, white in color and resembles a peony in that the petals are well developed, larger, loosely held together at the stem. The square in the flower garden which is given over entirely to wild flowers is one spot of interest to visitors. When Mother and Daughter are roaming the woods, or are on trips, and observe a new, unusual or unknown flower, they dig it up at once, and place it in the garden. This bed of wild flowers is a mass of color and is always in full bloom.

The Newbern Homestead is near what was once the headquarters of an Indian tribe, who occupied that section before the appearance of the white man. Much of the early history of that county was related to her from member of her family, and especially from the lips of the late Captain George G. Dilliard, who lived in the Newbern community when a child, and at the time the Indians were roaming to and fro. Mrs. Newbern was a small girl when the story was related to her.

The porch of the house stand s over the grave of an Indian Chief, who was buried more than one hundred years ago. At the time of his death his tribe and other tribes gathered for a week' weird rites preparatory to his interment. A very large grave was dug, and buried with him were the things he loved in life.

Dossey A. /Outlaw was one of the earliest citizens of Oktibbeha County. He probably settled here before the county was organized. He came from Carolina probably in the early '30s, and settled range 15, township 17 range 31. He was instrumental in organizing the Salem Baptist Church in 1835. He erected the beautiful residence which is still standing. This home is now owned and occupied by an Outlaw. It is the oldest mansion in Oktibbeha County, this year, 1936, being the hundredth year it has been standing. Many beautiful antiques belong to the Outlaws including solid mahogany bedroom suites and other furniture that is as old as the mansion itself. Some years ago part of the interior of the house was remodeled. A new floor was laid in the upstairs rooms. On removing the first floor, it was found that the second floor was black walnut hewn on the bottom side and planed on the exposed. The weather boarding is cypress. The colonial doorway and mantels in the two front rooms are carved, the work of a slave-convict in chains, named Cooper. No other old door frame and transom in the county equal this in intricacy and delicacy of design and execution.

A mile north of Starkville, on the West Point road is the ancestral home of the Montgomery Family commonly known as "The Cedars". In 1775 they migrated from Ireland to America a number

of pioneers, among whom was David Montgomery; who came to Oktibbeha County. He was the second son of Charles Montgomery. David Montgomery owned a large number of slaves, and big estates and experienced the inconveniences of pioneer conditions, but despite these drawbacks, he decided a few years later to build a magnificient home on his 1,000 acre estate, which was named "The Cedars". The old home is still occupied by some of the family which has echoed the footsteps of five generations.

The house was modeled after an old English hall, the foundation timbers being selected from forests of virgin pines. Slave labor was used in the building of the home which was completed in 1843. It is a two story, twelve room structure. The first story is of brick with low ceilings and deep window sills. The upper and main floors are of wood with high ceilings. Most of the rooms are large 18x20 feet, with enormous brick fireplaces, several of these still being in use. The plastered wall are still in wonderful state of preservation.

The house originally had two flights of steps on the south front to the second story. Many years ago these steps were removed and the round pillars changed to square, giving the old house the impression of colonial architecture. Upstairs is a banqueting hall, where two rooms can be thrown into one by sliding doors. One of these rooms is artistically arched on each side of the chimney. The space of the rooms is delightful in summer, and at all times restful to the nerves, The windwos are numerous and very large in contrast to bungalow spaces. The

setting of the old home is appropriately spacious, and could be made beautiful with an elevated site. Vines and shrubbery surround it and made it seem as much a part of the earth on which it stands as the cedars and elms that shadow it. The east front looks out through trellised roses with trees guarding the lawn and a hedge to a woodland beyond. The 1000 acres surrounding the place have dwindled considerably, but on every side the eye is rested by lawns and native trees that give an air of spaciousness to seldom seen in an age alive with sights and sounds of the present day.

At the death of Mr. David Montgomery, his sons were all settled in this state or other states, so that they were not disposed to relinquish their own home. His nephew, William B. Montgomery, son of Hugh Montgomery, bought "The Cedars." Later he willed it to his wife, Sarah Gleen Montgomery; before her de th she willed her home to her daughter, Madge Montgomery, who has recently deeded the property to her nephew, Professor J. P. Montgomery.

"Making w y for the modern trend of civiliza ion, one of Starkville's oldest homes and land-marks has been leveled to the ground, The House which was loc ted on West Lampkin street near the Methodist church, was built in approximatley 1835 by a brick mason named McVail, and was later bought by Mr. John Hogan. After Hogan had lived there for several years, it was sold again to Lewis Martin, the father of J. L. Martin, Starkville's oldest life-long citizen, who was borm there on March 23, 1861. Up until the time destruction began it had been vacant. Although

several additions were made only a few minor repairs have been made since it was originally built. Most of the lumber was hewn by hand and was the best that could be had. The sills and other large pieces were all shaped by hand and put together with wooden pegs. The brick for the house wer laboriously burned on the premises near the house by McVail with the lime ground from shells that were gathered from surrounding country, The house was torn down in 1935. (1)

The old home of Captain Tom Dillard is one of the most interesting in the Bell School Community, as it is typical of the earliest homes built in this section of the county. It is a double log house with a ten foot hall between. The lpgs are hewn out of gum and are at least ten or twelve inches in diameter. The logs were carefully hewn with a broad axe, so that the walls are almost perfectly smooth. The corners were cut to fit perfectly and then pinned together. The cracks between the logs were first chinked with small bits of clapboards split from blocks of oak logs, then they were daubed with mud or clay and lime. This hardened, and in many instances is securely held today. The windows and doors were made of heavy boards sawed out from twelve to fourteeninches wide and two inches thick. They were fastened on with iron hinges.made at the old blacksmith's shop. Thr roof was covered likewise. In most instances the old fireplaces have been displaced with modern brick chimneys. The house as were all of them, was ne and one-half stories high with stairs going up from one room or the hall. These upper rooms were very low next to the eaves of the house as the logs

(1) Copied from Starkville News.

did not extend upward more than three to the side. The roof was just above with no ceiling of any kind. These were given to the bedrooms for the boys. The beds were often made by driving long pins into the wall; slats were then thrown across and then the "straw bed" came last. The rafters were all hewn out of small slender saplings. The floor of the upper rooms formed the ceilings of the lower rooms and were made of saw lumber twelve or fourteen inches wide and full inch thick. The sleepers plates, sills, joists were all hewn out of large logs. The dirt daubers appeared to vie with the builders in their work. There were thousands of their mud nests on the roof above. The stairs were narrow and rather steep, closed below the case for general storage, if in the hall but for valuables if in the family room, including the old family bottle that was used in case of "snake bites". One could almost feel the hand of time drawing one back to the days of long past and gone.

Even the outside of the bulding reflected age. The old cedars, mulberry trees, gnarled and broken, the thyme, the crepe myrtle, and an occassional apple tree. One can occassionally see the peony, sase-flag and other of the old flowering plants.

This old home is now occupied by a negro family, and the termites have practically destroyed many of the sleepers and sills. It will not be standing but a few more years as a result. The property belongs to the Suddeth estate. One can go over on the old hill but a short distance and see the remains of one of the first gins in that community. This old community dates back to 1820 or more.

Another historic home in this community and also a part of Old Henterville is the PARISH HOME, now located in Clay County,

but a part of Oktibbeha years after settlement in 1820. This home is practically a duplicate of the old Tom Dillard home--built double log house with the hall between, large rooms, 18x18, but low ceiling, built of gun logs, carefully hewn chinked and daubed, hugh hewn sills, sleepers, one and one-half stories high, old cistern, seventy-five feet deep, built in the lime rock, cedars, crepe myrtle, china berry trees, some old fashioned flowers.

One very interesting gesture of this home was the meat trough now used as a step to the back entrance. This old trough will hold thousands of pounds of meat, and , no doubt, has served generations for this purpose. An old black-smith shop stood across the highway 18 feet square. Nothing but the foundation now remains. Many of the old parts of iron are now to be found about the foundation.

The old Henry Home is located in the Cousin Town Community. The owner of this home is Mr. Isham Henry. It has been the family residence for over one hundred years, and is in good condition today. The original grant of this plantation was made to the grandfather of the present occupant. He lived at Tuscaloosa, Ala., and came here in 1840. Mr. Henry holds the original grant, made and signed by Marten Van Buren, then President of the United States. It is written on genuine parchment. The writing is as legible as the day it was written. A copy of this parchment is appended. The present residence is a part of the original, which was built of hewn logs. These logs are pinned together after being cut to fit perfectly at the corners. The rafters are hewn of small logs and are also pinned to the hewn plates. The house is built one and

one-half stories high, and Mr. Henry tells me that some of the boards are pinned instead of being nailed. The boards are riven from oak blocks from four to five feet long. Many of these early boards are still in use. The nails used in building the house are made in the old blacksmith shop in the vacinity. The original floor of the building were made of split puncheons, but later this was taken up and sawed planks were substituted. The planks were sawed near the town of Longview or in the Agency neighborhood or community. This is near the Dorsey Outlaw place. There was also a grist mill at this place and corn was ground for the entire section of the county. The stairs leading to the second floor are still used on occassion as this attic is now used as a store room. It is interesting to note that all of the windows of this and other buildings of the community had shutters as glass was not in use at that early date. The"latch string" is still in evidence in many of these old homes. The hinges wer made at the old shop.

This old home is almost a museum, as it contains much of the old furniture of the early 19th century. The high posts bed, the old leather trunk, the old German Bible, printed in 1754-- a rare piece of literature indeed; quite a number of old letters, land grants on parchment, pictures of early ancestors, etc., The old Cushman School has been burned to the ground long ago, but one may still see the foundation of the seat of learning, built for all but especially the Choctaw Indians. The Chestnut Log Baptist Church has also gone for a more modern one but the old graveyard remains.

"Moonlight Seen on the Swanee River", is a very rare picture owned by Miss Maude Carroll. This picure was painted by her great

aunt, who at the time of painting was Miss Georgia Brooks, but later became Mrs. Doctor Doss. She was the talented young daughter of Mr. Allen Brooks, great-grandfather of Miss Maude Carroll and Mrs. Hollinshed. The picture was painted when Miss Brooks was thirteen or fourteen years of age. She died at the age of fifteen, having been married only a short time. The picture is a beautiful oil painting, the colors very beautifully blended. Being one hundred and ten years old, the paint has begun to peel off a little, but this does not mar the beauty of the picture.

Among the many interesting antiques owned by Miss Maude Carroll is a dresser that dated back several years before the civil war. An interesting story is connected with this dresser. During the Civil War, Mrs. Carroll, Miss Carroll's mother, was alone at home with the children. Mr. Carroll was away in the war. The Yankees invaded the territory and Mrs. Carroll took the children and went to a neighbors hous so as not to be alone. While she was away the Yankess raided her home, and finding the top drawers of the dresser locked, they took their guns and broke the top of the dresser. The marks of the guns are on the surface of the dresser today.

Miss Maude Carroll is also the possessor of an old rocking chair that has rocked seven generations of her family. It was originally owned by Mrs. Narcissa Brooks, who left it to her daughter, and it has passed down through the family. The picture that is included with the manuscript shows two members of the seventh generatim sitting in the chair.

Homer C. Powers, the fourth child of John Wesley Powers, was born at Mecca, ne r youngstown, Ohio, in 1842, and there received his early education. At the outbreak of the Civil War he was a student at Hiram College. During the vacation of 1861, he joined the one hundred day troops, but being a minor, and his services not needed, he was sent home. In the fall of 1861 he entered the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, from which he graduated in 1865. (1)

On September 18th, 1866 he was married to Miss Matilda Tilden, in Cleveland Chic. Mr. and Mrs. Powers, after their "high-noon" wedding left immediately for their new home in Oktibbeha County, on a large cotton plantation. They only lived there a few years when Mr. Powers bought an acre lot in the heart of the town of Starkville. They moved into their new home in 1871, and lived there the remaining years of their lives.

During the Constitutional Convention of 1867, Mr. Powers was made reading clerk, and the following year he was appointed sheriff of Okitbbeha County. He served for ten years, passing thr ugh the trying reconstruction period bravely and fearlessly.

Among other progressive citizens of the community, he was instrumental in locating the Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Miss. State College) one and onehalf mile from the court house of Starkville in 1878. This College is situated on a branch of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, for which Mr. Powers had the contract, and it was built 1874.

Later he was appointed and served as U.S. Internal Revenue Collector. To Homer C.Powers and his wife Matilda were born four

(1) Furnished by Mrs. G.W. Tarry, Starkville, miss.

children. Only two are now living, Mrs. G. W. Tarry, and F. H. Powers, both of whom reside in Starkville, Homer C. Powers died on February 19th, 1896 at the family home, and was buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery. His wife, Matilda Tilden Powers died on Dec. 9, 1913 and was laid beside her husband.

The Ames Family.

DAVID AMES was born in Canterbury, Mass. in 1788. He graduated from Dartmouth University in 1817. He moved from Canterbury to Sparta, Tenn., where he practiced law. In 1835 he moved to Starkville, Miss. Here he was elected judge of probate in 1836, and held office by continuous elections thirty-one years. He married Sophronia Oella Fisk of Sparta in 1827. David Ames died in Starkville in 1870. Sophromia Ames had four children, Albion, Madison, Fisk, Almira, and William Nathaniel. (1)

Albion Ames was born in 1867, and married Margaret Heqth. They had nine children, Edwin Madison, Charles Tilton, Almyra, Mary Grossie, William Fisk, Rosalie, Maggie Heath, Alice and Laura.

MADISON FISK was born in 1830 in Sparta, Tenn., and married Minerva Hogan of Starkville, in 1861. He moved to Starkville when five ers of age. There he entered the mercantile business. During the War between the States, ill health prevented him from fighting, nd he made shoes for the southern army. After retiring from the mercantile business, he took up farming. He and his wife were devoutchristians and prominent leaders in the Methodist church. He died in 1907 and Minerva Ames in 1909, leaving eight children: Mary Oella, Almira, Grosei, Louise Goudet, David Francis, Maria Louise, Madison Fisk, Alexander Hogan, and William Albion.

(1) Information furnished by-- Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Almira was born in 1832, and married Alex Green Hogan of Starkville in 1859. He died in Starkville, 1905, and she died in 1906. They had two children, Frank Lampkin, and Daisy Oella.

William Nathaniel was the fourth child of David Ames. He was born in Starkville, in 1837. He was a prominent physician, and married Lucy Rand of Starkville in 1868. William died in Starkville in 1898. They left five children: Kate, Irene, Annie Persall, Louise, and William Nathaniel, Jr.

Mrs. Ann Hartgraves Mills Saunders was born April 28, 1822 at her father's country place, Rose Hill, near Hartsville, Tenn., She was married to William Russell Saunders on Aug. 10, 1842. He was of Cherry Miss, Saundersville, Tenn. Mr. and Mrs. Saunders moved to Mississippi in 1844, forst settling at Lexington. Afterward they moved to a plantation which they had bought near Winona. Mr. Saunders died in 1864, and Mrs. Saunders moved to Starkville to live with her eldest son, Hubbard Turner Saunders where she died in 1910. Three of her sons lived in Starkville. (1)

Hubbard Turner Saunders married Miss Ella W. Rogers in 1870, and their children are: Hubbard Turner Saunders, Jr., Elizabeth McMillian, Robert Pearson.

Hubbard Turner Saunders, Sr., was Sheriff from 1880 to 1896. He burned the brick when a young man to build the store where Kleban's Shoe Store now stands. Later he went in the drug business, and was an extensive land owner in Oktibbeha County. Mrs. Ella Rogers Saunders

(1) Information furnished by--Mrs. G.B. Ramsey, Starkville, Miss.

died in 1892. Mr. Saunders married Miss Nanie Minor, of Macon, Miss. and had two children by this marriage, Fan Minor and Augustin Minor Saunders, who married Miss Myrtle Hollinger of Rolling Fork, Miss. They have three children, Wesley Hubbard, and Augustin, Jr. Hubbard Turner Saunders, Sr., died in 1920.

Carolina Ada Saunders was the second child of William Russell Saunders and Mrs. Ann Hartgraves Mills Saunders. In 1898 she married C. B. Turnupseed of Vaiden, Miss. They later moved to Oktibbeha County. They had eight children. Mr. Turnupseed died in 1898 and Mrs. Turnupseed died in 1916.

Ann Mills Saunders third child was Chloe Bennette Saunders. She married Dr. Thomas L. Wilburth of Kilmichael, Miss. She died in 1921 and he died in 1925. Their children are Saunders Wilburth and Anabel Wilburth.

William Russell Saunders, the fourth child, and his brother Thomas Mills Saunders, both moved to Texas and died within a year of one another.

Dero Astyanax Saunders, fourth son of Ann and William Saunders moved to Starkville as a young man, and married Grosie Ames in 1883. He was a man of great business acumen and greatly interested in the commercial advancement of his county and state. He died in 1913, and his widow resided in Starkville, Their children are: Madison Ames Saunders, Wilburn Russell Saunders, Louise Gaudet Saunders, and Dero Astyanax Saunders.

John Spottswood Saunders was the youngest son of William and Ann Saunders. In 1885 he married Polly Curry of Starkville. He held various municipal offices and was post-master for four years. Mrs. Saunders died in 1926, and he died in 1931. Their children are: Virginia, Annie Saunders, and Thomas Arthur Saunders.

The Moss-Colclough Family

This home was among the first settled in this county, and the family holds titles dating back to 1835, and three grants signed by Martin Van Buren in 1841.

Anderson Moss, the original settler, was born in 1800 in Virginia. He was the maternal grandfather of Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Wellborne, and Miss Colclough. He sold the place to Mr. H. G. Colclough in 1854, who held it for only a short time as he became interested in the Texas boom of that date. Due to sickness, however, he returned to the old homestead. This home remained in the family until the death of James Colclough.

During the occupancy of the home by Anderson Moss, he devoted his time to farming and cattle raising on a large scale, His cattle roamed the woods at large and found pasturage both in summer and winter in the cane breaks. He would, on occasion, drive great droves of cattle from the woods to market at Columbus or Mobile, where he bought his family supplies for the year.

During this time the county still held many Indians that remained after the treaty of Dancing Rabbit in 1830. The name of some of the deeds is spelled Clough instead of Colclough. The old home was located ten miles south-west of Starkville on the Louisville road. (1)

(1) Information furnished by--Miss Mary Colclough, Starkville, Miss.

In 1867 there came to this country from Autenhausen, Bavaria, Germany a thirteen year old boy by the name of Phil ip Goodman. He settled at Winona, Minnisota, and remained there until 1876, when he came to Starkville to live. He was then a young man of twenty-two ambitious, frugal, and withal an excellent business manager. Soon after his arrival he and another business man by the name of Max Stern set up a general mercantile store at the very spot now occupied by the firm of Phillip Goodman's Sons. His was the first brick store built in Starkville, and at that time one of only three or four others --that of W.W. Scales and Blumenfeld and Fried--all conduction similar businesses. Their business began in 1880 and continued until 1908 when Phillip Goodman bought out Stern's interest and then took the name of Phillip Goodman. After his death in 1927, his business was taken over by his sons and is now operated as one of the progressive enterprises in the city.

When Phillip Goodman and Mr. Stern began business in Starkville, it was a pioneer town in every way. No. Lights, water system, or paved streets or even sidewalks. It was not unusual for an ox team to bog to the axles in the streets at that early day. The man from the country came into town once or twice to buy their supplies for the year. They would do business on one side of the street, but if necessary to cross, he would mount his horse or wagon and ride over as the mud was impassible on foot.

No man in this community did more for the general progress of this section than did Phillip Goodman. He was recognized as a good business man and his advice was often sought by those who knew him best.

The Suddeth Family.

Early in the turn of the century there came to this county from the Spartenburg District of South Carolina, a southern gentleman seeking, like Daniel Boone, a little more "elbow room" for himself and family. It was near 1820 when he came to Boardtown, now Starkville, and observed one or two stores, the largest one of all, near the overhead bridge, was a general store, or tavern, selling ev rything from horseshoe nails to "hard licker". This gentleman with his family moved on out in the flatwoods near what later became known as Bell School Community. He built a cabin among the friendly Indians , and went to clearing the land for a crop. This was John C. Suddeth, the father of our fellow citizens, P.G. Suddeth, and Will Suddeth. (1)

After the Suddeths had been located in this section for few ye rs work was begun on the better dwelling house--the one now standing on the old homw site. It was a full two story house, and was one of the best for that day. Boards were brought from the old saw mill for flooring and later for the walls. The building is typical for that day, being two large rooms with a large open hall between, a large front porch, and kitchen and dining room out behind near the smoke house where plenty of porkers were packed in the old meat trough for the entire family for the year.

The community was interesting from an historical standpoint, even to that day, as the boys often wondered about the "old Indian breast works" they saw out near the old home. John Wellborne believes them to be game trails rather than breast works. However, it was not

(1) Information furnished by--Mr. P.G. Suddeth

unusual to find the skeleton of an Indian out in this vacinity. R. G. Suddeth tells of finding an Indian heart that had petrified, which he sent to a friend who pronounced it the heart of a human being. He states that the Indians were buried with their faces down in a Northeast direction.

Mr. Zack Carroll ran the old tan-yard near the old home, and made shoes for the citizens of the community. Perhaps P.G. and Will Suddeth are the only persons now living that wore shoes made by this old tanner and shoe-maker.

From this modest beginning, John Suddeth developed one of the largest estates of the flatwoods section of Oktibbeha County.

Dossey A.Outlaw came to Oktibbeha County. from North Carolina, at the age of nineteen. He was a member of the first Board of Police of the county when he was but twenty-one.

Outlaw and Beverly had the first brick store in Starkville. Outlaw bought large tracts of land from the Indians. He returned to North Carolina and married Clara Eliza Harris, Jan. 29, 1835. He remained in North Carolina a few months. When he returned to Mississippi his wife's mother came with them; also his half brother, Napoleon Askew; also his stepfather, David O. Askew, his step-fathers wife, and their children then born unto them. Also among this crowd coming to Mississippi from Bertie County, North Carolina, was George Morgan who was dissatisfied at home. He remained in Outlaw's employ until after the War between the States. Hence, we see the origin of Morgantown of this county, for it is made up of descendants of Mr. Morgan, who was so much esteemed by the Outlaws. (1)

(1) Information furnished by --Mr. P.G. Suddeth, Starkville, Miss.

In 1836 Outlaw had erected the first fine home in the county, The floors were made of the heart of walnut, and the transom over the front door is a work of art. The home has a walk in front bordered by large cedars, planted by Outlaw. It is a two story colonial home on Vernon road, bout six miles south of Starkville., in beat fife. The house is now in splendid repair and is occupied by the builders grandson, Dossey W. Outlaw, his last male descendant by the name of Outlaw.

In 1835 Salem Church was organized by prominent Baptists of the community, Outlaw being among them. The church was near his home. He and his wife were devoted members of the church. He was a deacon, and he gave liberally to its support.

In 1850 Roderick Green, a business man of beat four, and Outlaw built a mill about a mile south-east of Longview. Outlaw's residence was miles from the mill. They built a road from his home to the mill, and it is known as the Green-Outlaw road. The plant consisted of a saw-mill, a grist-mill, a flour-mill, and a tannery. The mill used the first steam engine in the county. They were doing a fine business but in 1863, Grierson and his Yankee Raiders burned the plant.

Dossey A, Outlaw died in his home March 5, 1870, aged 58 years. His wife, Clara Eliza Harris Outlaw died Jan. 29, 1884, and was laid by her husband in the Outlaw grave yard.

Margaret Outlaw was born June 18,1839 in her parent's home in beat five Oktibbeha County. She was the second daughter of Dossey A. Outlaw and Clara Eliza Harris. She received her education at Judson, Marion, Ala., On May 4th, 1858, she married a neighbor, Robert H. Spencer,II. They moved to Starkville when their children were of school age. Their income embraced an acre, corner of Worley

Ibi d

and Green Streets.

Margaret Spe cer was like her distinguished father in many ways. She was a worker in her church, and was always serving other. Later, when she had not money to give, as did her father, she gave of herself.

On June 19, 1907 she died at Fort Lawsen, Okla, A daughter had put on her tomb. "She lived for Ohters".

In 1835 David Askew and his wife and the children then born unto them moved to Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, from North Carolian, and purchased land near Seesums.

After a few years he built a home in Columbus. It is across the street from the Mollie Snell home, near Franklin Academy, also within a few blocks of the old Harrison Place, or the Stephen D. Lee home. It was a two-story colonial home, large columns in front.

When David Askew died he made his step-son, Dossey A. Outlaw, guardian for his children.

Napoleon Bonapart Askew was the only son of David O. Askew and wife, Mary Outlaw. After his marriage to Elizabeth Rabb, a step-daughter of Dr. George Gillespie*, he built a home twelve miles south of Starkville for his bride, but they did not live there long.

Joe Askew was the second son of David O. Askew and wife, Martha Ethelridge. He was a confederate soldier, and took a courageous part in behalf of the southern cause. He was wounded during the war and had to have a leg amputated. He married Willie Shappe of Columbus, Miss. For many years he lived on the farm his father gave him near Sessums. He represented this county in the legislature, and was for years before his death State Railroad Commissioner. He and his wife died within a few hours of each other and were buried in Columbus,

* See attached sheet.

Oktibbeha County

Early Families

Outlaw -

Napoleon B Askew
married Elizabeth
Rabb stepdaughter
of Dr. William Cage
Gillespie not George
Gillespie as stated -
George Gillespie was son
of Dr. Wm Cage Gillespie -
George Gillespie married
Alexina Lampkin, sister
of my grand mother -
June 22, 1950 Katie Prince Ward Esker

Mississippi. They left two small children, Mary and Willie Sharpe.

William D. Askew was the third and youngest son of David O. Askew and wife Martha Ethelridge. He married his cousin Pattie E. Askew. Their children were John, Annie Laurie, and Wade.

The old Kinard Carriage, now in the possession of the Oktibbha County Historical Commission is one of the historical land marks of the early history of this section of the state. It was used as a public conveyance on the Robinson Road in the early colonial period of the Tombigbee Settlements, and is now, even though over one hundred years of age, in a fair state of preservation. Its construction was typical of the old vehicles of that early day-high wheels, with the two back wheels larger than the fore ones; durable elastic springs of steel and leather to take as many shocks as possible on the rough road over which it had to travel; lamps, for the carriage was driven in the winter and at nights when the larger ones were unable to move at all oaver the boggy roads; and while the frame work of the coach is in good condition, the curtain and other coverings have deteriorated. The chassis is in such excellent condition, it would run on for years if properly cared for. On the rear end of the coach, was an old luggage case for the smaller pieces of baggage of the passengers.

Of equal interest is the old Robinson Road, over which the old carriage ran in those far off days in the "turn of the century". It was then one of the national highways running from Nashville, Tenn. to Jackson, Miss., through Columbus, Miss., and crossed the Tombigbee River at Old Plymouth where the old ferry was then located. After passing through Artesia, it entered what is now Oktibbeha County and through the section near Oktock, crossing the Noxubee river on another

ferry until Daniel Vail built the first bridge, a private toll bridge, over this stream some several hundred yards above the present structure. It was a profitable venture for so great was the traffic over this highway that this bridge rapidly increased in value from $500 to $30,000 before it was taken over by the government.

On this historic road was constructed by David Folsom, the now famous home, Gibeon. It was built for his family. A description of this home is furnished with this project, as the oldest in the county, by Mrs. Carpenter. One can easily conclude the nature of the thousands of population that traveled over his road--some seeking better homes for their families, some among the '49ers, bound for California, and others mere adventurers; some, all too many, notorious highwaymen, outlaws, thieves, and cut-throats, preying on the public. Another interesting place on this highway was the government agency, known later as the Choctaw Agency, established in 1820. Here was transacted all the business carried on with the Federal Government--both white and Indians, such as land grants, annuties for the Indians, etc.

On a prominent hill, about fifty yards from the Robinson Road, stands the old tavern formerly owned by David Folsom, a half-breed Indian Chief who conducted the inn. "Twas at Gibeon" that weary travelers rested over night, horses, tired and jaded from the rough trip through mud and water, were exchanged for fresh ones to begin the last lap of the journey. (1)

(1) Mrs. L. L, Carpenter.

"Mr. J. H. Wellborne, engineer, says that his field notes of the survey of the land on which the Folsom House is located show that the chief actually lived at this place in section 16 and that the records show that section 16, being allowed as school land, was exchanged for section 15 on account for this old chief living in the N.W. corner of section 16. Quoting Mr. Wellborne further, 'History seems to show that Folsom came here from Choctaw county in 1820, the name probably being the name of his dwelling. I believe that Folsom lived there between 1820 and 1830."

David Folsom's Inn stands on the summit of a high hill, commanding the view of a wide range of country-side. Down below winds Robinson Road. To an active imagination the locality is suggestive of Mount Vernon with the Potomac flowing below the house. Broad fields of green stretch as far as the eye can reach. Behind the house is a grave-yard with several graves.

The house itself is like other of the same period. It contains two rooms with a wide hall between and a low-roofed upstairs. There is a long, wide porch . The house is built of hewn logs, morticed together at the corners, and the cracks are daubed with mortar. The foundation of the house, which consists of wooden blocks, is rapidly being undermined. The sills are also of hewn logs, and they are in fine condition.

Meadow Woods, the original Rice plantation in Mississippi, was conveyed by John W. Thompson and Elizabeth A. Thompson to John S. Rice of

Talladega County, State of Alabama, on January 17, 1848. An interesting feature of the deed is the withhold from conveyance of the family grave-yard. Inserted at the beginning of the land descriptionare the phrases "except one fourth of an acre containing the grave-yard". Here shaded by a thicket of hackberry, oak, ash, elm, and osage orange trees, in a growth of periwinkle, are a marble slab sacred to the memory of honor Shaw who died February 19, 1846, aged 64 years and seven months, and upright stones to the memory of Margaret Thompson, who died February 22, 1841, aged 26 years and four months, and of Jack Whitsitt, son of J.P. and E. A. Thompson who died on Dec. 14, 1841, aged three years and eleven months. On Jack's stone is carved this legand: "On my right side lies my little infant sister age three months."(1)

In the Rice home are still left some of the glass, china, oil paintings, small statuary, and a Buhl cabinet bought by John W. Rice and his wife Augusta Hopkins on their Eupopean travel in 1851 and 1852 There are family Bibles of the Rice and Hopkins families, daguerrotypes, and diaries of members of the family kept in ante-bellum times.

When Mrs. J. G. Carroll, widow of the late Dr. J. G. Carroll, was handed a letter from Oswego, N.Y., she was astonished beyond measure on a closer inspection to find it was a letter from her husband, written nearly fifty years ago, while a soldier in the service of the Confederate army. (2)

(1) Contributed by Miss Nannie H. Rice, Starkville, Miss.
(2) Miss Maude Carroll, Starkville, Miss.

The letter was confiscated with other paraphernalia, and fell into the hand of a Federal soldier. It happened that the lady who sent the long-delayed letter to Mrs. Carroll was a relative of the soldier, and in looking at a package of letters in a trunk recently, she found this particular one, and realizing how happy Mrs. Carroll would be made by its receipt, she inclosed it in another letter to the Mississippi lady.

The writing, while in lead pencil, is quite legible, and the envelope is a crude home-made one.

Citizens of Oktibbeha County are in possession of letters and papers dating from 1825 and on.

One of the most interesting homes of the Old Cousins Community has been described. It is the Isham Henry Home. The family occupying this home is still more interesting as it has been in continual possession since it was built over 100 years ago. Today it is occupied by Mr. Isham Henry and his sister. It was "Happy Jack" Henry who operated the first flour mill in that part of the county. (1)

The history of this interesting family now represented in several sections of the state, had its beginning back in 1804 when in the birth of Elizabeth Hogg in Newberry District, S. C. She came to Tuscaloosa, Ala. to live with a sister and while there met and married Sham Boatner. At the age of eight, the family decided to move into Mississippi. They came along in a covered ox-wagon and Martha Luvenia rode a small horse. To be sure of all the comforts of the old civilization of the eastern colonies, they brought along some

(1) Mr. Isham Henry, Starkville, Miss.

small peach trees, quince trees, locust bushes, white mulberry, and fig plants; also some herbs in case of sickness--catmip, tansy, balm, mint, and garlic. To this they added some flowers, such as winter pinks, or what is now known as chrysanthemums, bulbs, etc.

The trip was long and tiresome. They camped one night in a covered bridge on the Sukatonchee river between West Point and Columbus, Miss., then they came to the small village of two or three stores known as Starkville. The camp was made one night at the Ace Edwards place, a family who had been in the community several years already; another night they camped on the Reed road near Hillery Pearson. They finally settled in the Double Springs Community, cleared a small field which they plowed with the small horse brought along. They had a late start but in spite of this made enough corn to sell to the "newcomers" the next year.

The first few weeks they lived in a "house" made of posts with quilts fastened around to form a room. Later a small cabin was made for the home, and others for the slaves that came into their possession later. The present home was then built and has been occupied ever since.

Ishma and his wife soon died and were buried in what is now known as the old Henry grave-yard, but before this took place, they had seen their only daughter, Martha Luvenia, married to John Quinn Henry. This took place in 1852. John Quinn had also moved from Alabama some years before with his uncle and grandfather and settled in this neighborhood. He enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1862, 35th Regiment, Company D, and served four years. He, too, owned several negro slaves. The marriage took place in the new home and this home the bride lived her entire married life, and here she spent

her last days. She died after eighty-six years of married life in 1931. She was laid beside her husband in the old grave-yard at the Double Springs Methodist Cemetery. She had been a member of this church since its organization seventy or eighty years before. Two children, Isham and Queenie, the writers of this sketch, still live in the old home which is in excellent state of repair. Other members of the family were Byrd, Will, Ellen, Minnie, Charley, andJ. R.

CECEIO AUGUSTUS HOGAN was among the first settlers of Starkville, He came from Alabama when a small boy. He was born in Livingston County, Ala., in 1823, the oldest son of Elizah Hogan and Mary E. Lampkin Hogan. In 1847 he married in Oktibbeha County Miss Eliot Anne Abney, who lived on the old Robinson Road near the Folsom Tavern.

C. A. Hogan was one of the first merchants in Starkville, and also owned a grist mill, which was afterwards called Foster's mill. He established the first Insurance Agency in about 1870, and it has been in the Hogan family ever since. To C. A. Hogan and his wife was born a son, John Beverly Hogan, whose son in turn was John Beverly Hogan; then Mrs. Hortense Gladney Mullen, who is the daughter of Lena Hogan Gladney, who is the daughter of C. A. Hogan when he married in 1847. He built a home in the western part of town, which is now owned by his son C. Abney Hogan. There were first two rooms and a hall between, then a few years later two more rooms and an attic were added.

During the War between the States,they would hide the provisions between the floors, also the silver. A unit of Grierson's Raiders camped in the woods where Buz Walker, Jr's homw is now situated. Several Yankees went up to search the Hogan house. Mrs. Hogan invited them in, and gave them a good dinner. They thanked her and left with-

out molesting anything. Mr. Hogan gone into the swamp to hide his horses. The Yankees met him coming back with his gun. They asked him where he had been. He said that he had been hunting. They took his gun and broke it in pieces over a tree.

Mr. Hogan was a Baptist, Mason, and bleonged to the First Band organized in Starkville in 1848 or 1849. There is still in the family an old clarinet played by him and other relics.

On February 6th, 1925, Capt. W. R. Lanier died at his home in this city (Starkville) at the advanced age of 91. He was born in Lwarence County, Ala., on Dec. 15th, 1834. He was educated at the University of Virginia.

After receiving his education he returned home. He was married to Miss Joe Bell of Starkville, who preceeded him to the grave only a few years ago. This union was blessed by ten children, all of whom are living today, a s follows: W. R. Lanier, Mrs. Horace Carpenter, Mrs. Thos. M. Rouseau, Mary Lanier, Eugene Lanier, and Miss Margaret McLeod, all of Starkville, and Mrs. Reby Goodman and Mrs. Jossie Sisloff, of Belzoni. Fifteen grandchildren and one great grandchild also survive him.

At the age of 31, Capt. Lanier enlisted in the Columbus Rifles, Company E of the Confederate Army under Capt. Abert, a company which was attached to the 14th Mississippi Regiment. He served throughout the war with marked distinction and heroism. He engaged in many of the severest battles of the war, and was among the few of his company who emerged without being killed or wounded. On February 1862 he was captured at the battle of Ft. Donaldson and was sent to Camp Douglas, at Chicago, Ill., and was there kept a prisoner until September 1862

when he was exchanged and transfered to Company G of the 4th Tennessee Regient. Besided the battles of Ft. Donaldson, he was actively engaged in the battles of Franklin, Atlanta, and several other of the notable engagements of the war.

After the war he returned home and engaged in agricultural pursuits and for many years had large planting interests in this county. As a citizen in civic and political affairs, he measured up to the highest standards and for several years was chairman of the county Democartic County Executive Committee at a time when the democratic party was threatened with disruption. He was a loyal democrat and was uncompromising in his devotion to his state during the dark days of reconstruction, and his life and career is interwoven with the his tory of his town and county.

He comes from a long line of ancestors comprising one of the oldest and most distinguished families of the state.

A gentleman of the Old South, courteous and chivalrous, and strong in his convictions, has passed from earthly scenes.

JOHN WASHINGTON RICE was born in Chester District, South Carolina, January 26, 1815, the son of John Saunders and Nancy Herndon Rice. He was graduated from Columbia College, Columbia, So. Ca., and studied law at the University of Virginia. He served one term in the legislature of South Carolina before leaving that state with his parents for Talladega, Alabama. At the outbreak of the Mexican War, he raised a company of soldiers, and was commissioned captain of Company 1, thirteenth United States Infantry. He was wounded in the battle of Buena Vista, February 22, 1847. While he was in Mexica, his father died, on December 7, 1847. Upon his return to Talladega,

he assisted in looking after his father's estate, which was partly in Alabama and partly in Mississippi. He moved to Oktibbeha County, living at Meadow Woods, the home plantation. On May 22, 1851, in Mobile, Alabama, he was married to Augusta Hopkins, the daughter of Arthur Frances and Pamela Moseley Hopkins, who was born in Huntsville, Alabama, on January 13, 1831. In 1865 he was elected on the democratic ticket to represent Oktibbeha and Chicasaw counties in the state senate, holding that position at the time of his death in Mobile on February 25, 1857. His widow died at Meadow Woods on Oct. 18, 1906. They are buried in Mobile, Alabama. The two children of John Washington and Augusta Hopkins Rice were Dr. Arthur Hopkins Rice, born in Talladega, Alabama, August 21, 1852, died Meadow Woods, January 14, 1921, and Nannie Herndon, born Talladega, Alabama, July 22, 1854, married John Simpson Walker, Mobile, May 20, 1875; died in Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 17, 1924; buried at Huntsville, Alabama. To Mr. and Mrs. Walker was born one son, Col. Richard Wilde Walker U.S.A., retired, Buckeystown, Md. Dr. Arthur Hopkins Rice was marr ed on October 23, 1879 at Artesia, Miss., to Frances Mary, daughter of Joseph Hunt and Frances McFarland Smith, who was born in Charlestown, Massachusetts, June 1, 1857. Mrs. Rice died on Oct. 18, 1930, at Meadow Woods. Dr. and Mrs. Rice are buri buried in Odd Fellows Cemetery, Starkville. To Dr. and Mrs. Rice were born eight children: Augusta Hopkins, died Sept. 24, 1927; Arthur Hopkin died Oct. 23, 1932; Frances McFarland(Mrs. F.D. Mellen); Nannie Herndon, Joseph Smith; Cornelia Lowe (Mrs. R.H. Bartram); Harriet McFarland (Mrs. H.H. Harned); John Washington.

JOHN SAUNDERS RICE, the father of John Washington Rice, was born in Louisa County, Virginia, March 12, 1782, the son of Hezebieh and Mary Saunders Rice. In 1807, in Newberry District, South Carolina, he was married to Nancy Coke, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Pines Herndon A successfuk planter in Chester District, So. Car., he bought land in Alabama and Mississippi/which he moved his slaves as they increased to in number. In the '40's he left South Carolina with his family for Talladega, Alabama, where helived until his death, December 7, 18 . His wife, Nancy Coke Herndon, was born in Newberry District, So.Car., on April 4, 1789, and died in Talledaga on May 19, 1863. She and her husband are buried in Talladega.

HEZEBIEH RICE, the paternal grandfather of John Washington Rice, was born in Hanover County, Va., about 1756; was a lieutenant in the Revolutionary war; became a prosperous planter in Chester District, So. C., where he died in September, 1800. His wife, Mary Saunders, was born in Hanover County, Va., about 1759, and died in Chester District on August 17, 1832. Hezekiah and Mary Saunders Rice are buried near Union, South Carolina.

BENJAMIN HERNDON, the maternal father of John Washington Rice, was born in Fredericksburg, Va., in 1749; was a colonel in the Revolutionary was, being in the battle of King's Mountain; was a planter in the Newberry District, So. Ca., where he died December 30, 1819. He was married three times. His wife, Sarah Pine, the mother of Nancy Coke, was born in 1753, and died in September 1798. They are Co. buried in Newberry,/So. Ca.,

MRS. WILLIAM HENRY GUNN is the only direct descendant of the noted Rogers Family who settled in this county among the earliest pioneers. Mrs. Gunn's mother was Ella Weston Rogers, the sister of Judge William Rogers, and wife of Sheriff Hubbard Turner Saunders. Mrs. Saunders was recognized as one of the leading figures in church work and in social service. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church. She andJudge Rogers were the children of James Calvin Rogers who was the founder of the Presbyterian Church in Starkville. The family lived on the old Saunders lot in front of the Methodist Church. The father of James Calvin Rogers, who came to this county from Alabama.

In the year 1837 John Rogers, the father of John Calvin, left Fairfield county South Carolina, and like most settlers from the old colonies, settled in Alabama with his family. The Rogers family did not linger long in Alabama as the cotton fields of Mississippi were attracting attention of the east; so in 1843 they moved into Oktibbeha County, and he and his son, James Calvin, both bought plantations near Starkville, in Flatwood section on the Louisville road. This was later owned by the Colcloughs.

They built log plantation homes for their families and quarters for their slaves. It was not unusual for wolves to howl around their homes in those early days. Deer roamed through yards, even in the day-time, to find the best grazing. The Choctaw Indians had been removed to the Indian Territory, but many remained to find homes among the new citizens. These were friendly and remained on good terms with the white settlers.

John Rogers soon went into the mercantile business with James Gillispie, son of Dr. William Gillispie of Starkville; he lived only about twelve yers after he came to Mississippi.

JAMES CALVIN and his wife soon tired of the country, and moved to Starkville and bought a home where the Oktibbeha Hospital now stands. This home was remodeled and named Liberty Hall. He was a fine landscape gardner, and soon beautified the place with shrubs, trees, and flowers. A fine orchard was planted. He also plotted the old Presbyterian Grave-yard on the Louisville Street, planted the old cedars that now stand and trained Cherokee roses over the fences. The first Presbyterian Church was built on this lot, but it cracked so badly it had to be torn down. James Calvin Rogers was considered a fine business man and was deeply religious. When the Civil War came he got together at his own expense a few troops and trained them in military tactics. He was made a Major and was presented a sword by General I. Harris of Columbus, Mississippi. He reported to Bowling Green, Ky., to engage in battle there. It was very cold, so that he contracted a cold, and when he reached home it had developed into pneumonia, which resulted in his death, 1863.

There were ten children born to this union, among whom was Oscar who was killed in the Civil War at the age of eighteen years.

Judge William Rogers, one of the outstanding Jurists of this district, was born July the 25th, 1850, and married Julietta Frierson in 1881. He served as Judge of the Sixth Judicial District till it was reorganized, when he was sent to Oxford, Mississippi where he remained until his death. Judge Rogers was one of the outstanding

citizens, humanitarians, and Christians of this section of the state. At his death, Dr. Dabbey Lipscomb delivered an oration in his honor, which is recognized as one of the outstanding tributes in the liturature of Mississippi. His sister, Ella Weston Rogers, married the Honorable Hubbard Turner Saunders, then the Sheriff of the Conty and to this union was born six children, of whom Mrs. Gunn is the only one remaining in Starkville.

Most of the men and women named Rogers in the United States claim descent from John Rogers, the first protestant killed in England in the reign of Bloody Queen Mary, the daughter of Henry VIII and sister of Queen Elizabeth. This John Rogers was a prebendary of St. Paul's, London, and was burned at the stake for heresy at Smithfield, England, 1555. In a museum at Alfred, N.Y. there is a carefully preserved English Bible printed in 1549, which bleonged to this John Rogers. It is said that the book was hidden in a feather bed after John's death until the death of Mary. Later it was brought to America and is still an heirloom of the Rogers family,

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 1
Topic: Wars
Assignment #18
By: Marie Tallichet, Kathleen Boyet & Brand[illegible]ainey
February 9, 1937

I. When the United States entered the World War, Oktibbeha County, as did the State of Mississippi, furnished its quota to the man-power of the Nation under the draft act. There were two draft acts, the first calling for men between the ages of 21 to 31 and the second from the ages of 18 to 45. They were drafted according to County population.

(c) The 155th Regiment that had given such valiant services in past wars was immediately called back into service for the World War, and went into intensive training for this over-sea duty. Its first assignment to service was to guard the public utilities of the state against alien destruction--thus every railroad bridge, telephone office, etc., were given such careful attention that no damage to any public property was done during the entire war. As this Regiment was then called into service for foreign duty, it was designated as the 155th Infantry in the Federal Service and practically lost its identity for the remainder of the service.

(1) Following is a brief history of the old first Mississippi Regiment by a Soldier Boy:

1--Letter written by Bert L. Chambers to Mr. Harry Wood, as published in the Starkville News of March 1, 1918.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor.

Beauregard, La.,
Co. L. 155th U. S. Infantry
February 18, 1918.

Mr. Harry Wood,
Starkville, Miss.
Dear Harry:

" I received the Starkville News weekly and it's certainly a treat to know how everything is progressing at home. We are still under rigid quarantine. F urloughs and passes are few, but I am coming home the very first chance I get. Enclosed you will find a brief history of our noted 155th U. S. Regiment, better known as the old fighting First Mississippi.

" We boys ffom Oktibbeha County who were members of militia reported to our armory in West Point on June 20th, 1916. We found before leaving for Jackson that our company would have to be recruited to War strength--150 men-- also, we would have to sign the Federal oath papers, swearing allegiance to the President of the United States. We that were members before the call, had to take that oath before we could be sent out of the States. We are proud to say that we did not have a person who failed to sign it.
"

We spent a week in West Point, sleeping on the hard armory floor, but everyone was happy, thinking that we soon would be chasing the "Greasers" in Sonora.

"At last we were ordered to Jackson, Miss., where sad disappointment awaited us. We had expected to be fully equipped and sent

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Ibid.
Minnie Walker, Supervisor

to the border at once, but instead they began innoculating and vaccinating us for every disease in the world. Then it began to rain and for days we slept in leaky old tents on cold wet ground and our feet were never dry for we had no change of shoes or clothing. Most of the boys were in civilian clothes, which after a few days, were rags. Unaccustomed as we were to hardships of this kind, we stood it gravely and vowed vengeance against the "Greasers". Finally, wewere equipped with everything to fight the Mexicans with, but again we were disappointed, for we found that we would have to undergo four or five months of strenuous training before we would be in condition to fight.

"Then followed four months of heart-breaking drill, drill, drill seven hours a day in the hot summer time, and we did not like this. It was galling to us to be held in a training camp while we thought we should be fighting.

"Then the order came to break camp and entrain for the border. We arrived at Camp Wilson, San Antonio, Texas on October 21, 1916. This time to our sorrow we were to be held in reserve. The followed 5 more months of drilling. During this time we made a 72 mile hike to New Braunfels, Texas. After that came the hike to Leon Springs for rifle range, a distance of 26 miles. We spent three weeks there at target-practice. We left Leon Springs for San Antonio on the morning of Dec. 22nd. It was hot and nearly

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Ibid.
Minnie Walker, Supervisor

all of us packed our overcoats, sweaters, and other heavy clothing on the wagons. It was the intention of the commanding offiesr to cover the distance back to Camp Wilson, by daybreak the next morning.

"We arrived at the nine-mile Hill(the half-way resting place) a little after the noon hour. Shelter tents soon pitched and dinner served. Everyone was in good spirits for we were going back to town for Christmas.

"Before night a dark cloud came up and the wind began to blow. We soon knew that we were going to have a genuine "Texas Norther". Fires were hastily made and in only a few minutes the temperature had dropped from 80 degress to freezing point. We were supposed to leave there at midnight, but it got so cold that we had to begin the march at ten o'clock. We liked to have frozen to death before reaching camp, as none of us had suffieient clothes to keep us warm. The wind was terrible and the water actually froze in our canteens.

"We made the entire trip in nine hours actual marching time. Col. Kennon, our brigade commander, commended us very highly, stating that it was the first time that the distance from Leon Springs to Camp Wilson had been covered in one day's march by soldiers, regulars or guardsmen. He also said that it was the first time during his career as a soldier that he had put a guard in front of the column to prevent straggling. It was so cold during the rest

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Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

the men wouldn't halt but kept moving. The guard was employed to keep them back with their respective units.

"How happy were we to get back to our warm tents, again. In appreciation of us making this hike, the commanding officer gave us nearly a two-weeks holiday. Nothing of importance happened then for sometime. We then began to realize that our war with Mexico was a farce and that there would be no fighting. We then began to long for civilian life, for home and for dear ones.

"The order came for us to return to dear old Mississippi on March 15, 1917, but owing to the shortage of sleeping coaches we were forced to wait until the 19th. Then we had to ride in day coaches, but we couldn't be bothered about a little thing like that. Why worry about a little discomfort when we would soon be free men.

"We arrived in Jackson on the morning of March 21st and pitched tents on our old camp grounds, Camp Jackson. Then followed days of anxious waiting. T h e papers were full of the German-American crisis and somehow we felt like we would never be mustered out. But contrary to our belief we were discharged on March 27,1917.

"For 3 long hours we were free men. At 2 o'clock orders came to detain the 1st Miss. Infantry. Some of the boys managed to slip away before being recalled but all reported for duty when summoned by their company commanders.

"Of course, we were bitterly disappointed at first, but when we realized that our country needed us and that it was for the sake

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Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

of our homes and loved ones, the American spirit began to assert itself and we were soon the same old cheerful boys of the First Mississippi.

"As soon as war was really declared on Germany the Government saw the necessity of protecting our railroads, bridges, ammunition plants, etc., from destruction by Germany agents.

"The First Miss. was scattered all over the State for guard duty. Company L was detailed to guard the N. O. & N. E. bridges from Meridian to the Lousiana line. After the guard duty we remained in Jackson until Sept. 28.

"Then we received orders to hike to Vicksburg, a distance of about 50 miles. We made this trip in about three days under heavy marching orders.

"We were assigned our duties, which comprised mainly of getting the enormous camp ready for the National Reunion which began Oct. 17. By hard work, we had everything ready by the 15th, when the old veterans of the Blue and the Gray began to pour in.

"During the three days of reunion our duties were escorting the old soldiers over the park, driving trucks, guarding the camp, waiting on tables, etc.

"After that we were retained in Vicksburg to tear down the tents and pack up the equipment used by the "Vets". We were almost through with this task when the strike came on in the oil fields.

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

War Department called on the faithful old First Miss. to perform the duty of protecting our valuable fields from destruction by angry strikers.

"Company L was ordered to break camp and entrain for Trees, La. on Nov. 9th. We arrived there and found that we were to guard the oil wells, gasoline plants and lives.

"We were stationed in the country. You have heard of the boys being "somewhere in France". Well, we were "nowhere in La." On leaving the oil fields we had to hike over the snow to the railroad and there entrain for Beauregard.

"On our arrival in Camp Beauregard, we were placed in the detention camp for fourteen days. Then we were moved over to the main camp. At the present writing, we are still in Beauregard, La.

"We are being taught all the latest warfare by French, English and Italian officers and non-commissioned officers.

"Thus we touched lightly upon most duties we have had to perform since leaving West Point 2 years ago.

"No, we have never heard the whine of bullets, or the burst of schrapnel, but we can assure you, dear friends, that we have had a taste of everything that old Sherman said that war is. We have never complained when we had to stand 6 hours of guard duty on a dark, cold night with snow and ice on the ground; neither have we grumbled when on a 20 or 30 mile hike with 50 pounds on our backs.

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

It was our duty, and the same fighting spirit that animated us then, will send us over the top to battle with the Huns.

"Harry, this brief history of our regiment may be of interest to our friends in Starkville. So if you see fit to publish it, do do.

"Best wishes to all the folks, I am as ever,

Your sincere friend,
Bert L. Chambers.

II. In accordance with instructions, names of enlisted men can be gotten at the State office in Jackson, Miss.

III. Letters from soldiers at the fromt are a source of never-failing interest. Through them one may get a vivid and intimate picture of life in the trenches. Following is a letter from(1) Mr. Arthur Goodman to his mother:

Somewhere in France, August 17, 1918. Saturday Night.

My dearest Mother,

"I started this letter to you a couple of nights ago, but about 9:30 word was received of an unexpected air raid and all lights here at the front were extinguished and I didn't get to finish, so you can credit these three days delay to the Dutchmen.

"This country around here is very beautiful but somewhat deserted.This afternoon I walked around the walls of the city and the fellow that built them sure did know his job. They have been built

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1--These few excerpts from Mr. Arthur Goodman's letters will give the reader some insight into the Front lines as they were permitted to pass the censor in the days of 1918.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

for Goodness knows how long and they look as if they will last for many centuries to come. Walls around a city now-a-days are absolutely useless as far as their value for defense is concerned. There is not but one way to keep therse big shells from getting you, and that is to dig in the ground and you want to dig pretty deep at that. I have had my watch in repair shop for about three weeks. My Howard watch doesn't seem to be able to stand the consussion from these big guns. I fired all day with a big Howitzer, and it hadn't run since. Just a few lines to let you know that I am still living and working about 24 hours a day. Things are pretty lively on this sector: and as I have command of four big guns, am kept constantly onthe jump. Last night we were ordered to fire on a village in the German lines that is the home of one of my French Sargents. His mother and sister were in the town, but we wiped it off the map. There are most too many shells flying to write a letter this morning, so will write some other time. The guns that I am handling at present remind me very much of the smoke stack of some brewery. They are very destructive, but I am not especially in love with them. Have had some very interesting work this week with bridges, pontoon bridges, tanks, German minenfergers, Fluge minenwerfers, and a dozen other different things, Variety is the spice of life, this sure ought to be spicy as I get something different every day. The French national highways are certainly fine roads but the traffic on them

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Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

nowadays is so congested that it is almost impossible to get through. All American trucks.

"Here in the fort all is quiet, but just across the valley is a high hill of about two killimeters of little wooden and iron crosses that tell a tale by themselves. A fellow in France never knows ten minutes ahead of time just what is going to happen, and I am getting so I don't much care."

Then follows another letter from the Front written by (1) Lieut. D. Berry to his Aunt:

Somewhere in France, May 16th, 1918.

Dear Aunt Tommie:

"It seems funny to call you Aunt. But don't feel old if I do. Was glad to hear from you, think it was about time as you have been saying you was so long.

"Well, I am enjoying life very much over here. Had rather be in the Army here than in it there. Of course, we work harder and longer, but not in the same spirit. Am glad I worked so hard to get over as quickly as I did.

"I had heard that F ancher and Senator had joined. Am sure they did right too for things is more serious than some people think.

"Say, you should come over here and see the many antique things they have in this man's town. If you enjoy such things as well as

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1. Letter from France from Lieut. D. Berry, 490 Aero Squadron, A.E.F. to his Aunt, Mrs. Tommie Hammill, Sturgis, Miss.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

I do. Younwould never get tired, not very much forests, what there is has been planted--even the common pine trees--in rows and checks. The roads are lined with sycamores and poplar trees, they have been trimmed for several hundred years, and now the trunks and branches resemble some ancient cathedral, built with arches and supports, the smaller twigs meeting in the center. All the roads are more like avenues instead of a common road. Grain and clover is about all the crops raised in this section, excepting grapes, which means "beaucoup vin" (much vin).

"The people drink wine instead of water,. Of course, everything is done different here. They drink water in America, and in France they build bridges over it--and use goats for cows. Don't mean exactly that, but about two cows and five or six goats to each family. And my, what good cheese they do make.

"All the people in this section are very quaint. The peasants wear wooden shoes and some kind of out-landish garb. The old ladies wear white kerchiefs and a style of dress that seems to belong to the middle ages. But oh, you young ones! They don't. I think if you want to keep Lonnie you had better cripple him up, for if he comes over here you are liable to lose him. I've already lost my heart to about four different ones. But the funny part of it is--I can't tell them about it just like I want to.

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Topic: Wars
Assignment #18
By--Marie Tallichet, Kathleen Boyet, & Frances Rainey
February 9, 1937

"I've seen some very old castles and cathedrals, some built in the 12th centuyy. One in particular was built by Augustus Ceasar during his conquest in a certain part of France. Also the one that Joan-of-Arc was condemned to death in , and if nothing happens I am going to see her birth-place very soon.

"Numerous chateaus, two in particular, near here--built by the feudal lords with the old stone walls and fences standing.

"Well, it's after 12 o'clock and I'm supposed to be in bed. Will stop for this time. Write me again soon, Lovingly your nephew, D."

Another Starkville boy's thoughts were of home and of loved ones as shown by the letter from (1) Maxwell Crowe to his father:

"Sassay, France, January 9, 1919.

"My dear Father:

"Will write you a few lines today to let you know that I received your letter some few days ago. I was glad to hear from home again too. I had begun to think that you had forgotten me or something else. Gee, it was a long time between your letters. I received the box all O.K., and appreciated it very much. How is everybody these days? Fine, I hope. I am doing just fine and dandy. Still working at Personell Office of this Regiment. I like the work just fine, too.

1--Letter from Maxwell Crowe to his father Mr. J. T. Crowe, Starkville, Mississippi

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"Well, if nothing happens I think it won't be long until I will be seeing folks. So you need not write me again until you hear from me, again. Have any of the Starkville boys returned home yet? I suppose those boys who got caught in the cyclone are returning back now. I hope that they were none the less after their scare.

"Yes, Carl Carpenter is still with the Company, byt he is the only Starkville boy that is in the outfit besides myself. He seems to enjoy the army fine, if you judge him by the way he talks. How is school these days? Is there many boys attending now? I hope to be able to begin at the starting of another session.

"I have been real busy for the last week making up the last month pay rolls, and then, too, we had all other records to straighten out before we could say scat. Have had to work at night for the last week, but don't mind that for it beats drill any old day.

"Have never received Murray's address until yet. I would love to write him a letter before it is all over. How is Grandpa making it these days? Give him my best regards. Well, it is about time for me to start back to work as I am writing this letter at noon. Give my love to everyone I know and the best for yourself.

Your soldier boy,

Maxwell."

See Page 13-A

Ibid.

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(1) Mr. H. G. Butts gives his recollections of his own personal experiences in the World War. This I will enclose as given.

Recollections of My Service in The World War:

"I enlisted at Starkville, Miss. July 29, 1917, in a Medical Unit organized by Dr. E. L. Robinson of Belzoni as a National Guard Unit. We left Starkville August 5, for Belzoni, where we stayed until we were mustered into the Regular Army, when our unit was designed as the 154th Field Hospital, attached to the 39th Division. On August 29, we went to Jackson, where the Major part of the 39th Division was in training. We soon set up a Field Hospital there, and cared for those we could through the "flu" epidemic.

"We left Jackson on January 30, 1918, and went to Camp Beauregard, La. There we trained extensively until August 16, and on that date we took a train for the port of embarkation--Brooklyn, New York. We stayed at Camp Mills for six days, long enough to be furnished with an overseas outfit, before we embarked from Pier #2 on an old English boat,--Toloa,-- On this boat, there were about 1500 men, composed of my company and some companies of Military Police.

"We had quite a long stay on this boat, as we zigzagged across, trying to miss our worst enemy at that time--The German submarines. We were joined by a convoy of eleven boats which had sailed from NewPort News, Virginia, on September 6. September the 7th was one

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1--H. G. Butts, Starkville, Mississippi

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of the calmest days we had experienced, and everyone was on deck gazing at the Irish coast, the first land we had seen in seventeen days. In the midst of this serenity, men began to scream : Submarine! At the same time, an explosion which lifted our boat out of the water, as if it were a tin can, took place. The torpedo missed our boat, but struck another boat of our convoy, the Persic.

" We stayed at Soully, a replacement camp which was under shell fire, and in mud knee-deep, until the night of the ninth, when we were to go to the front. However, since the Armistice was signed on November 11th, we never reached the Front.

" We hiked from this date until the 21st, when we stopped in Dun-Samuse (on the Muse River) which was almost completely destroyed by shell fire. Two days later, we hiked out to Virton, Belgium. I was only allowed to stay there for one night, for the next morning an order came from G.H.Q. for fifteen truck drivers to report to Dijon, France, to haul supplies to Coblentz, Germany for the Army of Occupation.

"We loaded into box cars and got to Dijon on the 27th. Our sleeping at Dijon was done on the ground. On December 4, we left Dijon, seventy trucks strong for Coblentz. We found the German people exceptionally nice to us, offering us the best that they had. I was connected with this truck train until April 5, 1919. During all this time, I had received no letter from the States, and did not know where my outfit was. However, about this time, I joined

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Ibid.

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my outfit in Trier, Germany, where it was assisting in running a hospital.

"Trier, to me, had more historic value than any other city I had a chance to visit. It is an ancient city on the Moselle River about six miles from Coblentz. Outside of Southern France, no city of Europe contains so many well-preserved remains: The old Roman Gate, The Block Gate, is large and magnificent; Roman baths in one of the suburbs; the ruins of the palaces of the Emperors; and the large ampitheatre, which is just outside the town, was probably built in the reign of Hodrain of Jrejan, and accommodated eight thousand spectators.

"One of the most famous relics preserved is the "Holy Coat of The Trier," believed to be the seamless robe of the Savior, and it is said to have been discovered and presented to the city by the Empress Helena.

"After the Armistice, the town was occupied by units of the 3rd American Army, or the Army of Occupation, in which I served until I was discharged.

"I sailed from Brest, France, June 24, 1919 on theBattleship North Carolina, and arrived in New York, July 2. We stayed at Camp Merritt, New Jersey, for about 10 days, and from there went to Camp Shelby, Mississippi. I reached home July 20. I rested and loafed in Starkville until September 1, 1919, when I began work at Mississippi State College, where I have been working since that time as Chief Power Plant Engineer."

Ibid.
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IV. "I agree with Sherman in his definition of war," said (1) Mr. H. E. Benton, World War Veteran, when he was approached by the interviewer, "and I do not usually like to talk of it. If I can say anything, however, to show the horror, futility, and ghastliness of war, I will do so."

Although Mr. Benton's home is in Mississippi, he was working in Marian County, Alabama, when he was drafted for service in the United States Army. On March 18, 1918, he was sent to Camp Pike in Arkansas. Here the men were put through a period of intensive training in warfare, and were later divided into units. Mr. Benton's company was the 29th Company B of the 116th Infantry. On the 11th of June he sailed for France in a captured German ship and arrived without mishap.

Mr. Benton may well be impressed with the horror of war, as he was wounded so badly that an arm and a leg had to be amputated. It has not blinded him to the humor and comradship that soldiers meet, however, and he can tell many amusing incidents, such as this:

"We were hiking toward the Front, and did our walking at night, stopping just before daybreak to rest in some woody spot or shelter where we might be hidden from airplanes, One night we were ordered to halt at about three o'clock in the morning. We saw that we were at a section of woods, and the men made haste to pitch their pup tents, and lie down for a much needed rest. There was a battery of Allies' Artillery in the woods, but we didn't know it.

1--Mr. H. E. Benton, Starkville, Miss. --Conference
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"My pal and I were getting ready to pitch our tent, when we saw a deep gully half-filled with leaves. The idea came to us of filling the gully with more leaves, spreading our blankets over them and sleeping out in the open. This we did, and the bed was a lovely one.

"The next morning we awoke with the sun shining down in our faces. We sat up and looked around us in amazement. The woods were torn to pieces--big trees uprooted, their tops shot off and sticking upright in the ground beside their stumps, the ground plowed up by shells. There was not a pup tent in sight, every man in our company had disappeared. We didn't know what had happened ; we thought maybe the end of the world had come. As we were looking at each oth er in astonishment, we saw our sargeant coming across the field on a tour of inspection. He had seen us and was making his way to us. "What in thunderation are you doing here?", he bellowed. "Why where is everybody?", we stammered in reply. "'What's happened', you crazy fools, don't you know that the Gemmans shelled these woods in the night? They were looking for the Artillery Battery that is stationed here. When the firing began the men were ordered to retreat about half a mile to some dug-outs, and we spent the night there." My companion and I had not heard a single shot. It was the best night's sleep I ever had."

In the battle of Argonne Forest, Mr. Benton was wounded. They

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Ibid.
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were on the front lines, advancing across No Man's Land to the Germans. Shells were screaming all around them and bullets were falling like rain.. They were walking twelve a-breast, about 20 paces apart. Suddenly a huge shell went through Mr. Benton's hand and wrist, blowing them off. He was so stunned that he kept on walking. They advanced about 100 yards and sat down on some logs to wait for the rest of the Company, as they were some distance a-head of them. They had been seated only a few minutes when they decided to go back and meet the others. As they arose they noticed a German Machine-gun nest very near them. The Germans opened fire and wounded or killed all twelve of them except one boy who was slow in getting up from his seat. Mr. Benton was shot in the leg, and fell into a shell hole half full of water. This was at seven o'clock in the morning, and he lay there until four o'clock the next day.

He was conscious most of the time. Once a detail of men passed who were patrolling the front, and he begged them to take him back to the hospital. They replied that they had orders not to pick up the wounded, but that they would send someone for him when they reported back at 4 o'clock in the morning. Living on this hope, he lay and waited through the long night with fighting going onall around him. Once a soldier came and gave him water from his canteen. In the dead of the night when the fighting had quieted down some-

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Ibid.
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what, he saw a group of Germans come within 15 yards of where he lay. Their arms were filled with small boxes about the size of a cigar box. They dug shallow holes and put these in the ground. They were planting dynamite for the Allies' soldiers to stumble over. Mr. Benton started to speak to them, but thought that it would do no good--they would probably kill him.

Finally a friend, fighting nearby, heard his pleas for help and sent two Red Cross workers with a stretcher to get him. The Germans fired at them with a machine-gun as they were loading him onto the stretcher and he had several narrow escapes from death. After a long painful seige in a hospital in France, he sailed from Brest and landed home on the 28th of April, 1919.

"My experiences in the war are still fresh and vivid with me," said Mr. Benton. "Some of the memories are pleasant, happy, and gay, and some of them I would rather forget, but I know they will be with me always."

V. Brigadier General Harry Burgess was born in Starkville, Mississippi on February 22, 1872, the son of James and Susan Elizabeth Foster Burgess. (1)He studied at Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College and was graduated from West Point as an honor student in 1895. He taught engineering there from 1889 to

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1--Miss Fannie Burgess, Dallas, Texas--Conference

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During the Spanish-American War, he served as an engineer and participated in the quelling of the Phillipine Insurrection. Later he was placed in charge of survey ing and designing in preparation for the mammoth Muscle Shoals power development.

During the World War, he was in command of the Sixteenth and Thirtieth Engineers, A. E. F., and saw duty with both the British and American Armies. He participated in the Lys defensive operations and in the St. Mihiel and the Meuse-Argonne Offensives.

At the end of the war, after directing various phases of post-armistice r ailway reconstruction work, in France, he returned to the Mississippi River Commission as Director on the Rock Island district, when he was appointed engineer of the Eighth Corps Army Area, with headquarters in Houston, Texas.

In 1924, he was appointed engineer in charge of maintenance of the Panama Canal. He began by making an intensive survey of every phase of canal operation and management, visiting each operation unit and familiarizing himself with its details. On his retirement a dispatch from the Canal Zone said: "His administration was noted for his personal interest in the welfare of Canal employees, from the humblest laborer, and his works were of a public nature, which included the establishment of a Junior College. Cooperation between Panama and the Zone was never better, nor relations with people and governments more cordial than during his term."

Ibid.

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Brigadier General Burgess died at Hot Springs, Arkansas on March 18, 1933, and his remains were sent to Arlington National Cemetery.

Charles L. Foster:--

(1)Colonel Charles L. Foster served in the Phillipines and went to France with General Pershing's division. He was decorated by the French Government with the Cross of the Legion of Honor. Colonel Foster was born and reared in Starkville, Miss., and rendered valiant service to his country during the war. He now resides in Covington, La. and is a retired Colonel of the Medical Corp of the U. S. A. As surgeon at Base Section No. 1, services of supply; a position of great responsibility, due to his thorough training, energy and ability, he rendered services of great value at this important base port.

VI. (1) In the first Red Cross drive in Oktibbeha County, we were asked to raise about $1300 or $1.00 for each qualified elector in the County.Judge Carroll was named County Chairman and there were 5 Beat Chairmen named in the County. We were given 7 days in which to raise this fund. G. Odie Daniels was named chairman of Beat 4 and was asked to raise between four and five-hundred dollars. On the first day of the drive, with Judge Carroll, Colonel Sessums and Prof. Mellen, from the college, along with the College Band, we raised $1300 and before the week was out, about $4000 had been raised in the County.

1-----G. Odie Daniels, Starkville, Miss., Conference

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At Craig Springs, in Beat 4, an interesting and noteworthy incident occurred. The committee who had been sent to this place to raise funds, arrived there about 10 o'clock in the morning. There were three tenant farmers whose sons had already gone into the service. When approached, these fathers of the three young veterans came forward and made a contribution of $10.00 each and no one was ever asked to give more than that so these contributions were entirely voluntary. There could not have been more patriotism in any other county than in our own.

At one meeting to raise funds, there was an old blind negro who came to the meeting; led by his wife and his two small children This old negro had no way of making a living other than by weaving baskets, but he did his bit. When the children of this old man passed by the collection plate, they both left a one-dollar bill !

At another meeting at a negro church by the name of Mt. Zion, we went to receive donations. This church was filled to over-flowing with negroes. The college band played for them and they all got happy and begun to shout and to give their money and we actually had to make them quit giving as they were willing to give every cent that they had.

Every Liberty Loan drive in the County was fully subscribed; every Red Cross drive was over-subscribed and Oktibbeha County furnished its full quota of men and money for the over-seas war.

Ibid.

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The following excerpt will serve to show how fun and finance mingled in Oktibbeha County in helping our boys at the Front:

(1) Saturday, March 16, was indeed the Red Letter Red Cross day predicted for it. The very interesting exercises in connection with the raising of the Oktibbeha Service Flag took place at the Court House beginning at ten-thirty with Prof. J. V. Bowen master of ceremonies. The boy scouts and a number of high school pupils led the audience in patrioticesongs, and instructive patriotic addresses were delivered by Dr. B. M. Walker and Judge T. B. Carroll, which received the close attention of an appreciative audience. Hon. W. W. Magruder, in a pleasing manner, delivered government medals to eight of the boy scouts who had rendered the service flag, a gift to the County from the Red Cross. One hundred and six members of the soldiers who have gone out from the County corresponding to the stars on the flag were read in the hearing of a large crowd gathered to witness this impressive event. The stars and stripes and the service flag were raised at the same time, and as the breeze caught the folds of the two flags and unfurled them to full view, the boy scouts stood at military attention while the crowd joined in singing the "Star Spangled Banner."

Immediately after the exercises the auction sale took place. The contributions from all sections of the county had been most generous,

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1--Excerpt taken from East Mississippi Times, March 22, 1918.

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and, as a result, large, valuable quantities of stock, chickens, eggs, home-cured meat, cakes, pies, candies, preserves, jellies, canned goods, fancy work, and many other useful, salable artivles were in readiness to be sold. Mr. W. H. Sudduth as the efficient auctioneer who wielded the hammer during the first part of the sale, and after he had exhausted his voice in singing the praises of the various wares, he offered the public, Mr. T. G. James, was equally successful in persuading the crowd to buy, buy, buy for th e Red Cross. The first article put up for sale /it/ was a 25-cent bottle of snuff. The bidding was fast and furious until it was finally "knocked down" for $1.50, to a Red Cross member, who patriotically instructed that it be sold again. This was repeated time after time until before the day was over that one little bottle of snuff has added many dollars to the Red Cross funds. A beautiful cake was the subject of enthusiastic bidding and the lucky man who secured it gladly paid $6.50 for the delectable dainty. Quite a bit of fun was occasioned when "General Pershing" a thorough-bred Rhode Island Red Rooster, was offered for sale. Everybody clamored for the honor of owning so distinguished a bird, and his price soared high, but the fortunate bidder, who finally secured the prize generously allowed his competitors another chance by giving the instructions so often repeated that day "sell him again","General Pershing" was sold no less

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Ibid.

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than eight times, and this bird of brilliant plumage and famous cognomen netted the round sum of $38.50 to the Red Cross. Still another bird that created much merriment and whose many virtues were extolled by the enthusiastic auctioneer was "Mrs. McAdoo". Although she could not "cock-a-doodle-doo" she was "some bird" and did her part nobly for the Red Cross.

The sale lasted throughout the day, and the enthusiasm of the crowd did not wane until every article that had been contributed had been sold. The total receipts of the sale were $700.00; a very tangible evidence of the whole-hearted interest of the entire community in the Red Cross organization in our county.

Special credit is due to Mrs. W. W. Scales, Jr. the chairman of the local chapter, and Mrs. John White and Mrs. Joe Hartness who with the enthusiastic and efficient aid of their various committees were largely instrumental in making it the outstanding success that it was.

To further show to the reader just how far we people went in sacrificing for our boys at the front, we insert the following self-explanatory poem:

(1) CLIPPINGS:

My Tuesdays are meatless,
My Wednesdays are wheatless,
I am getting more eatless each day,

1---Copied from East Mississippi Times, March 1918

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My home it is heatless
My bed it is sheetless,
They've been sent to the Y. M. C. A.
The bar-rooms are treatless
My coffee is sweetless,
Each day I get poorer and wiser,
My stockings are feetless,
My trousers are seatless,
My God, how I do hate the Kaiser!."

The Red Cross created much patriotic feeling and various ways were instigated to raise money--such as "Tag Days" (from which was netted the sum of $35.90); recitals, entertainments of all kinds.

Even the younger generation became much interested in the Red Cross work and a Junior Red Cross Chapter was organized. On May, 10, 1918, we get this report from them:

"The Junior Red Cross of the Starkville Public School has sent to the French Orphans $179.82 in money. They have spent for clothing funds to the amount of $118.82, and have made up for the first shipment; fifty garments, and for the second shipment which is to be the fifteenth of this month, they hope to have one hundred and fifty garments ready."

The record of service for the Red Cross during the world war can be briefly summed up in the following authentic paragraphs:

Ibid.

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(1)"The Red Cross Chapter of Oktibbeha County, Miss., is not one of the largest in the Gulf Division, but its record for the year ending with July was remarkable. The chpater has a member ship of 2015, including thirteen auxiliaries, branches and Junior Chapters. It handled a total of $5, 260,.80 during the year.

"Shipments including 2,200 knitted articles; 100 Hospital Garments, 9000 surgical dressing; 220 Comfort bags for local selected men; 825 garments made by juniors and 5,000 second-hand garments for refugees."

The Y.M.C.A. did splendid work, too, and its fund for Oktibbeha County was completed November 27, 1917, and had raised $5000--this was $2000 over the allotted amount for Oktibbeha County.

The United War Work Campaign which was put on by boys of the A & M College of Starkville, had a splendid record of service during the war. The subscribed $13,045.30 to this cause. Following is a very interesting report of this campaing:

(2)"The United War Work Campaign which colsed at 1 p.m., Nov. 20th, was a decided success from every standpoint. In spite of the fact that we had barely recovered from the terrible epidemic of the influenza, every man entered into the campaign with great enthusiasm, determined that A & M College should make a creditable contribution. Rivalry between the various companies became quite spirited, each

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1--Starkville News--Aug. 9, 1918
2--"Reflector", A & M College newspaper, of Nov. 30, 1918

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company trying to excell the other in generosity. A beautiful Silver Loving Cup was offered to the company making the largest per capita contribution to the fund. It was also announded that a beautiful pennant would be presented to every company that made 100 per cent, i.e., every man giving something. The Student Company was the first to announce that they were entitled to a pennant. All of the other companies in Section A soon followed with the same claim to distinction. The Naval Company won the loving cup, the 4th Co. gave them the fright of their lives when it was ascertained that the men of the 4th Co. were giving them a mighty close race. The 7th Company was close upon the heels of the 4th, while the 5th and 6th were running neck and neck for a time. Particular credit is due to the plucky fellows of the Student Company, many of whom are working their way through school. 110 of them gave $825.00. Below we give the Number of men in each Company and amounts contributed:

4th Company------	173 men----------	$2360.00
5th Company------	174 men----------	1459.00
6th Company------	181 men----------	1482.60
7th Company------	158 men----------	2081.20
Naval Co. -----	108 men----------	2246.50
Student Co.-----	110 men----------	825.00
Section B.,-----	528 men----------	2002.00
Faculty		435.00
Total		$12,891.30
From Other Sources		154.00
Total		$13,045.30

Ibid.

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" This is a handsome sum and the men deserve great credit for the splendid manner in which they responded. Secretary Rogers informs headquarters upon the splendid reoprt from A. & M. and he in turn desires to pass the credit on to the men who deserve it. Happy is the man who sacrifices for a great cause!"

4th Company War Work Campaign.

Comapny 4 had again proven to be the best company at A & M, going "Over the Top" in the war work Campaing. It is highly gratifying to the company and to others to know that they have resppnded with the spirit and promptness that was shown in this campaign. Other companies not willing, or even not able to keep time with the pace set by Company 4,. The committee in charge of this campaign deserve special credit for devoting their time so faithfully to the work. A list of committees is given below, together with amount solicited by them and the per capita subscriptions:

Committee No.	Amount	Per Capita
1. Hunter, Brown	$202.50	$10.13
2. Beets, Wilson	330.00	15.71
3. Anderson, Williams	189.60	9.48
4. Chance, Baone	240.00	10.43
5. Chance, Humphries	228.00	11.40
6. Riggs, Nelson	277.00	11.08
7. Greene, Stewart	312.49	12.49
8. Powe, Henderson	170.00	14.16

Ibid.

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Total Amount Subscribed----------$2360.00

Total Amount Cash Subscription---------- 887.14

Number of Subscribers----------173

Amount per Capita----------12.40

5th Company

In the fifth Company the work was handled by Garber, J. H., Murphy, R. A. , Smith, C. E. These men deserve much credit in the manner in which the work was carried on and the amount contributed to the campaign. Of the total amount a large per cent was paid in cash.

6th Company.

A. L. Spencer and E. E. Woodall had charge of the 6th Company drive and the success made of it is due largely to their untiring efforts. The Corporals of each squad solicited the subscriptions from their men and turned it in to those in charge. The first squad averaged $15 per man. Over half of the total subscription was in cash.

7th Company.

The past week witnessed the close of the United War Work Campaign among the companies. The results as a whole were far above the expectations, and a credit to the entire corps, 7th Company

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Ibid.

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using as their motto "Actions speak louder than words", differing widely from that of some of the other companies, lived up to their motto and rapidly took rank among the first companies. Backed up by the Company Officers, the committee appointed worked with a will resulting in a total subscription of $2,192.00. The men responded in a true A & M fashion, not a man failing to subscribe, putting the 7th Company over the top with a 100 per cent subscription.

From the Starkville News of 1918 we take the following:

"The Regina Harrison Lee Chapter U. D. C., has purchased four Liberty Loan Bonds through a local bank as an investment, and as substantial evidence of its loyal patriotsm in the great crisis, of the Nation's history.

"We give these names of local individuals who gave outstanding service under the different organizations:

Mr. Manuel Mitchell is worthy of espeical mention in the columns of Patriotism and humanitarianism. He handed the Red Cross his check for $25.00, the dues for Life Membership and is the only Life Member in the Community."

Mr. R. C. Bridges, Mayor of Starkville--head of the Red Cross; Judge T. B. Carroll, Chairman of Liberty Loan Dirve; Mr. Go Odie Daniels, Vice-chairman of the Liberty Loan Drive; Dr. B. M. Walker, Lecturer for Red Cross and Liberty Loan; Mr. M. A. Saunders, Lecturer for Red Cross and Liberty Loan;

Ibid.

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Mr. R. K. Weir, Lecturer for the Red Cross and Liberty Loan Drives;

Mr. Frank Weir, Lecturer for the Red Cross and Liberty Loan Drives;

Rev. T. C. Weir, Lecturer for the Red Cross and Liberty Loan Drives;

Rev. F. Z. Browne, Lecturer for the Red Cross and Liberty Loan.

Dr. J. W. Eckford, taught first Aid Class,

Dr. H. L. Scales, taught First Aid Class,

Mr. C. E. Scroggins, Organizer of the Junior Red Cross,

Mr. L. B. Camp, Organizer of the Junior Red Cross,

Mr. Ike Katz; Mr. H. Cunningham, Mr. P. G. Sudduth, Mr. W. H. Sudduth, Mr. A. M. Maxwell, Mr. W. W. Scales; Dr. A. H. Rice; Mr. J. Wirt Carpenter, Mr. H. H. Reynolds, Mr. A; W. Reynolds, Mr. A. F. Rush; Mr. Lee Boyd, Mr. R. P. Washington. These were the men who did anything that fell to their lot to do and in that way rendered great service to their country.

The men were not the only onew who rendered service totheir country, as witnessed by the long list of women whose names follow: Mrs. Bertha Scales, Chairman of the Red Cross; Miss Jerome Sage; Miss Mena Blumenfeld; Mrs. T. W. Woodward; Mrs. E. D. Slaughter; Miss Mildred Barr; Mrs. W. F. Hand; Mrs. W. H. Gunn; Mrs. M. E. Walker, Miss Minnie Walker; Mrs. R. G. Porter; Mrs. Paul Castles; Mrs. Jodie Morgan; Mrs. Henry Montague; Mrs. T. J. Gladney; Mrs. Walter Page; Mrs. Everett Russell; Mrs. T. J. Gray; Mrs. H. A. Battie

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Ibid.

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Mrs. J. W. Eckford; Mrs. Marshall; Mrs. M. A. Saunders; Mrs. H. T. Saunders; Miss Annie Montgomery; Mrs. Hughes; Mrs. W. C. Love; Mrs. J. M. Bryant; Mrs. J. T. Crow; Miss Rose Carothers, Mrs. Benton Gaston; Mrs. H. Cunningham; Mis Anne Pope; Mrs. J. W. Pope; Miss Madge Montgomery; Mrs. D. A. Saunders.

CIVIL WAR---I.

No battles or skirmishes were fought in Oktibbeha County during the Civil War. Troops often marched through doing their share of pillaging and raiding, but the county missed the fearful destruction caused by shot and shell. This county, therefore, was practically free from active contact with the war. The only fighting was the occasion when Grierson invaded the county. He was soon driven out by Confederate Calvary through West Point to the Vicinity of Tupelo.

II. Oktibbeha County Companies in the Civil War are as follows: Company G. Agency Rifles, organized at Choctaw Agency, April 20, 1861. Company K. Oktibbeha Blow Boys, organized at Whitfield, April 20 with Capt. J. M. Watson; First Lieut. A. R. Smith; Second Lieut. T. S. Watson; Third Lieut. Staunton. Company C. Oktibbeha Rescues organized at Starkville on April 24. Capt. A. J. Maxwell; First Liert. J. R. Rogers; Second Lieut. F. H. DuQuercron; Third Liert. H. L. Muldrow;. Company A. Oktibbha Rifles. Capt. E. O. Huntley; First Liert. Champ Huntley; Second Lieut. Wm. H. Hannah; Third Lieut. W. L. Herndon.

Ibid.

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Company E. Capt. James Ervin; First Lieut. T. A. Burgin; Second Lient. W. H. Ellis; Third Lieut. J. E. Joiner. This Company was captured at Vicksburg, July 4, 1863.

Company K. Invincible Warriors, made up of Oktibbeha, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Lowndes County volunteers.

The First Mississippi Regiment, or what was known as the 155th Regiment, was completed in August and ordered into camp at Iuka for instruction. John Simonton was selected as colonel. The complete roster of this regiment may be found in Dr. Rowland's register, Military History Of Mississippi. This regiment went into service at Hopkinsville, Ky. in the winter of 1861-1862. Eleven men of this regiment are buried there. This regiment was next sent to Fort Donalson, where they were attacked by General Grant. Colonel Simonton commanded a Brigade in the fighting around this place. On the surrender of this fort, this regiment became prisoners of war until exchanged. After being exchanged in October, they were ordered to report to Meridian. They were then taken from Colonel Simonton and consolidated under Col. W. B. Shelby, forming a part of Gen. Beallis Brigade. This regiment was again surrendered at Port Hudson on July 8th. After exchange the regiment was ordered to report at Columbus, May 20th. From there it was ordered by General S. D. Lee to report to Meridian doing provost duty. In November this Regiment with Featherstnnes' Brigade crossed the Tennessee in December,

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Ibid.

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and marched into winter Quarters near Tupelo. April 9, 1865 the First, 22nd, and 33rd Regiments were consolidated as the 22nd Regiment under Colonel Oatis. On April 18th, the army surrendered and paroled.

III. Company "C", 14th Mississippi/

"The Oktibbeha Rescues"

Captain, Andrew J. Maxwell, First Lieut. Joel P. Rogers (later became Captain); Second Lieut. F rank H. Duquercron, Third Lieut. Henry L. Muldrow; Orderly Seargent, George Dillard.

Negro Cooks:

Wash Chiles----Smith Merriner

George Arnold,	J. W. W. Beard,	Benj. F. Bell
James G. Bell,	Joseph A. Bell,	William M. Bell,Jr.
Pleas Bolin,	S. C. Breck,	John B. Bradshaw
Robert Bradshaw,	George W. Brogan,	John W. Brown
John Bryant,	J. W. Butler,	R. L. Cannon
John T. Chiles,	J. J. Clark,	E. P. Connell
John Connell,	L. T. Connell,	George W. Cook
Willis J. Cook,	John H. Cooper,	L. L. Cooper
A. P. Cottrell,	J. A. Cottrell,	A. A. Cox
James A. Cox	George E. Critz	William L. Crommell

Ibid.

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Archie Davis	J. A. Davis	J. E. Davis
J. G. Davis	G. G. Dillard	T. E. Dillard
Sam. L. Dubose	Lee Duquercron	E. P. Gable
J. B. Gay	Jum Gillespie	Tom A. Gladney
J. S. Gordon	Calvin Graham	Charles Graham
Nathan Graham	D. J. Green	J. L. Green
B. E. Greer	Olviver D. Haigood	T. R. Hall
Hohn H. Hardy	Y. J. Harrington	Wm. Harris
W. N. Harris	Henry P. Hearon	Thosx A. Henly
S. T. High	Jas. W. Hodnett	John B. Hogan
Wm. N. Hogan	W. D. Holly	Wm. Jackson
G. T. James	Jno. W. James	Frank M. Johnson
Wm. L. Joiner	Jno. E. Jordan	C. T. Keeney
Pinchney H. Kennedy	H. H. Lansing	Wm. T. Lockhart
J. T. Lovett	Geo. W. Maddox	Thos. A. Maddox
Nathan L. McAllister	Alexander McAmis	Robt. C. McCreight
Wm. B. McKell	Robt. L. McNatt	Alex McPhail
J. M. McPhail	Jeff F. Merchant	W. H. Merriner
Lawson L. Millen	C. P. Montgomery	J. H. Montgomery
George Morgan	J. W. Mosely	W. C. Muldrow
Smith Myers	John H. Owen	Elisha Owen
John W. Parker	James M. Peedin	Wm. H. Peoples
B. E. Petty	John Pope	Franklin M. Powell

Ibid.

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Moses Price	W. H. Puller	Henry M. Ramsey
Frank E. Ramsey	Blewitt Redus	Joseph Richburg
J. G. Riddle	J. C. Roberson	James M. Ross
C. Rowan	John Ruffin	Vint Ruffin
William H. Ruffin	F. W. Russell	Wm. L. Sanders
J. G. Saxon	W. A. Sitton	Jas. B. Skinner
W. W. Sloan	J. B. Smith	Oliver Smith
Jos. R. Spier	J. W. Stallings	D. A. Thomas
Andrew M. Thompson	John T. Thompson	H. D. Vinson
Wm. Wallace	Wm. Ward	David Watson
Jessie Watson	C. B. Watt	J. G. Watt
J. J. Watt	T. T. Weatherby	W. M. Weatherby
James White(1)	James White(2)	Joseph White
Luke White	B. D. Whitney	J. C. Williams

Company "C" 35th Mississippi

Captain R. J. Johnson(wounded at Corinth)
1st. Lieut. Peter Quinn
2nd. Lieut. W. G. Russell
3rd. Lieut. A. A. Cox (wounded--lost leg)
1st. Sgt. G. G. Dillard
2nd. Sgt. J. O. Henry
3rd. Sgt. Alec Lide
4th Sgt. Robert Hardy
5th Sgt. J. W. Moseley(Killed in Georgia)

Ibid.

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First Corporal---E. R. Datso

Second Corporal--A. M. Reese

Third Corporal-- M. F. Johnston

Fourth Corporal--F. W. Russell

PRIVATES

Felix Arnold
H. M. Arnold
John Arnold
Taylor Brooks
Tom Becham (died in service)
John Black (killed at Corinth)
John Bennett
Tom Bruce (killed at Vicksburg)
A. J. Butler (killed at Corinth)
J. H. Butler
Dr. Canfield
J. O. Canfield
Zack Carroll
Robt. Clark (wounded at Corinth)
Tom Champion (died in service)
M. Clarady (died in service)
James Clarady
C. Coleman
E. N. Coleman

Ibid.

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H. M. Coleman
Allen Cotton
Peter Cotton
Henry Cotton
Wm. Cook
A. H. Cooper
R. L. Cooper
L. L. Cooper
Thomas Courtney
W. R. Crowley
Bill Cummins (Discharged)
J. A. Cox
Theo. Daivs (died in service)
Tom E. Dillard
W. A. Dillard
Elbert Findlay (killed at Corinth)
Wm. Findlay
Thos. B. Fox
Rev. W. L. Foster (Chaplain 1st)
Wm. Garvin
Wm. Garrett (wounded at Corinth)
Ed Garner

D. L. Gibson
J. C. Gibson
J. B. Gibson
Seth Gibbons (lost eye--Corinth)
J. H. Hannah
John Hardy (wounded at Corinth)
Tom Harmon
W. C. Harpool
Mart Harpool
J. N. Harpool (killed in Tenn.)
F. M. Harpool
J. H. Hartsfield (killed-Vicksburg)
P. Hartsfield (died in service)
Jim Hayes
J. G. Hawkins (killed in Georgia)
Robert S. Harris
H. A. Hearon
Asa G. Herring
John O. Henry (wounded-Corinth)
Tom Henderson
Buz Hines (killed - Corinth)
Wm. Johnson (died in service)

Ibid.

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J. A. Johnson (killed at Corinth)
W. F. Jordan
John Kennedy (killed at Vicksburg)
A. F. Keeton
Lark Logan (wounded at Corinth)
W. H. Long
H. Luther
Tom Madkins
E. Madkins
W. C. McKee
Wm. McKenny (wounded at Corinth)
J. M. McPhail
John Melton
Jim Miller
Pinky Miller (died in prison)
J. M. Mitchell
Calvin Mitchell
W. H. Moore (killed in action)
T. R. F. Moore (lost eye at Corinth)
Church Montgomery
J. W. Morris
Dan Muse (killed at Corinth)
T. J. Mackin (died in service)
J. W. Madcliff
J. O. Nickels

John Orgley (died in service)
Wm. Paramore
Wm. W. Parrish
R. B. Peterson
W. M. Perkins
W. D. Peedin
H. Pierce
Hugh Pope
William Pope
W. D. Powell (wounded at Corint
T. Pulham
J. W. Parke
J. W. Powell
Tom Reed
O. H. P. Reese (wounded-Geo.) (wounded-Corinth (died in prison)
J. R. Reynolds
H. O. Riddle (died in service)
F. W. Riddle (died in service)
W. Robertson (died in service)
J. S. Scott
A. T. Shaffer
John Shaffer (wounded-Corinth)
W. A. Sherdin (died in service

Ibid. Minnie Walker, Supervisor

J. E. Sheppard

J. R. Skinner (killed-Georgia)

T. J. Smith (lost hand-Vicksburg)

T. B. Smith

J. L. Smith

A. R. Smith (Lost arm- Corinth)

D, H. Smith (died in service)

Robt. Smith (died in service)

Andy Sheapard (died in service)

John Sweeden

J. H. Stillman (wounded-Corinth, Lost eye while in prison)

W. T. Telford

Arthur Taylor (killed-Corinth)

F. A. Templeton(wounded-Corinth)

Jim Templeton

B. L. Terry (died in service)

W. N. Thompson

F. M. Thompson (wounded-Corinth)

L. R. Thompson

A. M. Thompson

J. T. Walson

B/ B. Williams (killed in Georgia)

M. S. Williams

Dr. Wilkerson

Ibid.

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Jim Westbrook

J. D. Youngblood(killed at Corinth)

W. B. Young

In addition to the appalling casualty list as noted above, 52 survivors had died in the short period of one year after the close of the war.

The Ladies Aid Society played an important part in this great drama. The roster of this society was as follows:

MESDAMES:

Sallie McCreight	Regina M. Bishop
Jane L. Maxwell	Emma Bardwell
E. A. Hogan	Amelia Hogan
Mary E. Sellers	Sally Curry

MISSES:

Mary Thompson	Sallie Thompson (Freeman)
Sallie Glenn (Mrs. W. B. Montgomery)	Emma Glenn (Mrs. Pope Williams)
Nannie Middleton (Mrs. Nason)	
Fannie Middleton	
Mary Harrington	Loura Ward
Eliza Buntin	Mollie Cross
Virginia Cillier	Clemmie Chiles

Ibid.

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IV. There are still a few of the old letters from the front and from the war prisons remaining--these are the possessions of some of those loved ones to whom they were written. One of these interesting letters is owned by (1)the Henrys, written by their father:

April 20th, 1863

Dear Wife and Family:

"I seat myself to drop you a few lines to let you know where I am. We are in 8 miles of Vicksburg. We got here 3 or 4 days ago. I have nothing stragne to write. I am in tolerable good health, and we have tolerable good rations at present. I can't say how long it will continue.

"The boys are all well. We have had a fight at Vicksburg with the gun boats--it was the heaviest firing that I ever heard. The fighting was done with cannon; we lost but four men . We burned one boat and sunk two and crippled several and six passed down the river. We are looking for a general engagement as the Yankees are shelling the town at this time, and have been shelling it for the last two or three days. I can't say how we will come out, so I will drop the subject.

v Martha, Justice recieved a letter last night from Uncle John in which he wrote that he had sold his cotton for 25¢. I think that we had better sell ours if we can get that for ours for it is a good time to pay debts--if you sell it; I want that lawyer fee paid.

1--Letter written to Mr. Isham Henry and Miss Queenie Henry of Center Grove Community.

I will write Uncle John afew lines to get him to attend to it for you. I want you to write how the wheat is doing and how you are g getting along farming and how much you haveplanted and write how everything looks. Direct your letters to Vicksburg, this is the second letter that I have written. I want you to write often and I will do the same. I can't t write what I want to write for everything is in a stir here and it is no time to write.

If Mr. Cushman is at home, you can tell him that his regiment is camped at the same old place and has been there all the time and at Snider's Bluff. You can also tell Spence Cott that he is exchanged and has been for some time and you can tell him that they are looking for him and he had better come soon.

I want you to write how much our tax was worth. All I can say is for you to do the best you can and remember me. Bless my little babes and kiss them for me. Tell Bird to be a good boy. Tell Ellen that I have got her some rings and will send them at the first opportunity. Tell her that she must make me a shirt and a pair of pants. I will soon be home if I am permitted to live.

John W. Henry.

A very interesting letter follows from a Yankee soldier written to (1) folks back home:

Hamburg, Tenn.,
April 27th, 1862.

My Dear Sue:

I wrote you a few days since, fearing however that it has been

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1-- Letter owned by the Henry; Centergrove, Community.

miscarried or intercepted, I write again. We are all at this place and expect to move forward in a short time on Corinth--a distance of sixteen or eighteen miles. We are expecting a contested battle as we learn the rebels are in large force.

When that time comes up, we will made the rebels feel the weight of our power and steel. I have seen many of the natives of this country and they present a woe-begone look. They look like they never had the advantage of an education. I notice some of the women's dresses. You ought to be here to take a glance at their appearance. Their hoops are made of grape-vine and oake splits. I feel sorry for the poor ignorant things. We will teach them in a few days how to live without white oak splits and grape-vines. They are now the same as conquered. One more blow and this country is ours. I have my eye on a fine situation and how happy we will be in our Southern home after we get possession of the lands. We can make the men raise cotton and corn and the women can act in the capacity of domestic servants; the women are very ignorant and only a grade above the negro. We can live like Kings.

My love to all the neighbors; kiss all the children for me and tell them Pa will be back soon.

Adieu, My dearest,

James Donnley

("The above mentioned James Donnley was taken prisoner at Shilo and is now "how happy in his Southern home.")

Ibid.

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This post-script was added by the person who took the letter from the prisoner.

V. Interviews:

(1)"You know, they say, "began Col. J. D. Love, "That a Confederate soldier is like George Washington--he can't tell a lie!" His eyes twinkled slyly as he regarded the interviewer. "So you will just have to believe everything that I tell you."

After being assured of our willingness to believe, he still hesitated to begin his tale. Instead he spoke of the weather, current news, and everything else he could think of, all the while keeping a wary eye on our pencil and paper.

Although Mr. Love is 95 years old, his frame is erect and his mind is alert. He is interested in everything going on in the world, and he loves a good joke.

He was a youth of 19 when the war broke out, studying at La Grange College in La Grange, Tenn. He was the first boy to enlist, but within a week there was not one student at the school. After a brief period of training at Pensacola, Fla., his regiment, the 11th Mississippi Regiment, joined the troops at Corinth. The young man was hurled right into the midst of hard fighting. His regiment was one of the first to get to Harper's Ferry.

"We were under a Captain Jackson there," said Mr. Love, "and we boys didn't think much of him. He seemed insignificant and not much of a soldier. This man turned out to be Stonewall Jackson, and after one or two battles, we would do anything for

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1--Interview--J. D. Love, Starkville, Miss.
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him. We boys used to say that we marched three horses to death for Jackson."

"War is hard, hard business. You don't know anything of marching, until you are almost dead. I've walked many a mile in my sleep, stopping only when I bumped into the man in front of me. I've made many a meal of nothing but a hard cake made of cornmeal mixed with water."

Mr. Love had several narrow escapes from death. In the Battle of the Seven Pines, one of Mr. Love's first, he was wearing his new gray uniform.

"The coat was gray, velvet-breasted, and covered with gold buttons," said Mr. Love, "and I surely was proud of it. During the battle, I had my arm up fixing my bayonet to the end of my gun, when a shell fell near me, killing six men of the Chickasaw Guards. The shell grazed my elbow, tearing the new coat, went down my leg, and tore off my shoe. It did not hurt me, but the shock was so great that I was paralyzed for several hours. But the boys always said, "Nothing could kill Jim Love"

In the battle of Gettysburg, however, he was felled at last. "I was in the thick of the fight," Mr. Love reminisced, "when I felt a pin scratch across my knee, and it wouldn't walk anymore. I made some crutches out of two muskets and hobbled off the field, shells and bullets dropping all around me.

Ibid.

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I was taken to the hospital, and a Quart of whiskey was poured down me while the doctor probed and dressed my wound. I was given more whiskey and taken to a small tent to sleep. About 36 hours later, I awoke when a bullet pierced the top of my tent. As badly as it hurt me, I crawled outside, and saw that the wounded were being moved. They were being loaded into an ambulance. I called to Doc Shields and made him hear me. The driver didn't want to pick me up, as I was too close to where they were fighting. Dr. Shields held his pistol to the man's head and said, "Now, go get that man." When I was put on the wagon, the driver beat the horses with all his force getting them away. "

All the ambulance trucks then set out in a train to carry the wounded men to a hospital in Virginia. They journeyed along in the hot sun, the men suffering tortues. Just before they came to cross the Potomac river, the attendants gave them all fresh water, and spoke encouragingly of the good food, ice water, and soft beds awaiting them. They had proceeded only a short distance, however, when they saw blue-coated figures only a short distance away, approaching in the distance. It was a troop of Yankee Calvary. They captured the train of wounded Rebel soldiers and took them to a Federal hospital on the Susquehannah

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Ibid.

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river, He stayed in this hospital, suffering miserably, for over a year. The Yankees were good to them , however, and they received kind treatment. Because of the intense pain they were given a quart of whiskey a day to drink. Later they were transferred to Point Lookout, a camp for wounded, and still later they were loaded on a ship to go to Virginia. The Yankees and the Confederates had agreed to exchange prisoners.

When the boat anchored, however, there was some hitch in the plans, much parleying, and it looded as if there would be no exchange. In the Quiet of the night the old wounded Rebels emptied the lamps of all the oil, and whittled every piece of wood they could get into fine shavings. They planned to burn the ship and take their chances of swimming to shore rather than be returned to Point Lookout. The captain of the ship discovered the plan and, panic-stricken, told officials that they would have to exchange prisoners. He was not goung to keep them a minute longer on his ship . Thus it was finally accomplished.

After another dong siege in a Southern hospital, Mr. Love was allowed to return home, having done his part for his country.

REMEMBERED BY A BAREFOOT BOY

(1) "Dear Sister, come with me behind the Confederate firing line and let us talk together of the things that are happening,

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1----Manuscript furnished by Claudee Maxwell, Mt.Kisco,N.Y.

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of the sacrifices, the suffering, and the patriotism of our loved ones.

Today the first gun of the Civil War is fired at Fort Sumpter, and fired by our much beloved Stephen D. Lee, the new flag is unfurled and the war cry is sounded throughout one beautiful Southland. To Arms! To Arms! and even little village of Starkville is all action, and the flower of the manhood of our community is flocking in, for enlistment into the ranks of an army that shall see four years of the bloodiest war in history.

But of this I am not to speak, but shall take my position again behind the battle line. Let us draw over the parting of husbands and wives, mothers and sons, brothers and sisters, a veil that shall obscure from view the tears and heart throbs incident to such an ordeal. Our boys are mostly joining the infantry, but a number of Calvary Companies are organizing, some have joined the artillery, and even a few have gone to Pensacola and Mobile to join the Navy. They a re off, and we are left with the old men and boys, and at the mercy of a great horde of slaves. We shall know later how true and faithful the old negroes prove.

Without organization and conservation at home it would be useless to send our boys to the front. The qu estion of food and raiment, manufacture of war munitions, first present themselves, and everything went in thatdirection.

Ibid.

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Our Government, early in its career, passed a tithing law-- one tenth of all crops, hogs, cattle, sheep, horses, and mules must be collected by agents of the Goverrnment and placed in accessable places so that they may reach the seat of war when needed.

From the Heron Store (Jackson & Lampkin Sts.) to Mr. Page's residence was a building for storing such food-stuff as corn in from the farmers crops in this neighborhood. An army officer is in charge of these supplies.

They must have shoes, saddles, bridles, harness, and other leather equipment, so over the country were placed many tanyards to prepare the leather for these purposes. Just west of Mr. Ward's mill, on Main St. you will find the relics of our tanyard, where such leather was turned out, and the boot and shoe makers were busy. On the Rock-Road (College St.) was a saddle shop where army saddles were made,and another on Main St.

The farmers usually made their own salt by digging the dirt from his smoke-house and boiling it down until a good quality of salt was produced. Our horse stables were dug up, and the dirt placed in hoppers and dripped off to make nitre for the manufacture of powder. The nearest gun factory was in Columbus Arsenal, and made into Army Guns.

Ibid.
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They must have clothing. The old wooden loom, the spinning wheel must go to work in many of the homes, and the quality of the goods turned out would surprise you. The older ladies knitting needles were busy during the day, and most of the night turning out socks for the soldier boys. We had an old store on Main Street, converted into a tailor shop for making uniforms for the soldiers. Columbus had the nearest hat factory where you could carry your wool and exchange for splendid wool hats for the Army. Our hats for the home were made by our ladies, of straw, and of palmetto, which was then found in large quantities in Catoepa Swamp between here and Artesia. Wheat and oat straw was also used, and it would put our present milliners to the blush to see the output.

Great droves of cattle, hogs, and sheep could be seen passing through our streets on their way to the front for the use of the army.

The Ladies Aid Society played an inportant part in this great drama.

The old men and boys were always waiting at the Post Office to get the latest news from the front. and no pen could tell of the anxious swelling hearts of the waiting ones at home, anxious, and afraid to hear from their loved ones-a few dear hearts still remain in our little town, who could tell you of the news receiv-

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Ibid.

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ed of husbands, sons, and brothers, who fell in gallant charges in the hottest of the fight, and many who died from ravages of disease incident to exposure. A number of our citizens where killed at Vicksbury in the vated mine explosion when Grant's men tunnelled under our trenches.

Another condition that tried the heart strings of our loved ones at home was the news that many of their loved ones were captured and carried off to Nathm hospitals wher they could seldom hear from them . I remember so well when I met my old School Teacher walking one day up Main Street dispensing news from our far away prisoner boys in Douglas, where the city of Chicago has spread. It was through the kind efforts of a Chicago lady who was an ardent Southern symapathizer, that this escape had been made possible. The old hoop-shirt played its part in many of the escapes that this good woman effected before she was discovered. They were allowed to visit the prisoners and under her hoop-shirt, she would bring in citizens suits, and after our soldiers had laid aside their filthy prison garments and donned a splendid suit of the latest cut, they could then walk out with other citizens without being detected. May the south over cherish this dear woman's memory, her name has escaped me.

But it is hard to keep behind the battle lines and let

history tell it all, when we are aroused early one morning with the cry "The Yankees are Coming". As fast as possible everything of value was being hid away, and the old men, the boys, and the negroes were hastening away to the woods with the mules and horses. This was Gen. Griendon, who made his hashing raid from Memphis to Baton Rouge,---so quick and fast did he ride that only a few shots were fired at his command in South Mississippi. He carried away much property, mainly slaves and horses, and destroyed what he could not use. In his next effort , to repeat this raid, he was met by Gen, Forest, and friven back into Memphis. Our town had been selected for the seat of battle , and Gen. Forrest's men poured into town from every direction, and where Mr. Dean now lives (sic) he placed his cannon, tearing down all the front paling fence around the place. Every available place within a mile of town was covered with soldiers, and our government warehouse came into good use to provide for this army. But, late in the afternoon news came that the enemy had been halted near the lake between here and West Point, so everything, Infantry, Calvary, and Artillery, left in full rush to the front. When Gen. Forrest remounted his horse in front of where Clardy's store (3 doors wwest of Bell's cafe) is now located. -then occupied by a three-story

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Masonic building, used as General Forrest's headquarters, it is said that he left his saddle only once, and then to drop a tear on the face of his brother, Colonel Forrest, killed a few miles above here until he rode his horse into the Corridor of the Gayoso Hotel in Memphis, which was then occupied by a "Federal Garreon."

The Spanish- American War:

(1) The most important event of Governor McLaurin's administration was the Spanish-American War. In response to the call of the President, Mississippi raised two regiments of volunteers, neither of which ever reached the battle front. (2) The first regiment was placed under the command of Colonel George M. Govan, and the second under Colonel Wm. A. Montgomery, and a battallion of the third Regiment was raised and placed under the command of Lieut. Colonel Robert W. Banks. Another formed in theState, the Fifth Immune, was mustered at Columbus. These were under Colonel H. D. Money. James K, Vardaman was one of the Majors of this Regiment. This Regiment reached the Front and did valiant service when courage was desired to face danger of pestilence as well as the Spanish foe. It did garrison duty from August 1898 to March 1899.

1-- Riley's History of Mississippi, Spanish-American War.
2--Dunbar Rowland--Mississippi Register, Military History of Miss.

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(1) (2) Oktibbeha County did not furnish a company on this war but several of the young men of that day joined other companies in order to get in the service of the County. The ones that entered the service were mustered in at Jackson, Miss. April 1, 1898 in Company N. First Volunteer Infantry. They were transferred then to Chickamauga Park T enn., later to Lauderdale Springs, Miss. and still later to Columbia, Tenn., where they were mustered out in service December 21, 1898. While at Lauderdale Springs, the whole group of Oktibbeha County boys were taken down with Typhoid fever with the exception of Harris Maxwell and Robert Alston, however none of them died. Those on the sick list were as follows: Walter Yeates, now of West Point; Clarence Harvey, San Francisco, Cal.; Henry Martin, Starkville, Miss.; Robert G. Davis, Starkville, Miss.; Edward D. Yeates, Starkville, Miss.; May Stewart, Starkville, Miss.; Jacob S. Newman. The following Oktibbeha boys are now dead: Wm. H. Thompson; Wallace Maxwell; Brooks Covanough; Ben J. Hill; S. J. Robinson. The officers of the Infantry were: Captain T. B. Birdsong of Hazelhurst, Miss.; First Lieut. Henry E. Ramsey, Hazelhurst, Miss.; Second Lieut. Eugene Anding, Utica, Miss.; First Sargeant, Alvin Chapman, Second Sarg-

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1--Mr. Harris Maxwell, Starkville, Miss.
2--Mr. P. G. Sudduth, Starkville, Miss.

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eant, S. S. Bealle; Third Sargeant Wallace Maxwell, Starkville, Miss.

Mexican War--1846

(1) The war with Mexico was fought largely with troops furnished by the Southern States, and Mississippi gladly supplied th e quota by volunteers almost entirely. Dr. Rowland, in his Mississippi Register on the Military History of Mississippi takes time to explain, however, that Mississippi's patriotism was not confined to the South-west. Due to the Oregon dispute with Great Britain, practically every county had several volunteer companies standing ready for service. Oktibbeha County furnished two of these--The Starkville Dragoons, Captain Wm. T. Montgomery, July 24, 1845, and the Starkville Guards, Captain A. J. Maxwell, June 25, 1845. Two regiments were organized and furnished by this State to fight in the Mexican War. The first Regiment under Jefferson Davis. The ten companies were ordered to Vicksburg where the Regiment was organized. Jefferson Davis met them in New Orleans and armed them with Whitney rifles, a new percussion type just coming into use, instead of the old Revolutionary flint locks. Due to this fact, these rifles were known as Mississippi rifles by the army. One company making up this first regiment was known as the Tombigbee settlements. Anyway neither of the two companies mentioned

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1--Rowland's Register, Military History of Mississippi

above from this county was a part of the first nor of the second Regiments organized later under Reuben Davis. (1) Dr. Riley's history gives the companies making up the First Regiment as follows: Wilkinson Volunteers, Raymond Fencibles, Vicksburg Volunteers, Lafayette Company, State Fencibles, Marshall Guards, Yazoo Company, Vicksburg Southrons, Tombigbee Company, Carroll Company. The second Regiment was made up of the following companies: Lowndes Guards, Choctaw Volunteers, Marshall Relief Hindes Guards, Union Grays Panola Boys, Union Company. The second Regiment never had an opportunity to appear on the field of battle, much to the disappointment of its members. It is common knowledge that the Mississippi Regiment under Colonel Jefferson Davis made an outstanding contribution to the army of General Taylor. (2) In his report he stated that "The Mississippi Riflemen, under Colonel Davis, were highly conspicuous for their gallantry and steadiness,and sustained throughout the engagement the reputation of veteran troops."

Speaking of Colonel Davis, he reported that: "His distinguished coolness and gallantry at the head of his regiment on this day entitled him to particular notice of the Government." The second Regiment would have made as enviable a record if they had been permitted to participate. Governor Brown wrote: "The Regiment is of the very best material and will do as good service as any in

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1---Riley's History of Mississippi--Mexican War
2--Reports of Mississippi Historical Society--Mexican War

the world. It contains Judges, Generals, Legislators, Lawyers, Doctors, Farmers, Mechanica and gentlemen of every description."

Oktibbeha in the War with Mexico.

(1) Roster given by Albert Lee Love and others.

It was stated by Mr. Simeon Pierce of Starkville that there was 10 Oktibbeha County boys in Company A of the Lowndes Guards. Part of these have been located but all have not as yet been. They are: William A. Freeman, William T. Irwin, Samuel B. Hollinshed, Simeon Pierce, Since then the following have been added: W. J. Rosseay, A. J. Maxwell, Captain J. D. Beattie, who ran away and entered the army going into Mexico at the age of 16. Captain Beattie also went through the Civil War and carried a silver dollar coined in 1848, through the entire war. This is now held by Hon. Henry Beattie of Starkville, Miss.

War of 1812:

(2) This section of the United States was as little affected by this war as it was by the War of the Revolution as far as partivipation in it. Not till the War was practically over, did our ancestors have any knowledge of its progress. Tories and Loyalists and Pioneers generally continued to come in greater and greater numbers. Shortly after the Revolution, a large number of former soldiers came and settled in this territory, still unorganized.

1--Albert Lee Love, Conference, Starkville, Mississippi
2--Dunbar Rowland, Mississippi Register, Military History of Miss.

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(1) These thrifty farmers, traders, and missionaries soon made homes for themselves and their families among the Indians, living under the rule of the Choctaws who always treated them with due consideration. Among these were the Copelands, Skinners, Holberts, Brooks, Bells, Reeds, Davises, Quinns, andEdwards.

(2)According to Rowland's Register and Cushman's History of the Choctaw Indians, these early settlers of-ten brought their slaves and lived without civil Government--some 2000 in all. The settlement in this part of the State was more cut off from the outside world than were those on the Mississippi. The Choctaw Indians, the Creek Indians, and the Cherokee Indians together with the Spaniards surrounded them. Early in the war, Governor Holmes, who was then governor of the Territory at Washington, then the seat of government, received letters from Colonel James Caller, Colonel Joseph Carson and Major John McGrew living in this section, calling for aid from the attacks of the Creek Indians, who were thought to be ready to raid the colony. These men were officers of the Militia of this settlement. The letters were dated June 14th, and were sent to the Governor by Pony Express. The route lay through the territory of the Choctaws, whose attitude was also uncertain should trouble begin. Colonel Caller was instructed by return express to secure 200 stands of arms from Major Bowyer as his militia was entirely unarmed. This was the entrance of this territory in the War of 1812.

1--Cushman's History of the Choctaw Indians.
2--Dunbar Rowland, Mississippi Register, Military History of Miss.

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The reddezvous of the militia was at Fort St. Stephens.

(1) The first Regiment of Mississippi Infantry was organized at Baton Rouge beginning in January, 1813. Cowles Meade was first commissioned as Colonel and Joseph Carson as Major, but Meade soon resigned, and Carson was made Colonel, and Daniel Beasley was appointed Major. On the latter part of June this regiment was ordered to the Tombigbee settlements because of Indian hostilities. They reached these settlements late in July, and were placed for their defense at once. Seven companies were ordered to Fort Stoddard in October, and two other companies were detailed to be held in readiness for the protection of these settlements together with the Third Regiment U.S.A. under Colonel Gilbert Russell, which had ben recruiting in old Washington (now in Alabama) for several months.

The American Revolution.

During the period of American History known as the American Revolution, this section of the American continent belonged to England as did the thirteen original colonies. The aborigines of this section were the Choctaw Indians. But few settlers of Europeans had yet come into the territory. However, a few Spanish and English traders were living among them under their trivial laws.

1--Dunbar Rowland, Mississippi Register, Military History of Miss.

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(1)When the war broke out between the colonists and the mother country, very little interest was manifested on the part of these settlers as to its outcome. A great number of English patriots, known among the colonists as Tories, bitterly opposed the war and rather than fight left their homes in Georgia and the Carolinas and immigrated to this section, or further west to the Natchez District. This was done at great peril, as these people had to come through the territory of the Creek Indians, dense forests, and over swollen streams, with their families, often made up of small children. This section was then known as the Tombigbee settlements. (2)Lorenzo Dow visited these settlements in 1803. He writes of a "thick Settlement" and then scattered settlements, where he preached regularly.

(3)According to Claiborne, Sam Dale made a number of trips to this section bringing or convoying rather, these and other settlers. Among his guards were the Lincicums and Phillipps who later became settlers. (4)Rigel, in his America Moves West tells us of the "Great Migration" for years after the war. A federal Road was cut from Athens, Ga., through these settlements on the Tombigbee to New Orleans. Land Bonuses were granted to Revolutionary privates and officers, even before surveys were made by the government. This created much complication as in numbers of instances, the same land

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1--Life and Times of General Sam Dale, Claiborne
2--Life and Times of Lorenzo Dow, pp. 289-291
3--Mississippi, Claiborne,--240-241
4--America Moves West, Rigel, Chap. 15

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was taken by two settlers. (1)However, the same process of settlement was carried out. The long tedious trip West, the same effort to pick out good soil near Easternfriends or relatives, the same clearing, same community house raising, and same planting, the same lack of medical attention. After the War of 1812, the roads became crowded. This section was often mistreated due to their isolation. They had to pay much higher prices for food and were at all times subject to Indian attacks. Claiborne tells us that an old Washington grand jury appealed to the Federal Government in the following terms: (2)"It is true we are few in number, but we are the advance guard of civilization and of Republican America. If we become extinct, your influence on the Southern savages is gone."

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1--History of Mississippi, Lowery & McCardle, (Oktibbeha County)
2--History of Mississippi, Riley, p. 104

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1--Letter written by Bert L. Chambers to Mr. Harry Wood, as published in the Starkville News of March 1, 1918.

2--Letters written by Mr. Arthur Goodman, Starkville, Miss from the front.

3--Letter from France from Lieut. D. Berry, to his aunt, Mrs. Tommie Hammill, Sturgis, Miss.

4--Letter from Mexwell Crowe to his father, Mr. J. T. Crowe, Starkville, Miss.

5--Mr. H. E. Benton, Starkville, Miss.--Conference

6--Miss Fannie Burgess, Dallas, Texas--Conference

7--G. Odie Daniels, Starkville, Miss.--Conference

8--Excerpt taken fron the East Mississippi Times, March 22, 1918

9--Excerpt taken from the Starkville News, Aug. 9, 1918.

10--Excerpt taken from the "Reflector" of November 30, 1918

11--Mr. Claude Maxwell, Mt. Kisco, N. Y. --Conference

12--Letter written to Mr. Isham Henry and Miss Queenie Henry of Center Grove Community.

13--History of Mississippi, [illegible] Lowery & McCardle, (Oktibbeha Co)

14-- History of Mississippi, Riley, p.104

15--Life and Times of General Sam Dale, Claiborne

16--Life and Times of Lorenzo Dow, pp. 289-291

17--Mississippi, Claiborne, pp 240-241

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21--Mr. Herris Maxwell, Starkville, Miss.--Conference

22--Mr. P. G. Sudduth, Starkville, Miss--Conference

23--Reports of Mississippi Historical Society--Mexican War

24--Albert Lee Love, Starkville, Miss.--Conference

25--Chusman's History of the Choctaw Indians

26--H. G. Butts, Starkville, Miss. Interview

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"The Knitter."

Little woman hourly sitting, something for a soldier knitting; what in fancy can you see. Many picture s come to me; through the stich that you're now making I behold a bullet breaking; I can see some soldier lying in that garment, slowly dying, and that very bit of thread in your fingers turn to red. Gray today, perhaps tomorrow crimsoned with the blood of sorrow. It may be some hero daring shall that very thing be wearing when he ventures forth to give life that other men may live; he may braver wield the saber as tribute to your labor, and for that which you have knitted better for his task be fitted. When the thread has left your finger something of yourself may linger--- something of your lovely beauty may sustain him in his duty; someone's boy that was a baby soon shall wear it, and it may be he shall write and tell his mother of the kindness of another and her spirit shall caress you. You may never know its story, cannot know the grief or glory that are destined now to hover, over him your wool shall cover, nor what spirit shall invade it once your gentle hands have made it.

James R. Murphy, Co. A, 117th Infantry, Camp Sevier, Greenville, S.C.----Reproduced from McNairy County Independent.

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Oktibbeha County

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February 19, 1937

Little woman, hourly sitting, something for a soldier knitting; 'tis no common grab you're making, these no common pains you're taking. Something lovely, holy, lingers, and with every sitch you're weaving something of yourself you're leaving. From your gentle hands and tender there may come a nation's splendor and from this our simple duty life may win a fairer beauty.

[illegible]

Ibid

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ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.

1. Name-- 2. Place of Birth-- 3. Co.-- 4. Place of Enlistment and Date-- 5. Regiment-- 6. Battles-- 7. Wounded When and Where-- 8. Prison and Time-- 9. Paroled and Date and Where.

1. Adams, Non Quincy 2. Rutherford Co., N. C. 1/22/1839-- 3. --- 4. Whitefield, Oktibbeha Co. 7/1861-- 5. 27th Miss.-- 6. Perryvill, Chickamauga, Maryetta, Atlanta etc.-- 7. Left arm shot off, Atlanta 7/28/1864. Left hand at Murfreesboro-- 8. --- 9. Columbus, Miss. 1865.

2. Akin, Wm. B. 2. Jefferson Co., Ala. 7/20/1828-- 3. L. -- 4. Starkville, Miss. 5/1862-- 5. 2nd Miss. Batalion-- 6. 2nd Mannasus, Sharpsburg, Fredricksburg-- 7. Shot through right shoulder at the battle of Fredricksburg-- 8. --- 9. --- .

3. Archibald, Thos. Columbus 2. Tuscalsosa Co., Ala. 4/20/1840-- 3. K.-- 4. Oktibbeha Col, Miss. 1861, Starkville, Miss. 5/1862-- 5. 15th Miss. Discharged at Corinth, Miss., 2nd Miss. Batallion and afterwards 48th Miss., Reg.-- 6. Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Captured after the Battle of Chancellorsville and sent to Washington City exchanged within 6 days and returned to Reg., captured at Gettisburg sent to Ft. Deleware, Del.-- 7. --- 8. Ft. Deleware, Del.-- 9. 6/12/ 1865, Ft. Deleware, Del.

4. Bell, Jeremiah Gleen 3rd Lieut. 2. Fairfield District, S. C. 9/26/1832-- 3. C. & L. 4. Starkville, Miss., 4/1861--5. 14th Miss. & 48th Miss.--- 6. 2nd Battle of Mannassas, Culpepper, Fairfax, Sharpsburg-- 7. Shot through left hip in battle of Sharpsburg-- 8. ---- 9. Starkville, Miss. 1865.

5. Carothers, John Andy 2. Starkville, Miss., 6/7/1848-- 3. E.-- 4. Near Jackson, Miss., 9/1864--, 5. Calvery--6. Halls Quarter, Concord and Franklyn in Miss.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 4/1865 Ala.

6. Carter, Thomas J. 2. Carroll County, Miss., 10/10/1839-- 3. A.-- 4. Vaiden, Miss. 5/3/1861--5. 1st Miss. Reg. -- 6. Skermishes-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Spring 1865.

7. Carroll, John G. 2. Tuscaloosa, Ala. 4/19/1831-- 3. K.--- 4. West Point, Miss., 2/1862-- 5. 35th Miss.-- 6. Made Asst. Sergeant of 35th Miss.-- 7.--- 8. Captured at Vicksburg, Miss. 7/4/1863.

8. Dennis, John Jackson 2. Davis County, Ind. 9/8/1836-- 3. Shockett's Co., 9/1861-- 4. Hopkinsville, Ky.-- 5. 8th Ky.-- 6. Ft. Donaldson, Vicksburg, Resica Selma etc.-- 7. Ft. Donaldson in right side of forhead 2/1862 Richland, in left leg below knee-- 8. --- 9. 5/1865. Columbus, Miss.

9. Edwards, Dr. William 2. Talladega, Ala.-- 3. Woodward, Co.-- 4. Talladega Ala. 6/10/1861-- 5. 10th Ala.-- 6. Manassas, Williamsbury, 7 Pines, 7 days, Fredrickburg, Gettysburg, Sharpsburg etc.--- 7. Gettysburg in left arm, Chancellorsville in hand - later in thigh--8.-- 9. 5/1865 Talladega, Ala.

10. Ellis, Fernand DeKalb 2. Pickins Co., Ala. 11/16/1845-- 3. H.-- 4. Starkville, Miss. 5/1863-- 5. Perrins Reg.--6. Jackson, New Hope Church Kennesaw, Mt., Peachtree Creek, Atlanta etc.-- 7.--- 8.---- 9. 5/1865 Columbus, Miss.

11. Flournoy, Daniel Archer 2. Linneus, Mo.-- 3. 154th Senior Tennessee, Reg. Co. B. Transfered 1st Tenn. Heavy Artillery Co. A., at Vicksburg--- 4. Memphis, 1862--- 5. --- 6. Shilo, Seige of Vicksburg-- 7. --- 8. --- 9. Vicksburg, Miss. 1865.

12. Green, Alonzo Osker 2. Oktibbeha Co. Miss., 12/16/1843--- 3. Dudley-- 4. Madison Co., Tenn. 1864-- 5. Misers--- 6. None (was crippled before the war and was unable to attend to duties)-- 7. --- 8.--- 9.---

13. Gay, Charles Edward 2. Monroe Co. Miss., 6/18/1841-- 3. E.--- 4. Columbus, Miss., 3/25/1861--- 5. 10th Miss., Marrians, Miss., Bat. Cowans. 14th Miss., Reg., Pt. Coupee Artillery-- 6. Corinth, Miss., Backers Creek, Seege of Jackson, Miss., Oklona, Campaign of Geo. from Resaca to Jonesboro.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Meridian, Miss., 5/12/1865.

14. Glenn, James A. 2. Starkville, Miss. 9/6/1846--- 3. J.-- 4. Columbus, Miss., 9/1863--- 5. 6th Miss., Mabery Brigade--- 6. Between Jackson and Yazoo City, Miss., Battle of Harrisburg, and around Pontotoc and Oxford, and battls in Tenn., up to Ft. Johnsonville on Tenn. River and Selmar, Ala. 7. --- 8.--- 9. Gainsvill, Ala. 6/1865.

15. Gregg, Francis Culberson 2. Pickins Co. Ala.-- 9/24/1842--- 3. J.--- 4. 6/10/1861, Pickins Co.--5. 11th Ala. --- 6. Seven Pines, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Spottsvania etc.--- 7. Right thigh and right forearm at Fredericksburg, Fraziers Farm.--- 8.--- 9. 4/11/1865 Attomattax, Va.

16. Gillespie, George 2. Starkville, 3/6/1842--- 3. B.--- 4. Columbus 1862--- 5. 43rd. Miss.--- 6. Vicksburg etx.--- 7.---- 8.--- 9. 1865 Carrolton, Ala.

17. Hendricks, James Davis 2. Tuscaloosa Co. Ala. 9/21/1837-- 3. D.--- 4. New Prospect, Winston Co. 1861.-- 5. 5th Miss.--- 6. Muffresboro, Chickamaugua.--- 7. Right arm at Chickamaugua, 1863--- 8.--- 9. 5/1865 Macon, Miss.

18. Hall, George Washington 2. Tuscaloosa Co. Ala. 11/14/1843-- 3. H.-- 4. Mobile, Ala. 3/1862--5. 11th Ala.-- 6. Fredericksburg and in the army of Northen Ba.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 4/11/1865. Appomattox, Va.

19. Henry, Justice R. 2. Oktibbeha Co.-- 3. K.--- 4. West Point, Miss. 2/1862-- 5. 35th Miss.-- 6.--- 7. Killed at Altoonia, Ga. 10/1864--- 8.--- 9.---.

20. Jones, James Thomas 2. Huntsville, Ala. 12/15/1842--- 3. F.--- 4. Macon, Miss. 1861---5. 11th Miss.--- 6. Manasas, seven days, Gaines Farm, Richmond etc.---7. Left ear at Manasas. Captured at Gettysburg, 7/3/1863--- 8. Ft. Deleware 1863-1865--- 9. Ft. Deleware 1865.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.

21. Lanier, William Robert 2. Lawrence Co. Ala., 12/15/1834--- 3. K.--- 4. Columbus, Miss. 1/1861---5. 14th Miss., Transfered to Co. G., 10th Tennessee as 3rd. Lieut.-- 6. Ft. Donalson, Franklin, Atlanta etc.-- 7.--- 8. Camp Douglas, Chicago, Ill., 2/1862, 7 mo.--- 9. 5/1865, Augusta, Ga.

22. Monroe, James 2. Winston Co., Miss. 3.--- 4.--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

23. Montgomery, Joseph Tanner 2. Lowndes Co. 4/19/1842--- 3. L.--- 4. Starkville, Miss. 5/8/1862--- 5. 48th Miss.--- 6. Chancellorsville, 2nd Manasas, Harpers Ferry, Sharpsburg, Fredricksburg, Gettysburg, Battle of the Wilderness etc.---7. Gettysburg, scalp wound on left side of head and in left hip. Petersburg in left hand.--- 8. Hart Island, N. Y., 4/3/1865--- 9. 6/17/1865, Hart Island, N. Y.

24. Martin, Joseph Wyatt 2. Morgan Co. Ala., 6/10/1838--- 3. F.--- 4. Crawford, Miss., 1/14/1861-- 5. 11th Miss. & 35th Miss. --- 6. Iuka, Corinth, Vicksburg, etc.--- 7. Lost left eye at Vicksburg.-- 8.--- 9.- 5/1865, Meridian, Miss.

25. Maxwell, Murray 2. Starkville, Miss. 11/9/1846--- 3. J.--- 4. Starkvill Miss. 1862--- 5. 6th Cavalry--- 6. Jackson, Benton, Harrisburg, Oxford etc. 7. ---- 8.---- 9. 1865 Gainsville, Ala.

26. Montgomery, William Davis 2. Caladonia, Miss. 7/30/1840--- 3. K. & L.-- 4. Sturgis, Miss. 1861-- 5. 15th Miss. and 2nd Batalion-- 6. Sharpsburg, Fredricksburg, Gettysburg, Wilderness etc.-- 7.--- 8. Washington D. C. 2 mos. 9. 6/1865, Columbus, Miss.

27. Marshall, Thomas Elam 2. Carroll Co., Miss. 11/2/1843-- 3. K.--- 4. Carrolton, Miss. 2/27/1863--- 5. 30th Miss.-- 6. Murfreysboro, Chickamauga etc. 7.--- 8. Rock Island, Ill. 1863-1865--- 9. 4/1865, Richmond, Va.

28. McManus, J. P. 2. LancMaster Co., S. Carolina--- 3. Jake Macon--- 4. Macon, Miss. 5/22/1861-- 5. 19th Miss.--- 6. Manasas, seven pines, Gettiesburg etc.-- 7. Shot in left leg at Chancelorsville, Va.----- 8. 2 mos. at Elmyra, N. Y.-- 9.-----.

29. McBride, Joseph Wallace 2. Chactaw Co. Miss., 10/11/1846--- 3. J.--- 4. Columbus, Miss. 5/1863--- 5. 24th Miss.--- 6. Tayette, Tenn. Rome, Ga. Mobile, Ala. etc.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.- 5/1865 Opaloosa, Ala.

30. McDowell, Leroy Davis 2. S. Carolina 8/8/1838-- 3. H.--- 4. Houston, Miss. 5/1861--5.11th Miss.-- 6. Manasas, Sharpsburg, Wilderness, Petersburg etc.--7.--- 8. --- 9.-----.

31. Mc Creight, R. C. 2. Lowdnes Co., Miss. 11/29/1837-- 3. Oktibbeha Rescue-- 4. Starkville, Miss. 4/1861-- 5. 14th Miss. --- 6. Served in Quarter Master's Dept.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9.- 4/1865, Greensboro, N. C.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOL IERS OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.

32. McElvaney, Seban 2. Oktibbeha Co. Miss. 12/14/1843--- 3. G.--- 4. Winston,Co. Miss. 4/1/1861--- 5. 20th Miss.-- 6. Donaldson, Franklin, Nashville, Vicksburg, etc.-- 7. Left shoulder, ~~xxixx~~ side and brest at Franklin, Tenn.--- 8. Camp Douglas 7 mos. -- 9. 6/8/1865. Point Lookout, Md.

33. Nance, Harvey Wilburn Elijah 2. S. C. 3/2/1835--- 3. A.--- 4. Chactaw Co. 7/1862-- 5. 5th Miss.-- 6. With Gen. N. B. Forrest, Calvery until surrender 1865--- 7. --- 8. Alton, Ill. 2/18/1863--- 9. 4/1865, Gainsville, Ala.

34. Nash, Wiley Norris 2. Noxubee Co., Miss., 4/6/1846---- 3. E.--- 4. Starkville, Miss. 1863--- 5. Wirt Adams Reg.--- 6. --- 7. Shot through right thigh at Rome, Ga. in 1864.--- 8.--- 9. About the 6/6/1865 at Port Gibson, Miss.

35. Osborn, James Monroe 2. Winston Co. Miss. 11/25/1843--- 3. Ie Roy Dencan--- 4. Calhoun Co.--- 5. 16th Miss.--- 6. Corinth, Franklin, Ft. Donalson,and etc. ~~xxx~~ 7. Shot through wrist at Corinth , in the leg at Franklin and hip at Harrisburg.-- 8. ---- 9. 4/1865, Nimphis, Tenn.

36. Outlaw, Dossey M. 2. Oktibbeha Co. Miss. 2/7/1843--- 3. K.--- 4. West Point, Miss. 11/1861--- 5. 35th Miss.-- 6. Franklin, Nashville, Corinth, Iuka, Farmington Blackley Ala., Kemward Mt., Atlanta, New Hope Church, Vicksburg, Georgia Camp etc.---7. Shot through right leg at Nashville--- 8. Ship Island, Miss. 4/9/1865 to 5/26/1865--- 9. 5/25/1865 Vicksburg, Miss.

37. Reynolds, William Henry 2. Grinit Co. Ga. 8/24/1842--- 3. D.--- 4. Camden, Ark. 5/31/1861--- 5. 6th Ark. Reg.--- 6. Shiloh, Corinth, Mulfresboro, Bowlingreen, Franklin, Perryville, Mumfordsville and ~~xxxxxx~~ Green River.--- 7. Slightly wounded in left leg at Battle of Shiloh 4/6/1862.--- 8.----- 9. 5/1865 Camdon, Ark.

38. Rousseaw, William James 2. Lincoln Co. Tenn. 6/1/1829-- 3. A.--- 4. Tuscaloosa, Ala. 11/1847--5 1st Battallion, Ala. Vol.--- 6.----- 7. --- 8. ---- 9. 6/1848.

39. Reynolds, Archibald Hamilton 2. Starkville, Miss. 3/24/1845--- 3. F.--- 4. Camden, Ark. 3/10/1863--5.19th Ark.--- 6. Champion Hill, Mount Elby, Marks Mill, Jenkins Ferry, Catured 5/16/1863.--- 7. Wounded in back of neck and hand with shell at Champion Hill.-- 8. Camp Morton, Ind. 1 month and Ft. Deleware 4 mos.--- 9. -----.

40. Rousseaw, William James 2. Lincoln Co. Tenn. 6/1/1829--- 3. L.--- 4. West Point, Miss.-5. 2nd Miss. Bat.--- 6. Manasas, Sharpsburg, Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Harpers Ferry etc.---7. In Old Capitol Prison and Johnson's Island, Lade Erie, 6/5/1863--- 8---. 9. Johnson's Island, Lake Erie.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.

41. Rand, John Curtis 2. Leighton, Ala. 3/26/1840--- 3. A.--- 4. Okolona, Miss 3/1/1861.--- 5. 41st Miss.--- 6. Pensecola, Shiloh, Mulfresboro, Perryville, Mumfordsville, Choockamouga, Franklin etc.--- 7. Shot in back on left side at Resaca, Ga.--- 8. ----. 9.----.

42. Saunders, Hubbard Turner 2. Lexington, Miss. 1/11/1846---3. T. J. Boyden--- 4. Corinth, Miss.--- 5. 6th Miss. & 1st Miss.--- 6. Shiolh, Peachtree Creek, Jonesboro etc.--- 7. -----. 8.--- - 9. Grenada, Miss. 5/ 16/1865.

43. Stacey, James Franklin 2. S. C. 2/2/1848--- 3. F.--- 4. Columbia, S. C. 2/6/1864--- 5. 6th Reg.--- 6. Travillion Station, Salem Church, Chaffen's Farm, Stony Creek, Hampton Road etc.--- 7. Wounded in left hip at Reams Sta.--- 8. Washington and Elmyria, N. Y.--- 9. Elmyria, N. Y. 7/27/1865.

44. Smith, Obdiah 2. Monroe Co. Miss. 9/18/1829--- 3. A.--- 4. Choctaw Co. Miss. 3/1861--- 5. 11th Miss.--- 6. Ft. Henry, Ft. Donalson, Franklin, Bakers Creek, Vicksburg etc.--- 7. New Hope Church, Ga. Left hip.--- 8. Chicago, Ill. and Columbus, Ohio.--- 9. Vicksburg, Miss. 1865.

45. Smith, George Whitfield 2. Fairfield, Dist. S. C. 12/23/1840--- 3. E.--- 4. Starkville, Miss.--- 5. Wirt Adams Calvery--- 6. Shiloh, Champion Hill, Vicksburg, Iuka, Denmarke etc.--- 7. ---- 8.---- 9. 1865, Gainsville, Ala.

46. Scales, Walter W. 2. Lowndes Co. Miss., 1/6/1846--- 3. E.--- -- 4. Crawford, Miss. 3/6/1862--- 5. 11th Miss.---- 6. Seven Pines, Sharpsburg, Gettysburg, Bristor Sta., Mine Rum, Spottsvania Court House,etc. 7. Wounded at Sharpsburg and Gettysburg--- 8. Point Lookout-- 9. 1865 at Point Lookout.

47. Shearer, Thomas Nation 2. Blountsbille, Ala. 11/29/1844-- 3. D.--- 4. Ololona, Miss.--- 5. 1st Ala. and 1st Miss.--- 6. Around Jackson, Island no 10 Atlanta, -- 7. Ressaca in hand-- 8. Camp Rendle and Camp Douglass--9.-----.

48. Thomas, Daniel 2. S. C. 1/18/1824--- 3. D.--- 4. Starkville and Sweetwater, Tenn. --- 5. 14th Miss. Reg.--- 6. Chickamauga, Lookout Mt. Columbia, Nashville--- 7.---- 8.----- 9. 1865 At home.

49. Tannenbaum, Abrahan 2. Germany 4/23/1837--- 3. B.--- 4. Enterprise 1861--- 5. 14th Miss. -- 6. Ft. Donslson-- 7.---- 8. Camp Douglass-- 9. Never Parolled, escaped from prison.

50. Terry, Charles N. 2. Logan Co. Ky. 1/19/1834--- 3. E.--- 4. 1862--- 5. 2nd Ky.--- 6. Morgan's Raids--- 7. & 8. Captured in 1863 in to or three prisons-- 9. 1865 Memphis.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.

51. Vann, William W. 2. N. C. 9/20/1839--- 3. H.--- 4. Coffeeville, Miss 1862--- 5. 42nd Miss. --- 6. Gettysburg etc.--- 7. Wounded at Gettysburg. 8. Ft. Deleware--- 9. 1865 Ft. Deleware.

52. Ward, Amos 2. Ga. 9/3/1838--- 3. E.--- 4. Columbus, Miss. 1861--- 5. 10th Miss.--- 6. Shiloh, Franklin, Missionary Ridge, Nashville etc.-- 7. Wounded at Shiloh--- 8. ----- 9. 1865 N. C.

53. Mier, Thomas Coke 2. Ala. 1827--- 3. ---- 4. Coulmbus, Miss. 1862-- 5. Chaplain 37th Miss. --- 6. Murfreysboro--- 7.--- 8.---- 9. Never Parolled.

54. Willians, Ben Pope 2. Yalobusha Co. Miss. 1839--- 3. F.--- 4. Grenada Miss. 1861--- 5. 21st Miss.--- 6. Gettysburg, Seven Pines, etc.--- 7. Wounded at Spottsvania Court House Va.-- 8.--- 9.1865 Grenada, Miss.

55. Young, Alexander Frank 2. Columbus, Miss. 1846--- 3.-Bt- 4. Selma, Ala. 1864--- 5.----- 6. Ft. Morgan, and Mobile etc.--- 7. --- 8.--- 9. 1865 Meridian.

56. Yeates, John Alexander 2. Starkville, Miss. 1847--- 3. J.--- 4. --- 5. 6th Miss. Calvary-- 6. Harrisburg, etc.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.1865 Ala.

57. Yeates, Edward D. 2. Oktibbeha Co. Miss. --- 3. H.--- 4. Starkville, Miss. 1863--- 5. Perrin's Reg.--- 6. Jackson, Kennesaw Mt., Atlanta etc.-- 7. & 8. Guard of President Davis and was captured with him after the war.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
(Supplement)

1. Name-- 2. Place of Birth-- 3. Co.-- 4. Place of Enlistment and Date-- 5. Regiment-- 6. Battles-- 7. Wounded When and Where-- 8. Prison and Time-- 9. Paroled and Date and Where.

1. Alford, A. 2. --- 3. Co. H.--- 1862--- 5. 31st Miss.--- 6.--- 7. Wounded 1864 Peachtree Creek, Ga.-- 8. --- 9. Clinton, N. C.

2. Allen, J. W. 2. ---. 3. C.,--- 4. 1861--- 5. 24th Ala.--- 6. --- 7. --- 8. --- 9. High Point, N. C.

3. Archebold, T. C. 2. --- 3. K.,L.,-4.1861---5. 15th & 48th Miss.-- 6. --- 7. --- 8.--- 9.---.

4. Arnold, F. M. 2. --- 3. C., 4. 1861--- 5. 35th Miss.--- 6. ------ 7. --- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Blakley, Ala.

5. Atwell, W. W. 2. --- 3. Halts Clan--- 4. 1861--- 5. --- 6. --- 7. --- 8. --- 9. 1865.

6. Adams, N. Q. 2. --- 3. A.-4.1861---5. 27th Miss. Reg.--- 6. --- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

7. Alford, Major 2. --- 3. H.,--- 4. 1861--- 5. 31st Miss. Reg.---- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

8. Bell, W. C. 2. --- 3. --- 4. 1862,--- 5. 6th Miss.,--- 6. --- 7.--- 8. --- 9. 1865.

9. Bell, John C. 2. --- 3. G.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 14th Miss.-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.1865 N. C.

10. Byars, J. H. 2. --- 3. E.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 3rd Battallion --- 6. --- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

11. Blake, A. 2. ---- 3. I.--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 15th Miss.--- 6. --- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

12. Betts, A. Rodney 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. -- Battallion-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Vicksburg.

13. Black, John F. 2. --- 3. H., 4. 1862,--- 5. 6th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Grenada, Miss.

14. Burton, David M. 2. --- 3. K.,-- 4. 1863--- 5. 8th Miss.--- 6. --- 7.--- 8.--- 9.1865 Gainsville, Ala.

15. Bostick, Marcus 2. --- 3. J.,--- 4. 1864,--- 5. Miss. Calvery--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Livingston, Ala

16. Boyd, James L. 2.--- 3. L.,--- 4. 1862,---5. 48th Miss.-- 6.--- 7. Petersburg, Va.-- 8.--- 9. Appomotax, Va.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
(Supplement)

17. Buford, Wm. 2. --- 3.E.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 3rd Battallion,-- 6.--- 7. --- 8.--- 9. Vicksburg.

18. Bunton, Frank 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. Sanders Battallion,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. S. C.

19. Bunton, C. E. 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1861,--- 5. 48th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8. Washington City,-- 9. In prison.

20. Baynham, C. E. 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 3rd Reg.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Lauderdale, Miss.

21. Bostick, S. A. 2.--- 3. F.,--- 4. 1864--- 5. 6th Miss. Calvery,-- 6. --- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Livingston, Ala.

22. Betts, Felix 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 46th Ala.,-- 6. --- 7.-- 8.--- 9. Home on account of weak heart.

23. Carpenter, S. A. 2.--- 3. E.,-- 4. 1862,-- 5. 3rd Batl,-- 6. --- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Died in service.

24. Cole, A. P. 2.--- 3. K.,-- 4. 1862,--- 5. 42nd Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

25. Cohen, Wm. 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1861,-- 5. 20th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

26. Crow, Thos. E. 2.--- 3. Plough Boys,--- 1861,-- 5.--- 6.--- 7.---- 8.--- 9. 1865 Selma, Ala.

27. Carpenter, T. S. 2.--- 3. A.,-- 4. 1861,--- 5. 17th Tenn.,-- 6.--- 7. Murlfresboro, Tenn. 1862,--- 8.--- 9. Va.

28. Christopher, J. W. 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1862,--- 5. 27th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Greensboro, N. C.

29. Carlisle, B. S. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Jackson Parish, La.

30. Carter, T. J. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1861,-- 5. 1st Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Ga.

31. Cochrell, D. J. 2.--- 3. F.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 27th Ga. Battallion,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Was on sick furlough at Savannah, Ga. at Discharge.

32. Cotton, Allen 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1862,-- 5. 35th Miss. Reg.-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Camp Douglass 1865.

33. Cole, S. M. 2.--- 3. Capt. G. B. Mears,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Was in prison.

34. Critz, S. B. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1864,--- 5. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
(Supplement)

35. Clardy, James 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 35th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. In prison.

36. Chiles, W. H. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 14th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.-- 8.--- 9. 1865 Greensboro, N. C.

37. Carpenter, J. M. 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1864,--- 5. 1st Lieut. Louis.,--- 6.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

38. Carothers, Johan A. 2.--- 3. Wirt Adams Reg.,-- 4. 1863,--- 5.--- 6.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

39. Cregg, G. P. 2.--- 3. No record only was Discharged in 1865.

40. Cotton, R. M. 2.--- 3. Capt. Bookter,-- 4. 1862,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

41. Dennis, John J. 2.--- 3. H.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 18th Ky. Reg.,-- 6.--- 7. 1862,--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Columbus, Miss.

42. DeLoach, Thomas G. 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1862,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Brooksville, Miss.

43. Davis, M. P. 2.--- 3. F.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 6th Miss. Calvery,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Livingston, Ala.

44. Douglass, John A. 2.--- 3. C.,-- 4. 1862,--- 5. 1st Miss. Artillery,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

45. Davis, John W. 2.--- 31 Ferguson Brigade,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Washington, Ga.

46. Davis, Sam 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 31st Ala.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Salsbury, N. C.

47. Edwards, J. G. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 2nd Miss. Calvery,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Ala.

48. Edwards, J. W. 2.--- 3. I.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 15th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7. At Atlanta.,--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Mobile, Ala.

49. Erwin, Joseph 2.--- 3. ----- 4. 1862,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. N. C. At home sich on furlough.

50. Ellis, F. D. 2.--- 3. Lieut. Perrin,-- 4. 1864,--- 5. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

51. Fulgham, P. W. 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1861,--- Wirt Adams Calvery,--- 5.-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

52. Fondren, W. F. 2.--- 3. Gunter,--- 4. 1865,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.-- 9. 1865

53. Givins, M. J. 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 31st Miss. Reg.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Verona, Miss. 1865.

54. Griffle, G. H. 2.--- 3. K.,-- 4. 1863,--5 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--9. In prison.

55. Green, J. O. 2.-- 3. --- 4. 1861,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

56. Gigle, Felix 2.-- 3.--- 4.--- 5. 15th Ala. Calvery,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Surrender at State Line.

57. Gillispie, George 2.-- 3. B.,-- 4. 1862,--- 5. 43rd Miss.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

58. Gillispie, John T. 2.--- 3. B.,-- 4. 1861,-- 5. 43rd Miss.,-- 6.--- 7. --- 8.--- 9. Jackson, Miss.

59. Glenn, J. A. 2.--- 3. Capt J. A. Johnson,-- 4. 1863,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1863.

60. Green, Gamble B. 2.--- 3. Tom Hooker,-- 4. 1864,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Never Dis.

61. Grizzle, O. F. 2.--- 3.K.,--- 4. 1864,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Surrender at State Line, Miss.

62. Hamm, L. A. 2.--- 3. Samuel Meek Lieut.,--- 4. 1864,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

63. Harpole, T. J. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1864,--- 5. 35th Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

64. Himphill, R. B. 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1863,--- 5. Capt. Shields,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Was at home on furlough.

65. Hogan, W. P. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5. Capt. Maxwell,-- 6.--- 7. 1862,--- 8.--- 9. ---.

66. Halbert, Alexander J. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5. Lieut. Gray,--- 6.-- 7. --- 8.--- 9. 1865.

67. Hendon, B. N. 2.--- 3. R.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 26th Ala.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

68. Halbrook, D. G. 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 1st Artillery--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

69. Hendrick, I. L. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 31st Ala.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

70. Henry, John Q. 2.--- 3. D.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 35th Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Mobile, Ala.

71. Hodnett, L. B. 2.--- 3. H.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 6th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Gainsville, Ala.

72. Henry, J. W. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 2nd & 48th Miss.,--- 6.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

73. Holland, Elisha 2.--- 3. J.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 27th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

74. Henry, J. M. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 2nd Miss. Battery & 18th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7. 1862 at Sharpsburg.,--- 8.--- 9.---.

75. Hollman, H. S. 2.--- 3. --- 41 1862,--- 5. Sanders Battallion,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. By furnishing substitute.

76. Heflin, A. D. 2.--- 3. E.,-- 4. 1862,--- 5. 6th Miss. Calvery,--- 6.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

77. Harpole, A. J. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 8th Miss. Reg.,-- 6.--- 7. Wounded in left knee.,-- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Pickinsville, Ala.

78. Hearron, F. E. 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1861,--- 5. Wirt Adams., 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Never was Dis.

79. Halbert, A. J. 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1861,--- 5. Capt. J. T. W. Houstin,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

80. Hall, George W. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1862,--- 5. Capt. Stewart,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

81. Hannah, C. B. 2.--- 3. --- 41 1862,--- 5. Capt. Huntley 1st Lieut.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.-Rock Island,--- 9. In prison at Rock Island,

82. Hannah, S. S. 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1861,--- 5. Capt. Huntley,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Was in prison.

83. Ivy, C. C. 2.--- 3. G.,--- 4. 1861,-- 5. 20th & 6th Miss,,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Smithfield, N, C.

84. Johnston, James 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. In Ala.,--- 5. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1863.

85. Jemison, C. C. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 5. 1862,--- 5. 3rd Battallion,--- 6.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1863.

84. Jackson, Thomas J. 2.--- 3. D.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 35th Miss. Reg.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Mobile, Ala.

~~85. Johnson, John Hester 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1861,--- 5. 19th Miss. Reg.,---~~ xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

85. Johnson, John Hester 2.--- 3. --- 4. 1862,--- 5.Capt. Cook.,--6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. After bettle of Corinth at Corinth, Miss.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OLTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
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86. Johns, James T. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 19th Miss. Reg.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8. Captured at Gettysburg and prisoned at Ft. Deleware.-- 9.---.

87. Kindrick, S. L. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1862, --- 5. 31st Ala.,--- 6.--- 7. At Rock Island,--- 8. Rock Island.,--- 9. 1865.

88. Kennedy, P. H. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1861,-- 5. 14th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.-- 8.--- 9. Meridian, Miss. 1865.

89. Kindricks, I. L. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 31st Ala., 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

90. Lynch, J. D., 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 8. 1865 Ala.

91. Landrum, Marion 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 2nd Miss. Calvery.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

92. Lee, David, 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1861,-- 5. 16th Ala.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. ---.

93. Lainer, R. W. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

94. Love, H. O. 2.--- 3. H.,--- 4. 1861,-- 5. 11th Alas, -- 6.--- 7. At Frazier Farm, ribs broken by shell.,-- 8.--- 9. 1865.

95. Love, J. D. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,---5. Maj. Hariston,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. On account of wound.

96. Livingston, T. M. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 27th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Charleston, N. C.

97. Mitchell, J. H. 2.--- 3. D.,-- 4. 1863,--- 5. 68th N. C. Reg.,--- 6.-- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

98. Montgomery, J. T. 2.--- 3. L.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 48th Miss.Reg.,-- 6. --- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Appomotax Court House, Va.

99. Miller, Wm. 2.--- 3. F.,-- 4. 1861,--- 5. 6th S. C.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Appomotax, Va.

100. Mullins, L. M. 2.--- 3. E.,---4. 1862,--- 5. 31st Miss. -- 6.--- 7.-- 8.--- 9. Surrendered at Vicksburg, 1865.

101. Mulden, James 2.--- 3. G.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 14th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.- 8.--- 9.---.

102. Moore, T. R. 2.--- 3. C.,-4. 1861,--- 5. 35th Miss. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Camp Douglass, Chicago, Ill.

103. Marshall, J. N. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 N. C.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIES OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
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104. Morris, Charlie 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. Wirt Adams Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

105. Montgomery, J. M. 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. Wirt Adams Calvery.---- 6.--- 7.---8.--- 9. 1865.

106. Maxwell, Murry 2.--- 3.---- 4. 1862,--- 5. 6th Miss. Calvery Reg.,-- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Gainsville, Ala.

107. Monts, John A. 2.--- 3.---- 4. 1863,--- 5. 11th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at N. C.

108. Makamson, Charlie 2.--- 3. I.,--- 4. 1962,--- 5. 11th Miss. Reg.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 N. C.

109. Mallory, J. D. 2.--- 3.---4.--- 5.--- 6.--- 8.--- 9. Was paroled 5/17/1865. He was killed.

110. Moorehead, M. A. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1863,--- 5. Capt. Perrinn.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

111. McHann, Hez. 2.--- 3. I.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 15th Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

112. McLane, W. W. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.-- 8.--- 9.---.

113. McMinn, John P. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.-- 8.--- 9. 1865 Vicksburg, Miss.

114. McCullam, John S. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 41st Ala.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. S. C.

115. McBride, J. W., 2.--- 3.I.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 24th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

116. Mc Cann, Wm. 2.--- 3. L.,-- 4. 1861,--- 5. 48th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.1865 Appomotax, Va.

117. McKell, W. B. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 14th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.-- 8.--- 9. 1865 Sharlotte, N. C.

118. Mc Manus, J. P. 2.--- 3. A.,-- 4. 1861,-- 5. 19th Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.-- 8.--- 9. 1865 Va.

119. Mc Vay, O. M. 2.--- 3. H.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 40th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7. 1862 at Murlfresboro.,-- 8.--- 9.---.

120. McElvaney, S. M. 2.--- 3. G.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 20th Miss.,--- 6.-- 7. 1862 & 1865 at Ft. Douglass.,-- Almost lost left hand ans shoulder. --- 8.--- 9. 1865 Raleigh, N. C.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
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121. McCullum, J. M. 2.--- 3.A.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 10th Ala.,--- 6.--- 7m--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Selma, Ala.

122. McMullin, R. J. 2.--- 3. H.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 31st Miss.,--- 6.--- 7. At Peachtree, Va.,--- 8.--- 9. 1865 N. C.

123. McKell, M. C. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 14th Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

124. Mc Cullum, James 2.--- 3.--- 1861,--- 5. 10th Ala. Calvery,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Delton, Ala.

125. McVey, V. S. 2.---3. Co,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. Wirt AdamsReg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

126. Nickles, R. F. 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 43rd Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 N. C.

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127. Nettles, Hampton 2.--- 3. ----- 4. 1861,-- 51 14th Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

128. Neely, H. M. 2.--- 3.L.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 48~~th~~ Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Petersburg, Va.

129. Mason, L. S. 2.--- 3. G.,--- 4. 1861,-- 5. 15th Miss. Rifles.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 At Montgomery, Ala.

130. Neely, Isiah 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1861,-- 5. 12th Miss,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Point Lookout.

131. Nance, H. E. W. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 5th Miss. Reg.-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

132. Naron, G. W. 2.--- 3. A. & H.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 31st Miss. Volunteers --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 N. C.

133. Naron, P. N. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 30th Miss. Reg. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

134. Naron, G. W. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 31st Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

135. Odom, John 2.--- 3. E.,-- 4. 1862,--- 5. 4th Calvery,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Tenn.

136. O'Brien, Alfred G. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 13th Miss. Reg.,--- 6. --- 7.--- 8. Camp Chase, Ohio.,--- 9. Was on way back to Reg when Dis.

137. Outlaw, Dossey W. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
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138. Patterson, S. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1871,--- 5. --- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Mobile, Ala.

139. Page, A. M. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Ship Island.

140. Peoples, Jona 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 14th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

141. Portlock, W. H. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5. Col. Barksdale,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Never Dis.

142. Parrish, B. J. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

143. Peebles, Wm. A. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861,--- 5. Capt. Perry.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

144. Quinn, Martin, 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Vicksburg, Miss.

145. Quinn, Oliver 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1862,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Meridian, Miss.

146. Reed, H. I. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1862,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Parolled at Columbus, Miss. at home sock on furlough.

147. Robinson, John 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1864,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

148. Ruffin, F. L. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 14th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. ---.

149. Robertson, C. A. 2.--- 3.F.,--- 4. 1864,--- 5. 35th Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7. At Franklin, Tenn. Shot in right hip.-- 8.--- 9. Surrendered at Blakely, Ala. near Mobile.

150. Reese, James A. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 6th Miss.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

151. Rife, James M. 2.--- 3. I.,--- 4. 1863,--- 5. 16th Reg. Cavilary Armstrong's,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

152. Rushing, Felix Porter 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1862,--- 5. Capt. Rogers 1st Lieut.,--- 6.--- 7. In battle of Wilderness.,--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

153. Richey, Wm. James 2.--- 3. G.,--- 4. 1864.,--- 5. 14th Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

154. Robertson, C. C. 2.--- 3. G.,--- 4. 1864.,--- 5. 14th Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
(Supplement)

155. Shurman, Elisha 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1863,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1863 at Meridian, Miss.

156. Sherdon, John E. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 35th Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 6/28/1865 Camp Douglass, Ill. Died May 1900.

157. Sanders, Marion 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 2nd Miss. Calvery.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

158. Sides, Richard 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 50th Ala. Reg.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Dalton, Ga.

159. Stedman, John 2.--- 3. I.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

160. Smith, J. L. 2.--- 3. C..,--- 4. 1861,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6. --- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 Sick at surrender.

161.- Sikes, Richard W. 2.--- 3. L.,--- 4. 1862,--- 5. 48th Miss.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865, Selma, Ala.

162. Shropshire, Rob. A. 2.--- 31 A.,--- 4. 1863.,--- 5. 62nd Ala.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8. Ship Island--- 9. ---.

163. Smith, Obe. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 4th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8. Columbus, Ohio.,--- 9. 1865.

164. Scott, M. L. 2.--- 31 D.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 41st Ala.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Surrendered and Parolled at Va.

165. Stroud, M. B. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 29th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7. Kennesaw Mt.,--- 8.--- 9. Greensboro, N. C.

166. Stacy, James F. 2.--- 3. F.,--- 4. 1864.,--- 5. 6th Reg. S. C. Calvery 6.--- 7. Wounded severely in 1864.--- 8.--- 9. Parolled in 1865 at Elm, N. Y. Discharged at Greensboro, N. C.

167. Sharp, J. N. 2.--- 3. I.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 43rd Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- Was in prison at surrender.,--- 9. N. C.

168. Sheaw, T. N. 2.-- 3.--- 4. 1861.,-- 5. 45th Ala.,--- 6.--- 7. Was wounded in hip with shell.,--- 8. Was at home on sick leave at surrender. 9.---

169. Sanders, G. G. 2.--- 3.---- 4. 1861.,---5. 31st Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Greensboro, N. C.

170. Scales, Walter W. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1862,--- 5. Capt. W. C. Hearen,.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8. Point Lookout, Md.,--- 9.---.

ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY MISS.
(Supplement)

171. Sharp, J. F. 2.--- 3.I.,--- 4. 1863.,--- 5. 5th Miss. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Washington, Ga.

172. Sherman, J. L. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 11th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

173. Sides, J. R. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. J. R. Shepard.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Never Discharged.

174. Sides, S. A. 2.---- 3. K.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 50th Ala. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1864 at Dalton, Ga.

175. Thomas, Sr., J. O. 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. Wirt Adams Brigade 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Surrender near Columbus, Miss. Dis. 1865.

176. Tollison, Wm. H. 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1863.,--- 5. 38th, 14th & 3rd Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Gainsville, Ala.

177. Turner, Louis 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4.1862.,--- 5. 41st Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

178. Thomas, Wm. 2.--- 3. G., & L.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 14th & 48th Miss.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Appomotax, Va.

179. Tumlinson, Wm. Cross 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1863.,--- 5. 8th Ala.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Was at home on furlough.

180. Thomas, Jordan 2.--- 3. D.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 5th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Was at home.

181. Thompson, J. W. 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. Wirt Adams Calvery.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

182. Thompson, Geo. C. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1863.,--- 5. 6th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Gainsville, Ala.

183. Thompson, John T. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 14th Miss. Reg.,-- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

184. Smith, George W. 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. Ruffin Rangers.,--- 61--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

185. Sherden, Will 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861.,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7. Was killed in action.

186. Sanders, F. N. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1864.,--- 5. Capt. Huntley.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

187. Vaughn, George M. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861.,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7. in 1861.,--- 8.--- 9. 1861 on account of wound.

188. Vaughn, Samuel Ciscero 2.--- 3. A., & B.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 1st & 43rd Miss.,Battallion.,--- 6.--- 7. at Vicksburg.,--- 8.--- 9. Greensboro, N. C.

189. Vaughn, George 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 48th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. At Gettysburg, Pa. Killed at Gettysburg, Pa.

190. Vaughn, M. E. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. Capt. Rogers.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

191. West, Rufus 2.--- 3. D.,--- 4. 1962.,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at ~~Appomattaxxxxx~~ Blakely, Ala.

192. Williams, B. P. 2.---3. F.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 21st Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Appomotax, Va.

193. Wofford, A. S. 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1864.,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

194. Watkins, A. J. 2.--- 3. H.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 26th Ala. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

195. Watkins, G. C. 2.--- 3. H.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 26th Ala. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Iuka, Miss.

196. Williams, J. B. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861.,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

197. Weston, W. R. 2.--- 3. C.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 64th Ga. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8. 1865.,--- 9. was in proson when discharged.

198. Ward, Steve A. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. Capt. Cox.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1862.

199. Williamson, Robt. J. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 35th.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Vicksburg, Miss.

200. Welch, R. C. 2.--- 3. D.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 41st Ala.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

201. Williams, J. C. 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 43rd Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 N. C.

202. Worsham, I. D. 2.--- 3. E., & G.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 8th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Ship Island.

203. Weston, T. S. 2.--- 3.I.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 15th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 at Macon, Miss.

204. Williamson, M. 2.--- 3. K.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9.---.

205. Wilson, J. M. 2.--- 3. G.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 33rd Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Surrendered at paroled.

206. West, R. E. 2.--- 3. G.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 35th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- Wounede at Corinth, Miss.,-- 8. --- 9. Surrendered at S. C.

207. Woodson, Robert 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1863.,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Surrendered at N. C. sick on furlough at that time.

208. Walker, J. M. 2.--- 3. A.,--4. 1862.,--- 5. 48th Calvery.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1864.

209. Wofford, M.P. 2.--- 3. A.,--- 4. 1863.,--- 5. 8th Miss. Calvery.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Surrendered at Gainsville, Ala.,---

210. Wofford, M. T. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1863.,--- 5. 8th Miss.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

211. Ward, William T. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. Tom Patterson 1st Lieut. 6.--- 7. Shot twice and crippled both times.,--- 8.--- 9. Was at home on crutches.

212. Ward, Mose 2.--- 3. E.,--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. Wirt Adams Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Was at Vicksburg & Miss. at the close of the war.

213. Woodson, Oliver 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1863.,--- 5. Capt. Tom Bookter.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

214. Warren, H. B. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. Mobile Cadets.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

215. Williams, Henry H. 2.--- 3.--- 4. 1861.,--- 5. 25th Tenn. Reg.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865 in Tenn.

216. Yeatman, J. W. 2.--- 3. H.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 11th Ala.,--- 6.--- 7. Wounded at Petersburg and Hatchers Run.,--- 8.--- 9. Appomotax, Va.

217. York, J. A. 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 16th Calvery.,--- 6.--- 9. 1864 at Boliver Co. Miss.

218. Young, R. H. 2.--- 3. I.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. 48th Miss.,-- 6.--- 7.-- 8.--- 9.---.

219. Yeates, Boon 2.--- 3.C.,--- 4. 1862.,--- 5. Wirt Adams Calvery.,--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. Was at Coldwater at close of war.

220. Young, A. F. 2.--- 3. B.,--- 4. 1864.,--- 5.--- 6.--- 7.--- 8.--- 9. 1865.

LIST OF SERVENTS, NEGRO SLAVES, WHO WERE PENSIONERS FOR OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

1. Allen, Soliman
2. Burnside, Thomas
3. Bradford, Henry
4. Chiles, Geo. W.
5. Coleman, Jack
6. Doss, Jerry
7. Dansey, Shep
8. Grizzle, O. F.
9. Gillispie, Hohn T.
10. Hart, Wesley
110. Horn, Macon
12. Latham, Jacob
13. Miller, Andrew
14. Morris, Chas.
15. Neely, H. M.
16. Outlaw, Wm.
17. peoples, Jonah
18. Russell, Iron
19. Rivers, Spencer
20. Spencer, Sebon
21. Shaw, Minter E.
22. Thomas, Jordan
23. Ward, Mose
24. Young, Ben
25. Yeates, Boon

A LIST OF PENSIONERS FOR OKTIBBEHA COUNTY FOR 1938

Class I
Soldiers--- $40.00 per month

Critz, S. B.
Glenn, J. A.
Love, J. D.
Tondren, W. F.
Maxwell, Murry
Montgomery, John Milton

Class I
Widows.--- $40.000 per month

Costillo, Belle N.
Sides, Mrs. Sallie
West, Mrs. Adeline

Class 2.
Widows.--- $25.00 per month

Burton, Mrs. Alice
Carpenter, Mrs. J. M.
Clardy, Mrs. James
Davis, Mrs. Sallie
McBride, Mrs. Sallie
Wafford, Mrs. A. S.
Reese, Mrs. Nora

Class 3.
Widows.--- $15.00 per month

Adams, Mrs. M. D.
Allbritton, Mrs. M. R.
Chiles, Mrs. Marion
Cotton, Mrs. M. A.
Cole, Mrs. S. M.
Dennis, Mrs. Attala
Happole, Mrs. Martha H.
Kemp, Mrs. L. P.
Moorehead, Mrs. M. A.
Portlock, Mary R.
Ward, Mary Jane
Ward, Mrs. W. T.

Class 4.
Servents.--- $10.00 per month

Coleman, Jack

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

1. Alston, C. Robert.
2. Cavonah, W. Brooks.
3. Deitze, C. F.
4. Davis, R. C.
5. Hill, Ben J., ?
6. Maxwell, Herris.
7. Maxwell, James Wallace, 3rd. Seargeant.
8. Martin, H. A.
9. Nash, Harry E.
10. Newman, Jacob S.
11. Robinson, S. J., ?
12. Stewart, May.
13. Thompson, William L.
14. Turnipseed, H.H.
15. Winston, Isaac.
16. Yeates, Ed. J.
17. Yeates, E. D.
18. Yeates, Walter B., Corporal.

Names furnished by E. D. Yeates and Herris Maxwell

No official record. These names were taken from the published Roster of the Co. at the date of it's organization by Mr. Yeates and Mr. Maxwell. The company was organized by Capt. T. B. Birdsong of Hazelhurst, Miss. at Jackson, Miss. and was known as the Hazelhurst Co. The Oktibbeha Co. boys enlisted at Jackson, Miss.

MEXICAN WAR ROSTER

1. William A. Freeman.
2. William T. Irwin, Who also fought in the war of 1812.
3. Samual B. Hollinshed.
4. Simeon Pierce, Who also fought in the Civil War.
5. A. J. Maxwell.
6. Col. Doss.
7. William Howell.
8. Capt. J. D. Beattie.
9. Hough Montgomery Reynolds.
10. W. J. Rosseau.

These men were members of Co. A. of the Lowndes guards of the 1st Miss. Regiment.

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

Add to manuscript

Copy of a letter written by a Yankee soldier back home.

Hamburg, Tenn.
April 27th, 1862

My Dear Sue,

I wrote you a few days since, fearing however that it has been miscarried or intercepted, I write again. We are all at this place and expect to move forward in a short time on Corinth a distance of sixteen or eighteen miles. We are expecting a contested battle as we learn the rebels are in large force.

When that time comes up we will make the rebels feel the weight of our power and steel. I have seen many of the natives of this country and they present a woe-begone look. They look like they never had the advantage of an education. I notice some of the women's dresses. You ought to be here to take a glance at their appearance. Their hoops are made of grape-vine and oak splits. I feel sorry for the poor ignorant things. We will teach them in a few days how to live without white oak splits and grapevines. They are now the same as conquered. One more blow and this country is ours. I have my eye on a fine situation and how happy we will be in our Southern home after we get possession of the lands.

We can make the men raise cotton and corn and the women can act in the capacity of domestic servants; the women are very ignorant and only a grade above the negro. We can live like Kings.

My love to all the neighbors; kiss all the children for me and tell them Pa will be back soon.

Adie my Dearest,
James Donnley.

"The above mentioned James Donnley was taken prisoner at Shilo and is now "how happy in his Southern home."

This postcript was added by the person who took the letter from the prisoner.

2nd copy 5/23/39

COPY

R.F.D. 5, Box 108
Starkville, Miss.,
May 7, 1935

Mr. Moreau B. Chambers,
Corator, Archives and History
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Chambers: OKTIBBEHA IN WAR WITH MEXICO

I wish to thank you for your letter of May 1 inclosing roster of the "Lowndes Guards", Co. A, and Choctaw Volunteers, Co.C. 2nd Mississippi Infantry, in above conflict. As I learned from Dr. Rowland, Director, the day before in Jackson that these were the only organizations from adjoining counties and that no company went out from Oktibbeha, I shall limit my search to these two rolls in locating Oktibbeha sons in that war.

While teaching at A. & M., now State College, many years ago, I found in Columbus a Mexican War MSS Journal of a deceased relative. Learning of Mr. Simeon Pierce, sole survivor of the Lowndes Guards, I spent several Sunday afternoons in his home reading the journal to him, and recall many of his interesting comments, especially that there were ten Oktibbeha boys in Company A. Without refreshing my memory, I can name but Pierce, Freeman, Irwin and Hollinshead. It is with the hope of discovering other enlistments in the Lowndes Guards and perhaps in the company from the other adjoining county of Choctaw that I have accepted assignment of the above sketch.

On last Sunday I located eleven closely typed pages dated Nov. 15,1909, copied from the above journal. Page 1: "The diary of Thomas Neely Love, M.D.,(1818-1855), Surgeon, Second Regiment, Mississippi Volunteers in the War With Mexico, from the citizens" farewell to the Lowndes Guards at Columbus, Miss.,Dec. 25,1846, to May 6, 1847, to which is prefixed List of Officers and Privates of the Lowndes Guards; containing Official Correspondence and Three drawings in ink; Text: 169 pages, 36 lines to a page, 8or 9 words to a line; About 50,000 words".

Page 2: "INSCRIBED: Beuna Vista, Mexico, July 27, 1847. Dear Brother: I have concluded to send my journal to you for the benefit of my relatives and my particular friend, Dr. Lipscomb. Not a word of it is intended for publication. I desire no one to read it but my most particular friends. I have not written up my notes farther than the 6th of May. I don't expect to have another opportunity to send it back while out here. /s/ T. N. Love."

I shall try to locate the original journal, which I recall seeing as late as 1920, before making any further report to you, yet I would appreciate any further suggestions you or the Director may have to offer.

Very truly yours,
ALBERT LEE LOVE

Copy-
Mrs. Brumby, Oktibbeha Commission

RFD 5, Box 108
Starkville, Mississippi
March 11, 1936

Mrs. A. S. Brumby,
Oktibbeha Historical Commission,
Starkville, Mississippi

Dear Mrs. Brumby:

OKTIBBEHA IN WAR WITH MEXICO

In further reference to your copy of my letter of 5-7-35 to the Curator, Archives and History, Jackson, on the above subject, I have so far been unable to locate Dr. Love's 50,000 word MSS diary of the Mexican war mentioned therein, which extracted in 1909 and discussed then with Simeon Pierce, sole survivor of "Lowndes Guards", Co. "A", 2nd Miss Regt. Remember, he it was who said there were ten enlistments therein from Oktibbeha, though from the MSS roster he could recall only the four below, leaving six Okt bbeha comrades unidentified by him-

"Freeman, William A., age 23, 2nd corporal, -- discharged
"Irwin, William T., age 21, private --discharged"
"Hollinshead, Samuel B.,age 22, private"
"Pierce, Simeon, age 20, private,--left in Hospital, New Orleans; rejoined company at Monterey, Mexico

I have accordingly checked Dr. Love's MSS roster against that finally completed in Jackson, finding six transfers and nine other additions, several old Oktibbeha names the veteran could doubless have identified--

"Branch, Wm.;Burge, Beverly B.; Cabler,Alexander; Coakley,Wm.B.; Drake,Benj.W.; Frazee, Carman; Gill, Wm.E.; Green, Wm.B.; Harman Theo. E; Hope,John S.; Knight, Elijah; Mallory, W.; Nelson, Chls.,; Perkins, John; and Smith,John C.".

Moreover, Oktibbeha perhaps had a few native sons along the Choctaw line to go out with Company "C" from that county, roster of 112 men roster containing many common Oktibbeha names, among them --

Barnett, Boyd, Cook, Cooper, Cox, Evans, Fox, Hill, Johnson, Jones, Lewis, Long, Mitchell, Moore, Morgan, Parish, Roberts, Scales, Scott, Smith, Ware, Wilson and Wood.

Have you any suggestion as to how these two rosters could be posted or published for further checking to identify other Oktibbeha sons in the War with Mexico?

Very truly yours,

ALBERT LEE LOVE

Copy - Curator, Jackson,
Librarian, State College

COPY

The Diary of

THOMAS NEELY LOVE, M.D.

(1818-1855)

Surgeon, Second Regiment, Mississippi Volunteers,

In the

War with Mexico

From

The farewell to the Lowndes Guards at Columbus, Miss.,

December 25, 1846, to May 6, 1847

To which be prefixed:

"List of Officers and Privates of the Lowndes Guards."

And which contains:

Official correspondence,

and

Three drawings in ink.

Text: :

169 pages
36 lines to a page
8 or 9 words to a line
About 50,000 words

ALL-
11/15/09

INSCRIBED

"Beuna Vista, Mexico.
July 27, 1847

Dear Brother:

I have concluded to send my journal to you for the benefit of my relatives and my particular friend, Dr. Lipscomb. Not a word of it is intended for publication. I desire no one to read it but my most particular friends. I have not written up my notes farther than the 6th of May. I don't expect to have another opportunity to send it back while out here.

(Signed)
T. N. LOVE"

"LIST OF THE OFFICERS & PRIVATES OF THE LOWNDES GUARDS."

AGE	
	Captain: Blythe, A K
	1st. Lieut: Dowsing, E
	2nd Lieut: Mathews, B
32	2nd Lieut: Lauderdale, W.C
32	1st Sergt: Bagby, CH
23	2nd Sergt: Goodman, JW —discharged
24	3rd Sergt: Dowsing, Jeremiah
27	4th Sergt: Curry, J. B — Discharged
21	1st Corpl: Doss, W L
23	2nd Corpl: Freeman, W A — discharged - (Starkville)
21	3rd Corpl: Covington, J B - - discharged
22	4th Corpl: Rich E C — left in Matamoras in the General Hospital.
	PRIVATES:
18	Adams, John R — Died in New Orleans
25	Beckham, C D — Left at Brossas thought to be past recovery
22	Bekeart, Francis (left at B.V.)
25	Bennett, J M (died at B.V.)
25	Burnett, William (got to be sergt)
26	Case, F M
28	Cacye, J A (Casey, Joe, p.9) (came back)
25	Collins, H W (came back)
20	Cooper, T C (doesn't remember)
19	Dyche, S J
22	Ellis, J M - dead
28	Ellis, W L — discharged
27	Fanning, W P died at Comargo of inflammation of the throat.
25	Fields, Ellis, D — Died on Feb. 25, 1847, on the ship Henry Pratt on our passage from lobos to Brazas Santiago
18	Fields, John
18	Ford J J (died on ship)
38	Frederick, Abraham C (got back)
22	Glass, Thomas C — discharged in New Orleans (died, think)
21	Goodman, James M
22	Gray, Rovert (got back)
18	Freenlee, F M - died on the road to Monterey.
26	Hamilton, A T
25	Hamilton, H T came near dying at N O)
38	Harrison, Aaron - got back)
18	Hearn, William C - (got to be sergt.)
18	Hendricks, Jeremiah —discharged
33	Hoburg E G
22	Hollinshed, S B (Starkville)
18	Huddleston, James (got back)
21	Irwin, William T Discharged (got back - Starkville
23	Johnson, Black— left in Hospital, New Orleans
31	Johnson, Robert (got back)
28	Jones, Miles T (left in hospital)

PRIVATES - Cont -

Age	
20	King, L W - -Discharged
20	Kirkland, Daniel, dead
21	Kirkland, O. P. Discharged
18	Knapp, John (got back, couldn't kill him)
22	Knight, J. K. (ran grocery in camp, and think he was C.M.)
31	Knight, R J (Roy, came back)
19	Lee, James M --Discharged
24	Leverett, Jerry G (Came back)
18	Lipscomb, George H (came back and killed at Gettysburg)
23	Love, Thomas L --Didd in New Orleans
28	Love, Thomas Neely - - Promoted to the staff
18	McCarty, James C — Dead
23	Maddox, William E (went almost crazy to get out) (tried to f.letter)
32	Miller, John A
22	Moore, Elbert P — Discharged) (got back)
	Morris — Samuel
19	Nash, W B Died on Feb. 17, 1847 on the ship Henry Pratt on our passage across the Gulf of Mexico to Lobos
20	Neilson, Charles A. (thinks he died)
30	Parker, William S (back all right
25	Pearson , John M (same)
26	Penny, Thomas
20	Pierce, Simeon - - Left in the hospital at New Orleans, joined us at Monterey, Left at N.O. 4 mo.
19	Pybus, Benjamin M (back OK biggest mouth in camp
26	Rakestraw, William (back OK)
19	Kewen, Thomas, (forgotten him)
44	Rodden, James, Discharged
25	Scott, James, Discharged in New Orleans
28	Seale, B. B. - - Discharged, f. a letter to get back)
19	Smith, Erastus, Died in New Orleans
18	Spalding, E A (back OK)
22	Stone, William F - Left in the Hospital at New Orleans died later;forgot where)
19	Taylor, James I Died later, forgot where
19	Teague, HardyJ. (a great fighter
22	Thurman, James — Discharged
27	Tyler, Calvin, C — Dead (left his folks in N.C., joined in New Orleans)
24	Tyson, James C. Discharged -
20	Wallace, William C (from Columbus, died)
25	Ward, Amos F (don't recollect)
24	Warren, William E - - Promoted to the staff, doesn't know what became of)
18	Webb, George M
21	Whatley, William H, (doesn't know what became of)
24	Willerford, John W (got back)
19	Wynne, Richard (returned OK)

(From interview with Simeon Pierce, Starkville, Sunday Dec. 12,09
1. states he is only member of Lowndes Guards living.
2. States there were ten Starkville boys in Company but could not think of but four names; himself, Freeman, Irvin, Hollinshead

Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1846.-- Early the streets of Columbux were filled with people; they came to bid farewell to the Lowndes Guards, whichwere assembled in the Academy lot, and were soon ordered to "fall into line". Captain Blythe, in a few pertinent remarks, appealed to the bravery of the young soldiers; he announced that the hour for our departure had arrived; that some craven hearts had shamefully deserted us; that our ranks were not quite full, but that he had resolved to go, and go we would under any and all circumstances; that we would do our duty in presenting ourselves to the government.

"Let those", he said, "who sould desert us when we have been the first reported, the first received, and the first commissioned, --say, let them GO! But as for us, we are OFF! "

And the word MARCH was given.

The gallant Rifle Company escorted us to Mr. Musgrove's Tavern, where from Miss McCarthy, on the part of the fair ladies of Columbus, we had presented to us a most magnificent flag, with the inscription:

"The LOWNDES GUARDS"
"VICTORY OR DEATH"

The short address of Miss McCarthy was appropriate and felt by all. She delivered it with becoming ease and dignity. The reply of Captain Blythe was in good style. To William Wallace, the ensign, was left the pleasant task of receiving the flag and making the closing remarks upon this interesting occasion.

We were then marhned to Mrs. Musgrove's dining-room and partook of her hospitality, the Riflemen on one side of the table and the Lowndes Guards on the other. Captain Abert proposed a heartfelt toast to which the Lowndes Guards responded heartily. Mrs. Musgrove made her appearance at the door -- her eyes were filled with tears.

But the trying scenes were yet to come--parting of friends. Many an eye was filled with tears; many an eye, which perhaps, knew no tears of grief equal to those. We were now severing the ties that bound us to home, to friends, and to all that was near and dear to us upon earth. Our friends, with hearts and countenances of deep emotion, came around us with lips trembling with the words of "God bless you, farewell". When far away, fond memory will bring these scenes back to view and it will nerve our arms and give our hearts courage to know that our friends love us. Columbus indeed has reason for grief. This day forms an epoch in her history long to be remembered. This day she has dedicated to her country many of her native sons for the perils of war and the trials of the soldier's life. She bids them march forth upon a long and hazardous journey. Many a beloved boy has gone forth from under the roof of an indulgent parent to return no more.

To-day I have severed the ties that bound me to the world. When friends after friends came to me with tears in their eyes and bid me a last adieu, I felt, indeed, as a passenger to another world. I thought that I might imagine to myself how one feels who is called upon to offer his life, while yet in health and in the enjoyment of the richest blessings the world can afford. I felt too, the heavy responsibilities of my station heaping themselves upon my shoulders. Many men came to me overwhelmed with sorrow: "You must take care of my son", said they, "when

he gets sick; if he dies, have him buried decently." But my heart will ever hold with the tenderest feeling the kind solicitude manifested by my fair young friends. The affectionate farewell that many of them gave me will never cease to be cherished in memory. Whenever fortune or fate may cast me off, I'll turn back to view in "memory's waste" these severed ties. It will be a sweet consolation when far away from home to ponder over these interesting scenes. When the hours of affliction, solitude, or desolation come, if memory will furnish these lovely scenes to the broken heart, its pulsation will be renewed with vigor and new animation will be given to the languid eye and to the pallid cheek.

The Columbus Riflemen escorted us acorss the bridge and took an affectionate leave of us— and there was somethingsolemn in this above any separation I have ever made. Their farewell cheers yet ring in my ears. We there gave three cheers to Sergent William Bell who lost his arm at the battle of Monterey. We stopped at West Port and were joined by a hog-drover. The poor fellow was nearly naked but he met with a warm receiption in our ranks. We marched to Colonel McLaurin's yard; he treated us to cake and wine, and gave us $200 from his own purse. Long will the Lowndes Guardes hold his name in grateful remembrance. They know how to appreciate such genuine partiotism. We took up our camp seven miles from town. We have had a most delightful day. Two or three of us returned to town to-night. Columbus presented a melancholy appearance; every countenance was expressive of sorrow. I called to tell some of my friends goodbye — among them, Mrs. Fort and family. Long shall I treasure in memory the interest she manifested for the volunteers. As an evidence of her patriotism, she gave us all the money she had by her and only regretted that she had not ten times as much to give us.

December 26.— We have had a most delightful day for marching. We arrived at Mr. Skinner's for dinner. He treated us with great hospitality. Near night we reached Starkville, were met by General Owens, the band of music and citizens. They gave us a supper at the tavern. In reply, Captain Blythe was truly eloquent. He wished to make an appeal to the young men of Oktibbeha; that we were now upon our line of march to a foreign county, to attack an enemy in his own retreats; that we presented no military show, but, in reality, had bid adieu to our home, to our friends, and to the land of our nativity; that we knew no county limits in our ranks, but, if they wished to join us, to come on and we would be a band of brothers. It affords pleasure to record the names of many young patriots who joined us upon this occasion. At night, William R. Cannon visited us and brought with him a spirited young volunteer, by placing a "hand" in his place to assist the father of the young man. He offered us a servant to go with us to Jackson and gave us $20. Long will the Lowndes Guards cherish the spirit of sympathy and patriotism manifested by this generous representative of Oktibbeha.

December 27.— We had every prospect this morning of a wet day, but it turned out to be a fine day for marching. Our march to-day, 20 miles; the young men in fine spirits. Country poor; but a few houses; roads, bad. Some rude boys helped themselves to a fine bee-gum of honey at a house where the white folks had gone from home. What a few turnip patches were found within sight of the road, stood a bad chance.

December 28.— The march of the Lowndes Guards was greater to-day than any they have made — 22 miles. Sterile country, poor population, and sparcely settled. Some indications this morning of rain, but the propitious sun dispersed the clouds and we had a spring-like day. At ten o'clock we had a generous soldier's repast by Lamech Edwards, one of General Jackson's bold and heroic soldiers in the lawt war. We marched on to a place familiarly known in this (Choctaw) county as the French Camps, so called from being first settled by Old Louis Leflore, a Frenchman, who intermarried with a half-Indian and was fortunate enough to amass great wealth. Our camp was near the very fine spring of chaly-beate water. In a very short time, each mess had a fine fire and was making preparations for supper. They have placed me in a mess of fine fellows —Lieut. Lauderdale, Wallace, Lipscomb, Huddleston, Jerry Dowsing, Jim Goodman, Lee, Hendrick, and Beckhart. Some of our mess bought, on the road to-day, two very fine chickens and two dozen of eggs. Lipscomb and Lee were set to parching coffee, Wallace and Huddleston to scalding the chickens, which they did as expertly as any woman,—but one thing about it to which I objected, I discovered that the tray which they had scalded the chickens in served, after supper was cooked, as a general reservoir for all the articles cooked for the meal. Some of the boys went for water, some for wood, etc. Lee and Lipscomb had some trouble to get the coffee ground, —They had bound up the broken coffee mill with their suspenders. Suffice it to say that in due time we took our seats on the ground in a circle around the tray. In the center of the tray was the fried chicken; on one side, the fried eggs; on another some fried meat. On one side of the tray, the sugar was emptied, in order that we might have four tin cups to ten of us to drink out of; and we had some corn-bread warmed before the fire. I can say, in all honesty of my heart, that we had a good supper. I relieshed it as much as any I ever eat, for I had walked to-day, about 12 miles, and yesterday I was quite unwell.

Lieut Mathews and Lieut. Dowasing went up to the house about 200 yardsoff to get their supper. The orderly sergent had sent up a bag of flour to the house, and Mrs. Ervin had promised to have it baked during the night. But before she got ready to go to baking bread for the boys, a great disturbance broke out among her chickens. It required no acuteobservation to discover these minks in human form. The moon was shining very bright, and some of the boys were seen running through the yard after a chicken. Lieut Dowsing was very much offended; he ran out and hollowed to the boys: "What do you mean, boys! I thought we had a company of gentlemen, but you are turning out to be a parcel of thieves! " Before the boys were driven off from the chickens in the yard, a noise was heard out at the house lot among the geese and turkeys Dowsing made all the apology he could for this bad behavior and told the lady that she should be paid for the chickens. But she was so offended that she sentoword to the orderly to send back after the bag of flour; that if they boys were able to run about after her chickens, they were not too tired to cook their own bread.

December 29.-- By the dawn of day, everything was stirring in camp; by sunup, we were feasting on broiled chickens, turkeys, and geese, which the orderly took particular pains to pay a good price for to our unfortunate neighbor, whose visit to our camp might have excited within him some feelings of sorrow in beholding the skeletons of his poultry. At an early hour, the roll was called and we were upon the march. The boys moved off this morning like stiff plough-horses,-- great complaint about sore feet, blistered toes and heels. Within half a mile, we reached Attala County. At Mr. Nash's, we were treated to milk, beer, bread, etc. But the news of our mischief had gone before us, and at many places the doors were closed upon us. We marched on with great rapidity until we reached within a mile of Kosciusko. Some contended that we go through town, some that we stop where we were, and others that wished to have a spree and that wished to dance

(for they had heard that there was to be a ball that night), wanted to go in. We were ordered into line and the vote was taken, which decided that we go through town. Lieut. Dowsing was opposed to such long marches, and, being unwell, had stopped a mile behind. Just as we were about to march, and while the Captain was giving some commands, some three men came dashing up on horse-back and said: "Gentlemen, Volunteers, we have come to meet you; here is some liquor, and, drawing from his saddle-bags a white flask of whiskey, the speaker gave it to one of the men in the line, and then drew out several flasks and passed them down the lines. One of the other men dashed off to the other end of the line and went through the same manoeuvre. They never seemed to observe our officers, who stood off and appeared amused and partly affronted. But in a moment theywere off at full speed to bear the news of our approach. We met, in a short time, a band of high fellows, more remarkable for noise than good music, and then the Attala Company, which obeyed the captain's orders: "Divide, boys, divide here!" We marched between them and on through town. The confounded band of music made usch a noise that I dismiss this subject. We took up camp about half a mile from town. The boys were crazed for a frolic and many of them went off without supper. Although we marched 23 miles to-day, some of the boys were off to the ball, and, I am told, danced two or three hours. I had to go back to town for my horse and hunt him up, for our fastidious Captain was so cursed particular in having a long line of men to march after him that he would not allow anyone to leave the line to look after my horse. I had some trouble in finding him; he was tied to a rack. I met with an old friend, Samuel Motley, who took care of him at his camp for me. I went down to the ball room, but that was such a dull place to me that I left and was going to the tavern to go to bed. As I passed the liquor-shop, I heard a rush of men coming out at the door, hollowing: "Let them fight, let them fight!" I pressed up to the edge of the crowd and the flash of a pistol and its loud report gave strong indication of bloody fighting. I heard noise like someone falling and the next moment I

I heard a familiar voice: "Boys, I am the one that is shot." I ran up and asked him where. "In the head", he said. He turned his face toward me in the moonlight, and, sure enough the blood was streaming down his face. I took him into the tavern immediately. I felt the place in the dark before we started and it appeared that there was a hole in his skull. It surprised me that he was able to walk. As we left the ground, we heard another pistol fire, which was directed to the man Bell, who shot our friend Spalding and then loped off. As soon as we got a light, I out with my pencil and probed the wound. It did not enter the skull, and it was soon bound up with adhesive plaster and black save ho his face, which was badly burned. Bell came back in a few hours on a horse and acknowledged that he had done the deed, and bid defiance to our boys; he put whip to his horse and dashed off, The Captain and some three others followed him. After they got off some piece, the Captain entertained some apprehensions of danger and sent one of the men back for others to comeon. He reported it that Bell had raised about 12 men, and that they were all armed at some creek five miles off. Every volunteer that could get a horse of any description was soon heard galloping by the tavern and up to the grocery, the general redezvous. At length I heard the cry, "Come on, boys"; and the sound of galloping horses told that they were off. Nothing more was heard of them until about 2 o'clock, when they returned without having seen or heard of their enemy. I was in the room with Spalding, but had but little opportunity to sleep, so much was the excitement upon the street. It is said that two pistols were fired at Bell, and that he was wounded in the calf of the leg. I wonder if this is to serve as a prelude to some of our battles in Mexico? They will be more creditable, I hope.

December 30.— Spalding is up this morning, no fever, ready for marching. He may thank heaven for his narrow escape. The ball struck the angle of the frontal bone about the right eye, glanced off, and went through his cap. He says that if the Mexicans kill him, they must shoot below the eyes. We had a badstart this morning. Our boys are sore of their

frolic. The Captain says he will never stop near another town. We got about five miles and the large waggon broke down, though Collins soon had it ready for moving. The boys stopped in the yard of E. B. Sanders to wait for the waggon. He charged us $10 for a jug of buttermilk some cornbread, and a little meat; not worth, in all $2. It was much as Lieut Dowsing could do to keep the boys from jumping on him. Many of us got very wet this evening— the first rain we have had. I went and stayed all night with Maj. John Nash, formerly of our county. Our camp was within a mile of his house. Mrs. Nash made us 600 biscuit during the night,—and the boys did not disturb her chickens. But I have a secret on Joe Casy and young Nash, who stayed there with me.

December 31.— Three cheers were proposed this morning for Major Nash's kindness in having our bread baked. Within four miles, we came to Thomastown, more noted for name than for houses. Fine roads, hilly productive country. The large waggon turned over to-day with 15 boys in it. None seriously injured; but such a scattering of tin cups, bread, meat, frying-pans, trunks, trays, etc., I never saw. Covington and Harrison are most energetic in getting things in motion. Sam'l Stokes treated us to cake, ham, chickens, bread, etc. Our camp, 11 miles of Canton: march to-day, 22 miles, and this is too far. This is the last day of the year; a beautiful day, too— spring-like. The night is pleasant; the boys are cheerful; the moon is bright as day;—and the best singing I ever heard — it reminds me of camp-meeting time.

We are now 36 miles from Jackson. I had made my calculations to go there to-morrow night in order to see Governor Brown, and learn of him my prospects for the appointment of surgeon or assistant. I went to Captain Blythe like an obedient soldier and asked his permission. He would not let me go, though he knew how important my business was. His pitiful excuse was that if I went, others would want to go. This is a poor apology for a military man, and when I remember what a friend I have been to this man, I hope that my life

may be spared to avenge this injustice. I am determined to go to Jackson to-morrow night, anyhow, so I have come up to Mr. Baldwin's to stay all night, where I had sent my horse. I found Dowsing, Spalding, Wallace, Doss, Freeman, Casey, and Jim Goodman here.

Januaryl, 1847.— We are aroused up this morning about twohours before day by the Volunteers calling at the gate. Lieut. Mathews said that the Lowndes Guards had gone on; that Freeman (as he could not walk) must come down to the gate and get in the waggon; that Doss must pay the bill of his horse and ride him. It was very dark, the wind was blowing, and the rain came down like bullets of ice. The boys preferred marching to lying up this morning without tents. We concluded that as we were dry and comfortable, we would hold on until breakfast. By sunup, Mr. Baldwin had a fine breakfast for us. The generous-hearted landlord would have nothing from us for ourselves or our horses,— may God bless such spirits. We set out this morning with three horses to six of us. We did not overtake the boys until 12 o'clock. They say that they travelled seven miles before daylight— that they all got as wet as rats, so they will do to take along. They made no stop in Canton; not time enough for the boys to fill their canteens with liquor. This is a beautiful little town. Spalding says that if the Mexicans don't kxxx kill him, he is coming back t this town to live. We passed over a poor, black, sandy country. Some of the boys got a good dinner at Mr. Manna's. Many of us who were hungry rushed on to Dr. Jordan's with the hope of getting something to eat. But the white folks had gone from home; we went to the kitchen; the cooks were busy preparing for a party the next day. I stood off and looked at the large stack of pies and cake with more jealousy than I expect to subdue in the confines of Mexico—money nor love could procure not a single pie or cake. It is all well that some of the boys who had gone without breakfast and dinner did not happen in this kitchen, for Mrs. Jordan's guests might have spent a day in fasting and prayer, while her cooks might have been laid up with sore backs.

But if she could have appreciated the feelings of some of the men who were then sitting at the gate resting themselves, having walked 23 miles in the rain and xxxxx mud, without breakfast and without dinner, she would, if there were a single spark of sympathy in her heart, and we doubt not that she has a noble soul, have given every mouthful of food she had to these hungry boys. However, with the aid of Doctor's turnip patch, and with the eggs the boys got from the negroes, they fared tolerably well. We marched on 4 miles frather, making our march today 27 miles. We had nothing but meat and coffee for supper.

I came to Jackson to-night, sure enough; saw Governor Brown to-night on the street; he told me that some 15 or 20 men had applied to him for a recommendation for surgeon; and that he had recommended no one. He said that he would write to the President not to make the appointment until the Regiment was formed. He thought that I would stand a good chance for the appointment. He invited me to see him the next morning. At the tavern, I was introduced to General Mitchell, Secretary of State Hemingway, and others. I had also the pleasure of seeing General Cooke, General Wool, William P. Jack, etc.

January 2.—The Lowndes Guards s t off this morning without breakfast. I am told that one of the boys tried to leave us last night, but if he goes on and makes a good soldier, I will suppress his name. I went out a mile to meet my company. I went up to Judge Hughes' to leave my horse; a most lovely girl came to the door; I asked if I could have permission to leave my horse there unt l the next morning. This is the first girl I have conversed with since I left home— I was taken with her. After I went back to the road, she sent a message; that I must get acquainted with her brothers who were in the army. I returned her thanks, and told the servant that I would call and see her young mistress, and she might have me, perhaps, for a master, when I came back from Mexico. We were met by a band of music and Governor Brown, and they fired cannon on our approach. We were received before the State House, and addressed

by Mr. Glenn. Captain Blythe replied. We were then taken to the barracks and were amply provided for --General Mitchell was particularly kind To night Governor Brown invited the commissioned officers of our company and myself to tea. I was very much pleased with Mrs. Brown,--she is sociable, kind and intelligent.

January 3. --I got up early this morning and made arrangements to have my horse taken back home by Mr. Grisson. After early breakfast, I had some boxes (that Mrs. Governor Brown wished to send to Mrs. W. R. Cannon) put in the waggon. I went to Mr. Hughes' and got my horse, and gave him to the wagoner. I was rather unfortunate in not getting to see Miss Hughes. I bid my horse farewell -- I was sorry to part from him. There are few such animals; he is sensible, kind, and affectionate--always ready for the saddle or harness. He has been my constant companion for nearly two years. As I went back to the city, I saw Miss Hughes through a window, I made her a low bow, and her white handkerchief cheered me on. Our company went to church to-day, and we were praised for our good order. Governor Brown thought us the finest looking Volunteers he had ever seen.

January 4.--At 11 o'clock to-day, the Lowndes Guards, Monroe Company, Union Grays, and the Lauderdale Volunteers stood before the State House to receive the Governor's farewell address. It was hort, but very good. Blythe, Acker, McWills, and Daniel replied. Captain Daniel looks like an Indian, and when he arose, he turned his long black hair to one side and said: "I am no speaker, gentlemen, but I've got the boys out there that can fight. We rosin-heels can do the hard licks." The Captain returned to his post amid loud cheering. Lieut, Wilcox was called for, but he refused from his post in a loud voice; "Gentlemen, I will respond to your call upon the battlefield; it is time we were off. the cars are waiting for us." The word MARCH was given and we bid adieu to Jackson. We went - This completes the materialfrom diary in the folder - 11 pages in all.

April 30, 1935

LIST OF SOLDIERS IN SECOND REGIMENT, MISSISSIPPI INFANTRY, MEXICAN WAR IN COMPANIES A AND C

Company A is Lowndes Guard; commanded by Captain Andrew K. Blythe

Company C is Choctaw Volunteers; commanded by Captain Enox Elder

NAME	COMPANY	RANK
Acee, William B	C	Pvt.
Adams, John R	A	Pvt.
Aldridge, Jasper N	C	Corp
Alverson, Elias	C-D	Pvt.
Bagby, Charles H	A	1st. Sergt
Barfield, William F	C	Pvt.
Barfield, William M(or Willis)	C	Pvt.
Barnett, William	C	Pvt.
Barnett, William	C	Pvt.
Barron, Ezekiel	C	Pvt.
Bays, Henry	C	Sergt.
Bays, James N	C	Pvt.
Beckham, Caswell D	A	Pvt.
Bekeart, Francis	A	Pvt.
Benedict, Jacob	C	Pvt.
Bennett, Isaac M	A	Pvt.
Binion, Ananias O	C	Pvt.
Blythe, Andrew, K	A Capt	Capt.
Bowen, John	C	Pvt.
Bowen, William H	C	Corp.
Boyd, James	C	Pvt.
Branch, William	A	Pvt.
Burge, Beverly B	A	Pvt.

burnett, William	A	Pvt.
Cabler, Alexander	A	Pvt.
Caperton, James S	C	Pvt.
Caperton, William C	C	Pvt.
Cayce, Joseph A	A	Pvt.
Childers, James T	C	Pvt.
Childers, Robert S	C	Pvt.
Coakley, William B	E-A	Pvt.
Cochran, William F	C	Pvt.
Collins, Hiram, W	A	Pvt.
Cook, William M	C	Pvt.
Cooper, George W	C	Pvt.
Cooper, Thomas C	A	Pvt.
Coor, Fleet M	A	Pvt.
Covington, James B	A	Sergt
Cox, Allen	C	Pvt.
Crenshaw, Cornelius M	C	Pvt.
Crenshaw, Nathaniel M	C	Pvt.
Cromer, Richard S	C	2nd Lt.
Curry, John B.	A	Sergt
Dennehy, John	C	Pvt.
Dick, John W. N	C	1st. Sergt
Doss, Washington, L	A	Sergt
Dowsing, Everard	A	1st. Lt.
Dowsing, Jeremiah	A	Sergt
Drake, Benjamin W	A	Pvt.
Dunn, Richard W	C	Pvt.
Dunn Thomas G	C	Pvt.
Dyche, Samuel J	A	Corp

Dyer, Alexander	C	Sergt
Dyer, Christopher C	C	Pvt.
Elder, Davis M	C	Pvt.
Elder, Enos	C	Capt.
Elder, William H	C	Pvt.
Ellis, John M	A	Pvt.
Ellis, William L	A	Pvt.
Evans, Oliver C	C	Pvt.
Fanning, William P	A	Pvt.
Fields, Elias D	A	Pvt.
Fields, John	A	Pvt.
Ford, John J	A	Pvt.
Fox, Isaac	C	Pvt.
Fox, Thomas J	C	Pvt.
Frazee, Carman	B-A	Pvt.
Frederick, Abraham C	A	Pvt.
Freeman, William	A	Corp.
Garland, Edward W	C	Pvt.
Gill, William E	A-B	Pvt.
Glass, Thomas C	A	Pvt.
Goodman, James M	A	Pvt.
Goodman, Joseph	A	Sergt.
Gray, Robert	A	Pvt.
Green, William B.	A	Pvt.
Greenlee, Francis M	A	Pvt.
Hall, William C	A	Pvt.

Hamilton, Archibald	A	Corp
Hamilton, Henry T	A	Pvt.
Hancher, John	C	Pvt.
Herman, Theodore E	G-A	Pvt.
Harrison, Aaron	A	Pvt.
Harrod, John	C	Pvt.
Hart, Jessee D	C	Pvt.
Hearn, William C	A	Sergt-
Heaton, Robert H	C	Pvt
Henricks, Jeremiah	A	Pvt.
Heslip, James O	C	Corp
Higdon, Alexander	C	Pvt.
Hill, John W	C	Pvt
Hill, Richard H	C	Pvt.
Hoburg, Edward G	A	Pvt
Holland, Charles	C	Pvt
Holland, Wm.H	C	Pvt
Hollingshead, Samuel B.	A	Pvt
Hope, John S	A-B	Pvt
Huddleston, James	A	Sergt.
Irwin, William T	A	Pvt.
Johnson, Blake	A	Pvt
Johnson, James S	C	Sergt
Johnson, Robert	A	Pvt.
Jones, James L	C	Pvt.
Jones, Miles T	A	Pvt.
Jones, Robert	C	Pvt.
Kewen, Thomas	A	Pvt.
Kincannon, James	A	Pvt.

King, Leonidas W	A	Pvt.
Kirkland, Daniel	A	Pvt.
Kirkland, Oliver P	A	Pvt
Knapp, John	A	Pvt.
Knight, Abel E	C	Crop.
Knight, Elijah	A	Pvt.
Knight, James K.	A	Pvt.
Knight, Raleight J	A	Pvt.
Lauderdale, Wm. C	A	2 Lt.
Lee, James M	C	Pvt
Leverett, Jeremiah G.	A	Pvt.
Lewis, Charles	C	Pvt
Lewis, Wm	C	Pvt.
~~Lewis~~ Wm	C	~~Pvt~~
Liddell, Charles, J	C	Pvt.
Liddell, James M.	C	2 Lt.
Liddell, Phillip F.	C	Capt.
Lipscomb, George W	A-F & S	Q.M.S.
Long, Alfred B	C	Pvt.
Love, Thomas L	A	Pvt
Love, Thomas M	A F & S	Surgn
Mabry, Erastus W	C	Corp.
Maddox, Wm. E	A	Pvt.
Mallory, Wm	A	Pvt.
Matthews, Beverly	A F&S	2 Lt
McCarroll, Alexander	C	Sergt
McCarty, James C	A	Pvt.
McGary, Martin H	C	Pvt.
McQuary, Jasper A	C	Pvt.

McQueen, James A	C	Pvt.
Middleton, Holland	C	1st. Lt
Middleton, Moses C	C	Corp.
Miller, John A	A	Pvt.
Minga, Henry F	C	Pvt.
Minney, James	C	Pvt.
Mitchell, John	C	Pvt.
Moore, Andres J.	C	Pvt.
Moore, Elbert P.	A	Pvt.
Morgan, Daniel T.	C	Pvt.
Morris, Samuel	A	Pvt.
Nash, Washington B.	A	Pvt.
Neilson, Chalres A.	A	Pvt.
Nelson, Chls.	A	Pvt.
Osburn, John	C	Pvt.
Parish, Isaac W	C	Pvt.
Parker, Wm. S	A	Pvt
Parr, Giles S	C	Pvt
Pearson, John M	A	Pvt
Peery, James	C	Pvt.
Peery, John B.	C	Pvt.
Penny, Thomas	A	Pvt.
Perkins, John	A	Pvt.
Phares, Henry J.	C	Pvt.
Phares, John C.	C	Pvt.
Pierce, Simeon	A	Pvt.
Poe, Levi	C	Musician
Power, Francis		

Power, Francis	C	Pvt.
Prewitt, Josiah	C	Pvt.
Prewitt, Wilson M	C	Sergt
Pybus, Benjamin N.	A	Pvt.
Rakestraw, Wm	A	Pvt.
Real, Joseph, P	C	2 lt.
Rich, Edward C	A	Corp
Roberts, Simeon	C	Pvt
Roddon, James	A	Pvt
Saffell. amos H	C	Pvt
Saffell, James T	C	Pvt
Sample, Wm. A.	C	Pvt
Scales, Stephen D	C	Pvt
Scott, James	A	Pvt
Scott, Wm. R	C	Pvt
Seale, Benjah B	A	Pvt
Smith, Erastus	A	Pvt
Smith, Francis	C	Pvt
Smith, John C	C-A	Pvt
Smith, Thomas	C	Pvt
Spalding, Eugene A	A	Pvt
Starnes, John	C	Pvt
Stewart, James J	C	Pvt
Stokes, Redden	C	Pvt
Stokes, Samuel A	C	Pvt
Stone, Wm.F	A	Pvt
Stovall, Wm.A	C	Pvt
Taylor, James I	A	Corp.
Teague, Hardy J	A	Pvt
Thompson, Wm. B	C	Pvt

Thurman, James	A	Pvt
Tyler, Calvin C	A	Pvt
Tyson, James C	A-F	Pvt
Wallace, Wm.C	A	Pvt
Walton, George W	C	Pvt
Ward, Amos F	A	Pvt
Ware, Robert	C	Pvt
Warren, Wm. E	A F &S	Pvt
Weaver, Alexander W	C	1 lt.
Weaver, Benjamin F	C	Pvt
Webb, George M	A	Pvt
Whatley, Elijah	C	Pvt
Whatley, Wm. H	A	Corp.
Wiley, Benj. T	C	Pvt
Willeford, John W	A	Pvt
Wilson, Basil H	C	Pvt
Wilson, Giles L	C	Pvt
Wilson, Samuel	C	Pvt
Wiltshire, George W	C	Corp
Wood, James B.	C	Pvt
Woodburn, John	C	Pvt
Woods, Andrew	C	Pvt
Wynn, Richard	A	Pvt

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 1
Topic: Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County
Assignment # 22
By R.C.Morris & Edna Hunt
July 23, 1937

When the war between the states closed the Southern soldier accepted the arbitrament of the sword in good faith, and were returning home expecting to enter upon the task of re-building their lost fortunes as rapidly as possible. Having taken the oath not to take up arms against the United States these raged and hungry soldiers, having lost all but honor, were returning to aid in restoring peace and to cultivate friendly relations with those who had but recently, been honorable foes in the long drawn-out contest.

What did the soldier find on returning home? (1) Henry Grady gives a graphic picture of the sad situation in his historic speech before the New England Club, New York City.

"He finds his houses in ruins, his farms devastated, his money worthless, his social system, feudal in its magnificence, swept away- the burdens of others heavy on his shoulders-- without money, credit, employment, or training. (2) Dr. Riley in his History of Mississippi further depicts the situation as follows: "The desolation which met the returning soldiers was enough to fill the stoutest heart with despair. The country was almost stripped

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(1) Grady's address before The New England Society, New York.
(2) History of Mississippi, F.L.Riley. P. 282

R.C.Morris, Historian

of live-stock; bridges and fences were gone; tools and farm implements were wanting; there was no credit system; the labor system was deranged by the emancipation of the slaves;--- long lines of fortifications and piles of rubbish could be seen in many towns; County court-houses had fallen into decay, and soldiers stationed in the streets.(1) A Northern soldier who was living in the state during this period, writes: "The window glass in the homes had given way to thin boards or greased paper; the furniture is marred and broken, and none has been replaced for the duration of the war, dishes are cemented in various styles, and half the pitchers have no handles; a complete set of crockery is never seen, and rarely enough to set the table; a set of forks with whole tines is a curiousity; clocks and watches have nearly all stopped; hair brushes have all worn out, and combs are broken; pins, needles, and thread- all indispensable in any home, and a thousand of such articles are very scarce or entirely gone; cards spinning wheels, and looms, used in the home during the war to manufacture the cloth for the soldier's uniforms, are all completely worn out. At the table of those who were accustomed to luxurious living, before the war, you

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(1) American History, Bourne & Benton, P. 454.

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will find neither tea, coffee, sugar, nor spices of any kind. Candles have given way to the old tallow-dip or grease cup and saddest of all, all attachment to the union gone. "American-History, Bourne & Benton, page 454? With all this desolation on hand, what did he do? Did he sit down in sullen silence? Not for a minute. He eagerly stepped from the trenches that had been running red with fratricidal blood, into the furrows, and the fields that had run red with blood in April were producing a poor harvest in June.

Added to this fearful desolation was the uncertainty of the treatment the soldier would receive at the hands of a victorious enemy. The President had declared that treason must be made odious and traitors punished.

To assure all of our good intentions, Governor Clark called the Legislature into session to meet in Jackson on the 18th of May. This body immediately passed a resolution authorizing the Governor to appoint a commission to go to Washington to determine our status. (1) To this Legislature which was called in 1865, Oktibbeha County sent Senator Charles F. Miller and Representative B.L.Cromwell . Hearing that Federal soldiers were being sent to arrest them, the Legislature hastily adjourned and returned home.

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(1) Mississippi Official and Statistical Register

R.C.Morris, Historian

(1)
The Governor immediately appointed the commission consisting of W.L.Sharkey, and William Yerger, he was then arrested by the Federal troops and sent to Fort Pulaski Savannah where he was imprisoned. Marshall law was then declared throughout the state. The commission however, went on to Washington and were kindly received by the President, not as commissioner but as private individuals. These gentlemen assured the president that the people of Mississippi had accepted the results of the war as final and, in good faith were eager to return to their homes and to the union. They also pictured to him the terrible deprivation and suffering throughout the state. The situation appealed to the president and he appointed Justice W.L.Sharkey, one of the commissioners, as provisional Governor, to carry out his plan for returning the state to the union. This appointment was generally acceptable throughout the north. The proclamation directed sheriffs to hold elections in each county on the seventh of August for delegates to a state convention to be held at Jackson on August 14th.

(2) The provisions set up by the president were: the calling of the constitutional convention to be made up of "loyal" people for the purpose of altering or amending the constitution. The Military was directed to aid the Governor in carrying out the purpose of the president's proclamation.

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(1) Sharkey's Message to the Constitutional Convention, 1865.
(2) Yerger's Report to the Constitutional Convention, 1865.

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(1)As stated above, on the arrest of Governor Clark, the Military assumed dictatorial powers,so when the soldiers of Oktibbeha County arrived home from the battle field or prison, they found Federal troops stationed in the streets of Starkville, near the Mobile and Ohio Freight Depot with Captain Graves in charge. At this time no animus existed between the returning soldiers, the former masters, and the negroes, who were now free. They had been informed by the Federal soldiers that they were free and could go as they pleased. Many chose to remain with their old masters and continued to work as though nothing had happened, but others to exercise their newly found liberty drifted to town and gathered about the camp to be taken care of by the soldiers who had given them their freedom. (2) Our slave-holders had lost 7,631 slaves worth easily over three million dollars.

The assessed valuation of the county in 1860 at the opening of the war, was $4,394,785 in real estate and $11,002,700 in personal property. There was a total of 48 small manufacturing plants in the county, as follows: Six farm implement manufacturing plants, employing fourteen persons, with an output valued at

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(1) Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County, F.Z.Brown, Mississippi History Society Vol. XIII.
(2) Census of U.S. 1860- 8th Census.

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$18,950; fourteen blacksmith establishments, employing nineteen persons, with an output valued at $4,570; eight shops for the manufacture of boots and shoes, employing thirteen operatives, with an output of products valued at $13,350; five carriage and wagon plants, valued at $4,000, employing elevem persons, with products annually valued at $51,500, Several ginaries the cost of material of which was valued at $164,750, with an output valued at $74,750; furniture and cabinet shops to the number of four, producing $4,340 worth of materials, six saw mills, employing twenty nine men, valued at $25,500, with an output valued at $75,500; three saddle and harness plants, producing $3,029 worth of products; Seven tan yards with an output valued at $7,750. Further in 1860 there were 673 farms of 90,059 acres producing 19,959 bales of cotton, 664,595 bushels of corn, 22,359 bushels of wheat,84,643 bushels of sweet potatoes, 28,563 bushels of beans and peas. The farmers owned 1,735 horses, 2,178 mules, 3,183 milk cows, 1,414 working oxen, 6,461 in other cattle, 5,025 sheep, 31,585 hogs, 129,435 pounds of butter, the value of all live-stock was estimated to be $820,655.

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(1) The census of 1870 and 1880 will give the results of the war and the economic effects of Reconstruction. In 1870 the assessed valuation of the real estate of the county was $1,229,112; in 1880 it had continued to decrease in value to $885,754; the personal property had decreased in 1870 to $665,052, in 1880 to $343,126. The total valuation, real and personal for 1860 was $15,397,485; in 1870 of $1,894,164, 1880 $1,228,880. In 1870 and 1880 the various small industrial establishments mentioned in the census of 1860- 48 in all, had entirely disappeared, or had so depreciated as to be of little service. The valuation of the products had decreased from $217,650 in 1860, to $71,059 in 1870, to nothing in 1880. The public debt of the county, had increased from nothing in 1860 to $42,600 in 1880. Reconstruction was the major cause of this wreckage and deprivation.

(2) Soon a conflict developed between the military and the civil authorities. The negroes that continued to hang about the camp became haughty under the tutelage of the Northern soldiers. Graves granted permits to sell whiskey by the drink in Starkville. His word was law. He was the ruler of the county. (3) Through the medium of the Freedmen's Bureau which he controlled, he did as he

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(1)Census of U.S. 1870-1880,- 9th and 10th Census.
(2)Historical Sketches of Oktibbeha County, Carroll. P 117 ff.
(3)Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County, Brown.

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pleased. He appointed C.A.Sullivan, a scalawag, a lawyer of some note, as Chancellor of this Bureau. It was his duty to see that the negro got justice. This court had no juries and camp followers prompted the negroes to carry their grievances here where decisions were usually in their favor. Graves did not hesitate even to take a negro from the civil authorities, however serious the offense "to assure justice to the negro". Sullivan also supervised the contracts made between the farmers and the negroes.(2) Judge Carroll gives a copy as follows: "This agreement, made this------day of October 5th, A.D. 1865 by and between Augusta H. Rice of the county of Oktibbeha and State of Mississippi, of the first part, and the person hereinafter named and undersigned, Freedmen of the same place, part----hereto of the second part----------

WITNESSETH, That for the purpose of cultivating the Plantation known as the Meadow Woods plantation, in the county of Oktibbeha aforesaid, during the year commencing on the 1st day of January, A.D. 1865, and terminating on the 1st day of January, 1866. The said Augusta H. Rice, party of the first part, in consideration of the promises and conditions hereinafter mentioned on the part--- of the second part, agrees to furnish to the laborers and those rightfully dependent on them, free of charge, clothing

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(1) Historic Sketches. Carroll, Page 118.

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and food of good quality and sufficient quantity; good and sufficient quarters; medical attendance when necessary, and kind and humane treatment.

Also one-eighth of the corn, cotton, wheat, potatoes, fodder and molasses.

And it is Further Agreed, That in case the said Augusta H. Rice shall fail, neglect or refuse to fulfill any of the obligations assumed by her, or shall furnish said part---- of the second part with insufficient food or clothing, or be guilty of cruelty to the 2nd party, he shall, besides the legal recourse left to the party or parties aggrieved, render this contract liable to annulment by the Provost Marshal of Freedmen. And it is agreed on the part of the part----of the second part, that they will well and faithfully perform such labor as the said party of the first part may require of them for the time aforesaid, not exceeding ten hours per day in the summer and nine hours in the winter; and in case any laborer shall absent himself or herself from, or shall neglect or refuse to perform the labor herein promised, and the fact shall be proven to the satisfaction of the proper officer, the party so offending shall be punished in such manner as the

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Provost Marshal shall deem proper.

In Testimony Whereof, The said parties have affixed their names to this agreement at Meadow Woods plantation, State of Mississippi, on the day and date aforesiad.

Names		Age	No. of Dependents	REMARKS
Alfred	(X)	45	5	
Becky	(X)	38		
Lily	(X)	22	2	
Jim	(X)	19		
Arch	(X)	15		
Jeff	(X)	35	4	
Aurelia	(X)	40		
Clarke	(X)	15		
Maria	(X)	18	1	
Delphi	(X)	45		
Ben	(X)	32	3	

Executed in Presence of
F. Dunbar
M. Dunbar
A.B.Parks

Thus it is shown that through this office the worst political emissaries operated among the Freedmen and did much to disturb the harmony and good feeling which had hitherto existed among the

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races, by making them believe their former masters among whom they had lived so long were not their friends, and that their best interest lay in their attachment to the strangers from other sections.

(1) (2) Governor Sharkey immediately called a convertion for the purpose of carrying out the president's plan of reconstructing the state. The delegate from Oktibbeha county was Rev. David Pressley, an old-line Whig, who had opposed secession. They met in Jackson August,14th, 1865,and immediately nullified slavery or involuntary servitude except in punishment for crime. It also declared the act of secession null and void and such other ordinances passed by the convention of 1861 were repealed. It further provided for a meeting of the Legislature and an ordinance was passed making it the duty of the new Legislature to provide for the protection of the persons, and property of the newly made freedmen. In October, 1865, a general election was held and B.G.Humphreys was elected Governor. The Legislature met on the 16th of October. Oktibbeha County sent Charles F. Miller to the senate and B.L. Cromwell to the lower house. (3) Senator Miller was a man of unusual personality, a brilliant speaker and thus was able to grip the hearts of the people. He was a Lawyer of mediocre ability.

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(1) History Mississippi, Riley, page 286.
(2) Reconstruction in Mississippi, Garner, Ch. III
(3) Memoirs of Mississippi.

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(1) Representative Blake L. Cromwell inherited a large landed estate and numerous slaves from his father. He lived on his plantation on Trim Cane Creek in the north-western section of the county. He was a man of sound judgement and served as Representative till displaced by the Carpet-bag regime. In 1879 he was appointed clerk of the House of Representatives by his friend Col. H.L. Muldrow. He was later appointed Revenue Agent by President Cleveland. He died at West Point, Mississippi. (2) The county officials elected at this time were: Sheriff W.S.James, till his death in 1867; Probate Clerk, W.C.Bishop till 1869; Board of Police (Supervisors) W.H.Glenn as president, J.T.Randolph, and B.J.Rives. (3) This Legislature refused to ratify the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. This gave the radicals in congress their opportunity. It passed what is known as the "Black Code" relating to the Freedmen. "Laws relating to poor orphans were construed as to apply to include freemen, and jurisdiction was taken from the Board of Police and vested in the Probate court." No new law was passed. Under this Apprentice Law adopted by this Legislature, the guardian was required to see that his ward, the former negro slave, should get the rudiments of an education at home, or provide for it in a

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(1) Memoirs of Mississippi.

(2) Minutes of the Board of Police, 1865-66-67.

(3) Mississippi, The Heart of the South. Dunbar Roland.

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school convenient to his employees. The former slaves were further notified that they were free and had the privilege of remaining on the place as free men, working on the shares as tenants, or going to another place. Further he had the privilege of taking any name he may choose as a surname, that of his present or former master, or any other name. A great number of the landlords provided schools in the old quarters and secured the services of some Southern white men or women to teach them. (1) A school for this purpose was organized on Turkey Creek by Mr. William McKell. He later moved the school near Black Jack. Mrs. Jane Millhouse held a school just west of the Muldrow home on College Drive. Her brother was the only citizen of this county who fought in the American Revolution; Mrs. Eliza Flegn and her sister, Miss Mary Vinson taught a school for colored children near the present colored school in the old Vinson home. Mrs. Anne (Pressley) Bell taught a school on Cushman creek near Old Hebron. She was the daughter of Rev. David Pressley who afterwards became the first county Superintendent of Education of Oktibbeha County; and Mr. Milton Reedus taught a school at Old Bethel in the south-eastern section of the county.

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(1) Local Citizens of the County

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These were all colored schools and were carried out to meet the spirit of the Apprentice Law but recently passed by the Legislature. (1)(2)(3) Immediately however, the fanatical missionary representing Northern Churches began to come. These men and women came to the"benighted negro and white" to bring them from "darkness into light of Liberty". These were represented by such men as Mac C. McLaughlin. Rev. F.Z.Brown, in his Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County, gives the reaction of the white citizen to the teachings of these missionaries and especially of McLaughlin. He came as a minister and teacher but soon became the head of the Freedmen's Bureau, a Federal Office, and an organizer of Loyal Leagues among the negroes, chiefly for political purposes and general fomenter of political unrest. He even encouraged social equality among the negroes. In this connection, he opened a cooperative store which catered exclusively to the negro trade. This was a Joint Stock Company and shares sold at $5.00 each and a patrons credit was good in proportion to the stock he owned. This store was located on the corner on the north side of main street just west of the Court House, now occupied by the Walker Building. It

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(1) Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County, Brown.
(2) Historic Sketches, Oktibbeha County, Carroll.
(3) Reports of Local Citizens.

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covered the space now occupied by both the Walker building and the Medical building, was brick and two stories high. The upper rooms were occupied by the family of McLaughlin.(1) An estimate of this man is also given by Rev. Ben Robinson, a colored minister and teacher of this community and a former student of McLaughlin. Mac C. McLaughlin, a minister of the Methodist Church, was sent here as a missionary and teacher among the negroes exclusively. As his work progressed he was to organize a Mission College, the beginning of which was a two-story building on the corner east of the new high school building in West End, Starkville. It later became the Colored Methodist Church. His first school was taught in a barn on the Gay lot on Gillespie Street.

In his school and in his pulpit, he never showed any disposition in any manner to incite in the negro any ill will or feeling toward his former masters, but on the contrary, he taught, rather, the principles of good will and peace to all men. His chief mission was to minister to the lost and bring them to a knowledge of Jusus Christ and members of his church.

He observed that the negro was illiterate, extremely religious, but without knowledge. Due to his former condition

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(1) Manuscript furnished by Rev. Ben Robinson.

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he also saw his need of business guidance. It was his purpose to give training in all three lines, through the school, the church, and lastly through a cooperative store. He was a scholarly man, rather diffident, and associated entirely among the freedmen which he considered his wards. He never associated with the white people of the community but was in every sense a Christian gentleman. He was misunderstood by the white citizenship due to his attitude and thus condemned for acts perpetrated by others who played the game of politics with both white and black. These were such men as T.J.Leake and his son-in-law, C.H. Hunter, both of whom did associate with the whites and negroes alike. Robinson says of Leake;" Leake was a political trickster and worked only for self aggrandisement. He secured charge of the Cooperative store left by McLaughlin, while his son-in-law Hunter, secured the principalship of the negro school, Leakes wife, who was a much more capable person than Leake, assisted Hunter in the school. By trickery and demagogery, he was able to surplant Hunter in the school and drew a salary of $100.00 while his wife drew $60.00 per month from the county. He also got elected, by the aid of his negro friends to the Board of Police (Supervisors) from beat

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one, and was made president of the Board. He ran the store in a high handed manner and through it made the negroes pay for his home here in the city. The colored people soon found that Leake was a grafter and a deceiver, using the negro as a tool to work his way in politics and a fortune in money. When in contact with the negro, he never hesitated to throw a stone at the white people and thus hide his hand behind the innocent man or even unsuspecting woman. He dealt with the whites in the same manner. His betrayal was discovered by the negro when it was too late to save themselves from financial ruin as he soon played havoc with the store and became emproiled with the whites for which he was called to account. He developed pneumonia and died. His wife sold the property and returned north to her old home.

(1) McLaughlin came here as a missionary of his church among the negroes south to christianize them and educate them and train them in business; not to create enmity and strife between the races, but to build up the negro so he would become a more desirable servent and citizen in this county.

T.J. Leake came south on his own accord, a wiley

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(1) Ben Robinson, Manuscript.

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carpet-bagger, seeking for what he could pick up in a badly broken country.

McLaughlin's work among the negroes of the county was purely missionary. He sought only to build up the negro- educationally, socially, religiously, and economically. He sought no pay from the negro or the county for his services. He was never on that pay roll. His services then was not for selfish purposes, but like his master, for the good of the colored people.

Leake on the contrary, cared nothing for the negro except as he could use him to accomplish his own selfish purpose.He played an underhand game with both races. He sought the confidence of the negro and obtained it and then deceived him. He thus became thoroughly disliked by the white people and the negro as well. No white man appeared at his funeral.

Reverend McLaughlin was also followed by a minister by the name of Eans.(1) Reverend John Eans a methodist preacher who served the cause of the negroes of the county during the reconstruction period of our history, was a man of unusual oratorical ability and a preacher of note. Eans followed McLaughlin as minister when he was driven from this community by the Ku Klux. He was a small brown-skin negro, not over five feet tall. Often he would preach to his people on the streets

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(1) Manuscript furnished by Rev. Ben Robinson, Col.

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of Starkville but would have as large audience of white people as of his own race. He never mixed in politics but his influence was felt for good throughout the entire community. Eans was brought up in slavery, just across the line in Alabama. He thus understood Southern conditions. He eschewed politics and earnestly taught his people from the pulpit to guard against the wiles of their foreign white advisors. He remained pastor of the colored Methodist Church in Starkville for two or three years, and was then transferred to New Albany but his family remained in Starkville and after he had served the people in that town for a short time he returned here. He was well thought of by the white people for his exemplary life. (1) Hon. John Wellborne relates the following anecdote: While he was serving the church here in Starkville, Hon. Homer C. Powers became interested in a Federal appointment. His friends circulated a petition which carried a strong endorsement for Mr. Powers, mentioning his ability as an official his sobriety, and his interest in the cause of the people bith white and colored. He was very anxious to have this signed by all colored and white officials and ministers, which was readily done until it reached the Rev. John Eans. He read the endorsement and the

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(1) Information by Hon. John Wellborne.

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signatures very carefully, observing that it had been signed by all the white ministers of the city. It was clear John was "on the spot". To refuse to sign, would no doubt offend not only Mr. Powers but many of his friends; to sign would offend his own conscience and refute his earnest teachings to his people that they refrain from politics. He refused to sign stating that "I like Mr. Powers and respect the officials and ministers who have signed thisendorsement but we all know that Mr. Powers is not a man of sobriety and besides I have endeavored to steer clear of politics. The joke was now on the white and colored ministers who had signed and all rushed to have their names removed and the Reverend John Eans became a hero and more highly regarded, even by Mr. Powers who often told the joke on himself."

These men were also assisted by G.H.Hunter who taught in the northern section of the county and at Starkville, and the Rev. James Wilson who taught and preached in beat five as well as at Sturgis. Others came to the various sections of the county and did a great deal in stirring up race animosity. Perhaps, as teachers and religious advisers, these men and women were in

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better position to implant the seeds of revolt in the minds of their laity than even the official in charge of the Freedman's Bureau. As a result the negro who belonged th the church of their master, now began to withdraw and organize churches of their own which were dominated by these white ministers.(1) Now they, as Judge Carroll well states, had free "opportunity to discuss their grievances, real or imaginary, against the whites." Here they were also incouraged to show their liberty by refusing to work for their former masters. As a result the crops were poorly cultivated or the land left idle.

(2) Congress met in December 1865 and soon fell under the influence of men of the most radical type like Charles Summer and Thaddeus Stevens. Our Senators and Representatives were refused their seats even though the state had complied with the President's plan of restoration. (3) The Congressional Reconstruction Acts were then passed and Mississippi became part of the fourth military district with General E.O.C.Ord as commander, followed by Maj.-Gen. Gillem, and in quick secession by McDowell and he in turn by Gillem again. No respect was given to civil authority,

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(1) Historic Sketches- Carroll.
(2) History of Mississippi, Riley, page 291 ff

but fortunately Graves in this county was removed by Gen. Gillem much to the gratification of our people, and was replaced by Captain Foster, who administered the duties of his office more acceptably, showing due courtesy and respect for the white men who had but recently been such valient soldiers.(1) Under a supplemental reconstruction act passed in 1867, Congress provided for the registration of the voters to participate in an election for deligates to a constitutional convention; so early in June the registration began. No person could register who had held office of any kind and had then engaged in war against the United States Government. The Registers, accompanied by soldiers and clerks went from precinct to precinct. This disqualified most of the best citizens of the county, thus the county was not represented in the notorious "Black and Tan" convention of 1868.

In 1867 the cotton crop was a complete failure on account of floods, droughts, and worms and the refusal of negroes to work. As a result there was wide spread suffering among the poorer whites and the freedmen. This brought about a very decided spirit of unrest among our citizens bordering on revolution.

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(1) Reconstruction In Oktibbeha County, Brown.

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(1) Added to the desperate economic situation mentioned above, the following conditions added too the unrest: 1. The type of men who had been elected to the constitutional convention, 2. The "Iron Clad" oath which kept most of the best citizenship from voting in the election, 3. the wide spread suffering, 4. the impossibility to secure justice before the courts, 5. the general disorder throughout the state.

(2)The Democrat members elected to the convention from other sections of the state resigned in disgust. After a session of 115 days a constitution was made which was to be submitted to the qualified electors of the state. The white people of the county and state worked as never before to defeat this abominable constitution, knowing it would be practically impossible to live under its diabolical provisions. The voting began the 22nd of June and lasted eight days. Loyal Leagues were organized among the negroes by the military and Freedman's Bureau officials.
(3) A regular ritual was formulated and an oath required. Every colored person from 18 to 70 were expected to become a member and as many whites as desired. To be inducted into the League,the candidate would be led into the room with a table in the center.

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(1) Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County, Brown.
(2) Historic Sketches, Oktibbeha County, Carroll.
(3) Mississippi, The Heart Of The South, Dunbar Roland.

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On one side of the table a pot of alcohol containing some myrrh was placed, on the other a flag and sword. The candidate then would be given the following questions:

What is your name?

Are you white or colored?

Were you born free or slave?

Who freed you?

Who helped him to free you? The army and the Republican party.

Who fought to keep you in slavery?

Who, then are your best friends?

Whom do you want to hold all offices? The Republican, the friend of the poor colored man.

Should the Democrats win the election what would become of you? We would be put back into slavery.

The candidate would then take the following oath:

I---(name in full) do solemly swear on the Holy Bible, in the presence of God and three witnesses, that I will ever remain true to the Republican party; that I will always vote the Republican ticket; that I will keep secret all signs, password, and grip of

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the Loyal League; that I will obey all the rules, laws, resolutions, and commands of the league of which I am a member, that I will forever reverence the name and memory of A. Lincoln, the author and father of my freedom, that I will observe and keep in holy rememberance and anniversary of the emancipation proclamation, and that I will teach my children to do so.

That I will never knowingly vote for any Democrat, for any office, lest I be put back into bondage and slavery, that I will never disclose the name of any member of this League, or any League of which I may become a member, nor tell the place of the meeting of the same; that I will not testify against any member of this, or any Loyal League concerning anything done by the League or its orders, or the order of any of its officers. For the violation of this oath or any part of it, for the first offense I agree to receive fifty lashes on my bare back, and one hundred for the second offense, and for the third, to be secretly shot to death by any member of the League appointed for that purpose, "So Help Me God",

Inspite of all efforts made by its friends the constitution was rejected with the aid of many of the better negro votes,

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who voted with thw whites against it. Humphreys and Gillem were removed as they appeared to hinder the reconstruction program and after much decension at home in which the carpet-baggers and other friends of the constitution urged Congress to declare adopted in spite of the vote. General Grant, who had just assumed his seat in the Presidential chair, ordered the objectional clauses of the constitution to be voted on so an election was held in 1869 to carry out this order. The constitution was then overwhelmingly ratified without theobjectional clauses. At the same time state officials local and county were voted on.

(1)In 1867 W.S.James the regularly elected sheriff died in office and the following order was passed by the Board of Police on April, 15th. "It appearing that W.S.James,Sheriff Elect has departed this life and R. Friday as Coroner has failed to give bond as sheriff, it is therefore, ordered that Ppaul Harrington be appointed sheriff pro tempore who appears in open court and accepts such appointment and takes and subscribes to the oath of office as prescribed by law." Mr. Harrington served one month and was succeeded to office by G.C.Sullivan, by appointment by

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(1) Minutes of the Board of Police, Oktibbeha County. 1867.

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the board on May 13, 1867. On April 13, 1868 H.C. Powers was appointed sheriff, no record was given as to what became of Sullivan who served but one year. This makes four sheriff's to serve the county during the year from April 15, 1867 to April 13, 1868. Mr. Powers served out the unexpected term and was duly elected sheriff to serve the next four years. In a cold blooded manner Sullivan during his year as sheriff collected the exorbitant taxes for which he never gave any accounting. He soon left the state, it is reported, with his pockets filled. As stated above he was followed by H.C.Powers, a carpet-bagger, who was related to Governor R.C.Powers. He had come to this county from Cleveland, Ohio, and by the aid of the negroes was elected to the Sheriff's office in 1869 after a years service by appointment. He professed friendship for the southern white man but always managed to hold the negro in line at voting time. (1) It looks now like he tried to"carry water on both shoulders," to "run

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(1) Local Citizens- Conference.

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with the hare and hunt with the hounds". He was a diplomat of the first order and believed with Andrew Jackson, that to the victor belonged the spoils. (1) He was the despencer of Federal patronage for several years. (2) He and Mr. Loomis, another carpet-bagger, also from Clevelandd, Ohio, secured the contract for building the Mobile and Ohio railroad, in 1865,and with the aid of convict labor, secured through political influence both were able to amass a fortune. Taxes were skyrocketed by the Board of Supervisors who were either negroes or carpet-baggers, or scalawags and collected by the sheriff with cold indifference. W.E.Saunders, was elected to the office of Chancery Clerk, W.A.Hale, to the office of Circuit Clerk, and Joe Woodward to the office of Treasurer- these men were all native citizens but had swapped politics for the spoils of office and were known locally as scalawags. C.A.Sullivan continued Chancellor of the Freedman's Bureau, and J.J.Dennis Court Chancellor.

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(1) Historic Sketches, Oktibbeha County,--Carroll

(2) Legislature of 1874, Proceedings.

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Reverend David Pressley an honored native citizen since 1850 was appointed by Governor Allcorn to carry out the mandates of the Public School laws, which he did in a very acceptable manner till the overthrow of the carpet-bag regime in 1875. The members of the Board of Supervisors were far from satisfactory. David Pressley who had served as president of the board for several years, resigned to accept the superintendency of the Educational system of the county. We then have from beat one the following men: - S.E.Rives, T.J.Leake, Freeman Crenshaw, and (1) J.C.Hines, all white men; from beat two, Juniper Yeates and John Gamble; both negroes, beat three, Dick Gibbons, Philip Eddington, J.W.Leverett, and J.L.Sherman; for beat four, N.Burkett, Robert Craig, and H.G.Sikes; and from beat five, Randle Nettles and Ceasar Lide. Lide was not able to sign his name to the oath required of the officer. In the lower beat offices, several negroes filled the office of the Justice of the Peace and Constable. Ceasar

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(1) Historic Sketches-- Oktibbeha County, Carroll.

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Simmons, a negro, served in beat two and made a fair justice. He was followed by Walter Ramd, a white Republican and he, in turn, was followed by Bolin Lee. Lee was ignorant and his court was a farce. In beat five where the negro vote was far greater than the white all the civil district offices were filled by negroes of ordinary ability and low character. These were Anderson Boyd, Monroe Higgins, and mose Neely, They were dominated by the white scalawag or carpet-bagger and thus carried out directions irrespective of justice. Even when trial by jury was reestablished, negroes largely filled these positions.

It was clearly evident that the radical Republican , the Scalawag, and the Carpet-bagger, through the Loyal League had gotten in their deadly work. The poor negro was helpless in their hands by reason of his entire absence of self reliance, his want of experience, and his failure to understand or appreciate his changed condition. Ofcourse we see now more clearly than even then, that the purpose of

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their leaders was only self-aggrandizement and personal gain. It was through his influence that the negro, bewildered, lost faith in his best friends. This was the crowning sorrow and humiliation on the entire county. To-day impartial observers of that time marvel at the patience and long suffering of the brave and chivalrous citizens. Under the guidance of the Liberty Leagues long line of negroes following a noisy drum dominated the entire country side and especially were they obnoxious about voting time. (1) To add to the misery of the people, a band of horse-thieves and marauders, similar to the Murrell gang began to operate in the county. It is now stated that this band had a chain of depots extending from Texas to the East and thousands of horses were driven by night from one station to another till they were well out of the county from which they were stolen. Some of the gang were residents of this county. As a result many of our best horses were run out. In time, the citizens became so exasperated over these depredations and knowing

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(1) Historic Sketches, Oktibbeha County-- Carroll & Local Reports.

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the futility of the courts, they proceeded to catch some of the leaders, hung one and drove the lesser criminals from the county.

It was useless to go to the courts with the expectation of getting justice for any grievance. The Government was wretched, the taxes oppressive; crops were a failure, the abuse of the new public school system,--all officials and teachers being out of the county and utter strangers to the needs of the citizens; expensive buildings were constructed and outrageous contracts let.

(1) Something had to be done. Col. H.L.Muldrow called a few of the outstanding men of the county together and suggested the organization of the Ku Klux Klan for the protection of its leadership. He was made its Grand Cyclops for the county. There were three branches in the county modeled after the parent Klan. It had severe rules governing its members in the performance of their duties. The local Klan never redressed the grievances of the immediate community but would delegate the work to another

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(1) Local Citizens, Historic Sketches, Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County --- Carroll.

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Klan some distance away as every one recognized the seriousness of the offense if caught by the Federal officers. Usually they first issued a warning-delivered in a pompous manner to the indididuals for whom it was intended. It might be in the form of a note stuck on a door with a dagger, telling of the offense and warning from further acts. Its strange symbols, fantastic dress, fearful names, and midnight visits terrified the superstitious negroes. (1) Often the Klan would call at a negroes house in the dead of night, posing as spirits of the dead soldiers and call for water and drink one bucket full after ahother down a long tube leading to a bag prepared for the occasion, then remark that "this is the first drink since I was killed at Shiloh" or some other battle of the late war.(2) The following notice was found on the door post of a Freedman's Bureau Agent and is typical of the type of warning issued."Mene, Mene, tekel upharsin. The bloody dagger is drawn; the trying hour is at hand; beware! Your steps are marked; the eye of the

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(1) Local Citizens- Reports- Brown.
(2) Reconstruction in Mississippi- Garner

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dark chief is upon you. First he warns; then the avenging dagger flashes in the moonlight" If no attention was given to such warnings, and in some instances it was ignored, under the direction of their radical leaders, the negro was whipped and the white man tarred and feathered and driven from the county. (1) McLaughlin, mentioned above received such warning which was ignored. The Klan from Self Creek then came in fully determined to kill him. He baracaded himself in his cooperative store, piling sacks and boxes of corn against the door. After much delay the Klan gave him three days to leave the county. He left at once dressed in a woman's clothes to deceive the Klan. He went to Holly Springs and reported the local Klan and in a few days was back with a Federal Marshall and soldiers.(2) Many of the local Klan were arrested including such citizens as Col. Muldrow, Murry Maxwell, Rhett Maxwell, Elijah Hogan, George Gillespie, Y.Z.Harrington, Jim Watt, Wiley Moss, William Bell, John Yeates, some twenty six in all, but not a man in the crowd participated in

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(1) Local Report.
(2) Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County---Brown.

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driving McLaughlin from the county, that had already been provided for, but this made little difference with the radical Judge R.A.Hill, of that day. Through the influence of such men as H.C.Powers and F.S.Pate, the cases were postponed. Bonds were provided and the cases were never called. Pate gathered in a few hundred dollars to see that they did not come up again.

(1) In 1871 the Carpet-bag Legislature transferred one fifth of the county to a new county being organized from parts of Lowndes, Chickasaw and Oktibbeha. The new county was called Colfax after the Vice-President of the United States with Grant. During the same year a great railroad fever struck the county. (2) Some of the more prominent citizens secured a charter from the Legislature to run a railroad from Grenada to Starkville known as the Artesia, Starkville and Grenada railroad. To get a charter they secured a few negroes as charter members. These were Juniper Yeates, a member of the Board of Supervisors and some other officials

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(1) Legislature, Acts- 1871
(2) House of Senate, Journals 1871.

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such as Mose Bardwell. Aron Davis, Robert Larry, Nick Anderson, Randle Nettles, S.E.Rives, Nichols Anderson, Felix Rushing, James T. Chiles, Hamp Turner, John I. Montgomery, H.C.Muldrow, W.B.Montgomery, J.P.Curry, W.H.Chiles, H.C. Powers, John S. Worley, C.A.Sullivan, J.D.Beattie, Mitchell Moody, L.A.Fort, H.L.Muldrow, M.F.Ames, Geo, H. Holland, Ira McWilliams and J.A.Cox. This road never materialized due to lack of funds which were to be secured from the sale of stock, which the company was authorized to issue to the amount of two million dollars with shares valued at one hundred each. It was to be a narrow guage road and thus failed to elicit the interest of local or foreign capital. Before the charter was legal it had to be submitted to the voters of the county through which the road would pass.

(1) (2) In 1872 a charter was secured for another railroad to be known as the West Point, Starkville and Kosciusko railroad. The local incorporators were W.B. Montgomery, W.N.Ames, F.H.Duquercron, D.A.Fort, H.S.Muldrow,

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(1) Legislature- Laws- 1872

(2) House & Senate Journals, 1872

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H.C.Powers, Robt. Larry, Moses Bardwell, and C.A.Sullivan. The capital stock of the company could be secured from the sale of shares at $50.00 each and could amount to one million or two million dollars, Counties through which the road passed on the vote of a majority of its qualified electors, may subscribe to this capital stock. The company was granted power to construct either a single or a double track. This road also failed for the same reason as the one chartered in 1871.

(1) Then early in 1872 work was begun to interest the Mobile and Ohio Railroad to build a branch line from Artesia to Starkville. (2) This was promised by the company on condition that the county would vote $150.000 for the project. The proposition was bitterly opposed and championed by the most outstanding citizens of the county. On January 6th, 1873, a petition was submitted to the Board requesting an election in the county on the above proposition, the same to be paid in twenty annual installments bearing interest at 7% per annum. It was therefore ordered that an election should be held as required by law on the 18th day of

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(1) Historic Sketches- Oktibbeha County- Carroll.

(2) Legislature- Laws- 1873.

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February, 1873, to enable the qualified Electors of the county to vote on the proposition of subscribing to the capital stock of this roalroad to the amount of $125.000. The election was held on the date fixed by the Board of Supervisors but was defeated at the polls due to the opposition of the southern and western sections of the county. Again speakers campaigned the county, assuring the citizens of the western section that the road would pass through the county and thus inlisted the interest of the west. Col. H.L. Muldrow called a mass meeting at the Court House in the interest of the program.(1) His close friend, Jim Graves was making a strenous fight in opposition to the issue. In this meeting certain remarks were made by Graves to which Muldrow took offense, Friends of both parties did little to allay the difficulty but rather added fuel to the flame. Both men armed and met at the corner, east of the Court House, as a result Graves was killed and Muldrow wounded. The election was carried and the bonds floated and later the road built by H.C.Powers and Loomis, using convicts to do the work.

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(1) Local Report.

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Immediately Starkville went on a boom, new stores were built and the population doubled in a short time. This branch of the Mobile and Ohio was first constructed to Sessums, a station was erected and this village became the terminus of the branch for several years.(1) During this time, trains were met by buses from Starkville and passengers and freight were thus transported to this place. By 1876 or 1877 the road was completed. For several years the trains ran only three times a week. On other days Chiles and Mallory, who ran a livery stable in Starkville, were permitted to run a hand-car to carry passengers out to Artesia. Four negroes operated this car and a fare of one dollar each way was charged.

Early in 1871 a joint stock was chartered by T.G. Sellers, L.A.Fort, C.A.Hogan and W.C.Bishop known as the Oktibbeha County Agricultural and Mechanical Joint Stock Company. It was chartered at $100,000 and shares were valued at $20.00 each. Its purpose was to promote the Agricultural and industrial developement of the county through county

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(1) Ibid

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fairs. The fair ground was located in the western section of the city and carried out this program till about the beginning of this century.

(1) During the session of the Legislature of 1871 C.A.Sullivan who had served as Chancellor of the Freedman's Bureau, petitioned the Legislature as Administrator of his brother C.C.Sullivan, late sheriff of Oktibbeha County to pay his estate the sum of $13,056,38 as settlement for services which had been refused while the sheriff lived. The Carpet-bag or "Black and Tan" Legislature readily granted this petition and instructed the treasurer of the state to issue his warrant for this amount to the Administrator.

(2) In 1873 Mississippi was represented in the United States Senate by Adelbert Ames and James Alcorn. At once a breach developed between these men. Alcorn stated that Ames was not even a citizen of the state and did not represent its citizenship. As a result both announced as candidate for Governor of the state. In this county Ames received the support of the carpet-baggers, negroes, and scalawags,

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(1) Ibid
(2) Congressional Record- 1873.

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while Alcorn had the support and backing of the Democrats and a few native Republicans. Ames carried the county and the state as well, and thus was elected Governor together with a negro as Leutenant- Governor and another negro as State Superintendent of Education. The greed of the colored people at this time was astonishing. (1) Anderson Boyd, a negro, and George H. Holland was elected Representatives to the state Legislature and C.A.Sullivan was elected to the State Senate. The Board of Supervisors was made up of the following members: S.R.Rives, President, Robert Cruiger, Juniper Yeates, Ceasar Lide and J.M.W.Leverett were associate members. W.E.Saunders was elected Chancery Clerk and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and H.C.Powers sheriff.(2) The Board fixed the tax rate at fourteen mills for the state and thirteen mills for the county-- a total of twenty seven mills, as a result a large delinquent land list was soon advertised for taxes. General J.Z.George well said," The men who impose our taxes are entirely dissevered in sympathy and interest

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(1) Proceedings of the Legislature- 1873
(2) Minutes of the Board of Supervisors- 1874

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from those by whom they are paid. Our Legislature is controlled by a combination of ignorance and corruption. (1)
In the state there were over six million acres of land forfitied to the state for taxes. These exorbitant taxes and resulting loss of land brought about great dissatisfaction and racial disturbances in several sections of the county. Throughout the state a demand was made for a reduction and an earnest petition was presented to the Legislature pointing out a useless wastefulness and extravagance but nothing was done. The county throughout this period was administered with extravagance and cupidity. The courts had become a wretched mockery.

Another event took place that emphasized the tense situation that was existing during the latter part of the carpet-bag regime. Judge Carroll quotes Mr. H.C.Dorey as follows:
" The great fire of April 25, 1875,burned the entire business district of Starkville. It began about ten o'clock at night; Asbury Lee and I, who were out serenading, discovered it.

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(1) Mississippi The Heart of The South.

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Smoke and flames were beginning to rise on the west side of Lafayette street, about a hundred feet south of Main, near where Martin's hardware store is today.

"Without fire equipment and with wind blowing to the northwest , the people were unable to stop the fire. It burned itself out, destroying the following stores and business houses:

"On the wets side of Lafayette--Dr. Carley's brick building, in which the fire started; then a frame building, belonging to Lewis Martin, in which I had a work-shop; then a building owned by Billy Gunn, father of W.C.Gunn.

"On the west dide of the street-- Buck Chiles' livery stable. "On the south side of Main street, beginning opposite the courthouse- J.O.Henry's place of business, where Blumenfield and Fried have their store; next, to the east, a brick store; next, a building owned by Buck Chiles and Jim P. Curry-- had a stairs going up on the outside; a building with 120 ft. front, formerly used as a livery stable, owned by W.B.Montgomery; Dr. Carley's store; store where Phillip Goodman's stands now; Dr. Carley's place of business-- repleced by the first brick store

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built after the fire; a three story building-- Davenport and McDowell ran a drug store on the first floor; the Odd Fellows used the second; the Masons, the third--stood where Ike Katz store is; the store occupied by old man Sanders; finally, Strauss' dry goods store, where the Bell Cafe stands.

"Beginning with the site of the Peoples Savings Bank and going east-- the business house of old man Newman; the bake-shop operated by Carlyle; the store occupied by Lewis Martin; a little dry goods store; then leaping a vacant lot used by Chiles the livery-man, a little work-shop used by John H. Stillman.

"On the north side of Main, from west to east--the courthouse (a brick building with a shingle roof); a small frame store-building; a building owned by C.R.Montgomery and J.A. Montgomery, where Scales' store is; sweeping a vacant lot owned by Bill James, a dry goods store; the law office of Dennis and Pilcher; and on the corner, the store owned by John Beattie.

"Beginning with the site of Puller's Drug Store and going east-- the grocery store of old man Mid Owen and James A. Valentine; skipping a vacant lot,the dry goods store of Hogan

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and Ames; the store occupied by Rosseau; leaping the hotel yard, the Caldwell hotel. The fire died out just before reaching the corner; hence did not burn Judge Bell's house, which stood where the Chester hotel is today.

"In all fifty-two buildings burned. The loss was complete; all the insurance was in insolvent companies."

Early in 1875 representative citizens from the various sections of the state met at Jackson to determine ways and means for reducing the burdensome taxes and other conditions existing throughout the state due the negro domination. General W.S. Featherston presided at the meeting and a very powerful address

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was delivered by Hon. Wiley P. Harris one of the outstanding members of the bar at that time. A committee was appointed by the chair to draft resolutions to be presented to the legislature which was just assembling. This committee was made up of such men as Harris, Governor Humphreys, Governor Clark, Walthall, Chambers, Lamar, and Lamsdale of the great editors of the state. These men drafted a set of resolutions calling attention to the reckless wastefulness and extravagance of the state government and comparing the cost of administration before and after the war. It urged a regime of strict economy in every department of the government and throughout the state in every county and district. The legislature did nothing except attempting to devise schemes for the enrichment of its members.

The Taxpayers convention then appointed an executive committee consisting of George, Lamar, Singleton, Hooker, Martin, Muldrow and Money, whose duty was to promote Taxpayers Leagues throughout the entire state, keep a careful watch on all officials and report peculations and malfeasances in office. It is useless to say that the leagues were organized and began to function at once. The year, 1875, was a general election year and it was the purpose of these men to carry this election by either fair or

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foul means. To compete with these Taxpayers Leagues, the negro demegogues and radicals became active. This resulted in many conflicts over the state between the white and the negroes including Oktibbeha county. One of the most hotly contested elections of the year was the campaigns of Hon. H.L.Muldrow for State Representative. Next to this race was the contest for the office of District Attorney in the sixth Judicial District which included Oktibbeha County. Mr. Wiley P. Nash volunteered to make the race but no one expected him to be elected. This race merely added fuel to the flame and it was not unusual for a citizen to be arrested charged with some crime by the military authority who was upholding the radical government.

In 1876 Hon. H.L.Muldrow and Finis A. Little were candidates for Representative in the United States Congress. Frazee and Lea were the campaign managers for Little, the Republican candidate. These men were to meet in joint debate at the Fair grounds in West End Starkville to place the issue before the citizens of this section of the county. It had been the custom of the negroes to march in solid phalanx to these meetings and to heckle at pleasure. The white citizens had enough of this.

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The negroes were well organized with a negro DeLoache in immediate command. On this occasion they met at I John Church which was located near the present Dairy barn of State College. They were preparing to march to this meeting through the streets of Starkville, twelve or fifteen hundred strong. The citizenship objected to this as they feared the consequences on such an occasion. The tension of the campaign- local, district, state, national was at fever heat. Prof. Rhett Maxwell had warned DeLoache against the attempt to march but the negro leader was obstinate, so the whites organized under the leadership of Col. Doss and Captain McDowell. Their forces were augmented by a small force under Captain Albert Cottrell of West Point. Both forces had one cannon each. Scouts sent out brought back the news that the negroes were marching and were determined to pass. A line of battle was formed, near the Baptist Church in Starkville. The cannon were well loaded and commanded a high point under Captain Bob Sanders of Starkville, and Captain Cottrell of West Point. On command these were to be discharged first in to the ranks of the negroes and then a flank charge was to be made under Col. Doss and Captain McDowell. The

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negroes soon appeared in solid formation with a wagon in the midst loaded with artillery and munition.

About this time the Democratic Executive Committee headed by Sessums and Beattie, wishing to avoid trouble, that might mitigate against the coming election, urged a last effort to stop the march peacefully if possible. Captain McDowell, a braver man never lived, was also eager to avoid bloodshed,rode out in front of the advancing line of negroes. A negro raised his gun to fire but the Captain was too quick for him and covered him instead. The negro fell to the ground and the drum ceased. Captain W.H.Chiles then rode up and ordered the drummer to follow him. He did as directed. He was shown the consequences if he persisted on his march. About this time Judge Orr, of Columbus,Mississippi, a Republican came up with Sheriff Powell. They both warned the negros that they would be annihilated if they did not leave off and return home. After a short while after much mutterings, fear and reason prevailed among them and they dispersed. The Anglo-Saxon had won. Many negroes today who were young children then were in the motly group and remember the event well. The speaking passed without the negro. During this campaign other secret political organizations were perfected to carry the election in the county,

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first by seeing that the negroes either voted "right" or not at all. These were the Red Shirts, the Square Robinsons, and the young Democrats. All were modeled after the Ku Klux Klan but were made up of young men who had seen little service in the war. It was their purpose to put an end to the corrupt rule of the carpet-bagger. As stated above the Republicans were equally active through their Loyal Leagues and other voter's clubs, whose purpose was to instruct the negro how to register, how to approach the polls, and how to vote. The oath of the Loyal Leagues were read emphasizing that if the Democrats succeeded that they would again be made slaves, the public school system would be destroyed, and they would lose their rights.

The Democrats promised the negroes that none of their rights should be molested, that their public schools would be continued, and their taxes reduced. Great torch light processions with bands and bannors were organized in various sections of the county. Lamar and Wiley addressed meetings urging the Democrats to be vigilant and active. No need for the warning- they were.

In 1876 it was learned that a meeting of a Loyal League was to be held at Chapel Hill in beat five where the negro was strong and aggressive under dangerous leadership. They had been warned by the young Democrats led by Mr. Vivian Carpenter not to meet. They

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were determined however, and went ahead with their plans. The white citizens accidentally learned of their plans and determined to break it up. The negroes had put out guards on all the roads to give the signal in the event of any molestation. One of the guards went to sleep. He never awoke. It was the fire of the Young Democrats that gave the warning and the nergoes rushed out and began indiscriminate firing with little avail. The whites fell to the ground and began to pick off a negro as he appeared on the hill above. This was more than they could stand. They threw down their guns or threw them in a lake near by their rapid exit and beat a hasty retreat. The white man had won again and this was the last uprising of the Negro in this county. The election took place November 2nd, and passed off very quietly. The negro either voted with the whites or did not go to the polls. The results of the election showed clearly that the white Hectors were again in the "saddle"

Nash the youngest member of the bar, was elected District Attorney and Muldrow was sent to the State Legislature whht Ben Chiles who was one of the twenty one negroes to sit in that body in 1876 and 1877. The Legislature met in Jackson

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January 4, 1876, and received an insulting message from Governor Ames charging that the election had been carried by fraud. Impeachment proceedings were introduced at once and Col. Muldrow was appointed one of the committee of the house to present charges against Ames as Governor, the negro Davis as Lieutenant Governor and the negro Cardoza as State Superintendent of Education, The results of this impeachment trial are well known.

In November 1876, the revolution was completed in this county. Muldrow was elected over Little as a member of the Unites States Congress and a white Board of Supervisors, the first in ten years, entered upon their duties by electing J.P.Rogers, President. The other gentlemen were J.C.Rand, R.H.Spencer, J.A.Davis, Elijah Ray, W.H.Saunders was continued as Chancery Clerk and Peter Quinn as Sheriff and L.A. Fort County Superintendent of Education. Salaries of teachers were at once reduced from $60.00 and $100.00 per month to $15.00 to $25.00 per month, and other expenses were similarly reduced by the new Board of Supervisors.

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(15)Mississippi, The Heart of the South. Dunbar Roland.
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(18)Information by Hon. John Wellborne, (Local Citizen)
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STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page #54
Topic: Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County
Assignment # 22
By R.C.Morris & Edna Hunt
July 23, 1937

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It has been the purpose of the writer to, as nearly as possible, coordinate the history of reconstruction in Oktibbeha County with the history of reconstruction in the state in general, because the events that took place in this county were often affected by those that took place in Jackson or in Washington, or else the circumstances of historic importance in this county materially influenced the events in the state as a whole.

Very truly,

R,C.Morris, Historian.
County Historic Project, WPA.

STATE WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 1
Topic; Outlaw Days
Assignment # 14
By R.C. Morris
October 2, 1936

This section of Mississippi has, in a way, been singularly free of law-breakers from the time first settlers began to come into the district until the days of Reconstruction. The reason for this was the type of citizenship making this their home. (1) As has been mentioned in another paper, the first people to come were misssionaries, who were eager to bring ti the Indians ans the early colonist the spirit and teaching of Jesus Christ. Then, too we hace found the men and women coming into this section of the highest type of citizenship, holding high ideals of law observance, education, and religion even in those early days of the new century. Among this number we have such names as: Malcolm Green, David Gilchrist, John G. Skinner, James Bishop, Robert A. Lampkin, William Cabanis, Thomas Renfrow, Noah Eaves, Elijah Hogan, Davis Ames, the Reeds, Outlaws, Rogers, Sudduths, Walkers, Et al.

(2) In spite of this humanity, however, we find that small majority of flotsam and jetsam drifting into the section as vampires, seeking to live at the expense of the honest citizen. They were not citizens but highwaymen, who traveled from place to place seeking whom they may devour for the sake of spoil. Our section then was no exception. In the early years of thelast century all the colonies were rife with tales of outlawery. The Robinson road, which traversed this section was one of the national thoroughfares, hence was traveled by men with fat money belts. These men had come from the Seaboard colonies with no minds to leave their old homes, but were looking for fertile soil on which to settle their children as they grew up to young manhood or young womanhood.

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1 - Life of Lorenzo Dow, Galloway -- Mississippi History Sec. Vol IV
2 - Harper's Magazine Vol. 94 p 302
Hamilton's Colonial Mobile.

Minnie Walker Supervisor

Page # 2
Topic; Outlaw Days
By R.C. Morris
October, 2 1936

It was not unusual for these good men or their trusted representatives to disappear as though the earth had opened up and swallowed them from sight. Then, too, traders of every sort carried cash as they made their way back from the market ar New Oeleans or Mobile. Even the gamblers of that say traveled from inn to inn or Agency to Agency preying on the unwary business man or ignorant Indian, who had just received their annuity from the government - all these were the prey of the traveling outlaw. There were no such thing in those days as common carriers or mail of any sort to take charge of these funds, so the only method was the money belt. The first stage coming through this section was looked upon by these primitive folks much as they did the first railway crossing the continent.

(1) Perhaps the worst of these earlY outlaws were the John Murrell gang or clan. It was on these defenseless people that this gang preyed. At the age of twenty Murrell was a notorious horse thief and operated all the way from Texas to Georgia and Virginia. He had his relay stations where he would hide his stolen stock during the day and travel by night. Woe to the unwary traveler who happened ti fall into their hands. The clan was completely organi ed with a full set of officials, signs, grips, and pass-words, and any violation of its rules was punishable by death. There was no other penalty. Murrell stated that there was but one successful method of robbery-murder your victim. For thievery he was finally caught in Alabama and sent to the penitentiany for three years. Here he spent all his idle time studying the Bible and crimnal law of the several states in which he operated. As a result he came out with the determination to go in for negro stealing, which

(1) Ibid Minnie Walker, Supervisor

was more profitable and much less risky. In order to gain the confidence of the negro slaves, he would live, east, and drink with them. He would thus turn them against their masters, telling them he wouldtake them to the far south and sell them time after time and then land them in some free state where he would give them one-half of the spoils from the sales. Ofcourse, he would never carry out this part of the agreement. The negro was left to his fate. He finally organized an enormous gang and plied his trade up and down the Robinson road where he was a terror to the entire community. (1) Mr. John Perkins and Major Dolph Glenn both report that their families knew depredation in and around Folsom and south into Winston County. In order to keep down suspicion, Murrell would preach in camp meetings all over this section and in Tennessee, and while the services were in progress his henchmen would steal every good horse they could find. He finally took up counterfeiting as a side line. He would carry large bills of this money and get it changed by innocent business men, Indians, or others, thus making much out of this nefarious business. His chief rendezvous for his slave traffic was an island just above Menphis, Tennessee, After he would collect a sufficient number of slaves, he would place them on a boat and move south where he wouldsell them as often as possible.

During this time many other gangs operated in various sections of the state for the same purposes, none, however, were ever residents of this section. They passed through, put up at Agency or Folsom or the

(1) Reports of Mississippi Historical Society - Vol XIII
Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County

Robinson road on their way back and forth from Tennessee or the seacoast towns, south to New Orleans, Mobile, or Natchez. (1) They often used Natchez trace which passed just west of this county. Mason and Harp and the Copeland gangs were smong the worst. So violent were the depredations of the Mason and the Harp clans that a reward of $200 was offered by Governor Claiborne in 1802 for their capture. This resulted in the execution of one and probably both of them and of some of the members of their gangs.

(2) Immediately after the was between the states, there were quite a few clans among the Carpet-baggers and the Scalawags who infested the state while the southern men were held under by northern srms. A negro by the name of Bob McDuffie was among the earliest of this type of riot leaders. It was during the Reconstruction period, and it appears that McDuffie had learned some idea of military tactics from his master during the war. Mr. Robert Ellis was deputized to go out in the "flat-woods" neighborhood and arrest an unruly negro. This he did, but as a result the negroes of that section, under the leadership of McDuffie, organized and came to the rescue. They marched into Starkville and in the riot that followed Mr. Ellis was shot, but not fatally. The white men of the city sensing the danger, rushed for their guns, but on the advice of Sheriff Powell and Colonel H.L. Muldrow, a bloody battle was averted. A few nights after this occurred, however, a band of men, some seventy-five strong, came down from West Point, Mississippi and joined the Oktibbeha forces

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(1) History of Mississippi, Riley
(2) Reports of Mississippi Historical Society, Vol. XIII Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County

and raided a negro meeting near Oktoc. Their purpose at all times, as stated by Hon. Murray Maxwell, was the preservation of white supremacy in this county. On the accession of Adelbert Ames, who instructed the negroes to organize for their safety, the whites did the same thing with the above in view. Mr. Maxwell, who is now four score and ten years, was one of the leaders of the now famous KKK. Three dens were organized- one at Starkville, one at Agency, and one at Double Springs. Among its membership were the leading citizenship of the county, such as Colonel Muldrow, Captain Gay, Page, Corethers, Rhett, and Murry Maxwell, Thomas Gillespie, Sanders, Fox, Hogan et al.

Woodrown Wilson in his History of the American People had this tosay of this organization: "They were to protect their people from indignities and wrongs; to succor the suffering, particularly the families of dead confederate soldiers."

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(1) Ibid.

These men were active about election times in keeping the negro from the polls. This was done mainly by intimidation and fear or by playing on their superstitions; but these regulations would not always threaten and would never execute their threatn. They backed their sommands, when need arose, with violence. A carpet-bagger named McLaughlin was active in organizing negroes into Loyal Leagues, as much for his own protection and thievery as for the negroe's benefit. He defied the courts, built a store, and did business with negroes alone through his league, and incited them to lawlessness. He impressed the negro with his own bitter thoughts and intolerant purposes against their former masters. The white men sttod this as long as possible, but recognized that no progress would ever be made with such influences, so they planned to drive him out or else kill him. He was cornered in his store, doors were broken down, and on his assurance that he would leave town, he was permitted to go, though he escaped by a back way in woman's attire to assure his safety. He went to Holly Springs, Miss., and opened a school there for negroes. It was through the restimony of the riot leaders that several of the leading citizens of the KKK were arrested by the marshall of the Federal court and taken to Oxford for trial. Among this group were such men as Hon. Murry Maxwell, Harrington, Watt, Moss, Bell, Graves Hogan, Yeates, There were twenty-six in all. These men easily gave bond by friends from Marshall and Oktibbeha Counties, but had a very severe

(1) Ibid

time before securing a mistrial. But for Sheriff Powell they might have served a term in the Federal penitentiary. Most politicians that followed the northern soldiers to the south were paet of a preditory horde, but here and there emerged a man of integrity, of principle, of wise and moderate counsel. Powell represented this type and has gained the confidence of the southern citizenship.

We find two men similar to McLaughlin in beat five. They were carpet-baggers by the names of Shirt Wilson and Shelly. They lived among the negroes on terms of social equality, teaching and preaching to them. Shirt married a negro woman. Through their influence they incited the negroes to organize and take offensive action against the white people. Mrs. Carrie S. Harrell tells of this in a very graphic manner. She was a citizen of the community at that time.

There was much disorder and lawlessness caused by carpet-baggers and scalawags, influencing the negroes against their former masters. This feeling created a number of clashes between the two races. The government gave the white people little or no protection, the people therefore, had to protect themselves. Just about this time in 1874 our own Oktibbeha citizens in beat five, near and around Sessums almost became the victims of a bloody slaughter. The negroes believed that they would be protected by the Republican party in anything they did. They became infuriated because they were ordered to discontinue beating theur drums, which they were doing, going

Ibid

up and down the road all hours of the night or day, as a challenge to the white people. The negroes resolved to meet and go from house to house and kill every white person they could find. They had laid their plans well. The young white men had organized a club called the "Young Men's Democrat Club." with only twenty-five members. They were brqve men, however, who knew nothing of the plot planned by the negroes until about five o'clock in the afternoon. It was given away by a half-witted negro to Mr. Ike Sassums, a member of the club, for whom the negro was working (this negro was named Todd Hudgins, and was carrying an armful of guns.)

There were no phones then, and no way of communication with anyone except going from houss to house, as did Paul Revere of old, on horse back and warn the people of their impending danger (2) Some of the white men were turned back and driven from the road by armed negroes, and had to make their way through the fields and woods. One of the white boys came to our house to warn us and to borrow a gun. Negroes were gathering from every direction, and there was seemingly little hope for us. Some one went to Artesia and sent a telegram to Columbus and one to West Point, but those who came were too late to help us. Our white men finally got together and went to Chapel Hill, a negro church, to meet the negroes who numbered one hundred or more, on the hill with theur drums and guns. Our men were at the foot of the hill, which made them much lower than the negroes. The

1 - Reconstruction in Oktibbeha County, H.A. Brown
2 - Hon. V. M. Carpenter, Starkville, Mississippi - Conference
the only living participant.

latter opened fire first, but being so far above our men, shot over them and not one was hurt. Immediately our men shot and one negro was killed, and a great number wounded who died later from the effects. The negroes then threw down their gund and ran. At that time there was a large pool at the foot of the hill. The young men got all these guns and drums which the negroes had abandoned, and broke them and threw them into the pool. Thus ended the battle of Chapel Hill.

Saloon Days.

(1) In the early days of this county and even before the county was organized, taverns and grocery stores could sell liquors of all kinds legally, but, by 1839 all tavern keepers had to secure a saloon license to sell liquors and then only to their guests or to bona fide travelers. In those days beer or cider was made by the barrel and kept at all taverns. One could buy a glass of persimmon beer and a "stage plank" (a large ginger cake) for one dime. This was a full meal for the weary traveler on the old stage coach. The horn of the coach would blow in plenty of time for the tavern keeper to have a plentiful supply of hot ginger cakes and been or cider on hand. Colonel Sessums had the only distillery in the county at Sessums and furnished the entire neighborhood. Whiskey or wine were common in all the better homes - even the ministers were expected to have it for their guests - but drinking to intoxication was rare.

1 - Hon. John Wellborn & J.O. Thomas, Starkville, Miss. Conference

In removing the old Presbyterian Church in Starkville a few years ago, several bottles of old wine were found behind the ceiling, perhaps forgotten by the older generation who placed it there for sommunion purposes, as plenty could be had with no trouble.

With the establishment of the Caldwell hotel in Starkville on the corner of Main and Jackson streets, the old inn, tavern, and grocery ceased to exist, and liquors of all kinds were prohibited from being sold in the city. The"five mile law" placed them out on the various highways leading into the city. Hon. John Wellborn tells of an amusing incident of the "camp lot" during those early days. A group of campers wanted a jug of whiskey and a negro was engaged to get it for them. He was given one dollar for the whiskey, and was to be paid one dollar for his trouble. He returned with the jug in a sack, received the money, and disapperaed. The jug was opened and found to be full of water. The negro was two dollars better off for the deal. Imported whiskey was very difficult to get. One man had several quarts of the rare old wines, but before he would sell any, he would empty it and fill the bottle partly full of beeswax - then fill the remainder of the space w ith the wine or liqour. The purchaser would pay very dearly for his wax.

Ibid

These places were always the gathering places for the community, and tavern brawls were not uncommon among the poor white and Indians, ending up in fist fights. After the negroes were given their freedom, they often became a manace due to drunken debaucheries on Saturdays or holidays. The saloon section of the city was never visted by ladies and they were not expected to be on the streets on the above occasions. Such conditions were always detrimental to the best social as well a s the economic conditions of the community.

In the western section of this county these gangs appeared to do some rustling on a large scale. They would go as far as Texas and steal fine horses and bring them back into this state, selling them to innocent purchasers. They were later followed by some enraged Texans, caught with their animals, and one of them hanged. The men then took their horses and returned home. As the carpet-bag government was overthrown by the native southern democrats, these men gradually left for other parts or left off theur lawlessness and became good citizens. Today all good citizens feel that it was more the times than the natural inclination of these men that brought on such conditions.

One of the most notorious outlaws to come into this county to hide away was the James borthers, who operated as train robbers out of Alabama.

Ibid

It appears that they never at any time molested farmers or rarely banks, but express cars, mail pouches, or any common carrier might be known to be loaded with valuables, were sure to feel their heavy hands, It was stated that they would often aid in picking cotton for the over pressed farmer until a good haul was located by one of their spotters. They would take french leave and a Rail-road hold-up would appear the next day in the papers. These men were finally killed by their own men due to the large reward offered for yhem dead or alive. They were takendead. As an aftermath of the war between the states, a gang of horse thieves began to operate in the xouthern section of the county. We are assured by Major Dolph Gleen, John Wellborn, Murray Maxwell, that there were a good many persons engaged in this business. There were no laws, no law enforcement, due to indofferent and ignorant officials, who participated in the business or, no doubt, got their protection money from the thieves. Dr. Jess Montgomery, Ed Yeates, and Major Glenn's fathers all lost fine horses. Often by following these highwaymen they would overtake them and recapture their animals. These men would steal horses in one state or county and transfer them to a other state, where they would be sold often to innocent purchasers. They would have stations along the way to hide their stolen property during the daytime or until the owner would give them up as lost, and cease to hunt for them. Then they would transfer them by night to another station or to some purchaser.

Ibid

Due to the inadequacy of the law and the enforcement of the law, citizens took the enforcement upon themselves and would locate the culprit, have his trial of a drumhead nature, decide on his guilt, and mete out the punishment, which was usually hanging. Older citizens well remember these exciting times in the days that followed the war. Men had become enured to harsh methods of military rule and recognized its efficiency in keeping order, As a result they did not hesitate to inflict the limit if the case merited it.

(1) One is gratified that such lawlessness is fast passing into ancient history. General education, strict punishment of law violaters, and punichment of mob violence together with public sentiment has done much in the extermination of this usage of medievalism, when men were expected to be their own law and might was right. The mob or gang enforcement is never safe, for it is impossible to keep it in safe hands. Reckless men, not of their order, malicious fellows of the baser sort, who feel no compulsion of honor and who have private grudges to satisfy, may take up their methods and bring danger to the state. The state and Federal Government had to be called in on occasion, to stop such lawlessness. Thus passes the gang, the rustlers, the feud, the white caps, the KKK, the White Camelia, and their hosts of co-workers, as the dawn of the new era has come. May all good citizens be law-abiding, and so assist our officials as to make it never necessary for their return.

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CHAPTER 13 ASSIGN. #10 1

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

THE NEGRO

Of the total population of 19,119 in Oktibbeha County, approximately 60 % (11,367) is negro. Most of the negroes in the county, farm. Practically all are of the laboring class; only a few are classed as skilled laborers.

Ferdinand Barry is the only tinner in Starkville.

There are 3,837 land owners and tenants, and the farming class is made up mostly of tenants, renters and sharecroppers.

Industrial

There are 40 negro carpenters in the county, three of the best known being Dave Alexander, Bob Childs, and Jesse Bishop. Sixty are employed in construction and maintainance of streets; 17 are garage workers; three are textile workers in the cotton mill; 72 work at small sawmills and planing mills; two are iron and steel construction workers; 22 are employed in the food and allied industry; one is a chemical worker; two negroes are in the insurance and real estate business; three are automobile agents; 57 are doing wholesale and retail business; 60 as hotel and restaurant workers; 26 work in the laundry; 516 are domestic workers.

Educational- Religion

There are 117 negro teachers in the county.

The majority of the negroes in the county have no more than a sixth or eighth grade education, but there is one training and industrial school where negroes are taught industry and agriculture. Here, too, the girls are taught to sew and cook.

A methodist Church, two Baptist Churches and several other churches are in Starkville. Dave Alexander's wife is a leader of the Negro W.M.U., and a learned Bible scholar; She is prominent in the Baptist Church.

Izar Harris is worshipful master of the Negro Masonic lodge, located on North Jackson street. One negro has completed 32 degrees of Masonery,

and the negro women have an organization of "Eastern Star", called "High Twelve".

William Ellis, industrious member of the negro race, a Mason and member of the Baptist Church, was born, in his own words, "de second year of de surrender", His Father, brought from Richmond, Va., at the age of twelve, settled upon Mr. Robert Ellis' plantation, near Columbus, and, no doubt, took his manster's surname when he was freed. He worked up from houseboy to foreman in the Ellis household, and saved enough money to buy 140 acres of land when he gained his freedom.

At his father's death, William was one of eight children among whom the land was divided. He sold his share to a brother and moved to his present location, about two and a-half miles east of Starkville, where he bought 179 acres of land from Mr. Gladney, a Northerner.

William, thrifty from boyhood, proudly displays the first dollar given him by his father- a coin made in the year 1856.

While farming, he exercised his usual thrift, so that he soon had his affairs upon a paying basis. Twenty-five or thirty years ago, he was growing alfalfa and selling hay, and he was the only breeder of registered hogs in the county. Several years ago one of his hogs, weighing 1250 pounds, took first place at the state fair at Jackson. At one time he owned 60 hogs; the first negro to own and operate a dairy, he now (1937) owns 35 or 40 cows.

He had little "schooling" because his "poppa" needed him in the fields, but he can read and write. However, native intelligence helps off-set his lack of education.

He has always consulted the agricultural experts at State College, and faithfully follows their advice; since not being afraid to try new farming, the results have always been satisfactory.

William, his wife, Osie, and their two children live in a comfortable house, set far back from the road. His home has running water- installed in 1917-- and he also built a large sillo in 1925, in connection with his farm.

He owns a fine peach orchard, which supplies Elbertas to people from Starkville and the surrounding vicinity. He also raises Keifer pears, corn, peas, hay, as well as the main crop, cotton, until labor became scarce. He has made as much as 25 bales of cotton, and owns a number of Rhode Island Red chickens.

William possesses the respect of Oktibbena farmers, and has saved letters of recommendation from leading citizens of Starkville, attesting to his honesty, dependability, and good qualities as a farmer. Among those writing in his behalf were: Judge Thomas B. Carrol, C. Odie Daniels, president of the Merchants and Farmers Bank; and W. R. Perkins, assistant Director of the Experiment Station, State College. (1)

An Outlaw

"Yes'm, I belonged to de Outlaws," says Henrietta Outlaw, past 90, Starkville. "Me 'n Miss Lucy used to play together from morning 'til night," she cackles reminiscently. "Den Miss Lucy went away to school--and, you know I never could figger out why Marse Outlaw didn't send me, too."

1-William Ellis, negro, Starkville.

A hundred years ago, August 17, 1836, Henrietta's Diana came from North Carolina and entered the Outlaw household as a slave. Several years later, Henrietta was born.

Her childhood was as happy as "Miss Lucy's", and she was with her every waking minute. Their first separation came when the former went away to school.

Not many years later, Henrietta met George Washington Chiles, known to everyone as "Wash" Chiles, and they were married. Wash had come to Starkville in 1848 when he was only eight years of age, and began work as a houseboy for Mrs. Caroline Burns, who owned a hotel, situated on the present site the Methodist parsonage.

Wash was an intelligent, industrious boy, and he soon had a trusted position in the Burns Household. He was a member of the Baptist Church and a devout Christian. In the early '70's, when dissension arose and the church "split", Wash organized his own church, with a charter membership of seven.

When Mrs. Burns became too old and feeble to manage the hotel, Wash took her, penniless, into his own home and cared for her. He bought her property, and rented it to "white folks", since it was in "white folk's" neighborhood.

Wash went to war with W. H. Chiles and was a valuable aid. The soldiers praised him for his ability to slip out at night, and come back with a pig, or other food.

In 1865, when the war was over, Wash and Henrietta were married in the reception hall of the Outlaw home, a white minister officiating. W. H. Chiles, Wash's oldest friend, sent his carriage to take the newlyweds to the train, and their children became a credit to the honest training given them by their parents.

In 1887, their oldest daughter, Ella, was married to J. H. Henderson, a school teacher. Today Ella's son, W. C. Henderson, is superintendent of Starkville's negro school, where he has been 13 out of his 18 years of teaching. Ella's brother, Robert, is one of the best carpenters in the county.

During Reconstruction, Wash's brother, Ben Chiles, was sent to the State legislature, but like his brother, he was not aggressive and realized his limitations. He deeply admired and respected Mr. Henry Muldrow, a prominent Oktibbeha County citizen, and it is said that when any question came up Ben would invariably say, before casting his vote, "Wait a minute, Lemme see how Marse Henry is votin.'"

Wash's occupations have been many. He drove a hack from Starkville to Artesia before there was a branch road, and was a member of the board that voted for a railroad from Starkville to Artesia. He was also a mail carrier to Bell's Chapel, and a member of the Masonic Lodge.

Uncle Wash's Death

(Excerpts taken from the Starkville News:)

"In the death of "Uncle Wash" Chiles, Starkville lost a useful colored citizen. He was approaching his 89th year at the time of his death, being born in Pickens County, Alabama, July 1, 1840, he came to Starkville with his parents at the age of 8 years, and has lived here continuously ever since--a period covering 80 years.

"His funeral took place at the Colored Baptist Church, of which he was one of the founders and organizers. It was the first time in the history of this county where a negro funeral was largely attended by white people; both men and women, many of them bringing floral offerings, and one of the white ministers occupying a seat in the pulpit and, in an eloquent talk, paying tribute to the deceased. Among the white citizens present were professional and business men, city officials, and the Confederate Veterans.

"During the Civil War, before the emancipation of slaves, he belonged to the late Capt. W.H. Chiles, a Confederate soldier, and during that four years of carnage and death, he faithfully attended his master through all the vicissitudes of War, and it is said that at one time, when Capt. Chiles was slightly wounded and disabled, his faithful attendant exposed himself to the fire of the enemy and carried him from the battle-field to a place of safety.

"In 1873, Wash Chiles was a member of the Board of Education Commissioners for the town of Starkville, and the County records show that an election

was held that year to decide whether or not the town should issue bonds in the amount of $25,000 for the purpose of building a railroad to connect Starkville with the main line of the M. & O. at Artesia. The election was held on April 11, 1873, and the result showed 105 votes for and two against the bond issue. The report of this election was signed by J. T. Hinds, J. H. Jacobs and G. W. Chiles, election Commissioners; Hinds and Jacobs were prominent white citizens of the town at that time.

'Uncle Wash' had a wonderful memory, and he was probably conversant with more of the County's history before, during, and after the Civil War, than any person living. His store of information was valuable and he furnished much of the data for a history of the County, which is soon to be published.

"He leaves a widow, who has been his faithful companion for 64 years. Before her marriage, she was named Henrietta Outlaw, and belonged to the Outlaw family during the days of slavery. She is known to the people of Starkville as 'Aunt Rett; and enjoys the confidence and esteem of everyone. Besides his widow, he is survived by eight living children, a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

"Uncle Wash" accumulated more of this world's goods than the average member of his race, and in his old age enjoyed the fruits of his labors.

"During his long life his integrity and honesty were never questioned. He strictly obeyed the laws of his country and the laws of his God." (1)

1-Henrietta Outlaw, Negro, Starkville.

Aunt Sara Green celebrated her 101st birthday, March 18, 1937; a spry, active woman, her faculties are almost unimpaired. She sees without glasses and sits erect in her cane-bottom chair. Her granddaughter, a woman of perhaps 35, attends her.

Aunt Sara's mind wanders, and she does not like to be pinned to direct questions, but she 'knows what she knows', and will argue with anyone who disputes her.

"I belonged to Marster Dick Perkins", she says in her mumbling old voice, 'and I worked for him as a house girl. They was good white folks and treated us fine. Some of the niggers didn't have good white folks, but I did. There's a pool on marster's place where they used to baptize. But marster's house is used for a barn now" , her voice trails off sadly.

"Then Miss Mary got married", continues Aunt Sara, "and Marster give me and my brother and sister to her. She was a sweet lady. The white folks called her Elizabeth, or Lizzie, but us niggers called her Miss Mary. She married Mr. Richard Green, partner with Mr. Dorsey Outlaw in running a saw-mill. I nursed for her, and they was good white folks."

When asked what she did after the surrender, Aunt Sara looked surprised and said, "why I just kept on living with my white folks. I didn't pay no 'tension much to de war. Marster, he went, and the Yankees burnt the saw-mill. But I didn't take much 'count of it. If I had knowd you chillun would be coming asking me things, I would have paid more tention."

Aunt Sara is a Baptist and very religious. When told that the interviewer was of another denomination, she observed, "yo church don't get you to heaven noway." When asked if she joined the church when she was young, she answered, "no'm, I should say not; when I was young, I wasn't thinking about religion."

She has had a quiet, uneventful, but pleasant existence with her "good white folks", and still enjoys life. Her husband and seven children are dead, but she has a good home with a devoted granddaughter. Of her family, she says: "They are at rest and better off than we are. But I guess the Lord is keeping me here for something." (1)

(1) Sara Green, Negro Starkville;

REFERENCE

Fifteenth Census of the United States.

1930-- Population, Vol. lll.

Ellis, William, Negro, Starkville Green, Sara, Negro, Starkville; Outlaw, Henrietta, Negro, Starkville.

HISTORY OF OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

Chapter Fourteen — Assignment #10

POPULATION

(1930)

TOTAL		19119
	MALE 9401	
	FEMALE 9718	
WHITE (TOTAL)		7,752
	MALE 3890	
	FEMALE 3862	
NATIVE BORN WHITE (TOTAL)		7,715
	MALE 3866	
	FEMALE 3849	
FOREIGN BORN (TOTAL		37
	MALE 24	
	FEMALE 13	
NEGRO (TOTAL)		11,367
	MALE 5511	
	FEMALE 5856	

CHARACTERISTICS

Industry, Trade, Profession, especially of Foreign born and Jewish Citizens.

CHATER 14 — ASSIGN. # 10

OTHER RACES

Thirty-seven foreign born Americans from England, Sweden, Italy, Canada, and two other countries live in Oktibbeha County.

All of them are in the mercantile business, and nearly all located in Starkville. The majority attend mass at the Catholic Church in Starkville, and their children attend the public schools of the county. They are prominent citizens, and leaders among their own group.

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page #1
Topic: Folklore and Folk Customs
Assignment#6
By--R. C. Morris
September 24,1936

(1)When one begins a study of the Folk Customs of a people, it is almost like treading on holy ground because much of our present civilization has its roots in this sacred past. (2)My mother believed, and today I was speaking with Mr. Harvey Turner near this town who vouches for its authenticity, that to open the Bible without purpose or direction and read the first verse on which your eyes fall, will give you some future advice or present direction. He stated that his wife had great belief in its correctness. Who has not broken the common mullein stalk just as it begins to head while making a wish, with assurance that it will come true if the stalk continues to grow? (3)The love vine or common dodder was used and is still used in a similar manner. To throw a small section of this vine around the head three times before throwing it on another bush will determine whether the love of your sweetheart is true or whether your love is returned. To find a four leaf clover is to bring good luck. (1)To see the new moon over the left shoulder will bring good luck and assure your wish, while a black cat will bring bad luck if it crosses your path, similarly a rabbit may bring evil by crossing your path. The hoot of an owl about the home will bring death to some member unless it is warded off by some charm about the home such as a horse shoe. I find a great many people adjacent to Starkville. will vouch for the above facts.

1--Lincolen's Facts and Information--Chap. "Superstitions "
2--Mr. Harvey Turner--Conference
3--Aunt Sara Brown--Conference

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Supplement to page #1
Topic: Folklore and Folk Customs
Assignment #6
By--R. C. Morris .
September 24, 1936

(1) Mrs. Sam Ware says that if a rabbit crosses your path, you will have bad luck. Also looking at the new moom through a cloud is a sign of approaching bad fortune. To hear the cry of a Screech owl, the howling of a dog, or the lowing of a cow is a sure sign of death. If one sneezes at the table with food in his mouth, that, too, is a sign of death. To dream of something out of season, or to dream of fresh dirt is another sign that the Grim Reaper is near.

If a rooster crows on your door step, you may expect visitors Mrs. Ware says she has proved this twice in her own experience. A stranger is on his way to see you if you see the shadow of a buzzard before you see the buzzard, To drop the dishrag means that someone is coming hungry. Make a wish when you see the new moon, and it is sure to come true.

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1. Mrs. Sam Ware, Starkville, Miss. --Conference

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

(1)We have a religious sect known as the Tongues or Holy Rollers that claim the ability to cure diseases through the use of these unknown tongues or foumulas. (2)I have seen them attending an old woman in a section of this town known as Needmore. Two women of this sect were carrying on their incantations while the patient sat and listened. They would bend to the floor while chattering an unintelligible language as loud as their voices would carry. It mad e me think of the old Biblical priests of Baal seeking fire to destroy their sacrifices, without avail. The patient sat and listened. It was not really necessary for her to be present. She had to believe in their power to heal in order to receive the benefit. These women remained with the patient one week and then come on occasion. The patient thought she felt better but was not healed. Some simple remedies were applied also.

(3)Uncle Cal Smith of Sturgis, Mississippi believes in fortune telling and is able to tell fortunes by palmistry. He stated that there are two arts by which one may be able to foretell the future or may bring disaster on a person or home or even a business. The one he practises is known as a Light Art. It is based on the

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1--Vardeman Pearson--Conference
2--Old Lady Sophie, who speaks the tongues--Conference
Hattie Rogher, who speaks the tongues---Conference
3--Uncle Cal Smith--Conference

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Pentateuch, or the first five books of the Old Testament. The other, the Black Art, is based on the sixth and seventh books of the Old Testament of Moses. God would not permit it to be placed in the Bible as it is of the Devil. People practice black art today by the evil eye or personal magnetism or witch craft. The horse shoe may hinder this art but he was doubtful of its efficacy. He is sure that a rabbit's foot is of no service. Through black art one may be able to break locks, open doors, and bring harm to people.

Uncle Cal believes in signs. Should you start on a mission and stump your left foot or meet a woman, you should not continue on the mission as it will be a failure and may bring harm to you. Should you desire to know the result of certain acts you have in mind, open the Bible and read the first verse on which your eyes fall. If this takes place three times in succession, you may take it as correct information. To remove warts or pains read the sixth Psalm three times on three separate days then on three separate weeks and finally on three consecutive months--both will disappear, One should breathe on the place three times and pass the hand over it as anointing.

Cal is a very efficient fortune teller. After carefully surveying my hand he stated that my inheritance lines were strong but ran to their loss after I had received it. I am to live to be old,

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ibid

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

am slow of speech, a deep thinker, but my mind wanders a great deal. I am due to have two divorces before I die but they may be delayed as I am now old. I have the mark of Cain that was placed on my hand while I was young that made me a wanderer and to have murder. Uncle Cal believes that his information is given direct from God by the Spirit. He is not a member of any present day sects. He is a member of the great church of which all denominations are mere branches. He believes in spirits to a limited degree.

He is a hunter and while hunting a short time ago, he wandered into the swamp and while waiting near a deep ravine, a large animal something like a dog came up to him walking on its hind legs. It was six feet tall and had long hair four or five inches long and rather wooley. It came up near him and was coming closer when he drew back his axe and threatened to split it open if it came one step nearer. It then returned and passed over the water of a creek as though it were floating in the air. He came back to the place the next morning, but was unable to find any tracks. Uncle Cal asserted that it was iether a spirit or an airplane and certainly, he said, it was no airplane.

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ibid

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Some observations of an old negro slave.

(1)Old Uncle Jack Jones is now over 90 years of age. He was born on a slave plantation 18 years before the Civil War. His master was Squire Connell whose plantation was near Mayhew station. Uncle Jack was one of 17 children by the one wife of his father. He had no idea how many others were born of other women sired by this same man. He was exceptionally strong, vigerous, and hardy. As a result he was a very popular breeder. Jack attended church with the white people but occasionally heard a sermon by one of his own race but this had to be by permission. He stated that the white preacher gave special injunction of obediance to their masters and to make good slaves. As a result they would go to the negro heaven or kitchen heaven. Uncle Jack laughed and said that anyway they would get plenty to eat. Uncle Jack's father belonged to one Mr. Jones who lived below Macon but for some reason he failed and his slaves were sold out at auction. His father was bid off by Squire Connell. His father's wife was bid off to some other planter. There was no such thing as marriages among the slaves of Squire Connell. He would tell a certain woman to live with a certain man and she followed directions, though if each was strong he did not object to promiscuity by either.

1--Uncle Jack Jones--Conference

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Uncle Jack observed that the Eighth of May was not properly observed now. At first the colored people met at their churches and gave thanks for freedom by prayer, songs, and sermons. It was a sacred occasion.

Jack is a firm believer of ghosts, haunts, and spirits. He has soom quite a few of them and is sure that it takes persons of special qualities to see them. At the old Askew Place which is located below Mayhew, he has heard the well bucket going down into the well numbers of times just after the dark. He heard the roll of the windlass and the rattle of the well chain, but on investigating, has found the bucket in its place dry and unused. Several of his friends have seen this with him. At the old Banks Home near Bent Oak, he and his friends have seen a light passing round in a near-by smoke house. He found later that a young negro was killed in this building. He observes that these spirits persist in remaining behind him. If he turns his head, they will appear in front, etc. He stated that if the seventh son of the family would blow into the mouth of a new born child seven times, the baby would not have hives; the four feet of a mole strung on a string and tied around the neck of a child would make cutting teeth easy and unpainful, that soap make on the full of the moon would make at once, while on the decrease of the moon it would be very difficult.to make; sow buds tied in a cloth and tied ar-

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ibid

-round the child's neck would make teething easy and that meat should be killed on the full of the moon or else it would all turn to lard.

If one were born with a caul over his face he would be endowed with the power of seeing spirits or ghosts according to Jack Jones who stated that they appeared in various forms but always in the rear of the individual. He could hear them jump the fence, they were able to run but never seft tracks, they could even throw coal or pebbles at one.

Folk Tales

Snakes:

(1)Mr. O. L. Ray, Circuit Clerk, stated that it is the current opinion among Negroes and a great many white people, that the "coach whip" usually goes in pairs. (2)They will catch people, bind them and whip them todeath. If one runs too fast, these snakes will take their tails in their mouths and run like a hoop till they catch their prey. One will than bind it while the other will do the whipping. If one simulates death, they will stick t their tails into their eyes or nose and force action. It is assert--ed that these snakes can whistle like a man and thus deceive their prey till they get them into their power. All snakes have doctors called the "snake doctor" that is able tobring them back to life or cure diseases. The snake doctor is our common

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1--Mr. O. L. Ray, Circuit Clerk, Starkville, Miss .--Conference
2--Folk Beliefs of the Southern Negro--Puckett

mosquito hawk. There are certain snakes that will suck the cows dry. You can observe this by the fact that the cow shows blood in the milk. If the snake is killed the cow will go dry or even die.

(1)The Almanac:

One has no idea how much the common almanac plays inthe life of the more ignorant country people and negroes generally. The appearance of the new almanac is looked forward to with as much interest as some of the outstanding mail order catalogues. The signs of Zodiac and the phases of the moon play a most important part. Mothers take great care to see that the signs are right in weaning their children, etc.

The moon has been studied since the most ancient times and had affected the actions of civilization for centuries either in the direction of home life or on the farm.

All cereals should be planted in the waxing of the moon as they will produce more and germinate better than if planted in the waning moon. Beans planted when the horns of the moon are up will readily pole but if planted when the horns are down, will not. Plant early potatoes when the horns of the moon are up, else they will grow too deep into the soil. Plant late potatoes in the dark of the moon for a good yield. For abundance of every thing one should plant it when the moon is in the sign of the

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Mrs. Williams, Maben, Miss. ---Conference

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

twins. Plant onions when the horns of the moon are down. Make wine in the dark of the moon but vinegar should be made in the light of the moon.

Marry in the light of the moon. All meat should be butchered in the increase of the moon, also soap should be make in the incerase of the moon. Roof buildings when the horns of the moon are down, else the shingles will curl up at the end and draw out the nails.

One should be careful to have the hair cut on the first Friday after the new moon. Never cut it on the decrease of the moon. The latter will cause your hair to fall out.

(1)The old Southern Negro and most of the younger members of the race will tell you that there are certain things you must do and certain acts you must not do, certain positive and certain negative control sings that act in one 's life. "If one bites off the head of a butterfly, you will get a new dress." "If you point the finger at a grave, it will rot off."

Folk Customs

Negro Songs:

(2)The white man sings from the song book, but the illiterate

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1--Aunt Emaline Montgomery--Conference
2--Folk Beliefs of the Southern Negro--Puckett, p.50ff

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Negro sings from the soul. These songs are known as Spirituals and challenge the admiration of the world. Nothing so challenges the attention of the Negro generally as their songs, dances, and instrumental music. The Negro is still emotional and will so play on his emotions in prayer and song which is practically the same, till their shouts may be heard at a great distance. The ordinary secular songs do not appeal to them, and though the Negro may be nonreligious, he does not enjoy the current secular music and only in rare cases will he sing it.

The best music and the kind most enjoyed by white and black alike, is the chorus singing of the spirituals that have come down through the ages. No two groups of singers will sing the same song in exactly the same manner. Each group will hold strenuously to its method of presentation as the correct and most effective one. These spirituals must be felt and a certain bodily rhythm must be participated in in order to get the most pleasure from the songs. Their music represents their spiritual beliefs and their feelings. The Negro is naturally emotional and his songs give free rein tothese emotions. Their music is

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ibid

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

never at its best till their spiritual emotions are at their height. They will then shut their eyes, get the swing, and pat one or both their feet with an occasional shout. Men, women, and children will then "come through" with great fervor. This is their religion and is essential to their salvation.

(1)I have found the songs among the white Holy Rollers are very much alike that of the Negro. With a slight repitition one may sing all day on the same song. By a change of one word for each verse, I have heard them sing their most popular songs. "Come on father, come on mother, come on sister, etc. " They have these songs on their phonograghs in great numbers, and will sit and listen to them for hours at a time. A new record brings in all the neighbors for an evening festival of music. The white singers do not give such bodily movements as the negro, but will shout much more vociferously, or get down and roll on the floor, or faint outright and lie till carried out in the fresh air. These people have absolutely no faith in the more conservative worship of cultured people, and will not attend their churches.

(1)Mr. Vardeman Pearson, who is am operative of the Sanders Cotton Mill tells me that a large percent of the operatives of the mills of the state are members of the Holy Roller church.

1--Mr. Vardeman Pearson--Starkville, Miss--Conference

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

This religion holds to santification, being filled with the Holy Spirit, and the ability to spead with "tongues" as sure evidence of being santified. This state is usually preceeded by a period of "coming through", which results in unconsciousness, rolling on the floor, dancing the holy dance, and other acts caused by the "infillinf"ofthe Holy Spirit. When one is thus filled, he has no desire to sin, and cannot sin.

The ability to speak with tongues is one chief characteristic of sanctification. Some people are endued with the ability to interpret the tongue while others are not. Some with higher forms of consecration can speak tongues no one can interpret except God Himself. These are able to heal dis eases by prayer and the laying on of hands. They are able to see visions of angels and to give the "holy kiss".

(1)My observations of these people are that they are much better off with this type of religion. They live much cleaner lives and have much better homes, free from profanity,; they live happier and cleaner than when they lived under the old formal type of religion. They will not drink intoxicants, chew tobacco, play cards, or gamble. They attend church and Sunday School regularly and do better work. They make better citizens.

1--My own observations on the mill grounds. R. C. M.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

The emotional phenomena, including visions, is an essential part of this religion. The "singing ecstacy", "jerks", "strains of heaven", and "holy laugh" show the experiences to be common to all individuals with whom the artificial discipline of culture is but little developed.

Negroes

(1)A marble bust of Irwin Russell stands in the Mississippi Hall of Fame. It was the first one placed to the honor of any Mississippian. He was the man that first discovered the material latent in negro dialect. He discovered for the first time in literature, the real "corn field" negro of Mississippi had a place in the poetry of the South.

"De Massissippy darkie, He will repudiate
Wheneber he is cheated By sharpers of de State;
And if you do insult him, Just look out ofr your life,
He'll chop you into "mince Meat", Wid dat ole Bowie knife:
We meet all kinds of darkie, As O'er the world we go,
De highest in de nation, And de lowest ob de low."

1.--Humor of the Deep South--Hudson, p. 120

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

(1)The Oktibbeha negro is very fond of "classy" language, especially on Sunday. Ben was asked how he liked the sermon. "Mighty obligated with it. De 'Clusive 'flections werry distructive to the ignoram," was his reply. He told the writer of "insulting a lawyer about his case, and that he was advised to throw himself on the "ignorance" of the court. The negro of Mississippi considers his wife as his personal preperty, bought and paid for. This is due, no doubt, to the fact that occasionally a thrifty negro would buy his own freedom and then that of his wife, during slavery.

(2)Aunt Eliza Jones has some very unique ideas relative to Negro superstitions. If one's nose itches, it is a sure sign that some one is coming. To enable the baby to cut teeth easily take the two front feet of a mole and suspend them around the neck of the child. A tooth of a hog will do as well. For Rheumatism take ordinary poke weed and boil down till dry and then pour fish brine over this. Apply this solution on the painful place. It certainly releived Aunt Eliza in no time. If you are suffering with chills, take as many buckeyes as you have had chills and sus-pend them around your neck, or better, around the body. It will prevent further chills. To remove a win, rub the affected part

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1--Humor of the Deep South, Hudson--p. 120
2--Aliza Jones and Cenie Neely---Conference

on the face of a dead person. The win will begin reducing at once. She is sure that Della Love, a sanctified negro woman, can cure almost anything by prayer. She had cured her headache and heart ache, too. If a rabbit or cat crosses your path, when you come to this place turn and go backwards across the track. This will prevent any harm coming to you. Her dreams were sure indications of the actions of her husband. She could always tell what he was doing when away from home. Her daughter was born with a caul, and so could see spirits. She told of a friendly contest with a spirit in finding a buried treasure. To keep them from him while he dug, he made a circle around the place and sprinkled the inside of the circle with sulphur and whiskey. He found the gold and in spite of the spirits, who dived on him as he was bringing i it out of the ground, like a team of horses, he got the pot of gold. She believed that some people can tell your futnre. Mrs. McDowell lost a napkin, and secured a fortune teller, and she told just who had the lost piece and where it was and that theperson wanted to return it. The woman's name who had it, her name began with a K. Aunt Cenie Neely can see spirits and has talked with them face to face. One caught her by the hand.

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ibid

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page #16
Topic: Folklore and Folk Customs
Assignment#6
By--R. C. Morris
September 24, 1936

The puppose of the manuscript is to give as accurately as possible the Folk customs and superstitions of this county as held by both white and negroes. I have thus been unable to follow any definite plan or outline as the materials were gathered under very difficult conditions. Very few people will talk freely relative to their sincere beliefs, as they recongize that it might brand them as superstitious. It shall be our purpose to file supplementary data as we may have occasion to gather them, if you desire.

Very truly yours,

R. C. Morris

Starkville, Miss.

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page #17
Topic: Folklore and Folk Customs
Assignment #6
By--R. C. Morris
September 24, 1936

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2- Mr. Harvey Turner--Conference

3- Aunt Sara Brown --Conference

4- Mrs Sam Ware, Starkville, Miss. --Conference

5.-Vardeman Pearson, Starkville, Miss.--Conference

6.-Old Lady Sophie & Hattie Rogher--Conference

7--Uncle Cal Smith--Confefence

8--Uncle Jack Jones--Conference

9--Mr. O. L. Ray, Circuit Clerk, Starkville, Miss.--Conference

10--Folk Beliefs of the Southern Negro--Puckett

11--Mrs. Williams, Maben, Miss. ---Conference

12--Aunt Emaline Montgomery--Conference

13--My own observations on the mill grounds--(R. C. Morris)

14--Humor of the Deep South, Hudson, p. 120

15--Aliza Jones & Cenie Neely, Conference

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 1
Topic: Church History
Assignment # 26
October 20,1937
By R.C.Morris

The first Church edifices erected in Oktibbeha County were located at the three respective Indian Missions 1820; 1833, where Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury located, with the aid of David Folsom and John Petchlyn, the first Mission site at what he later called Mayhew, Here he began the construction of a school building and Church; the second church was located at Hebron Mission by Rev. Calvin Cushman in 1823, and the third at the Byington Mission near the Choctaw Agency. As these missions became the center of an ever-growing population and the doorway to the remainder of the county, these churches soon flourished.

Rev. Cyrus Byington, established his mission school in 1829 which was called by the Indians "Yakni-O-Kohaiya" meaning "Living Land". Here this great scholar, minister, and student of Ethology, taught and preached until his wards were driven to a foreign land. Halbert states in his Historic Localities on the Noxubee River, that the place is still known as the"Missionary Field". The writer was unable to establish the fact at this late date. The influence of the work of the Missionaries is told by Cushman in his History of the Choctaw Indians. He states that as the Indian accepted Christianity, he would leave his old superstitions, build better homes, and in every way followed the tenets of his religion.

After the conversion of Tuna Pin A Chuffa a great and wonderful

(1) History of The Choctaw Indians -- Cushman
(2) Carroll's Historical Sketches
(3) Halberts Historic Localities on Noxubee River

R.C.Morris, Historian

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 2
Topic; Church History
Assignment # 26
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

ful change for the better was seen throughout the district and in other districts, both in outward appearance and moral conditions. The men soon began to acquire habits of industry, temperance rapidly gained ground all over the nation. Tuna Pin A Chuffa writes to Col. David Folsom his nephew" My heart ,I hope ,has been made new. My bad thoughts I throw away. The words of the Great Father above I am seeking to have in my mind."He was often heard singing and studied the Catechism every day by so doing, he said, " I am holding sweet communion with my newly found Savior." He told Mr. Kingsbury "I do love the Savior with all my heart and soul. Today Heaven is near; it is not far away- I know it is near- I feel it." The feeling and attitude of this great Indian was that of many of his associates. It was to their churches and the missionaries that the Indian would go in time of sorrow.

When the early white colonists rushed into this section after 1832 '33, many of them brought with them, their slaves. These were considered a part of their household and Dr. Riley tells us in his History of Mississippi that most white families considered it a part of their duties to see that their slaves had proper Moral and Religious instructions. Hence, the old Mistress would read the Bible to her wards on Sunday afternoons Churches were constructed with a large gallery above for the convenience of the slaves and as result they received the same religious

(1)Cushman's History
(2) Riley's History of Mississippi

R.C.Morris, Historian

instructions from the pulpit that was given to their white masters. By special permission the slaves could hold prayer service and even preaching in their quarters by a minister of their color. Almost every large slave quarter had its exhorter who aided the Master and Mistress in looking after the morals of his race if they desired. I do not know of a single instance in this county, where the slave had churches and held independent services till after their freedom and no doubt they would have continued to wurship with their former masters for a number of years had it not been for the mischievous influence of the Carpet-baggers and northern missionaries. Under their influence the negro soon left the churches of their masters and built or improvised structures for their own worship under the tutilage of their missionaries and ministers of their own color. It is during this time that many of their religious superstitions were taken up which has continued to affect their belief and hindered their spiritual guidance to the present day. Among the negroes the spirit of sectarianism has been and is much more pronounced than among the whites. In this small town there are at least a dozen different congregations among the negroes each holding its own peculiar type of superstition and religious belief, while there are only three or four white organizations with practically no attention given to differences of religious views.

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(1) Carroll's Historical Sketches

(2) Personal Conferences with old Citizens

R.C.Morris, Historian

Their churchebuildings are, in most instances, mere hovels, formerly used as living quarters, school buildings, stores or dance halls.Others were built for the purpose of religious worship. In the rural district the condition of their buildings are even worse but each congregation has some religious service during each month consisting of one-half the time given to a collection the remainder to singing. The type of service is largely dependent on the size of the collection.

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(1) Personal Conferences and Observations

R.C.Morris, Historian

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 5
Topic: Church History
Assignment # 26
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

FREEDOM AND RECONSTRUCTION

How They Affected the Negro's Religion.

(1) If one would wish to know the negro, he must know his religion, for it is in his religion that he is most natural. In his social life, he has imitated the white man, following the linss of least resistance and carrying on his standards to the extreme degree; but in his religion, while he had all opportunity of following his white friends, he has always had, deeply implanted in his nature his own ideas of God and Worship. During slavery the black man was expected to worship in the church of his master. A special slave gallery was provided in all the antibellum churches for the slaves, but when freedom came at the suggestion of his northern advisor, he withdrew from his old master's church and began to build churches of his own, which was used on Sundays for preaching purposes and for schools on weekdays during the school term. For awhile the negroes were ministered unto by his northern teacher and missionary minister, and as soon as these withdrew from the south, the negro assumed his own responsibilities. This responsibility was even permitted during slavery. A pious old negro who was trustworthy, was permitted to exhort in the quarters and occasionally hold prayer meetings.

When one speaks of negro religion that of itself carries with it an absurd idea; but let us measure him with Scripture rules and standards to find where he stands.

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(1) Manuscript furnished by Rev. Ben Robinson (Colored).

R.C.Morris, Historian

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 6
Topic: Church History
Assignment # 26
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

The Holy Bible is the only rule by which any person be rightly judged, for he or they, do not show their faith in Jesus Christ by what they say, but by what they do.

In the slavery days the negroes worshipped God from ideas borrowed from their masters. The negro was brought here from the jungles of Africa a raw heathern, having no real knowledge of the Christian religion, and were taught the principles that constituted a pure and wholesome religion.

The negro is somewhat "apish" in his nature. Whatever he saw the white man do, he very often would like to imitate the same. If his master used profane language, he, very often, imitated the same.

He was made to know that he must attend his masters church , and in attending that particular church, whatever he observed during the services, in due time he imitated the same. His master's belief was his belief, yet down deep in his heart, he had his own idea of worshipping an unknown being. Yet they showed good signs of a true Christian. They wanted to do what their masters were doing--singing, praying, and preaching--and in the event of time, several of the males were allowed to gather all the slaves on the quarter, to a selected spot, and exhort to them doctrines of true piety. The most frequent text or topic he was permitted to use , was

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Ibid

R.C.Morris, Historian

"Repent", believe, and be baptised, and Servants obey your masters". This was back in the days of slavery, but during this period God, through human agencies, threw off the yoke of bondage, which incident, enables the negro to go and worship God under his own "vine and fig tree".

Thus he starts out with what he had and learned from his former master or preacher. If his master was a Baptist, Methodist, or Presbyterian, he was.

Whatever practice that was prevailing in his master's church, he would accede to the tenets and polity of that particular church.

1866. During this year negroes were quite unsettled. Many living in tents by the roadside. By January 1867 most or all the negroes had settled on some of the old plantations and signed contracts to make a crop with some of the former masters. It was during this year (1867) when the negro began to seek a place to worship God. Ofcourse, many of the ex-slaves preferred to stay in their old master's church, but the majority wanted to get to themselves where they could preach , sing, and pray and worship God as they chose, since they found that they were free, and did not wish to be dictated to, as to " howand when" to worship God. However, they began to build brush arbors on some of the large plantations, and there all the negroes on the adjoining plantations would asse,ble on the Sabbath to hear preaching. In the latter part of 1867 these brush arbors became a nuisance

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(1) Ibid.

to the owners of these plantations when such arbors were built. For at that time the northern white man was coming south, and mingling with the negro, and meeting him in his services and very often the meeting would end in a political meeting and such propoganda sown, that caused all ill feeling towards the negro, and the brush harbor or "arbor" was blocked out, especially on the plantations. But the negro would not be defeated in his mode of worship. They formed committees to look out for a general meeting place, or to be more exact, to find a parcel or plot of land that could be purchased and they would pitch their tent there and carry on their meetings unmolested.

That committee found a plot of land in the town of Starkville 3/4 of a mile east of the courthouse. Here they bought and built an arbor. Here all the negroes assembled, Methodist, Baptist, and whatnots. Now since he has a home or a place to sing, pray, and preach, he would unfasten the belt that held all his emotional fervor, and let it flow freely over his vast congregation that had been gathered from all parts of the county.

They were free to sing, preach, and shout as loud as they wished and to stay there as long as they chose even until one and two o'clock A.M.

In their revivals, they would sing the old plantation melodies and very seldom did they sing the old hymns of John and Charles Wesley,

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(1) Ibid

which was used by their former masters in their worship during antebellum days, except two or three that they could commit to memory, such as:

"Amazing grace, how sweet it sounds
That save a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind, but now I see."

They usually sang one of those old hymns just before the preacher would start to preach, and all through his preaching the preacher would by yelled to thus: "Amen, brother", "Dat's right, give it um" "Ha, ha, ha, hallelujah, praise God, amen".

The writer was converted during a revival in that old brush arbor, the scenes of which I can never forget. It was in the summer of 1867. The preacher seemed to dwell upon the subject of "Judgement Day". The way he pictured that great day of wrath, was enough to arouse (it seemed to me) any soul that was doomed to death, hell, or destruction. And so I was convinced that then was the time for me to escape such awful consequences. And while down on my knees, at the mourners' bench, several old sisters would be passing up and down the mourners' bench, telling the mourners, "Just believe,. Ask God to kill you dead, and bring you alive in Jesus Christ". At the same time they were boring their hard knuckles into my backbone so much so, until I cried out, "I can't believe as long as you bore your old knuckles into my backbone". Well at last I did believe. That

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Ibid.

R.C.Morris, Historian

meeting closed, and at the end of the revival, there arose a dispute about who should have the most of the converts. Thus the doctrines of each denomination was discussed. They could not agree as to which church should take charge of the converts. There became a division and the brush arbor sought a church home elsewhere.

The first negro church in Oktibbeha County was built in Starkville. The first pastor was sent there by a missionary society. He was a northern white man, and he began his labor, as teacher and preacher among the negroes, in an old barn that had been used to shelter hogs, sheep, and cows.

This white man used the barn to teach the negro youths during week days, and to preach to the negroes on Sundays. He continued his labor there until the fleas, and other vermin caused him to move.

The negroes had previously bought a plot of land for a church site and our teacher-preacher left the infested barn and built a plank arbor, during that year. At the same time the Baptist, who refused to stay in the church of his former master, worshipped with the Methodist during the pastorate of the Rev. McLaquaklin who was the first teacher that came from the north. Soon a missianary academy was established for the instruction of negro youths. A two story building was built, and this white man preached to the negroes every Sunday, and taught their children

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Ibid.

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on week-days.

The negro was gaining considerable information as to how to worship and how to conduct themselves as Christians, but at the same time, and often during the divine services, they would be surcharged with political doctrines that bred ill will from our southern white friends, which resulted in riot, and on one or two occasions, bloodshed. Thus we observe, that the negro at that particular time(1868-1874) did not use his religions privileges as he had been taught by his master or mistress during antebellum days, but during the days of reconstruction, when the northern white man had about ceased to play a heavy role in politics, the negro seeing his sad mistake, he then and there began to look from a different angle than ever before. He saw that his only hope was to look to God for help and guidance. And the scene changed. And instead of a white (northern) man as pastor, they received an intelligent colored man for their pastor and teacher in the person of Dr. C. P. Clemens, of Ohio.

During the reconstruction days, and ever since the negroes have been carrying on their religious meetings unmolested. Oftentimes, a committee of white people will drop in on the colored people's services to observe their method of worship and to bring greetings from their church concerning some matter.

There was a time in the '60s and 70's when the negroed presented a better view of his religion in his dealings with each other in the

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Ibid.

church. They were and are required to look after the spiritual and temporal affairs of their group. This act of the church was to show to the world that they were truly in love towards its brethren, and their neighbor.

That requisite is not practiced in the colored churches of today. It is not what a man may say of his love towards God and his fellowman, but it is what he do, that gives an insight to his faith in God. One of the Bible writers makes the following remarks on faith and works: "Yea, as a man say, thou hast faith, and I have works; show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works." These scriptures are mentioned to show what God requires of those who claim to have a part and fellowship with the family of Gods. We will leave it there.

There is a great deal of hipocrisy practiced among our group. A great deal of foggism injected into the religion of the negroes. It appears to be natural with him. It might be an inheritance transmitted from our heathern parents yonder in Africa.

Even during slavery, when the overseer discovered that the "darkies" seemed to be salky, and did not look pleased, he reasoned that they were thinking of something that might cause trouble on the plantation, and as a clue to get into their thoughts, he would order them to sign and make an end of their silence that had taken hold of that "gang".

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1) Ibid

He reasoned also, that of they sang that, thoughtless, there might fall from their lips some word or phrase that would give him an idea as to what was uppermost in the hearts and heads of the negro.

There would be about twenty five or thirty hoe hands spreaded out across the patch of corn or cotton, with one of their number carrying the lead row and when the order was given "to sing" they open up by such as the following:

"Little children, you better believe,
I am almost done with trials here,
Little children, you better believe,
Goin to get home to heaven by and by."

" Oh rock along chariot, rock along,
You rock like you don't mind crosses,
For crosses and trials are every day,
But heaven is my aim"

Chorus:
Heaven is my aim,
I am almost done with my trials here,
Heaven in my aim,
I'll get home to heaven by and by.

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bid

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And they would be allowed to have a prayer meeting, conducted by one of the old men who had shown good fruits of a religious life, and announcement had been made by the overseer. While they were at work, their hearts would leap, and they would start by singing.

"Sister Mary, prayer meeting going to be here tonight,
Sister Mary, prayer meeting going to be here tonight,
You better get your heart in order,
Prayer meeting going to be here tonight."

These and many others I can't recall but these are sufficient to show that the negro relished a good spirit toward his owner, but at the same time they were looking forward to the time when he had gotten through with his labor and toil here that heaven would be his final resting place.

When the negro would get wearied and filled with his daily trials and troubles and began to think of a better day; he would give expressions of his feelings by singing thus:

"Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down,
Coming for to carry me home,
Sometimes I'm almost level with the ground,
Coming for to carry me home."

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(1) Ibid

R.C.Morris, Historian

Chorus:

"If you get there before I do,
Coming for to carry me home.
Look out for me, I'm coming, too,
Coming for to carry me home."

The negro uses his religion to throw hints to his brother or neighbor. Whenever a dispute or some little petty trifle occurs among the families especially the children, the older ones will often take it up and start a "gossiping" from house to house. This generally ends with a song. Those songs are quite irritable to the one who the singer is hinting at. So he sums up his religious feelings and began to sing thus:

"Youemay talk about me just as much as you please,
The more you talk I'll bend my knees,
For I'm getting ready to fly away to drink wine."

Chorus:

"Drinking wine, drinking wine,
For I ought' er been there ten thousand year,
Drinking wine."

If you wish to know the thin that is uppermost in the heart of the negro, listen to the songs he sings in his community. They will often

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reveal his thought of heaven or his troubles here. But when he is in a sober mood and all things are going well, it would be quite joyful to one, to hear him sing.

In Revivals.

Here you can see him in all his religious fervor. The minister invites the sinner to the mourners' bench. He comes and bows; the Christian bows with them and begins a low solemn tone, thus:

"While down upon my knees,
While down upon my knees,
While down upon my knees,
Give me Jesus."

Chorus:

"Give me Jesus, give me Jesus,
You may have all the world,
Give me Jesus."

"In the morning just before day,
In the morning just before day,
In the morning just before day,
Give me Jesus."

Ibid

During this prayer and singing, some one, generally, are touched with the spirit of emotion, and gives signs of conversion. Thereupon, the Christians begin to clap hands, and all of them rejoice and sing thus:

"Free at last, free at last,
Thank God Almighty, free at last,
Free at last, free at last,
Thank God Almighty, I am free at last."

"Old Satan is mad and I am glad,
Thank God Almighty, I am free at last,
He missed the soul he thought he had,
Thank God Almighty, I am free at last."

Then the whole church joins in the last refrain and shout and rejoice.

"Oh, shout, my brethren for we are told,
Thank God Almighty we are free at last,
Everything in heaven are pure as gold,
Thank God Almighty we are free at last."

The great day of baptism is fixed, and the converts are prepared for baptism, they march down to the water, and as they go marching some good old sister will start this song:

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(1) Ibid

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"You have to walk mighty humble
To be baptised, to be baptised,
To be baptised, Unto the Holy Lamb."

The converts are then received into the church, and are placed into the care of some leader to watch after his Christian conduct; this ends the revival.

The colored folk seem to show more Christ-like spirit in revivals, and on preaching days than they do in every day life; yet one must be convinced that there is some realty in their mode of worship.

If one wishes to see the typical negro in his worship, he will find him in the "Church Of God", Sanctified," "Holiness, and the "Do-Right Church."

Mamuscript furnished by Rev. Ben Robinson(Colored).

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(1) The first Protestant mission in this section was established under the auspices of the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches. The founders of these missions were Elliott and Mayhew, for whom the old Mayhew mission near Osborn was named. This mission was founded in 1820 and grew out of a journey by Sam T. Mills, hero of the Haystack Prayer meeting, who had reported the Choctaws and Chickasaws as being most favorable for a mission. The Missionary Kingsbury, and Col. David Folsom, a half bredd Choctaw, finally decided the exact spot for the mission. The force of missionaries, who came from New England, included; Byington, Hooper, Cushman and Smith, also Misses Frizelle, Varnum, Chase and Thacher. ~~Life among the missionaries~~, Mr. Kingsbury was on hand to meet them and was united to Miss Varnum, thus consumating a long engagement.

Mayhew and vacinity grew in such importance as a business and religious center that by order of the Synod of South Carolina, the Presbytery of Tombigbee was constituted as Mayhew in 1829 and on May 11th of the following year the Presbytery of Mississippi and Alabama met there.

Names familiar in the old church books and deed books of Oktibbeha County are:Frierson, Cushman, Frizelle, Lampkin,

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(1) Information From Mrs. Joe Hartness

Manuscript Miss Minnie Walker

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Hogan, Gillespie, Rand, Byington, Hines, Freeman, Chase, Sellers, Bell, Ward, Ames, Walker, Billington, Montgomery, Curry, Bardwell, Reese, Dibrell, Yeates, Eastlands, and many others. The best of the mother colonies of the north and east came to cast their lot in a new country, their hope and faith making for it a future second to none. Surely such a spirit as this is a priceless heritage and we were indeed unworthy did we not hold aloft the torch their failing hands committed to us.

Ibid.

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Wine Found In Ceiling of Old Church Edifice:

(1) On Monday, August 11, 1924, while workmen were engaged in demolishing the old Presbyterian Church, which is to be supplanted by a new, more commodious and modern structure, when the plastering and lathing were removed within the building it brought to light a sight that in this day of total abstinence was heralded by the Eighteenth Amendment was a sublime sorrow while to the eyes of those who feel that this privileged prerogative of taking a nip has been unjustly wrested from them, it was a sparkling delight, for there, encased within the ceiling and nestled next to the pulpit were six wine bottles, four of them empty though two of them containing a portion of the vintage of Madeira.

This wine, which had been hidden in this sacred recess for something like sixty-seven years, was probably purchased for communion purposes and since the church at that time was unfinished, was placed there by Dr. A.M.Carothers, Ruling Elder of the church at that time and a pioneer member of the organization who was prominent in the construction of this historic edifice and who deeded the lot to the church, the workmen over-looking it and boarding it in with the lathing and plaster.

One of the bottles containing wine was handed over to Mrs. C.R.Montgomery, daughter of Dr. Carothers, and will be

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(1) From Starkville News, Friday, August 15, 1924.

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historically placarded and placed in the corner stone of the new building at the time of its dedication.

The above plans were carried out. At the dedication of the new church a bottle of the old wine was placed in the corner stone.

Ibid.

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Topic: Church History - Sturgis Presbyterian Church
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(1) This church was organized in 1875, as the Whitefield Cumberland Presbyterian Church, - old Whitefield being now a part of the town of Sturgis.

It was organized by Rev. J.L.Cooper, D. D. -then president of Cooper Institute, in Lauderdale County. In 1884 the name of the church was changed to; Sturgis Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and a new church house was built in the then new town of Sturgis, - being the first church house erected in the town of Sturgis.

In 1912 the [illegible] names of the church was changed again, to: First Presbyterian Church of Sturgis; and repairs were made on the church building.

In 1914 a pastors home, of five rooms , was erected, - under the supervision of R.L.Phelps D. D., - who was then Synodical Superintendent.

In 1929 Dr. Phelps became the pastor, and work was soon started on the new church building. This building has in the lower floor an assembly hall (also used as dining room), a kitchen, and five class rooms. On the main floor there is the auditorium, kindergarten, two class rooms and a pastors study, - a total of twelve rooms in the entire building. The lower story is of brick, the upper story of frame construction.

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(1) Information taken from Session Record Books, by R.L.Phepls, D.D.

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Topic: Church History - Methodist
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(1) The first Methodist Church in Starkville was organized in 1836, with the following charter members: Elijah and Mary Hogan, James and Louisa Walton, W.H.Wilson and J.W.S. Heath and wife. Brother Heath served for many years as secretary, class leader, and sometimes sexton. Three years later 1838, the membership of the church having increased, a two story brick house of worship was erected. In a few years the walls of this building became so badly cracked that it was deemed unsafe, which resulted in its being torn down and replaced with a frame building, the old foundation being used. This structure was removed in 1872 to make way for the third handsome and commodious edifice.

Rev. E.R.Strickland was appointed at the close of 1839 as first regular pastor, with Edward Phillips as helper. Samuel Hawkins was pastor in 1840; John J. Jones in 1841; P.B.Bailer in 1842-03. Asbury Davidson and J.M.Pugh served as presiding elders in the early years of the church's existence.

In those days gracious revivals were of frequent occurrence, and quarterly meetings were held regularly, and were great occasions. These meetings were attended by crowds from far and near. For many years Starkville and Pearson's Chapel, a flourishing country church, were united in one pastorial charge. James A. Godfrey, D.M.Fly, Nash, T.J. Castle, Whitefield Harrington and W.C.Millsaps were among the pastors from 1845 to 1860.

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(1) Information from Mrs. Helen Woodward.
Manuscript, Miss Minnie Walker.

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R.J.Jones, E.H.Munger,--McCreary and James Carlile were the war pastors of the church, with G.D.Wade as presiding elder. Then came the gifted J.R.Allen, now of Texas, who married Miss Florence Worley, of Starkville. J.L.Futrell, E.H.Moon, R.M.Powers, and T.S.Campbell were here in the 70's. Brother Moon's pastorate was signalized by the famous Dys-Hall debate on baptism. In 1879 and 1880 J.W.Lawrence (deceased) was the able and successful preacher in charge followed by James T. Cunningham and E.B.Ramsey in 1880 and 81 respectively. The next pastor was J.S.Okley, who served his four years as pastor and to his untiring efforts is due the credit of erecting the third beautiful house of worship. John H. Suggs was appointed to the change in 1886 and after a months service was transferred to the Louisiana Conference being succeeded by S.G.Augustus.

Next followed in the order named these Godly men to fill the pulpit.

Thomas. Cameron,	J.W.Rice,	T.C.Wier,
J.A.Randolph,	J.W.Dorman,	John E. Thomas,
T.Y.Ramsey,	R.A.Meek,	R.S.Spraggins,
T.H.Lipscomb,	J.C.Park	J.T.McCafferty,
V.C.Brownlee,	W.W.Woolard,	V.C.Curtis,
H.Felger Brooks,	W.P.Buhrman,	Melville Johnson.

'bid

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The lot upon which these church buildings stand was deeded to the church for a consideration by the heirs of Jonas Renfro, in 1838 and the deed is in record in the Chancery Clerk's office at the courthouse of Oktibbeha County.

The records for March 20th, 1859 show the following admitted to full communion.

George Critz	J. Hilliary Pearson
John Owen	R.H.Lampkin
Joseph H. Woodward	Oella Ames
James Maxwell	Mary Hogan
Sepha McGehee	Sarah McCreight
Martha Drake	Susan Lampkin
Mary Yeates	Elizabeth Buntin
Laura Ward	Caroline Beverly
J.C.Hines	J.W.Worley
M.F.Ames	Abney Hogan.

From these twenty members in 1859 the membership has grown to approximately 1060 in 1935 and the congregation worship in a commodious brick edifice, beautiful in its symmetry and worshipful in its atmosphere.

The Starkville Methodist Church has been wonderfully blest by having resident superannuated ministers, Dr.T.C.Wier, Rev.

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id.

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H.P.Sage and Dr. W.S.Harrison. They influenced its politics, and stood as grand men of Methodism in the North Mississippi Conferance.

R.G. Porter; T.W.Dye; T.C.Wier; J.D.Cameron; W.T.J.Sullivan; R.H.Burroughs, W.W.Duncan; J.B.Randolph; and perhaps others, have given full proof of their ministry as Presiding Elders.

To the faith and persistence of Rev. V.C.Curtis goes the credit of the present church building, supported by the full membership. This building, the fourth upon this same lot is a magnificent structure, an honor to Methodism and a source of pride to our community.

Concerning the membership in general, it is gratifying to be able to say that a more regular and attentive church-going people could hardly be found. In numbers it is among the first, if not the first in town. This church is decidedly above the average, and, if but true to its mission, with God's blessing resting upon it, will continue its hitherto unchecked career of growth and usefulness in the cause of Christ.

Ibid.

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To Precede The F.L.Wier Manuscript.

Lorenzo Dow was, perhaps, the first Methodist minister to enter this section.He was a great preacher, a great organizer, and possessed a great personality and devotion for the cause. He passed, from time to time, on his way from the north-east to Natchez. He tells of his experiences among the Choctaw Indians, observing their religious ordinances and their bone-pickers as he performed his rites on the body of some deceased Indian and the grief stricken family and hired mourners. Judge Carroll writes in his Historical Sketches that the Methodist held first place among the early settlers of this county and their Camp- Grounds dotted every community. The ordinary public services were first held in private homes, brush arbors, or crude log houses built for this or other purposes. The old Circuit Rider with his saddlepacks in which he carried all his earthly possessions, were common but welcome visitors in the homes of every section of the county or ever before it was organized into a county. As a result this church soon had the largest active membership throughout this section. In Starkville in 1835 Robert A. Lampkin donated the lot where the present beautiful edifice now stands.

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(1) Reports of the Mississippi Historical Society
Bishop Charles B. Galloway, Recollections of Lorenzo Dow
(2) Carroll's Historical Sketches

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Oktibbeha County, of which Starkville is the county seat, was organized in 1833 and the court-house established here in 1834. The Settlers, who came mainly from South Carolina, Virginia and other southern states, were practically all protestant in their religios beliefs. The Methodists were few in number but they could not long remain satisfied without a place of worship of their own. Hardy pioneers of xxxxx, sturdy stock, xxxx were no less strong in their spiritual convictions and their adherence to Wesleyan Methodism.

The first Methodist Society in Starkville was organized in 1835, with the following charter members; Elijah and Mary Hogan, James and Louise Walton, W.H.Wilson and J.M.Heath and wife, As membership increased a brick house of worship was erected in 1839 and at the close of that year Rev. E.R.Strickland was appointed as the first regular pastor with Edward Phillips assistant. A grandson of Elijah Hogan, the first named in that little band of charter members, is now chairman of the board of stewards, 33 in number.

In 1839 Annual Conference was held at Natchez, Bishop Andrews presiding. Starkville was then in the Grenada District, of which Peter James was presiding elder. At that time this county was in the Mississippi Conference, Lowndes County in the Alabama Conference and the county now known as Clay in the Memphis Conference. Samuel Haskins and

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(1) F.L.Wier - Manucsript

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J.J.Jones were pastors of this charge in its early years.

With the passing of years and the rebuilding of church and parsonage the early records have been lost. It is said that J.S. (or F.H.) Bailey was pastor in 1845-46 and that Ausbury Davidson and J.H.Pugh served as presiding elders in the early years of the Church's existence.

The little brick church proved inadequate in a few years, so in 1845-46 a frame building was erected. This church served the Methodist congregation 40 years, until 1885. Some of the older members today, 1937 recall quite vividly this old church, the second to be built, which fronted east on the present lot, It had a gallery overlooking the lower floor at the front end on each side, built for the slaves. Contrary to the belief of many good people of the "Mother Church", our fathers, many of whom were slave owners, felt a deep concern for the spiritual welfare of the "brother in black". It is said that on communion Sundays the negroes sat in the gallery and looked on at the morning service and in the afternoon the white people sat in the gallery while the negro congregation on the lower floor received the holy sacrament.

Among the outstanding citizens, in addition to those who have been mentioned as charter members, who worshipped in that church in the early days, before the Civil War-- and whose decendents are today loyal and useful members of our church-- were Judge David Ames, a devout man and class

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Ibid.

R.C.Morris, Historian

leader thirty four years, until his death in 1870; R.A.Lampkin who many of us knew in later years as "Uncle Robert"; William G. Lampkin, Alex B. Lampkin, Archie Critz, William H.Gunn, Jim M. Bell, Joe H. Woodward, Joe Yeates, Cowan Erwin, John Lyons, James Buntin, Sarah McCreight and Cordelia Lampkin, who in later years married Dr. E.P.Connell.

Archie Critz who died in the early '80s, came to Starkville in 1853. He was the father of eight sons and four daughters. One of the sons was the late Judge Frank Critz of West Point; another, among the younger sons, Brother Sam B. Critz, still a regular attendant at Sunday School and church services, holds unquestioned seniority in point of length of membership. He has been a member of the Starkville Methodist Church sixty one years and has served, in former years, as steward, recording steward, district steward and for one year as superintendent of the Sunday Schools He is still active and is a trusted official of our county.

One of the outstanding citizens and a loyal member of the church in the early days was "Uncle Robert" Lampkin, who died in 1885. Of large stature and commanding presence, friendly by nature and fair in dealings, "Uncle Robert" exerted a strong influence for good upon the community, candid and blunt of speech, he scorned evasion and pretense. He was the first sheriff of the county.

Many of us here today recall gratefully having known some of our pastors who preached in that old church of slavery days; Cultured and

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id.

..C.Morris, Historian

lovable J.T.Cunningham, original and forceful E.B.Ramsey, Courtly and methodical J.S.Okley.

It was under the pastorate of J.S.Okley that the third church was built, in 1885. Though a frame building, it marked splendid progress in church construction. With its greatly enlarged seating capacity, its high arched ceiling, comfortable paws and beautiful stained windows, it was a joy to worship in it. And yet, as we compare it with our new church today, much seems lacking in that former church building. Its greatest lack was that no Sunday School rooms were provided in it. But we loved that old church from foundation to steeple and wept to see it go. It held many and precious memories.

Following is a list of pastors of the Starkville church from 1864 until the present time.

Ibid

R.C.Morris, Historian

E.H.Mounger	1864-1865	T.C.Wier	1890-1891
R.L.Jones	1866-1869	J.A.Randolph	1892
K.A.Jones	1870	J.A.Dorman	1893-1895
J.R.Allen	1871	T.Y.Ramsey	1896-1897
J.L.Futrell	1872-1873	J.E.Thomas	1898
R.M.Powers	1874	R.A.Meek	1899-1901
E.H.Mhoon	1875	H.S.Spraggins	1902-1905
Thomas Campbell	1876-1877	J.W.Dorman	1906
E.H.Mhoon	1878	R.H.B.Cladney	1907-1909
J.W.Lorance	1879-1880	W.E.M.Brogan	1910-1912
J.T.Cunningham	1881	T.H.Lipscomb	1913-1916
R.S.Ramsey	1882	J.C.Park	1917-1918
J.S.Okley	1883-1886	J.T.Mc Cafferty	1919-1920
T.S.Scruggs	1887	T.M.Brownlee	1921-1922
N.G.Augustus	1887	H.W.Woollard	1923-1924
Thomas Cameron	1888	W.C.Curtis	1925-1929
J.W.Price	1889	Henry Felger Brooks	1930

Ibid.

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The church we occupy today was erected under the pastorant of Dr. W.C.Curtis, who served this charge in 1925-1929. With its three stories and basement, its forty or more Sunday School rooms and its modern appointments and conveniences, it has seema d more appropriate to call it a plant-- which prompts us to wonder what "Uncle Robert" Lampkin would say if he should come back now and hear our church called a plant.

Have we overbuilt? Have we unduly burdened, ourselves with a load of debt?

Since we first occupied this structure there has been a steady growth in the membership from year to year, until we now number 988. Our Sunday School numbers 883 scholars and forty three officers and teachers, with an average attendance near 70 percent. And every room of this magnificent edifice the church now occupies and uses. We rejoice to kn know that in this new building we can amply accommodate the present session of our Annual Conference, which would have been impossible six years ago.

Under the wise and faithful administra tion of our beloved presiding elder, Brother W.N.Duncan, and the splendid ministeyy and devoted pastorate of Dr. Henry Felger Brooks, aided by his capable and faithful assistant, Rev. Albert L. Brewster, Jr., Starkville Methodism is prospering. Using the words in their more vital, rather than a literal sense, we are growing, we are building.

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id.

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An unusual and dramatic occurrence not in the written record but given us by word of mouth, was staged in 1875, when Rev. E.B.Mhoon was pastor. It was a doctrinal debate between a Baptist divine and a Methodist minister no less prominent. It continued from day to day in the Methodist Church for five or more days; and we are told that many members from both churches heard these great speakers eagerly.

It seems that our Methodist brethren were both grieved and perplexed over some public utterances of a visiting Baptist minister. And they demanded of their pastor that one of the best Methodist theologians be asked to come to Starkville and enlighten them on the vital tenets of Methodism then under fire of criticism. Dr. T.P.Dye, then stationed at Winona, came in response to the urgent invitation sent him. We may be sure that this great preacher, a thorough Bible scholar, brilliant and resourceful, came fully panoplied, with the shield of faith and the sword of spirit.

Whether a final verdict was rendered or conclusive results were reached that were satisfactory to both sides, or to either, we are not told. This we know: such debates or controversies are no longer staged by our people. Have we Methodist grown complacent and indifferent to our fathers?

Though not in direct answer, but yet bearing upon this question, we will insert here an extract from a paragraph in our church bulletin of June 7, 1925, written by Brother V.C.Curtis, then our pastor as follows:

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"Peace, harmony and good will exist among the several churches of Starkville. The Presbyterian congregation passed a formal resolution inviting the Methodist to unite with them in service, the pastors alternating, each sharing half the responsibility, until our new building is completed. The Baptist, through their pastor offered us the use of their church.....We appreciate these expressions of Christian spirit on the part of these preachers and their congregations..... It is delightful to be associated with peoples who are so generous and broad-minded, and we stand ready to unite in any work that is for the advancement of the Kingdom of God."

With the foregoing statements of our former pastor before us, may we not conclude that our Protestant people are growing in grace and brotherly love? And does this not bespeak a nearer approach to the fulfillment of the prophecy (Isiah 11.13) when "Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim"?

Ibid.

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Old Minister Ninety-Seven Visits Old Home

Former Attorney Preached First Sermon Here in 1873:

(1) Among the distinguished guests of the Starkville Methodist Church assembled this week in Conference none will be of more interest than Rev. C.W.Terry of Memphis,Tenn., Rev. Terry is a guest in the homeof Mr. and Mrs. C.R.Stark. He is in his ninety-eighth year, and has made his home at the Y.M.C.A. in Memphis for the past twenty-one years.

He preached his first sermon in Starkville in 1873, and was admitted to full connection when Conference met here in 1876. Rev. A. C. Allen was their presiding Elder , and Rev. R.S.Powers, pastor in charge.

He lived in Starkville eight years prior to this, being a law partner of the late Hon. Thos. J. Wood, the style of the firm being Terry and Wood.

Rev. Terry is a most interesting talker, having a remarkable memory of the town and its citizens at the early period of his connection here. He retains his faculties along with an abiding interest in affairs of the day.

On his last birthday his friends gave him a surprise birthday party at which five hundred guests were present. The cake for the

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1---The Starkville News, November 7, 1930.

Miss Minnie Walker, Manuscript.
R.C.Morris, Historian

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occasion held ninety- seven candles,was three feet across, and weighed one hundred and twenty-five pounds. Rev. Terry holds the receipt for this remarkable cake.

Ibid

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Prior to 1840 there was located in the south-east corner of Oktibbeha County a little Hardshell Baptist Church. This Church no longer exists and where it once stood only a few leaning tombstones remain, mute testimony in the little cemetary that once joined the church. This once Hallowed spot lies about one half mile inside the Oktibbeha County line and about one hundred yards north of the gravel road that leads outfrom Crawford.

But in 1840, a majority of the members felt that they had outgrown the tents of the Hardshell Baptist and wished to enfold the doctrines for which the growing Missisnary Baptist Church stood. No doubt there werw many ernest discussions and many ernest prayers before the final break was made and the new church was formerly organized.

The Hardshell Baptist left with only a few members soon abandoned their old church building and built a new one a few miles south. But the struggle was hard and about the time of the Civil War the members disbanded. One thing more before leaving the Hardshells altogether. When Alexander J. Halbert, a young man just after the Civil War, acquired himself a wife, he bought the old Hardshell Baptist Church building and used as much of the timbers as possible in building his new home and to this day part of the Halbert residence is composed of that old church building.

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(1) Information furnished by, Halbert Cunningham Clerk of Church. June 10, 1937. Crawford, Miss.

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Pescival P. Halbert, father of the aforementioned A.J.Halbert, was in 1840 a member of the Salem Missionary Baptist Church, organized a few years before,and five or six miles on toward Starkville,but when he heard that his neighbors were organizing a Missionary Baptist Church he bought seven acres more or less, from the estate of Mr. Arnold and offered it to the new church for a building site for as long as the church existed and when the church no longer exists the land is to return to P.P.Halberts' heirs. This site is located about three fourths of a mile west of the old Hardshell Church site in a beautiful grove of oak and hickory trees. P.P. Halbert soon became a member of the new church whose members decided to call it Bethesda.

Brother Burrell Holbrook, grandfather of a present member, Mr. R.L. Carpenter, was the first pastor and remained so until his death. Some of the heads of families who were the first members were Lewis Willbanks, Allen Brooks, Terrell Brooks, A.C.Halbert, Arnold, Bently Arnold, Dr. Burt, Church Carpenter, Henry Lawrence, Elijah, Geo. Kinnard, and Henry Kinard.

The first church building of Bethesda was an unpainted frame structure with a shed room on the west side of the structure for the negro slaves who were also members of the church. The partition between the

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Ibid

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two rooms was about three feet high so the slaves could see and hear the preacher. The benches were crude home-made affairs and candles in home-made candlelabra furnished the only illumination at night services. Arthur C. Halbert was the first Sinday School superintendent and the mother of Mother of Mr. Vivian Carpenter was one of the first teachers.

Soon after Bethesda was organized it became a member of the Choctaw Baptist Association and remainer a member until between 1858 and 1862 when, wishing to join an association nearer home, it became a member of the Columbus Baptist Association and was host to the association in 1862. In 1864 the 27th annual session of the association met with the Pilgram's Rest Baptist Church in Monroe County on Sept. 10th, 11th, and 12th. No delegates were sent to this meeting but the church letter went forward and it showed that Bethesda had a total of 75 members,- white male 13, white female 23, black 39. The amount sent for associational purposes was $45,05. The amount sent for missionary purposes was $489.85. Pastor salary was $505.00. W.SW.Webb was pastor and the preaching day was the first Sunday in each month.

The next year the association met with Salem and A.J.Holbrooks, E. Cartine, and J.W.Davis were delegates. The membership that year was 68. In 1867 forty three were baptised and the membership totaled 135 the largest in Bethesda history and the fourth largest in the association. There were

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Ibid

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white males 18, white females 40, blacks 77. The meeting days were the first and fourth Sundays. The following year, 1868, with the South in the throes of reconstruction, the negroes either withdrew or were excluded from membership and the number dropped to 70, being male 28, female 42. The women members of Bethesda have always outnumbered the men there being, at the present time, five more female than male members listed on the church roll.

Bethesda became the association host again in 1878 for the second time. This was the forty first annual session commencing Sept. 6, The preaching day that year was the fourth Sunday and the next year it was the third Sunday. In 1881 Dr. J.I.Crigler was Sunday School superintendant. In 1888 Dr. Crigler became the treasurer of the association holding this office until 1893. In 1902 Dr. Crigler was elected moderator of the association an office he held for two years. He was the only layman of Bethesda ever to hold an office in Columbus Baptist Association until his daughter, Mrs. R.L.Carpenter, succeeded Mrs. E.K.Lide as associational superintendant of the Woman's Missionary Union in 1917.

It is interesting to know that in the early days of Bethesda the present day Deacons were called Bishops. Later a Bishop was called an Elder and still later the name was changed to Deacon. The associational minutes show us that there was once a Golfax County in Mississippi northwest of Lowdnes County and that West Point was in the north-western part

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Ibid

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of Lowndes.

It was a common practice to dismiss or exclude from membership any person who was known to be guilty of unchristian conduct. Because of the hard feelings so often caused between friends and neighbors it was gradually dropped and is now never practiced; Delegates to conventions were elected by secret ballot and in 1869 two of Bethesda delegates, J.W.Davis and J.L.Crigler were publicaly reprimamded for being absent without leave on a Monday during the convention a note made of it in the minutes.

On Friday, Sept. 6th, 1889, Bethesda again became host to the 52nd annual session of the association. Also in 1889 the first ladies organization came into being with Mrs. J.L.Crigler as president and Miss Ellen Carpenter as Vice-President. Since that time MissCappenter has been either vice-president or president of the organization continuously with the exception of two years, 1932-33. She became president in 1898 and at this time holds the same office having served as president for more than twenty one terms.

The year 1892 marked the end of the longest pastorate in Bethesda history, T.G.Sellers having been the beloved pastor for twelve years. This year was memorable in two respects for that year. R.L.Carpenter was elected Church Clerk, an office he held for twenty continuous years, or or thru 1912, being succeeded by J.D.Hollenshed, and the election of D.A.Flournoy as Sunday School superintendant, an office he held continuously for 33 years. Mr. Flournoy also served twelve years as church clerk

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Ibid

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beginning in 1915.

In the fall of 1897 the woods and fields were on fire. Some careless negro, perhaps, had set a ditch bank afire and feeding on the tall dry grasses and dead leaves the fire spread rapidly and soon the leaves on the ground in Bethesda beautiful grove were being consumed by those Hungry flames. A gust of wind caught up some of those burning leaves, tossed them high into the air, and soon there was a small blaze on the dry shingles of the church building. Soon the whole roof was afire and in a very short time the first Bethesda Church building was a pile of ashes. The members dismayed by such a catastrophy never-the-less carried on constructed a brush arbor and for six or eight months all services were held in this arbor.

But in 1898 a new church arose on the site of the old being built by J.E.Downing of Brooksville at a cost of $580.00. And as if in celebration of the new byilding the sixty-first annual association came to Bethesda on Friday, Sept.9th, of that year.

In all of Bethesda's long history only two weddings have been solemnized within its portals. The first of these occurred late in the year of 1899- on December 5th, to the exact. Here is an account of the wedding as it appeared in a Columbus paper of that day.

A pretty wedding in which many Columbians were interested was

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Ibid

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that of Miss Annie Crigler and Mr. Robert Carpenter last Tuesday evening at Crawford. The quaint little Baptist Church was beautifully decorated for the occession with palm and smilax. Rev. Mr. Spincer of Starkville performed the ceremony. Promptly at eight the bridal party entered the church. The ushers Mess'rs Wm.Ottly, Lucius Lide, Pierce, and three brothers of the bride advanced up the ailes in couples, followed by the bride maids, Misses Annie Lide and Emma Halbert gowned in exquisite frocks of link organdies and carrying bunches of brides maids roses. The groom and his best man, Mr. Caldwell of Starkville, awaited the bride at the alter. The bride entered the church leaning upon the arm of her brother, Mr.Walter Crigler. The bride never looked more lovely than in her beautiful gown of rich silk poplin, the color of "moonlight on the lake", that exquisite shade so appropriate for a fair bride. The bride's bouquet was of brides roses and maiden hair ferns. After the ceremony the happy couple left at once for the home of thegroom, followed by showers of rice and good wishes. The presents were very beautiful and very many. An exquisite point lace handkerchief attacted much admiration. It was the gift of the brides "first teacher", and was, ofcourse, the wedding kerchief. Dr. and Mrs. Crigler entertained the bridal party at a reception the evening before the wedding, and at Six O'clock dinner on the wedding day.

The second and last wedding occurred exactly five years and nine days later on the afternoon of December 14th, 1904, at 3:30 O'clock. Here is the way this wedding might have appeared in a newspaper's society column of that day.

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Moorehead-Moorehead

A wedding of great interest to their large circle of friends was that of Miss Mary Ellen Moorehead, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Moorehead of Crawford, Miss., to Mr. Coke Moorehead of Brooksville, Miss., which was solemnized yesterday afternoon at the Bethesda Baptist Church. Chrysanthemums, ferns, and smilax made beautiful the chancel before which the ceremony was performed by the Rev. W.W.Whitefield, pastor of the bride. The strains of Lohengriun Wedding March, rendered by Mrs. R.R.Carpenter was the signal for the bridal party to advance to the alter, First Messrs.Glover Wilkins and Bill Moorehead, the latter the brides youngest brother Mr. Hunter Moorehead. They were met at the alter by the groom and his best man, Mr. Bill Walker. The lovely bride was handsomely gowned in autumnal brown silk trimmed in velvet and lace of the same shade, and with hat and accessories to match. Immediately following the ceremony the bridal couple left for Brooksville where their friends wish for them a long life of happiness.

In 1905 the Sunday School was at a low ebb as the scholars are given as only 9, while the church membership was 63. In 1909 the church

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membership was only 40 yet the Sunday school nembered its enrollment as 30.

The year 1920 saw the end of the Columbus Association, meeting that year at Brooksville, and the following year Bethesda of the New Oktibbeha Baptist Association. The Association came to Bethesda in 1927 for its annual meeting.

The following year Bethesda, in attempting to have a graded Sunday School found itself handicapped by having no place for the different classes to meet there being only the auditorium. So it was decided to build the needed rooms at the north end of the church. The members contributed whatever they could- their time, their talents, or their money- and five Sunday school rooms were added to the building.

There has been only three years in Bethesda's history when the flock was without a shephard in 1878, 1903 and 1909. The two years of largest membership were, first in 1867 when it numbered 135 but included negroes, and in 1872 when it numbered 102. The smallest membership was in 1913 and 1914 when it numbered only 33. The largest salary ever paid a pastor was in 1864 when W.S.Webb received $505.00. The smallest salary was $100.00 paid to James Strut in 1921. There has been many years however when the regular salary was $125.00 and $150.00. The largest amount ever contributed to Missions, etc, was $899.80 in 1920. The smallest amount was $450.00 in the years of 1865 and 1867. In the year 1890 this amount totaled $537.95 and two years later had shrunk to $10.00. The greatest total for all purposes

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Ibid

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in Bethesda's history was 1920 when $1307.75 was recorded. 1923 was next greatest with $1246.39. The W.M.U. had its peak years in 1918, when $629.28 was given, and 1920 with $224.61.

Preaching is the third Sunday of each month.

There is a graded Sunday school of six classes, one W.M.U., with Mrs. R.L.Carpenter president, and one Sunbeam with Miss Eudora Carpenter as leader.

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(1) Given by Mrs. Halbert Cunningham, Clerk of the Church. June 10th, 1937.

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To Precede Baptist Manuscript.

The next in order of number of membership were the baptist who soon began organizing churches in every community. The two first organizations were the old Salem Church in beat five and the old Chestnut Log Church in beat 3. These both were organized in 1835. This denomination also held services in old school buildings or private homes but did not grow as rapidly as the Methodist due to the fact that they did not have the ole Methodist Camp grounds nor Circuit Riders. In 1838 the Columbus Baptist Association was organized which embraced this county together with Monroe, Lowndes and Noxubee. This association was a powerful factor among the early churches.

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(1) Carroll's Historical Sketches.

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The first Baptist Church of Starkville, Mississippi, was organized July 28th, 1839 by Dr.J.C.Keeny who was a missionary to this country in pioneer days. There were thirteen members.

Dr. Keeny held a revival meeting when there were several additions to the church, among them was W.H.Glenn. After he was baptised, he was elected Clerk of the church and Dr. Keeny was elected pastor, Dr. Keeny preached two Sabbaths a month and the interest continued to grow rapidly. There was no house of worship so the membership decided to build a church. They bought the lot on which the church now stands and built a frame building church, which stood and served the purposes of the church until 1889 when the old church was torn down and a large brick church was built on the same site of the old church. This building was erected during the pastorate of W.C.Lattimore and is still in good condition. There were no Sunday School rooms built for the church and finding the great need for such rooms to meet the ever increased Sunday School attendance during the pastorate of W.A.Jordan from 1910 to 1916 an annex was built on the east side which was extended on the south side and thus made provision for nine rooms and a basement for a heater. Later this heater was the cause of a fire which destroyed the back rooms. These rooms were immediately rebuilt and in addition a pastor's home was built on the west side of the church lot. The old pastor's home on Washington Street was sold and the money

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(1) Information furnished by, J.A.Glenn Clerk of Church.

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was applied on the payment of the new home.

In January 1917, Dr. J.D.Ray was called as pastor of the church and began commenced his pastorate on January 14th, 1917. On account of the steady increase in membership of the church and the Sunday School it was decided to again enlarge the building, which was done by tearing down the South side and re-building with an annex on the West side and added about thirty-five more Sunday School rooms at a cost of some $27,000,00 all of which has not yet been fully paid at this time in 1937.

After the death of the Clerk of the church, W.H.Glenn, his son, J.A.Glenn, was elected Clerk in May 1903 and is still Clerk May 1937. They are the only two Clerks the church has ever had and the present Clerk looks forward with happy anticipations to attend the Centennial of the Church on July 28, 1939. The Lord being willing.

The old church being organized in 1839 with only thirteen members has grown to comprise more than eight hundred members at this date, June 1st, 1937.

The Pastors of the church are as follows:

Rev. J.C.Keeny, M.W.Christman, S. McGowen, M. Bennett, C.S.McCloud, Dr.J.T. Freeman, M.C.Curry, T. Montgomery, Elder Humphrey, Dr. T.G.Sellers(served 23 years), R.E.King, L.S.Piker, W.C.Lattimore, G.H.Carter, Dr. T.G.Sellers

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Ibid.

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(1893 to 1899, time of his death), M.K.Thornton, W.A.Jordan, Dr. J.D.Ray (January 1917, our pastor now 1937). Thus making a total of eighteen pastors who have served the church during the period of ninety-eight years.

The singing was done by the congregation, some brother would raise the tune and lead in the singing. About 1870, there was a choir organized by Mrs. Sallie Graves Freeman and a Hamlin organ was bought. Miss Dora Hogan was made organist and it was said that very fine singing was rendered. After a period of several years, a piano was bought and Miss Lena Hogan was made pianist and both organ and piano were used together and produced very sweet music. In a short while a cornet was added to the instruments which was used by Brother Sam Chambers. This aroused some objection but after seeing the fine music that was being produced which added to the increase of the congregation the objection subsided, The church has a fine choir of cultivated voices to-day with a $1500,00 organ being installed after ninety-eight years of faithful service of the church.

In July 1867, the colored membership of the church asked for permission to organize a Second Baptist Church and letters of dismissal to these forty-five members were granted by the church in granting the permission.

Information from J.A.Glenn, Clerk of the Church.

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Sunday School (Graded)

Pastor

General Superentendent

General Secretary

Departments	Enrolled	No. Officers and Teachers
Adult	120	8
Young People	160	4
Intermediate	86	7
Junior	116	8
Primary	72	9
Beginners	30	3
Cradle Roll	18	3
Extension (Home De)	30	5
Total	632	47

Mr. Sid Lundie, Superintendent Sunday School. State College, Miss

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Rev. L.S.Foster. Born 1847 - Died 1913.

A Baptist minister, was the first superintendent of the Baptist Orphanage established at Jackson, Mississippi, which is one of the most prosperous institutions of its character in the broad land and none contributed more liberally of his time, money and otherwise than the deceased in our opinion. The Foster family is one of the pioneer families of the county, and played a large part in the history of our town and community.

Starkville News, August 22, 1913.

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Ground broken for new Maben Church. - August 22, 1924

Maben Baptist have at last settled upon a plan for their new church, which is to supplant the old frame structure which has become inadequate for the fast growing city in which it is located and for the congregation which it serves as a temple of worship.

Ground has been broken and the grading is well under way for the erection of the new church which is to be brick veneer and of modern design with ample room to take care of not only preaching services but of the Sunday School and other auxiliaries of the church as well.

Maben people credit the possibility of this new church largely to the activities of "Grandma Naron" who has been ernestly assisted by the ladies of the Woman's Missionary Union. Though to all of Maben is the praise for they have proven themselves a cooperative people, a Christian people and have rallied to the standard as raised by the noble woman whose dreams are to be realized in the new church.

Starkville News August 22, 1924

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The Double Springs White Methodist Church was established in 1837, the building was made of logs, we have heard and Mr. Mc D. McIlwaine and others say that it once stood where Mrs. Lide Davis' garden is now. Mr. McIlwaine said he could remember attending church with his father when it stood there. The church remained at this place twenty-one years. Little is known of the history of this old first church. A few years prior to the Civil War a new church was erected one half mile to the south. The old church was torn down and lumber used in the building of the new church. This church is one of the Historical buildings of the county. It is a frame structure and was built in 1858, seventy-nine years ago. Mr. J.M.Bell grandfather of Hon. Frank Bell, of Starkville, Miss., was the builder using slave labor. The finger prints of the slaves on the ceiling are still in evidence. The old land records reveal that on April 23rd, 1860, Greenwood Derrett and wife deeded to the following trustees of the Methodist Church, C.H.Dudley, David Huff, Bob Friday Jas. F.Burk, W.A.Monts, David Henderson, Wm.F.Mullins, and their successors two acres of land, in section 20, Township 19, Range 12 East. The deed was put on record Dec. 3, 1860. W.C.Bishop, Clerk of the Probate Court .

It further appears that Bishop Paine and Rev. Wiley Lewis officiated together holding services in this church in 1860, and Rev. Lewis continued preaching

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(1)
Miss Minnie Walker, Manuscript

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there until 1893, time of his death.

A few years later the following names were added to the church roll, Hopkins, Story, Templeton, Randle, McMullen, Ramsey, Vaughn.

In a copy of the East Mississippi Times of July 2, 1926, edited by the late William E. Ward, we find the following; For over a quarter of a century it has been the custom of what is known as the "white Church Community", near Double Springs to hold an all day singing on the first Sunday in July.

This church is one of the Historical buildings of the county. Begun in 1837, moved to present site in 1858., deeded to the then membership and their decendants the land on which the church was built in 1860. Celebrated 100th anniversary June 30, 1937.

Ibid

R.C.Morris, Historian

Topic: Church History, Double Springs White Methodist Church,
Assignment # 26
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

The 100th anniversary of White Methodist Church, Double Springs, was appropriately celebrated with a highly interesting program consisting of talks and addresses interspersed with music in an all day meeting of the church, Sunday, May 30th.

Mr. Arthur Betts, Maben, was chairman and made the introductory talk presenting facts and information of a highly important nature concerning the establishment and early history of this church. He was followed on the program by Mr. S.E.Hawkins, Maben, who gave a full report of the church and made due references to Carroll's History of Oktibbeha County, East Mississippi Times, and Double Springs Lodge Records in his statements concerning the church history. The present structure was built some eighty years ago by James M. Bell, grand-father of Hon. B.F.Bell, Starkville, Miss.

Ibid

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Topic: Church History, Wake Forest Baptist Church
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October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

The Wake Forest Baptist Church was organized about 1840. It sent delegates to the Columbus Association in 1847. The Church has been active since that time. Some of the early pastors who served faithfully for years were: Rev. N.Q.Adams, A.J.Owens, A.P.Berry, Moses Black, J.D.Fulton, C.H. Dobbs, G.S.Jenkins, N.B.Wallace, J.G.Cooke. T.J.Smith, L.D.Sellers, W.C. Kitchens, Dero Butler are some of the present pastors. The present pastor is J.S.Deal.

Some of the layman who were prominent in the association were J.B.Green, G.B.Walker , R.B.Hannah, J.F.Berry, D.M.Berry,

From an old minute of the Louisville Baptist Association the church laments her coldness and asked the prayers of the association .

The first person buried in Wake Forest Cemetery was a child of Mrs. William Hannah, Lavina, in 1850.
Several slaves of the families belonging to the church were buried on one side of the cemetery.

Information from Mrs. Tommie Hamill, Sturgis, Miss.

Manuscript by Miss Minnie Walker,

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Topic: Church History, Catholic Church Starkville, Miss.
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1917 - Meeting were held at Mrs. Leake's, State College until 1918.- The preacher is called Father, he lives in Columbus, Miss. He comes over to Starkville once a month. Not enough members to have a Father here all the time.
Have Mas every day in Columbus. Confession can be made any time you go to the Chapel. Every member must go at least once a year to the Chapel and have confession with the Father or Priest. The Priest slept at the Y.M.C.A. at the College in 1917 to 1918 while having services at Mrs. Leakes. After Mr. Leake died in 1918 they had service in the Y.M.C.A. until 1927. The service was held on Wednesday and not Sunday. After the school was out in the spring they had the services at Mrs. Luckett's home. In 1929 built the Chapel and started having services on Sunday. Having Sunday School every Sunday, but still only having the Father for services only once a month. May 16, 1937 the Sunday School will be directed by Mr. Roubelot.

Information given by Mrs. Luke.

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Topic: Church History, Presbyterian Church Reformed
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In 1853-1854 the Presbyterians built a church on Main Street. It was a frame structure but continued to serve the congregation till 1926, when under the leadership of Rev. W.S.Gordon, the old structure was replaced by the present beautiful brick structure.

This organization also has a church located at Osborn, and one at Sturgis. One Catholic Church and one Episcopal Church, both located in the City of Starkville.

The Reform Presbyterisn Church was organized very early in the history of the county and constructed a building in 1841 at the intersection of East Main Street with highway 23 leading to West Point. Carroll's Historical Sketches gives the following charter members of this church: Margaret Flemming, Jane Wiseman, Elizabeth McKell, Hugh Montgomery, Robert Bell, Wm.Bell Sr,, Wm. Bell Jr., John and James Wiseman. In 1842 the membership of this church had increased to 25 and the Rev. David Pressley served as its pastor, and remained in this position until 1885,- about 45 years. After the Civil War he also served as the first County Superintendent of Education of Oktibbeha County until 1875. After the death of Mr. Pressly this church gradually lost membership and soon ceased to function as a separate organization.

Carroll's Historical Sketches.

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The Mayhew Church was considered the mother church as it was at the central station till the various communities were flooded by people of other denominations when the Methodist and Baptist Churches began to thrive.

The Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury served as pastor until 1836 and was followed by the following ministers: Wm. A. Gray, 1839; H.J.Bardwell to 1846; W.C.Emerson to 1852; S.R.Frierson till 65; Joseph Bardwell until 1866; S.R. Frierson until 1974; G.T.Story, till 1888; H.R.Raymond till 1910; F.Z.Brown till 1918; W.H.Hill to 1921; U.S.Gordon to 1926; R.S.Woodson.

The church was moved to Starkville about 1834-1835 and was located on a lot donated by Dr. Araunah Bardwell in the corner of Lampkin and Louisville Streets with Reverend Duncan A. Campbell as its pastor. At this date the county had been organized and Starkville made the county seat of government so by 1843 to 1845 the old church at Mayhew ceased to exist. The stimulus had gone with the removal of the Indians and many of the Missionaries who had gone with them to their new found homes. Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury had buried his wife here and remained after the removal of the Indians to dispose of the property. When done he, too, moved to the Territory and cast his lot with his words as did David Folsom, the half-breed Chief from the Agency community. He also disposed of all his personal property and went to his people.

Ibid

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Following the World War, during the period of financial prosperity every organization including the various churches of the county vied with each other in a building boon. Old structures were torn down and new up-to-date edifices, with all modern conveniences, including provisions of graded Sunday Schools, Women's work, social service rooms-even a kitchen and dining apartment. The buildings themselves were modeled of architecture, usually of Grecian style, of brick or stone according to the fancied ability of pride of the membership or else, as stated above, what was being done by the other denominations. Even if the memberahip felt unable to rebuild, much remoddling was accomplished to meet the demands of the modern church. The fever extended into the rural sections and many new buildings were erected. As a result, many congregations contracted debts which have been greatly embarrassing to them to the present day. Almost every church gave a great deal of attention to new or remodled pastor's homes and to the latest equipment for the churches including large expensive organs, pulpits and pews, hard wood floors, pianos for the various Sunday School departments, and as mentioned above fully equipped cuisine.

The modern Sunday School as found in this, Oktibbeha County, is graded, having a general superintendent, with departmental superentendents each with a full corps of teachers. Each class has its own officers, such as president, secretary, and various committees as the case and work demands. The teacher is usually appointed by the departmental superintendent,

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Personal Conferences

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by and with the consent of the general superintendent. The work of the school is now known as the department of religious education of the church. In the churches of this city, Starkville, each Sunday School has its special college department functioning primarilly for the young men and women of State College, which is near this city. The churches of the county also have their Women's organizations, missionary clubs etc., whose duty is to promote the special interests of the church of which it is a vital part. There are also Young People's Organizations such as the Epworth League, Baptist Young People Union, Christian Endeavor Society, etc., whose function is to furnish social and religious work for the adolescent membership of the church.

The modern church of this county gives every encouragement to these organizations by furnishing fully equipped meeting places, fuel, light, and such other supplies as may be needed. In this city, transportation is furnished to the college student to all church exercises.

Ibid

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Topic: Church History, Second Baptist Church, colored
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The Colored Baptist Church withdrew from the First Baptist Church (White) in 1871. Some went to I John(Sand Creek) and a few to Second Baptist Founders:- R.G.Moody, G.W.Chiles, Bill Rush, Alex Harrington, J.R.Johnson, Sonny Paterson, a man bu the name of Bookety and probably a few others.

Women:- Lucy Yarbrough, Marinda Bailey, Annie Easley, Mary Chiles and Deacons wives. The first membership consisted mainly of Deacons' families. After withdrawing from the First Baptist Church the above named Deacons went down to the spot where the church now stands, sat on a log and formulated a plan for the organizing of the church. As a rusult the present property was purchased. Next they eorected a small frame building.

Pastors:- Rev. Redus (awhite man) was the first pastor. Other pastors were :- The Reverends Rice, Gumm, Nichols, Bell, Quinn, Ezell, Billups, N.C.Wicks, Hutchins, Brown, Miller, Washington, Cohen, Walker, LeNoir, Weddington, and E.M.Wicks.

Under Rev. Nichols the small church was torn down and the present church was built. The Parsonage was also built at this time. During the timeof Rev. Nichols the Woman's Missionary Society was organized, the bell was donated to the church by Mrs. Sallie Graves (White), single oil lamps were discarded and chandaliers were installed.

Under Rev. N.C.Wicks electric lights were put in, a Baptistry constructed, tower on the church erected and pews made.

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formation by W.C.Henderson, col.

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Under Rev. Hutchins the present electric lights were put in, new organ purchased, bay window completed, parsonage remodeled and B.Y.P.U. organized.

Under Rev. Weddington a piano was purchased and sanitary toilets put in.

The Sunday School has always been an auxiliary of the church. It was in the beginning.

Supply Preachers: Rev. Zuber, R.H.Moody, Walter Montgomery, Charlie Williams, T.H.Bishop, Mose Minor and probably others.

Outstanding contributions have been made from time to time by others not mentioned here. Owing to the fact that the church records have been destroyed, we are unable to give the history more in details.

Ibid

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Topic: Church History, Colored Methodist Church Starkville, Miss.
Assignment # 26
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By R.C.Morris

The first colored Methodist Church was organized in Starkville Mississippi at the close of the War between the States by a white man from Michigan by the name of Rev. Mack Lacklain who was sent here by the Presiding Elder to the Mississippi- Louisiana Mission Conference. The Presiding Elder was Rev. McDonald and the first pastor was Rev. Mack McLaclain.(I note that the negroes pronounce and spell his name in various ways) Carroll's Historical Sketches spells the name McLaughlin. This record was taken from the records or minutes taken at that time). Following were some of the charter members of the church:-
Bob Ascew, Esther Ascew, Daniel Ascew; Ailcy Austin, George Austin, Daniel Austin, Mary Austin; Aleck Alexander, Mary Alexander; Fillis Bell, Ieven Bell, Louisiana Bell, Gilbert Bell, Mary Bell, Loucinda Bardwell, Moses Bardwell, Agnes Bardwell, Simeon Bardwell, Winnie Bardwell, Martha Bardwell, Jacob Bardwell, Easland Bardwell, Wilda Billington, Henrietta Bell, Rachael Bell, Anderson Boyd, Henry Curry, Sara Curry, Jim Cooper, Edie Cooper, Tony Cooper, Nancy Cooper, Sam Carothers, Betty Carothers, and some hundred others.

This church was located on the east corner of the intersection of the Greensboro and Louisville Streets. It was the plan of the organization at that time to make this the beginning of a large plant for the education of the negro. A two story building was first constructed with an auditorium

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Manuscript furnished by Rev. Ben Robinson.

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sufficiently large to accommodate the audiences at that time. Soon after the building was completed the white minister,-teacher was appointed Agent of the Freedman's Bureau, a Federal Office, and took upon himself the organization of a cooperative store on the West Corner of Washington and Main streets in the town of Starkville, catering entirely to the negro trade. He associated himself entirely with the Negro and as a result the white citizens became suspicious of him. It was generally believed he was teaching radical and unsympathetic doctrines to his wards. He ignored the feeling of the better white citizens and after a few months, he was waited on by the Kuklux Klan and driven from the county on pain of death. In later years he came back and served as a presiding elder of the Negro Methodist.

Rev. Mack McLacklain was followed by an Alabama Negro Minister, who had been reared as a slave and knew how to meet the existing situation. Hon. J.H. Wellborn states that this negro whose name was John Kans, was a man of unusual ability as an orator as well as a minister of note. He was a small brown-skin negro, not over five feet tall, and to keep the white people informed of his ministrations to his people, he would often preach on the streets of Starkville, on which occasion he would have as

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Ibid

R.C.Morris, Historian

large an audience of white people as colored. Reverend Eans was highly esteemed by the white people. He eschewed politics and ernestly taught his people from the pulpit to guard against the wiles of their foreign advisors. He lived an exemplary life and remained pastor of the local Church for several years when he was removed to New Albany. He later returned here where his family had remained. Rev. Eans was followed by Isaac Mosley and he by C.P.Clemmins but the church did not begin to grow and make independent progress until D.W.Clovert came as minister. He was recognized by all as a revivalist and a preacher of no mean ability. This was during the '80s and over one hundred members were added to the church during one year. It was during this time that Rev. Ben Robinson became a lay-minister, so great was the enthusiasm for the cause of religion. Warren McDonald and I.B.Griffin followed in succession and due to the influence of this great revival, the church continued to grow. I.L.Pratt then succeeded to the ministery of the church and is known today as the "builder" as it was through his endeavors that the old two-story building constructed by Mack Laclain was torn down and a large commodious building replaced the old one. This served the congregation until the end of the contury when it was destroyed by fire and the splendid new brick building was constructed at the present site. Next in succession were Obediah Gillispie, P.O.Jemmerson, A.G.Houston. These were followed by T.H.Buntin,

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Ibid

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a PuertoRican,, of education and training. He soon ingratiated himself with the better element of the white people and when it was found he was drinking too much whiskey to serve the cause, he was dismissed but through the influence of his white friends, he was given a position in the Alcorn A & M College where he served several years as teacher. He was then readmitted to the ministry and later removed to Chicago where he now lives. Buntin did great good among his people in that he stimulated a desire for better education. He was followed by rather mediocre men for several years as follows: McEwin, A.J.Slate, S.H.Newell, J.H.Everett, E.C.F.Troupe, J.M. Marsh, W.H.Golden, D.Green, M.L.Miller, M.C.Pulium, C.W.Evans, L.C.Powers, Rev. May, Sweeney, Tolbert, During the services of G.H.Chism the new Church was constructed with all modern conveniences for Sunday School social services, and Missionary work. These are very well organized and are serving well its membership which now numbers several hundred. The last two ministers were C.F.Heffner, and now C.H.Maxwell. The later ministers are very well trained men but "lack to a great extent in spirituality". The colored people, according to Rev. Ben Robonson, who furnished this information, need more of the old time gospel, morse fire and brimstone to bring them to recognize their sad situation.

Ibid

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Topic: Church History , The Blackjack Baptist Church - col.
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October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

Prior to the War between the states there was a large white Baptist Church located in this community in which the white masters with their families and slaves worshipped. There was no slave gallery in this church so they occupied the rear seats in the regular services but their Sunday Schools were held at different times of the day-- the white Sunday School in the morning, and the colored in the afternoon. It is interesting to note that these colored Sunday Schools were conducted by the same white teachers. The Lord's Supper or Communion was held in the evening for the white and at night for the colored.

After the War a great many of the white citizens left the community and made their home in Texas, the others transferred their church membership to Starkville. The old Church property was then sold to the negroes and the same building is still occupied as a colored Baptist Church today. The first colored preacher, Allen Winston, of this church was a former slave, born and reared on the Winston Plantation in Lowndes County. He had been taught to read and write by his master and was a negro of unusual intelligence and a great revivalist. As a result he greatly enlarged the membership of the church. Emmaline Montgomery, a charter member of this church, tells me that the building "was packed" at every service. Alfred Lee was the second preacher who was followed by Abe Minor, the father of

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(1) Information Furnished by Emmaline Montgomery colored

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Emmaline. He too, was a great revivalist and his sermons resulted in many conversions, much shouting, and "falling out". This church is still one of the thriving colored Baptist Churches of Oktibbeha County.

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(1) Information from Emmaline Montgomery, Col.

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Page # 75
Topic: Church History, Colored Baptist - 2nd Baptist
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By R.C.Morris

The Third Baptist Church, colored, of Starkville, Mississippi came into being as a result of a revival in 1923 and also due to a large memberahip of this church that came from the country about or before this time. Several members of this faith had come to town from the Chapel Hill neighborhood and also from the pPine Grove community. These made up the Charter members of this Church now located in South Starkville, known as Needmore. These Charter members are as follows: Bessie Hawkins, Sydney Lomax, Martha Lomax, Daniel Lomax, Sydney Lomax, Jr., Phillip Lomax, Jerry Doss, Mary Doss, Ludora Vaughn, Buzz Walker, Smith Hollenshed, Emma Hollenshed, Joe Emmerson, and Johnson Spencer, and others.

During September of 1923 , a revival meeting was held with Reverend Sydney Stormant as minister and as a result eleven members were added. Then Rev. John Spencer was elected as its first pastor. During his first revival eight other members were added. The second pastor was the Rev. J.H.Harris who served for nine months and was followed by Rev. House. The present pastor is Rev. J.E.Stewart who has baptised 118 new converts, which gives a total membership of 273. A building has been secured and much work in the way of repairs completed. The church has served the entire community of colored people of this section of the town and has been a real factor in promoting a better Christian citizenship.
This church has a fairly well organized Sunday School with Sue Harris act-

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(1) Information Furnished By Bessie Hawkins and Rev. Stewart.

colored

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ing as superintendent and her husband Lee Harris as Bible Teacher. This teacher takes charge of the teaching of all the Sunday school except the Primary Department which is in charge of Lelia Maxwell.

The greatest force among the church organizations is the Women's Missionary Society. It is through this organization that all the finances are met for the preacher's salary and to meet the running expenses and upkeep of the church. This is done by all kinds of schemes, such as fish fries, socials, and collections from any one who is willing to give. This group of women are at work in season and out of season and as a result collects quite a tidy sum during the year. The Baptist Young People Union does not function so well due to the lack of leadership.
The Secretary and Treasurer of the Sunday School is A.J.Logan.

Ibid

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Chapel Hill	St. Mathew
True Vine	Ebenezer
Antioch	Mt. Pelan
Black Jack	Spring Hill
Pleasant Grove	Mt. Olive
Sand Creek(IJohn)	Rock Hill
Pine Grove	Longview (1st Bap.)
16th Section	Heben Church
Union Hill	Ok Lina
Center Grove	Josey Creek
New Betha	Betha L.

Infor mation by Bessie Hawkins

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Topic: Church History, Rock Hill Community Church--Baptist (Colored)
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The Sand Hill Chapel Baptist Church col. was organized in 1896 by Rev. Hohn Freeman, a white man, who donated one acre of land th the church and the building was constructed by John Timms one of the outstanding colored men of the church and community. The lumber was paid for by the congregation. It is a frame building and will accommodate some hundred members when filled. The church now has a membership of 45 men and women together with their families. The church has services two times each month and under the ministry of Rev. Aleck Jackson, a minister about 56 years of age is making real progress along all line of church endeavor. It has a Sunday School of 13 students, B.Y.P.U. of equal nember and a small missionary Society. Its first pastor was John Spencer who was followed in turn by Dave Williams, and Anderson Horton but the present minister is recognized by all as the most influential for good of any the church has had in its history of three decades.

Information furnished by Lee Timms, A Deacon, (Colored)

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Topic; Church History, Church of Christ, (Holiness) colored
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By R.C. Morris

The Church of Christ (Holiness) was organized in 1900, by Rev. R.H.I. Clark and Rev. James Weddell of Lexington, Miss. Rev. Clark was elected as pastor. The Deacons were elected Viz: George Pearson, Pete Hogans, Frank Washington, Henry McKell, Ned Joiner, Jessie Bell and Kedzie Bell. Later Willis Weaver and William Johnson were Deacons. The young ministers were L.A.Bell, M.S.Minor, Ben Duncans, Johnnie Crowder, and Cream Gandy. Humphrey Watt and John Livingston was among the first members. Some of the outstanding women were Fibbie Livingston, Viney Pierce, Anna Gay, Emma Fox, Phebie Harris, Gertrude West, Josephine Hardy, Estell Minor, Henrietta Bell Emmaline Montgomery and Martha Ann Bell. The young ladies were Minnie Steele, Mary Steele Nelson, Annie Craig, Lizzie Fox Ward, Annie Matt, Murdock Thomas, Margaret Jane Murdock Dunlap, (organist). Later years pastors were elected Viz: Rev. James Elliott, J.L.I.Conic, G.L.Bogans, weekly, E.N.Haggins and J.D.King. Feb. 1926 Rev. J.W.Dudley of Lucas, Miss. was elected as pastor. He gave eleven years of faithful service. He was called from labor to reward March 3rd, 1937. Rev. H.B.Johnson of Meridian, Miss., succeeded him as pastor. Rev. H.H.Hughes and Prof. E.W.Hayes are ordained ministers. Della Lindsey Pres. of Willing Workers. Emma Bell, Treasurer, Deaconesses, Adelaide Dudley, Lucy Coats and Lottie Lucas. Pianist, Adelaide Dudley, Ollie Outlaw, secretary, Some of the other members are dead others moved away. The present membership is 36.

Information by Adelaide Dudley. Colored

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Pleasant Hill Methodist Pastor now Rev. Marced, age fifty years. Sixty members, Sunday School four times a month, preaching once a month. Sunday School membership 25.

Home Mission Society.

Baptist Church.

Established fourteen years, twenty five members, Pastor Bob Jenkins. Colored Benevolence Society meet once a month.

New Bethel Church

Bethel Church membership seventy five. Sunday School four times a month. Preaching two times a month. Pastor Manninghans.

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.

All these churches are active churches. Very well built out of good lumber.

Isom Henry, Manuscript

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Topic: Church History - Census
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By R.C.Morris

A Census of all denominations of Oktibbeha County showed a church membership of 8,075. The White Southern Baptist showed a membership of 1,930 while the negroes show a membership of 3,044, the Church of Christ 33, The Deciples of Christ 21, and the Primative Baptist 28. The Methodist Episcopal Church in Oktibbeha County has a membership of 1,249. This represents the negro membership of this Church, while the Methodist Episcopal South, representing the white membership as an enrollment of 1,198; the colored Methodist Episcopal Church has a membership of 14, the United Presbyterians has a membership of 372, the Protestant Episcopal Church has a membership of 39, and the Roman Catholic Church has a membership of 33. There are 114 other members representing various small denominations such as, the Sanctified Church, the Church of God In Christ, etc. There are nine white Methodist Churches located in the county as follows: One at Starkville, Sturgis, Longview, Maben, Adaton, Whites Church, Big Creek, Bell School House and Bethel. There are twelve or fifteen colored Methodist Churches in the county.

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(1) Census Reports, 1930

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5. Starkville News, August 1924
6. Reports of the Mississippi Historical Society, Recollections of Lorenzo Dow, Bishop Charles B. Galloway.
7. Old Manuscript Written By Hon. F.L.Wier, Starkville, Miss.
8. Starkville, News, November 1930
9. Starkville News, August 1913
10. Starkville News, August 1924
11. Census Report, 1930

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Page #1
Topic: Schools of Today
Assignment #19
By--R. C. Morris
January 12, 1937

It has been shown in our discussion of the Schools of Yesterday that the citizens of this county and in the State at large were believers in public education. (1) Rev. Joseph Bardwell, State Superintendent of Education, 1876 to 1877 by appointment, filling out the unexpired term of T. W. Cardosa, negro, who was forced to resign rather than be forced by impeachment trial, gives the development of our system from the first meeting of the General Assembly in 1818 to the date of his report to the commissioner of Education at Washington, D. C. 1876. (2) This has also been done in a very masterly written paper by Miss Elsie Timberlake, Judge Maye, in his Hostory of Education in Mississippi (3), gives an excellent resume of the development of our common schools before 1870. The system as it exists today, however, had its inception in the Black and Tan convention of 1869-70, with its State Superintendent of Education, State Board of Education, County Superintendent, etc. Miss Timberlake shows by comparison, thatt the system given to the State in 1870 was in no sense an innovation on the part of the Carpet-Baggers. The greatest change perhaps was in its conception of the purposes of the system. Governor Alcorn in his address before the Legislature gave its purpose in these words: "The poor and the weak of both the whites and the blacks are in need of your fostering care. In the neglect of their education, and the defenselessness of

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1--Report of the Commissioner of Education, Washington, 1876.
2--Mississippi Historical Society, Vol. 12, Miss Timberlake's report.
3. Maye's History of Education in Mississippi, Chap. 15; Riley's History of Mississippi, pp.245-246; Constitution of Mississippi 1868-1870.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor.

their industry, they must command the tender solicitude of the political system which is planted this day in Mississippi. The poor white and colored children of the State who had been permitted to grow up like wild flowers, might henceforward grow and flower like Rudbeckias and Shasta Daisies." With this in view, David Pressley was appointed County Superintendent of Education by the State Board of Education created by this law. Judge Maye gives an excellent excerpt of the Statute as follows: "Each County of the State was constituted a school district, and so was each incorporated city containing more than 5000 inhabitants. Free public schools were ordered to be maintained in each district for a period of four months or more in each year, affording suitable facilities to every resident youth between the ages of five and twenty-one years. The State Board of Education provided for by the Constitution was given the general management of the common school fund, including all donations and appropriations thereto, was required to appoint for each county a suitable county Superintendent, and was given the power to remove such Superintendent for incompetency, mis-feasance or non-misfeasance, and authorized to fill all vacancies. The State Superintendent was made the presiding officer of the State Board, was given general supervision of all public schools, with the power of visitation, was authorized to

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Ibid.

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prescribe rules for the organization and conducting of the schools and to decide all controversies about school management, was required to provide for the holding of annual teacher's institutes in each congressional district and to make full reports to each legislature. The County Superintendents were given general supervision of the schools of the county and required to visit them at least once in each term, were authorized to examine the applicants for employment as teachers and grant certificates according to their grades of Scholar-ship, to be good for not more than one year, were required to perform such other duties as the State Superintendent or the State Board might designate.

In each school district a Board of Directors was provided for, to which was committed the general management. The various boards of Supervisors were required to levy annual taxes to meet the estimated expenses, which were to be collected by the County tax collector, provided that the school-house tax should not e xceed 10 mills on the dollar nor the teacher's tax exceed five mills. The various County Treasurer's were made the custodians of the school funds and required to distribute them only on warrants of the President of the School Directors. Supt. Joseph Bardwell further states a significent fact. "The schools were thrown open to <u>every youth</u> between the age of five and twenty-one, residing in the district where they

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Ibid.
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were taught, and all were to have equal advantages, without distinction, (This looked like inter-racial education to the white citizens.) The Bible was not to be excluded from the schools, and no person was to be permitted to disturb or molest them. Supt.Bardwell goes on further to say : (1) " The system is a god one, and under favorable circumstances might have wrought out most beneficial results. But, imposed under the stress of a political necessity on a largely unwilling and reluctant population, opening its full privileges to poor whites and colored youth equally with the ones by whom these had been despised, and having often among its administrators, officers and teachers from the north, it met at first, in many instances, with violent and bitter opposition. Schools were sometimes burned, northern teachers not seldom driven off, and obstructions thrown, in various ingenious methods, in the way of obstruction of the colored population. The State should be corrected; that in some features it was at one time Supt. concedes that the present system has faults which pressed so far beyond the requirements and the ability of the people as to become a burden rather than a blessing. (2) Dr. Riley, states that the schools were made a burden to the tax-payer, many of whom were in a condition of extreme poverty." Then, too, our citizens took the law to mean that white and colored children should be educated

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Ibid.
1---Bardwell's Report to the Commissioner of Education, Washington
2. Riley's History of Mississippi, p. 305

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in the same school. This resulted in the burning of a great many of the negro schools and the driving out of some of the more obnoxious teachers, especially those white carpet-baggers who had fraternized with the negro to the hurt of both races.

In 1871 the Board of Supervisors of this, Oktibbeha County, ordered a five-mill levy for school buildings, and a five-mill levy for teacher&s salaries on all the property of the County, the same to be administered by the School Directors of the County. In 1873 Superintendent Pressly, in his report to the Commission of Education at Washington, D. C., stated that (1) " Peace and tranquillity in school affairs; no insults or violence to school officers or property was the general condition." In 1873 the salaries of school teachers ranged from $100 to $40 per month, the average for 1870 being $70. T. J. Leake, Principal of the Starkville Colored Academy, received $100; M, Redus, another negro at Bethel, received $60 per month. The Assistant to Leake at the Starkville Colored school, M. B. Leake, received $81 per month. Cochrane School paid $100 per month to its principle, N. F. Condol; other members of the faculty received from $40 to $60 per month. This was a colored school and shows the salary mania on the part of the school directors, Legislators, and Boards of Supervisors. The entire schedule for 1873 for all teachers' salaries

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[illegible].

1. Records of the Board of Supervisors & Board of Police, 1873.

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is as follows: (I am unable to determine which schools were for white and which were for colored students)

(1) M. Redus---------Bethel-------$60.00---Grade 2.
I. L. Sherman----Bush Arbor---60.00----Grade 2.
I. D. McCann----Gellespie-----60.00---Grade 2.
E. M. Yeates----Magnolia------60.00--Grade 2.
F. K. Danns----Whitefield----40.00---Grade 2.
M. H. Henry--- Mountain Springs-60.00--Grade 2.
E. H. ---Hickory Grove--- 60.00--Grade 2.
Charlotta Crenshaw--Bell Place--40.00--Grade 2.
R. B. Harrington--Bethany------60.00--Grade 2/
Wm. B. McKell---Jordan Place---60.00--Grade 2.
Daniel McCloud---Butler School---60.00--Grade 1/
J. C. Tolson----Gray School---- 40.00--Grade 2.
F. K. Danns----Liberty--------40.00---Grade 2.
A. M. Leech---Big Creek------ 60.00---Grade 1.
James Hodges---Gaston-------- 40.00---Grade 2.
Sanders Rush---Dean School--- 40.00-- Grade 2.
T. G. Sellers---S. F. Instit.--100.00--Grade 1.
T. J. Leake----Starkv. Col. Acad.--100.00--Grade 1.
J. M. Barrow---Starkv. Male Acad.---75.00--Grade 1.

(2) The first board of School Directors of Oktibbeha County were: W. B. Montgomery, Beat 1--3 years; W. H. Glenn, Beat 2--1 year; N. N. Miller, Beat 4--3 years; H. G. Sikes, Beat 4--2 years; S. E.

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1. Superintendent's Pay Record Book, 1873-1893.
2. Reports of the Board of Supervisors, 1873.

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Rives, Beat 5-- 1 year; Nicholas Anderson, Beat 5-- 2 years. It will be of interest to note here just how the salary schedule was determined by the Board of Directors. All schools were divided into two grades; in those of the first grade, Orthography, Reading, Penmanship, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, History of the U. S., and Composition were the prescribed subjects and for teaching these, the teacher's salaries were fixed by law from $60 to $100 per month. In those of the second grade the subjects prescribed were Orthography, Reading, Penmanship, and the rudiments of Arithmetic, Grammar, and Geography, the teachers' salaries being fixed at from $35 to $60 per month. (1) It will be noted from this that the county Superintendent, David Pressly, had nothing to do in determining this matter but to fix the s tatus of the teacher on the examination which was supposed to determine the ability of the teacher to teach the subjects of that grade. The salary schedule was in the hands of the Board of Directors. In September 1873, Superintendent Pressley made his report and exhibits showing the condition of the school funds and the necessary amount of funds to carry on the public schools for the year 1873. He also showed the balance still due and unpaid up to date, which report being examined by th Board is received and ordered to be filed with thepapers of the Board. (2). During this year the Board of School Directors was abolished by the legis-

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1. Maye's History of Education in Mississippi, Chap. 15
2. Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1873.

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lature, and the duties of this body was parceled out between the Board of Supervisors and the County Superintendent. The patrons of each school were empowered to elect trustees, who were to serve without salary and to select teachers from those qualified by the County Superintendent. The County Superintendent was paid a salary rather than $5.00 per day for the days he was employed. A State tax of four mills was levied. Some of the items of expense levied on the school funds were as follows: W. B. Montgomery, salary, School Director--$24; S. E. Rives, School Director, $29; H. G. Sikes salary $83.90; N. N. Miller, salary, $56.80; W. A. Hale, Sect. of Board, $12. (1) In 1871, the following salary schedule was allowed: F/ H. Duquercron, School Director, $15; R. A. Lampkin, School Director, $16; A. J. Halbert, School Director $23; W. H. Glenn, School Director, Six days, $22.20; W. A. Hale, Sect. of Board of Directors, $24; W. A. Hale, Sect. of Board of Directors for 10 days, $30.00. (2) Other Items of expense were: Lee Stillman publishing educational notices, $33; David Pressley, Superintendent of Education for three and one-half months, salary, $233.31; trustees of the 16th Section Methodist Church for school purposes, $40; to W. E. Saunders, acct. for recording deeds of school property, $7.50; to W. B. McKell, acct. for rent of school house, $16; W. W. Nash, amount due him for free scholarship at Oxford, $100; to C. W. Carothers, amount due him for free scholarship at Oxford, $100; to Alcorn University, amount due on free scholarship of N. Bell and G. Moody, $200. (The last two

At another time: Bill by Lee Stillman for Educational Notices $117.00,

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1. Reports of the Board of Supervisors, 1873.
2. Ibid.

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were colored students.) (1) Miss Timberlake summarizes all the above to show how the matter finally culminated in near disaster to teachers, bulidings, and to the system of education itself:
Fat Salaries--"The State Superintendent of Education received a salary of $3000.00 and a Secretary with a salary of $1200.00; the County Superintendent received $5.00 per day for every day given to the services and it appears that they worked every day during the year winter and summer; During the years 1871, 1872, 1873 various reports made to the Board of Supervisors, State Superintendents, and Commissioners of Education, included an appeal for more salary; the County Board of Education received a salary of three dollars per day and milage together with Secretary salary additional; there were no separate schools for white and blacks. The Clarion of 1869 declared that such a law is a "heinous abomination of mongrelism." The negroes refu sed towork. Dr. Riley states that old men and women would don their best and get a reader and start to school, refusing to work. New expensive buildings, costing in many cases, thousands of dollars, were constructed in spite of the fact that good buildings were available at the time. Money for school purposes was squandered by the men who had it in charge. (2) Superintendent Bardwell explains that dishonest officials had squandered thousands

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1. Reports of the Mississippi Historical Society, Vol. 12.
2. Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1873.

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of dollars that should have gone into the school treasury. The school system was inaugaurated by the enemy and operated by them against the best interest of the citizenship who were paying the taxes. The character of the men and women who had the work in charge, in most instances, was enough to prejudice the Southern white people. They would fraternize with the negro on terms of social equality. The dictatorial attidute of the school officials toward the Southern teacher, especially toward the white teacher was galling. A white teacher came near losing her position for reprimanding a colored student for throwing a snowball at her. This condition obtained in this county to a considerable degree during the years of 1870-1875. The following roster of teachers, schools, and pay certificates for the session 1873-1874 will illustrate the salary mania and will be of historic interest to older citizens of the county: (1)

Teacher	School	Salary	Grade
J. C. Tolson	Gray School	$40.00	2
T. K. Davis	Liberty	40.00	2
A. M. Leach	Big Creek	60.00	1
James Hodges	Gaston	40.00	2
M. M. Hodges	Pike	40.00	2
H. L. Gamm	Pleasant Ridge	45.00	2
Saunders Rush	Dean School	40.00	2

1.---County Superintendent's pay record 1873-1893

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Teacher	School	Salary	Grade
Rev. T. G. Sellers	Starkville F. Inst.	$100.00	1
T. J. Leake	Starkville Col. Acad.	100.00	1
Prof. J. M. Barrow	Starkville Male Acad.	75.00	1
Wm. McKell	McKell School	40.00	2
Charles Bell	Cox School	40.00	2
J. M. Dalton	Cumberland	60.00	1
J. M. W. Haggard	Oak Grove	60.00	1
L. Vincent	Ennis	78.00	1
M. Redus	Hollinshed	60.00	1
Rev. C. E. Brame	Wake Forrest	60.00	1
J. D. McCann	Gelespie School	40.00	2
Minnie Pearson	Lowery Place	60.00	1
R. B. Harrington	Bethany School	60.00	1
J. L. Sherman	Bush Arbor	60.00	1
N. L. Condol	Cochran	100.00	1
M. D. McIlwain	Henry's Mill	60.00	1
Wm. E. Martin	Prairie	60.00	1
S. B. Critz	Mountain Spring	60.00	1
J. R. W. Foster	Double Springs	60.00	1
Lyans Gamm	Doughtery School	40.00	2
Casper Neal	Colclough's Mill	60.00	1

Ibid.

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Teacher	School	Salary	Grade
Jane Barron	Barron School	$40.00	2
T. J. Leake	16th Section School	60.00	1
Saunders Rush	Beverly School	40.00	2
James McNichols	Black Jack	45.00	2
Robert Mc Daniels	Pine Grove	60.00	1
A. E. Perkins	Choctaw Agency	60.00	1
B. F. McCrary	Petty's Mill	60.00	1
Pricilla Issacs	Beery School	40.00	2
Wm. A. McCluny	Pisgah	60.00	1
S. B. Critz	Butler School	60.00	1
Ed Pickett	Long Branch	40.00	2
A. C. Bardwell	Whitefield (Mt. Zion)	40.00	2

The grand total for the year or session 1873-1874 was $13,121.50. There were fifty schools in the county, white and colored, and nearly seventy-five teachers to man these schools. The average salary for the year was $65.00. In 1874-1875 the Starkville school for white children had the following faculty: Rev. T. G. Sellers--$100.00; Rev. L. R. Friarson --$60; Bettie Powers, S.F. I. $60; Lizzie Pressly, S. F. I. $40; A. A. Cox, Starkville West End, $60; Jennie Bardwell, S. F. I. $60; Lou Gilmors, S. F. I. $40. The recapitulation of the salary issue for the entire county for 1874-1875 was $7663.50.

Ibid.

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The serious contest was on, and, I presume, this drop in the s alary schedule was due to the bitter opposition and the desperate fight being made to break the grip of the motorious carpet-bag regime. The election of 1875 was the signal for the beginning of the political revolt in the county and state as a whole. Beginning with the State Superintendent of Education, Cardoza, a general "house-cleaning" was inauguarated. Cardoza was a mellow negro who was appointed State Superintendent over the protest of the white citizenry. He was a notorious thief and a moral reprobate. Impeachment proceedings were begun as soon as the Legislature met, but rather than stand trial, he requested to be given the privilege of resigning. This was done. He left the State and never returned. (1) Garthwright and Bardwell served out his unexpired time. No report of a salary schedule was made for 1876-1877. Perhaps the revolution so interfered with the educational work that the Superintendent made no records. This house-cleaning extended throughout the State in all County affairs. The white m an was again in the "saddle" and every vestige of misrule was routed. Superintendent Pressly, who was an old citizen, a minister of the gospel in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, a man in whom the citizenship had utmost confidence, was not permitted to retain his office. Hon. L. A. Fort was appointed superintendent of the county, and thesalary

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1. Miss Timberlake's report in the JMississippi Historical Reports, Vol. 12.

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schedule for 1877 is a mute reminder that the revolution had been completed. The only wonder is that the entire educational system was not thrown out, but conservative heads prevailed and the entire system was retained with few exceptions. The State School levy was cut in half and the entire charge of the schools was placed in the hands of the County Superintendent and teachers were paid according to ability.

(1) The entire session of 1877 cost the Superintendent, according to his recapitulation, the princely sum of $3225.50 against $7663.50 for the session of 1874-1875, and the session of 1873-1874 of $13,121.50 During the entire session, Mr. Fort did not pay a salary over $25.00 to any teacher, white or black, city or rural. The records also showed whether the school was administered for colored children or for white children. The roster for the session was as follows, with no record of grade of school: S. Winn, Starkville, colored, -$25; A. A. Cox, Starkville, white, $25; J. N.McKell, Nason, white, $25; S. B. Critz, Hollinshed, white, $25; J. C. Tolson, Vernon, $25; W. D. Walker, Bell, white $25; J. W. Billups, Colored, Springhill, $25; W. S. Rush, colored, Cushman Creek, $25; C. J. Bell, Colored, Plain School, $25; Z. R. Davis, Cyprus, colored, $25; J. S. Nelson, colored, Bell Place, $25; N. V. Bell, colored, Chapel Hill, $25; S. Shropshire, colored, Whitefield, $25; Y. H. Hall, Pleasant Grove, $25.00; W. D. Davis, colored, Sand Creek, $25.00

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1. Superintendent's Record-1877

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J. S. Nicholes, Col., Black Jack, $20; Spencer Gillispie, col., Josey Creek, $25; C. E. Mooty, col., Cochrane, $20; Stone and Sellers, white, Starkville, $25; J. W. Wade, white, Petty's Mill, $25; N/ A. Nance, white, Cedar Grove, $25; J. C. Chandler, 16th Section $20; N. W. Puller, white, Montgomery, $25; J. Q. Hide, white, Ennis Store, $25; M. E. Lamkin, colored, Liberty, $25; J. L. Sherman, Myers, $25; J. M. Thompson, Cochran, $25; J. J. Herbert, Pine Grove, $25; M. E. Frierson, Frierson, $25.

There were only twenty-five schools taught in the county during this session. There were 137 pay warrants issued to teachers during this same session, against 275 in 1875. It was very true, as Dr. Dunbar Rowland says, (1) "The common school system remained for a long time hardly more than a system. The pressing problem for twenty years after the close of the war was the question of bread and meat, and next was the problem of the two races." This fact was evidently true in Oktibbeha County in a very real sense. Astime progressed the salary schedule under the supervision of Superintendent Fort, was gradually increased as th e ability of the State and County to pay them made it possible.

The real contributi on of Superintendent Pressly to the cause of public education in this county is rather difficult to evaluate at this late date. (2) Perhaps his great moral influence was the

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1. --Dunbar Rowland's Encyclopedia of Mississippi History, Vol. II, pp. 618-619.
2.--Personal conference with old citizens.

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most telling, the high r egard in which he was held by everyone did mush to save the best of the school system for the people. He gave the organization an habitation place, he took the negro, for the first time, into the school room under the most adverse conditions and began his educational careet without serious disruptire of the social structure. The law so circumscribed his actions that he was not able to carry out a system of his own making or one more favorable to the people. He was harrassed by factions among patrons and dominating officialdom. He attempted to please both and thus pleased no one. This resulted in his dismissal in the great upheaval.

Ibid.

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Superintendent L. A. Fort.

Superintendent Fort took control of the office in 1875 and his first report is given in the salary schedule given above. (1) The difficulties were gradually overcome as time advanced and the benefit of an education rather than an ignorant laboring class was realized. But, he affirmed, that the legislation which came as a result of the upheaval had crippled very much the efficiencey of the school system, and though the attendance on the schools had gone on increasing, the number of teachers in them, the expenditure upon them, and the average length of the school term had all, as may be seen from the statistics, very much decreased. The state millage was cut in half. Supt. Fort was authorized to introduce the uniform teachers' examinations. It was his business to see that populat education which had been combated should steadily gain favoe and vital force year by year. He was also authorized to organize teachers' institutes and to fix the salary according to ability to teach and according to the size of the school, as well as to the grade of the license held by the teacher. This called for better qualified teachers in order to pass the uniform examinations sent out from Jackson. One other meritorious improve- was the cash salary basis. Prior to this time, teachers has hawked their warrants on the streets at a big discount in order to get the cash. Salaries began to increase under the administration of Superintendent

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1. Report to the Commissioner of Education, 1873

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Fort. In 1878 Dr. Sellers received $89 per month, other salaries ranged from $ 15 to $30 per month. The entire year cost hom only $3138.00-- just a small amount less than the year before, which is about the salary of the city superintendent of Starkville today. It is inte resting to note the salary schedule from year to year for improvement, to 1890 when his term expired and Supt. W. H. Miller came to the offive. In 1881 the entire amount spent for salaries and incidentals was $9070.06; in 1883 the salary schedule was decreased to the sum of $6312.20. In 1885 the sum was increased to $9432.40-- $5011.10 being for white faculty and $4421.30 being for the colored faculty for that session.

In 1890 which was his last session, the amount for salaries was $12,413.00, of which $770.00 had been paid to the city. This was the first year the city had begun a public school system. The board of Trustees had rented the Starkville Female Institute from Rev. T. G. Sellers for the session. The next year it was purchased for $3000. In 1882-1883 there were twenty-five white and twenty-five colored teachers in the county employed and engaged in teaching. The average salary for this faculty was $35.51 for a session of eighty days, or four months. During this time, Supt. Fort made no report on the general conditions of the schools of his county, but in 1886-1887, he reported that the school board was not entirely satisfactory and re-

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Ibid.

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commended that they be paid a salary in order to secure more interest; he recommended no further changes in the school laws as the people were becoming confused and dissatisfied with so many changes. He stated that the people were becoming more interested in the management of the schools, that a decided improvement of the teachers is noted, a map of the school districts had been made, only two white assistants, and two colored assistants were necessary for proper instruction, that teachers' examinations together with county institutes were largely instrumental in the improved conditions in schools and better qualified teachers. Two institutes had been taught in the county---the white by W. E. Saunders, the colored by Colonel C. E. Moody. The attendance was not good due to the distance the teachers had to travel. All the school buildings were reported to be comfortable. The colored schools were almost entirely taught in their churches, but there were no fixtures such as blackboards, desks, with few exceptions. He insisted that negro schools should be constructed entirely by the colored people as the white were bearing almost the entire expense of maintenanbe. He felt that the basis of distribution, according to the number of educatable children, was correct, but it was difficult for parents and teachers to understand,

(1) In 1888 and 1889 he made the following report to the State

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1. Report of the State Superintendent of Education 1888-1889.

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Superintendent of Education: "To obtain a correct estimate of the educable children in the county, I would recommend an enumeration biennially by the assessor as he could make a much more accurate enumeration than the teachers who know very little of the districts, especially the negroes; the condition of most school-houses is good. They are comfortable and well furnished; others are in a pitiable condition. I am, therefore, refusing to locate a school at such places until they are made comfortable.

"Two frame buildings have been constructed and equipped, several old ones repaired and furnished by the school-house fund. I have urged that no repairs be made on other buildings than school-houses". He stated that there are no 16th section lands in the county---between $4000 and $5000 on hand of 16th section funds are amply secured and draw 10% interest. "Our school fund is increasing annually; by the three mill levy; I have prepared a map of the county and furnished the teachers with one. Children should not be allowed to attend school outside their district unless some impossible or objectionable hindrance makes it necessary. Uniform examinations have proved of inestimable benefit to the educational interest. Good teachers have moved to the front, incompetent ones have been eliminated. Negroes seek the questions for future study. Institutes have accomplished but little good in our county. I recommend a

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Ibid.

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week's term in October under expert management. Each teacher should be compelled to attend this week's institute for forfeit $2.00 per day for each day absent. Trustees fail to recognize their duty except to sign the monthly reports. Where the County Superintendent is incapable of examining and grading manuscripts, I would advise the appointment of two practical teachers for this work, PROVIDED their wages will not be deducted fron the superintendent's salary. I recommend that license be not longer than one year. The text-books for this county are: Spellers--Websters and Swinton; Readers--McGuffey and Lippinscott; Geography--Cornell and Swinton; Arithmetic--Robinson; Grammar--Reed and Kellogg and Butler's Composition; History--Swinton, Goodrich; Physiology--Steele and Cutler; Natural Philosophy--Steele. The Starkville Female Institute, President, Rev. T. G. Sellers, numbering 150 students; and the Starkville High School, President, Mr. W. E. Saunders enrolling 130 students, are voth in a flourishing condition. In some sections of the county of both races, the schools are being extended beyond the four months term provided by the county."

This will give the public a clear unde rstanding of the educational situation during the administration of Supt. Fort. (1) He was not an educator but a fairly well-educated man; he had no idea of the organization or administration of a public school. He was

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1. Conference with citizens of the County.

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incapable of determining the qualification or efficiency of his teaching staff; he was unapproachable, austere, and dictatirial to both patrons and teachers. As a result the schools made practically no improvement during his administration except the natural improvement that came as a result of popular interest and that of the teachers themselves through the county institutes and examinations that required better preparation for the work. Practically no attention was given to better libraries,equipment, health work, sanitation, etc. This latter information is given by citizens who were closely connected with the educational work ~~by citizens who were closely connected with the educational work~~ during this time in the county. When the people came to vote, he was replaced by Supt. W. H. Miller.

Ibid.

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Superintendent W. H. Miller:

(1) Supt. Miller came to the office of Superintendent of Education of Oktibbeha County in 1892. He was an educator, a man of sterling character, interested in administrative work, an organizer of ability and above all, he was able to inspire his teachers to a greater zeal for professional work. The salary schedule ranged about the same as under the former administration and remained near an average of $38.00 for white teachers and $25 for colored teachers. In his report to the State Superintendent of Education, he states that " our school finances will compare favorably with thefund received under the former revenue system. The distribution is adequate to maintain our schools for four months at moderately fair salaries. We have no outstanding indebetedness, except such as has been provided for, and school warrants are paid promptly with cash."

The people appear to favor a levy of three mills for extending the te rm above the four months session, if the question is properly presented to the people. The teachers have pledged themselves to labor for an additional tam to extend the term to seven or eight months. The teachers are showing decided progress in the knowledge of the text-book as evidenced by the examinations. He states, two causes may be assigned for this advancement,--an earnest desire to

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1. --Mississippi Public School Report, 1891-1893

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improve on the part of many of the teachers and second, the fear of failure on the part of others in the increasing difficulty of the examinations in the branches to be taught. He further stated that "There has been a marked advancement in the conduct and management of schools. We are slowly but surely getting out of the ruts. New and better methods are being introduced, and a higher grade of work, is being done; teachers are beginning to look on teaching as a profession to be studied .....They are beginning to realize that the time killing teachers belong to the past, and there is growing demand for live, zealous, progressive teachers.

"The accessions to the teaching force are mostly graduates from high schools and colleges, and they are putting new life and vigor into our schools.

" Our library for teachers contains only 25 volumes and six educational magazines, only a nucleus. Twenty-five dollars have just been subscribed for the purpose of adding to the teacher's library.

"Thirty-six teachers, 50% of the white teaching force, attended the institute last summer. The week's training is a great improvement over the Saturday's institute. I would recommend a month's institute in the summer as a prerequisite to teaching with compensation to cover the expenses.

Ibid.

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"We have but one separate school district in the county, that of Starkville, Two schools are maintained--one for white and one for colored children. I must say that they are not too well furnished, with charts, maps, apparatus, etc. However, thetown has just purchased these buildings in which the schools are taught and thus still owes for them. We have two high schools in the county one at Maben and one at Sturgis. (1) The public terms are supplemented at both places by a pay term of five months.

"The school district serves a good purpose. Patrons take more interes t in their trustees, teachers, and schools. It also prevents students from running around from school to school. "

The school buildings were reported in poor shape. Most of them did not belong to the school but to private parties. They were badly lighted, no plans for ventilation, no modern furniture, blackboards, few maps and charts, unknown He urged the patrons to build their own buildings and place all the school funds to better schools. Some success was shown in his program.

"After a hard struggle, books of the county adoption are being purchased by the patrons, and they are pleased with them."

Public sentiment was unanimouss for public education, Some c omplaint of the short term was manifested, and also defects in the school law were complained about.

Ibid.

1---Special reports on these schools.

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STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

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Supt. Miller found these books in use when he came into office. It will be easily observed that a decided improvement was made by the uniform county adoption just put into operation.

Spellers--Swinton word Primer and Book of Spelling

Readers---Holmes' New Readers

Geography--Maurey's Revised Elementary, Mississippi Edition, and Physical.

Arithmetic---Robinson Progressive Primary, Progressive Intellectual, Rudiments of Written and Progressive Practical.

Language Lessons---Pupils Editions and Teachers' Edition.

Composition--Reed and Kellogg Graded Lesssons and Higher Lessons.

History---Hansell's School History and Higher History of the U. S.

Physiology---Smith's Primer and Elementary.

Philosophy---Steele's Fourteen Weeks.

Penmanship---Hansell's Copy Books, Eight Numbers.

During Superintendent Miller's three terms of service, 1892-1904, he made his greatest contribution to the school or educational program, in the professional spirit ingendered among his faculty, an interest in better school houses, better equipment, health work, and both teacher and school libraries. During his last term, which followed one term by E. J. Wallace, from 1904 to 1908, he began pioneering for consolidation, but his greatest contribution was

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Ibid.

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the Longview A. H. S. established at the close of his term of office in 1912. Longview floated $5000 in bonds to aid in erecting the buildings. Mr. A. M. Blocker was the first superintendent, and he was followed by Superintendent J. A. Lamb, who had but recently resigned from the Superintendencey of the Starkville School. There was considerable opposition in sections of the county to this school, but this soon gave way under the splendid work of Supt. Lamb and later by Prof. A. J. Jackson, who succeeded him to the superintendency. The school made splendid progress under the most adverse conditions due to lack of funds, until it was discontinued on the recommendation of a survey commission appointed by State Supt. W. F. Bond in 1930. Since then the school has been converted into a consolidated school and is continuing a fine educational program in a more limited way.

Ibid.

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(1) The administration of Superintendent S. J. Wallace extended through four years--1904-1908. Mr. Wallace was a candidatee to succeed himself, but was defeated by Mr. Miller, and in the fall of 1907 he resigned to accept a school in the county. Mr. Miller was appointed to serve out his unexpired term of a few months. Mr. Wallace was an aggressive school man and was impatient of any obstruction to his official plans. As a result he soon becameunpopular as an official. He made the following recommendations to the State Superintendent of Education, which will exemplify his ideas of an education program better than any commentary. "I beg to say that I think the educational interest of Oktibbeha County would be greatly improved if the following ideas could be enactedinto laws:

1. "A state school board of education, consisting of six or eight real teachers should be created. This board having power to dismiss a county superintendent when he fails to push the educational work in the county. This will consolidate thework and make every body work.

2. "I feel that a local tax should be laid upon each school district to insure the erection of a comfortable and attractive school house. I think better interest and attendance can be had if the people are brought to see that they have a financial interest in the school....This tax should be divided pro rata among those who have property and those who have not."

1--Report of the State Superintendent of Education 1905--1907

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3. "I feel that after a liveand a real county Superintendent we should have professionally trained teachers. To insure this we need a training school for teachers or some other equally effective method of raising the standard of teachers.

4. "I believe that the minimum length of term should be six months, and the school district be permitted to lengthen by local taxation if desired."

5. "I believe that the present system of trustees should be abolished and their duty added to the county school board--this board to be elective and given all of the powers pertaining to schools which is now in the hands of the Board of Supervosors.

6. " I feel that the County Superintendent of Education should be removed from politics in such a way that both he and the people can have more freedom of action".

(1) Mr. Wallace attempted to carry out these ideas in the administration of the office as aresult considerable progress was made in better equippedteachers, better equipped school houses, and a more interested patronage. Superintendent Wallace was a poor politician while Prof. Miller was the most astute in the county. He was affable and as a result had the loyalty of the teaching force of the county. He was conservatively progressive and was thus making gradual progress along all linesof advanced educational ideas. This

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1. Conferences with older citizens.

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splendid combinations was impossible to overcome by his opponent, and thus he was able to return to the office which he had already served for twelve years. The general expression made by the older citizenship relative to Supt. Miller is that "he was a good superintendent."However, the work of both Wallace and Miller was of a pioneering nature. The trail was dim or had not been made at all, so theirs was to blaze the trail which is always dangerous politically.

Ibid.

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Supt. A. E. Green (1)

Superintendent A. E. Green was nominated for the position of Superintendent of Education of Oktibbeha County, Miss. in the primaries of 1911, defeating for the office W. H. Miller, who was at that time the incumbent; S.J. Wallace, who had served as county superintendent prior to Supt. Miller; and C.E. Scroggins, who was teaching in the county. Mr. Green served from January 1, 1912, until the time of his death, which occurred June first, 1915.

Mr. Green served the county well in his official capacity, being capable, and efficient. Bwfore his election he was a teacher of experience, having taught in the public schools of the county sufficient time to acquaint himself thoroughly with the school program and problems and the duties of the office he filled so honorably and well.

He was loyal to his profession, had a ddep interest in the welfare of boys and girls, and devoted to his official duties, honest and tactful in the performance of the same. He weighed carefully and well each and every problem and question which came up for his consideration, and disposed of them wisely. He possessed good sound business judgment, and was alert at all times

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1. --Information furnished by Hon. C. E. Scroggins

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to the welfare of the cause he represented.

(1) Mr. Green had a very pleasing personality; he was especially polite and courteous in his dealings with the public. He was generous and sympathetic, and at the same time was firm and deliberate when occasion demanded or when, in his opinion, right was at stake. He lived a life worthy of emulation, for he was a gentleman of the highest type, and lovable for his many traits of Christian character. His motives, conduct, and honor and integrity, could not ge questioned. The cause of education and the general welfare of Oktibbeha County was elevated and enriched by the life and service of Supt. A. E. Green. His life in office was too brief to carry out his educational program, but his successor who followed him in office, a close personal friend, Hon. C. E. Scroggins, who now resides in Kosciusko, was elected to serve out his unexpired term of office, beginning July, 1915 and serving until January 1924.

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1. Conference with Mr. C. E. Scroggins, former County Supt. Education

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Supt. C. E. Scroggins.

Superintendent C. E. Scroggins came in when consolidation of one teacher schools was the chief program. At the beginning of his administration there were 53 white schools and the same number of colored schools in the county outside the separate school district of Starkville. At the close of Mr. Scroggins' administration in 1924, there remained but eight one teacher schools in the county among the white schools. The first consolidated school in the county was established in 1916. Work had begun in consolidation of negro schools through the Rosenwald funds.

In 1916 the county schoolboard made a complete survey of each school district in the county and from this the superintendent was able to make a record showing definite and clearly defined boundary lines of each school district in the county.

(1) The teachers of the white schools of the county made decisive progress during Mr. Scroggins' term of office, by attending the County Teacher's Associations, which met each month, by taking advantage of the courses offered at the various summer schools of the state, or university courses of higher learning; thus by the end of this administration every teacher held first grade license, all had high school training or its equivalent, and quite a few held college

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1. Conference with Hon. C. E. Scroggins, Kosciusko, Miss.

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the schools. In this manner all problems were handled intelligently and this adjusted much more easily than without such aids. Mr. Scroggins had the happy faculty of taking his public with him.

As a result the public schools were maintained on an average for six months and the consolidated schools for seven or eight months and white teachers were paid on a average of about $70 per month and colored teachers, about $30 per month. The consolidated schools throughout the county were thus able to employ teachers capable of instructing in all the high schools branches; thus a standard high school was maintained in all the consolidated schools throughout the County. The Oktibbeha county Agricultural High School did a splendid work for a class of students not being reached by the early consolidated schools of the county. It operated a full eight months term each year, giving standard high school courses by college trained teachers. This school was maintained in part by a county wide levy of one and one-half mills. As soon as the consolidated schools were able to reach the entire county, this school was discontinued. It had made an excellent record in the county and had reached

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Ibid.

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diplomas or training. This administration also cooperated with the county health unit or official in every manner inspecting schools for a higher grade of school sanitation; giving advice to teachers along he health lines in preventing contagions among the children. Preventive medicine was always kept before the teachers by Supt. Scroggins with the aid of the county health unit. This was a new field of education, as was consolidation, and necessarily created some confusion among the patrons who did not understand the purpose of the work. Hook-worm prevention was emphasized and much good was accomplished where the cooperation of parents were secured, and as the consolidation program progressed, better buildings were created, and longer terms provided by local levies, better equipment was installed, libraries enlarged and playgrounds provided and playground equipment set up together with organized play activities. This was largely accomplished by the aid of this administration in providing in the annual budget a sufficient reserve fund to match funds raised by the schoo ls for carrying out the above improvements.

Not only did the administration have a working organization of the county teachers and parents, but a complete organization of the county school trustees was effected as it was found that it required the combined cooperation of all these forces; wasnecessary to meet the problems and questions arising concerning the welfare of

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Ibid.

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a class that would have been denied an education. Supt. Scroggins made an invaluable record and left the schools of the county stronger and better organized than they had ever been. The citizens District, a consolidated district around the town of Starkville was his greatest contribution in sonsolidation work.

The following men served as principles of the A.H.S. during Mr. Scroggins' administration: J. A. Lamb, W.P. Jackson, F. H. Brunson and E. E. Dean. During this time courses were given in domestic science, manual training, and agriculture. Some work was done by the vocational teacher among the farmers of the county such as spraying the fruit trees, grafting, terracing, etc. in cooperation with the county agent. The school was very poorly equipped for such work, and as a result did not commend itself very favorably to the farmers.

In 1916 the first consolidated school of the county was established at Sturgis with Prof. J. W. Mangum as principal. An account of this school from its first organization to date is given as a separate study.

During Supt. Scroggins' term of office, three Rosenwald students organized in the county, but only one of these was com-

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Ibid.

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pleted during his term of office. The first school of this nature to be organized was in 1922 and was located about six miles north east of Starkville in Beat #2.

(1) The Rock Hill School was orgainzed in the year 1863 and was taught by a Mr. Corner, a white teacher. It was situated on what was known as the Bob Williams' place in Beat #2, even before the community was named.

The next teacher was Prof. Jerry Bardwell. The school was then known as Cowhorn. The next teachers were professors Mack Thompson and John Cannon, in the year 1877. The trustees were Ned Haines and Dan Austin. The next session was taught by Professors Mack Thompson and McCross. The advanced students were used as assistants. The trustees at this time werePaul Plair and Scott Smith, who continued for a number of years. Mr. Mack Thompson taught the school for thirty years, during which time some of the trustees were Johnson Howard, Sam Dubby, Romulus Hills and Paul Plair.

For lack of adequate space, the school was divided in two. One was situated on the Bob Williams' place and the other ontthe Yeates' place. The one on the Bob Williams' place was taught by Prof. Ben Robinson. The trustees were Ned Haines, Neal Parker, and

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1.-- E. D. Tucker, Esther Garth

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Ike Hughes.

The Yeates school was taught one session by Prof. Eli Rice. The next teacher for the Yeates school was Miss Rosie Ann Tiger in 1886.

In 1887 the schools were re-united. A church was built which Mr. Dock Thompson named Rock Hill. The school was then taught by Professors Mack Thompson and Will Ridley. The trustees were Johnson Howard, Romulus Hill, and Carl Adams.

After the resignation of Prof. Thompson, Prof. Charles Williams became Principal and taught for two terms in the Rock Hill, School. The next year the school was moved to the Odd Fellows' Hall. The teachers were professors Will Ridley and Miss Rosie Lee Thompson, with Romulus Hills, Bryant Ryant as trustees. The next teachers were Professor Lewis Island and Mrs. Mary Boyd, in 1904. They taught in Rock Hill Church. Beginning in 1908 the teachers were Young Janes and Gillespie. During the next few years, Prof. James Harrison was principal. Lula Pearson, Mary Buttler, Jennie Lee Wynn, and Cleveland Hill taught with him, also Alice Wynn, Mary Buttler, Mosie Ella Seals and L. A. Seals. The school was removed to the Woodmans' Hall just across the road from the present site of the Rosenwald

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Ibid.

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building.

The first principal of the Rosenwald school was Prof. Joe Murry who taught eight years with one assistant, Claudie Foster, beginning 1921 and 1922. The building cost $3000. $1000 of this amount was secured from the Rosenwald fund. The county and community gave $1000 and three acres of land. The state gave $1000. At this time the trustees were Andrew Howell, Sam Weed, and Charlie Boyd.

The following were successive principals of the Rosenwald school:

2nd Principal----------D. C. Hill (1923) with 4 teachers
3rd " ----------E. M. Wicks " 4 "
4th " ---------- Robert Hariston " 4 "
5th " ---------- Hall " 4 "
6th " ---------- Tom Mosley " 4 "
7th " ---------- Robert Hariston " 4 "
8th " ---------- W. B. Tucker (4yrs) " 7 "
9th " ---------- S. D. Bishop (2yrs) " 7 "

During the time Prof. Bishop was principal the following work was accomplished: P.T.A., 4H Club, and basket ball teams were organized and a Rosenwald Library secured. A contest of Beautifica-

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Ibid.

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tion of Grounds was participated in, at the end of which a certificate for beautification and improvement was awarded the Rock Hill School in the county-wide contest.

10th Principal----------E. D. Tucker (1936-) with 7 teachers.

The faculty has bee n org anized for the purpose of lengthening the school term and improving general conditions of the schools. The present trustees are Charlie Butler, Ben Hills, and Major Gibson.

The sedond school to be organized was located at Turn Pike in beat 5. This school was completed during the administration of Prof. J. A. Lamb. I t contains five rooms with three teachers in the faculty, headed by Blossie Smith. The enrollment is about 100 students. The school has very poor equipment, and has no means of transportation. The third school of this type was located 10 miles west of Starkville on the line between beats 3 and 4, and is known as Trim Cane School. This school is now being tawght by Thomas Quinn. It was organized as a public school sixty years ago in 1877. The church was used for dual purposes, a religious service- house and a school-room. This process of

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Ibid.

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having school came about by moving with the church to four different locations in the same community, on account of the church being destroyed by fires and storms.

In 1921 Professor Decatur Rogers, the Principal at Trim Cane School, began working for and was able to awake the patrons to the realization of the possibility of a Rosenwald School building. Four years later, January 1924, Prof. James Emerson moved his school work from the church to the new Rosemwald building.

The school was in its present status when it came under the principalship of the present principal, Thomas Quinn in 1933.

The course of study is from primary through high school, with out any supplementing of salary on the part of patrons.

There is no Smith-Hughes work in the school , and only a meager circulating library. Health work is emphasized, in full cooperation with the state. Beautification contest participated in annually. P.T.A. has been organized, but very inactive. We have organized basket-ball teams, for both boys and girls.

(1) My greatest achievement in the school has been the addition of high school work in the school and a reformation of the atmosphere among school-attending youths.

1.--Thomas Quinn, conference.

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Supt. O. P. Breland.

Supt. Scroggins was succeeded to the office of county superintendent of education of Oktibbeha county in 1924 by O. P. Breland, who came to office after defeating Mr. W. P. Jackson. He served in this capacity for three and one-half years and resigned to accept the school and pastorate at Crawford, Miss. No changes or constructive work were attempted during this time.

Ibid.

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Supt. J. A. Lamb.

(1) Prof. J. A. Lamb has served his county in an educational way and for a longer period and with greater service to its citizenship than any man now living. He began his school work at Osborn in 1893 and in all, he has been in the service for twenty-one years. His greatest achievement as an educator was during his service as County Superintendent of Education from 1927 to 1932. When he came into office, very few of the teachers in the rural schools held a diploma from an accredited high school. He set the qualifications for an A Grade school at two years of college training and better--a college diploma. Lower grade schools were required to employ teachers of at least a high school diploma. This brought consternation into the ranks of the old line teachers who had been in the service for years, but who had nothing but a first grade license as their credentials for service. The college trained teachers gradually came and a more efficient school system with them. With the college trained teacher a demand for consolidation surcharged the air. Twenty-three small one and two teacher schools gave way to thirteen larger consolidated schools with transportation and longer terms.

1---Conference with Mr. Lamb and with citizens of the community.

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Supt. Lamb began with a six month school session, he brought the term to eight months by hard and difficult work. (1) This necessitated a raise of the county levy for school purposes from four or five mills to eight county-wide with consolidated districts levying some additional tax for better teachers and longer terms. During Supt. Lamb's one term as county superintendent there was more consolidation than any other term before or after. Sturgis built her splendid consolidated school building which was later destroyed by fire. It is now replaced by one of the best in the state. Mr. Lamb gave considerable attention to the improvement of the colored schools of the county. During his term of office, he built four or five Rosenwald schools for these people and saw that better service was rendered in these schools. Such schools as remained were improved from the the Dog Tax, giving better sanitary toilets, beautified grounds, and up-to-date equipment. Superintendent Lamb's greatest achievement during his term of office was making it possible for every high school student to attend a well-equipped high school by means of a school bus. Several A Grade elementary schools were not large enough to support a high school. These students were transported to a

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1---Reports of the County Superintendent of Education

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first class high school without additional cost. It is easy to see that so mush progress in four short years would engender considerable antagonism. He had urged certain schools to consolidate with other communities, he had refused to give high school facilities to certain schools that were too small to afford one; he had disqualified certain old line teachers. These built up a powerful opposition that accomplished his defeat in 1932.

Supt. Lamb served as Superintendent of the city schools from 1906 to 1913. He succeeded Prof. Hugh Critz. During his administration of the city schools two annexes were built to the old brick building now occupied by the grammar school. He also built the present negro school which is occupied by the primary grades and the vocational work among the colored people of the city and adjoining county. After serving as Superintendent of the city school, he succeeded to the Superintendency of the A. H. S. at Longview, Mississippi, succedding Mr. A. M. Blocker, the first superintendent. He served here for four years of the most trying period of its history, but, due to his perseverence, he was able to maintain its existance through this period. The school had no money due to the

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Ibid.

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violent opposition, first to the school and then to the location. He succeeded and developed a better heating system. He was sueceeded by Mr. A. J. Jackson, who served for several years. Supt. Lamb served the Sturgis school for three years on a most acceptable manner, bringing the school to an A Grade standard, and the high school to the accredited list. He developed a splendid school spirit among a people who had been rather indifferent to school.

During the administration of Prof. Lamb, two additional Rosenwald schools were organized and completed. One of these was the Maben school, which was organized in 1930. Since this time, it has been a participant in county-wide Beautification and Improvement contests. (1) We emphasize health work as a common school course and in full cooperation with the State. We have organized basket ball teams for both the girls and the boys.

The salary of the faculty as a whole per month is ninety-five dollars. This is my, A. D. Gordon, first year to wotk this school My greatest achievement thus far has been an attempt to modernize the school, in a constructive way. I have tried to improve the literary standard of the school, organize an athletic department, a music department and have tried to provide for some much needed equipment. This effort has been partially successful. We

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1---A. D. Gordon, Principal of Maben School

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plan to purchase more equipment, grade the campus, and repaint the building during this school year.

The other school to be organized was the Pleasant Grove school now under the direction of C. M. Drungole, who at one time was principal of the Starkville colored school. This school contains six rooms and six teachers with an enrollment of 141 pupils. It is one of the Smith-Hughes vocational schools for colored students in the county, but the equipment for this school is very poor, as a result the work is not being very effectively done.

Ibid.

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(1) The city school system of Starkville, Mississippi began in 1891-1892. In 1892 the city rented the buildings of the Starkville Female Institute from Doctor T. G. Sellers for the session. In 1892 a purchase was made whereby the city paid the owners of the Institute $3000 for the property. At the same time the Saunders Starkville High School was purchased also by the city for a negro public school. At this time, a separate school district was organized, a board of trustees appointed by the city council, and Dr. Sellers was engaged as Superintendent or Principal at a salary of $50 per month, together with a faculty of teachers at $30 per month each, Ben Robinson was employed as principal of the colored public school at $25 per month. It was in the good old days when education came cheap as the entire session for the year, 1892, cost the grand total of $2,380---about the salary of the present seperintendent of the sity system today. (2) Dr.Sellers continued to operate the school in the same manner as he did the institute, as an ungraded school where each student progresses as fast or slow as he was gble to or so desired. His course of study was similar to that of the Institute. His assistants were Miss Bessie Gilliam, Miss Sue Pearson, Robbie McClendod, Susie Burgess, and Jennie Warren. The teaching hours were from 8:00 A. M. to

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1--Local citizens ~~of~~ conference
2.--Starkville Papers--News and East Miss. Times

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4:P. M.. giving one hour at noon recess.

1892-1896.

(1) In 1893, Mr. W. H. Hooker was elected Superintendent of the city school and in 1894 he made the following report oto his board of trustees and to the State Department of Education, on the condition of the school: "The building is a two-story frame, consisting of six rooms, three being upstairs and three below. Although a good many repairs and alterations have since been made, the building and its furnishings are far from being satisfactory, The town is in debt and cannot, or will not, make necessary appropriations to by the appliances and apparatus that are demanded. For some time past, the people have been taking but little interest in public school matters, but now they are waking up to its importance. I have set about to grade theeschool, and am accorded the hearty approval of the trustees and patrons." A courst of study was made out and arranged into eleven grades of one year each. The school was very much disorganized, as no attempt had ever been made before to grade it. "We have a class as far as the ninth grade only, but the tenth and eleventh were made out for those who may complete the grades below. The course of study in the tenth and eleventh grades may be changed to some extent in the future to meet growing needs, but the course is given as made

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1--Report of Supt. W. H. Hooker

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out. The school is divided into three departments--primary, grammar, and high school. Thelprimary department consist of the first, second, third, and fourth grades; the grammar of the fifth sixth, seventh, and eighth grades; the high school of the ninth, tenth, and eleventh grades. The course of studies in high school is first year Latin, Grammar and Reader, Algebra, elementary completed, Higher Arithmetic completed, Physical Geography, Grammar completed, Literature; two days in the week alternated with higher Arithmetic; penmanship. Second year: Ceasar, University Algebra, Rhetoric and Composition, English History, Geometry, --Plane and Solid; third year; Virgil, Trigonometry, Geology, Zoology, Botany, Chemistry, Astronomy--descriptive. The number in the high school studying Latin--nine; Algebra--eight; Higher Arithmetic--6; Literature--6; English--8; Mental Arithmetic--7. We have a class of fifteen in Physics, but that is completed in the Eighth Grade.

"The term commenced with 139 pupils in attendance, and up to date we have enrolled 182. The enrollment for 1892-1893 was 216, average attendance 153. The average attendance for the first month this year was 153, the second month, 163. "Mr. Hooker states that the school was never more satisfactory to the people than at the

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Ibid.

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Present. "Good work is being done by teachers and pupils, for results are being seen in monthly examinations. The school levy was four mills. The term has never been longer than seven months, but nine months are expected this year. We have no library, as yet, but are making an effort to start one."

The faculty as given by Supt. Hooker was as follows: W. H. Hooker, Principal; Mrs. A.E. Perkins; Miss Sue Pearson; Mrs. N. R. Drake; Miss LeVaneia Davidson; Mrs. S. E. Burgess. The principal was paid $90 per month and his faculty received from $32.50 to $27.50 per month according to the nature of the work done or the position on the faculty list. The colored school under Ben Robinson enrolled about 150 pupils and had three assistants. Two years after this date, Mr. Hooker reports again to his trustees and to the State Superintendent of Education at Jackson, Mississippi: "That the schools were never in a more prosperous condition than at the present time---1895-1896." He stated that the school was graded and a fine course of study was being carried out by an excellent corps of teachers consisting of the following: Principal, Mrs. Helen Woodward, Teachers: Miss Linnie Richie, Miss Febbie Carroll, Miss Ida Ellis, Mrs. S. E. Burgess, Miss Eddie Wurley, Miss Minnie Walker. The last two taught music and art. He went further to state that: "In the last two years we have collected a library of over

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Ibid.

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300 volumes, including Chamber's Encyclopedia and the Standard Dictionary. This Library of books we consider indispensable to our work. Subjects are so assigned that pupils are compelled to the use of them. Also several magazines and newspapers are taken. Last autumn, we purchased a piano for the use of the school. All these things have cost seceral hundred dollars, besides a great deal of work for the teachers. Most of the money was raised by three entertainments, some by private subscriptions, and a little donated by the board of Alderman. Another entertainment will soon be given and the funds used to purchase more books."

Supt. Hooker was a native Mississippian, coming to this school from near Corinth, Miss., as principal of the city school. He was a scholar and an excellent administrator. He was intensely interested in school work and was fortunate in the selection of an able faculty. He organized the school for the first time on a grade basis and as a result, made some misplacements of the curriculum in the grades. He maintained, at that time, a fully equipped preparatory department where students could go from even the lower grades. At the close of his term of service, he married Miss Lydia Carpenter of this city and moved back into the section of the state from which he came and later went into Mercantile business at Corinth.

Ibid.

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1896-1903--J. H. Woodward

(1) Mr. Woodward came to Starkville in 1896 from Monroe County. He was born and reared on a tenant farm a short distance from Aberdeen, Miss. Through extraordinary effort, he was able by the help of his friends, to do sufficient work to enable him to enter the old Houston Normal Institute of Houston, Miss., and from which he later graduated. He assumed the Principalship of the Starkville Public Schools, succeeding Mr. Hooker, and served for a period of seven years, until 1903. There were few changes made in the personnel of the faculty during his administration, and none on the curriculum. Mr. Hugh Critz succeeded Miss Ida Ellis in charge of the sixth grade, and Miss Zadie Smith taught in the fourth and fifth grades, coming from one of the smaller public schools in the county, and has been serving the community in a most sufficient manner ever since. Mr. Woodward made an excellent administrator, being genial, diplomatic, and was admired by all of his teachers. During his administration, the old frame building, which was purchased from Rev. T. G. Sellers in 1892, was replaced by the brick building now used as the city gtammar school. When he left the school in 1903, he married a sister of Mrs. F. H. Powers and moved to Aberdeen to assume charge of the school at that place. He died at Senatobia, Miss., in 1935, and was buried.

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at Grenada, Mississippi where he had buried his mother during his administration of the schools of that city.

1903-1906

Hugh Critz

(1) Mr. Critz, who was a native of Starkville, had served as an assistant to Mr. J. H. Woodward during the first three years of his administration. At the end of that time he retired voluntarily from the school and was out of the city four years. He was then recalled by the board of trustees to take charge of the school, where he served until 1906. A s an administrator and disciplinarian, he had few superiors. He made a strong personal appeal to his students for manly conduct, and should this appeal be ignored, he called the

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1--Local conferences

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young culprits before him and gave each a good limbfrom a near-by tree and made them finish the fight in his presence. As a result, the fighting habit so prevalent in the old school was soon discontinued. He was greatly admired by his faculty for his genial habits and spirited cooperation. At the close of his administration in 1906 he assumed the principalship of the "prep" department of the college and was succeeded by Prof. J. A. Lamb, who came to the school from Osborn, Mississippi, where he had been teaching for the past two sessions.

1906-1913--J. A. Lamb

(1) Mr. Lamb served the school for seven years, and made a very efficient administrator and teacher. Mr. Lamb was experienced

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1--Mr. Lamb--Conference

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and capable both from an educational and personal standpoint. He was approachable, genial, and at all times his advice to both teacher and pupils was wholesome and instructive. He had the happy faculty ofworking congenially with both his faculty and his patronage. During his administration the two "wings" were constructed as additions to the school building giving four or five additional rooms. The first brick building was constructed to be heated by a hot-air system, but the new additions were provided with stoves for heat. Both were very satisfactory both from the standpoint of warming the building and also from the standpoint of economy. From the time the city took over the school system only ten grades were taught in the schools due to the continuation of Prep department of the college. Boys and girls often left the school before completing these grades to enter college. This resulted in a very small and unsatisfactory high school.

1913-1926--R. C. Morris.

In 1913 Supt. Lamb resigned to accept the principalship of the Agricultural High School at Longview, Mississippi, and R. C.

Ibid.

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Morris was elected to fill the position. The rumbling of the great world catastrophe was just beginning to reverberate on this side of the Atlantic. The school was small--about 250 students-- all within the city limits. The college still maintained its Prep department,and also a grammar campus school for all college children, and consolidation was unheard of at this time. The school building had just been enlarged under the administration of Supt. J. A. Lamb and every one felt it would suffice for all time to come. The old wall, separating the sexes, had been removed, but a"dead line" was still enforced. It extended from the rear center of the building, separating the playground into two equal parts. The idea or organixed play had not then been developed to any appreciable extent, as a result the chief amusement of theboys at playtime was organizing into "gangs" from certain sections of the town and tossing brickbats at each other. Basket-ball was introduced for both boys and girls and this with base-ball constituted a fine substitute for the organized fight. Numerous pieces of playground equipment was soon enstalled for all children and yard supervision was put into operation by the faculty. The college began to raise the standards of the Prep department and soon eliminated the work altogether; as a result on the recommendation of the superintendent the board established the eleventh grade and required all students to complete this course before graduation. In 1915 the twelfth grade was organized and the school became a standard accredited

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Ibid.

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school under the rulings of the state department of education. In 1916 the college presented a petition to the board asking that the campus be taken into the separate school district and after due consideration, the city board petitioned the county school board to enlarge the limits to take in the college campus with the understanding that the State Board of Education would aid the city from the Equalizing funds for the education of these children. A petition was then circulated seeking admission of rural children to the city school. The board granted this petition and the next year a consolidated district was organized around the city known as the Citizens District. On certain per capita cost to the district which was collected by the district by taxes. The district also provided for the transportation of the children to the Starkville school. This greatly enlarged the enrollment of the city school which necessitated an enlarged faculty and an enlarged curriculum. Science, home economics, business and departmentall work was introduced and their merit has been shown by their continuance until the present time. The library was developed both in the high school as well as fine departmental libraries for the benefit of teachers and students. Public school music and several studios were established for the teaching of piano in the school. The school soon overflowed the present grammar school, which was then used for all purposes and an annex was built providing eight

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Ibid.

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additional rooms on the campus. A steam heating system was installed and laboratory equipment for the teaching of Biology and Chemistry provided.The student body was encouraged to organize themselves into clubs, such as the Hi-Y, literary societies, science clubs, glee clubs ect. Toward the close of this administration a move was inaugaurated for a new high school building. A bond issue was voted in 1925 and in the spring of 1926, Mr. Morris was elected to a small school in south Mississippi and was succeeded by J. E. Fox, who came to the school from Pontotoc, Miss. Mr. Morris was a graduate of the State University, and began his school work at Maben. He served four years as Principal of the Hattiesburg High School under Superintendent Woodly, before coming to the Starkville school. Under Mr. Morris the colored school was enlarged and a new curriculum provided giving greater emphasis to vocational and industrial work. A t the close of his administration, the Starkville city school was recognized as one of the leading city schools of the state.

1926-1929--J. E. Fox

(1) Supt. Fox assumed charge of the school in the fall of 1926 and served for three years and was succeeded by T. G. Dorsey, who had been serving as Superintendent of an A. H. S. at Rienzi, Miss. Under Mr. Fox the new high school building was constructed and occupied.

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1. Local Conferences

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It was located in the western section of the city after considerable litigation. It is a modern building in every sense of the word and fulfill a real need of the city's educational system . The negroes were also provided with a new high school building, and the old building was converted into a grammar school and for vocational and industrial work among the colored people. Mr. Fox had to retire from school work due to failing health and Mr. T. G. Dorsey succeeded him in the work for two years and he, in turn, was succeeded by Prof. J. W. Overstreet who is now in charge of the schools with a splendid faculty.

Ibid.

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(1) The education of the negro in the South began with the close of the Civil War in 1865. Their formal public education, taken over by the state, began with the carpet-bag constitution which provided for a "uniform system of public education for the state of Mississippi." The first attempt at education was made by local citizens and later by the various philanthropic organizations of the North, such as churches, missionary societies, clubs, etc. The later teaching was done by white educators, missionaries, or camp followers who knew nothing of the local situation either from the standpoint of the white former slave owner or from that of the former slave who had had no experience with meeting the responsibilities, as well as the privileges of freedom. The result came near being disastrous to both races, as they were taught in most instances that their former masters were their enemies and were only seeking another opportunity of enslaving them. Then, too, a great many of the older freedmen--men and women--were told of the wonders of an education and, as a result put on their best clothes, got themselves a reader, and started to school, expecting the Government that had given them freedom, to feed them.
At once all churches were converted into school buildings and were turned over to these northern instructors. This left the old masters without laborers to till the soil and thus replenish the

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1--Ben Robinson, Negro C onference

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famished condition of the South. In this county we had "Shirt" Wilson, who preaced and taught at Chapel Hill. Rev. Ben Robinson tells me that Wilson was the chief promoter of the Chapel Hill Riot together with some other white carpet-baggers--some of official capacity. Robinson was at this riot as a young man, and he knows of the operations of the negroes under the direction of Wilson. Robinson later became a very strong teacher in the town and county ams a minister and teacher in the state generally.

Beginning in 1868 or 1870 the negro schools of the county were taught largely by Southern white teachers. I might digress here to say that a great many negroes had already been educated by their white masters to read and write before they were freed by the Civil War. The father of Rev. Ben Robinson was able to read and write very well before he was freed. The first school for negroes was located on the Starkville and Crawford road just beyond Turkey Creek and was known as Turkey Creek school. It was taught by Wm. McKell a southern white man of splendid ability. He built a log house without a floor except dirt. It was kept warm by building a fire in the center on the dirt floor. He had a large school and taught there for several years. Students attended from all sections of the district. Robinson lived three or four miles west of Starkville and walked to the school. Mr. McKell later moved his school to Black Jack and built a large frame-house with a plank floor and more

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Ibid.

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comfortable seats. He taught eleven months in the year, giving only the month of July for vacation. He was a very efficient teacher, requiring his students to know every work in the Webster's Blue Back Speller before beginning to read. He often had spelling matches with other schools in the county, especially the Chapel Hill school. Mr. McKell was assisted by his wife, Mrs. Dovie Rushen McKell. During this time or just a little later, Mrs. Hillhouse, a southern white woman, taught a school for negroes at her home a block west of the Cooperative Creamery, and Mrs. Eliz a Flinn and her sister taught a school near the present colored school now occupied by Dora Scott. These women did a fine work among the early colored students of the town. Mr. Milton Redus was teaching a school at Bethel and Mrs. Ann Pressly Bell was teaching a school near the home of Ben Robinson on Cushman creek three and one-half miles north-west of town. The textbooks used by the school for colored children were furnished almost entirely by Northern Societies as follows: Webster's Blue Back Speller, McGuffey's Readers, Davie's Arithmetic, Connell's Geoprapht, Swinton's U. S. History, Smith's Grammar, Robinson's Practical Algebra, and Steele's Phylosophy.

About this time the northern white teachers began to supplant the southern white teacher in the negro school sof the county. This brought about the serious conflicts with the negroes due to their teaching. The first was a Mr. Laughlin, a northern white man sent to establish a church and school for the colored people. He first

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Ibid.

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secured a barn owned by Mr. C. H. Sullivan on the corner of the lot where Washington and Gilispie intersect. This barn was on the Gay Corner and had been used for sheltering sheep and cows, and as a result, was infested with rats, roaches, and fleas. These so interfered with the work of both teachers and pupils by rendering their lunches unfit for use or by tormenting the children as they attempted to study, that the teacher hadto locate another place. This was located at the intersection of the Louisville and Greensboro streets.

A two-story plank building was constructed and was afterwards known as the Starkville Colored Academy and Church. It was the purpose of the teacher and preacher McLaughlin in cooperation with Rev. McDonald, the white presiding elder, to establish a colored college at this location had it not been for the trouble with the KKK at this time. Both had to leace the community and the school was located at Holly Springs instead. During this time McLaughlin established the Freedman's Exchange on the corner near the Walker building for the express purpose of trading with the negro exclusively. After McLaughlin and McDonald were forced to leave the community, a white man by the name of W. G. McGowan, an Irishman from Indiana, took charge of the school and J. T. Leake came in from the 16th section where they had been teaching and took charge of the Freedman's store that had been left vacant by McLaughlin. McGowen

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Ibid.

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Ibid.

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Ibid.

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was given to strong drink and often would send two of his older students to the Freedman's to buy eight or ten pounds of candy and raisins with which to treat the students while he was drinking. The students had a great time feasting on the candy. MrGowen was followed by G.H. Hunter, who later took charge of the Exchange and the school was taken over by T. J. Leake, who taught the school with his wife and sister for two or three years. Hunter and his daughter then returned to their former home in Ohio. For a while Leake served on the Board of Police. During this time he was taken sick and died. His wife, assisted by Miss Clara Peoples, C. I. Bell, and W. S. Rush continued the school. While McLaughlin and the Leakes were here they lived with Tom Moodey, a colored man who served as mayor of the city during this time. His home was the old Peoples Residence which occupied the site of the home of Prof. Stark. These white people lived in the upper rooms of this building.

In 1876 N. T. Gomer, a colored man, who had been teaching the Plair school was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of J. T. Leake and assisted by Mrs. M. B. Leake, Clara Peoples, C. S. Bell, and Saunders Rush continued the school for the remainder of the year. After the overthrow of the carpet-baggers in the

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Ibid.

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election of 1875-1876, Sam Winn, a colored man susseeded to the position of the principal of the Starkville Colored Academy and was assisted by Rev. C. P. Clemmens, a Methodist Minister of the colored Methodist church; in 1878 Rev. Clemmens was elected principal of the school. He was a splendid Greek scholar as well as a teacher and taught some of the white citizens of the town in private. He had served as representative from Clarke County to the State Legislature of Mississippi. For two years he was assisted by Clara Peoples, C. I. Bell, and W. S. Rush; In 1880 1881, and 1882 Mollie E. Ranie, D. C. Hendricks, and D. W. Colvert served as principal respectively. About this time a great denominational debate took place among the white churches of the city, which lasted about a week and which split the churches of both the white and the colored people. J. H. Nicholes added to the division and organized a Baptist school at the Baptist church, which had but recently been organized. He was assisted by John Bell. C. E. Moodey continued to teach at the Starkville Colored Academy and Church on the corner and was assisted by Bettie Morris. This organization continued until 1890 when the city purchased the Saunders Academy located on Gilespie street near its intersection with south Washington and assigned it to the colored people as the Starkvill colored school of the separate school district. At this

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Ibid.

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time the schools were consolidated and the city school trustees elected B. J. Robinson as principal who served until 1893, assisted by C. I. Bell and T. A. Moddey. The young white men andboys of the community resented the action of the board of trustees in turning the school in which they were educated over to the colored people and one night almost destroyed the building. Their parents repaired the building and later after Robinson left to accept a school at Mosspoint, Miss., due to the disturbances of the children, the school was sold or exchanged for land where the present building is located. When Robinson accepted the position at Mosspoint, T. A. Moody also resigned to accept a position in the "Sugar Bounty" business in Louisiana. W. S. Rush completed the session of 1894. After finishing one session at Mosspoint, Robinson returned to accept a position at Maben which was a line school and paid a better salary than the Starkville school. In 1895 Robinson was again elected as Principal of the colored school and served until 1900 when he went into the ministry. During this time he wass assisted by W. S. Rush, T. A. Moody, C. I. Bell, and Rev. J. D. Zoober It was at this time that the building was removed to its present location. D. C. Rogers became the first principal after James Williams had served six years. Rogers, who served from 1908-'18 was an educated man and made an excellent principal. He had been

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Ibid.

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training in the Rusk University in the classics and it was his idea that an education was not complete without such training--in fact he knew no other kind of education. It was the purpose of the trustees to inauguarate industrial training in the school and as Rogers was not in sympathy with such training, he was removed and general industrial work for the boys introduced and higher mathematica, Latin, etc, were dropped from the curriculum. Drunglow served during the World War and rendered fine service. He was followed by Chiles Henderson, who has been serving from that date until the present time. He has as his Industrial teacher for the boys, J. C. Hayes, and for the girls a Jeans teacher by the name of Bessie Little. Both are rendering fine service. The school inder Henderson has been well graded and he had stimulated greater interest in education throughout the entire colored community. He graduated from 15 to 20 students each year. Inter-racial relations in the community were never better. The school has been a part of the city system since 1913, and is thus directed by the Superintendent of the city schools.

Ibid.

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Maben

The first record of the Maben school we haveis of one taught by H. C. Kirby in 1890. It appears to be only a one teacher school and Mr. Kirby was paid $55 per month for four months session. This was about the time that the Sturgis high school was being organized by Prof. S.W. Smith. Mr. Kirby was followed by J. S. Carroll, who taught the school during 1891 and 1892. The board of trustees then became ambitious to organize one of the manyprivate schools that were springing up over the state, and Prof. T. P. Haney was engaged for three years to set up such an institution. It was known as the Maben Normal Institute. Mr. Haney makes the following report of the school to the Superintendent of Education (1): "The building is a two-story, 60x30 structure. The enrollment had reached 140 pupols per year, and the work done in public school branched has extended far enough to prepare its pupils to acquire a passable grade in the third, second, and first grade county examinations, and during this session work is being done in many branches beyond the public school curriculum having 25 pupils in Latin, 15 in Algebra, and 10 in Geometry. This institute prepared five pupils last year for college. The principal is elected for a period of three years. This school is a live school, situated in a little beautiful, and growing town of Maben, embracing a portion of two counties of Oktibbeha and Webster. The locality is

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1, Report to Supt. Of Education, Jackson, Miss., by T. P. Haney

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superb, being in a high, dry, healthful, and beautiful country--in a town composed of the most excellent people of the county away from the evil influences, away from malarial districts, in the heart of a splendid coountry for farming and stock raising, and in the heart of a religious people." Following Prof. Haney came R. B. Smith and W. B. Stark, who served to 1896. (1) John L, Smith was then engaged by the board to continue in a BIG way the work begun by Prof. Haney. Mr. Smith remained on the job until 1902, and as he was a great organizer, administrator,and publicity man, he greatly increased the enrollment until at times it was equal to or exceeded that of the Starkville school. He made a point of advertising in the Delta section of the state where the white man was not supposed to be able to live in the Spring and Summer on account of malaria. The splendid Delta system of schools was not considered possible at that early date, due to the poor water, malaria, and other unhealthful conditions. The deep well, drainage, and window screens have changed everything, making it one of the most healthful places in the state or nation. Hence the excellent school patronage of the D elta today. In those days the big plantation owner usually sent their families to the"hills" for their educational training. Smith assured them of a salubrious climate, free from malaria, chills, with fine water and also a cultured citizen-ship

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1--J.L. Smith--Letter

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together with an excellent school at reasonable expenses---both board and tuitions. This resulted in an excellent attendance. This was in the days just before the Agricultural High Schools, hence the numerous private academies in this section. In 1902 Mr. Smith resigned and went into business and later became a member of the legislature. Here he met Mr. Bilbo and became his advisor. He is now his private Secretary and Publicity man at Washington.

D. C. Hendricks followed Mr. Smith in 1902 and he was followed by Prof. J. M. Kelley, who served as Superintendent of the school until 1907. Mr. Kelly was a self-made teacher and educator and an excellent gentleman in every sense. (1) On his resignation, Mr. R. C. Morris was elected to the head of the school. It was then known as the Maben Public School and Training College. A tuition was charged for all high school students and for all students after the expiration of the public school term. The board was very anxious to rehabilitate the boarding department of the school and literature was sent into all parts of the Delta, but with little effect. The Delta had discovered the cause of the various delta diseases, and had provided a sure means of escape in deep wells, screened windows, and drainage systems. Mr. Morris recognized this condition and urged the Board at the close of the session in the Spring of 1908 to apply for an Agricultural High School for the tri-counties--

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1---Report of R. C. Morris
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Oktibbeha, Clay, and Webster, but to no avail. The Board had fully decided that the Boarding school on a private basis was the best. He resigned and was succeeded by W. B. Walker, who carried out the idea of the trustees. Bonds were floated for new buildings--schools and dormitiries, but without success. It was a failure from the start. Walker retired in 1915 and was succeeded by G. H. Haflin.

Ibid.
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Sturgis.

(1) The Sturgis Public Consolidated School had its origin in the old town of Whitefield, which was founded back in 1852 or 1853 by a half-breed Choctaw Indian by the name of White. The old town is now a part of the village of Sturgis and still has a few old dwellings, the foundation of the old school and other public buildings are still to be seen. Our records begins with 1873. We find two small schools located in the town--one for the white children taught by Prof. A. C. Bardwell and called Mt. Zion on the record; the other for the colored students was taught by F. K. Danns. Both teachers received $40 per month for their services and the term was four months long. In 1874-1875 the white school was taught by Jeff D. Adams and the colored school was continued with Danns as Principal. There was no record left of the school program of Oktibbeha County for 1876. The political revolution was on to rid the County of the Carpet-bag regime and Whitefield was in the thick of the fight. In 1877-1878, however, Whitefield was again in operation with F. Shropshire and Danns at the helm of the white and colored schools respectively with greatly reduced salaries. Both received only $25 per month instead of $40 which had beenpaid under the old order. The new officials of the State and County cut taxes by over one-half, and the school salaries were similarly re-

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1--Report of the County Superintendent of Education--records--1873-1893.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor.

duced. It was a case of cutting the garment to fit the cloth and everyone was in the lowest depth of poverty. The colored school was removed to the Davis Plantation and N. F. Barron was engaged to teache the white school. He was followedthe next year by Miss Annie L. Harrison, but in 1881 a small raise in salary was given and Mr. R. E. Hannah was employed to teach the school for $30 per month for the usual four months' term. He was followed in 1882 by M. L. Marshall and he by W. A. D. Ramsy in 1883 for $35 per month. In 1884 Mr. Ramsy had an assistant for part time and received $40 with Miss Mary Tumblinson as assistant at $20 per month, while in 1885 the school had grown to require two assistants: Mr. Ramsy received $40 per month, Mr. C. B. Lamkin received $40 per month and Lula King received $15 per month. This is a clear indication of the growing and prosperous community with an interest in the educational welfare of the children. In 1886 the school had grown to the ectent of requiring three full time teachers, and the following were employed: W. A. D. Ramsy at $40; M. B. Sikes at $40; and C. B. Lamkin at $40 per month each. The I. C. Railroad was constructed about this time, and as Whitefield was left some miles or two from the road a new village sprang up, and Sturgis had its birth with the beginning of its splendid school system. Mr. E. T. Neel was employed this year to teach the school at $50

Ibid.

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per month. The old village of Whitefield began to vanish with the growth of Stuggis so that the next year, Mr. Neel had an assistant at $30 per month, and we lose sight of old Whitefield after this date as a school town. In 1888 Mr. J. N. Harvey and Miss Georgia Little taught the Sturgis school, and the next year, 1889, they added Mr. L. V. Eiland to the faculty at $27.50 per month and W. S. Rush at $15.00 per month. (1) In 1890 Supt. L. B. Reid, now of Houston City schools, was engaged to teach the schoolat $55 per month; Mr. W. A. D. Ramsy at $35, L. V. Eiland at $35; D. J. Livingston at $10; and Supt. Reid's wife at $25 per month. In 1891 Mr. S. W. Smith was employed to build up a high school department and was assisted by S. D. Smith, Virgie Curry, Addie Davidson, and Minnie McGraw. Mr. Smith reports the operation of the school to the State Superintendent. He states that the school is under the control of the Principal and the High School was just organized with a small tuition to continue the term beyond the regular four month's session provided by the State and County. The school had no endowment fund and is non-sectarian. Mr. Smith states that during the last summer the enterprising patrons purchased a new site of two acres, and removed and enlarged the school house. The building is aframe structure with three large rooms and a seating capacity of 150, and is equipped with blackboards, a globe, set of wall maps, charts, of

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1--Report of the Superintendent of Education--1891-1893.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Physiology, Reading Charts, Writing Chart, Grammar Chart, Numeral frame, prism and small microscope. The pupils have access to a small library; the property of the Principal. The first six grades embrace the Public school curriculum. The High School Department: Seventh grade--Steele's Physics, Maury's Physical Geography, Robinson's Higher Arithmetic, Steele's Physiology, Elementary Algebra, Composition and Rhetoric, Mental Arithmetic, Latin Grammar, and Reader. Eithth Grade: Robinson's University Algebra, Geometry, Ceasar, Virgil, Select Readings from American and English Poets, General Review. Mr. Smith states that three of the past year's students were in college. Mr. Smith served this school for several years and was followed by O. C. Hollis.

Ibid.

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7--Superintendent's Pay Record Book, 1873-1893.

8--Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1873.

9--Dunbar Rowland's Encyclopedia of Mississipi History, Vol. II, pp. 618-619.

10--Personal conferences with local citizens.

11--Report of the State Superintendent of Education, 1888-1889, 1905-07

12--Mississippi Public School Report, 1891-1893.

13--C. E. Scroggins--Conference.

14--E. D. Tucker, Esther Garth, Rev. Ben Robinson--Conference.

15--Thomas Quinn, J. A. Lamb--Conference.

16--A. D. Gordon, Principal of the Maben School--Manuscript.

17--Starkville papers--News and East Miss. Times.

18--Report of Supt. W. H. Hooker, T. P. Haney, R. C. Morris

19--J. L. Smith--Letter.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Oktibbeha County

Mississippi A. & M. Education 11; 19

By the Morrill Land Grant Act, approved June 2, 1862, the national government donated conditionally to each state in the union, public land scrip equal to 30,000 acres for each senator and representative in congress. This trust was for the "endowment, support and maintenance of at least one college, where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to a riculture and the mechanic arts in such manner as the legislatures of the states may prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life."

The provisions of the act were accepted by the state of Mississippi in 1866, and an attempt was made several years later to offer courses at an already established institution. This was unsatisfactory. By an act, approved February 28, 1876, the legislature of Mississippi decreed the establishment of two colleges: One for the negro race, to be known as the Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical college: the other for the white race, to be known as the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical college (now Mississippi State College)

On December 13, 1876, the board of trustees, established by the state acts of February 28, selected for the site of the college, 860 acres just to the east of Starkville. Almost immediately building was begun, and on April 1, 1880, Stephen Dill Lee, lieutenant-general of the Confederate army, was elected president of the college. On October 6, 1880, the college opened its doors to students; 350 matriculated during the first year. All pursued the same course of study.

Same Old Spirit

The Mississippi State college adheres closely to the spirit and letter of the land grant college movement. Although during its early days this college, like other land grant institutions, limited its curriculum to agriculture, the field of instruction has been extended from time to time to include in addition to agriculture, various phases of engineering, science, and business, with the spirit of the Morrill act.

Building upon its broad foundation, the Mississippi State college, since opening its doors in 1880, has endeavored to develop its students in intellectual vigor, industrial skill, and liberal culture to the end that they might, in their chosen fields, exemplify the highest type of loyal and patriotic citizenship.

In 1932 the name Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical college was changed to Mississippi State college by legislature.

To make known to the people of Mississippi and other southern states the practical nature of the State college, President Lee, assisted by a few instructors and students, made, during the early years of the college, several talks on live stock, orchards, and similar subjects in various parts of the state.

In 1886 the board of trustees ordered that each year at least six practical talks-called institutes- be made by State college instructors to the farmers of Mississippi. This extension work, antedating by five years the federal extension projects, grew rapidly, later becoming an element of the extension department of the college.

The experiment station of the Mississippi State college is founded on acts of the federal and state governments. The Hatch act, approved March 2, 1887, appropriates money for the acquisition, and diffusion "among the people of the United States" of useful and practical information on subjects connected with agriculture." The conditions of this act were accepted by the legislature of Mississippi in 1888.

By the Smith-Lever act, approved March 2, 1914, the college, through cooperation of the state and the United States department of agriculture, engaged in that extension work which consists of the giving of instruction and practical demonstration in agriculture and home economics to persons not attendant or resident in " the college.

Mississippi State college was admitted to membership in the Southern Association of Colleges in 1926, thus assuring recognition of credit for work done there by all other colleges and universities in the United States. The college was also elected that year to membership in the American Council of Education.

Bibliography

Oktibbeha County Daily Clarion Ledger, Centennial Edition, Jackson, Miss.

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

Mississippi State College, a land-grant institution, was founded in 1878 by act of the Legislature. It opened its doors to students on October 6, 1880.

In the 57 years since its opening session, more than 40.000 Mississippians have gone from its doors to take their places in life.

Starting with only one course-Agriculture-the College now has five degree-granting Schools of undergraduate grade, and a Graduate School which offers Master of Science Degrees in Agriculture, Engineering, Science, Business and Education.

The Schools and dates of their organization are:

Agriculture	1880
Engineering	1892
Science	1911
Business and Industry	1915
Education	1935
Graduate	1936

In addition, the Department of Military Science and Tactics under the direction of Officers of the Regular Army, has in its regiment 1,000 Basic and Advanced students of Military Science and Tactics.

Divisions, other than instruction, located at the College and under its supervision, directly or indirectly are:

Experiment Stations
Agricultural Extension Division
State Plant Board
State Chemical Regulatory Service

The enrollment in 1880 was 350, most of whom were in the Preparatory Department.

THE ENROLLMENT TODAY (FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15) is 2,052--the largest enrollment in 57 years.

MISSISSIPPI STATE COLLEGE SERVES THE STATE.

Oktibbeha County

It's a fact:-

That the largest dormitory in the world under one roof, is at State College, Starkville, Miss.

Ref. Miss. Adv. Com.

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page #1
Topic: Education - Schools of Yesterday
Assignment #11
By--R, C. Morris
December 14, 1936

It is interesting to note that the early settlers of this county were definitely interested in the education of their children. (1)Dr. F. L. Riley in his History of Mississippi quotes from Spark's Memories of Fifty Years, that "the thinly settled sections of East Mississippi were too much scattered to collect the children into neighborhood schools, and the people were too poor to employ private teachers. The children did not, therefore, enjoy the few opportunities for getting an education that were within the reach of those in the western part of the territory." This statement appears to be far from true; on the contrary, we observe that community schools began to spring up in various sections where the settlement justified it. (2)Young men and women--boys and girls of those early days, thought nothing of walking miles, crossing streams on "foot logs", through the cold of winter session and the heat of the summer time, to attend these small private schools taught by men and women of the highest attainment and scholarship, who even boarded around with their students for part of their tuition. The wealthier families either sent their children to private academies or to the established schools back in the older sea-coast colonies, or else they employed private tutors who taught the children in their homes.

(3)The Mission Schools established by the American Board of

1--History of Mississippi, Riley, p.138
2--Conferences with old settlers.
3--History of the Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Natchez Indians - Cushman

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Missions for the Choctaw Indians had set the model for efficiency. The first of these schools, established in what was to be Oktibbeha County, was located at Mayhew in the north-eastern section of the county. In 1820 Reverend Cyrus Kingsbury, who had already established a mission at Elliot in 1818 on the Yallobusha river (Yallo Bush, meaning in the Choctaw language abounding in tadpoles), went to Pigeon Roost, some sixty miles to the home of David Folsom. Here he secrued the voluntary services of this great half-breed, who had received but six month's educational traingin in school. They both rode tothe home of Major John Pitchlyn, a white man who lived at Plymouth on the Tombigbee near Columbus, who had been living among the Choctaws for years, having been adopted by them after he had married a Choctaw women. Pitchlyn had been engaged by the Government as an official interpreter, as he spoke Choctaw as well as English. These three men set out to find a suitable location for another mission. Pitchlyn, on accepting theninvitation, expressed his great personal appreciation of the interest shown by the missionaries. They rode over a large section, and finally with his aid, they located a place for the second mission. The place was called Mayhew by Doctor Kingsbury. It was on a high point overlooking a grand prairie toward the south and west, and on the south bank of a stream now known as Tibbee or "It-tib-ih",

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Ibid.

meaning in the native language "to fight". To the north of the mission was a beautiful woodland. It appeared that heaven and earth had planned together to make this a suitable place for a mission. Some log cabins, a shop, a grist mill, and a mission school were soon erected with the aid of the neighboring Choctaws, who were enthusiastic for an early beginning of the school. A garden and field were soon cleared and planted. Applications for entrance came faster than could be accomodated. (1)This school was taught by men and women who had dedicated themselves to Missionary work, and were, therefore, of the highest integrity, scholarship, and morality. It was the first vocational institution to belocated in our entire country. Besides the usual literary subjects, the boys and young men were taught how to cultivate the siol in a scientific manner, basket making, shoe-making, harness, blacksmith work, and wood work; the girls and young women were taught to sew, cook, spin, and weave, to make butter and cheese. Of course, moral instruction and religious education were given due recognition. Horatio Cushman states that the young men and women trained in these schools made some of the best citizens and home makers here and in the territory, after they were driven from their native soil by the white invader. The parents of these Indian students were so intensely interested that they often visited the school,

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1--Reports of the Mississippi Historical Society, Vol. IX.

coming for long distances to see the wonderful advantages being offered to their children. They would, on invitation, make "talks" to their students telling them of the excellent advantages which they were enjoying, and insisting that they obey their teachers. We are told by those who know of these schools that students and their parents would come from sixty to seventy miles to attend and were willing to make any kind of sacrifice to secure the advantages of an education. The tribe would donate their entire annuity from the government, amounting to several thousands of dollars; parents and young men would join in the work of building, clearing the land, cultivating the soil, and making ready for the school in any way possible, to give their children the opportunities they had known nothing of. Kingsbury had the entire control of the Missionary work, but David Wright had immeidate charge of Mayhew station. Other prominent educators were such men and women as David Folsom, Calvin Cushman, Cyrus Byington, Arunah Bardwell, and their wives. Colonel David Folsom, who was instrumental in locating the mission, continued his interest in the work, often making visits to observe the character of work being done. From his letters he appeared to be entirely satisfied, though at times some of the parents would question methods of discipline.

(1)After a few years at Mayhew, because of the over-crowded

1--History of the Choctaw, Chickawas, and Natchez Indians - Cushman

condition, and the long distance students had to go from home, Calvin Cushman, one of the ablest teachers at Mayhew, was persuaded by the Choctaws to establish a sub-mission school at Shakchih-Humma Fort. This settlement was about three miles from the present city of Starkville, not far from Cuchman's creek. Here he built a living-house, cleared some land, erected a church and school. This fort, according to the natives, was built by a trive of Indians known to history as the Chocchumas, as a final stand in their contest with the Choctaws and the Chickasaw, resulting in their ultimate anihilation. Horatio Cushman, the historian of the Choctaws,states that the mission was built within the enclosure of the old fort and was called Hebron. He further states that this fortress "displayed a high grade of military engineering skill and attested a knowledge of the necessities of attack and defense equal to our highest grade of military engineering skill displayed in our forts of today." The Choctaws believed the fort and surroundings were haunted by the spirit of the vanquished Chocchuma Indians, and so for this reason also they desired the mission to be established there, as they believed the white missionary would drive the spirits away. It is almost certain that this is the reason for building the mission within the fort. One may visit the spot and revel in fancy, dreaming of feats of heroism equal to those of Homer's Troy.

Ibid.

An occasional bone can be plowed up by the farmer, as he drives his team along the cotton rows. The sunken place, known to the surrounding community as an "Indian pool" is all we are able to see of the Mission, the fort, or of all the heroism. Even the oldest of our present day citizenship know nothing of the location. The school was a success. Homes of the Indians were built or improved, cisterns were dug. springs built up with brick brought in from other sections of the county, or some distant brick kiln over the trails made by the aboriginees. An educational program, similar to that of Mayhew and Elliott was put into operation. (1)The school continued until 1832 when the white man came, the land was taken, and its original owners forced to leave for an unknown country. The last assembly of this community was held at Hebron to receive the blessing of the good missionary, their only friend. Cushman gives us the picture of the sadness, misery, and lamentations of these people as they prepared for the long journer. The school was converted into an academy for white students after this date, as the large community of whites had already grown up here. Hebron came to be the county site, until the village of Boardtown, now Starkville, became the site in 1835. New instructors were engaged for the exchange for the school, as the old ones had gone with their wards to the unknown lands to make the exchange as easy as possible. Dr.

Ibid.

Cushman remained and died here. He was elected the Justice of the Peace of this section and later became president of the Board of Police of the county. His son, Horatio, then organized the Cushman academy out in a more thickly settled community, seven or eight miles north west of Starkville on what later bacame the Greensboro road. It was for both day and boarding sutdents. It was built in 1851 and continued until the war between the states, after which it was never organized again and was later destroyed by fire.

(1)As was characteristic of the old south, the early educational system of Starkville seperated the sexes. There was a female and a male academy practically from the beginning of the settlement. It was known then as Boardtown, and its male academy was located where the highway 82 crosses the West Point road, a short distance down Lee street. It was first taught by such instructors as Lockhart, Foster, Frierson, and Sellars. It was later moved to a spot in the southern section of the city and conducted as the Saunder's Institute for boys. In 1891 it was combined with the Public School. Early in the '50's Cushman and James Rosemand opened the Starkville Academy in the old Rhett Maxwell residence, located about where the Bordan Milk Condensary is today. This building was constructed when the south was in the zenith of its glory, wealth and chivalry. Money counted only as it was used to purchase the conveniences and

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1--Item from East Mississippi Times, 1925

comforts of life. As a result this home was made a southern palace with its wide colonial verandas and majestic columns. In 1857 it was purchased and completed by William Bell for the former promoter and owner as a female school. Later this building was taken over by Dr. Webb, a pioneer educator in this county. Under his instruction some of the highest-born and wealthiest daughters of the old south were educated. These became the mothers of the fine chivalric citizenship of the old southern homes in peace and war. Dr. Webb was followed by Proffessor Elliott, another educator of note, who conducted the school until the outbreak of the Civil War. During this period of gloom and poverty, the school closed its doors as an educational institution, and opened as a hospital where the needs of both the blue and the grey were ministered unto. The young ladies who had but recently tripped through these corridors as joyous students donned the caps of nurses and became ministering angels to the sick.

After the war, the old home became the property of James Montgomery. He rented it to Mrs. Edwards, who conducted it as a fashionable boarding school. It was later merged with the Starkville Female Institute and organized by Dr. T. G. Sellars and Mr. Montgomery in 1870. For twenty years they conducted it as a day and boarding school for the youth of Starkville, and adjacent community-.

Ibid.

The average attendance was near 180 with 88 graduates. (1)The value of the property was $10,000 with a library of 1000 volumes. There were eight assistant teachers of the finest qualifications, both as instructors and community workers. Dr. J. F. Sellers, son of Dr. Sellers, has this to say relative to this institution: "In the struggle for the survival of culture in the south during the Reconstruction backwash of the Civil War, many educated men and women, though economically impoverished, endeavored to save the youth of the tragic era from ignorance and resulting anarchy.---At this critical period there were organized in the South many private colleges for young women, for the most part under the auspices of Christian churches.---Among this number was the Starkville Female Institute. It had its charter from the state, and its diplomas were accepted as certificates for teaching in the Southern states and for graduate courses in the Universities of the North. Its curriculum includee courses in English, foreigh languages, and natural sciences, history, music and art, etc." It continued in active operation for more than twenty years. It was rented to the city as a high school in 1891, and sold to the city in 1892 for $3000. During this time this school was conducted on a tuition basis, but Dr. Sellars also received a salary from $50 to $100 per month for aid to under privileged students.

1--Letter from Dr. J. F. Sellars, published in the Starkville News

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By--R. C. Morris
December 14, 1936

(1)The third mission school in this county was located at Folsom, near the Choctaw Agency. David Folsom, who had been instrumental in establishing the mission at Mayhew in conjunction with Cyrus Kingsbury and John Pitchlyn, and who later assisted in the location of the Mission at Hebron, now moved to a place near the Agency in 1824 or 1825. Here he built a home of logs on the Robinson Road, leaving his home at Pigeon Roost on the Natchez Trace, in order to be near to aid in conducting the business of his nation. Here Dr. Cyrus Byington, came from Mayhew and established a school and taught in this home during the years 1829 - '30 - '31. He then built his mission school, which was called by the Indians "Yakmi-OOKchaiya", meaning living land, or missionary field. This school, according to Cushman and Dr. Dunbar Rowland, was located one and one-half miles west of the Folsom home or inn. Another writer places it one-half mile east of the Allison Randle place and states that it served as a church and school for ministers. It was known later as Byington School. This school, too, was converted into a white school or academy when the Indians left the county in 1832, and, as Dr. Byington went with them to their new homes, was taught by some of the most efficient instructors. Through them the high efficiency set by the missionaries was maintained. One of the first and most scholarly to follow Byington was William Walker, who had been

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1--History of the Chootaw, Chickasaw, and Natchez Indians - Cushman

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a Government surveyor in this county. After his work as surveyor was completed, he entered this school and taught the youth of that community for a number of years. He would contract with the parents to"Board around" for part of their tuition. He was followed by such instructors as Frierson, Miss Pressley, Johnson, Meek, Cooper, and Eastmond, who came just before the war. The work done by these instructors and educators ranks with any to be found in the best modern schools. From its walls came some of our outstanding citizens in all walks of life. Dr. Byington, the most noted teacher among the missionaries, was born of humble parents in 1793. He studied law, but after his conversion, he decided to become a missionary and desired to go to Turkey. In 1820, however, the American Board of Missions sent out a group of missionaries to Elliott and Mayhew, and he was persuaded to join them as a missionary to the Choctaws. While teaching the Indians, he decided it was necessary to prepare a dictionary and grammar of their language to be used in translating the Bible and other texts into the Choctaw langugae for studey. Before this, the missionary had to teach through an interpreter until he acquired the oral langugge. The teacher or minister would speak a sentence, and this would be repeated by the interpreter; if understood by the Indians, they would exclaim, "yumma" meaning very good! A farm was considered an

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Ibid.

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essential to every school, as in this way students were enabled to help defray expenses and also it enabled the school to be conducted in a much more economical manner. There was never a whisper during a service or lesson and as a result, sutdents made repid advancement. Through these schools, vocational education was introduced, and its efficiency as a means of education was proven. Through this system of instruction the Choctaws were able to enter into the affairs of state among their fellows in a most efficient manner. This when wealth come on the discovery of oil on their reservation, he could meet the severe competition of modern life. Through his missionary life Mr. Byington appreciated the value which a knowledge of the language and traditions of the Choctaws would have to scholars. From his arrival among them, therefore, he devoted assiduous labor to learning their language with a view to comprehending its extremely difficult constructions and of rendering it available to the missionary, teacher, and philological student. The Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 46, has an excellent picture of this great teacher and scholar. It is typical of the early statesman--deep set eyes, broad kindly face, long hair, positive mouth, cleanly shaved except below his chin. His face shows deep convictions and broad intelligance.

As was stated above, all this time small schools for white stu-

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Ibid.

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-dents were located in various sections of the county. In the Double Springs community, near the Chestnut Log Church, was a school known as the Chigoe Ridge School. In the Bell School-house neighborhood a small school was conducted in the early part of the last century. At Boardtown a school was conducted as soon as the Community grew large enough for one. In 1845 a school was conducted by a Mr. Rosemand, a New Englander, on the lot now occupied by the residence of Judge W. W. Magruder, and was continued for several years. A small school was maintained at Oak Grove near Turkey Creek for some years before the War. Dr. Raymond taught there early in the '40's. He had taught in a acounty academy at Centerville, Tennessee, but "providence" leading him to this state, he located at Starkville, and organized the above school. There were thirty seven students on his roll in 1849 as follows: Robert Bell, Calvin Bell, Aguilla Bell, Lou Rogers, Elbert Rogers, Thomas Weston, Glenn Bell, John Brown, Nancy Bell, Margaret Brown, John Ware, Thomas Ware, John Bell, Margaret Bell, Robert McCright, James McCright, Rebecca McCright, William McKell, Nancy McKell, Nancy Boyd, Louise Boyd, Mary Cross, Wm. Nason, John Montgomery, William Montgomery, Samuel Montgomery, Charles Watt, Frances Watt, James Saunders, Martha McDowell. Dr. Raymond later became pastor of the Presbyterian chruch of Starkville, and

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Ibid.

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ministered to his congregation until his death. Often paripatetic teachers came through the community and taught sepcial schools, arithmetic being the specialty. A splendid school was in operation at Whitefield, which later became Sturgis, Mississippi. These schools and a few private academies, together with the family tutors employed by the more wealthy conservative planters, greatly reduced illiteracy before and after the Civil War. (1)The Board of Police were permitted to aid poor children from the "literary fund", which was raised by setting aside the money obtained from fines, forfeitures, etc. Hutchinsin's Mississippi Code, 1798-1848, gives "an Act" creating a literary fund in 1821, during Poindexter's administration, for poor children to be selected by the County Commissioners, who shall have power to determine what number of poor children they will educate, what sum shall be paid for their education, etc. Each commissioner was to select as many as they shall deed expeident to pay for tuition, proper books, and materials for writing, ciphering, in order that said Children may be taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. Dr. Riley states: (2)"By the latter part of the year 1836 this fund amounted to over thirty thousand dollars, but the greater part of it was invested in bank stock and lost." Of course, the 16th section funds were available where they were properly administer-

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1--Riley'xs History of Mississippi - Chap. Public Education
2--May's History of Education in Mississippi - Chap. Public Schools
Goodspeed's Memoirs, Vol. II, Chap. IX

-ed by the township trustees. This money was used both for building school-houses and for the employment of teachers to supplement the small tuitions paid by the student.

Under an acto of the Legislature of 1845 passed at the urgent recommendation of Governor Brown, who plead "with great eloquence for a general system of common schools which should be open to all and at which the poor should be educated gratis". (1)The Board of Police of the county appointed a Board of School Commissioners, five in number, which represented each district. The duty of this Board was to meet quarterly at the Court house and after electing a president and secretary, they were to designate what schools in the county were free schools, to have superintendence of these schools, license teachers fro them, and contract with them at a salary determined by the school funds available. The Board of Police, under this act, had the power to levy a special tax for these common schools, provided they had the consent in writing of a majority of the residents heads of families in each township. They also had all money collected from escheats, fines, forfeitures, and amerciments, all money from licenses granted peddlers, billiard tables, saloons, brokers, etc., as well as 16th section funds. Twice a year - June and December- they were required to made a report to the Police of the county and the Secretary of

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1--May 's History of Education in Mississippi, Chap. 15

State, giving the number of teachers employed and the amount of money paid each teacher out of the funds collected from the above sources.

The news of the action of the legislature brought great rejoicing through out the state, especially among the poor people, but their rejoincing soon turned to sorrow, criticism, and denunciation, as the proviso, "of the apporval in writing by the heads of families" nulified the act in most of the counties. It was contended that any township could nullify the law by simple protest, that the statute was puzzling and ambiguous. May states that it was like placing a knife in the hands of a declared suicide. At the suggestion of the friends of the bill, rather Governor Brown, who recommended that it be abolished as it had not fulfilled the anticipations of its friends, the legislature began amending the law until itwas scarcely recognized in its original form. This was the first school law of the state, and while it was not attended with a great degree of success, in spite of its defects much potential good came from its provisions in present as well as future legislation.

,(1)In 1848 there were 1361 children in the state while there were only 264 in the private schools. In 1850 there were 782 common schools with an enrollment of 18, 742 pupils. In spite of

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1--Mississippi Historical Reports, Vol. 12, pp.74 - 76 ff.

the rapid increase in some localities, in a great many counties the work was crippled, in others entirely paralyzed by the want of a uniform and rigerous policy. In this county the latter condition obtained to a considerable degree, not that the citizenship was indifferent, but most of them felt that a free school was taken as a form of charity or dole handed down to the poor or just a pauper's schooling. (1)Then,too , the the bitter antagonism of the landed aristocracy who was able to furnish a private tutor or else a private school was in the way. The writer had heard more than one of the older citizens boast of the fact that they were not educated in a public school. As a reslut Boards of School Commissions appointed to handle the school funds of the county available from legal sources had no tax income as in every township the heads of families failed to petition the Board of Police to levy the tax, but contin ued to believe in the private academy and the tuition system of education. In one section of the county the idea of the private academy, boarding students, tuition, in the secondary school continued until 1912 or 1915. Such was the case for our landed aristocracy built on slavery, cultured, educated, like a beautiful flower growing from a bed of decayed soil. As we have noted, the public school system of this city was delayed, for similar reasons, until 1891 when the city bought the Sellars Aca-

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1--May's History of Education in Mississippi, Chap. 15

-demy for this purpose. Over the county the township Board of School Commissioners were content to maintain small public schools for those children unable to attend the better private schools located in almost every section of the county. At this time, however, it is impossible to ascertain from the records available, just what schools were "free" schools, what were private but partially supported by public funds, and what schools were entirely private. Oktibbeha County had its Board of School Commissioners, one from each Police District, five in all, whose duty has been given. (1) They were required by law to made semi-annual reports - January and July - to the General School Commissioner, who was the Secretary of State, who in turn was required to publish abstracts summarizing the educational work of the state as a whole. For these services he was allowed an additional compensation of $500 per year. Samuel Adams, Secretary of State, Jackson, Mississippi, January first, 1848, reports that he had no report from Oktibbeha County on education. Samuel Stamps, Secretary of State, Jackson, Mississippi, December 26, 1849, says eleven counties have made reports, Oktibbeha not among the number.

Jo Bell, Secretary of State, Jackson, Mississippi, November 25, 1851, says three counties only made reports to the Secretary of State, Oktibbeha not being among this number. No report sent

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1--Report of Secretary of State for 1846-1870, Jackson, Miss.

in from Oktibbeha County to the state department, from 1846 to 1870. Journals of the Mississippi House of Representatives, 1846, 1870 inclusive. All this was due to the fact that the Secretary of State had no powers of direction or control over the school officials of counties, towns, and townships. (1)

"(2)On the 11th of April, 1863, the Board of Police "Ordered that W. E. Saunders, C. Bardwell, and Will Bell be appointed inspectors to hold an election at Oak Grove Chruch to elect trustees (five in number) for the 16th section school fund of T. 18, R. 15, on Saturday the 25th day of this month." It appears that this election was not held as on the next meeting; it was "ordered that R. W. Ellis, W. H. Cross, and C. M. Reese be appointed inspectors to hold an election at Oak Grove Chruch on Saturday the 30th day of May, 1863 to elect five trustees for the 16th section school fund of T. 18, R. 15." The only action of the Board of School Commissioners from 1845 to 1870 is indicated by the action of the Borad of Police taken in 1873. This statement was taken from the register of the County Superintendent David Pressley, who was the first superintendent in the Carpet-bag Constitution which provided for a public school system for the entire state, as follows: (3) "The following pay certificates were issued to teachers who were employed by the Board of School "Directors"

1--Publications of Mississippi Historical Society, Vol. III, Centenary edition, Chap. Public Education.
2--Records of the Board of Police, Oktibbeha County, 1836
3--Records of the County Superintendent of Education, 1873, Ok-Tibbeha County; Reports of Miss. Historical Society, Vol. 15

(Commissioners), but whose services were rendered after the said Board had ceased to exist."

(1)These are the teachers together with their school and salary received. We are not able to ascertain ff the salary was fixed at the then current rated or by their former employers.

M. Redus----------Bethel---------Salary $60 per month.
I. L. Sherman----------Bush Arbor----------60 " "
I. D. McCann----------Gelespie----------60 " "
E. M. Yeates----------Magnolia----------60 " "
M. H. Henry----------Mountain Spring--------60 " "
E. H. Green----------Hickory Grove---------60 " "
R. B. Harrington----------Betheny----------60 " "
Daniel McCloud----------Butler School----------60 " "
J. C. Tolson----------Gray School----------
A. M. Leech----------Big Creek----------60 " "
Rev. T. G. Sellers---------Starkville Female Inst.--100 per month
Prof. J. M. Barrow---------Starkville Male Inst.---75 " "

The entire amount expended for schools for this year was $16000.

During the period immediately after the war, until 1870, a great many northern teachers came into this county to teach the negroes, some even living in social equality with the negroes, and some going so far as to incity the former slaves against their old

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1--Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society, Vols. 9, 6, 10, 4, 8. Claiborne's Mississipi as a Provence, Vol. I; Lowery and McCardle History of Mississippi; Cushman's History of the Choctaw Chickasaw, and Natchez Indians was used extensively in the study of the mission schools and early academies.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

friends. Among this number were such as "Shirt" Wilson, who preached and taught at Chapel Hill and where he eventually married a negro woman. Another white Carpet-bagger was Shelly, and still another was McLaughlin, who preached to the negroes here in the city of Starkville. This resulted in the Ku Klux Klan taking the matter in their hands and driving such characters from the county and in some instances burning the schools or churches of the negroes. After this, under the conservative action of the Superintendent of Education, this antagonistic spirit began to subside.

Ibid.

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STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page #22
Topic: Education - Schools of Yesterday
Assignment #11
By--R. C. Morris
December 14, 1936

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8--History of Education in Mississippi, May, Chap. Public Schools

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CHAPTER TEN

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

Agriculture is the principal industry of this county, as it is of the entire state. More than three-fifths of our entire land area is in farms. Cotton might be considered the leading crop but dairying now rivals the cotton industry, especially since the coming of the boll weevil.

Since the governor has been stressing the "balancing of agriculture with industry", the importance of this means of livelihood has begun to attract the attention of the public as never before. With modern means of cultivation and gathering our crops, agriculture is furnishing less and less means of employment. When cotton was "king", the whole family and the hired man and his brood could be used the entire year. During the cultivation season with the single-mule plow, when cotton had to be "chopped" time and again to get the desired stand, the entire kinnery was needed; at harvesting season, with cotton picking, potato digging and kilning, even the small boys, white or colored had their jobs; if for nothing else than to mind the

fence gaps for the harvesters. Today, with the cultivator and other modern methods of cultivation and harvesting, only a small portion of the family is of any service, and the hired-man may soon be dispensed with. During the winter in former years all were kept busy securing rails for fences, clearing new grounds, cleaning out fence corners, and chopping fuel for the fires, etc. This again took the family and the man-power of the entire farm during the "off season." Most of which is unnecessary today, so our man-power goes unemployed.

AGRICULTURE AS A MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD

President Roosevelt, in his address recently before the farmers at Omaha, Nebraska, stated that agriculture had greater possibilities today in furnishing the farmer a means of a living than it has ever done before. He stated that pauperism was on every hand in 1933 when his administration came into power, but through his policy the farmer is now on the road to prosperity.

The long-time policy includes: Conservation against land wastage and soil impoverishment, seeking to increase purchasing

power so that people can pay for more and better food, therefore, providing a larger domestic market for the farmer; attacking the evil of farm tenacy and giving the farmer a sound plan of crop insurance against extreme fluctations of supply and demand.

It is the desire of the President that every family shall own its farm and home, and that tenacy be completely banished from the American continent. This will give employment to thousands of citizens. Many farmers who have been foreclosed.

and driven from their small farms without recourse are now going back and providing a living for themselves and their families, as well as many industrial workers.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE

There are now (1936) over 233,768 acres of farm land in cultivation in Oktibbeha County, on 3,502 farms, so one readily sees that the farmer is attempting plantations too large to cultivate successfully. It has been the argument of many for years that our county would be more prosperous with hundreds of small farms, in place of the few plantations worked by poor tenants. Much of this land is given to meadow, pasture, and to forests, but entirely too much is held by one farmer.

MEANS OF BUILDING SOIL

Farm soil is improved by rotation of crops, natural husbandry, or permitting the land to "rest" on occassional years. Today, the legume rotation system is in vogue in this county. Farmers also, rely upon supplying certain chemicals by purchasing potassium, nitrogen, etc., but it has been found that this without sufficient organic matter, is not successful but scientific rotation is the effective planting of grains and green crops, so that a perfect adjustment will be brought about in both cultivation and marketing. This is known as a balanced agricultural system. In this county, the rotation best adapted to land improvement is corn, legumes, cotton, rye, or oats for cover crops.

EARLY HISTORY OF AGRICULTURE

The early home of the American Colonist was chiefly a country of agriculture and rural communities. Farming then included not only the production and sale crops and livestock, but also the cutting of wood for fuel and lumber; weaving and making clothes, tanning of leather and making of shoes, harness, etc., the manafacture of household furniture and farm implements. Thus was begun a vast expansion of American agriculture, largely unhampered by tradition; most of the colonists indeed, were farmers. After the custom of the Indian, the farmer made a clearing in the virgin forest by killing the trees or building fires around their bases, and then planted his crops between the deadened trunks. His was a new experience. Coming over in the spring and summer time, they readily formed the conclusion that their European crops would thrive. One explorer stated that it looked as though "Heaven and earth had vied to make this a fit habitation for man." As a result, they first attempted to grow the mulberry, and we can find them all over this county; to grow the silkworm, the olive, the pomegranate, etc. These were found to be failures, so they turned to the Indian for instructions on what crops to plant and how to grow them. So successful were our early settlers in this work of trial and rejection, that the main features of our present agriculture were soon fixed. We learned to grow

tobacco, rice, Indian corn, wheat, indigo, and lastly, cotton. Dr. Riley tells of the Indigo experiment which is typical. Owing to the disagreeableness of manufacturing the dye and the ravages of an insect on the plant, the culture of it was soon abandoned for the cultivation of cotton.

Walter Burling greatly aided the cotton culture in this state by securing Mexican seed, which he had to import in the form of Mexican dolls, due to the law forbidding their shipment out of that country by the Spanish government. These early farmers, however, had but to tickle the new soil with the crudest implements, and it would laugh forth with an abundant harvest.

INDIANS AIDED EARLY SETTLERS

The Indian furnished our early farmers with the best methods of providing sustenance against winter and periods of necessity. Buffalo roamed our prairies by the thousands, as well as deer, bear, and other wild animals. Red men instructed the white man how to build or dig game pits and trails. Today, these embankments are known as Indian breastworks, but were undoubtedly used to force wild animals into these pits. These unfortunate animals were then killed and their meat dried for winter. The chief means of providing sustenance however, was agriculture.

Tillage of the land was no small matter and occupied the attention of the entire family--women and children,

as well as the men, yet the labor of these mothers and daughters made possible some of the most important vegetable products, and many of the dishes are now considered as strictly American. With the most primitive farm tools, these farmers raised corn, "the staff of life" to the early colonists; squashes, pumpkins, beans, melons, and finally, tobacco. From there the Indians taught them how to cook "baked beans", hoe-cakes, ash-cake, hominy, succotash, gruel for the sick, and even our modern popcorn.

All utensils were crude. Farmers believed the iron plow would "pizen" the soil, and refused to use it. He was forced to use the wooden plow, so heavy as to need four oxen and three men to run it. The fork, spade and harrow were primitur and clumsy; grain was threshed with a frail, the corn shelled by hand. The Indian taught them to fertilize, to rotate by leaving the soil idle every third year to renew itself.

COTTON IS "KING"

Cotton is, and will continue to be king in mississippi. This County is a banner county in dairying and the usual crops of sweet potatoes, peas, hay, corn and syrup; but cotton is still the money-crop. It is common history that cotton was introducted into this state by French colonists from San Domingo, early in the 18th century. The Mexican cotton has proved to be the best variety, and was imported by Burling in 1806. Later, the Sea Island long staple has come to be the best variety, due to the beautiful.

lint and long staple. It is not as prolific as Mexican; and while it sells for more, it is very little more profitable. The slave method was rough but remunerative, due to the fact that the land was new and fertile, and cotton will produce under the most adverse conditions. The farmer made up in quantity of land for negligent production. The crop was not profitable till the cotton gin was invented in 1794. In fact, it was the negro who made the first gin in this state-from a rude drawing and an imperfect description given him by a traveler who had seen the Whitney gin in Georgia; the negro was a success as a cotton grower even during slavery.

Cotton plants are now kept to a thick stand, and by intense cultivation a large and early yield is secured. Today, it is all open and practically gathered by December, while only a generation ago, I have seen fields of it ungathered after Christmas,in the Delta section of Mississippi.

Cotton was gathered from 21,000 cultivated acres of land in this county during 1936. 8,002 bales produced. The method of harvesting has not changed. The modern cotton-picker has not been perfected; and

will never come into common use on our small farms.

Cotton is marketed in a great many places in a cooperative way. By this method it is placed in a warehouse and the farmer may borrow a certain percent on its value, then wait for better prices.

CORN AND FORAGE CROPS

We had about 35,000 acres of corn in 1936, which gave an average yield of 15 bushels per acre. This county has probably never producad sufficient corn for home consumption; but under the

advice of our county agent and progressive farmers, together with the influence of the State College Agricultural Department, the acreage is gradually being increased. This, together with improved cultivation and a better type of corn, is rapidly increasing our production. The only corn marketed for ready cash are inconsiderable lots brought into town by small farmers and negro tenants.

TRUCK FARMING

This county does no extensive trucking, the home garden being our dependence. The surplus is either conserved by drying or canning or is sold fresh on the streets of Starkville, or the State College. The usual varieties of home gardening are furnished by these rural gardens; an abundance of cabbage, collards, beans, peas, spinach, beats, etc.

POULTRY AND LIVESTOCK

Under the inspiration of the College Poultry Plant and like institutions our farmers of this section of the state are giving more attention to poultry. Robert Lamkin, Jimmie Norris, Cecil Bardwell, and others now raising chickens and turkeys both for home consumption and the market. Lamkin has a plant that sells

baby chicks by the thousands. Norris specializing in turkeys for market. Others raise solely for home and market purposes, and do not attempt to hatch young chicks or turkeys. Many club boys and girls raise from 100 to 1000, which is proving profitable, especially where they are able to grow their own feed.

The college creamery and milk condensery have given a stimulus to dairying. About 20,000 dairy cows are now (1936) being milked, furnishing nearly 5,000,000 gallons of milk for these plants. Milk is converted into butter, Bulgarian buttermilk, condensed milk, and shipped all over the country. Allison Randel devotes his attention to stall fed beef for local markets, and is reaping a profit. Hogs, sheep and goats are produced only for home consumption. W. H. Suddeth raises a few lambs for the market, and Harry Peters a few sheep for the wood and mutton. Each farm has a few hogs for home use. Very few goats are to be found.

RURAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS

The modern farm home is as different from the old farm home, as are the modern methods of living from the old. The modern rural home is built on a paved highway; it has its own telephone,

modern lighting, heating and especially, sewerage with water conveniences. A water system provides a wholesome supply for family use, and farm purposes, at slight cost, is one of the principle utility problems of the average farmer. As a result, farmers are providing deep wells, gas engines and pumps, with pressure or aerial tanks, thus assuring the necessary quantity and proper kind of water. Sewerage is secured by a well-built septic tank, which gives water and sewerage disposal free of contamination. Higher standards of living in a modern rural home are everywhere creating new and increased demands for water--in fact the amount of water consumed is a criterion of the state of culture attained. Horses and cows will consume from 20 to 30 gallons each, per day. The old cistern or seep well has taken its toll of dysentery, typhoid fever, etc., and is being rapidly discarded.

MODERN AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES

Modern agencies are aiding in promoting better agriculture, all of them functioning through expert advisors. Today, the Federal Government through its Agricultural Department, offers

many advanced ideas to help the farmer, but it often fails to reach individuals, so county agents serve to carry this aid direct to those most needing it. The Agricultural Adjustment Act and Soil Conservation Act, are two instances of this nature. The Projects for 1936 give some idea of their work; dairying and pastures-parasite control; building new pastures, judging cattle, general livestock, horticulture, pruning, spraying, field crops, cotton, balanced cropping system, poultry and turkey schools, assistance in marketing; sales cooperative-cotton, turkeys, cattle community organizations at Oktoc, Sessums, Trimcane, Craig S prings; Boys 4H Clubs, rally days, summer camps, State Fairs, Livestock Clubs.

EFFICIENCY IN HOME MAKING

3,502 farm-homes in Oktibbeha County, are partly occupied by women and girls, who so largely influence the family life, and are endeavoring to develop efficiency in duties, seeking to find a deeper satisfaction for themselves and their loved ones. For practical help in this work, the home demonstration agent has mapped out a system of education that keeps pace with current developments,

adapting a women's services to changing economic and social conditions. Their teachings vitally affects the life of our people, and fosters a program based on their needs as recognized by the home-makers them-selves. The work first began with rural girls, under the direction of Miss Susie V. Powell in 1910 or 1911, from the State A & M college, now Mississippi State College. Soon women saw its advantage for their scope is almost limitless. It reaches into every avenue of the social economic, educational and health life of the home. In every family the problem of food, clothing, and shelter is paramount. Correct feeding of the family is a basic necessity. Through this task the home-maker is given simple instruction as to what constitutes a balanced ration, and how such food

should be prepared. Clothing the family in good taste and at a minimum cost is a perennial problem of the rural home. The home demonstration agent teaches women and girls how to select and make garments that conform to standards of utility and ease in cleaning.

As a means of increasing the family income, rural women and girls are helped to grow and sell products of the home and garden. They are aided in planning efficient methods of conducting household tasks on the basis of individual needs. They assist in renovation and rebuilding furniture and in properly arranging it in the home; in beautifying the home by the proper arrangement of pictures, draperies, and other accessories. Home-crafts, such as rug making, basketry, etc., is included in her program of work. The yards of the home are not lost sight of, so flowers, shrubs, grass and trees are planted. As a result, attractive and well-cared for grounds are becoming evident . Everywhere, the Cooperative Extension work of the County agent, and Home Demonstration Agent and U.S. Farm Bul. No. 1381 furnish annuals and perennials for those who want them.

FLOWER CULTURE

Yard chrysanthemums bloom in September. Columbines have a blue-green foliage; the flower is blue, red, and yellow.

Sweet Williams are"old-timey" and common; Phlox furnish a variety of colors for many yards; Lantana is perennial favorite; Hollyhocks grow in great abundance and they also are old fashioned; Cosmos furnish a fall-blooming flower; Dahlias are becoming more popular in home gardens; Spider flowers bloom twice each year; Larkspurs are blue and purple and all loved by the early settlers; Scarlet sage, Asters, Snap dragons, and Marigolds are common among flower lovers. Poppies and petunias are grown in baskets pots or in open beds.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Knowledge concerning health is greatly needed in rural sections as persistet superstitions still prevail as to causes of diseases and their prevention. Nowadays our women and girls are taught the principles of sanitation, contagious diseases, posture, care of the sick, and what to do till the doctor comes. They also learn the danger of patient medicines the care and training of children, the treatment of malaria and other common diseases, according to government prescriptions.

Community Warfare is also considered by the Home Demonstration Agent; clubs of various kinds are organized in and out of school; home work is exhibited at county fairs. This keeps a high standard of good humored rivalry before the people who know that their wares will be observed by competent judges in comparison with those of their neighbors.

HORTICULTURE

Anything that will make the home better tends to improve citizenship. For this reason county agents devote much to home beautification. Every woman, more or less, is a lover of flowers. Her chief need, is direction as to what she shall plant and how to best arrange her flowers and shrubbery. Neglect of such improvement is usually due to a belief that any adequate improvement will be too expensive; that it will require too much time and work for upkeep. Then, in many cases, it is indifference. The farm agent first works with those interested, and through these others are developed. The expense is shown to be small, if the flower lover uses what is already available, and generous neighbors contribute. Many wild shrubs and flowers are being used for home

decoration. Flowers, vines, and shrubs are transplanted, and an exchange is provided. Roses, Jonquils, violets, etc., are easily gotten, as well as smilax, honeysuckle, wisteria, ivy, So are jasmine, spires, bridal wreath, privet, quince.

Orchards are being improved, rather slowly, there being very little market and fruitage is uncertain, due to spring frosts, insects and other pests. Interest in this work about the modern home is stimulated by flower shows at various clubs, at Oktock, Sessums, Trimcane, Craig Springs. These exhibits display flowers, fruits, and vegetables which are judged by competent authorities from the college.

REFERENCES

Material secured from County Agents, personal interviews of these agents, and women throughout the county. Bulletin, SR-4650; County Agent Program of Work; County Demonstration Agens Program. Landscape Gardening Bul. 267; Beautifying the Farmsteads-AHS Bul. 1087; Farmers Bul. 381; Horticultural Exhibits--Farmers Bul. 85; Home Demonstration Work-Bul. 1171; Growing Annual Flowering Plants-Bul. 178; Permanent Fruit and Vegetable Gardens--Bul. 1342; Herbaceous Perennials--Bul. 1381; Community Building-Bul. 1173; Farmstead Water Supply; Bul. 1448; Farm Plumbing, 1426; History of Agriculture, NSB. Gras., Census Reports; Riley's History of Miss.; College Horticultural Dept.; Prof. Sipe on Poultry; Mr. Robert Lamkin on Hatcheries, Etc.

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page #1
Topic: Industry
Assignment #20
By: Marie Tallichet
March 3, 1937

A. The Borden Plant

1. The Borden Company of New York founded a southern branch in Starkville in 1926. (1)The New York firm, of course, owned this branch office. The spot chosen on which to erect the $500,000 plant is shown on the official map of the city of Starkville as being lot 4, block 58, same being located in section 2, township 18, range 14.

2. The products of this company is condensed milk. There are four brands manufactured. These are: Eagle Brand Condensed Milk, Magnolia Brand Condensed Milk, Rose Brand Condensed Milk, Dime Brand Condensed Milk. There is an extremely wide market for this product, but trade is heaviest in the following states: Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and West Tenneesee.

3. The average number of employees for this firm is from thirty to thirty-five persons. The annual pay-roll is approximately $39,000 a year. This doesnot include the $572,508 paid last year to farmers for 31, 080, 543 lbs. of milk received. The following is a table showing the increase in business that the firm has enjoyed: Lbs. of milk received and amount paid for same since plant started operations on April 1, 1926 and thru December 31, 1936.

1--H. V. Sheloske, Supt. of Borden Co., Starkville, Miss.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page #2
Topic: Industry
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By: Marie Tallichet
March 3, 1937

Year	Lbs. of Milk Received	Amount Paid
1926	15,644,428	$400,526.32
1927	37,123,601	954,316.60
1928	30,169,689	731,707.41
1929	24,213,908	577,408.11
1930	21,776,595	441,975.48
1931	26,390,230	368,478.45
1932	26,539,559	258,819.15
1933	25,424,536	290,700.38
1934	25,269,365	360,525.36
1935	28,726,588	433,119.76
1936	31,080,543	572,508.01

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4. Starkville is an important dairying center, but hitherto the industrial side of the dairy business was lacking in the county. With the establishment of the Borden Plant, the industrial side was brought to the county. The large pay-roll distributed throughout the county is a boon to merchants and business men as well as farmers. It stimulates more interest in the dairy business, and brings a greater degree of prosperity to the county.

(1) On March 10th and 11th a Big Celebration is being planned for the opening of the Borden Milk Condensing Plant. This occasion

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1--Excerpt taken from the Starkville News, 1926

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

should be celebrated in a big way, for it is the biggest event that has happened in the history of Starkville and Oktibbeha County since the great A. & M. College was located here.

IT IS THE FIRST MILK CONDENSING PLANT TO BE LOCATED SOUTH OF THE MASON AND DIXON LINE. After many, many months of investigation and planning, the Borden Company of New York decided that Starkville and Oktibbeha County was the strategic point to locate their first plant in the South, because the dairy industry had advanced further in this section and that the natural advantages for dairying here were greater than any other section in the South.

The Borden Southern Company, which is a part of the Borden system, has erected a half-million dollar plant here. Other cities in the South would have gladly given a hundred thousand dollars or more to secure this great industry. The company did not ask Starkville for a penny, but gave her the plant because they were convinced this was the most suitable location. It is a magnificent gift.

Now let us show our appreciation of this great enterprise by heartily cooperating with the General Committee and other committees in the plans for a great celebration.

To the people of Starkville and Oktibbeha County, the most distinguished and cordially welcomed visitor to the Opening Celebration of the Borden Plant, March 10, 1926, will be an Oktibbeha County boy-

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Ibid.
Minnie Walker, Supervisor

J. Wallace Maxwell of New York City. As has been stated by many citizens and in the columns of The Starkville News, "the people of Oktibbeha County owe a debt of gratitude to Wallace Maxwell, the man responsible for the location in Starkville of the first milk condensery in the South. It was he who induced the first scout sent out by his company to come to Starkville and look us over." Our hats are raised to you, Wallace, and a warm welcome awaits you.

Mr. Maxwell returned to Starkville to make his home in 1932. He set up a mercantile business in 1933, and settled down to life in a community where he was a highly respected member. In 1935 he was elected mayor of Starkville. For one year he served his community with great efficiency. His term was cut short by death, however. On January 6, 1936 he breathed his last, and was buried in the Starkville cemetery.

Ibid.

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Oktibbeha County Jersey Cattle.

1. (1) Colonel W. B. Montgomery of Starkville has been called the father of dairying in Oktibbeha County, as it was he who first imported the Jersey cows from the Isle of Jersey into the South, and he who first introduced good pastures in Oktibbeha County. The good Jerseys brought in by Colonel Montgomery, even though many of them died from tick fever, left a lasting impression on many of the county. These Jerseys served as foundations for a number of small herds which were carried along in a more or less static condition until the starting of the dairy business in the county.

2. Before the establishment of the Cooperative Creamery some dozen or more farmers were making some farm butter and shipping to various points in the state, and some few were shipping sweet cream to Delta points or elsewhere. Oktibbeha was a much frequented county even then by those seeking to purchase Jersey cows in the South. Her fame in this connection had gone to some states far North of us.

The new grasses and clover introduced by Col. Montgomery and by others found a congenial soil on which to grow, and soon the section around Starkville became known throughout Mississippi and the South as one of the best grazing sections in the South and as

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1--Excerpts taken from the Starkville News.

one of the real Jersey centers of the South.

The surplus cows have been a source of much revenue. The first herd consisted of 65 grade cows, valued at $1,300. Twenty-five of these cows were sold, and one registered Jersey bull and two pure bred heifers were bought with the money. With this humble start, the present college herd of 250 pure breds has been built up.

3. The surplus cows have been a source of much revenue to the county. This business had built up by 1925 where approximately $200,000.00 was being brought into the county annually from the sale of the surplus dairy cows. These cows were going into states from the Carolinas to Texas and to Oklahoma, from Florida and Louisiana to Illinois and Iowa on the north. And the result of it all is that to-day the rich Jersey milk and butter of Oktibbeha is being shipped to all the busy marts of the world.

4. Colonel Montgomery was born in 1829, was a graduate of Princeton University and a devout Scotch Presbyterian. But most of all he was a man of vision. Directly after the Civil War, when everywhere swords had been sheathed, he settled on his Mhoon Valley plantation near Starkville, and began to look about for some path that led out of the morass of reconstruction days.

Due to constantly disintegrating lime rock in Oktibbeha soils, the cotton farmers were in a continuous battle to keep grass out of

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Ibid.

their cotton fields. Grass, to them, was a curse, but Col. Montgomery recognized it as a benediction of nature. Contrary to the general custom of some crop system of cotton farming, he began to preach wide diversification and dairy farming. He became owner and editor of the Southern Livestock Journal and built up a strong circulation through the South for this worthy magazine.

Riding about his plantation and the surrounding country, he would always carry the seeds of a variety of good pasture grasses in his saddle-bags. As he spread his philosophy of a wellpballanced farming, he would also strew these seed along the roadways, in fence rows, and through the meadows. Alfalfa, Johnson grass, sweet clover, and lispedeza took to the lime soil as ducks take to water. From the Isle of Jersey he imported the sires and dams of herds that fattened on the meadows in Mhoon Valley.

Ibid.

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Oktibbeha's First Creamery:

1-- (1) The first Creamery in Oktibbeha County was started by Mr. W. B. Montgomery in 1886. This creamery was located about four and one-half miles South of Starkville on the East bluff of Hollis Creek on what is now known as Frank Hogan's place. This building was erected over a large spring, which supplied the cooling and also the water. In those days there were no modern cooling rooms such as are in use now. The base of the building was of brick 20x30 feet in size and can be seen still standing.

2--The usual products of a dairy were to be found here such as butter, whole milk and butter-milk. No separators were in use then which enables dairies of today to sell pure cream and skimmed milk. This dairy only had a local market and a very small one. Because of the fact that cows were then kept only for supplying home use and also because it was considered almost a disgrace for any ordinary sized family not to own a cow of their own, this first creamery was discontinued after four years--in the year of 1890. However, this small beginning was not in vain as it paved the way for the fine, modern creamery of to-day of which Starkville and Oktibbeha County boasts.

Parke Jordan, Starkville, Mississippi--Interview

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

The Co-operative Creamery:

1. (1) In 1912 a group of 19 farmers banded together, under the leader-ship of Prof. J. S. Moore of the dairying department of A & M College, in an effort to find a cash crop to supplement the boll-weevil stricken cotton crop. This was the beginning of the Co-operative Creamery and the dairy industry in Oktibbeha County, which, down the years has grown to great proportions. The location of the creamery was in the basement of the Dairy Building on the campus of what is now Mississippi State College. During the first year 14,503 pounds of butter was manufactured for which the patrons received $4,000. The industry had prospered so that larger quarters were needed, so in 1929, a modern, brick building was accordingly erected just off the college campus and was opened for operation on February, 14, 1930.

2. Until 1930, the only product manufactured was butter, but when the plant was moved in the new location, powdered milk was also manufactured. The butter, which is conceded to be the best in the South, has a ready and a wide market. It is sold in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, as well as through-out the state of Mississippi.

3. The Creamery employs on an average of thirty persons, and the annual pay-roll is approximately $10,000.

1--Information furnished by Mr. M. C. Cooper, Mgr., Starkville, Miss.

4. The benefits to the community of this firm are many. It offers one of the best markets in the South for dairy products. Being a co-operative organization, it gives the farmer an opportunity of being on an equal buying and selling basis with other manufacturers. There is a well-equipped meat-curing room, which is open to the farmers of the territory at a very low cost. The creamery also maintains a feed house, selling feed to Oktibbeha farmers at cost. The plant is always active in affairs for civic betterment or any program for the development of the dairy industry.

Ibid.

The J. W. Sanders Cotton Mill, Inc.,

(1) The J. W. Sanders cotton Mill, Inc., owns and operates three mills; Mill No. 1 is located in Starkville, Miss., Mill No. 2 is located at Magnolia, Miss., and Mill No. 3 is located in Meridian, Miss. Mill No. 1 is located about one mile south-east of Starkville and covers Lot #19 in Block #31. This mill uses approximately 22,000 lbs. of raw cotton weekly. It uses Long-staple cotton which is purchased from McFadden and West of New Orleans, Cotton Brokers, with branch offices in Columbus, Mississippi.

2. This mill takes the bale of cotton and carries it from one piece of machinery to another until it comes out in bundles of cloth. Before a bale of cotton is made into bundles and bundles of cloth, it has to pass through 14 differnt kinds of machinery: First, this r aw cotton is carried through "pickers"; these machines get rid of all of the firt and foreign matter which might be in the cotton. Still, of course, this one machine cannot get rid of all the undesirable dirt etc, so it is again run rhrough another machine called "carding machines"; This picks it into very fine, thin sheets of cotton, which, on this same process and in this same carding machine, makes the cotton into a large "rope" which is gently laid into large, deep containers in coil shape. These containers are taken to another machine, six cans to each section of the machine, which is called the machine for "First Drawing". These six coil-like ropes of cotton are put

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1--Mr. C. L. Poole, Starkville, Miss.,Interview, 3/10/37

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through the machine and come out on the other side into three coild or smaller ropes. From this machine the smaller ropes are carried to the "Second" and " Third" drawing machines until it is made into threads and take n th rough another process and to another machine called "Slubbers" where it is wound onto large spools or cones. These cones of thread are placed on a huge frame from which they are fed on to a large revolving cylinder and when one looks at this cylinder, he needs not to be told how each thread in the finished material stands out so markedly. From this spinning frame the cloth is taken through "Intermediates","Speeders", "Winders", "Warpers", and into the "Dye Machines" or vats where the goods is placed for hours and hours in order to "set" the colors. Most any color is made at this mill also checks, plaids, striped, and plain prints, also colored Attala Chambray. From the dye machines, the cloth is carried through "Slashers", "Drawing machines" (This machine is almost human and can do the work that was formerly required by 25 men in the days before its invention) and through weaving looms and as the 15th step, the cloth is carried into the cloth--room-Baled and ready for market.

This market is wide-spread, as this material is sent to all parts of the country. Just recently, this mill made shipments to

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Ibid.

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Sears, Roebuck & Co, and to Montgomery Ward & Co. of Chicago and New York and to their branch stores scattered over the country.

3. Approximately 165 persons are employed regularly in this mill and it has a pay-roll of around $80,000 annually.

4. The benefits of such an industry to this or to any community are obvious: Any industry with such a large pay-roll is a benefit to any community and in addition it employs a large number of men and women who would other-wise be unemployed.

This mill is under the supervision of Mr. C. L. Poole, one of the most competemt and efficient of men. He knows the cotton mill business from start to finish and at any time, he is willing to show and explain various phases of this industry to those who are interested.

Ibid.

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Grist-Mill and Black-smith Shop.

(1) Mr. J. A. Jurney is the founder and owner of a fine, growing business in the Grist-Mill and Blacksmith shop business. This shop is located on the North end of Main Street and is equipped with rip-saw and motor power.

2. This shop uses only local products and enjoys only a local market. Farmers from this community and adjoining communities bring their corn to this mill and have it made into corn-meal for their own use. Out of each grinding from this mill, the owner usually takes his per cent of toll--this he sells and receives his toll in ready cash by this means.

3. There are only two men employed in the mill regularly. At busy times, others are called in as needed.

4. This mill is of great benefit to the community as farmers are enabled to bring their corn here and save the expense and inconvenience of hauling a great distance to have their meal ground for home consumption and other purposes.

Mr. Journey was born in Winston County but he moved to Oktibbeha County when he was only three years old. He was educated in the Public school of Oktibbeha County. He farmed in this county

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1-- Mr. J. A. Journey, Starkville, Miss.,---Conference

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until he was 28 years old, serving his apprentice-ship as mechanic at the same time but he never used this line of work until 1928 when he started the mill which he now owns and operates.

Ibid.

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B. The Starkville Cotton Oil Company

1. The Starkville Cotton Oil Company, Gin, and Ice Plant are a combination of industries founded by the Business and Professional Men of Starkville. It was organized in 1900 with a capital stock of $40,000. The company is located on a spur of the M. & O. Railroad on grounds that arequite ample for its purposes with large and well-constructed buildings. It is also connected with the I. C. Railroad.

2. Everything is arranged on a scale and with a method to insure convenience and economy, from the time the seed cotton is taken up into the gin building by suction hoists from the farmer's wagon until the bale of cotton is delivered to the owner and the oil is deposited in the tanks and the meal, hulls, and linters are ready for sale or shipment. In the two story gin building are six gin stands connected with a large conveyor which delivers the lint cotton to either a square or round bole press. The mill has a capacity of forty tons of seed daily, from which are produced 1400 to 1500 gallons of cotton seed oil, about sixteen tons of meal, a like amount of hulls and more than a bale of linters. The production of cotton and oil is strictly a southern industry, and one which figures largely in the financial upbuilding of the South. The Ice plant is one of the best, and furnishes pure ice to the citynand county.

1--Information gathered from the Starkville News,

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3. The number of employees is indefinite, as the seasons of the year determine the number of people used. Also, of course, the amount of the annual pay-roll cannot be fixed. The executive officers, president, secretary, and treasurer, serve the year around.

4. The Starkville Cotton Oil Company is one of the county's most important industries, and furnishes the farmer with a market for his product. The Gin and Ice Plant are a great boon to the community and give good service.

Ibid.

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(1) The Staggers Wholesale and Retail Business is one of best and fastest-growing businesses in Starkville. It was founded and is now being run by Mr. E. H. Staggers and is located in the heart of town--on Main Street.

2. Its products are many and every-thing which is sold is made in this business establishment. They make the following kinds of Bread: Cheese Pimento; Butterflake Pullman; Mello-crust Old Fashion; Whole-wheat; Rye; French; Salt-rising; Raisin; Parker House Rolls; Buttered Biscuit.

In addition to these delicious breads they have a complete quality line of cakes of all kinds; Pies of all kinds; Dough-nuts and other kinds of pastry such as Coconut Macaroons, Cinnamon Rolls etc. They also prepare candies such as peanut and Coconut Brittle. These products, with the exception of bread, are sold locally, both wholesale and retail. The bread is shipped to Columbus and to the smaller towns in Oktibbeha County.

3. This business employs nine people and has an annual pay-roll of $6500.00.

4. The business is a benefit to the community in as much as it has brought several families to Starkville, of which Starkville is very proud and has employed others in the community; also fur-

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1--E. H. Staggers, Starkville, Mississippi--Conference.

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nished a good pay-roll into the town. Those who desire the purest and best bread and other foods obtainable in the bakery line can find it here. The following is an article which appeared in an issue of the (1) Starkville News which proves the excellency of their products:

"At a bread scoring contest held recently in Birmingham for bakeries over Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Alabama, of two loaves of bread submitted by Mr. E.H. Staggers Bakeries, Baker of Butterflake Bread, received first place, making a score of 98½.

The following is a statement made by one of the scoring officials regarding the bread submitted by Mr. Staggers.

"The two loaves received the highest score of any bread I have scored since I have been with the Fleischmann Company. In scoring this bread, I found that there was very little I could offer in the way of suggestions to improve and I would like to congratulate you on turning out such a wonderful loaf of bread."

Mr. E.H. Staggers who operates this business has been account-ant and credit manager for J.L. Walker & Co. of Columbus, Miss., for 13 years; purchasing agent, whole-sale credit manager and general Supervisor of stores for Robertson & Co., of Columbus, Miss. for six years. He has been in business for himself in Starkville for a number of years and has built for himself a very profitable and rapidly-growing business.

1---Starkville News, Starkville, Mississippi.

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B. BLUMENFELD AND FRIED WHOLESALE GROCERY CO:

1. (1) The wholesale firm of Blumenfeld and Fried grew out of the original firm established in 1876 for retail merchandising, cotton, buying and plantation supplying. In 1926 it became exclusively dealers in wholesale groceries. The present owners are Mrs. Amelia Blumenfeld, Miss Mena Blumenfeld, and Mr. Edward W. Scott. The location of the firm is on the corner of Lampkin and Worley Streets.

2. This firm handles canned goods, flour, sugar, and such staples, roofing, fencing, and nails, candies and tobaccos, and all such items as properly belong to a business of this sort. Its markets are Oktibbeha County and adjacent counties, and it gives a distinct service to all retailers within its territory.

3. There are five employees, not including the porters, whose number is irregular.

4. This large firm established the first cotton market in the county. Formerly the cotton was carried to Mayhew and Kosciusko to be sold. It also releases money in the county, and employs local citizens.

1--Miss Mena Blumenfeld, Starkville, Miss.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

B. The J. S. Lewis Wholesale Grocery Business.

1. (1)The J. S. Lewis Wholesale Grocery Company was founded by Mr. J. S. Lewis on November 1, 1936. Mr. Lewis is the present owner and has his business in a large brick building located on the corner of Lafayette and Lampkin streets.

2. Everyghing in the line of staple and fancy groceries, also all kinds of feedstuffs is handled in this store. Their market is at present only local as this is a very young business, but in the future Mr. Lewis plans to expand and to take in more territory.

3. Three stores are owned and run by Mr. J. Saunders Lewis--one a splendid retail credit store; one a retail cash store, and the above mentioned wholesale grocery. His retail stores are the most modern grocery stores in the South. It has been said that "If you can't find what you want at these stores, you can't find it in town." There are 21 employees in these three stores and the annual pay-roll is $36,000.

Mr. Lewis is an Oktibbeha County man--born and reared in the city of Starkville. He graduated from the public schools of this city and also attended A. & M. College, the present Mississippi State College. After leaving college, he travelled for the J. L. Walker co., but after a short time he went in business for himself. At

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1--Mr. J. S. Lewis, Starkville, Miss.,--Conference

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that time, Mr. Lewis had a partner, Mr. James Reed. After Mr. Reed's death, Mr. Lewis became sole owner of the thriving business which has grown to its present proportions.

Mr. Lewis married Miss Ruby Nash of West Point, Miss. and they have one daughter, Ruby Nash Lewis.

Ibid.

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B. The Wholesale Feed House.

1. The Wholesale Feed House was founded on March 15, 1926 by the Reed and Lewis Grocery Company and Blumenfeld and Fried Wholesale Grocery Company. Later the company was bought by J. C. Harrell, who is the present owner. It is located in block 57 on the I. C. Railroad.

2. The products of this house are all sorts of dairy feeds, poultry feeds, horse and mule feeds. These products are sold to dealers in the county, both wholesale and retail.

3. Mr. Harrell and his son-in-law, Mr. Long employ only two colored men with a total pay-roll of $832.00.

4. This company serves the dairymen and farmers of Oktibbeha County, facilitating their job of caring for their live-stock. By feeding their cattle and poultry pure feed and the proper kind, the animals are healthier. This has an indirect effect upon human life, as the cows give better milk, etc. Also it is the policy of the firm to "carry" farmers that are not able to pay for their feed until they make their crops in the fall.

1--J. C. Harrell, Starkville, Mississippi.

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B. Feed Mill.

AMong the interesting businesses of which Starkville boasts, we list a busy little feed mill and truck body repair shop which was founded by Mr. C.E. Pierce in 1920 on the same spot on which the grandfather of Mr. Pierce owned and operated a business many, many years ago. The owner of this business now is Mr. Simeon Pierce who runs it himself and has done so very successfully since 1929. It is located on South Jackson Street, in Block 57.

2. The products from this mill are mostly feed-stuffs. The raw products such as hay, corn stalks and all kinds of roughage are brought to this mill and ground into feed for animals without the loss of any part of the product for not only is the corn ground but the stalk and cob are also made into edible food for cows, hogs, horses and other animals. Shell corn is also brought here to be ground into meal. At this little establishment truck bodies, wagon beds, and repair work on all kinds of wagons is done.

3. This feed mill and body-repair shop employs only three men with a monthly pay-roll of $140.00 or an annual pay-roll of $1,680.00.

4. This mill benefits the community in several ways: The farmer is benefitted by bringing in his produce and having it made into feed at a very reasonable price and there is nothing wasted. Then, too, lumber for body repair work is all bought locally which helps to dispose of their timber which would other-

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1--Information furnished by Simeon Pierce, Starkville, Miss.

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wise have to be shipped to other towns at an expense.

Mr. Simeon Pierce is a young man and a hustler. He married Miss Eva Montgomery Richey of Starkville, Miss., they have one child. Mr. Pierce is a dependable, Christian man and his business is one which will grow and expand.

Ibid.

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B. The W. E. Daily Wholesale and Retail Grocery.

1.(1)This grocery business was founded by N. F. Daily, colored, who passed it on to W. E. Daily, the present owner. The location of the Store is 118 Lafayette Street.

2. The store handles general grocery products, all farm products, as well as junk of all kinds: rags, rubber, bees wax, scrap iron, brass, and auto junk. These are sold tomthe negro population of Starkville and vicinity. The junk is shipped to out of town markets.

3. There are three employees with an annual pay-roll of $936.00.

4. This store offeres the community an opportunity to sell surplus eggs and poultry, old rags, rubber, scrap iron, brass, and auto batteries. It also served the negroes, giving to them a place that is their own.

5. The founder, N. F. Daily, came to Starkville at the age of 8 years. He was first employed by Mrs. Hadie Montgomery, at 25¢ per week and three months later he worked for Mr. E. L. Tomlinson, at 50¢ per week. In 1900 he worked for J. C. Hardy, at $4.00 per month and was agent for the Commercial Appeal. He kept this place for more than two years.

In 1903 he began business for himself in Needmore, Starkville's "negro town", with a cash capital of $35.00. The first bill of goods was purchased from W. D. Hartness. Today this store is the oldest retail grocery business in the city.

1--Information furnished by W. F. Daily, Starkville, Miss.

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The first car load of turkeys and geese shipped by a local man from the city was shipped by N. F. Daily, also the first car load of scrap iron. He started the purchase of poultry by the pound in the city. The old custom was so much per head.

Before the state passed a law that all stores where food was sold must be screened, he had screen doors and was the first grocery store in the city to screen. Before the opening of the Co-operative Creamery, butter was purchased to the amount of 800 to 1200 pounds weekly. Also 50 to 75 cases of eggs were bought from the farmers and shipped. Butter was sold only locally.

Ibid.

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B. Starkville Coca-Cola Bottling Co.,

1. (1) In 1928 the Starkville Coca-Cola Bottling Company was founded by C. C. Clark. The present stock company is made up of C. C. Clark, Chas. C. Clark, W. Dal Clark, H. N. Clark and J. W. Young. The brick plant, equipped with modern conveniences, is located on the corner of Washington & Lampkin streets in Starkville, Mississippi.

2. This plant bottles and sell s wholesale many soft drinks, among which are: Coca-Cola, Orange Crush, Cocoa Crush, White Cap, Lime Rickey, Dr. Herring Ginger Ale, Delaware Punch, Big Chief flavor line consisting of Orange, Grape, Strawberry, Lemon, Peach, Root Beer, Cream Soda. The market consists of Oktibbeha County, Choctaw County, Webster County, and parts of Attala and Montgomery Counties.

3. There arettwelve persons employed, and the annual pay-roll amounts to approximately $20,000.

4. The benefits to the community are many. The owners list them as: Large pay-roll, civic-minded employees, well-kept buildings and grounds, modern machinery, dale and service of the world's most popular drink--Coca-Cola, and interest in the growth of Starkville.

Mr. C. C. Clark, the owner, was born on January 26, 1882, in Hickman, Kentucky. He first became interested in the bottling

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1--Information furnished by Mr. Dal Clark, Starkville, Miss.

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business in 1904, operating a small soda-water plant, and going into the Coca-Cola business in 1906. He moved to Mississippi in 1906 operating a Coca-Cola plant at Holly Springs, Mississippi, and the next year moving to Corinth, Mississippi in the same business. In 1908 he moved to West Point, Mississippi, where he has remained since.

Ibid.

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Community Club Market:

(1) The old proverb, "Necessity is the mother of invention," has always proven to be one of the truest and most used of all proverbs and in the lean and distressing months of 1931, it again came into practice. Lack of work for the men had caused many women to put their shoulder to the wheel and thus the "Community Club Market" was born.

1. Perhaps we may say that this Club was founded by a group of energetic and hard-working women of this community and on Saturday (the last Saturday of October, 1931,) this Community Club Market opened up in the building of the Chamber of Commerce. Twice this little market has moved; each time to enlarge itself to accomodate the growing trade. It is now located in the East wing of the Court House.

2. At this club market, women who work in offices, shops and stores of all kinds and who do not have the time to cook at home nor to raise their own products, may have their choice of the most delicious and tempting foods such as cakes, of all kinds, pies of all kinds, light bread and rolls, candies etc.

Then, on another rack can be found all kinds of canned goods, nemely: pickles, jellies, preserves, marmalades, canned fruits and vegetables.

1--Mrs. D. B. Bowlus, Starkville, Miss.- Conference
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Then go further to the third rack where you will find sausages, country-cured hams, fryers, hens, eggs, and butter--everything that is needed to plan a splendid dinner can be found in this market.

3. At first there were twenty-five members but gradually they dropped out when other more pressing duties called them away from this club. There are now only a few hard-wotking women still "carrying on" but they are doing splendidly. Mrs. Walter O akley and Mrs. D. B. Bowlus are always on hand and are kept busy supplying the needs of the citizens of this community. They sell all of their produce at current market prices and their food is always of the finest quality.

4. This is a great benefit to the community as it affords a market for the over-supply of the above mentioned goods and the ladies of this community and surrounding community who are willing to work, can pick up a tidy little sum with which to make other purchases.

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ibid.

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B. Lampkin Poultry Farm.

1.(1) The Lampkin Poultry Farm was started in October, 1931 by R. H. Lampkin. It is located on Highway #12, about three miles west of the city of Starkville, Mississippi.

2. The products of this farm are eggs, baby chicks, and broilers. These products, especially baby chicks, are marketed over seven of the southern states. Broilers are sold to principal cafes and hotel dining rooms in Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee.

3. There are three regular employees, but additional ones are added as the immediate needs demand.

4. The main benefit of this poultry farm to the community is that about 95% of the sales are done without the County thereby bringing in money from other places rather than living on the local citizens. The plant also affords the local citizens a cash market for their poultry and eggs which amounts to about $12,000per year. Many farmers in the County are actively engaged in furnishing special hatching eggs each week for which they are paid cash, at this time this amounts to $250 per week. The farmers are also assisted in marketing their table eggs and broilers when they have a surplus.

R. H. Lampkin, the owner and founder of the poultry farm, was born and reared in Starkville, Miss. He was born on January 1, 1902.

1--R. H. Lampkin, Starkville, Miss.--Conference.

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He attended local schools and State College; he was a member of the class of 1921. He married Louise Ray of Pontotoc, Miss., and they have two children.

(1) OKTIBBEHA CAN BOAST OF LARGE, MODERN HATCHERY
EIGHT STATES DEMANDING BABY CHICKS HATCHED BY LAMPKIN.

Located inconspicuously on the Longview road, about three miles from Starkville, although it isn't realized by many Oktibbeha Countains, is one of the best equipped and largest hatcheries in Mississippi, Lampkin Hatchery owned and operated by Mr. Robert Lampkin.

Mr. Lampkin's farm is confined to two branches of the poultry business, that of raising and selling broilers and sellin baby chicks, the latter so thoroughly developed that baby chicks hatched in this county are in demand in eight states, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisians, Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina.

The plant is equipped to raise 500 broilers each week, but with the installation of a new incubator about three weeks ago, most of the work has been confined to the sale of baby chicks.

The new incubator, nearly as large as a room, weighs empty more than six tons, and loaded to capacity with 52,000 eggs, the weight is increased to 9½ tons. The machine is capable of producing 11,000 chicks each week.

Operated by a series of dials, handles and otherhecessary

1--Excerpt taken from the Starkville News, Sept. 11, 1936

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gadgets, the immense mechanical "hen" hatches chicks twice a week on schedule, Within one hour of twenty-one days the eggs will hatch, proving to be more efficient than any barn-yard hen that takes from twenty to twenty-five days to hatch a "settin". The chicks are shipped immediately after being hatched.

Mr. Lampkin is devoting most of his time at present to the shipping of baby chicks but is planning to start producing broilers in large quantities at an early date. He always has a large supply on hand, however, to keep his regular customers supplied.

The birds are dressed to two pounds, and packed neatly in wax cartons. There is a large demand for them in all parts of the state.

Ibid.

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C. Public Industries--The City Water Department.

1.(1) In 1899 a suitabel site for a pumping station was brought, and the first well was sunk to a depth of 900 feet. This was used for many years, but in 1929 a new well was sunk by Lane & Central Co. of Memphis, Tenn. The founders were the mayor and board of aldermen who were at the time: J.J. Gill, mayor; and aldermen J.L. Martin, L. B. Camp, George Lanier, J.L. Arnold, and Robert Lampkin. The engineers were John Turner and Jake Windfield. W. B. Saunders served as superintendent. The city of Starkville is, of course, the owner of the Water Company. The location is in block 54, lot #10. It is bounded on the north and west by the Starkville Lumber and Coal Company, on the east by S. Jackson Street, and on the south by the I. C. Railroad.

2. The resevoir has a capacity of 300,000 gallons. It is made entirely of steel and rivited together, being 30 feet deep and 42 feet in diameter. The water is pumped from the resevoir to water stand pipes, about 16 or 18 miles of water main. There is 6" water main through the business district; the rest is 4". There are 102 fire hydrants. The standard pipe water pressure is from 40 to 60 pounds per square inch, and the pressure is built up by a large gas enjine, 150 horse-power. In case of a big fire, the fire enjine will build water pressure up to 150 pounds and more if necessary.

The cost of the new well was $20,000. The depth is 1453 feet.

1--Information supplied by Mr. John Turner, Starkville, Miss.

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This sand or water strater is a very fine white sand and as pure water as can be found is found here. There is 127 feet of surface or water level, and the depth of the sand or water strater is 83 feet. There is a capacity of 700 gallons per minute. A centrifugal pump is used, which goes to a depth of 300 feet. About 200,000 gallons of water per day are used.

3. Three men operate the water works--a day man, a night man, and a superintendant. By having a volunteer fire department there is no need for more employees. The annual pay-roll amounts to $4260. This does not include the amount paid to volunteer firemen, which is $1.00 if they answer the call and $4.00 if they fight the fire.

4. Everyone knows the benefits to a community of pure water and an efficiently managed water department. It is something the modern generation accepts as more or less a matter of course, without stopping to realize the great blessing of pure, running water. In times of heat, drouth, or when buildings are menaced by fire, the benefits of the water company are keenly felt.

Ibid.

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C. Mississippi Public Service Company.

1.(1)The Mississippi Public Service Company was founded by the Southern Natural Gas Corporation, who were the builders. The Mississippi Public Service Company are the present owners. This company is located on Main Street.

2. The product is natural gas, and the markets are homes, stores, and industrial plants of Starkville.

3. Eight persons are employed by this company, with an annual pay-roll of $5,000.00.

4. The benefits to the community of natural gas are many. It makes modern heating plants and quick clean radiant heat available to the community. Gas automatic water heating is considered the ultimate convenience in the water-heating field. It eliminates the smoke nusiance, and makes quick, clean gas cooking available.

1--Information furnished by N. D. Burdine, manager.

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The Telephone Company.

(1) The first telephone I know about in Oktibbeha County was a line projected by Dr. W.H. Barr, Physician at A.&M. College who induced Mr. R. C. King, Sect'y of the College, Mr. W.J. Galloway, the steward, and R.K. and F.L. Wier, of Starkville, to build a line from the college to Starkville. Dr. Barr ordered from Atlanta, five telephones, placing one of these in each of the above named places and one in his office in Starkville. These were the first telephones ever brought into the county.

The telephone bells rang beautifully but there was no talk-no conversation. The matter was taken up with the Atlanta firms who had furnished these non-talking telephones who readily sent crude telephones in that would talk. This privately owned line was put in about 1895 and served an active purposem for two years or more. All the business from the college and telephone offices at that time were conducted over this line into the Wier Drug Store or Drug Store telephone.

All the dates of the young people and every other transaction was made over this private line. An interesting event in the early years of this telephone was the Yellow Fever scare of 1898. The public had established a quarantine station out near the college and demanded of the telephone company that a telephone be placed

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1---Information furnished by R.K. Wier, Starkville, Miss.

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out at this station near the college. There were no extra telephones; no trains running to bring in more telephones but as numbers of the subscribers and other people had left for parts in the North, we went into one of these abandoned homes; took the telephone out and hung this telephone on a pine tree in front of the college barn where this quarantine station was located. This telephone was installed on a rainy Sunday morning by R.K. Wier when he and Zeno Yeates, with a coil of fence wire from Yeates' Hardware Store ran this line across the railroad track and the college field to the quarantine station. They had no poles to erect but stretched the wire tightly as they could and raised it off the ground with wooden palings. This was a very crude line but answered the purpose and supplied the need.

About 1897, seemed to be a demand for more extended telephone service and by that date better telephones could be had. In response to this demand or need, a small company was organized mostly of young men living at the college. The company was called the Starkville Telephone and Power Company. This company was a follows: E.L. Robbins, President; other incorporators were W.J. Galloway, and E.B. Ferris, C.T. Ames and R.K. Wier. This bunch got together the sum of $1000 with which they proceeded to build a telephone association or system.

Ibid

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Mr, James McKell, a member of a well-known pioneer family was employed to get out the necessary poles from the woods and erect them. The line was built and a central office established in the home of Mrs. Emma Rosseau. This telephone system beginning with 36 telephones was installed, additions being made, so that the day it opened for business, they had 61 subscriptions. Mrs. Rosseau made a fine "central". The telephone service, while not perfect, gave good satisfaction through a term of 8 years.

The company expanded, putting all their earnings back into new construction and new telephones. Lines were built into the remote corners of the County and surrounding territory; notably into Dr. G.L. Crigler's home; through the Oktoc District, Double Springs, Mayhew, Osborn and West Point.

Upon the coming into this territory of the Cumberland Telephone Company, these pioneers deemed it best to turn the business over to other hands and sold out to the Cumberland in 1905. This little telephone Company, at its beginning, had, as before stated, only a few subscribers but at the end of 8 years' period, 400 subscribers were turned over to the Cumberland Telephone Company.

As to the early organizers--some dropped out, and R.K. Wier seemeingly a fixture in Starkville, it developed to be that he became almost the telephone Company. His drug store was the downtown headquarters where all the complaints, all the kicks, all the contacts were centered.

Ibid.

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(1) The Cumberland Telephone Company took over the small system of telephones which had been founded by a few pioneers of Oktibbeha County. This Company bought these pioneers our in 1905 and immeediately sent Mr. L. B. Camp from Tennessee, who had been in their employ for some time, to Starkville to take over the manager-ship of this company which operates under the name of the Southern Bell Telephone Company--this, of course, is a branch of the Cumberland Telephone Company. At the time of the towns, since that time it has grown to its present size and operates 82[illegible] telephones in the city alone.

The telephone Company is licated at 320 Main Street and occupies a spacious building second to none in the State. There is no other business of any kind housed in this building, giving ample room for the services of an up-to-date telephone system.

3.There are nine people employed regularly in this office and at special times there are others called in to help.

4.The benefits of such a telephone Company to a city is hardly to be estimated. The farmers make use of the system by daily calls to find out the market price of vebetables, etc.Also they are able to find out just how many bunches of turnips, carrots,

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1--Information furnished by Mr. L.B. Camp, Starkville, Miss.

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onions, etc are needed so that there is no waste in their produce. When one remembers that this telephone system reaches to practically all parts of the civilized world and to ships at seas, it is easy to see how much time, money and life may be saved by the use of the telephone.

No lady who has reached the age of 55 nor any man who has reached the age of 60 and who has been in active service for the company for 20 years or more need haye any finacial worries as this company takes care of them, giving them a generous are not paid a fabulous salary, the company always has their welfare in mind and takes care of them in sickness and distress.

Ibid

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Mississippi Power Company:

1. (1) The electric light plant was built in 1899. At that time this plant was owned by the city of Starkville and was run by this city until 1904. In 1904 Mr. George H. McIngvale came to Starkville as manager of this plant. Up to this time the light could only be had from six in the evening to 12 o'clock at night. Beginning in 1904 there could be had lights all night but no lights in the day time. In 1925, the city sold out to The Mississippi Power Company retaining Mr. McIngvale as manager. From that time the city was able to get day service. The Mississippi Power Company is now located on Main Street.

At the time the plant was sold, there were only about one-half dozen electric refrigerators and two electric ranges in the city. Today there are over 450 electric refrigerators and 130 electric ranges. Also at that time there were only 150 residential customers and today there are around 570 residential customers.

3--There are four employees and the annual pay-roll of the Mississippi PowereCompany is $5500.

4--The benefits of such a plant to any city can hardly be estimated. Not only is this true of the city in which it is located but to all smaller communities where there are too few customers to have a similar plant. This plant has made it possible

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Mr. George H. McIngvale, Starkville, Miss.,--Interview

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for all small communities to have lights by extending their service to them.

At the time the plant was owned by the city, the citizens of Starkville were paying 15¢ per kilowatt for current. In 1925, when this became the property of the Mississippi Power Company, the kilowatt charge was reduced to 12½¢. There has been a gradual decrease in the charge until at the present time, customers are getting current for 4½¢.

Mr. George H. McIngvale who is now manager of this company was born and reared in De Soto County. In 1901 and 1902, he attended A&M College at Starkville which is now known as Mississippi State College.

At the end of 1902, he returned to his home in De Soto County. At that time, the city was in need of some capable man to take charge of the light plant. Mr. McIngvale was recommended for this place by Mr. Arthur Whittam who had charge of the Mechanical Dept. of the above named college. Mr. McIngvale returned to Starkville and took charge of this company and has been in their employ since that time. He has four children--two boys and two girls.

Mr. McIngvale is much interested in the Historical Research Project. He has cooperated with the staff in every possible way, and takes a keen interest in their progress in recording county history. When the staff planned an exhibit of old relics, books antiques, etc., Mr. McIngvale offered free of charge the use of

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Ibid.

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the Mississippi Power and Light Company. He moved his electrical appliances into the back of the store, clearing a large space for the exhibit.

Ibid.

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C. Public Industries

3. Mobile & Ohio Railroad Company.

(1) The Starkville branch of the M. & O. Railroad Company--eleven miles of trackage extending from Starkville to Artesia, Mississippi, was surveyed and constructed in the years of 1871, '72, '73 by convict labor, This labor was contracted for by Mr. H. C. Powers from the state of Mississippi, who was the contractor for the construction of this branch road from the M. & O. Railroad Company. Mr. Powers was assisted by a Mr. Lumas from Cleveland, Ohio, who was a relative and acted as supervisor of the work. This convict labor was fed and housed and cared for by the contractor, and the means used for safe-keeping of the prisoners was log huts constructed of poles with the bark peeled off, notched, and pinned at the corners, Guards or sentinels did picket duty all through the nights. These places were known as camps and about three were established along the line---one east of Sessums, about halfway to Artesia, one west of Sessums, about two miles, and one just where the State College is now located, on the exact spot where the chemical laboratory and the engineering building are located.

The prisoners were fed under long frame sheds, and the tables were 1" x 12" x 16" rough lumber and the only implements used for moving the dirt from cuts and making fills were picks, spades,

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1-- Information supplied by Mr. T.J. Gladney, Starkville, Miss.

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shovels, wheel-barrows, and mule or dump carts. About one hundred convicts were used and that accounts for the length of time (two years) consumed in the construction of eleven miles of trackage. Owing to lack of data, it is not possible to give any estimate as to the cost of construction. There were devices of punishment set up in each camp, but owing to the unpleasantness of this part of the history, we will pass that up, and try to forget it and think only of the pleasant and profitable side of the drama, as these devices were intended only for delinquents or transgressors of prison life, rules, etc.

As to the benefits derived and enjoyed by the people of Starkville, Oktibbeha County, and the public generally, there is no way of giving figures that will even approach a just estimate of what the eleven miles of railroad has been to this community, and Mississippi State College. When the branch railroad was finished in 1873, Starkville was only a small village of about 1200 inhabitants. This branch road is largely responsible for the Mississippi State College being located here, and every piece of material handled by rail was handled by the M. & O. Railroad branch, for without this railroad it would have been almost impossible to have built or located the college here, since the I. C. Railroad was not constructed through Starkville until 1882, and the college was located and constructed in 1880, and opened its door for students on October 1880.

Ibid

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Mr. C.R. Montgomery was appointed agent upon the completion of this line in 1873, and remained agent until his death a few years ago, being succeeded by his clerk or assistant, Mr. Jesse Owen, who is now serving as agent.

Ollie Davis, a colored man, started working for the M. & O. railroad when it first started operation 1874, being hired as a section hand. He worked for the railroad until March 3, 1937, 63 years, when he resigned because of old age and to get the Federal Railroad Retired Pension. During his last years as an M.& O. employee, he was not able to do hard work, but he was far from feeble.

We have no data as to receipt or disbursements coming in to or paid by the company, but it has the reputation of being the best paying piece of property per mile owned by the M. & O. Railroad.

Ibid

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C. The Illinois Central Railroad.

1. The Illinois Central Railroad enters Oktibbeha County four miles west of Sturgis, section 18, township 17, range 12; and leaves the county one mile north of Muldrow, section 35, township 20, range 15.

The railroad employs fifty people in the county, who receive annually $38,299.36. It is one of the largest tax-paying concerns in the county. In 1931 the railroad paid $27,000 to Oktibbeha County. This line was constructed in 1883.

The benefits of this line are many. The finiancial side,is, of course, a major aspect. It furnishes also, a clean, quick means of travel, connecting the county with the central part of the United States. It employs local people.

C. There is a local telegraph office, the Western Union Telegraph Company, but it is a company policy not to give out any information concerning the company.

1--Excerpt from the Commercial Appeal
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B. Oktibbeha County Bus Lines.

1(1)The Oktibbeha County Bus line was founded by theTri-State Transit Company, and is owned and operated by them. The station is located on the corner of south Jackson and Lampkin streets, one block off Main Street.

2.The bus line operates on a system of six in-bound and six out-bound buses daily with a capacity of 25 passengers. The buses travel over Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama. There are five directions available to travel either our of or into the town.

3. There is an office force of three persons, and employment is given to twelve men as motormen and on special occasions a porter is engaged on these buses.

4. As Starkville is not on the main line of a rail-road, it is hard to make connections and to reach one's destination quickly. The bus line simplifies this to a considerable extent. When the proposed line to Maben is set up, it will be another great boon to the traveller.

1--W. A. Dobbs, Starkville, Miss.--Conference.

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C. Oktibbeha Hatchery Association.

1. (1)The Oktibbeha Hatchery was founded by E. P. Clayton, and his son, and at present is owned by a group of stock-holders. It is located in the basement of the old Kinnard building on Court Square.

2. The product is, of course, baby chicks, which are sold both locally, ~~thoughout~~ throughout the county and state, and in the neighboring states.

3. There is only one employee with an annual pay-roll of $840.00

4. This hatchery is of great benefit to the farmer, as it buys his poultry products, and keeps the chicks on hand for the people.

1--Information furnished by J. O. Weeks, manager.

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D. Oktibbeha County Chamber of Commerce.

1. (1)The Oktibbeha County Chamber of Commerce was founded by the following named Charter Members during the year of 1908: W. D. Hartness, H. A. Beattie, A. W. Reynolds, B. Blumenfeld, F. L. Wier, R. J. Goodman, Karl Goodman, and other business men whose names are not now available.

2. The organization during the first five or ten years of its existence, functioned chiefly as a Commercial Credit association but about the years 1912 and'13 sponsored the good-roads movement and other movements for the public good.

Some years later when our county began to be noted for its fine Jersey cows and lime land pastures, the Organization became very active and employed a full-time secretary. It was then that the Organization started a movement to secure the Borden Milk Condensary and chiefly through the efforts of this organization the location of the Borden Plant was made possible.

Since that time and up to the time of the depression various movements have been sponsored and a large membership was maintained. During the depression the membership decreased and in order to keep the office it was necessary to reduce expenses and employ a part-time secretary.

3. During the year 1936 there was a small increase in membership and a full time secretary employed, who has been very active in

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1--Information furnished by Mr. L. B. Camp, secretary-manager.

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efforts to secure industries, selling Starkville, to all prospective citizens and acting as a Bureau of Information. In this modern age people coming into the community and wanting to rent rooms, apartments, to buy homes or other real estate, come to the Chamber of Commerce and in this way buyer and seller, landlord and tennant are put in touch with each other, saving time, and rendering a valuable service to all concerned. Road information and various other information is given and the live secreatry that is on the job and knows conditions makes many friends for the city in which he is employed.

Ibid.

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The Junior Chamber of Commerce:

(1) 1- The Oktibbeha County Junior Chamber of Commerce was founded January 1, 1937 by the following members: J. P. Love; Hal Fox; J. T. Steel; Morton Kleban; R. H. Ogden; C. F. Crigler; J. D. Hull; Henry Wells; W. P. Sudduth; W. A. Hines; L. L. Mullins; Jim Pruitt; D. G. Fulton; S. W. Slaughter; G. S. Smith; M. C. Gideon; W. D. Clark and L. W. Brown. While this group of men do the same kind of work as the members of the County Chamber of Commerce, they are younger men who have organized themselves into another branch of the work.

3. This is a live bunch of men and, while they are a very young organization, they expect to accomplish many things. At present they are sponsoring Boy Scout Troup No. 27, and are working on a municipal gymnasium to be erected in the near future for the benefit of Starkville and Oktibbeha County.

1--Information furnished by Mr. C. F. Crigler, Starkville, Miss.

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B. The State and Rex Theatres.

1.(1) In 1911 Mr. Raymond Goodman and Mr. Henry Montague opened the first movie house, the Rex Theatre, in the building now occupied by J. F. McIlwain and Brothers. Within a short while, Mr. Montague sold his interest to Mr. Goodman, who moved the show to the old Opera House in 1913. The next move was to the present Odd Fellow's Hall next to the State Theatre. In 1919 Mr. Raymond Goodman formed a partner-ship with his brother, Mr. Arthur Goodman, and together they purchased the property where the present State Theatre is now located. Here they operated the Rex Theatre for 12 years, the building being destroyed by fire one Sunday night in March 1931. The new Rex Theatre, still considered one of the finest in Mississi-ppi, opened late in September, 1931. Early in 1936, the theatre trade having outgrown the facilities offered by the Rex, plans were laid for the construction of a new theatre on the lot formerly occupied by the old Rex. It was decided that the new theatre should be named The State, honoring Mississippi State College. Mr. Raymond and Mr. Authur Goodman, the Rex Theatre Col., Inc., own both theatres. They are located on Main Street in Starkville, Miss.

2. Both theatres boast of modern sound equippment, and they are among the best in the entire South. The State is housed in an ultra modern building and equipped with the latest seats and lighting

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1--Information furnished by Mr. Raymond Goodman, Starkville, Miss.

system. Large aisles and ample exits with an up-to-date sprinkler system reduce fire hazards to a minimum. The seating capacity of the State Theatre is 643. At both Theatres there two matinees and two night shows daily.

3. These theatres employ fifteen persons with an annual pay-roll of $6024.

4. The movies furnish a cheap and pleasant means of recreation for the county. It is educational as well as recreational, and furnishes a trade attraction for the town.

Ibid.

Aviation in Oktibbeha County.

Aviation in Oktibbeha County can be counted one of the youngest industries in the county. We have one aviator in Oktibbeha County who is fast becoming widely known.--Mr. Mason Sumpter Camp.

(1) Mr. Camp was born November 30, 1902 at Amory, Mississippi. His father moved to Starkville the latter part of 1905. Mr. Camp received Grammar and High School training at Starkville and graduated in Engineering School at Mississippi State College. His father had an early interest in flying and made a trip to Tupelo, Mississippi about 1909 to witness a flying exhibition by Alfred Mogart who was killed in an accident a short while later in New Orleans.

"The first airplane I ever saw," writes Mr. Camp, "was one of two which came to Payne Field which was constructed five miles North of West Point, Miss. Those two planes, old Curtiss J M 4 D training planes, were invited to fly to Starkville, I believe, during 1917. They landed inside the old fair ground and race track and came dangerously close to a large crowd which had gathered and had been waiting nearly all morning for them. Later, I made several visits with my family to Payne Field in our old Model "T" Ford. Many pilots were hastily given training at Payne Field during the World War. On one of these visits to Payne Field, I

1--Information furnished by Mr. Mason Sumter Camp, Starkville, Miss.

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saw one hundred planes in the air at the same time in one huge formation led by Col. Hurd who was in command.

"One afternoon I rode my bicycle the distance of twenty miles each way to Payne Field from Starkville. During the War period of training at Payne Field the Government training planes became a common sight over Starkville. As an auxiliary field these planes used the Reynolds pasture on the old Lousville road, this field becoming known as "Grasshopper Field".

"After the war and the closing of Payne Field, several ex-army flyers who had bought surplus or obsolete army planes came to Starkville on "barn Storming" trips, giving passenger rides which in the beginning cost the passenger ten dollars for a very short ride. It was in one of these planes at the "Grass-Hopper Field" that I had my first ride with a pilot named Fred C. Fishback. These early commercial flyers or "barnstormers" were followed at intervals later by flyers using later and better type planes. A few of these would stay around Starkville for a considerable length of time with their planes staked out in a pasture. The last field in which these itinerant flyers landed was known as the Nichols Field which is at the city limits just beyond the old race-track."

Mr. Camp further states," Upon my graduation from Miss. A&M or Miss. State College, I went to work for the Western Electric

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Ibid.

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Company in Atlanta, Georgia. Although intensely interested in flying, I had up to this time, received no training. The now large Candler Airport was then only a deserted race-track on which was staked one dilapidated plane owned by Becler Blevins. I rode as passenger in this plane with Blevins who flew for many years and was killed in his automobile between the airport and town.

"In 1925, I transferred to Jacksonville, Florida, and it was from there that I went to St. Louis in the early part of 1926, and took flight training at Lambert Field under the direction of Charles A. Lindbergh. Lindbergh was a capable but little known air mail pilot and chief flight instructor for the Robertson Aircraft Corporation. Upon completion of my primary flight course, which was not then regulated by the Government, I returned to Jacksonville, Florida and did a little flying at old Paxon Field there. My next move was to Pensacola, Florida where I had the advantage of learning much at the Naval Training Station. It was in Pensacola that I bought and owned my first plane.

"In 1932, I flew to Starkville, to start commercial flying and erected a small shed type hangar at the old Nichols field. The city of Starkville had become interested in having an airport in an attempt to buy and condition the old Nichols Field in 1931. While I was flying from the Nichold Field, my father

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and I aroused the interest of Mr. Mitchell Robinson at State College. Mr. Robinson conceived the idea of an aviation department at Miss. State College and through his efforts it was established.

"In 1933 the City of Starkville secured a CWA project for an airport and leased the Scales estate property two miles SW of Starkville business district. Approximately 93 acres were put into condition and a hangar was constructed. The aviation courses at the college proved to be attractive and the new department made a creditable showing the first year, with Kenneth Withington as acting head and myself as instructor.

"In 1935, the city purchased outright the Scales property and later secured more Government aid in improving the field. Lately, the city has purchased more than thirty additional acres adjoining the field and is now engaged in a project under the WPA which among other things, includes lighting the field. It is now in constant use for local flight training and also by transient planes."

Mr. Camp, has, himself, created much interest in flying. This community has profited much by his interes t as it is now possible for them to reach points to New Orleans, La., Florida, Georgia and to many other states at a very reasonable fare.

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Ibid.

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20--Mr. N. D. Burdine, Mgr. Pub. Serv. Co., Starkville, Miss.
21--R. K. Wier, Starkville, Miss.
22--Mr. L. B. Camp, Starkville, Miss.,
23--Mr. George McIngvale, Supt. Miss. Power Co., Starkville, Miss.
24--Mr. T. J. Gladney, Starkville, Miss.,
25--Excerpt from the Commercial Appeal
26--W. A. Dobbs, Starkville, Miss., Conference
27--J. O. Weeks, Manager Oktibbeha Hatchery Association, Starkville,
28--Mr. L. B. Camp, Sect't-Treas. Cof C, Starkville, Miss.
29--Mr. C. F. Crigler, Starkville, Miss.
30--Mr. Raymond Goodman, Starkville, Miss.
31--Mr. Mason Sumter Camp, Starkville, Miss.

Ibid.

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STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
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Page # 1
Topic: Transportation in Oktibbeha County
Assignment # 23
By R.C.Morris & Edna Hunt

When the white man first began to settle among the Choctaw Indians that occupied the territory now making up Oktibbeha County, there were nothing but Indian trails that connected the many small villages occupied by these people. As a means of self preservation these Indians had early began to live a communal life. These trails were used for war hunting, or fishing purposes as well as a form of inter trade or exchange among the villages. These communities of Indians were located on the Noxubee in beat five, around the present site of Starkville, in the vacinity of old Mayhew which later became a mission, at Hebron which also became a mission, and at white's town.The first white settlers were missionaries sent out by the Northern Presbyterian Church. These came first from a mission in Georgia known as Brainard and were headed by the Rev. Syrus Kingsbury. Due to the lack of roads, Mr.kingsbury and his band of fellow workers, made their way to the Tennessee river and came down that stream on a flat boat with all their equipment, to Muscle Shoals. From there they made their way by means of trails through the Chickasaw country to a place for a mission on the Yalobusha river which they called Elliot. After building a mission, Dr. Kingsbury, in 1820, rode on horse back to the Pigeon Roost and secured the services of David Folsom, a half breed----------

(1) History of the Choctaw Indians-- Cushman.

R.C.Morris, Historian

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breed, who lived there on a main trail, to accompany him and aid in selecting another location for a mission. These two men rode on horse back, over bridle paths, to the Tombigbee river where Maj. John Pitchlyn, a Government agent lived. Pitchlyn was a white man who had settled among the Choctaws, had married an Indian woman and had been adopted by them.He joined Kingsbury and Folsom and after riding a few days over these trails finally located a site at what later became old Mayhew, now in the north eastern section of the county. This too, was soon built up into a prosperous mission, and after a few years another mission was located by David Cushman at the site later known as Hebron, a short distance of the present site of Starkville; and still later another mission was located at a large community on the Noxubee and was administered by Dr. Byington, and still later a mission was located at French Camp. All these were on main trails which were in constant use by the Indians from an early period as they were well used when the whites came into their midst, even large fields were in cultivation along their routes by the industrous natives. It would be an interesting study in----------

R.C.Morris, Historian

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deed to allow us to restore these routes in detail.(1) Judge Carroll in his Historical Sketches locates these trails in a general way. A trail ran in a north-west and south-east direction across the county from the community on the Noxubee to a large community in the vacinity of Lyon's bluff and Hinterville, now in Clay County but once a part of Oktibbeha. (2) Another trail ran from Athens in Monroe County in a south-west direction near the community which later became Hebron to the settlement at Clinton, Miss. It also ran through the community known as Whitefield. These two routes passed through or near the section which later became Starkville. Another route led from Mayhew in a south-east direction east of the site of Starkville to the Noxubee settlement. There were numerous other routes or trails leading to the various sections of the Choctaw nation which was the largest in the state, one of the most important trails led from Mayhew Mission west to Elliott Mission on the Yalobusha. Soon these trails became trade routes as the French and Spanish on the Gulf and the English on the Atlantic Coast began to enter with their wares to exchange with the Indians for their

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(1) Historic Skatches of Oktibbeha County---Carroll
(2) Original Survey, Field Notes

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pelts, skins of other animals and other valuables to be found among these people. The French and Spanish either came to the Tombigbee river or the Mississippi river until they came into the vacinity of this section and from there took the paths to the settlements. Of course we must not think of these routes as altogether fixed and certainly not much worked. They were simply blazed bridle paths, going around a swamp rather than making a causway, crossing creeks by fallen logs or by rough rafts made on the spot, or by swimming or fording a river rather than ferrying or bridging them. At this time many small rivers and creeks of the county were great hinderances to free travel for before the time our forests were felled, the streams were larger and continued to flow the year round. Thus the woods were filled with competing merchants.(1)(2) Adair tells us that the traders came in groups of fifteen or twenty with large numbers of pack horses which traveled these routes single file and were urged on with whip and whoop at a lively pace. It soon became evident to the Missionaries that these trails would not be adequate for all transportation between their settlements and with the outside world. Civilization and religion too, made greater demands than these wild routes even were capable of

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(1)(2) Adair's American Indian
(2) Bartram's Travels
(3) Historic Sketches -- Carroll

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accommodating. Furniture, leads of brick, machinery, etc were to be transported to these back-woods Missions. As soon as possible therefore, they opened two roads along old trails to the east in order to reach Plymouth which was a boat landing on the Tombigbee River. This gave them an opening with the outside world. As stated above, in this way they could secure many of the necessities of civilization unknown to the Indian, whom they were to civilize and christianize, such as tools for cultivating crops, salt, coffee, spices household furniture etc. Next they cut a road along the old trail leading from Athens in Monroe County to Clinton. It was known as the White and Ragsdale Road in various sections of the county. This road passed west of the site of Osborn, by the Mission at Hebron and on to the community at or near old Whitefield and later on to the French Camp where it intersected an old trail which became the Natchez Trace Highway, cut by the Government. Another road was cut from Mayhew running a little west of south, passing east of Starkville on to the settlement on the Noxubee both at Agency and the Mission in the south-eastern section of the county. Still another important road was cut along the trail from Mayhew to Elliott on the Yalobusha River. This connected two important Missions. Thus at this early date, Mayhew became the gateway into this section of the Choctaws and

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soon the white man began to take advantage of it. So the first real roads, over which a wagon may have been transported, was built by the missionaries assisted by their friends among the Indians and their students. This was the first experience of the Indian in felling trees with steel axes in place of the old stone axe and fire. No doubt roads would have been cut by the British Traders had they not been molested by the revolt of the northern colonies, certainly little or nothing could be attempted after the Revolution began in the way of trade, mail or road making, but many loyalists however, rather than fight the mother country, came over these trails into this settlement and continued to come as these roads were built by the missionaries.

Carroll lists Wm. B. Cushman, brother of the missionary; Dr. Araunah Bardwell, brother of a missionary; Gabriel Lincicum; Eldred Edmuns; William Tate; Dorsey A. Outlaw. Soon after the treaty was signed many others came and "squatted" without Government authority. Among these were Malcolm Green, David Gilchrist, Jogn G, Skinner, Nicholas Fitzsimmons, James Bishop, Howell Peeden, Daniel Gree, Malcolin Gilchrist, Robert A. Lampkin, Wm. Cabaniss, Thomas Renfrow, Noah Eaves, Carmel Hightower, David

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Reese, A. Vaughn, Charles Debriel, Elijah Hogan, David Ames. These came over the Government Highways to the vacinity of Tuscaloosa and Columbus, known as the Tombigbee settlements and as soon as these roads were extended through the Choctaw settlements, they rushed into the best lands accessible to these roads.

(1) Soon after the Revolution however, the Government became interested in better highways connecting the east with the great south-west. The Wilderness road from Virginia through the Cumberland Gap to what became Danville in Kentucky was the first. This was later extended into Tennessee and into Georgia,, but the Tombigbee settlement was separated from the world by the Choctaws from the Mississippi, by the Creeks from Georgia, by the Cherokees from Tennessee and by the Spaniards from the Gulf. Hence the Government began at once to formulate treaties with these Indians providing for a wagon road from Nashville through the Choctaws by the way of Columbus, crossing this community at the Indian Agency and Mission on the Noxubee River. This treaty was made December, 17, 1801 at Fort Adams, on the Mississippi River.

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(1) Alabama Historical Society. Volume II, P.J.Hamilton.

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river.

(1) The American State Papers-Indian affairs, Vol. I. gives this treaty. Article II. The Mingos, principle men and warriors of the Choctaw nation of Indians, do here-by give their free consent, that a convenient and durable wagon way to be explored, marked, and opened and made under the orders and instructions of the President of the United States, through their lands, to commence at the northern extremity of the settlements of Mississippi Territory, and to extend from thence, by such route as may be selected and surveyed under the authority of the President of the United States, until it shall strike the lands claimed by the Chickasaw nation; and the same shall be and continue forever, a highway for the citizens of the United States and the Choctaw Indians; and the said Choctaws shall nominate two discrete men from their nation, who may be employed as assistants, guides or pilots, during the time of laying out and opening the said highway, or so long as may be deemed expedient, under the direction of the officer charged with this duty, who shall receive a reasonable compensation for their services. This treaty was signed by James Wilkinson, Benjamin Hawkins, and Andrew Pickens,

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(1) American State Papers, Indian Affairs, Volume I.

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as commissioners for the Government and by certain Mingoes, principle men, and warriors for the Choctaws. This road was laid out and work begun by the army in the following year as stated by General Wilkinson who had some trouble in determining the best location for crossing the Tennessee. It was first thought best to cross at Bear Creek but due to the frequent inundations, it was determined to cross near Muscle Sheals. This road was mentioned in the acts of the Legislature of 1829 as the great mail road, known by the name of Robinson's Road. It also mentioned the military road which came into this county at the same point. The Robinson's Road ran sough-west through Winston, Leake, between Madison and Rankin counties, through Hinds, Copiah, Franklin and Wilkinson, into Louisiana. This road was mentioned in Legislative acts of 1824 and congressional Acts of 1823 as stated by (1) Judge Carroll in his Historical Sketches of Oktibbeha County. The military road traverses another section of the state according to the acts of the Legislature of 1829. (2) After leaving Columbus, Miss it ran in a slightly

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(1) Historical Sketches--Carroll.
(2) United States Survey--Field notes.

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south-west direction across Winston, Neshoba, Newton, Jasper, Covington, Lamar, Pearl River into Louisiana, to New Orleans. The benefits derived from these roads to this county can hardly be over estimated. As mentioned above they brought in a population and a civilization which soon filled up the old bounds which finally resulted in the removal of the Choctaws to the west of the Mississippi River. At the time of building or repair of this road no provision was made for bridges across the streams, but Daniel Nail was authorized to build the first bridge across the Noxubee as a toll bridge. Telegraph lines were soon constructed on this road from Jackson to Columbus on to Nashville. The writer has seen the old glass insulators along the route of this road above Columbus. Congress appropriated $6000,00 or $8000.00 for the construction of the road. Immigrants and travelers over this road and the early roads of the county alike were compelled to adapt themselves to the roads. Something of the character of the roads over which they passed and the means by which Immigrants transferred themselves and their belongings to their new homes on the frontier, may be inferred from the account of the condi-

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tions of the main thoroughfares. Two methods of travel were possible at this early date. These were on foot or horseback. Occasionally rolling hogsheads were used. They were filled with household stuff-bedding etc and drawn by horses or oxen as the case demanded, over long distances. Still later the old Conestoga wagon drawn by two or three teams of horses or oxen, came into use and many passed over this road though the method of moving was attended by many difficulties. One pioneef said long before he had reached the end of his journey that he wished he had never been born.

The condition of the roads varied in different sections of the county, at different seasons of the year, at different times during this period of our history, and certainly with the degree of prejudice and irritability of those who traveled over them. Anyway, after all is said and done, it is evident that the difficulties encountered by these early travelers can not be imagined by the present generation as we fly over new made paved roads. Later in the history of the Federal Highway, both the Robinson and Military roads,the stage coach made its appearance.

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These were put on by the Kinards of Winston County and made regular schedule routes from Jackson to Nashville, crossing the Tombigbee by the Ferry at Plymouth and the Noxubee either by toll bridge or at the ford below. The introduction of this method of travel greatly increased the business along these highways. Folsom's Inn became a regular stopping place for the exchange of the jaded horses and for the rest of the travelers. By 1831 a little town was laid out just across the road, a store was built and lots sold. One of these old coaches is now on exhibit at State College. Two to four horses were hitched to it as the loads were heavy, roads bad, and the vehicle itself poorly constructed and poorly greased. The old coach had a kind of luggage carrier on the back in which were placed the baggage of the passengers and possibly the mail. This method of transportation continued to be very popular in this county, as a means of passenger and freight traffic till the rail road came in 1875, ten years after the Civil War.

(1)Contributing to the road making impulse prior to this date was the removal of the Indians in 1832 resulting in a newly

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(1) History of Transportation in United States, McGill.

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awakened community interest, which was brought about by the great influx of population in every section of the county and the commercial motive which had been strong even in early days. Then, too, the idea of "internal Improvements" was then being advanced by such men as Lowndes and Clay in the United States Congress. (1) These men argued that our American Commerce was largely dependent upon the developement of our natural resources, and that the settlement of the interior strenghhened the interdependence of the commercial classes and the farmers. However, what with bad roads, the delays and cost of long journeys, freight seldom traveled farther than a hundred miles from the farm on which it was produced. It is well to note here also, that after the removal of the Indians from this territory all roads were taken over by the state government, resulting in a greater or less degree of indifference according to the interest of the Board of Police and the Overseers appointed to maintain the roads or build new ones. This work really began by the state in 1829 when the state extended its authority over the entire extent of

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(1) United States Survey, Field notes.

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the boundary of these Indians even before their removal.

(1) As early as 1831 an act was passed declaring "that all roads and ferries in the several counties of the state, which has been laid out and opened by an act of the Assembly of the state, or by any order of the Board of Road Commissioners of any county of the state, are hereby declared to be public roads and ferries". Authority over these roads were vested in the probate courts who had authority to appoint Overseers and fix penalties for failure to serve. The idea of improving the roads of the county to make them passable throughout the entire year, extended to building causways in swamps. Overseers must hold their appointment for one year but during that time was exempt from jury duty and malitia service. The nember of personnel of his working force was determined by the court and later by the Boards of Police of the county. Young men from 18 to 60 years were subject to road duty-each had to give at least ten days service or pay five dollars in lieu of his work. They were expected to furnish such tools as were necessary and work animals to do this work. Their time were given to filling holes, opening side ditches and repairing

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(1)Laws of the Legialature --1837

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bridges or culverts. No attempts were made to grade or make the roads impervious to water as a result most of them became impassable during the winter season and thus most of the traffic stopped either on this account or due to high water. Farmers got their wagons loaded at Plymouth or Folsom and sent them into or through this county. It is estimated that several hundred of these passed over the Robinson Road alone. It often required days to make the journey. However in spite of delays caused by breakdowns, holes, ferries etc; surprising progress was made in transporting passengers, home-makers, mail, and merchandise. When fall came, horse-teams, ox-teams and every source of conveyance from all parts of the county slowly and laboriously hauled their cotton and other farm produce suitable for the market, to the Tombigbee for river shipment to Mobile. The new roads, or old roads that had been repaired seldom good, were often almost impassable through the prairies during bad weather. The wheels of their wagons would become a solid mass of prairie mud. The merchants of Starkville, too, had to make use of these summer or winter; good weather or bad, to haul their goods from the river ports to Folsom or Mayhew and then to the interior at Starkville.

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(1) In spite of all this Oktibbeha County and the city of Starkville grew rapidly during the decade prior to 1840, which was our first census since the county was organized in 1833. According to the census of 1840 the total population of the county was 4,276 of whom 2,064 were white; and 2,197 negro slaves with fifteen free negroes scattered over the county. The live stock included 1,537 horses and mules; 8,447 cattle; 762 sheep; 10,342 hogs. The farmers produced 158,990 bushels of corn; 1,300 pounds of wool; 1,900 pounds of tobacco; 4,582 bales of cotton, each weighing 400 pounds; 2,475 bushels of wheat; and 16,865 bushels of oats. There were seven stores in the various sections of the county with a commercial capital of $80,000.

(2) Thus continued the road system of this county till the advent of the automibile. When the railroad came in 1875, instead of improving the public roads, it had a tendency to cause a loss of interest on the part of the public. One then could get to their destination in spite of the road and freight and mails could be transported much more cheaply and rapidly. The old stage coach

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(1) Historical Sketches,--Carroll.

(2) Mississippi Road Commission.

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and freight wagons cease to make their regular routes over these highways and added to the loss of interest. Of recent years, since 1914, renewed interest in the highways have taken on startling proportions, bringing these sharply into competition with the railroads as a means of transportation of passengers, mail, freight etc. The work was begun by an act of the State Legialature enabling the Board of Supervisors to appoint a Highway commission with authority to have the roads of their district hard surfaced at public expense. This district Beat One, was the first to begin this work in Oktibbeha County. (1) The commission consisted of R.K.Wier, J.W.Eckford, and Calvin McCreight. The Overseer was discontinued in those beats and the Commission employed an engineer to make the survy y and then let out the roads to construction companies at public auction. This work had but to begin till it grew in demand throughout the county, till today practically every road of any importance is either gravelled or paved by the State Highway Commission under the $42,000,000.00 highway fund furnished by the Federal Government and the state gas tax. Since the Federal

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(1) Minutes of the Board of Supervisors--Oktibbeha County, 1914

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Government had entered into the construction of roads, a State Highway Commission has been selected either by election or appointment whose duty is to lay out survey, and construct a system of paved or graveled highways throughout the entire state without reference to local sentiment or politics. This has resulted in straightening all the main highways and the construction of the roads above high water with the best of culverts and bridges throughout the state. Our present Highway Commission consists of Brown Williams, president; Abe Linker; and Hiram Patterson, with Ed Kenna as Chief Engineer.(1) It is their business to survey the proposed highway and let out contracts for grading, building bridges, and laying the hard surface. Two of these roads enter this county. The Federal Highway, No. 82 running across the state east-west from Columbus, through Starkville, to Greenville, Miss. The State Highways Nos. 23 and 12 serving as outlets to the northwest to West Point, Mississippi and through Sturgis to Ackerman, Mississippi. Highway 82 is being paved but the other State roads are only graveled thus far. Most of the side community roads are

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(1) Ibid

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now gravelled and are thus passable throughout the entire year. These roads follow the old routes of the Mission roads. One of them estends from Starkville, north-west to Pheba, Miss; one south-east to the section formerly occupied by the Indian Agency and Noxubee Mission; and the Reed road running by the old Hebron Mission. Several community roads of less importance are gravelled for school purposes. Practically all school bus routes are gravelled today. This furnishes sure transportation for all school children through out the entire session of school.

(1) These roads are all supported by special Federal appropriations, the State gas tax and special levies for roads bonds and interest in each beat or road district. In these districts each supervisor by and with the consent of the entire board, employ an individual to maintain the roads of his district at a certain amonnt per mile. This includes hauling gravel, building bridges, and culverts and running the grading machine at regular intervals. The gasoline tax sent to the county by the State Auditor amounts to near $3,000.00 per month. This is divided

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(1) Ibid

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among the supervisors districts in proportion to valuation in that district and is used as above stated.

During the session of the Legislature of 1871, a charter was sought by some of the more prominent citizens of the county to build a railroad from Artesia, through Starkville, to Grenada to be known as the A.S.G. Railroad of Mississippi. To get this charter they secured a few charter members as they knew the Legislature would be unfriendly to any movement set on foot by white citizens alone. They therefore, secured the names of Juniper Yeates, a member of the Board of Supervisors and some members of the Legislature as officials as Mose Bardwell, Randle Nettles, Aron Davis, Robert Larry, Nick Anderson, S.E. Rives, Felix Rushing, James T. Chiles, Hamp Turner, John I. Montgomery, H.C.Muldrow, W.B.Montgomery, J.P.Curry, W.H.Chiles, H.C.Powers, John S. Worley, C.A.Sullivan, J.D.Beattie, Mitchell Moody, L.A.Fort, H.L.Muldrow, M.F.Ames, George H. Holland, Ira McWilliams, and J.A.Cox.

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This Company was authorized to issue stock to the amount of two million dollars with shares valued at $100.00 each. Before a charter could be issued it had to be submitted to the voters of the county through which the road would pass. It was to be a narrow guage road and thus failed to elicit the interest of local or foreign capital, hence the road never materialized due to failure to sell the stock. It was a great disappointment to the promoters as this means of transportation was seriously needed by the farmers and merchants of the interior of the county.

In 1872 the same group secured a charter for another railroad to be known as the West Point, Starkville, and Kosciusko Railroad. The local incorporaters also included some negroes for the same reason as stated above. These were W.B.Montgomery W.N.Ames, F.H.Duquereron, L.A.Fort, H.S.Muldrow, H.C.Powers, Robert Larry, Mose Bardwell, and C.A.Sullivan. The capital stock of the company could be secured from the sale of shares at fifty dollars each and could amount to one or two

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million dollars. Counties through which the road passed could subscribe to the capital stock if a majority of the Electors voted in favor of the bonds. This company was granted the power to construct either a single or a double track or a narrow or broad guage road. At first there was great interest in the venture but capital could not be interested at this time. (1) Immediately work began to interest the Mobile and Ohio Railroad to build a branch line from Artesia to Starkville, Mississippi. The company proposed to build the road to Starkville if the county and town of Starkville would issue its bonds to the amount of $150,000.00 for the promotion of the project. This proposition was bitterly opposed and enthusiastically championed by the most outstanding citizens of the county. On January 6, 1873, a petition was submitted to the Board of Police requesting an election in the county on the above proposition. These bonds were to be paid in twenty yearly installments bearing interest

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(1) Historical Sketches,--Carroll, Minutes of the Board of Police, 1873.

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at 7% per annum. It was therefore, ordered that an election should be required according to law on the 18th day of February, 1873 to enable the qualified Electors of the county to vote on the proposition of subscribing to the capital stock of the railroad to the amount of $125,000.00 for the county and $25,000.00 for the city of Starkville. The election was held on the date fixed by the Board but was defeated at the polls due to the opposition of the Southern and Western sections of the county. The Sponsors were again doomed to disappointment and it began to look as though the county would not get an outlet by rail with the outside world for its passenger and freight other than the old dirt roads. However, these men began all over again. Speakers campaigned the entire county assuring the citizens of the western section that the road would be built through the county right into the community. This enlisted the interest of the west. Col. H.L.Muldrow called a mass-meeting at the Courthouse in the interest of the program,.His close friend, James Graves was making a strenuous fight in opposition to the issue. He was at this meeting and certain remarks were made to which Muldrow took offense.

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Friends of both parties did little to allay the difficulty but rather added fuel to the flames. Both men armed and met at the corner immediately east of the Court House, as a result Graves was killed and Muldrow wounded. The election was held in spite of all the bitterness and this time, was carried. The bonds were floated and later the road was built by H.C.Powers and Loomis using convicts to build the section from Muldrow to Starkville. Prior to this time all freight was either hauled to the Tombigbee River or down to meet the main line of the Mobile and Chio Railroad as it was being constructed toward Artesia, so when the road actually reached the city in early 1875, the city at once went on a boom. New stores were built and the population doubled in a short time. After its completion in 1876 and 1877, trains were run only two or three times each week.(1) On other days Chiles and Mallory who were running a livery stable, were granted the privilege by the roadto run a hand-car to carry passebgers and the mail out to Artesia. Four negroes operated this car and a fare of one dollar each way was charged. With

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(1) Local reports.

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the completion of the branch to Starkville the Stage Coach days were over and the little villages that had grown to considerable proportions along the Robinson Road in this county began to die thus Old Folsom and Agency are two of the dead towns of Mississippi.

During the year 1883 and following the C.A. & M., now the Illinois Central Railroad built its branch from Durant to Aberdeen, Mississippi. This gave a road through the entire county from the south-wets to the north-east section and made accessible a large part of the county that had never had railroad facilities and thus greatly improved conditions along its line. Several small towns sprang up as a result, either as flag stations or regular stops. These were Muldrow in section 35 which was named after Col. H.L.Muldrow of Starkville who had a farm there and whose influence, they hoped would be instrumental in developing a nice village. Several stores were constructed and a post office granted and Muldrow prospered for a while. Osborn came next in section 10 and a few stores continue# to do business there today with a post office; Pats grew up as a flag station. It grew up

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as an honor to Hon. Pat Pearson but has never had a store; Longview then came rapidly into appreciable size due to its saw mills and spleddid school that grew up as the A.H.S. of the county. It is a regular station and has a post office; Bradley and Bugh's station come next but are of little consequence except as flag stations. Bradley once had a post office. The most important town to grow up as a result of the new road is Sturgis. It is the last stop in Oktibbeha County. Old Whitefield soon began to disappear and by 1886, when the town of Sturgis was incorporated, it was all transferred to the railroad-post office and stores. Sturgis grew very rapidly as a business center for a large section of the county and became a large cross tie station and one or two large saw mills soon developed a fine forest of virgin pine in that section. Today it has a splendid school and several stores, and furnishes an outlet for a prosperous farming community.

Thus the railroads have done much toward the progress of this county in that it has furnished a rapid means of transportation for passengers and freight. It has in this way

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enabled sections of the county to develope its natural resources of forests, soil and animal life that would not have been accessible in any other manner. This railroad came when the dirt road was very uncertain as a means of transportation due to the lack of bridges, conditions of weather, and nature of the vehicle itself. In the streets of Starkville it was not unusual for a team of oxen to stall with one or two bales of cotton. It was much worse in the rural sections and still worse in the prairie division of the county and this part of the county had to be traversed to reach the river and later the main line of the Mobile and Ohio Raioroad before the Branch was constructed , It was therefore, very gratifying to have notice given by the Georgis Pacific (now Southern) or still later the Columbus and Greenville road . In 1889 a survey was made through the city of Starkville and the county. Oktibbeha County was assured that a road would be built through the county if a bond issue for $25,000.00 was floated to assist in paying for the right of way. The city at once assured the county that it would go its limit of $10,000.00 if the county would raise the

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$15,000.00, but the county was just finishing the payment of the Mobile and Ohio Bonds and felt that some crooked business had been perpetrated on it in these bonds, as the county was assured that the Mobile and Ohio road would pass through the ~~ee~~ county which was not done, so when this was brought before the county it was defeated by a large majority. Speakers on both sides campaigned the county. Those opposed assured the people that the matter of $15,000 would not deter the road from going through as this was the most direct route, but West Point even subscribed more than the $25,000.00 and the road went that way. (1) Judge Carroll assures us that this was a great economic mistake as this road would have greatly augmented trade in the sections of the county through which it passed. As it ran later it cut off from this section and the city of Starkville much of its legitimate trade. One can very easily see the advantages derived from the railroads of a tariff rate is examined. The Old Stage Coach that passed over the Robinson Road charged fares equal to air transportation today and the freight rates

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(1) Historical Sketches,--Judge Carroll.

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were similar. Before the rails were placed in this county, the general cost of transportation was from $1.50 to $2.00 per one hundred weight for ordinary freight and for cotton it amounted to five dollars per bale. Another advantage of the railroad was that of time. It would take from one to two days to travel forty or fifty miles and the cost would be any where from ten to twelve dollars besides two meals on the trip and likely a night in some unsafe inn. These were all closed on the arrival of the railroad.

Oktibbeha County has also a flying field and while it is not on any of the routes of the main air lines, it has numerous private planes in great numbers and will, no doubt, be included later in some of the important lines. The field is also used by the State College as a training field under a flying instructor of the College and Federal Government. (1) The present excellent flying field had its orgin about the close of the world war, Several Ex-army flyers who had bought obsolete army planes came to Starkville on " barn storming" trips, giving passenger rides which cost, at that time, ten

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(1) Manuscript by Sumpter Camp, Instructor in flying State College, Mississippi.

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dollars per passenger for a very short ride. The landing place was known then as the "Grass-Hopper" field. These early commercial flyers or "barn stormers" were followed at intervals by flyers using later and better type of planes. A few of these remained at this field for considerable length of time with their planes "staked out" in a pasture. Later these itinerant flyers and the city made plans for a better field at the city limits, just beyond the old race track, which was then called the Nichols Field. Here their planes would land and do commercial flying. In 1832, Mr. Sumpter Camp, a native of Starkville, after considerable training came to the Nichols Field, built the first "hangar" and set up for commercial flying. About this time Mr. L.B.Camp aroused the interest of the city administration in locating and building a modern Air field. Mr. Mitchell Robinson, Secretary of the College, also became interested and through his efforts a department of aviation was organized at State College under the direction of the Federal Government.

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July 23, 1937

In 1933 the city of Starkville secured a C.W.A. project for an air port, which was leased from the Scales property. Approximately 93 acres was included in the project and as the aviation course became attractive under Mr. Camp and Wittington, the city purchased this property and secured more Government aid in improving the field. The field contains now over 125 acres with a modern hangar. Lighting will soon be installed. It is now in constant use for local flight training and also by transient and commercial planes. In the near future the field will be made a "feeder" to one of the main air lines.

Such in barest outline is the history of the Transportation of Oktibbeha County. It has been the purpose of the manuscript to show how this has effected the settlement and growth of the entire county as well as its change of centers of growth. But the subject of Indian and white highways has not been thoroughly developed, and it offers valuable matter for treatment. To a large extent as we have seen, it is after all one story. The original trails of the Indians were the paths of the white

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explorers, from Spanish discoverers and French coureurs de bois to the American pioneer like our Sam Dale or Daniel Boone or Limsicums, and between these extremes, competing British and French merchants carried their wares over the same routes to reach the native tribes in this country which later became the site of Oktibbeha. The missionaries, as we have shown, in building roads, followed these old trails, and later the state and Federal governments with their more important highways and military roads kept the same general course. Even the railroads that have later been surveyed or built pursued them, because they offered the least resistance and natural obstructions. Not till the latest highway construction have we dared to deviate from the old beaten routes. It was these routes that the Indian hunter sought his prey and on them the pioneer explorer shed his blood and thus enriched them with romance while the toilsome journeys of our imigrant fathers, moving families and belongings to this clime, in search of happier homes and fortunes. This all should make them sacred to remotest generations. When

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these successive scenes rise before us, we realize the need of an inspired pen to tell the full story of the early roads and transportation of Oktibbeha County.

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(4) Laws of 1824 -- State Legislature

(5) United States Survey, Field notes -1830-1832

(6) History of the Choctaw Indians -- Cushman

(7) Original Survey

(8) American State Papers, Indian Affairs, Volume I

(9) Mississippi Road Commission

(10)Minutes of the Board of Supervisors, Oktibbeha County,1914

(11) Minutes of the Board of Police, 1873

(12) Local Reports

(13) Manuscript by Sumpter Camp, Instructor in flying-- State College, Mississippi.

STATE WIDE HISTORIC RESEARCH PROJECT
OKTIBBEHA COUNTY

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A. 2

(1) Judge T. B. Carroll begun history pf Oktibbeha County, died before manuscript was ready for publication.

(1)- Information furnished by Mrs. J. D. Hollinshead, Starkville, Miss.

3. Poets

(1) Rev. W. S Harrison, philosopher and poet, is the author of a number of short poems, a book of poetry, and various prose writings. As a poet, he was reverent, led by a vision sublime, he sang only the most exalted songs which had for their themes, almost exclusively, patriotic subjects. A deep student of theology, he lived with heart aflame with poetic vision which he would not allow his pen to indite until late in life. If he had allowed the muses to have led him in the most productive period of his life, he would easily have attained fame.

Rev. Harrison was born in Bedford, Tennessee, July 28, 1834. He joined the Memphis Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South in 1855, became a member of the North Mississippi Conference as its organization, and remained a faithful member of the same until death. Thirty-six years of his life was spent in Starkville, Mississippi. He was a man of genuine culture, although not a college graduate, and he acquired creditable education in the languages, science, and mental and moral philosophy. Rev. Harrison died in Starkville on December 3, 1917

Besides his short poems, Rev. Harrison had published a book of verse entitled "Supremacy of Life ". This book, almost Miltonic in its granduer, attests the high quality of his poetical genius. It reveals his love of nature and its secrets; people spoke to his awakened soul; life to him was a poem. In prose he has written "Sam Williams -- A Tale of the Old South", "The Article of Religion" a book worthy of study by all theological students, "Jerusalem Destroyed" and "A Life of Christ". The last two were unpublished at his death. He was best known, however, for his poetry, and is remembered

(1) Information gathered from the Starkville News. Nov. 30 1917

for his beautiful verse.

At his funeral the choir sang an original unpublished hym, "We'll Conquer There", the first stanza of which follows:

"Let Grace and Love within us reign,
Till sin be dead and passion slain;
In ease or toil, in joy or pain;
We'll conquer there."

Ibid

(1) Dr. R. P. Pearson enjoyed a long and successful career as one of the leading physicians of Starkville. He was a doctor of the old school, who on account of his medical skill, courteous manner, and sympathetic disposition, was beloved by all. He devoted his entire time to the practice of his profession - and no night was too cold, or too dark for him to brave the elements in attending calls, no matter how bad the roads, or how remote the home of the ill or afflicted. No man in this section was more universally known and honored, and his death was mourned by all classes. Dr. Pearson lost his sight in his old age, and the following poem was written while he was blind. A portion of the poem follows:

THE OLD MILL

"The old mill stands at the brawling brook,
Where the angler often casts his hook,
With merry glee and happy shout,
He landed scores of handsome trout,
When the roaring fan and clattering wheel,
And the rumbling stones turned out the meal,
When customers thronged the open door
and piled their sacks upon the floor,
Then amid confusion, noise, and din,
The miller filled with toll his bin."

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1 -- Excerpt taken from the Starkville News

(1) Frederic Francis Mellen, who wrote verse during his college days, shortly after, and very occasionally since, has had published several interesting poems. He was born August 21, 1911 at State College, the son of Professor Frederic Davis Mellen and Frances Rice Mellen. Mr. Mellen was graduated from the School of Science of Mississippi State College in 1934. His major studies were in the field of the natural sciences. At present (1937) he is an assistant geologic aide with the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Aside from the technical articles dealing with his science, Mr. Mellen has had published in magazines and anthologies of poetry quite a few poems. The following poem, published in the November, 1936 issue of "Rocks and Minerals" Magazine, is quoted with the permission of Mr. Peter Zodac, editor, the copy-right owner:

BENTONITE

Such tireless water of a restless earth!
Though seeking never for repose itself,
It spends all time, unceasing, finding berth
For things each continental shelf.

A sunset red along a southern shore
And landscape dim, and water not so clear,
Though still, construe that some few days before
Great rumblings blew into primeval ear,
And dark clouds drifted from the southwest sea
Where angry islands basked there underneath
The sun, and singly sent each wind-drawn wreath
To settle in the waves right quietly

(1) Miss Nannie Rice, Starkville, Mississippi - Conference.

Then washed away the hills and higher lands
To cover deep the dust, and shells and sand;
So restless earth threw up her breast again,
And men came down to nourish on the plain.

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(1) Ibid

(1) Mrs. Julia R. Long has had published several poems of a religious nature. The following poem was published in the 1936 edition of the Paebar Anthology of Verse, issued by the Paebar Publishing Company of New York City, this being the seventh annual series of thie Anthology. Mrs. Long's poem was copied from the Nashville Christian Advocate, with the author's permission.

SONGS THAT ECHO IN THE HEART

By

Julia Ellis Long

"There are fine solos and anthems which the choir sings in our church, But
that hifalutin' music does not thrill me very much;
Though it is the finest singing' and portrays the highest art,
Only the simple gospel music finds an echo in the heart.

"Songs like "Near the Cross", and"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me",
"Let the Lower Lights be Burning", for poor sinners out at sea,
and the congregation singin', with a voice for every part --
That's the kind of gospel music finds an echo in the heart.

"In a real old-time revival, like I knew when but a boy,
Many a mother's heart was lifted with a deep, religious joy;
But 'twas no new-fangled singin' in that service had a part --
'Twas the simple gospel music found an echo in the heart.

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1 - - Mrs. Julia Ellis Long, Starkville, Miss -- Conference

"When our choir and congregation, in sincere, repentant mood,
Sing with all their hearts together, "Savior, Wash Me in the Blood",
Then a flood of real emotion makes the tears of feelin' start,
For the simple, gospel music finds an echo in my heart."

The above shows the character of the poems written by Mrs. Long.

She was born in Starkville, one of six children born to Rev. and Mrs. J.A. Ellis. Growing up in this quiet, cultured home, the child early felt a desire to write, and made up her mind that when she grew up she would be "a missionary and write novels for a living." She was educated in the public schools of Starkville, later attending a girls school in Ashville, North Carolina. In 1905 Julia Ellis was married to B.E. Self, and eight and one-half years after his death, which occurred in 1914, she was married to J. R. Long of Oktibbeha County. Of her self she says, "My love of books is only slightly diminished, and my scribbling propensities are still going pretty strong".

Among the poems published to date are: "Our New Church", published in the Cumberland Presbyterian in 1902; "The Miracle", published in the World Outlook; "Songs that echo in the Heart", Nashville Christian Advocate and Paebar Anthology of Verse; "My Little Knight", Weekly Commercial Appeal; "Miracle of Spring", Starkville News, and selected for Paebar Anthology for publication in their 1937 series; and "My Child and Jesue", to be published in an early number of the World Outlook.

Ibid

(1) Mr. John Henry Wellborn is the author of several pieces of beautiful poetry, most of which deal with some form of nature and the out-of-doors. He was born May 18, 1863 at Monticello, Mississippi. The son of James William Wellborn and Elizabeth Fox Wellborn.He was educated in the public schools and graduated from Mississippi A _ M College. After teaching school for several years, he was owner and editor of the"East Mississippi Times" newspaper for two years. Mr. Wellborn was elected County Surveyor and was also elected to the House of Re resentatives in 1907. He was married in 1889 to Lucy M. Colcough, and they have reared a family of four children.

Following is a poem by Mr. Wellborn:

RESURRECTION GLORY

Swelling buds, the full blown flower,
Born of corruption--nature's strife,
Resurrection from winter's night,
And partakes of glorified life.

Painted glory, with perfume sweet,
Beauty arrayed - heavenly gem
Resurrection from earth beneath,
God's glory on a flowering stem.

1-- Interview with Mt. J. H. Wellborn, Starkville, Miss.

Glory in bloom, emblem of love,
The tomb is but a sacred trust,
Resurrection in glory bright,
The dead in Christ shall rise from dust.

Man, the image of his Maker,
Far above the bud and flower,
Made for resurrection glory,
Saved by omnipotent power.

Resurrection from things mortal,
Precious hope of the saints-true goal,
Joys of a blissful hereafter,
The beautiful home of the soul.

Ibid

William Walker, an early settler in Oktibbeha County, is a decendant of ancestors who lived in North Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War. His father, Daniel Walker, was born in Nash County, December 15, 1776.

William Walker came down from North Carolina to Tennessee and finally settled in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi in 1830. He was probably among the first school teachers in Oktibbeha County and taught school in the southern portion of the county. In his school teaching, he used a book on mathematics which had been started and partially written by his uncle in 1814, and which had been completed by himself in 1827. The book is a large volume, written in long hand and the writing appears to have been done with a goose-quill. The drawings are skillfully handled and well executed. It is a comprehensive trearment including extensive subject matter in Arithmetic, Geometry, Trigonometry and surveying. As a relic, the old book is still in the possession of the Walker family, and is in a fairly good state of preservation.

William Walker received his education in North Carolina and studied especially land surveying and mathematics. In 1827, one hundred and ten years ago, he was issued the following certificate:

"Ihave examined William Walker in the different branches of reading, writing, arithmetic, and English grammar, and consider him capable of

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(1) Information furnished by Dr. B.M. Walker, Starkville, Mississippi

of undertaking the tuition of these classes and such, as wish to acquire a thorough knowledge of the different branches, within the limits of his professional knowledge.

William Casey

Nash County, March 20, 1829."

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(1) Rev. H. G. Pearson, Presbyterian minister and evangelist, is the author of two books of a religious nature. He was a man possessing great spiritual force, and left a powerful impression in the hearts and minds of many.

Robert Gamaliel, the eldest son of Hilary Pearsson and Temperance Walker, was born June 9, 1847 in Oktibbeha County. His father was a farmer, and Robert spent the early years of his life in the country, living a free, simple, joyous life. His early education was received in schools in his own neighborhood, but after a few years he was sent to Aberdeen, Mississippi, where he was offered a more advanced course of study. Later Cooper Institute, near Meridian, Mississippi, was the scene of his studies, and after completing the course there, he went to the Theological Seminary at Lebanon, Tennessee, from which he graduated in 1876. His first pastorate was at Tupelo, Mississippi. He married Miss Mary Brown of Oxford, Mississippi. Later pastorates were at Columbia, Tenn., and the First Cumberland ~~Church~~ Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tenn. A year later, however, he received a strong call to do evangelistic work, and set out upon his mission. Everywhere he preached to large and enthusiastic audiences, and many are the testimonials written as to his spiritual force.

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(1) Mrs. Mary Pearson, Starkville, Miss. Conference.

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At St. Joseph, Missouri the local business men had secured a theatre for Rev. Pearson's evening service and tendered its use. His date at the theatre was sandwiched in between John L. Sullivan the prize fighter, on Saturday night, and Bob Ingersoll on the following night, but the power of his message drew a larger crowd than either of the other attractions.

During the latter part of his life, Rev. Pearson served as teacher of the English Bible at the Montreat conference, and as teacher of the of the English Bible in the Columbia Theological Seminary. He taught up until the end of his life, and after an illness of only twelve days, passed away quietly in his sleep.

Rev. Pearson's two books are both published by the Richmond Press of Richmond, Virginia. The title of one book is "Truth Applied, or Bible Readings". The other is a book of Sermons, the most well-known being "What then will you do with Jesus, Who is called the Christ?" These books are highly valued by ministers and Bible Students.

Ibid

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Miscallaneous.

(1) Rev. Robert Gilderoy Porter in the author of many little short stories for children which manifest his joyous spirit. These stories, filled with wit and humor, yet often pointing a moral, were published in various church papers, among which was the "National Christian Advocate". Rev. Porter was paid as high as fifty dollars apiece for these entertaining little stories. They dealt with amusing incidents of his boyhood days, his experiences as a young preacher, his family life, and the playful pranks of his children. Later thay were published in two volumes.

Robert Gilderoy Porter was born in Marion County, Alabama, on February 15, 1839. His parents, William B. and Hester Steele Porter, moved with their young son when he was two years old to Pontotoc County, Mississippi, now Lee County.

From early childhood Robert was a studious boy, fond of books and reading, but he had very little formal education. Left to his own devices, he made rapid progress along the lines that he liked. He developed into a fine latin scholar, and by the time he was grown he had read the New Testament through in Greek and Hebrew. Upon reaching maturity, he received a call to preach the gospel, and was later ordained as a Methodist minister. All his life he was fond of a joke, and was always bubbling over with the joy of life.

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(1) Mrs. Helen Woodward, Starkville, Miss. - Conference

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In 1860 he married Helen Jane Walton, who was born near Aberdeen, Mississippi. The two reared a large family of children, one of whom, Mrs. Helen Porter Woodward, now lives in Starkville. Rev. Porter was twice the Presiding Elder of the Columbus district.

In 1908 he was approaching the fiftieth year of his service in the North Mississippi Conference and was preparing, in accordance with the custom of the conference, to deliver his centennial sermon, when he was stricken with acute appendicitis and died in a Memphis Hospital. His centennial sermon was preached at the funeral services.

Rev. Porter's short stories were published in two volumes, both of which were published in Macon Georgia. The first volume bears the name of "Gilderoy's Stories for Boys" and the second is named "Odd Hours". The style of both books is engaging and simple and the stories are the sort that appeal to both children and grown-ups.

Ibid

(1)Dr. Buz M. Walker, Oktibbeha County boy, spent his boyhood days on the farm, where he was born the son of William Walker and Mary E. Hines Walker. His ancestors had lived in North Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War. While a little boy he was taught at home by his mother, Mary E. (Hines) Walker, and obtained his early education in the face of difficulties by attending the poor county schools during the dark days of carpet-bag rule and reconstruction in Mississippi . He was next in the public school and Starkville Male Academy for four years, where his mathematical traits of mind began to show itself. He entered the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College at the opening of its session in 1880, always led his class in mathematics, and was graduated with honors in the first graduating class in 1883, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Sience. As a college student he was one of the organizers of the Young Men's Christian Association and was its first president.

He was a member of the Dialectic Literary Society and always took an active part in its proceedings. In the military organization he was a good officer and a firm disciplinarian and served as Senior Captain in charge of the student battalion for a year and a half until the time of his graduation. Immediately after graduation, he was employed in the college as instructor.

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1 - Information taken from "Mississippi, the Heart of the South". Vol . III

He spent the summer of 1885, '86, and '87 studying mathematics at the University of Virginia under Professor William M. Thornton. The degree of Master of Science was conferred on him by his Alma Mater in 1886. Taking advantage of his leave of absence, granted by the board of trustees, he spent fifteen months in Goettingen and Berlin, Germany, studying mathematics under the German masters. However, Professor Walker was not satisfied with his education and in 1895 obtained a second leave of absence from the college and went to the University of Chicago, and spent fifteen months studying mathematical astronomy. He continued his work and each summer from 1897 to 1906 found him taking special courses of lecturers in higher mathematics at this university. He made a critical review and careful examination of the literature treating of the singularities of algebraic curves and undertook the difficult task of solving the celebrated mathematical problem, "On the resolution of higher singularities of algebraic curves into ordinary modes. "is laborious efforts were crowned with success and his solution being en entirely new proof of this celebrated theorem was accepted by the University of Chicago as a dessertation submitted to the faculties of the graduate schools of art, literature, and science in candidacy for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Ibid.

The degree was conferred on him at the August convention in 1906. The solution of this celebrated probelem by Dr. Walker won for him a prominent and permanent place among the few great mathematical minds recorded in the chronology of mathematics, that the world had produced since the time of Descartes in 1596, and make him a credit to the college and an honor to the state and the entire south.

Dr. Walker keeps in close touch with modern thought in Science and education. He is a member of the American Mathematical Society, of the Mathematical Association of America, life member of the Deusche Mathematikes Vereinigung in Germany and a member of the Circolo Mathematico di palermo in Italy.

His biographical sketch appears in American Men of Science, Who' Who in Government, Who's Who in America, Leaders in Education, Who's Who in American Education, The Institute of American Genealogy.

Life history in Mississippi the Heart of the South, Vol. 3

Name appears among worlds Mathematicians of the past 300 years/

Paper on "Higher Singularities of Algebraic Curves was read before International Congress if Mathematicians Oslo, Norway, July 1936.

Ibid

(1) James Freeman Sellers is the author of two technical books on chemistry as well as several articles along the same line. He has had published an Elementart Treatise on Qualitative Chemical Analysis and a Treatise of Analytical Chemistry. He has also had many contributions to American Chemical Journals, to Science and to Journals of Education.

Dr Sellers was born in Starkville on June 1, 1862, son of Rev. Thomas George Sellers and Mary (Crenshaw) Sellers. He obtained his early education in the school of Starkville and then attended the University of Mississippi where he graduated in 1885 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and in 1890 received the degree of Master of Arts. The honorary degree of LL.D was conferred on him in 1917 by Mississippi College, Clinton, Mississippi. He was an educator of renown, beginning his career as Instructor at Mississippi A & M College during the years of 1882 and 1883. He served as Professir if Chemistry at Mississippi College and at Mercer University, later being elevated to Acting-President and Dean od the latter College. He served as Dean of Arts and Science at Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia, from 1919 until the time of his death in 1936, and was held in high esteem bu the faculty and students of the University, leaving a splendid record to his credit.

During the World War, he was Y.M.C.A. educational secretary in Great Britain

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1 - Information furnished by Dr. B.M. Walker, Starkville, Miss.

1918, and Professor of Chemistry in the United States Army Educational Corps, American Forces, at the University, Beaune, France, in 1919. He was a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, President of the Association of Georgia College, and a member of the National Educational Association and American Chemical Society.

On December 20, 1888, he was married to Miss Dora Fort, Grand Bay, Alabama, and to them were born several children.

Dr. Sellers died in Atlanta in 1936

Ibid

Oktibbeha County has always been a music center, and parents have always manifested an eagerness to have their children study music of some sort. From the beginning od Mr. Seller's Institute, one of the first schools in the county, Mrs. M.T.S. Sullivan taught music in 1876. Even in those early days interest in this cultural side of life was evident by the large class in Music. In fact, there were so many students that it was necessary to have another teacher, and Miss Genie Wallace assisted Mrs. Sullivan.

In the following years schools of music were established and taught by Mrs. W.E. Saunders and Mrs. Tate.

A private school of music was opened in the home of the Duquercron's by Miss Jennie Barker, who turned it over to Miss Dell Ervin when she married.

In 1868 the first girls of music in the county was taught by Mrs. McMillian, assisted by Miss Mattie Bardwell, a sister of Mr. Cecil Bardwell. The school was located in the basement of the Presbyterian Church. Miss Mattie taught calisthenics as well as music, and many little girls began their musical education under her able tutelage.

Grossie Ames (Mrs. Grossie Saunders) attended this school at the age of four years, because sister (Mary Ames) went at the age of six years and Grossie cried to go, went and kept up with sister throughout the years. Graduated in same class, a fine musician, and sings well.

Mr. Horatio Cushman one of the first music teachers, 1843

Ibid

Hayden Hamilton Reynolds is an Oktibbeha boy who has gone far in the field of popular music. He was born in Starkville on June 7, 1907. At the age of five he was saved from droening in a well by a negress, Georgia Caldwell, who pulled him out after he had gone under twice. When he was nine years old,Hayden began the study of the piano, and later took up the study of the organ. He was assistant organist of the First Presbyterian Church of Starkville for a year and gave several organ concerts. At the age of sixteen he was graduated from the Starkville High School, and the following fall he enrolled in Southwestern University at Memphis going for two years.
Deciding to follow mucis professionally, he studied organ under Donald Baker of New York, and was organist at the Temple Baptist Church in Memphis,which had at this time the largest church organ in the city. In 1928 he signed a year's contract with an or hestra known as the"Tennessee Collegians" and toured for a year the principal cities of the United States and Canada. During the year 1929, '30 and '31 Hayden Reynilds played with several different orchestras, and it was at this time that he became interested in xx writing popular music and also in orchestrating music for different bands.
He has done quite a bit of Radio broadcasting, at one time serving as staff artist on station W.M.C. Memphis. He has also broadcasted over the Mutual Network, eminating through W.L.W. in Cincinnati.

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1 - Information furnished by Mr. Hayden H. Raynolds, Denver, Colorado.

In 1934 Mr. Reynolds with several other organized a co-operative band and opened at a night club in Memphis. The band was known as the "Colonial Orchestra", and as Mr. Reynolds was the leader, his name was changed to Sunny Southe. They played successfully together for two years throughout the nation and broadcasted over the Columbia Broadcasting system from Savannah Ga. At present Mr. Raynolds is a member of "Little Joe Hart's Orchestra" where they are playing a record breaking engagement in Denver Colorado. With this band he is pianist and arranger of music, besides doing quite a bit of the vocal work.
Mr. Reynolds has written thirty compositions to date. Most of these come under the head of "popular music". In 1934 two of his songs were published in the "Magazine of Popular Music." Their titles are "I'm only Human After All" and "Nothing Ever Happens To Me". He intends to publish others shortly.

Ibid.

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(1) Mrs. Philip Goodman, musician and music lover, is a native of Germany. Born on the city of Mannheim, she came to Oktibbeha County at the age of 28 years. As a child she studied piano, taking a lesson every day. It was a musical family, and she and her brothers and sisters often played and sang together. Mrs. Goodman has an alto voice, her sister was a soprano, one of her brothers a tenor, and the other a bass. Being a perfect quartet, they were always in demand, and sang in many concerts. They were also members of a music club which has one thousand members. In Mannheim, a city of 250,000 population when Mrs. Goodman left, Grand opera was held twice a week and "small opera" once a week. Mrs. Goodman never missed a performance. She also sang in the choir and was given a beautiful bracelet by the members when she same to America.

Although she had not planned to make America her home, and was only visiting her brother in Columbus, Mississippi, Mrs. Goodman met her husband here, settled in Starkville, and reared a large family. She still loves her music and still plays her piano with a sweet touch. It is the classical composer and operatic airs that she loves - she abhors jazz. Her piano is always open, the music spread out, and a day never goes by that she does not sit down and play something from Mendekshonn, Chopin, or Beethoven.

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1 - Mrs. Philip Goodman, Starkville, Miss. Conference.

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(1) Mrs. Martha Henry, who was born in 1837, old-time resident of the Self-Creek Community, played her violin up until several years of her death at the age of Ninety-three.

Her parents, who were living in Alabama, moved to Nauvoo, Ill., after becoming converts to Mormonism. Finding so much rivalry among the different factions, they became disgusted, and embarked fro home on a steamboat that piled the Mississippi. One of the passengers, a pleasant gentleman who called himself a phrenologist, made the acquaintance of the family, seeming especially delighted with Mrs. Henry, then a little girl of eight years, He examined the child's head and declared that she had a musical talent.

At Saint Louis the father bought for his young daughter a $12.00 violin. In five days she had mastered the notes and in less than three weeks she performed easily any selection called for. She was naturally gifted.

Within three years of her death she would often get out her "fiddle" and play for her own enjoyment. She was always in great demand for quilting parties, dances, etc. Mrs. Henry's children, Mr. Isham and Miss Queenie, still have in their possession their mother's violin, which will still play. Mrs. Henry died at her home in Self-Creek in 1930.

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1 - Miss Queenie Henry, Self-Creek Community - Conference

(1) Blanche White Walker, outstanding musician, has composed many compositions for the piano. She was also fond of taking certain Lyrics or verses and setting them to music. Among her musical numbers are "The Smile in the Blue Crepe Bonnet", "Little Son", "Lullaby", which was awarded first prize in a state-wide contest, "N. R. A. Parade", which was played by the United States Marine Band in a radio broadcast. Among her musical numbers with the words by Sir Walter Scott are "Soldiers, Wake!" soprano solo, "Soldier, Rest! " soprano solo "Remember " barytone solo, "Boat Song" male chorus, "The Pibroch of Rhoderick Dhu" male chorus, "Ave Maria" soprano solo, "To Mary" tenor solo, "The Rose is Fairest tenor solo, "The Bonney Blue Cap" tenor solo, "A Fig for the Vicar soldiers song, "The Kament for Rhoderick Dhu" barytone solo, "The Lay of the Imprisoned Huntsman" tenor solo, "The Trap is Set" soprano solo, "All the Blue Bonnets are Bound for the Border" male chorus.

Mrs. Walker was born November 20, 1869 in Brookhaven, Mississippi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John L. White. She obtained her early education in the schools of Brookhaven and then attended Whitworth College where she was graduated with honors in 1889. A talent for music was discovered in her early childhood and she showed a special aptitude for the piano. Immediately after graduation from Whitworth College in 1889, she was employed as musci teacher in the Starkville Female Institute, Starkville, Miss., where she met

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(1) Information furnished by Dr. B.M. Walker, Starkville, Miss.

Walker, then Professor of Mathematics, Mississippi A. & M. College to whom she was married December 23, 1890, and lived on the college campus for forty years where her husband served as president. She was the mother of two sons, Buzz M. Walker Jr. and William White Walker . Mrs. Walker passed away on September 14, 1936 mourned by her many friends. Besides being an accomplished musician, Mrs. Walker is also noted for her beautiful paintings. She studied Art at the University of Chicago, and during her several trips abroad she paid especial attention to the works of the masters. As a result of her interest in art, several of her lovely paintings adorn the walls of her home.

Ibid.

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Mr. Horation Cushman, member of the first pioneer Oktibbeha County family of Cushman, organized the first band in the county in 1850. No records were kept of this organization, and most of the members are now forgotten. Mr. C. A. Hogan played the cornet, in the band and his family still possesses his instrument, which is in good condition. Mr. Ale Hogan was also a member and James P. Curry played the drum.

In 1861, just before the outbreak of the Civil War, the city of Starkville gave a barbecue dinner to a visiting Militia Company, the "Militant Plow Boys", a company formed in the western part of the county. On this occasion, Cushman's band furnished the cheering music for the gathering.

In 1870 another band was organized in the county, and had for its leader, Mr. Dick Pearson, who played the cornet in the band. Members of the band who are known are: Mr. Asberry Lee who played the bass horn, Mr. Will Hopkins, Mr. Frank Duquercron, Mr. Jack Billington, Mr. W. H. Chiles, and Mr. J. D. Mallery.

On one occasion the men were on dress parade, wearing their beautiful uniforms and riding in a band wagon pulled by well-groomed horses. Because of the crowds and the excitement, the horses became frightened, and ran

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1 - Information furnished by Mr. J. A. Glenn and Mr. T. J. Gladney
Starkville, Mississippi

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away down a steep hill. Dick Pearson called. "Jack, Pray!" I don't know what to say," the frightened man shouted back, " Well, pray anyway," the leader commanded, and Jack Billington responded with "O Lord, make us thankful for what we are about to receive.

Ibid

(1) The rise of the Maroon Band from obscure origin to the envious position of the most famous in the South is a dramatic story replete with struggle and glory. Since the founding of Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College, the drum and bugle corps has been an indispensable part of the military units.. But the college was established for twenty-four years before this bugle and drum corps emerged into the status of a band.

In 1904-05, four transfer students from V.M. I., three of them being H.H. Hill, Hosey Turner, G.E. Penn, Jr., and the fourth being now unknown, immediately set about organizing a band around the nucleus afforded by the frum and bugle corps. Hosey Turner gained quite a reputation as a musician when he tucked his beloved trumpet under his arm and journeyed down to Brookhaven to walk off with first place in the state-wide musical contest. Hill enjoyed the destinction of being the first director of the Maroon Band, while Penn ably assisted him.

From this insecure beginning the band became insured when the College assisted it by employing William W. Routten in 1905 as a combination Band Director and Instructor in Wood shop. He remained in this position until 1910, when he was succeeded by H. D. McTier, who left after one year of service.

The Maroon Band rose to a climax under the stern but efficient direction

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1 - Information supplied by Professor Henry E. Wamsley, State College.

of Carl Leake in the tyring years from 1911 to 1918. During this period the band made numerous trips, those of greater importance being with the Meridian Shriners to Niagara Falls, New York City, and California .The sudden and tragic death of Carl Leake in 1919 cost the Maroon Band one of the greatest musicians and most efficient directors that it has ever had.

There followed a series of rather rapid changes in the leadership of the band. Weatherby directed it from 1918 until 1921. He was succeeded by the brilliant but rather tempermental and unstable Walter Edmund Kalinowski who left precipitously when the college terminated his services in the middle of the year. Seilin, a versatile cello player, finished the year.

At this critical juncture Professor Henry Wamsley, the present director, assumed the role of leadership; Professor Wamsley, a native of Illinois, first came to Mississippi A. & M. in 1916 as a student who distinguished himself through his marked ability as a cornetist and oboeist. His career was interrupted when he left to serve as assistant director of an army band during the grim years of the war. He was ably qualified for this military service by his previous four years of service in the Navy.

Immediately after the war, Professor Wamsley returned to Starkville where as a photographer he added prestige to his reputation as an artist by his splendid pictures. Professor Wamsley did not let his interest

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Ibid.

in music lag. He studied during the summers at the University of Illinois. In 1922 Professor Wamsley gave up his professional work in photography in order to devote his time to the development of the Maroon Band.

Under his able tutelage the band had earned the title of the "Famous Sixty ",and the distinction of being in the foremost rank of collegiate bands. It is the oldest college band in the South.

The Maroon Band has served the school and the state by playing at football games all over the South and by taking part in the state wide broadcasts, and patriotic programs. In 1926 the Maroon Band accepted the challenge of the "Million Dollar Band", the endowed band of the University of Alabama to a competitive marching contest to be held in Meridian, Mississippi, on the day of the football engagement between the two schools. The Maroon Bans executed its movements so excellently that the "Million Dollar Band" would not even come out on the field of competition. Thus the Maroon Band brought home a huge cup, to place in the archives with the other trophies of Mississippi A & M.

The band has papeared at football games since that time in executing colorful and intricate figures and letters on the field between halves of the game. During these years trips have been made with the teams to West Point, New York to the Mississippi State-Army game, to Dallas, Texas, the T.C. U. - State game, to the campuses of Louisiana State University

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Ibid

the University of Alabama, Tulane University, Birmingham, the University of Mississippi and other cities and schools.

The musical prestige Mississippi A. & M. is the heritage of Mississippi State. Alumni of the institutions now distinguishing themselves in the cause of good music are distributed over the United States. Some of the outstanding alumni are "Slim" Lamer, who is director of a Victor Recording Orchestra. Bonney Pottle is considered as an outstanding bass and violin player, also, there are several directors of bands through-out the state that asquired their musical training here, some of them being Jim Harvey, a director of the Drew High School band in Drew, Mississippi; W Skipworth, director of the Kosciusko High School Band in Kosciusko, Mississippi, and John Caldwell, director of the Holmes County A.H.S. band and Professior of Political Science in Goodman, Mississippi.

Another example of the prestige of the Maroon Band is the fine band library, which Prof. Carle Leake assembled during his lifetime. After his death, the college purchased the library from Mrs. Leake. Year by year, additions have been made to this splendid library which is now one of the finest college band libraries of the south.

Ibid

(1) The Starkville High School Band, organized February 1935 under the auspices of the Parent-Teacher Association, gave its first public concert several months later.

Mr. F. E. Randle, Jr. first director of the band, spent much time in teaching it how to drill. Mr. Perry Dennis, Mississippi State College student , is present coach of the band, and accompanied it on its recent trip to Jackson for the Field Meet contest. The band is growing and improving steadily, and has taken part in quite a few parades.

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1 - Information gathered from the Starkville News.

(1) About four years ago a small group of students at Mississippi State College decided to from an orchestra, as there was a keenly felt need for such an organization upon the campus. During the winter months a dance was given almost every week-end by some fraternity or student organization, and music ofcourse, was necessary. Tom Bell, a Starkville student with much musical talent, formed the orchestra, which was at once a success. The members of this orchestra, which is fifteen pieces with one vocalist, a co-ed, play for a certain amount of money, and divide it among themselves. Several students are putting themselves through school in this way; Mitt Evans is now leader of the orchestra, which is called "The Collegians. Ed Howell of Greenwood arranges some of the numbers and Billy Bristow, another student and orchestra member, arranges some.

Recently the Collegians went on an extended tour, playing only for guaranteed jobs. The tour included Greenwood, Yazoo City, Jackson, Gulfport. This summer they have contracted to play for seven weeks on the roof garden of one of the best hotels in Gulfport.

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1 - Charles Dolphus, orchestra member, State-College - Conference

(1) The public-school in Starkville offer a fine course in music. The method used in these schools is tone-blending and part-singing. There are 600 children who receive this instruction. This music is capably and efficiently taught by well-trained teachers, and is correlated with several departments of school work, such as history, English, geography, art, and physical culture, as not only is music taught but folk-dancing as well.

An unusually fine glee club, composed of twenty-three girls, has been organized, the accompanist being one of the high school girls. On March 18 of this year (1937) this glee club gave a splended contata from which they realized enough money to add more to the music equipment of the high school.

At Christmas time the children from the Grammar school gave a"Feast of Carols" wherein the carols of the different nations were used. About three hundred children took part in this program.

In the near future the pupils from the Intermediate and Junior high school will have a day devoted to them in chapel in which they will put on their own program which will consist of songs, and folk dances woven around the subject of music.

In the Primary and Grammar Schools music is a regular part of the curriculum

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1 - Mrs. Robin Sweatt Longres, public-school music teacher, Starkville, Miss. conference.

The teacher comes at the appointed time, and the children are required to learn the songs she selects. In the high-school, musical training is optional. The student may join the orchestra or glee club if he so desires.

Ibid

(1) Wickliffe Edwards, one of Oktibbeha's sons, has attained renown as an artist. The Chicago Tribune has this to say about Mr. Edwards; "Wickliffe Edwards, who has been a professional artist for about twenty-five years, was born in Mississippi and retains all the courtly friendliness of the sunny south. An ardent student of nature in all its phases, he maintains, in spite of his beautiful and realistic canvasses depicting landscapes, flowers, and some animals, that Nature is the supreme artist, and that no matter how skillful the brush, it still is a "humble student" in comparison with the rich artistry of nature.

"His complete and sympathetic understanding of the subjects he paints is perhaps the reason they come glowingly to life on the canvasses.

"r. Edwards is a prolific painter, doing his work on practically a "wholesale" scale. He has an eastern market fro his paintings and can scarcely turn them out fast enough to meet the demand. Aside from his ability to paint, he has a philosophical turn of the mind that makes him a brilliant and interesting conversationalist."

Wickliffe Edwards was born in Sturgis, Mississippi, one of the oldest of eleven children. As a young boy he showed interest in the painting which was to be his career. Although his father tried to discourage him Wickliffe would paint whenever and where ever he could get the chance. The merchants around Starkville could not keep a supply of wagon paint

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1 - Mrs. Mary McReynolds, Starkville, Miss. - conference

on hand. because Wick bought it up as fast as they could get it in. Once his father had bought a handsome carriage, and the entire family were going to the county fair. When the carriage was brought out of the stable, it was seen that Wick had decorated the sides with fighting cocks. He made his money by breeding fighting cocks and shipping them as far as Mexico and Spain. He also laid out his mother's flower garden, arranging the beds in the shape of stars, half-moons, etc.,and telling his mother what flower to plant in each bed.

He is a fast and prolific artist. His sister Mrs. McReynolds possesses a number of his canvasses that he has given to her.

For fifteen years he worked on a process of ageing pictures. This is needed when an artist copies a masterpiece to give a realistic effect of old age. This process, being much sought after, is carefully guarded by Mr. Edwards by means of police dogs.

It is Mr. Edwards' theory that it is the "unseen" in art that gives it depth. He is therefore a deep student. Before painting a portrait, he studies anatomy and bone structure. Even if he is going to paint a boquet of roses, he spends days studying root formation, how the plant lives, gathers nourishment, and breathes. For this same reason he studies types. He has lived with the Indians and several pictures, among them "The Scouts" is the result.

He lived for weeks on Maxwell Street in Chicago, in the midst of "New Jerusalem" before attempting that fine picture "The Merchant of Maxwell". This picture is a portrait of the typical Jew that one meets in that

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Ibid

picturesque section of Chicago. He wears a high silk hat, muffler, and a long coat. He has a beard and the characteristic hook nose. With his long fingered hand he is gesturing toward the paper he holds in his other hand. One almost expects him to burst forth in a stream of sales talk and broken jargon.

Another picture that interests today's generation is the "Reuniting of the Nation". An old soldier of the Blue and one of the Gray are seated together deep in conversation. Three fingers are missing from the hand on the one in gray. The blud clad figure leans on his cane and looks ar rge other with wise old eyes. At this time when the nation is united behind the president the picture is especially interesting.

"The Gang" shows an old Frenchman, an Englishman, an American, and a young German boy seated around a cafe table drinking. The lighting in the picture is beautiful. It is highly prized by Mrs. McReynolds.

Ibid

(1) Frances Floyd Dodds has for years delighted in her china painting, marking beautiful designs on fragile china. Her sense of color harmony is very strong, and she terms it her special gift .Applied arts is her specialty, and she has written several very beautiful poems.

Mrs. Dodds studied at Peabody College and at Ouachita College in Arkadelphia, Ark. At the latter college she won a gold medal in art at the age of seventeen years, and continued it with two private teachers after leaving college. She owns and operates her own china kiln.

Following is a poem by Mrs. Dodds, showing her appreciation of and sensitiveness to beautiful colors;

OPEN MINE EYES

Open mine eyes that I may see
The beauty that Thou means't for me!
The rosebud at my window-sill
Pink-tinged and glowing gives a thrill.

Of love to Thee, O Giver of all
This earthly beauty, great and small!
Open mine eyes that I may see
The beauty that Thou mean'st for me !

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1 - Interview with Mrs. Frances Floyd Dodds, Starkville, Miss.

My blue vase filled with daffodils,
My muslin curtains flaunting frills
O'er snowy table and sliverware
Glass, and china painted with care!

My clean yellow cat on homespun rug
Of bright-colored stripes, chasing a bug;
My children laughing in great glee
Their joy fills one with estacy!

My polished floors and shining pans,
In rows placed neatly by my own hands!
The golden brown of bread and pie
So smelly good in pantry nigh!
My hens' red combs and yellow legs
My fluffy chicks and snow-white eggs;
Where pear-tree flaunts its blossoms high
Against the blue of azure sky!

The pink and pinker of crab-apple tree
The tender green leaves dainty and free-
Free from the wrappings that held them until
They burst in the sunshine at Thy will!

Ibid

The luster of the Katydid's wings ;
The wealth of color the rainbow brings,
The tracings found in leaves I see
Neat stiches in embroidery !

Open mine eyes that I may see
The beauty that Thou mean'st for me;
The tiny bluet by the rill;
Dog-wood, red-bud upon the hill!
Velvet-soft moss of yellow green,
Cushioned 'neath trees, yet seldom seen
By any but fairies-They dance, I know,
Upon this carpet - I dremaed 'twas so!

The yellow of the orioles' wing,
The tiny nest beside the spring,
The sory sea-shell at my feet,
All these make Thee to me more great!

All nature is beauty - it is Thy will!
The grain and sheaf at the old, old mill;
The cardinal bird, a dart of red
'Mongst leaves and berries overhead!

Ibid

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 45
Topic: Fine Arts
Assignment #16
By: Marie Tallichet & Frances Rainey
March 23, 1937

Open mine eyes that I may see
The beauty that Thou mean'st for me!

My blue vase filled with daffodils,
My muslin curtains flaunting frills
O'er snowy table and sliverware
Glass, and china painted with care!

My clean yellow cat on homespun rug
Of bright-colored stripes, chasing a bug;
My children laughing in great glee
Their joy fills one with ecstacy!

My polished floors and shining pans,
In rows placed neatly by my own hands!
The golden brown of bread and pie
So smelly good in pantry nigh!

My hens' red combs and yellow legs
My fluffy chicks and snow-white eggs;
Where pear-tree flaunts its blossoms high
Against the blue of azure sky!

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Page # 45
Assignment # 16
FINE ARTS

Starry snowflakes on window pane
Announce 'tis Christmas time again.
My babies' heads - some light some brown;
By patchwork covers in prayer bend down.

Little faces asleep on pillows white
Trusting in Thee by day and night!
Their faith and love so dear to me
Seem beauty in reality!

Oh, these are only samples, friends,
Of things of beauty our Father sends,
Open our eyes that we may see
The beauty that somes down from Thee !

Ibid

(1) Mrs. W. Frank McCrary, nee Eunice Gladney, has all her life manifested a great interest in art and displayed some degree of talent. While a student at MSCW she took several prizes at the State Fair , among which are: 1909 a cabin scene that stood where th Academic building now stands; 1935 Across the Street - 2nd prize at a District Federated Meeting; 1935 - Backyard View. She has painted many beautiful flower pictures, and has been very successful in China painting. Mrs. McCrary was born near Osborn in Oktibbeha County, the daughter of James Edward and Eloise Love Gladney. Early in life she displayed a wonderful talent for drawing and painting. She graduated from the Starkville High School, and attended Mississippi State College for women where she made a speciality of fine art, and was instrumental in obtaining a potter's wheel and clay modeling equipment. After leaving college, she taught art in the Starkville High School several years. She is now living in West Point, Miss.

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1 - Mrs. James E, Gladney, Information

(1)In the Rice home are left a few paintings bought by Mr., and Mrs., J.W. Rice in Europe in 1851-52. There are reproductions in oil of Raphael's St. Cecelia and of The Violin Player by a painter of Raphael's school. There are two badly stained engravings; one of Thomas Cole's The Voyage of Life; Youth, made by James Smillie in 1840; and the other of Jenny Lind probably made at the time of her tour of America in 1850 to 1852. The family also has a small flower piece in oil by Karl Wolfe.
(2) "Moonlight Scene on the Swanee River " is the title of a very rare picture owned by Miss Maude Carroll. This picture was painted by her great aunt, who at the time of painting was Miss Georgia Brooks, but later became Mrs. Doc Dass. She was the talented young daughter of Mr. Allen Brooks, great grandfather of Miss Maude Carroll and Mrs. Hollingshead. The picture was painted when Miss Brooks was only thirteen or fourteen years old. She died at the age of fifteen, having been married only a short time. The picture is an oil painting, the colors very beautifully blended. Since it is over one hundred years old, the paint has begun to peel off a little, but this does not mar the beauty of the picture.

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1 - Miss Nannie Rice , Starkville, Miss. - Conference

(1) Miss Margaret Turner, great grand-daughter of Dossy A. and Clara E. Harris Outlaw, has in her possession several interesting art pieces that originally belonged to her two ancestors. Dossy and Clara Outlaw came from North Carolina and settled in Mississippi. Mr. Dossey Outlaw painted a map of the world that is dated July 2, 1827, and is one of Miss Turner's treasured possessions. She also owns a piece of velvet upon which Mrs. Clara Outlaw painted a beautiful floral design in 1832. Also in the Turner home is a lovely picture of a young girl, entitled "The Bride". It was painted by Mary Outlaw, daughter of Dossey A. and Clara E. Harris Outlaw, while she was attending Judson College, class of 1856. The painting shows a high degree of artistic skill, and is greatly treasured by the Turners.

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(1) Information furnished by; Miss Margaret Turner, Starkville, Miss.

(1) On the first floor of Lee Hall between the double doors leading into the large auditorum is a beautiful mural, a war memorial to the soldier dead of A. & M. College. Painted by Mr. William Steene, the picture is uniquely a record of A. & M. (as the college was formerly called) . The painting was put on exhibition at the State Fair in Jackson in November 1922, and received much favorable comment from artists and educators. Mr. Steene, who was from New York, but who was at the time licing in Columbus, Mississippi, had won several prizes in the State, Southern and National are exhibitions.

The idea of a war memorial was first put fourth by Dr. J.W. Bailey, who was then Alumnu secretary. Money for this painting was raised thru contributions of students and alumni of A & M.

The purpose of the painting was to catch and perpetuate in one great picture rich in symbolic meaning, the spirit of A & M's response to the call of national honor in 1917. The committee decided to place this memorial where it would become a prominent factor in the daily life of every student, exerting silently the influences of reverence for a precious tradition and inspiration for a worthier citizenship.

On a canvas of approximately 12 x 16 feet, the scene of figures, in the foreground of a deep perspective, is spread in a general three panel effect. In the right panel (from the spectator's point of view)appears

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1 - Information furnished by Dr. J.W. Bailey, Richmond, Va.

a group of happy youths, each boy typical of one of the several professional preparations offered by A & M College. Here are the young farmers, the young engineers, the young chemist, and all the other prospective specialists of technical knpwledge whom the college fits for life's work. Each carries the texts and implements of his vocations. Behind are green fields, smiling fields of utter peace; but in the distance omnious clouds gather anf the light is not wholly unmixed with a suggested darkness.

Having passed, as it were, behind the central panel, the young men appear on the left. The significance of this panel is indicative of the change in the nation's, and especially the college's emotional life. The boys heedlessly casting down the school-books are seizing guns from a convenient rack and hurrying off. In their faces is a somber determi - nation which is yet a shining glory as they depart.

The khaki-clad figures of the college boys grow into life-like proportions in the central panel as they appear in fromt of an exalted female figure whose defender they are . This sovereign form may be considered the personification of civilizations. In her right hand, which has fallen carelessly, is a closed book, eloquent of the suspension of academic processes while our young manhood is engaged upon its knightly mission. In her left hand is the uplifted torch, the symbol of that liberty which enlightens all.

Ibid

At her feet a kneeling figure anxiously holds a scroll, the charter of human rights. Just in front of her a gllbe portraying the world throws into bold relief the two continents which constitute the beginning and the end of the journey. Most conspicious, however, are those valiant figures which shield the priceless institutions of society and the faces of these boys and the faces of A. & M. College students.

Ibid

(1) School of srt have not been given the same prominence in the county as schools of music, but they hace, nevertheless, always been a center of interest for a few. From 1876 to 1879 Miss Alice Bull, who lived in Biloxi, made her home in Starkville, and taught free hand drawing and oil painting at Mr. Seller's Institute. From 1879 to 1882 Miss Annie Gates boarded in the Institute and taught drawing, crayon and oil painting. At present there are no art teachers in the county.

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1 - Information furnished by: Mrs. Shy Ramsey, Starkville, Miss.

(1) There seems to be fewer pieces of statuary and sculpture in the county than the other forms of art ,but what is here has an interesting history. In the Rice home there is a small reproduction in bronze and alabaster of the statue of St. Peter in the Vatican. The family also owns a reproduction in abalaster of Canova's Pauline Borghese.
(2) Mrs. Philip Goodman has in her home many interesting little relics from all parts of the world. There are two tiny figures, little men not three inches high, carved out of solid ivory that same from Italy. From Gamany Mrs. Goodman brought a German mug with a music box in the bottom. After it is wound, the music plays, stopping only then the mug is set down. Another possession that breathes of Germany is a small fat blue glazed bottle in the shape of a stout man sitting on a keg of beer. It is the King of Beer and he is surrounded on a tray by small glasses, each bearing a smiling face. A most unusual vase is the one which has a small picture of Mrs Goodman when a young girl burnt into it. The picture is surrounded by Autographs of her friends. Mrs. Goodman also owns three tiny figures in China, one of which is a perfectly preserved little bug, carrying two baskets of artificial flowers.

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1 - Miss Nannie Rice, Starkville, Miss - Conferance

2 - Mrs. Philip Goodman, Starkville, Miss. - Conference

(1) Between the Biology building and Lee Hall on the campus of Mississippi State College is a small plot of ground formed by the circling drive. On this plot many-colored pansies are growing and in the center stands a life-size figure of a soldier boy. Carved in stone, the statue represents a soldier in full uniform, his gun in his hand. It is a memorial to the dead World War students of Mississippi State College. On the block upon which the figure is mounted are carved these words;

Class of 1932

Memorial

To those Students

of

Mississippi State College

who

Gave their lives

in the

World War

The names of the students who died in the war are also carved in the stone.

Under the shadow of Montgomery Hall on the campus of Mississippi State College and partly hidden by the shrubbery and leafy branches stands the Darden monument, unnoticed by hundreds whi pass it by.

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1 - Visit made by Staff.

Yet for nearly half a century its gray height, weather-beaten now and faded with the years, has stood sentinel on the campus while three generations of State men hace come and gone.

Though inconspicious in appearance and position, this vetran of stone has its own significance. With staid and simple dignity it faithfully preserves the memory of the man whose name it nears - Captain Putnam Darden, Civil War Veteran. Serving as a memorial since 1892, it has come to symbolize the steadiness of purpose and adherence to duty which characterized Captain Darden. Carved on the monument are these words;

"But whether on the scaffold high

Or in the battle's Van

The fittest place where man can die

Is where he dies for man ! "

Ibid

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Assignment # 16
FINE ARTS

(1) On the lawn in front of the chapel of Mississippi State College is a bronze bust of General Stephen D. Lee, first president of the college.

Stephen Dill Lee.
Lieutenant General, C.S.A.
First President
Agricultural and Mechanical
College of Mississippi

1 - Information furnished by Staff.

Page #57
Assignment # 16
FINE ARTS

(1) Mr. W. B. Montgomery, who teaches wood-carving at Mississippi State College, has in his home many beautiful pieces of his handi-work. There is a tall grandfather's clock, the case of which he made from black walnut. He carved an eagle with spread wings just above the face. The numerals on the face are made of old ivory piano keys inlaid in the wood. Ha has also made all their diningroom furniture out of black walnut. The top of the dining table is made of lumber cut before the Civil War. There is a buffet, small table, radio cabnet and six chairs. He has made a set of twin beds and two lamp stands. All of gus work is graceful and beautiful.

Besides his wood carving Mr. Montgomery has made models of two ships. There is one small ship, something over two feet long, that is a model of tge Constitution. Made to scale, it is a perfect reproduction of "Old Ironside". The other is a model of the Santa Maria, a Spanish galleon.

Mr. Montgomery's two sons, of college age, are talented as he is. Both biys have made model coaches and entered them in various contests. In 1932 Bryant Smith Montgomery won second state prize for a small coach he built. In 1933 he won the first state award for another model. The prize was a cash reward of $100 and a free trip to the Century of

1 - Mrs. W. B. Montgomery, Starkville, Miss. - Conference.

Progress Exposition where the model exhibit was on exhibit. In 1834 Bryant Smith's model was again exhibited at the World's Fair. In 1935 he won first state awards, which included a trip to the Great Lakes Exposition in Cleveland, Ohio. The model was placed on exhibit at the Great Lakes Exposition. His 1937 model was under construction. Walter Lee Montgomery won second state award of $100 in cash. The model was also placed on exhibit at the World's Fair, as was the case in 1934. In 1935 and 1936 he won second state awards. Both boys are skilled in carving, and have made many trinkets.

Ibid

STARKVILLE CABINET SHOP

(1) The Starkville Cabinet shop in owned and founded by (1) Mr. J. A. Jurney of Starkville, Miss., It is located on the North end of Main Street.

2 - This cabinet shop uses only local products which consist mainly of the raw woods of walnut and cedar. The market, likweise, is only local. Mr. Jurney is also very skilled in copying antiques, and his reproductions are almost as beautiful and graceful as the originals. The carving of the designs he does by hand. His work is as durable and lasting as it is beautiful to the eye.

3 - There are no employees used in this shop as Mr. Jurney does all of his work by hand and prefers to do it himself.

4 - The benefits to the community are as follows; Anyone who might have a piece of furniture made out of extra good wood and which is now out of use, as the talking machine, can bring this to his shop and have it made into radio tables, stands or other modern and useful pieces of furniture. Cedar chests are made in this shop and antique furniture re-made and made stronger, making them last many yeats longer than they probably would otherwise.

5 - Mr. Jurney was born in Winston County, but moved to Oktibbeha county when he was only three years of age. He was educated in the Public schools of this county. He farmed in the county until he was 28 years old,

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1 - Mr. J. A Jurney, Starkville, Miss. Interview.

serving his apprentice-ship as mechanic at the same time but never used this line of work until 1928 when he started the grist-mill and cabinet shop he now owns and operates.

Ibid

(1) G C Gray, of beat 5, is an excellent woodworker. He makes gun stocks, chests, filing cases, and all kinds of furniture. He makes these articles so perfectly that they cannot be distinguished from factory work. It is skillfully and beautifully done.

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1 - Personal Interview

BASKET WEAVERS

(1) There are several old negroes, born during the salvery times, who spend their time in basketery making. They are: Albert McAlister, Milton Gotten, Alex Hill, and Nelson Hamilton. Most of them live near or on Mr. Albert Love's place, about five miles north of Starkville. They make cotton baskets, fish traps, clothes baskets, etc. They do all kinds of work that is done with white oak splits, replacing the bottoms of chairs. They have tried cane work, but were never successful.

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1 - Personal Interview

(1) Mrs. Sally Sykes is the possessor of a most interesting little relic. It is a little piece of cloth, embroidered sampler fashion, and was made by her grandmother, Sarah F. Dickson about 1830. It was used for a candle shelf drape. The cloth was originally a tea sack that came from England. Worked on it is cross-stich is her name, Sarah A. F. Dickson, the alphabet in both capitals and small letters, and numbers up to ten. It is a quaint little article, and is greatly treasured by Mrs. Sykes.

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1 - Information furnished by: Mrs. Sally Sykes, Sturgis, Miss. Rt. 1

B a. Public Buildings:

Court House - Classie

Post Office - Georgian

High School - Gothic Adoptation

B. b.

Churches :

Presbyterian - Classie

Methodist - Classie

Episcopal - Cross

Baptist - Gothic

Catholic - Chapel

Ibid

Colonial Homes:

(1) W.B. Montgomery - Ante-bellum

Dossy Cutlaw - Ante-bellum

Mrs. B. Blumenfield - Ante-bellum

Mrs. H.A. Belk - Ante-bellum

Miss Nannie Rice - Ante-bellum

Mr. W. P. Jackson - Ante-bellum

Mrs. Gertrude L. Carpenter - Ante-bellum

Mr. G. Odie Daniel - Ante-bellum

Mr. W. J. Valentine - Colonial

Mrs. Grossie Saunders - Colonial

Mrs. W.H. Sudduth - Colonial

English Homes:

Mrs. Alex Ames - Bungalow Type

Mr. M.A. Saunders - Brick Bungalow

Mr. H. V. Sheloske - Brick Bungalow

Mr. D.A. Saunders - Brick Bungalow

Mr. H. R. Western - Brick Bungalow

Mrs. W.D. Rankin - English Cottage

Mr. R. J. Goodman - English Cottage

Mr. A.L. Goodman - Bungalow Type

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1 - Information furnished by Mr. H.W. Stevens and Staff.

Mr. B.M. Walker - English Cottage

Mrs. B. Blumenfield - English Cottage

Mr. J.W. Carpenter - English Cottage

Mr. J. S. Lewis - English Cottage

Normand French Homes;

Mrs. W.H. Gunn - Normand French

Mrs. J. B. Vanlandingham - Holland Arch

Mr. S.W. Slaughter - Holland Arch

Spanish Homes:

Mr. S. J. Few - Spanish

Cape Cod Houses

Mrs. J. W. Pope - Cape Cod

Mr. Sheets - Cape Cod

Miss Ruth Hartness- Cape Cod

Mt. Vernon Houses:

Mr. Paul F. Newell - Mt. Vernon

Mr. W. R. Page, Jr. - Mt. Vernon

Greek Houses:

Mr. J. P. Hartness - Greek

Ibid

B. A.

College Buildings:

Cafeteria - Collegiates Gothic

Biology - Collegiate Gothic

Agricultural Building - Romanesque

Textile - Romanesque

New Dormitory - Romanesque

Chemistry - Renaissance

Veternary Science Building - Modern

Ibid

(1) The Oktibbeha Hospital, owned by Dr. F. B. Long, is one of the most beautiful exaples of landscaping in the county. Set about 400 feet back from th street, the hospital is approached by a gravel drive that forks sharply until it meets the drive in front of the building. The large triangle thus created in front of the hospital is beautifully kept. The grass is kept closely trimmed, and the borders of the triangle are outlined with properly spaced, small pear trees and two large oaks. The fences on either side are hidden by flowering quince and yelloe jessamine. To stand on the hospital porch in the spring and look out toward the street is to enjoy a lovely view - gently sloping lawn, budding trees, and blossoming vines. All sorts of shrubs, rose bushes, and flowers are clusteres around the house. In the back yard there is a square plot in which flowers of all varieties are flourishing. Also in the back yard there is a large cement pool containing gold fish. Cannas are planted around the pool, anf in the summer they are a beautiful sight. On the property to the left, belonging to Mr. Zeno Yeates, there is a beautiful sunken garden. This adds to the beauty of the hospital environs and is a lovely thing in itself.

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1 - Mrs. F. B. Long, Starkville, Miss. - Conference

C. a.

(1) Sturgis High School

Starkville High School

Starkville Public School

b.

Mississippi State College.

c.

Court House

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1 - Information furnished by Staff.

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FINE ARTS

(1) Mrs. Paul W. Sellers of Trim Cane Community has one of the most beautiful flower gardens in the county with the widest variety of flowers. The following is the list of her flowers as she gives it:

Shrubs	Ligustrum Japonica	Japanese Holly
Crepe Myrtle	Euonymus Japonica	Bulbs
Spiraea	Cape Jessamine	Madonna Lily
Bridal Wreath	Stan Jessamine	Tiger Lily
Cydonia Japonica	Shrub Jessamine	Regale Lily
Japanese Barberry	Winter Jessamine	Day Lily
Althea	English Boxwood	Iris Bearded German
Lilac (white and purple)	Cedrus Deodara	Ica (25 Or 30 of this kind of iris)
Abelia Granfiflora	Ambon Vital	
Vandina	Pfitzer's Juniper	Spanish bulb iris
Philadepphia Mock Orange	Yucca Tree	Siberian iris
Vitex Chase Tree	Spanish Bayonet	14 varieties of Narcissus
Privet	Vines	5 Roman Hyacinths
Spiraea Thunbergi	Wistaria	and white "
Winter Honeysuckle	Silver Lace Vine	Tulip Darwin
Flowering Almond	Coral Honeysuckle	Grape Hyacinths
Forsythia Golden Bells	Dorothy Perkins Roses	Amaryllis
Colyconthus Sweet Shrub	(both pink and red)	Guensey Lily or Spider Lily
Moss Locust	Rose on arch, Dr. W. Van Fleet Clematis, White	

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1 - Information furnished by Mrs. Paul W. Sellers Trim Cane.

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Crinum Milk and Wine Lily	Annuals -	Solomon's Seal
Peonies, white and pink	Phlox	Blue-eyde grass
Gladiolas	Larkspur	Crested Dwarf iris
Jacob's ladder	Poppies	Pipe Vine
Roses	Pansies	Beadder Campion
Columbia	Petunias	Catchfly
Radiance	Love-in-a-mist	Spring Beauty
Paul Neyron	English Daisies	Tall Meadow Rue
Talisman	Snapdragons	Mandrake Mayapple
White Woman Cochet	Sweet Alyssum	Wild Rose
Pink Woman Cochet	Cacti	St. Johnswort
White Killarney	Pincushion Cactus	Wild Violet
Lady Hillingdon	Tree "	Shooting Star
Maiden's Blush	Elkshorn "	Pinkroot
Sunset	Honolulu green "	Butterfly Weed
LaFrance	Crowfoot "	Skullcap
Other unknown varieties	Christmas "	Butter & Eggs
Perennials	Starfish "	Beard Tongue
Coreopsis	Heart's Tongue	Cardinal Flower
Daisies	Hen & Chickens "	Cave Flower
Sweet Williams	Wild flowers	Black-eyed Susan
Chrysanthemums	Jack-in-the-pulpit	Wild Coreapsis
Violets	Spiderwort	Poison Hemlock
Verbenas	Beuwort	Wild ferns

Ibid

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Wild Shrubs

Red-bud Judas tree

Buckeye

Black Haw

Hawthorn

French Mulberry

Huckleberry

Sumac

Prickly Ash

Prickly Pea

Dogwood

Ibid

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FINE ARTS

(1) Mrs. Williams H. Sudduth is the owner of one of the most beautiful gardens in the county. In arrangement, selection, and neatness it reflects the unremitting care lavished upon it by Mrs. Sudduth. A small iron arch, covered with rosevines, acts as an entrance to a gravelled path in the center of the garden. Two other paths curve around the outside borders. In the very middle of the garden there is a round goldfish pond, about six feet in diameter. The pool, which has a bird bath in the center, is lined with thickly growing violets. Water lillies are growing there and the brilliant colors of the gold fish show beneath the surface of the water. Still following the center path, one comes to a rustic, vine-covered summer house with a comfortable swing inside. Just back of the summer-house is a grape arbor at the extreme end of the garden.

Almost every variety of flower grows in this beautifully arranged garden. There are also many different varieties of shrubs and flowering trees. It is a delightful place in which to spend leisurely hours.

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1 - Mrs. William H. Sudduth, Starkville, Miss. - Conference

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FINE ARTS

(1)Mrs. Simon Blumenfield's garden is unique because of the magnificant old cedars and the tiny log house that are over one hundred years old. There are beautiful shrubs clustered about the fences - lilac bushes, jessamine vines, and other flowering plants. She also has a small sunken gold fish pond, bordered with scarlet verbena. A table and garden seats and benches near by make it a lovely spot in which to rest. The back yard rises sharply into a hill which is thickly planted with iris, and behind them are the old trees, many of them covered with trailing ivy. The combination of age-old grandeur and up-to-the-minute care make this garden one of the most beautiful in the county.

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1 - Mrs. Simon Blumenfield, Starkville, Miss. - Conference.

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FINE ARTS

(1) Mrs. Ed Yeates takes pride in her beautiful rock garden, one of the largest in the county. It has cost her months of work and care to bring it to its present state. There is also a little fish pond surrounded by shrubs and flowers. Immediately behind Mrs. Yeates' garden is a grove of cedars and blossoming dog-wood, which form a dark, fragant background. Her specialty is roses, and the little garden is very beautiful and colorful when they are flowering.

(2) Mrs. W. B. Montgomery's garden is famous for her hydrangeas which grow in the shade along the side of her house. These great pink and blue balls have grown until they reach the windows of the house. She also owns a fish pond, and the fences of the garden are covered with yellow Jessamine. Along a gently sloping incline behind the garden are tall dark cedars. There are stone benches placed here and there, and many a pleasant summer afternoon is spent among her flowers.

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1 - Mrs. Ed Yeates, Starkville, Miss. - Conference

2 - Mrs. W. B. Montgomery, Starkville, Miss. Conference

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FINE ARTS

(1) Mrs. Hosey Turner of Sturgis gives much attention to her garden and the result is one of the loveliest spots in the county. The garden is located in the front of her home . Toward the left there is a small white, latticed summer house with seats inside.

There is also a beautiful bird bath. The shrubbery and evergreens are tastefully placed to give a charming effect. Petunias seem to be Mrs., Turner's favorite flower, as they are growing in beds in the garden as well as in a ledge filled with dirt and placed just off the front porch. There is a profusion of bright verbena. On the right hand side there is a small elm tree with colorful flowers growing around the roots in a circle. The front walk divides the garden into halves, and it is most attractively arranged.

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1 - Mrs. Hosey Turner, Sturgis Miss. - Personal interview

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FINE ARTS

(1) The Home and Garden Club, organized in 1932, has as many active members, including the most public-spirited women of the town. The club has for its project now the beautifying od the Railroad plot They have planted three dozen pink and red Radiance roses, water-mellon, crepe-myrtle, and shell pink. It is to be a study in the colors of pink and red.

Some of the members have specialized in one type of flower with beautiful results. Mrs. Ed. Williams grows large beautiful dahlias. Mrs. Claude McCright also grows dahlias and roses. Mrs. Roy Martin and Mrs. G.A. Nowlin concentrates on Gladiolas. Mrs. Dan Cox, Mrs. Will Clardy, Mrs. R.J. Sloan, Mrs. Frank Lewis, Mrs. Archie Henry, and Mrs. J.G. Hester are famous for their roses. Mrs. Ed Williams also grows purple, red, and white peonies. Mrs. Paul Wartman has flowers of all kinds in her beautiful garden.

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1 - Mrs. Roy Martin, Starkville, Miss. - Conference

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Fine Arts

1 - Mrs. J. D. Hollinshead - Information - Starkville, Miss.

2 - Starkville News, Nov 30, 1917

3 - Starkville News - Excerpt Taken

4 - Miss Nannie Rice - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

5 - Mrs. Julia Ellis Long - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

6 - Mr. J. H. Wellborn - Interview - Starkville, Miss.

7 - Dr. B.M. Walker - Information - Starkville, Miss.

8 - Mrs. Mary Pearson - Information - Starkville, Miss.

9 - Mrs. Helen Woodward - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

10 - "Mississippi, the Heart of the South, Vol 3

11 - Minnie Walker - Information - Starkville, Miss.

12 - Dr. B.M. Walker - Information - Starkville, Miss.

13 - Mrs. Shy Ramsey - Information - Starkville, Miss.

14 - Mr. Hayden H. Reynolds - Information - Denver, Colorado

15 - Mrs. Philip Goodman - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

16 - Miss Quenie Henry - Information - Self Creek Community, Starkville, Miss.

17 - Dr. B.M. Walker - Information - Starkville, Miss.

18 - Mr. J.A. Glenn - Interview - Starkville, Miss.

19 - Mr. T. J. Gladney - Interview - Starkville, Miss.

20 - Professor Henry E. Wamsley - Information- State College, Miss.

21 - Starkville News - Information gathered.

22- Charles Dolphus - Orchestra member - Information - State College, Miss.

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23- Mrs. Robin Swe$_a$tt Longress - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

24 - Mrs. Mary McReynolds - Information - Starkville, Miss.

25 - Mrs. Frances Floyd Dodds - Information - Starkville, Miss.

26 - Mrs. James E. Gladney - Information - Columbus, Miss.

27 - Miss Nannie Rice - Information - Starkville, Miss.

28 - Miss Margaret Turner- Information - Starkville, Miss.

29 - Dr. J.W. Bailey - Information - Richmond, Va.

30 - Mrs. Shy Ramsey - Information - Starkville, Miss.

31 - Miss Nannie Rice - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

32 - Mrs. Philip Goodman - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

33 - Visit made by Staff

34 - Information furnished by Staff

35 - Mrs. W. B. Montgomery - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

36 - Mr. J.A. Jurney - Interview - Starkville, Miss.

37 - Personal Interview

38 - Personal Interview

40 - Members of the Staff

41 - Mr. H.W. Stevens and Staff

42 - Mrs. F. B. Long - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

43 - Staff

44 - Mrs. Paul W. Sellers - Information - Trim Cane Community

45 - Mrs. William H. Sudduth - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

46 - Mrs. Simon Blumenfield - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

47 - Mrs. Ed Yeates * Conference - Starkville, Miss.

48 - Mrs. Hosey Turner. - Conference - ~~Starkville,~~ Sturgis, Miss.

49 - Mrs. Roy Martin - Conference - Starkville, Miss.

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Fine Arts

(1) Eugene Butler, born Starkville, Miss., June 11, 1894 son of Tait Butler and Dell (Bell) Butler. Graduated with B.S. degree in agriculture, Mississippi A & M College 1913; B.S. in agriculture Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., 1915; M.S. agriculture and journalism, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, 1917.

Married Mary Burns, June 11, 1921. Two children, Eugene Britt Butler and Mary Jean Butler.

Assistant editor, Progressive Farmer, Memphis, Tenn., 1917-1922. Editor of Texas edition of Progressive Farmer since 1922. Vice-president, Progressive Farmer-Ruralist Company, Writing in-phases of agricultural production economics. Among his latest editorials are; Not Best, but better Than Nothing, and Peddling a Pet Panacea.

Peddling a Pet Panaca

Is Farm chemurgy a panacea for all the ills of agruculture? One would judge so after hearing Carl B. Frische, managing director of Farm Chemurgic Council.

Some day there will be born in this world a specialist who does not believe that the entire universe revolves around his one little center of interest. The problems of modern life-of agriculture in particular-are entirely too complex to be solved by one small group peddling a pet panacea. There is a great deal wrong with American agriculture and there are many things that need to be done to restore

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1 - Information furnished by; Eugene Butler, Dallas, Texas.

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FINE ARTS

the patient to a moderate degree of health. Dr. Hull Secretary trying to find new foreign markets. Then there is Dr. Fritsche and his group seeking to cure by finding new industrial putlets for farm products in this country. Keeping his eye on both these eminent specialists is Dr. H.A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, who is striving valiantly to prevent the patient from overexerting himself, so that the volume of Farm products will not be more than Doctor Hull and Fritsche can find profitable markets for, both at home and abroad.

But Dr. Fritsche claims that Doctors Hull and Wallace are a couple of quacks-that all the patients needs is to pitch the Wallace and Hull medicine out the window and stick entirely to the Fritsche treatment.

It is hard on the sick man when the doctors disagree.

But the patient is getting his fill of this squabble and it now seems that he is likely to lose confidence in one of his doctors. It will probably be Dr. Fritsche, the eminent chemurgic practitioner. That would be unfortunate because Dr. Fritsche is an able specialist in his own field and agriculture can use his knowledge of chemurgy to good advantage,

That is, if he will stick to his own line, and quit meddling in matters that seem beyond his comprehension

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Progressive Farmer, May 1937

Introductory

(1)Oktibbeha County is rich in Newspaper lore having produced some of the outstanding editors of the State.

The first newspaper, The Starkville Whig, was established here in 1847, by John T. Freeman.

The Progressive Farmer, one of the outstanding farm journals of the South, was first published in Starkville. Its editor Mr. Tait Butler later move d the publication to Memphis, Tenn.

The Newspapers of Oktibbeha County have always been progressive, agressive and fought for the intere sts of their county, State and country.

1--Grady Imes, Editor, Starkville News

1. a.

(1)The Starkville Whig was the first paper published in Oktibbeha county. It was established in 1847 by Dr. J. T. Freeman, and a few years later became the "Broad Ax," which had for its motto,"H ew to the line and let the chips fall where they may," This was in 1850. The States's Rights Advicate was published about the same time or for a few years prior to the war by Jesse A. Yeates. Soon after the war Lee Stillman published the New Era till about 1875. December, 1878, Col. J. M. Norment began the publication of the Citizens, which he published till his death, May 1881, and it was continued by his widow, Mrs. M. C. Norment, till about when it came under the control of the Citizens Publication Company, and is now published by Fletcher Fondren.

1--Mrs. H. Cunningham, Interview

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY. PRESS

Page #3
Topic: The Local Press- Other Publications
Assignment #21
By: Minnie Walker, & Frances Rainey
May 14, 1937

11.a.

(1) The East Mississippi Times, began its Career December 1866, W. S. Harrison, editor and publisher, democrater circulation exceeding 250.

Historical Edition Published October 1, 1897, Wm. Ward editor and publisher;

Portrayal of:

City of Starkville---

Historical sketches of the City from the Times of her First Settlers up to the present day, Touching upon the County's notable Events of history.

A. and M. College---

A complete Historical sketch of the Agricultural and Mechanical Coollege and Faculty, Including a Biography of its President Gen. Stephen D. Lee.

Citizens and Churches---

Biographies of some of the City's Prominent Citizens past and present and Illustrated Histories of Starkville's various places and Divine worship.

Business Houses---

Sketches of Starkville's Business House and various Industries and their propritors, showing the city's Thriving condition and advancement in 1875 Col. W. B. Montgomery founded the Southern

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1---From the East Mississippi Times, 1897

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

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live Stock Journal, Mr. Edwin Montgomery, editor; Journal Publishing Co. publishers. It is one of the most ably edited Journals in the South, devoted to agriculture, horticulture, live stock, etc, circulation exceeding 3000. The Southern Stockman is a recently established by Edwin Montgomery. Oktibbeha Citizen established 1878. Mrs. J. M. Norment editor and publisher, independent, circulation exceeding 250.

11. a.

(2) Starkville News, C. W. Townsend, Editor 1902 or 2 sold to Mr. J. W. Norment, August 15, 1902. Edited Vol. 1,. With the beginning of the second year Vol. 2, No. 1, March 13, 1903 Mr. Thomas J. Wood, Starkville attorney, began run ing his name in the masthead as editor. He succeeded Mr. James W. Norman who became a candidate for re-relection in the Mississippi Legiblature form the eastern district of Oktibbeha County. Mr. Wood continued as editor of The Starkville News until his death which occurred in 1917. The paper then passed into the hands of his widow and son, Mr. Harry D. Wood who shortly afterward sold the publication to Mr. G. T. Golson and a Mr. White. Mr. Golson soon purchased Mr. White's interest. These men came from Alabama.
In 1926 The Starkville News was consolidated with the East Mississippi Times, a paper established in Oktibbeha County in1866.

In 1929 the Starkville News was sold to Mr. Grady Imes who has operated in since.

Since its beginning, The Starkville News has been published every

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1--Ibid

2--From The Starkville News

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY PRESS

Friday and has upheld its policy, "Service Above Self."Its editorials from the very beginning were unbiased in their statements, striving with all the power it held over the persons of Starkville and Oktibbeha County to make their comminities a better place in which to live.

As time went, The Starkville News has progressed from a small six columns of current news concerning the persons of the communities which it serves. It is now housed in a modern building with modern equipment to make it the splendid paper it is.

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

b1.

(1)The Progressive Farmer and Southern Farm Gazette: A Farm and Home Weekly for the State of Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Tennessee.

Founded 1895; at Starkville, Miss., by Dr. Tait Butler, editor-in-chief.

Our New Heading

"This paper will hereafter be known as the Progressive Farmer and Gazetter, instead of the "Southern Farm Gazetter" as heretofore. There will positively be no change in the policy, aims, location or management of the paper. It will continue in the future, as in the pat, devoted especially to the agricultural interest of the States of Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Louisiana and East Texas.

The modification in name is soley for business reasons and Advantages, relative to the matter of foreign advertising.

Tait Butler, Editor-in-chief-Starkville, Miss., Jan., 1910. Average Weekly circulation 1909-70-108, from The Progressive Farmer and Southern Farm Gazette. Volume 15, No.1. Jan. 8-1910.

b.

Progressive Farmer

"You cannot get Something for Nothing,"You can't get something for nothing, on the farm or elsewhere. If you wish better crops,

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1--Progressive Farmer

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY PRESS

larger profits, a more fertile farm, you must expect to pay the price. This price is usually harder and more persistent work".

"No Good Farming Without Good Plowing "

"A sure Foundation for Rural Prosperity- Good Live Stock, Well Fed"

"The South is the Real Corn Belt."

"The Little Things That Pay Big Profits side Lines" The Farmer who makes a good garden, who has a well-tended strawberry patch, who plans and pruns and sprays a family orchard, who keeps a flock of good poultry, gets much larger returns from the time and labor and cash outlay devoted to these things then he can hope from his cotton-field or his corn-field, his tobacco-field or his hay-field. The family garden, the faily orchard, the farm poultry, yield in many cases profits that would seem fabulores. They all cost so little and mean so much that no farmer can afford to be without them."

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

11. b.

NEWSPAPER'S AND OWNER'S BIRTH-DAY:

One is Twenty-eight and Other Eighty-four Years Old

Incidentally, this paper and its manager have birthday this week,

The Maben Press enters upon its twenty-ninth year with this issue.

19-1904

Twenty-eitht years ago, in the middle of August, this paper was established "on the spur the moment" but the present management and has remained under this same management for this entire period with the exception of a few weeks-which gave us a short vacation.

At the beginning it was"rough sailing", and we cannot say that it has ever been "easy sailing."

Throught the loyal co-operation of the town and the surrounding communties-and the blessing of health and strength from a kind Providence-this publication has succeeded in paying its printers and meeting its bills regularly, for which we are sincerely thankful and, although prospects are not very flattering, we hope and shall endeavor to do equally as well in the future.

We realize that we have done very little financially - and may have accomplished still less for the town and people we have endeavored to serve.

Neverthless, it has been our aim at all times to put out a clean paper-one the smaller children might not blush to read- and we have upheld and fought for the issues and principles which we believed to be right,

aug 19-1932

Information from Maben Press, ~~Nov. 1, 1929~~, Minnie Walker, Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY. PRESS

These same policies will also govern our future utterances through these comumns.

And, as in the past, when we make an error in the future, it will be one "of the head and not of the heart." It is under the same management in 1937 as was at this time.

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

11. b.

(1)

The Cross

Blest they who seek,
While in their youth,
With spirit Meek,
The way of truth;
To them the scared Scripture now display
Christ as the only true and living way.
His precious blood on Calvary was given
To make them heirs of endless bliss in heaven;
And e'en on earth the child of God can trace.
For them He bore
His Father's frown
For them he wore
The thorny Crown
Nail to the Cross,
Endured its pain,
That His life's loss
Might be their gain,
Then haste to choose
That better part,
No dare refuse

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1--Information from Maben Press, August 19, 1932

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY PRESS

Then haste to choose
That better part,
Nor dare refuse
The Lord they heart,
Lest He declare,
"I know you not, "
And deep despair
Should be your lot.

Now look to Jesus, who on Clavary died,
And trust on Him alone who there was crucified

V G

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

lll. c.

(1) Oktibbeha County is fortunate enough to lie out of the belt of heavey storms, but nevertheless, there have been one or two cyclones in its history.

On Aoril 23, 1883 a cyxlone swept the Agricultural & Mechanical College, which is located about one mile from Starkville. The strong wind played havoc with the buildins, but, of course did not do as much damage as it would today because there were fewer buildings then. The dairy barn was blown down and many cattle were killed. The roof of the Mess Hall was lifted off. A piece of slate struck Captain Lucus, the steward, on the head, stunning him and injuring him so badly that he lived only six days. A dwelling was also demolished in this cyclone, but the occupants were away at the time and no one was injured.

10--Information furnished by Mrs. Yeates Lucus

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY PRESS

111. c.

(1) Entering Oktibbeha at a point west of Self Creek and cutting diagonally across the county toward Cedar Bluff, the tornado, or at least one of group that played havoc in the eastern part of Mississip i Tuesday, left a trail of destruction that beggars description, the full horror of which will not be forgotten for years.

Tales of horrors and the peculiarities of this storm will live for ages. Timber was literally split into stove-wood. Even picking up huge trees and carrying them for hundreds of yards. Clothing was found in the tree tops. Cross ties were driven endwise into the ground. Roofs were picked up and carried for miles. A fender of an automobile was found on the road--no one knows where the auto came from or where it went. The colored man and two children who were instantly killed were carried by the wind a full half mile from the home. Their bodies were intirely denuded and terribly mutilated, one arm of one of the children being found in the top of a tree.

The saw mill and dwelling of John Christopher, near Self Creek was completely demolished. The barn, in fact, everything was swept away and the live stock badly injured, also the peach orchard was completely swept away. The home of Marian Phelps was ripped all to pieces and one of Mr. Phelp's little girls suffered a broken leg.

1-Taken from The Starkville News, Friday April 23, 1920

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

The Oswalt place, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Joe McGown was badly damaged, the house especially being demolished. Mrs. McGowen was badly injured. At the Morris Place, near the school, the house escaped serious damage but the barn was destroyed.

Twelve people were in the home of Sam Yeatman, when the tornado picked the building up and literally pulled it to pieces, but only one minor injury was reported. How they all escaped instant death will remain forever as one of the tornado's secrets.

The full fury of the storm, however seemed to have been saved for the Washington Plantation, where four were killed and the damage is estimated at about $15, 000.00.

More than a dozen homes were destroyed here, one of them being the beautiful residence of Will Caldwell. Mrs. Caldwell is reported injured, most of the live stock were killed.

It was shortly after eight o'clock Tuesday morning that a call for medical assistance was received at Starkville. Dr. Long with Will Hartness as assistant, left immediately. Dr. Barr was taken a little later. It was found that J. E. Longan whose place is not far from the Washington farm and which was spared by the tornado, had immediately turned his home into a temporary hospital where all of the injured had been carred and cared for pending the arrival of the physicaians. Several operations were performed there. The Logans are also taking care of the refugees until new home can be secured.

Ibid.

Minnie Walker., Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY PRESS

The full fury of the storm was apparently saved for the Washington plantation, striking it in two different sections and making a path from a quarter to a half mile wide through it for a distance of about three miles, The mill, the store, the gins and the saw mill were totally destroyed, the gins picked up and carried miles away. The water from a good sized pond was lifted out, almot dry.

The beautiful residence of the farm, which was only lately vacated by Mr. Washington, was totally destroyed. Every vestige of habitation and trees was blown away excepting a little smoke-house, in which by the act of Providence, were hidden the entire Gumby family who had been out in the yard watching the tornado and, seeing it coming their way, had rushed into the nearest shelter unmolested.

Two settlements of colored people were hit hard. Here it was that 3 were killed and the fourth so badly injured that she died that afternoon.

Ibid.

Minnie Walker & Supervisor Rainey

lll. c.

(1) In 1883 a cyclone west of Sturgis traveling from South-West to North -West destroyed the home of Mr. Peter Quinn.

In 1884 - another cyclone came from same direction destroyed a good portion of Sturgis, the school-building was bown off its foundation, 100 children were in the building not a child hurt, teacher and two boys were trying to close the door, the doors blew down and carried boys with them, the boys remained under the door till stormed passed. Large trees over hundred years old were blown down, some of them plicked up by roots and carried 50 and 100 feet.

1--Mr.G. Odie Daniels

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY PRESS

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Topic: The Local Press-Other Publications
Assignment #21
By: Minnie Walker & Frances Rainey
May 14, 1937

lll. c.

(1)A rain and windstorm, which struck Maben Thursday June 9, 1932, an old frame building, serving as a warehouse for Boyls, was lifted from the high pillars in the rear and a large portion ot its roofing was ripped off. Edwin Sanders, with his two boys, was on his farm near here, when the storm came up, and immediately took refuge in the cotton house, but deserted this just as it was raised from its blocks and sought protection from the wind by holding to some small bushes nearby. The cotton house was blown down.

The storm came South-West, the direction from which practically all our deadly otrnadoes dome.

1--Taken from Maben Press. June 17, 1932.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Page # 18
Topic:The Local Press- Other Publications
Assignment #21
By: Minnie Walker & Frances Rainey
May 14, 1937

lll. c.

(1)1875 - 32 years ago - 1907

1975 - 62 years ago 1937.

On March 13, 1875, at 9 o'clock Friday night, the town of Starkville was fire swept, taking 52 store houses. An old brick store house (two stories) stood where the Central Hotel is located, now the Walker buildings; the old Court House and jail, two stories, each located in the relative position as the Court House and Jail now stands, were both brick structures,. They were the only brick structures, the balance wooden. Many changes have taken place since then, March 19, 1975.

1--From Starkville News, March 19 ,1907

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY PRESS

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lll. c.

FIRE SWEEPS STURGIS:

Business Section Destroyed, Loss about $80,000 with little Insurance.

(1) A most destructive fire occurred at the town of Sturgis Monday afternoon, which practically destroyed the business section.

The fire started at Morgan's garage, and just how it originated on one seems to know.

The following is a list of the business houses which were destroyed: T. Shropshire, Druggist; Miss Cain Hannah, Millinery; Burney Bro., Merchandise; G. D. Morgan, Garage; Mack Foster, Merchandise, Mrs. Alma Foster, Millinery; A. L. Livingston, Cafe and Grocery; E. Hunt, Merchandise; J. H. Ivy, J. P. Office; Lester Patterson.

Two young men from Ackerman, Messrs. Moss and Weaver, driving a truck for an oil and gas company, were delivering oil and gas at the garage, which was on the north side of the principal business street and about middle ways of the center of the block; In some mysterious way the gasoline became ignited and in a few moments the entire garage and Burney Bros. General Merchandising store was in flame. A strong wind was blowing from the north and the flames crossed to the south side of the store and all business houses on that side were destroyed from Shropshire's drug to Frazier's store.

)1)--Information from The Starkville News, April 1925.

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The two young men, Moss and Weaver, were b oth badly burned when the explosion of gas occurred at the garage and at the last accounts they were both doing well and their injuries not considered serious.

The fire reported at Starkville by phone immediately after it started and a number of our citizens left in cars for the scene, which is a distance of eithteen miles. Many of them arrived while the fire was it its worst and before many of the houses were burned.

As they drove into the doomed town a fearful spectacle was presented to their view. The fire was ragin at its height--all kinds of merchandise, furniture, store fixtures, etc, were piled in confusion everywhere and exhausted fire-fighters were watching the flames and waiting for them to consume themselves for the want of further material.

The fire on the north side, where it orniginated was stopped at the Sturgis bank, a brick building, but not until the exterior of the building was badly damaged, and at Robt. S. Hannah's store, which was also a brick building.

Shropshire's drug store was one of the last buildings to burn. It was on the street which leads to the I. C. depot, and across from it on the street was the Thomas building, Carter's store and several small buildings. Here the fire-fighters mad their last stand, and by a desperate effort, prevented the fire from crossing and succedded in getting the flames under control.

Ibid.

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IV.

(1) Starkville News has Commercial Job Shop.

1--Taken from Starkville News

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12. Starkville News, April, 1925

13. Mr. Hal Fox

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11. a.

(1) Through the courtesy of Mr. R. H. Chiles we have been shown a copy of the Oktibbeha New Era published on September 30, 1871. Lee, Stillman was the publisher and editor. It is a six-column all home print well filled with advertisements but contained very little news of local nature.

At the time of the publication Capt. H. C. Powers was Sheriff, W. E. Saunders, Chancery Clerk, John A. Orr was Circuit Judge and H. L. Muldrow, District Attorney, and A. Pollard was Chancellor of the District.

Rev. T. G. Sellers was pastor of the Baptist Church, Rev. David Pressley, pastor of the Associated Reform Church, Rev. J. R. Allen, of the Methodist Church, Rev. S. R. Frierson of the Presbyterian Church.

Of the fraternal societies W. J. Rouseau was Worthy Master and J. A. Jacobs secretary of the Masons, F. H. Duquercron, H. P. and W. C. Bishop secretary of the Royal Arch Chapter. Mrs. E. A. Hogan was W. M. , and Mrs. M. R. Bishop secretary of the Eastern Star.

John A. Jacobs was Noble Grand of Ridgely Lodge No. 23 I. O.O. F. and Walter Rand secretary.

There were two Temperance Societies "Friendship Circle" of which S. B. Critz was president and H. D. Hood secretary, and David Pressley and Frank A. Critz were president and secretary

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1--Information from The East Mississippi Times, Nov. 20, 1914
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respectively of The Oktibbeha Temperance Society."

There was also a Literary Society known as The Starkville Literary Association, with George Critz president, Frank A. Critz librarian and Wiley N. Nahs secretary.

A Pllitical campaign was on andnthe paper contained a goodly arrary of announcements, F. H. Duquercrin, Henry A. Bell and Monroe C. Higgins constituted the Board of Election Commissioners or the Board of Registrars as they were then called. Silas Cooper, Young Harrington and Walter Rand were candidates for Justice of the Peace in Beat 1. James A. Pilcher for District Attorney, Sabe Saxon , Henry McCreight, John W. James, Felix Rushing, Dr. J. L. Crigler, Col. R. C. Love and J. Glenn Bell for Chancery Clerk J. R. W. Foster, A. M. Page, Wm. F. Solsom for Circuit Clerk, M. R. Butler, Jim Ross, James A. Valentine, Joshep W. Woodward, "The Present incumbent", Albert Critz, Thomas J. Wood, Audy Carothers and R. E. Pearson for County Treasurer, George R. Crump, T. Perry Staunton, John Coopwood , R. D. Cooper and W. T. Montgomery for Assessor.

The Attorneys whose law cards appear in this paper were Charles A. Sullivan, J. S, Pilcher, James P. Curry, and John S. Dennis forming the firm of Curry & Dennis, George E. Critz and Frank A. Critz of the firm of Critz and Critz. Wiley N. Nash, C. N. Terry and Thomas J. Wood of the firm of Terry and

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Ibid.
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3. a

BRASS BAND --The young gentlemen of our town, who propose to organize a Brass Band, have received their instrumentsm and we hope ere long will be able to discourse sweet music for us, both on public and private occasion.

MAIL- DAILY MAILS, arrives at 11 A. M., closes at 2 P. M.

TRI-WEEKLY MAIL, WHICH CARRIES THE REGIStered matter, leaves Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, at 6 A.M. closes at dark in the evening previous, Western Mail, for Winona, leaves every Monday and Thursday at 7 A.M. For Vaiden, every Monday.

The following is a list of the Grand Jurors selected for the next term of the Circuit Court, to be held on the first Monday in October.

Beat No. 1. M. F. Ames, Simon Ellis, E. R. Montgomery and Anthony Campbell.

Beat Np. 2 . J. D. Boyd, Isham Blair, J. T. Montgomery, and James Spraggins.

Beat No. 3. Frank Holland, Richard Washington, Jerry Johnson, and N, N. Miller.

Beat No. 4. Robert Craig, Mitchell High, J. E. Montgomery, and J.H. Edwards.

Beat No. 5. J. W. Bell, E. Patterson, Caesar Lide and Samuel McIlwain.

Ibid.

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3. c

Among the business firms represented in the advertising columns were J. D. Beattie Dry Goods, etc, specializing paper collars, Isac Winston and W. M. Hannah constituting the firms of Winston & Hannah, at Mayhew advertised general merchantuise making special mention of powder and shot of all sizes. John H. Stillman advertises wood work and gun-smithing, L. S. Foster advertises his steam mill and guarantees his customers a good article of flour and meal announcing that Thursday, Friday and Saturday are #mill Days."

Dr. T. C. Weir, president of the Verona Female College at Verona, Miss. announces to the effect that his college would open Sept. 18, 1887. The Columbus Male High School, T. C. Belcher president also has an announcement in this issue, W. J. Perkins advertises a ten yard for sale and Steve N. Harlan advertises as a saddle and harness maker.

Besides the local advertising the paper is well patronized by commission merchants of Mobile and there are also a number of Columbus advertisements.

From this paper we reproduce the following items which will make interesting reading:

Do you wish to aid in over throwing Mongrehsm? If so, register and vote.

We are informed by Sheriff H. C. Powers, that the Circuit Court will not open until Wednesday. Chancery Court commences Monday.

Ibid.

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2.a.

(1) The Reflector, a weekly News Journal devoted to the better interest of Mississippi State College. Published by, and as the official organ of the Student Bosy. Published 1887-1888.

2. b.

With this issue of The Reflector, "The South's Greatest College News Journal," presents its fifieth anniversary edition in connection with the Annual Spring Festival activities of the college. An eventful milestone in the life of any organization.

From a monthly magazine to a leading seven column college weekly has been the history of The Reflector during the past fifty years. In its embryonic stage the paper was edited by the Dialetic and Philotechnic literary societies, whose members were famous throughout their stay here for their literary ability. These two organizations flourished on the campus when Mississippi State was known throughout the World as "A. and M."

The duties of publishing The Reflector from the year '87 until 1904 were in the hands of six men, three from each of the above societies. After this form of editing the paper came the time when the two groups alternated each year in handling the duties of the various staffs. This form of management continued until 1913-14, then The Reflector was placed under the present

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1--Information furnished by A. N. Morgan, State College, Miss.

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setup, the student body electing the editor and business managers.

The Reflector takes great pleasure in saluting one of its former editors, P. K. WWhitney, who yesterday celebrated his fifieth anniversary as a graduate of Mississippi State College. Mr. Whitney has been connected with some of the State's leading newspapers since his under-graduate days here.

To all of the other former editors and business managgers of this outstanding college journal, we wish to extend heartiest congratulations, Every man, during his tenure of office, has contributed standards, traditions, and precedents to be long remembered in the halls of State.

May The Reflector in the years to come be as prosperous and industrious as the past fifty have been.

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II a

(1) " And great oaks from little acrons grow"- and "The Reflector, last year rated as an "All American College Paper," had fifty years ago, its humble beginning. During this fifty years some 125 or more young editors and business managers have chartered the course of The Reflector - not without mistakes and to improve on their best in order that today the college student body might justly be proud of The Reflector and so that The Reflector can truthfully clamim to be "The Best College Paper in the South."

The ascent from the humble little paper that made its debut on this campus in 1887-88 to our present paper did not result from anything other than hard, untiring work, effort and foresight on the part of those who were at the helm of our paper.

The Reflector is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. It is only just that we, as a collective student body, pay tribute to those whose untiring efforts have made it possible for us to justly be proud of our paper.

Many of thse men have gone to join that cavalcade that winds its endless trek into eternity while others are holding down, with the typical efficiency of all Statesmen, responsible positions over these United States.

This week R. K. Whitney will return to this campus for Alumni Week to engage in the activities and to celebrate his 50th anniver-

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1--Information furnished by: A. N. Morgan, taken from The Reflector, State College, Mississippi. May 5, 1937

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sary as a graduate of this institution. It was in this man that The Reflector was born and started in 1887-88 up the path of fame. Since graddation Mr. Whitney has been associated with the Vicksburg Evening Post. Of him it can truly be said that not only did he stand up the steps of opportunity, but climbed them as well.

Nor has there always been just one editor and one business manager, for The Reflector for in 1888-89 there were six editors and two business managers in charge of The Reflector. Of these, two, R. W. Ford, editor, and E. M. Montgomery, business manager, have answered that last great roll call.

That same year, there were five other co-editors of The Reflector- C. N. Anderson, F. P. Johnson, E. T. Falford, D. J. S. Ming, and Sam Montgomery.

The remaining business manager for that year is Major G. L. Donald whose indomitable will had him ti rise to the presidency of the Guaranty Bank and Trust Company of Jackson.

In 1890-91 we find six editors and one business manager determining the fate of The Reflector.

Five other who served as editors that year were W, N, Moon, W. R. Perkins, J. K. Barry, B. M. Guggar, and E. L. Robbins. Only one remains on the campus - Mr. W. R. Perkins of State College.

For volume eleven of The Reflector - 1897-98, there were again six editors and one business manager- all of whom will be on the

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Ibid.

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campus this week. There are three lawyers in this group-Judge T. P. Guyton of Kosciusko, W. H. Keir of Corinth, and the business manager for that year W. S. Welch of Laurel. Other editors that year were M. W. Chapman. J. L. Stinson of La Feria, Texas; J. W. Peters; and Colonel L. G. Brown of Pass Christian.

nFor the year 1898-99- J. W. Armstead; A. P Watson, R. G. Hand-Serving also as editors that year were Dr. C. R. Stockard of Cornell University; R. C. Nickle of Hughes, Ark. and J.Y. McNeil. That year the business end was ablt looked after by W. F. Gorenflo of Biloxi.

For volume 13- 1899-'00- six more able men served as editorss and one as business manager. Other editors for that volume were Dr. T. E. Toyals of Meridian, E. R. Anderson, I. G. Thompson, and J. J. Davis. The business manager for that year was W. E. Welch of Laurel.

For 1900-01 we find one more man who has stayed on the campus among the six editors - H. Fox of the mathematics department. Other editors were H. L. Winston of Natchez; H. G. Wood; L. Gillis; J. D. Guyton, of Kosciusko; and L. G. Shelton. That year the laurels for the business manager goes to J. M. Kimbrough.

1901-02- six more capable editors and a business manager. T. D. Ronan, R. H. Adams, E. E. Hudson, Editors, and J. B. Brandt business manager. Others of this group who are likely to return to the campus this week are C. E. Estes, L. T. Rhods, and Will V. Connell, Jr.

Ibid.

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In 1902-03, Rev. E. N. Broyles, H. D. Shaw, G. E. Brandt, F. O. Harris, R. A. Shelby, and W. C. Muldrow, editors, H. E. Savely looked after the business.

So on to 1903-04, the first in which we have one editor and on business manager and this year T. G. Wortham, editor, and R. C. Weems of Shubuta will return to the campus to join in the Golden Jubilee celebration.

1904-05, F. C. Bolton and W. S. Vance go he laurels for that volume of The Reflector.

However, out of West Point, will come the next business manager of the paper- Mr. A. L. Love, of 1905-06 W. D. Reid the editor .

About this time, West Point was really stepping out because the editor of 1906-07, Mr. W. G. Roberts also hails from there this week. The business manager was J. C. Barnett.

And the editor in 1907-08, E. D. Gunning chose to deal in stocks and bonds after he left here and now to busy up Chicago way to drop down for the jubilee, E. R. Blanton business manager.

The next business manager G. Guyton and A. E. Mullins, was editor.

And the next editor - 1909-10 --was a product of the ole Ag School - C. B. Bethea of Starkville and Indianola, W. E. Brougher business manager.

Clayton Rand, editor and W, H. Buckley, business manager, in the years 1910-11.

Ibid.

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The issues of 1912-13, P. E. Roper, editor and B. Harrison, business manager.

During 1913-14 P. H. Sanders, state department of Agriculture. Jackson, was slinging off the editorials while H. S. Stansel, deceased, was selling ads.

1914-15 - J. C. Holton, editor, while D. B. Aycock was business manager.

1915-16, H. L. Simmons, McComb, senator from the 6th senatorial district . H. D. Falls business manager.

1916-17, There's no doubt about this next team being present- they live here. Clay Lyle, editor and J. V. Pace, business manager.

1917-18, J. N. Stewart, editor, and G. W. Luster, business manager. But this was before the war and the afore-mentioned two gave up The Reflector to answer the call to arms entrusted it to the care of L. W. Welborn, editor, and S. S. Holden business manager.

And after the war - 1918-19, A P. Miller and N. H. Pace, served as editor and business manager respectively.

For 1919-20- Floyd Taylor slung the ink and J. K. Milner, sold the ads, but J. K. grew tired of selling ads, in 1920-21 we fine him slinging the ink. R. E. Brumby of Goodman selling ads. Milner was the only man to ever serve both as business manager and editor.

Ibid.

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And next in line we find The Reflector depending on the Editorials of N. W. Smith and the business ability of W. D. Reed. In 1923-24 A. S. Noble with the editorials. While another Statesman who chose the bar--Judge John C, Stennis of DeKalb was business manager.

Little is known of this next team other than that the papers of 1924-25 are worthy records of well applied energy and J. M. Wright editor, J. G. Pallard, business manager, are due the unceasing gratitude of the student body for their contribution to the paper.

And when Henry Ford was making history with his Model "T" J. M. Wright and J. G. Pallard were writing their chapter -1924-25- in the Reflector as editor and business manager, respectively.

1925-26 J. H. Thompson and H. H. Starnes are due the unceasing gratitude of the student body for their contributions to the paper as editor and business manager respectively.

1925-26, S. B. Murray of our math department was looking for his sheepskin here and seeing how many memorable editorials he could write. E. M. Coghlan will probably be here this week to mix with the old grads who will remember his as the business manager.

Out of this next team, only one remains to attend this convention of old classmates --and only W. T. Parker of New Albany, editor in 1927-28 will be present but a job well done tells us what we might have met in W. H. Moore, business manager.

Ibid.

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Of the 1928-29 team , only the business manager, Lester H. Fox, State College, is likely toattend the meeting as Peter A. Quinn, editor, could not be located and notified-but his paper - one of the best-speaks for him.

At the peak of prosperity we find H. C. Lucas, Gulf States Creosoting Co. Meridian spilling the ink and W. J. Huffman,selling ads- one of the best papers yet.

The crash of '29 saw Sam Munsen, the boy from Kosciusko, doing real well making history with his pen. It is indeed a pleasure to see him return for a brief visit. The business manager, a boy from Port Gibson, T. G. Todd, didn't let down the business end either.

Next in line we fine one of the best editors- J. G. Kerley. The business manager, Jake Lamb.

So on into the depression- it is a treat to have both M. S. Hicks of Chicago and Noel Callahan of Jackson, editor and business manager in '31-32,returning for a brief stay on the campus. Their work memorable and an inspiration to all who followed in their steps.

And now We're coming hom-- H. C. "Slick" Simrall and J. D. Hutchinson, editor and business manager, in '33- '34. No need to mention their paper-some of us remember it and realize that it was the product of well directed effort and tireless work.

Ibid.

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1934-35 -we all remember that team- the one and only "Aggie" Weems and W. O. Futch. They didn't quite make an all American paper- but it was a paper! Now "Aggie" is doing himself right proud slapping a few headlines on the old Commercial Appeal. All who read their paper loved it, and all who followed them tried to imitate them.

Last Year-well don't we all remember George L. McLemore and A. Hardin Ervin- The team that gave us our one and only All American Reflector . What more is there to be said? Certainly, these two will be missed by all who knew them- for one reason or another.

The present is always the most cussed and least appreciated so it is poor ole "Ras" Ross and Little "Monk" Moore who are catching H--now, but Edgar Allem Pie while alive sold the original copy of The Rven for less than twenty dollars-after his death it was invaluable, But donet die fellows--we know honest effort when we see it.

There are in this write-up several "left-out". For some reasnn or other several issues of The Reflector have been lost and we could not find out the editors-but we're sure that they held true to type and those who followed in their footsteps profited by having their issues as a guiding beacon for future issues.

Ibid.

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lll. a

(1) In reply to your esteemed favor of recent date, in which you made the request that I write an article concerning the early history of "The College Reflector"; also tell something about my college days at our beloved "Old A. & M."; I beg to call your attention to the element of time. Fifty years having elapsed since the class of 1887 graduated puts me and my classmates in the list of grey-headed grandfathers, with fading memory and dimming vision creeping upon us, noiselessly yet certainly. But still, there is, and will always be, glorious memories of those college experiences at my Alma Mater.

In the fall of 1883 it was my pleasure to matriculate under that able exective, Gen, Stephen D. Lee, and Mississippi State never had a greater soldier, patriot, educator, statesman, and Christian gentleman. I entered the Freshman class which numbered sixty-five. In that class were many noble young fellows whose friendship I have always cherished. Each passing year saw the number grow less until June 1887 when only sixteen remained to receive diplomas. At that time ours was the largest class to pass into the history of the college.

During the four years of your college career, my class was active and instrumental in quite a number of progressive, constructive and lasting activities. I will mention a few.

1--Information furnished by Mr.P. K. Whitnet, Vicksburg, Miss.

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First, that which you especially requested, "The College Reflector."

The Reflector was founded by the Dialetic Society, principally by the students in my Class. We called it the Dialetic Reflector." We effected a splendid organization and were riding on to a successful career. Gen. Lee, realizing published at the college by the students would mean to the college, made an earnest appeal to those of us who were instrumental in getting it up and going, to turn it into a general College paper and call it "The College Reflector." We took the appeal before our society, and the request was turned down. Another appeal was made from the College authorities with more power behind it, and that time the request was granted. And that is when the "College Reflector." under its present name was born. I do not remember the date.

The "Lee Guards" were organized, some of our members being charter members.

The College Creamery was established. The writer hereof was its first book-keeper under Secretay Watson.

Gen. Lee and the faculty took the entire student body and teaching force on a special Mobile and Ohio Train to the Exposition at New Orleans on a week's program of educational interest.

Our Class originated the organized idea with President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer.

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It was during this period that a large pond was made on the farm land for swimming purposes, and our first gymnasium was built. It was an out-door plan.

One of our class, R. L. Turner (Dr. Turner is now dead) was the first student to be promoted to the pffice of Major of the Battalion.

Our class discovered it had a member, H. S. Gunn, who was the best wrestler in the College. His friends issued a challenge to any man in Starkville or Oktibbeha County. Starkville put up a man. The day for the contest was set to come off on the campus. A large gang of fans on both sides gathered. A circle formed around the contestants and the fun started. After a few preliminary passes, Gunn had his opponent up in the air and "Wham" on the ground. It was all over. The boys carried Gunn around on their shoulders with yells that reverberated a mile wide. Gunn was a fine fellow, everybody likde him but he could not conquer mathematics, and therefore did not graduate.

It was during our days that a cyclone swept the College farm. It played havoc. Blew down the big barn killing many cattle; oblitereated a farm dwelling but the occupants happened to be absent. It blew the roof off the Mess Hall and injured the Steward, Capt. Lucas, so that he died.

I regret that space will not permit further discussion of the happy school days never to be forgotten. There was so

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Ibid.

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much to be forgotten. There was so much in our lives during those days! And we remember with great admiration and respect Gen. Lee, Prof. Magruder, John A. Myers, Dabnery Lipscomb, Secty. Watson, Buz Walker, H. H. Harrington, Dr. Barr Kincannon, Lieut. Buck, Lieut. Davis; all these and other with admirable families will hold a warm place in our hearts.

Then, there were numerous social affairs with the lovely and winsome young ladies of the campus, and the city of Starkville. And needlees to say each of us had a special "high-particular" girl, and were always ready to offer our lives as sweet sacrifice to prove our devotion in satisfying every whim and caprice of the fair lady of our choice. As an example of the manner in which a college boy in those days was effected by favorable returns on devoted attention, one of "our crowd", returning to the campus after a social function where he mingled with the fairest flowers of Starkville, proceeded to relate his experience. He said, "boys, it was wonderful; she is a dream; when I gazed into those liquid brown eyes, I got such a thrill that I fell in and was drowned in an ocean of love; I tell you boys, she's as fine as frog hair".

I will close by saying that the delightful years of intimate association and good fellowship with the President, instructors, fellow students, classmates, and community friends, did then and will always create a spirit of fraternalism; that mystic key which

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Ibid.

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un-locks the innermost recessed of the human heart and causes man to deal more generously with his fellow man; to minimize their faults and magnify their virtures.

Ibid.

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III. A.

(1) The forty-third volume of The Reflector came at a time of critical transition. Not withoutmgrowing pains, old A. and M. was metamorphosing into Mississippi State. Although campus dances were banned, fraternities and the social graces were coming into their hey-day. The student body became more unified as the moribound demerit system and its dormitory segregation lapsed into labefaction. The goats still held sway in 900, but most people had forgotten that 400 was once known as "Hell's Row." Changes, subtle but no less real, were in progress.

The staff of The Reflector was suited to the tempo. Men of ability and enthusiasm earned their berths and kept them because they deserved them.One came because of a small incident.

It was late in September. Lying on the grassnear the bull ring, I watched the shadows lengthen into night. A young student ambled along from the Cafeteria. He greeted me shyly, I replied cordially and added the invitation, "Flop on me sod." After aimless chatter he got around to telling me that he wanted to write sports. The boy was James Young. I sent him to Sports Editor, Elvyn Hurst, and Jimmy Young became one of the best writers The Reflector ever had.

Later, Jimmy Young told me that he had considered an editor too dignified and busy to be concerned whether just any student might be able to write; and that if I had not grinned and looked so human as I lay on the grass, he would never have mentioned the subject. It was a valuable grin for The Reflector gained a

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1--Information furnished bySam C. Munson,From The Reflector5/5/37
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faithful and competent writer; while I gained a sincere friend and the realization that the editor and The Reflector must always be approachable-must always know how to smile. I hope I never forget that lesson.

Ibid,

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

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Page # 1
Topic: The Bar ------- Judge David Ames
Assignment # 27
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

Judge David Ames of the Probate Court of Oktibbeha County , was born in Canterbury, New Hampshire in 1894 and died in Starkville, Mississippi in 1870, at the ripe old age of seventy-six years. He received his early education in the public school of the home village of Canterbury and then attended Darmouth College where he graduated in 1817., the year Mississippi, which became his future home, in which he spent the most eventful years of his life, became a state in the American Union. Even then, New Hampshire was thought of as one of the old states so the young scholar saddled his horse and rode forth to find his way in the world. Tennessee was then opening its doors to ambitious young men, so in a few weeks young Ames found his way to Sparta, Tenn., where Dr. Fish was organizing a school and needed qualified instructors. He at once associated himself with Professor Fish as one of his instructors and read law on the side. During the next twelve or fifteen years he remained in this community teaching and practicing law. During these years he married a daughter of the head preceptor and was then ready to find new fields and thus launch out on his own again. In the early thirties, perhaps in 1834, we find him among the early settlers of Oktibbeha County which had just been surveyed and opened to public settlement. Others associated with this young adventurer, were Elijah Hogan, Charles Dibrell, David Reese, who became the first Probate Judge of the new county. A letter from James McCalella of that date

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(1) The family history tree
(2) Carroll's Historical Sketches
(3) Personal Conference
(4) Decisions of the Probate Courtt from 1850 to 1867

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states " I sat as a Jury-men last week for the first court in the county. The Court sat under a large Hickory tree for want of a house, but there was no business in court, and it did not hold more than three or four hours, but I expect will have plenty for the next term. "This court was held before the County Seat was transferred to Board Town, later Starkville, at Hebron the old Indian Mission, which was then the county seat of government. Others of this group of settlers were William Cabaniss, Robert A. Lampkin, Malcolm Gilchrist, Daniel Green, Howell Peeden, James Bishop and others. Carroll in his Historical S Sketches, tells us that young Ames "was perhaps the best educated man in the county." Reese served as Probate Judge until 1835 and was succeeded by John J. Skinner who served as Judge until 1838 who was in turn, succeeded by David Ames who served continuously for twenty-nine years, until 1867. Prior to his service as Probate Judge Mr. Ames taught school, served as Justice of the Peace of the central district of the county, and a s Mayor of Starkville. His school was perhaps the first in the county for white childred. It was taught in the old log court room and in 1837 he had fifty students enrolled. As Mayor he had to assist him in administering the affairs of the young city of Starkville which had just been located by the Board of Police headed by Elijah

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Ibid

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Hogan, the following men as selecthen or aldermen; Elijah Hogan, Robert A. Lampkin, Richard L. Graves, L.L.Reese, David S. Moody, Thomas H. Hood and James Cleft. Ames was one of the four young lawyers of the town- the others being Richard T Graves, George H. Flournoy, and Edward Clark.

At this early date in the history of Starkville, the residential section was in the vacinity of the Negro School building. A few of the old residences still survive the ravages of time. Judge Ames constructed his residence about the present location of the Negro School and the old cystern may be located todsy. Later the section now known as Ware's hill became the residential section, and the Judge built his home in this section near the present Negro Methodist Church, here he spent the remainder of his life.

Early in the history of our state, justices of our courts followed the custom of the old barrister and wore periwigs. Judge Ames followed the custom and always could be seen on the street or on the bench with this regalia of distinction. As a Judge of the court, he ranked among the best and it appears his dicisions were never questioned. In 1860, just before the war between the states, he probated the estate of William McDowell in which two negro slaves were sold- John to Robert Miller for 1905.00; and George to John T. Bell for $2010.00. Older citizens will recall this transaction and

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certainly the persons making this purchase just before the negroes were freed. His last official act took place on December 31st., 1866 in which A.R.Williams took the oath of office as Constable of District No. 10 and in which he gave bond for $1000.00 with B.J.Rives and S.E.Rives as his bondsmen. At that time W.C.Bishop was clerk of the Probate. In the election, Mr. J.L.Hopkins succedded to this office. This took place just before Reconstruction began its pernicious effect on the county. Three years later, this venerable Judge of twenty-nine years laid down his active career and passed to the great beyond. His remains were laid to rest in the old cemetary located near the sity of the First Presbyterian Church on Louisville street. After much search the writer found the old monument toppled over and neglected. On it is engraved the following:"Sacred to the memory of David Ames, born in Canterbury, N.H. October, 15, 1794. Died August, 25th, 1870.' Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord, that walketh in his ways'" Perhaps this excerpt, better than any other statement describes the exemplary life of this great Jurist, Scholar, Statesman, and Fellow Citizen.

Ibid

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Topic: The Bar ------ Hon. George Dillard
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Senator George Dillard was born on a farm in Oktibbeha County and spent his early life on the farm still known as the Dillard place which now belongs to Mr. Willburn Suddath. The old log house is still standing in which he was born and a better residence also is standing in which he spent the latter part of his life in seclusion.

Senator Dillard was a man of unusual ability. He received his early education in the public schools of Oktibbeha County in the early days before the Civil War but secured sufficient training to enter the State University in 1857, graduating in 1861, just as the War begun. On the opening of hostilities he enlisted in the Fourteenth Mississippi Regiment and served throughout the war, following Hood in his disasterous march against Nashville, Tennessee. He was captured after this engagement and was carried a prisoner to Camp Douglas. When peace was declared he was pareled and came home. He then moved to Macon, later studied law and practiced in this profession with some degree of success. In 1883 he was elected to the State Senate where he served with distinction on some of the most important committees and served on the Constitutional Convention of 1890. Later he served with a commission of three, appointed by the Go Governor to revise the statutes to conform with the new constitution. He served on the Board of Trustees of the Industrial Institute and College,

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now Mississippi State College for Women, and was instrumental in the rapid progress made by this institution.

Senator Dillard then returned to hid native county and spent the remainder of his life. He dearly loved children though he remained a bachelor until his death. He had a long flowing beard and many children believed him to be Old Santa Clause.

He was a member of the Odd Fellows, I.O.O.F.; the Masonic Fraternity, A.F. & A.M. ; the Nights of Honor; and the Nights of Pythias, and a consistent member of the Episcopal Church. He was a fearless champion of the right, and because of his devotion to his county and state's best interest, his name was and is now, respected and honored throughout its borders.

There were few men of his day who had a stronger hold on his people than did Senator Dillard. One of his admirers said: " He is a politician with no greed for office, but when in office, he had a pride and an ambition to serve, not circumscribed by local lines or party bearings, but as comprehensive as the interests of the people whom he served. He has proved himself a bold champion of honesty, and thus had wan from his constituents and the state at large, the distinguished title of ' Watchdog of the treasure'".

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Topic: The Bar ---- Col. H.L.Muldrow
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Colonel Henry L. Muldrow was one of the three sons and three daughters, born on a small plantation near Tibbee Creek. He received his education in the small schools of the county and under private tutors and later entered the University of Mississippi, receiving his diploma from the literary department of that institution in 1856 and from the law department of 1858. He then entered the practice of law in Starkville, Oktibbeha County, and practiced his profession until the opening of the war in 1861, when he joined the Oktibbeha Rescue, afterward Company C. Fourteenth Mississippi Infantry as Lieutenant. He was in the siege of Fort Donaldson and on its surrender was captured and held a prisoner for seven months when exchanged. The Company was organized and he was made captain. and served in many of the worst battles of the war.He became Lieutenant Colonel and then Colonel of the Regiment till the close of the war.

Colonel Muldrow was in the thick of the fight against Carpet Bag rule in Oktibbeha County and through sheer force of character was elected to the Legislature in 1875 over a powerful carpet bag candidate by the name of Fisher. Muldrow was elected and was in the memorable Legislature of 1876 serving on the Ames Impeachment committee. Colonel Muldrow served as a delegate from the state at large on the Constitutional Convention of

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1890 in which the negro was disfranchised and represented the entire congressional district in the 45th., 46th., 47th., and 48th Congress of the United States. During his service he introduced the bill that made the Bureau of Agriculture a regular department with a member in the presidents cabinet-one of his outstanding achievements, though he was denied the credit due to the vindictive attitude of the Congress at that time. It was through his influence that the Federal Government gave the Indians proper re recognition. Later on in his life he became known as "Old Sitting Bull". He was instrumental in placing the Federal Courthouse at Aberdeen and thus ingendered some ill will among his people in Oktibbeha County. He was then made first Assistant Secretary of the Interior under President Cleveland and served until the close of his administration and then resigned. After this he returned to the practice of law with his former partner Hon. Wiley N. Nash who was also one of the prominent lawyers of the state. On the organization of the Peoples Savings Bank of Starkville, in 1889,he was made its first president and served in this capacity until his death. in 1905. During this same year the death of Col. W.B.Montgomery took place-thus the county lost two of its most prominent and influential citizens. Col. Muldrow was a large planter having large tracts of land in the northeast section of the county. The village of Muldrow was named in his honor.

Ibid

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Col. Muldrow was a true type of Southern gentleman, geniel and hospitable and held a large following of friends both in the county and district until his death.

It is conceded of all that Col. Henry L. Muldrow stood of equal rank with the best statesmen of the nation. He was made chancellor of this district in 1899 and served until his death. Here he had no favorites at the bar, but treated all alike, courteously and justly. He was proud to proclaim that no member of the bar of his district had ever intentionally deceived him. He accepted without question the word of a lawyer practicing before him. He was most modest and unassuming, never over ambitious, retiring from office which he held before the people were ready, never greatly esteeming himself, but yet he was one of the most capable men the state ever produced. He was sixty-eight years of age at his death and was still growing in wisdom, and capacity and public esteem.

Ibid

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Topic: The Bar -------General Wiley N. Nash
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General Wiley Norris Nash was born in Noxubee County in 1846, April the sixth. After the age of six his parents moved to Oktibbeha, County where he spent the remainder of his life. He received hit early education in the famous Thos. Cathwright Institute at old Summerville, in Noxubee County and while yet a school boy of sixteen he inlisted in the Confederate Army, first in Wirt Adams Cavalry and later in the famous Harvey Scouts which is known for its spectacular achievements. Among the Scouts, General Nash was but a boy, but was honored for unparalelled bravery and gallentry, having on two occasions rescued comrades who had been wounded by carrying them from the field of battle under fire of the enemy at the risk of his own life. One of these was John Lorance, who had been badly wounded in a saber fight; the other was Alfred Land, who had beens shot through and bayonetted in a close fight with infantry. General Sherman compared Harvey's Scouts to a "nest of yellow jackets continually buzzing about my trains and stinging severely when I attempted to drive them away.

Return from the war without fortune or means, as he was left pennyless by the ravages of the war; he entered the University of Mississippi, where, by his indomitable purpose, he graduated first from the literary department and afterwards takingbup the study of law, he graduated with distinction under the Honorable L.Q.C.Lamar, working part time in the United

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States Court at Oxford and the rest to hard study and close application. In this manner he was able to defray his expenses and at the same time gain valuable experience in the field of his profession.

After graduating in law, he returned to Starkville and began the practice of his profession. In a short time he formed a partnership with Col. H.H.Muldrow, then recognized as one of the leading lawyers of the state. No doubt Mr. Muldrow recognized the potential possibilities of the young attorney.

About this time came the "Days of Reconstruction" and this was the time to show again the metal of the young man-a fight much more severe and trying than the bloody struggle of the war. It was indeed a time " that tried men's soul's". This was a fight against Camp followers, carpet-baggers, and scalawags, who managed to get office for the spoils. It was at this time that General Nash came to the front and entered that awful struggle and did as much as any one man to assist in gaining control of our government and accomplishing the overthrow of the carpet bag and negro rule-to him our country and state should be grateful ever be grateful for the part he played in the protection and preservation of our traditio nal hereditary rights and liberties. It was during the period of 1875, when the "white folks riz" that he led what was apparently a forlorn hope in a political fight for the mastery of the government and was elected District Attorney on the Democrat ticket. He served one term making an efficient

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and energetic official, yet one of the youngest members of the bar. In 1882 he was elected to the legislature and during his service in this capacity he took an active part in shaping many important laws that have influenced the future history of the state. It was through his untiring efforts that the bill, establishing the I.I.& C. (now State College for Women). The speech he made on that ossasion is considered among the best in support of the bill. It was printed and read extensively throughout the state. In 1884 he introduced a bill in the house providing for the dividing of the state convicts among the various sections of the state-part to work on the Gulf Coast, part on the levees of the delta, and part on the roads of the hill sections of the state. The idea of the road work was to have such work done on the roads that the highways might be converted into railroads beds if purchasers could be found. He was appointed by Governor Stone on the Deep Water Harbor convention whose purpose was to promote the speedy construction of deep water harbor on the Gulf Coast. His speech before the convention was so masterful in its treatment of the subject that it was printed and extensively distributed and read throughout the state. Thus it was his influence and work that ultimately gave Mississippi a deep water harbor on the coast. It was through his resourceful and energetic action that Mississippi railroad commission came into being. In 1895 he was elected Attorney General in which office he served for four years. By virtue of his office as attorney general he became Ex-Officio member of the Board of education, member of the board of control of the penitentiary, member of the state board of election commissioners, member of the board of public

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public contracts, and a trustee of the state library. This position gave him an insight into the general powers and duties of almost every department of the State Government. He made an excellent official and should he offered for election to the same office for another term it is generally believed, he would not have had any opposition.

In local and civic affairs, after he returned to private life, Starkville, and Oktibbeha County came first. He donated the land for the County Agricultural High School at Longview, Miss., and was instrumental in extending the Main street of the city west to Long street, His fellow citizens tried to prevail on him to enter the race for governor. The East Mississippi Times on this occasion had this to say of this great patriot and statesman: "Among the liberal number of public men of today it occurs to us that General Nash stands well to the front. While his many efforts since early manhood have embraced in an especial way, his fellow citizens at home, and while they have especially received the benefits resulting from this effective public-spiritedness, his love and beneficence has by no means been limited by the bounds of his town and county; but through the entire length and breadth of our state her people have felt the result of his usefulness. Bravo, he has never shirked a duty, whether public or private, but ever true to his convictions, he has stood like Jackson at Bull

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Run, no matter how formidable the opposition. Whether marching athwart the battle field when the horrors of bloody war were upon us, or struggling in the conflicts incident to the times of peace, he has ever been brave. Honest, he stands before the world of criticism with no fear of accusation. Pure, no questionable act of his many years of public life has ever laid open a gap of stigmatism. In the cause of honesty, of moral elevation, of education, of public peace and progress we find that he has always taken a leading part and many times at the sacrifice of his personal interest.

He is a devout member of the Baptist Church, an Odd Fellow, K. of P. and a Mason. As an Odd Fellow, he attained the highest honors that could be bestoyed, having served as Grand Master and afterwards as representative to the Supreme Lodge. As an evidence of the high esteem in which he was held by this order, beautiful floral offerings were sent by the Grand Lodge, of the State of Mississippi and the local Lodge, Ridgely, No.23. The emblem from the Grand Lodge contained the letters " I. O. O. F." while that of his own Lodge bore three links signifying "Friendship, Love and Truth".

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(2) Proceedings of the Mississippi Bar Association
(3) East Mississippi Times -1914
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Topic: The Bar - Thomas J. Wood
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Hon. Thomas J. Wood, attorney at law, was born at Columbus, Miss., May 4th, 1849. He was educated in the Franklin Academy and private schools of his native home, and in 1868 began the study of law in the law office of Messrs. Love and Wallace, a prominent law firm in the city of Columbus. He made application for license to practice law in 1870, and among several applicants stood one of the most creditable examinations and was licensed to practice law at the October term, 1870. Hon. J.A.Orr was judge at the time, and is now an eminent attorney and doing a lucrative practice in the city of Columbus and the judicial district. In 1870 Mr. Wood moved to Starkville, where he has resided ever since.

He entered upon a large and lucrative practice immediately after his admission to the bar in his new home and the adjoining counties in the circuit and chancery courts, and has sustained the reputation of being one of the best pleaders and eminently learned in the law, which is admitted on all sides. No man stands more prominent than he, nor took a more active part in throwing off the Radical rule and tyranny of the county in 1875 and 1876, which seems now more like a dream than reality. He not only devoted his time to canvassing the county and meeting the enemy in public debate, but also contributed largely financially. Ever true to a friend and generous to a foe, perfidiousness never found a lodgement in his make-up, and let his faults be what they may, ingratitude can not be numbered

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1 Times

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among them. He had ever been one of the city's most public and enterprising men. For twenty years he acted either in the capacity of alderman, treasurer or school trustee, and filled the positions to the satisfaction of all, though different views were entertained at the time of action taken.

Mr. Wood represented his county in the legislature in 1882, and was recognized in that body as one of the ablest members, and served his county and State satisfactorily. It was through his activity, influence and popularity in a great measure that the A. & M. College obtained a liberal appropriation which it so much needed at the time, and other public institutions to be supported by the State.

He was a member of the committee on Public Buildings, and the new buildings erected from the recommendations of that committee attest the efficiency of the services performed, though some of the estimates made were scaled one-third; and many necessary repairs and additions were made to the building existing. Mr. Wood was instrumental in the passage of several local measures, among which was one prohibiting the sale of liquor within certain limits. One of the most important bills he introduced was the regulation of fire insurance companies doing business within the State which it is believed now as far preferable to the present law, though somewhat similar, passed fourteen years afterwards. He was regarded as an enemy to fire insurance companies, but such is not the case, for he is a strong advocate and believer in corporations but does not believe that they should have greater

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Ibid

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rights and privileges than natural persons- all ought to be on an equal footing. It is believed that he introduced the first bill regulating the sale of cigarettes and tobacco to minors. The House passed the Bill, but the Senate could not see as the lower brance of the law-making power. The Bill furnished merriment for the small and great newspapers from the white sands of the Atlantic to the golden slopes of the Pacific, and from the frozen regions of the North to the perrennial flowers of the South. Ten years afterwards the combined wisdom of the two branches of law-making power enacted the law, perhaps it would be great difficulty to find a State or Territory within these United States that has not such a law in their statues. The Author of 1882 acted in advance of his fellows; saw then what they discovered afterwards. The effort to pass such a law- the introduction of the same ought to stand as a monument more durable than brass or marble to the name, head, heart and wisdom of the author.

Mr. Wood is an Odd Fellow; has represented his Lodge in the Grand Lodge on four or five different occasions; is a member of the K.& L. of Honor; has attended every Grand Lodge since 1885 in the capacity of representative or a member thereof; was elected Grand Protector

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Ibid

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in 1891 and under his administration, through diligence and the co-operation of his aids and co-workers, the order was more prosperous. He made a model of a chief, deferring and considerate of the rights of others, according honor to whom honor is due. In 1885, at the Grand Lodge of the K.& L. of Honor, he was elected from the floor a representative to the Supreme Lodge and elected a supreme officer ten years in succession. He has met with that supreme body in Chicago, Philadelphia, Newark, Cleveland, Indianapolis and St. Louis, and in those meetings was ever found in the front ranks, considered a good reasoner, deliberate fluent speaker; here his personal friends and acquaintances are extensive. He is a member of Abert Lodge No.89 Masons and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Wood was united in marriage to Miss Alvira Beasly, of Colerian, Bertie County, N.C., in 1873. She died the following year leaving an infant daughter, Miss Allie B. Wood.

In 1877, he married Miss Lillian C. Cooke, of Attala County, this State, the daughter of the late J. Nelson Cooke who married Miss Magary Nail, of Bolivar, Tenn. She too has passed from the scenes of earth after a long and useful life. Many near and dear relatives and friends throughout this State mourn her loss and cherish her memory. The lives of this old couple were precious.

Ibid

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Mr. Wood has a large family of bright and interesting children, three boys and three girls, the fruit of his last marriage, living; if placed in a row would represent steps with three missing, however, who have been taken to the unknown beyond.

Ibid

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Topic: The Bar ----- Rev. Henry Rodney Raymond, D.D.
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Rev. Henry Rodney Raymond, D.D. was born June 4th, 1825, in Bethany, N.Y.

He taught in Erie County, New York, in 1841 and two years later moved to Ohio where he continued the study of law, which he had begun in his native state. In 1845 he moved to Centerville, Tennessee, and became principal of Hickman County Academy. At this time he was admitted to the bar, and practiced in that state. Removing to the vicinity of Starkville, he took a private course in theology; was licensed by Presbytery at Macon, Mississippi in 1850, and was ordained at Starkville, Mississippi the next October. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Ware in 1848. Rev David Pressley performing the ceremony in the Starkville Presbyterian Church. His first ministerial field work was done in Kemper and Noxubee Counties and he made his home in Old Wahalak.

He moved to Marion, Alabama in 1853 and served as pastor over thirty years. He was president of Marion Female Seminary four years and taught there several years preceding his presidency. During the war between the states, he served as Missionary to the Confederate Army in the regiment of General George D. Johnson.

Manuscript furnished by Mrs. J.T.Owen, Starkville, Miss.

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Topic: The Bar ------- Rev. Henry Rodney Raymond, D.D .

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In 1861,(July 24th,) he was appointed by South Alabama Presbytery to represent this Body at a Convention of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States. At that Convention in Augusta, Georgia the Southern Presbyterian General Assembly had its origin. In 1885 he was Moderator of the Presbyterial General Assembly at Houston, Texas.

January 1886 he took charge of the Weatherford Presbyterian Church, Weatherford, Texas, where he remained four years.

He returned to Starkville the latter part of 1889, as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church and served in its capacity until 1910, when he was made pastor emeritus of the church, and made this his home until his death, December 4, 1917.

Ibid

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Topic: The Bar -------- Judge William McMillan Rogers
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Judge William McMillan Rogers was born in Starkville, Mississippi, July, 25, 1850 and died at his home in Oxford, Mississippi July 31st., 1890 and was buried at his old home in Starkville. He lived just a few days more than forty years.

He received his education in the schools of the city of Starkville and later graduated from the University Of Virginia in 1876 with the degree of Master of Arts and still later received his law degree from that great institution in 1877. He then began the practice of law at his old home and continued in active and successful practice in Oktibbeha County until 1885 when he was appointed Judge of the Circuit Court of the sixth judicial district of Mississippi composed of the counties of Oktibbeha, Clay, Lowdnes, Noxubee, and Winston. He filled this position until 1888 when he was transferred to the third district which necessitated a change of residence to Oxford, Mississippi, where he remained until his death in 1890- two years.

Judge Rogers never ceased to be a student as a result was one of the state's outstanding scholars, jurists, and statesmen, He was well versed in all the languages and sciences taught in our highest Universities, as well as the general literature of the times. His learning as a lawyer and as a judge was thorough and characteristic of the man,

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and following it through all the ramifications of its applications to the rights and business affairs of men. In Judge Rogers we find a strong and active intellect, with energy perseverance, determination, courage and ambition; but these were guided and controlled at all times by a high and ever present sense of his obligation to men and his responsibility to God. He was a safe and conservative councillor. His opinion as a lawyer was as scrupulously and faithfully given as the opinion of our most upright judicial officers. No lawyer was truer to his client or more faithful and ernest in expounding the law and testimony of the court and jury; thus, in his practice, he was first true to himself; second, true to his client; and third, true and last but not least, he was true to his profession. The virtues of Judge Rogers like cluster roses, adorn and beautify his character. Indeed,he passed his entire life without a stain upon his reputation . He was no pettifogger, no trimer, no time server, no place hunter. He was a man of opinions, of deep convictions, of unswerving integrity. In Judge Rogers,we can find no instance of a mean or of an equivocating action, nor of a departure from the self imposed restraints of a refined and lofty sense of honor, and none in which either the fear of man or the seduction of ambition tempted him to a deed which would destroy his own self respect, or the respect of others for him.

As to the character of Judge Rogers upon the bench, no one has ever gainsaid or denied that he was a just and an upright judge. Much of his

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time, as a judicial officer, was spent in a different portion of the state. As to his career upon the bench in our section, he gave our people a fair and a faithful administration of the laws. Upon the bench he was no respecter of persons. The high and the low, the rich and the poor, fared alike before him. Before the tribunal over which he presided all met upon a common level. To the discharge of his every official act he brought a clear conscience and whatever intellect his God had endowed him with, along with a firm and an abiding desire to administer his high office according to the principles of right and justice between man and man.

Born of pious parents he was early taught the Biblical injunction, "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth." His whole life has always been in perfect keeping with his Christian character. This doubtless helped to form his spotless integrity, and his high sense of honor, which ever sat so gracefully upon him. Indeed we seldom see embodied in one single person so many elements of a true and perfect man, and to his honor be it said, he has passed his days on earth without a stain upon his reputation, and has left a shining character behind him, which will ever be dear to his country, his family, and his friends.

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY BAR

STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 25
Topic: The Bar ------ James William Normant
Assignment # 27
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

Hon. James W. Normant was born at Rienzi, Alcorn, County, Mississippi December the 23rd, 1868, but early in his career, his father, who was a newspaper man, moved to Starkville, Mississippi, where he established the Oktibbeha Citizens where he died in 1881. Young James secured his early education in the private schools of the town where he also assisted his father in the work of the news-paper office. He was but thirteen years of age when his father died but he at once assumed charge of the mechanical department of the paper, to a large extent, of the editorial work, continueing the enterprise until 1888, when he sold the plant and business. He then entered the office of Dun and Co., Commercial agency at Mobile, Alabama, retaining this position until 1893, after which he returned to Starkville, to supervise his varied interests.

In 1900 he took a course in law from the University of Miss., and was admitted to the bar immediately after his graduation. He immediately began to practice his chosen profession at Starkville. Judge Normant was recognised as one of the leaders in the ranks of the Democratic party in this county and served as special judge on the bench of th e Circuit Court and was a member of the Board of Aldermen for two terms, also serving simultaneously as City Clerk. In 1899, he resigned the position of City Clerk, to accept the nomination of his party for representative in the State Legislature, in which office he continued

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Topic: The Bar ------- James William Norment
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to serve by election until 1903. During this time he established the Starkville News but after a few months he sold the paper to Col. Thomas Wood who ran it until his death in 1916. He served frequently as protem speaker of the house and proved a popular presiding officer. He was always a conservative and spent most of his time holding his colleagues along sane lines of legislation. Almost single handed, he fought the bill providing the bonding of the state for the sum of $500,000.00. He was also the author of the contract system of constructing and maintaining our public roads system which proved of inestimable value in developing proper highways and certainly leading to our present system.

In 1907 local citizens organized the Merchants and Farmers Bank and elected Judge Norment as its first president.

During the yellow fever epidemic in Starkville in 1898, Mr. Norment had charge of the local shot-gun quarentine forces and work, having been appointed by the mayor and aldermen with the approval of the Governor and State Board of Health. In this position, he rendered the most valuable and self-abnegating service, as is shown by the fact that the clergymen of the local churches, in their prayers, often "thanked God for Jim Norment". He served as a member of the Board of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, (now State College) in which position he rendered valuable service. He was a member of the Masonic Fraternity, as well as the

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Topic; The Bar -------- James William Norment
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Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Woodmen of the World, and the State Bar Association. Both he and his wife were members of the Baptist Church. Later in his life, he sold large real estate interests in this county and due to his health, moved to Albuerquque, New Mexico.

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Page # 28
Topic: The Bar ------- Judge Thomas Battle Carroll
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Judge Thomas Battle Carroll was born near Starkville, Miss., March 18, 1860. He was the son of Dr. John G. and Narcissa E. Carroll both of whom were born in Ala., moving to Oktibbeha County, Miss., in 1857 where he practiced his profession of medicine for nearly forty years until within ten years of his death which occurred in 1905 at his home in Starkville. His original home in the county was near Agency and it was not until he moved to the city that he gave up his profession.

Thomas B. Carroll duly availed himself of the advantages of the common schools and thereafter continued his studies at the famous Garthright Institute at Summerville, Tenn., the South-western Baptist University, at Jackson, Tenn., where he remained two years, and then one year in the Law Department of the University of Mississippi where he graduated in June 1879, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, at the age of nineteen. After graduating, he returned to Starkville, and at the age of twenty-two he began the practice of his profession, and continued in individual practice until 1882 when he entered into partnership with Hon. M.R.Butler with whom he was associated until 1890. He then practiced alone until 1896 when he entered partnership with Hon. W.W.Magruder until he was appointed to the bench by Governor Noel and later was elected for two terms of four years each- at his death he had been on the bench for twelve years.

Judge Carroll was a lawyer of marked ability and as presiding judge of the 16th Judicial District, of Mississippi, he ranked second to

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none. The Columbus Commercial Dispatch, on the occasion of his death made this statement: Judge Carroll had an enviable record as a jurist. For more than seven years he was not reversed in the Supreme Court of the State- a record which few judges enjoyed, yet at the same time he was universally loved and esteemed and had the utmost respect and confidence of the people of his district. The Maben Press:- In the death of Judge Carroll Mississippi has lost one of its most honored and beloved Circuit Judges. He was revered for his impartial and righteous decisions in his courts. A good and useful man has been called to his reward. The Macon Press:- His head knew the law and his heart knew the principles of justice and right which the law is supposed to effectuate and apply. No ulterior influence ever effected his judicial acts. To quote the great ancient of the common law, Lord Coke, he always did "this" which it becomes a judge to do. "He will be remembered in this district with affection and respect. On his death in 1913, Hon. John D. Green was appointed to serve out his unexpired term.

As a citizen of Starkville and Oktibbeha County, Judge was always recognized as one of the safe thinkers and thus, his advice was often sought along religious, social, educational, as well as economic and political lines. He never acted in a rash or unthoughted manner, but gave

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himself time to think the issue over before taking action. He was a devout member of the Baptist Church, and he also affiliated himself with the Knights of Pythias, and the independent Order of Odd Fellows. In these organizations he was often called upon to address public gatherings along some phase of their activities. He was a sane public speaker but in no sense, was he recognized as an orator. Judge Carroll was always in demand in his district at the close of schools to address graduating classes and the public on educational lines. He invested in local real estate and served as vice-president of the Security State Bank of which he was a substantial stock-holder. In 1885, he was chosen to represent the county in the State Legislature, in which he served one term but since that time he steadfastly refused to be a candidate for public office until the judiciary office was made elective. He had already served one term under appointment and felt from the public response, that his services were still in demand, hence he offered for this office and was elected- the last term without opposition. History alone will give this great Judge full recognition.

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(1) Columbus Commercial Dispatch
(2) The Maben Press
(3) The Macon Press
(4) Local Bar
(5) East Mississippi Times
(6) Starkville, News
(7) Mississippi Memoirs

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STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Oktibbeha County

Page # 31
Topic: The Bar ----- Hon. John D. Green
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October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

Judge John D. Green was born and reared in the South-western section of Oktibbeha County and received his common school education in the school of Sturgis, Miss., He later graduated from the University of Mississippi with the degree of Bachelor Of Law and began practicing his profession in his home county at Starkville, Miss. He served as a member of the Legislature from 1916 to 1920 and was a member of the State Law Examining Board for six years-- 1923 to 1929. On the death of Judge T.B. Carroll in 1924 he was appointed to fill the position of Circuit Judge of the 16th Judicial District of Mississippi, to fill his un-expired term. Judge Green is a member of the Presbyterian Church, a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He is now (1937) practicing his profession in the courts of this district.

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(1) Personal Conference

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Topic: The Bar ------ Hon. Will E. Ward
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By R.C.Morris

Hon. Will E. Ward was born in Starkville, Miss., February, 4th, 1892. Graduated from Mississippi State College, 1910. Bachelor Of Law, Washington and Lee, 1913. Admitted to Bar, 1913. Married Miss Clara Henson, Oklahoma, July 4, 1915. Two children, William Henson, age sixteen years, Erwin Connell, age four.

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Page # 33
Topic: The Bar ------- Lavell Wheeler Brown
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October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

Hon. Lavell Wheeler Brown was born at Bradley, Miss., in Oktibbeha County, on the 30th day of November, 1902, the fourth and youngest child of James E. and Elizabeth Bruce Brown.

Attended school in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, French Camp Academy and Cumberland University, Admitted to the Mississippi Bar, February, 1930, formed the law firm of Brown and Hartley of which he was the senior member until 1936 when Mr. Hartley accepted a position with the Federal Government.

Mr. Brown is the present attorney for the Oktibbeha County Board of Supervisors, Counsel for Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and is also actively engaged in actual practice. He is a Baptist, married. Noble Grand of Ridgely Lodge No 23 Of I.O.O.F., Vice President of Exchange Club of Starkville, member of Chamber of Commerce, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Delegate to the National Democratic Convention from first district, 1936, and a Colonel on Governor Hugh White's Military Staff.

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Page # 34
Topic: The Bar ------- Hon. George Odie Daniel
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By R.C.Morris

Hon. George Odie Daniel was born and reared in the county. After finishing the High Schools, he entered West Point Male Academy, a Presbyterian school at West Point, Mississippi where he finished the literary course and later received his degree in law from the State University, June, 1900. He entered the practice of law at Starkville, Mississippi, September 9th, of the same year, formed a partnership with Hon. Hames W. Normett, then a representative in the State Legislature, which lasted for less than a year, when he formed a partnership with Hon. B. F. Bell, which partnership extended over a period of nine years and thereafter, in 1918, took into his office and formed a partnership with, Hon. John D. Green which lasted until 1935, since which time he has practiced alone. For thirty-seven years now, he has been located, first in the office he built himself and later in the old Muldrow, Nash and Alexander office.

He has been connected with practically every important law suit that has ever beet tried in the county, including a number of murder trials trials. While he has defended in many criminal cases, he boasts of the fact that he has not had a client convicted and sent to the penitentiary in a period of seventeen years, save one in which he was appointed by the Court to defend

Mr. Daniel is of Scotch-Irish descent on the paternal side of

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(1) Personal Conference

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY, BAR

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Topic: The Bar ------ Hon. George Odie Daniel
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the house and Scotch-Irish and Holland- Dutch on the other. His family have always been Presbyterians, of which he is a member and he has been active in civic development for many years.

He was Chairman of the first Highway Committee and fostered the construction of our highways, also Chairman of the Committee that procured for the city, a Union Depot. He has never participated, in any way, in local politics, though he was elected, without opposition, to the State Senate and while a member of the Body procured for the city and college, without cost to either, the stretch of paved Highway from the Over-head bridge through the College campus. He secured this in a compromise of Highway Legislation while he was in the Senate.

About the year 1919, the town of Sturgis was entirely destroyed by fire originating by the explosion of gasoline. Mr. Daniel and Mr. Daniel's firm filed twenty-six suits against the Gulf Refining Company., involving about $100,000 damage. The explosion that destroyed the town having been charged to the negligence of this company. The cases were compromised however for about one-third of the sum sued for. Mr. Daniel personally, drew the declarations in these suits in which he alleged that Static electricity being improperly generated and not grounded was the cause of the fire.

Ibid

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Page # 36
Topic: The Bar -------- Hon. B. Frank Bell
Assignment # 27
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

Benjamin F. Bell, Jr., was born on the home plantation in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, September 1, 1874, and secured his fundamental education in the common schools near his home, later graduating in the high school of Brooksville. He then took a course in the Capital Commercial College, in the city of Jackson, being a graduate of that institution. He then took up the study of law under private tutors and for a short time was a student in the department of law in the University of Mississippi, passing the examination given by the examiners of that institution and later before Chancellor Muldrow, of Starkville, and thus admitted to the Bar in December of 1899. He then immediately established an office in Starkville, and entered at once into a lucretive practice, thus building up a large law business in this section of the state, his success being of the most unequivicable order which indicated his technical knowledge and his devotion to his chosen profession. In the spring of 1901, he entered into a partnership with Hon. G. Odie Daniel, under the name of Bell and Daniel .

Judge Bell is a son of Benjamin Franklin and Ann(Pressley) Bell. His father was a native of the county being born in 1841 and here continued to make his home until his death which occurred in 1902. He is thus a scion of one of the old and honored families of this section of the state, his grandfather, coming from SouthbCarolina to this county among the early

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(1) Personal Conference

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settlers. He was a man of fine mentality and of deep and fervent convictions, ever commanding the esteem of his fellow man, Five of his sons, including the father of Judge Bell, were valient soldiers of the Confederacy.

In politics, Mr. Bell has always aligned himself as a staunch supporter of the principles and policies of the Democratic party, and while he showed a zealous interest in the promotion of the cause, he has until recent years, invariably refused candidacy for office. In 1903 he was urged by his friends to become a candidate for State Senator from this district, but refused these overtures and on several occasions he has been requested to become a candidate for the office of the Mayor of Starkville, but not until 1912 did he finally come in to enter politics. On the solicitation of his friends he permitted his name to be placed on the ticket for County Attorney, having previously served as attorney for the Board of Supervisors of the County and of the Board of Aldermen of the city of Starkville, he was elected to the office of county attorney and served for one term until 1916, In 1920 he was elected to the office of District Attorney and served again for four years in a very acceptable manner. Again he began his private practice but in 1928 he was again prevailed upon to enter the race for District Attorney, and served another four years. Judge Bell is now the efficient Representative from the Eastern District of Oktibbeha County to

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Ibid

the State Legislature, being elected in 1936 and will serve until 1940. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and Odd Fellow and the Knights and Ladies of Honor, and at the age of sixty-three, he is still actively interested in the general welfare of his town, county, state and nation. He is conservative and a careful councellor and is general recognized as one of Oktibbeha County's leading thinkers.

Ibid

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Topic: The Bar -- Lawyers of Oktibbeha County
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By R.C.Morris

David Reese----- Probate Judge---1833-35
John J. Skinner- Probate Judge---1835-38
David Ames------ Probate Judge---1838-67
Richard T. Graves
George H. Flournoy
Edward C. Clark
A.W.Sims
Charles F. Miller
A.W.Hines
Stephen D. Nash
Mr. Sullivan
Charles A. Sullivan-Judge of the Freedmen's Bureau, and Chancellor.
Frank Critz J.I.Hopkins- Probate Judge
George E. Critz G.S.Holland-- Probate Judge until 1869.
Frank Pate
J.J.Dennis Judge W.M.Rogers--Circuit Judge 16th District
James Pilcher
H.L.Muldrow J.W.Norment H.L.Muldrow was Chancellor.First Dist. Atty.
Wiley N. Nash District Attorney-
T.B.Carroll Circuit Judge 16th District
W.W.Magruder Circuit Judge 16th District
G. Odie Daniel
Frank Bell Dist. Atty.
M.A.Saunders Dist. Atty.
Joe S. Rice
W.E.Ward
J.D.Green, Circuit Judge--16th District by appointment.
B.M.Walker, Jr.
Augustine Magruder
Lavelle Brown

In 1916 Judge Carroll stated in his "Courts and Lawyers A Generation Ago," that there were seventeen members of the profession when he was admitted to the bar 37 years before that date. These were:-
C.H.Alexander,22 years of age; R.S.Blair, 34; N.B.Bridges, 41; M.R.Butler, 33; N.W.Carothers, 29; Thomas B. Carroll, 19;James T. Chiles, 48; Geo.E. Critz, 41; John J. Dennis, 44; Henry L. Muldrow, 42; Wiley N. Nash, 34; Wm. Rogers, 30; Chas. A. Sullivan, 45; Chas. W. Townsend, 28; J.Marcellus Wood, 30; Frank Townsend, about 25. County Attorneyds were M.A.Saunders until 1914, followed by John Perkins, who in turn, was followed by B.Frank Bell who served until the office was abolished in 1920.

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6 - Memoirs of Mississippi
7 - Congressional Records
8 - Mississippi Historical Society- Vol. 10
9 - Memoirs of Mississippi- Manuscript by Geo. T. Leftwich
10 - Biographical Memoirs- Mississippi Historical Society,-Gen.Wiley N.Nash
11 - Proceedings of the Mississippi Bar Association - Judge Rogers
12 - East Mississippi Times - 1914
13 - East Mississippi Times - 1916
14 - Conferences with members of the local bar and others- Nash
15 - Manuscript furnished by Mrs. J.T.Owen- Dr. Henry Rodney Raymond
16 - Columbus Commercial Dispatch - Judge Carroll.
17 - The Maben Press- Judge Carroll
18 - The Macon Press -Judge Carroll
19 - East Mississippi Times- Judge Carroll
20 - Starkville News - Judge Carroll
21 - Mississippi Memoirs - Judge Bell.

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY, BAR

Page #41 Judge
Topic: The Bar -- John J.Dennis
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By R.C.Morris

John Jackson Dennis was a member of the bar of Starkville, Mississippi from 1869 to 1912. He was born in Davies County, Indiana, September 8, 1834. His father was Dr. Beverly W.Dennis, a native of Kentucky, and a soldier in the war of 1812, having enlisted in Colonel Coffee's regiment at Nashville, Tennessee, under the auspices of General Andrew Jackson. He participated in the battles of"Horseshoe Bend", Alabama, and New Orleans, His mother was Priscilla Landrum of Ohio County, Kentucky. After the death of his father, his mother returned with her children to her father's home in Kentucky. There he received the rudiments of an English education at Green Briar schoolhouse in Grayson County, Kentucky. After working on his mother's farm for several years he took a course at the Hartford Seminary at Hartford on Ohio County. He studied law under Robert Mosley in the office of Seth Mosley, County Clerk of Ohio County, acting as deputy for him during the time. He taught in the public schools of Davis and Ohio Counties for two sessions, clerked in a store one winter, then he was admitted to the bar in Calhoun, McLean County.

In 1861, when the war between the States broke out, he assisted in raising eighty-six men for the Confederate Army, and entered the service as First Seargent of Company D. Eighth Ke ntucky Regiment, at Hopkinsville Kentucky, while General A.L.Alcorn occupied that place. Afterwards he was

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Topic: The Bar ----- Judge John J. Dennis
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elected Second Lieutenant of Company H. Eighth Kentucky Regiment, of which Company he was Captain when paralled at Columbus, Mississippi, at the close of the war in May, 1865. He was engaged in the battle of Fort Donalison, Tennessee, and was there wounded, captured and taken to the City Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana, theses to Camp Chase, near Columbus, Ohio, and from there to Johnson's Island in Lake Erie, near Sandusky City, Ohio. Later he was exchanged at Vicksburg. He engaged in many battles and skirmishes during the war. He was with Morgan's band of raiders and General Forest's cavalry.

After the war Captain Dennis practiced law at Houston, Mississippi, then removed to Starkville in 1869. He was Chancellor of the Fourth District of Mississippi for four years, at which time he resided in Meridian. He served as City Tax Collector of Starkville for six years, and was a member of the Board of Alderman for a number of years. He died on November 25, 1912.

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(1) Manuscript furnished by Miss Lucile Dennis.

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Page # 43
Topic: The Bar --- Judge W.W.Magruder.
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October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

Judge W.W.Magruder was born December,14, 1867 at Hazelwood, Madison County, Mississippi. He was a son of Dr. Augustine Freeland Magruder and Julia (Abbey) Magruder. His original progenitor was Alexander Magruder, a sturdy Scotsman, who immigrated to America in 1365 and settled in Maryland. Rev. Richmond Abbey, D.D. maternal grandfather of Mr. Magruder was financial agent of the general publishing house of the Methodist Episcopal Church South at Nashville, Tennessee, retaining this position for many years. He was the author of several books on religious subjects.

As a child, Mr. Magruder attended the elementary schools of Yazoo City and Yazoo County where he was reared to young manhood. In 1885 he was matriculated in the University of Mississippi, where he remained as a student for two years. At the expiration of which he entered the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College (Now State College) in which he was graduated in 1887, with the degree of Bachelor of Science. In 1894 he entered the Law School of the State University and was graduated in June, 1895, with special distinction, receiving his degree of Bachelor of laws. Shortly after his graduation he began the practice of his profession in Starkville, Mississippi. He was associated with Judge T.B.Carroll as junior partner from 1896 until 1910. In 1905 he was made president of the Security State Bank of which he was a substantial stockholder. During this time and for several years he served the community as a member of the Board of Trustees

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Topic: The Bar -- Judge W.W.Magruder
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of the City schools and in 1903, he was elected to represent the Twenty Third Senatorial District in the upper house of the State Legislature and made an admirable record in this connection. Here, as well as in his private and public life, he was a staunch advocate of the principles of Democracy, serving as a member of the executive committees of his county and District. He was a prominent member of the local organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he served as a Steward, and also as Superintendent of the Sunday School for many years. Judge Magruder was the author of a valuable historical monograph, "The Legal Status of Slaves in Mississippi before the War" which appeared in the publications of the Mississippi Historical Society, Vol. IV.

He was a candidate for the lower House of Congress from the First District of Mississippi in 1918 and 1920 but was defeated in both instances by large majorities. Judge Magruder was in no manner a politician, but in 1933, he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court of the Sixteenth Judicial District by an overwhelming majority. Had he been known over the entire First District as he was known in the Sixteenth Judicial District, he would have been elected to Congress by a great majority. He was a man reticent by nature but one had but to look at him to recognize him a man among men, a born leader, a hard worker, a man with whom work was sacred. He was a close student of political economy and of the deeper ramifications of the basic principles of law. His duties brought him in touch with practically every farmer of the county and district, with whom he was in deep sympathy and

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Topic: The Bar --- Judge W.W.Magruder.
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by whom he was highly respected, honored, and loved.

No better characterization could be written than that written by himself in his appreciation of Judge Carroll which appears in his Historical Sketches of Oktibbeha County.

"A man, himself candid, frank, and sincere, he had no toleration for sham, pretense, or affectation. He was a gentleman, a lawyer, and a jurist; a gentleman, because of birth, training, and tradition; a lawyer, because of his legal mind, his wonderful memory, his profound learning, and his superior ability; a jurist, because of his absolute passion for justice.

His court was to him a tribunal for the administration of justice not a place for display or of skill in fence between lawyers. Though tenacious for the technical requirements of the law, he was insistent that the merits of every case be ascertained and vindicated.

In him on the Bench the young lawyer found a friend, willing to extend a helping suggestion in any time of need or to give a word of encouragement. On and off the Bench he was a man of sense, business, judgement, wisdom. As Judge of the Sixteenth Judicial District, he made a record that will constitute for all time his best monument.

He died in 1937, loved by all who knew him.

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(1) Historical and Biographical Memoirs - Dunbar Roland
(2) Starkville News -1918, 1920, 1933, 1937.
(3) Carroll's Historical Sketches of Oktibbeha County
(4) Personal Interview

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY BAR

Page # 1
Topic: Health
Assignment # 24
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

By authority of an act of the Legislature of 1877, Governor John M. Stone, appointed a State Sanitary Commission consisting of Drs.W.M.Compton, of Jackson, Mississippi; F.W.Dancey of Holly Springs; and D.L.Phares of Woodville. These were to represent the entire state but on the suggestion of the State Medical Association, a member from each Congressional District was added as follows: Drs. J.M.Taylor, First District; A.G.Smithe, First District; T.D.Isom, Oxford; John Wright, Sardis; E.W.Hughes, Grenada; S.V.D.Hill, Macon; C.B.Galloway, Canton; P.J.McCormick, Yazoo City; Robert Kells, Jackson; C.A.Rice, Brandon; R.G.Worton, Port Gibson; and P.F.Whitehead, Vicksburg. They elected Dr. Kells as president and Compton as secretary. Shortly after this time the Board of Supervisors of Oktibbeha county appointed a County Health Commission, consisting of W.N.Ames of Starkville, Miss. This was under an act passed by the Legislature of 1878. An act had already been passed by the Legislature providing for boards of health along the gulf coast. The Board was appointed none too soon as this year was noted for two scourges-one of Small pox and one of Yellow Fever. It was a difficult task to get the people of the county to make a concerted campaign to prevent the disease from entering the county. It was clearly evident that no one knew the source of the epidemic. Even the Board of Supervisors were apathetic in regards to the serious danger, hence it devolved entirely upon the Board of Health to take

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(1) Acts of the Legislature -1878.

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Topic: Health
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action. The following order was placed before the Board of Supervisors and after much persuasion, was finally passed. No person shall enter this county from a district infected with Yellow Fever, nor shall any person receive any woolen goods such as blankets, articles of clothing, shawl, etc., nor any article packed in boxes, straw or hay or anything capable of conveying the germs of this disease.

Second, The Railroads, common carriers, and private individuals are forbidden to bring into this county any person from a point where Yellow Fever is prevailing, nor shall any person or persons affected with Yellow Fever enter the limits of this county.

Third, No person shall receive or entertain any person from any point infected with Yellow Fever who has not been absent from such indected point as long as twenty days.

Fourth, It shall be the duty of every house-holder and hotel and tavern keeper in the county to immediately disinfect their premises in the following manner, Viz: Each privy must be disinfected at least once a week with a free application of lime, ashes or copperas or with a solution of carbolic acid in the proportion of one ounce to a gallon of water.

Fifth, It is further recommended that in the event of the introduction of Yellow Fever or suspected parties into our county, your

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(1) Departmental Report- Dr. W.N.Ames- 1878.
(2) Minutes of the Board of Supervisors- 1878.

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board of health be authorized to confine them by the erection or establishment of Quarantine Camps at such points as in their judgment may seem proper.

The Board ordered that 500 copies be printed in handbill or circular form for distribution. The Board of Supervisors were: J.P.Rogers, Pres.; J.C.Rand; J.A.Davis; R.W.Spencer; with W.E.Saunders as Clerk and Peter Quinn as Sheriff. Elijah Ray was also a member of the Board. Dr. Connell and Pearson were the other members of the County and City Health Board. Dr. Ames received the following questionaire from the State Board of Health relative to the quarantine which will explain partially the situation of this county during this memoriable epidemic. If any railroad or navigable streams in your county, please name them. 2. Name the town situated on the railroad or st ream. 3. State the extent of your exposure, the names of the places nearest your county where the Yellow Fever prevailed their distance from you and the mode of communication with them.

3. Was your county quarantined during the epidemic of Yellow Fever?

4. State the rules governing your quarantine.

5. Did your county entire escape the epidemic?

6. If so, do you attiibute your escape to the quarantine? If not, to what do you attribute the difference?

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(1) Minutes of the Board of Supervisors - 1878
(2) Departmental Report- State Bosrd Of Health-1879

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7. If part of your county escaped, and the other part did not, to what do you attribute the difference?

8. What was the cost of maintaining the quarantine?

What was the cost of other sanitary work?

11. What was the commercial or other losses in your county due to the epidemic?

Dr. Ames states for three that Canton was the nearest point where yellow fever prevailed; Jackson is one hundred and twenty miles from this point; We were exposed from Mobile a distance of 340 miles. To question three,,he stated that the county was partially quarantined. The Board of Health declared a quarantine, but the Board of Supervisors failed to sustain us; however,we issued circulars, that we were quarantined and prohibiting persons stopping in the county, who had been exposed to yellow fever; our town was strictly quarantined for two months. To five, he answered, YES. No case developed in the county. To question six, he states that the escape of the disease was due to our isolated situation rather than the quarantine or in preference to it. To question eight, he did not know the cost or expense of maintaining the quarentine. To the last question, he states that commerce was entirely suspended but as to the cost or damage, it could be only estimated and the doctor did not make the estimation.

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(1) Departmental Report- State Board Of Health- 1879

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Dr. Ames had Dr. Phares, the surgeon of the State A.& M.College(now State College) to consult with in all cases of any difficulty in the City of Starkville or County as well as his regular aids on the board. He made no report in 1879 but a rather extended one for 1881. He states that there were three cases of cerebro-spinal fever early in the year while at the same time an epidemic of measles which had its origin at the college. The student of the college had just returned from their Christmas vacation and if there is an epidemic in the state, it is usually brought back by the students. It is usually measles. In this event, the epidemic swept the state but resulted in few casualties. There were 300 cases of Miningitis but resulted in only three deaths. He concludes that Oktibbeha has enjoyed her usual health the latter part of the year, with less than the usual amount of malarial affections during the entire year. No typhoid fever had appeared in the county during the year. In 1882 Dr. Ames reports from the county that no epidemic had developed in this county as the measles of the year previous had left few persons to develop the disease. He reports a few cases of some form of typhoid fever though it did not present all the features of the disease on a careful diagnosis. A considerable number of cases of malaria was reported though of rather mild form. With the above exception, the county was uniformly healthly during the year of 1882.

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(1) Departmental Report- State Board Of Health- 1880-81-82

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For 1883 and 1884, Dr. Ames reports unusual good health throughout the county with the exception of an epidemic of dysentary during the summer months but without any of the forms of malignancy usually found. Some malaria was reported during the last of the summer and some fevers of typhoid symptoms. For 1886 and 1887 the report for the county was rather bad due to epidemics of whooping cough, malaria, and measles. As usual these contagions, except malaria, was brought in by the college students after their return from their Christmas vacation. Dr. Ames states that the county had a population of 18000, with 12,000 of these negroes. He calls attention of the State Board of Health the the prevalence of Tuberculosis among these people. It was stated that there was a steady and somewhat increase in Tuberculosis among the negroes. It seems probable that all negro cabins, where there is a shifting population as in towns and cities, and a considerable part of the rural district, are likely to become infected, as there is no pretense of sanitation or even common cleanliness. Dr. Ames states that out of these hot beds of Syphilis, scrofula, and consumption, come the cooks, nurses, chamber-maids and carriage drivers of the white people. Syphilis among the negro is firmly and permanently established as a racial malady. Dr. Edwards reported from Sturgis that there had occurred during the year, 31 deaths from all causes. His practice

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(1) Departmental Report- State Board Of Health - 1883-87

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carries him out of the county so he estimated about one-half of these to be in Oktibbeha County. He also reported an epidemic of malaria dduring the months of August and September. The greatest mortality during the year has been among the children due to malaria and whooping cough, the greater number among the negroes. Dr. Ames however, states the need of more authentic information relative to county diseases and mortality. He reported the county jail and the rooms of the college to be in satisfactory condition. There were no epidemics among the cattle of the county as far as his records shown. In 1888 Dr. Ames reports "The amount of sickness during the present year has been a great deal less than any previous year, for perhaps twenty years. Malaria generally appears in July and continues through the summer and fall. Few cases of remittent fever but more cases of the intermittent type during the year. "Dr. W.H.Barr had treated 5 cases of Haemituria every year since 1883 at the college with only one death. The death rate in the county had been small with all diseases mild. Perhaps 30 whites had died and 50 negroes during the year. An estimate however. The State Board was assigning certain information to be secured as accidents from burns, unhealthy points in the county, slaughter houses, drinking water, cisterns, public halls, schools, courthouses, college, churches, poor house. All reported favorable except the college, jail,

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(1) Report of Dr. Ames, Dr. W.H.Barr- 1888

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but the county was then building the present new brick jail which would be easily heated and kept sanitary. In 1889, Dr. Ames states: "In my opinion there will never be a complete accurate registration of vital and mortuary statistics until a law is enacted that can be enforced, requiring every physician engaged in the practice of medicine, to make such reports monthly to proper authorities. Ordinarily the profession fails to take the necessary interest in matters of this kind." There were no cases of typhoid fever, yellow fever, small pox, cholera, scarlet fever, meningitis. Only two cases of diphtheria in the county. A small epidemic of measles, whooping cough and mumps in the northern part of the county reported by Dr.W.W.Nash. No deaths reported.

It is interesting to note the various theories advanced for the spread of the yellow fever back in those days. The Fomite Theory, the Banana Theory. It does not appear that it dawned on the mind of a single local physician that the mosquito had anything to do with its spread. In 1899, Dr. J.W.Eckford was elected County Health Officer by the State Board of Health. During this year there were eleven cases of Yellow Fever at the A.& M. College and Dr. C. Tay, R.A.Lampkin, and General S.D.Lee were in attendance. During the summer and fall of 1898 there were eleven cases of yellow fever reported, for the two years there were 22 cases of small pox reported from the county. Dr. J.L.Crigler reported that he had begun the work of vaccination of

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(1) Departmental Report- State Board Of Health- 1889.

(2) City Press- 1889, For Yellow Fever Epidemic.

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every person within a radius of five miles of the infected persons. On October 5th the inspector was called to the A.& M. College to examine four cases and with Dr. Barr it was diagnosed to be Yellow Fever. A "shot gun" quarantine was established about the College and no one was permitted to pass any way. This Was in 1898. This was reported by Dr. H.A.Gant who was the inspector for the State Board of Health. Dr. W.G.Kiger stated that whatever may be the rank in the annals of quarantine history, "It will ever be a source of supreme satisfaction to the personnel of the State Board of Health of Mississippi to feel that during the quarantine season of 1898 and 1899 that no effort on their part was left unassayed to protect the public health interest intrusted to their care etc." As a result of the yellow fever at the college in which nine cases developed, the college did not open for the session till 15th, of November. The number attending was very small and was further cut down by an epidemic of meningitis, of which there were five cases three of which were fatal. At this time J.M.Stone was president of the college.

Dr. B.F.Ward in 1905 makes this significant statement:"The genius of American medicine, in its triumph of today, would put a hook in the nose of the Yellow Leviathan and chain him, comparatively harmless, to the rocks of scientific discovery. "In 1891, Dr. Charles J.Finlay of Havana, suggested the mosquito but nothing was done for

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(1) Report of Dr. H.A.Gant on the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1898.
(2) Report of John M. Stone on Yellow Fever Epidemic.
(3) Report of Dr. B.F.Ward in 1905 on Yellow Fever Epidemic.

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nearly 20 years when Dr. Walter Reed established the contention beyond a doubt, so the epidemics of 1898 and 1899 were our last and with it the plague of the Orient and the scourge of Europe, Asiatic Cholera, has been denied admission by the vigilance of preventive medicine. Smallpox, one a dreaded scourge that claimed its thousands during the Civil War is now relegated to the preventive class, with Diphtheria, hydrophobia, Typhoid fever, etc. Today we have still the "Flu" and Tuberculosis, cancer to deal with as they are carrying off their thousands every year.It is hoped that our modern medicine will soon be able to cope with them. In 1898 the Legislature gave the State Board of Health almost plenary powers to enforce such health, sanatary, and quarantine regulations as the Board may deem wise for the protection of the public. This came as a result of the Yellow Fever epidemic of the two years previous, but it was the work of Dr.Reed that brought about its subsidence. In 1908, the State Board of Health engaged the services of Dr. Fred J. Mayer of Louisiana to give a series of lectures on public health in the state. These were given mainly to school audiences and was the first attempt, on the part of the Board, to create a health conscience on the part of the public. He gave 200 lectures in every county during six months and rendered a great service in this county, through the schools. In 1909, the

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(1) Report of Dr. Walter Reed on Yellow Fever Epidemic
(2) Legislative Acts of 1898- on State Board Of Health
(3) Report of Dr. Fred J. Mayer on his Lecture Tour.

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Rockefeller Sanitary Commission, under the auspices of the State Board of Health, organized a campaign against the Hookworm disease. Dr.W.S.Leathers was made Director of Public Health and Executive Officer of the Department of Health in 1910 and secured an appropriation of $75,000 from the Legislature to aid in promulgating this work as well as other health work in the state. On his induction into office full advantage was taken of this offer. He began an intensive Educational Campaign on this and other counties of the state in which he first had to show that there was such a disease ; then through the soil pollution survey of the county, he showed the public the danger of infection; he then elicited the aid of every physician, the press and the public schools in the Educational Campaign of treatment. A free clinic was set up at the schools and through an examination of several hundred children, it was shown that from 15 to 30 percent of those examined received the treatment. During the next fourteen years, the State Health Board, under the direction of Dr. Leathers became one of the most effective in the nation. In 1912 he secured $125,000 for its maintenance and a Bureau of Vital Statistics was organized. Dr.W.N.Ames had stated in his reports that it was impossible to secure the data desired by the State Board unless a law making such re-

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(1) Report of Dr. W.S.Leathers, State Board Of Health.

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ports compulsory, was enacted. This law provided for a secretary to be employed by the State Baard , who must be a practicing physician, whose duty was to see that physicians reported all births and deaths and such other information required by the State Board. Failure to provide such information was punishable by a fine and jail sentence. The State Board of Health was given authority, at this time, to bring suit when informed by the "county health officer or otherwise" of the existance of any matter "calculated to produce, aggravate or cause the spread of any epidemic or contagious disease, or to effect imperiously the health of the public or community." Through this act the County Health Officer has jurisdiction over any place containing or preparing food for the public such as stores, cafe's, dairies, schools, or any public building, or any place that may become a nuisance. The case may be tried before a justice of the peace, Chancellor, or Circuit Judge. The County Health Officer was given the power to visit any mill or factory employing children at least twice each year and note the sanitary condition, any child or children afflicted with infections, contagious or communicable diseases or whose physicial condition incapacitated them from doing the work required of them, and report the condition to the Sheriff who shall promptly remove

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(1) Legislative Acts--1912

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such child or children from the factory and order the place to be put in a sanitary condition.

The Bureau of Child Hygiene and Public Health Nursing of the county looks after the physicial examination of all school children and those of pre-school. Through public Spirited physicians this work is done and in a similar manner dental inspection is made. Ofcourse these physicians and dentists have very little time than a casual inspection and report their finding to the child's parents. The County Health Officer, part time, Dr.J.F.Eckford, gives such instructions to midwives as the law requires and the county health nurse, Mrs. Webber who works under his direction does all follow-up work, such Educational lectures to school children, distribution of health literature, and preventive medicine by seeing that all children are made immune to prevent all communicable diseases. This nurse has an office and may be called in where sick persons of the county are unable to employ a regular nurse. She gives instructions to young women who desire to serve as sickbed attendants or nurses. She gives 50 percent of her time to maternal and infant hygiene work, giving instructions to expectant mothers on the case of her own health during this period and in the care of the infant during the first few days, emphasising the need of numerous physicial examinations to ward off all----------

(1) Legislative Acts--1912

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all defects that may develope. She also assists in Educational Health work in the public schools, collects specimens on the direction of the county Physicians, for the Chemical Laboratory of the State Board uro-nalysis of pregnant mothers, she holds Halth centers in each beat of the county, assists in Tuberculosis control in connection with the County Tuberculosis Association. As early as 1915 the Advocated of medical inspection of all public children called the attention of the public through the Parent Teachers Associations that every child attending the public schools should have a careful medical examination including the teeth, tonsils, and for such defects as may be determined at this age. " It aims at an early recognition of defects, such as poor eye sight, bad hearing, obstruction to breathing, and at an early recognition of the communicable diseases with a view of preventing their spread. It aimed at teaching personal hygiene and sanitation of the school houses and grounds, emphasizing that the school should be a model of sanitation. "This enabled the doctor and the family physician to find such defects as may be corrected and thus give the child a better chance. It was discovered that 85 percent of the children of the city schools had some defect and parents began at once to have them corrected. Pre-school examinations was then begun much to the enlightenment of parents. These defects were defective eyes, hearing, teeth,

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(1) Parent Teachers Association--Minutes on Medical Inspection.

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enlarged tonsils, and adenoids, some were poorly nourished, and some anemic. Quite a few of the children of the best families had hook worm and the treatment was begun at once. All of this work now comes under the jurisdiction of the County Health Nurse.

Judge Carroll's Historical Sketches mentioned several of the older physicians back in the forties shortly after the county was organized, among these were Dr. J.L.Edmunds, Dr, Clem W. Johnson, and Dr. E.R.Bert, who lived in the Agency community; in the Sturgis community in the early thirties, there were three doctors- Dr. Bogan, Dr. Bond, and Dr. Derett. Around Starkville community were the following physicians: A.M.Caruthers, J.W.Caldwell, C.P.Montgomery, W.H.Manier, W.C.Bishop as well as several young men, just entering the profession. They were Doctors Nash, Rogers, Stovall, Carley. Just before the opening of the Civil War the following physicians were practicing in the county:- Doctors C.W.Jordan, J.B.Perkins, E.R.Burt, J.G.Carroll, Pearson Smith,who lived in the Osborn community. At Hickory Grove were doctors Glisson, Pearson, Glenn Montgomery; in the vacinity of the Bell School House were doctors John B. Sanders, Jeff Hale, in the Double Springs community were doctors Derell, White, Quinn, J.R.McMillen, Ramdle; Cooper who had bought Dr. Derett's property; also Dr. M.C. Hughes. At Whitefield were several physicians- W.J.Barron, W.W.Edwards,

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(1) Carroll's Historical Sketches.

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Josiah Walker, Dr. W.C.Gillispie. Of the more recent physicians of Starkville and community during and following the Civil War to the close of the century, none outranked Dr. E.P.Connell who was born in Springfield, Tenn. in 1831 and died at his home in Starkville on the 14th day of September, 1896. He was the second son of the late John T.Connell, who for years was a conspicuous figure in Lowndes county. Dr. Connell received his primary education in the private schools of this county and at the age of 18 chose the medical profession for his life's work. Consequently he went to Philadelphia, where he entered the University of Pennsylvania as a medical student. Here he graduated in 1852 with the highest distinction in a large class. After receiving his deploma as a M.D. from the Philadelphia college, he returned to his home in Lowndes, where he remained only a short time before going to Europe for the purpose of taking a post graduate course in the medical institutions of Paris, and Berlin. He spent three years in France and Germany, devoting the time to the study of surgery. In 1855 he returned to America and Located in Nashville, Tenn., where he built up a large and lucrative practice, and was fast becoming eminent as a surgeon and physician, when, unfortunately, his health gave way. He gave up his practice and spent a year or two traveling through the Western States, with the hopes of regaining his shattered

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(1) East Mississippi Times- 1896

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health. Recovering his health to some extent, he returned to his old home in Lowndes county, and on March 16, 1860, was married to Miss Cordelia Lampkin, of this (Oktibbeha) county.

After his marriage he resided in Mayhew, practicing his profession and merchandising, until 1877, when he removed to Starkville, where he lived to the time of his death.

When the war broke out he was among the first to volunteer to take up arms for the Confederacy. On account of his skill he was appointed surgeon of the Fourteenth Mississippi regiment, and he served the Confederacy in this capacity faithfully and skillfully for nearly two years, when he was stricken with paralysis and returned to his home, not being able to return to his post of duty again during the war.

Rev. John T. Freeman writes:- "While much was said in the pulpit, justly and eloquently said, yet I feel constrained to say a few words more through the medium of the press in praise of him as a man, citizen and Christian.

I have known him for forty years, and have nothing but to praise.

As a gentleman, he was of the princely sort, to the manor born. Exceedingly modest, he complied instinctively to the scriptural precept 'not to tkink of himself more highly than he ought to think.' And yet, who had a right to think so highly of himself as did this grand man?

Formed by nature on so grand a plan, mentally and physically, yet he was as modest as a maiden on her first entrance into womanhood. Worthy as he was of a coronet, if accorded him, he would have worn with a blush yet with dignity. If he had been given a sceptre of a nation he would have wielded it meekly but with honor and grace.

As a Christian, he was loyal to his church, but with no show of bigotry or censurousness towards his fellow Christians who differ in eccelesiastical views. As a neighbor and friend he had few peers. As a citizen he was zealous and active in all progressive deeds and thoughts that would, in his estimation, promote the welfare of his country. He would dare to lead where any man had courage to follow.

It is a great affliction to his town, county and State, and a greater one to his family and church."

Rev. W.S.Harrison had this to say:- His mind was a noble cast, broad, cultivated, strong. He was pre-eminently a thinker. We have scarcely known a man capable of clearer or more discriminating, independent thinking. His faith in God, in the atonement, in the immortality of the soul, in the great possibilities and noble destiny of the human race, was to him and to others a tower of strength. He was a lover of humanity. He did, proportionately, the largest charity practice of any physician we have ever known. Then he was ready to help in every

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case of distress. To his church he was liberal even beyond his means. He never spoke evil of anyone. The highest order of character was the result of these fine qualities. Except to minister to the sick, his place was rarely vacant at any of the services of his church. His piety was sincere and unaffected. He is sadly missed.

Dr. William J. Barron of Sturgis Mississippi was born in Choctaw county in 1834, one of Joseph and Hannah Barrons, who was one of the first settlers of this county. H selected one of the finest sections of land in the counties of Choctaw and Oktibbeha and bought it from its original owner, James Terrill, an Indian, for $600.00. Dr. Barron, on the death of his parents, rode on horseback to Lebanon, Tenn., and remained fifteen months at school. On returning home, he went to New Orleans to study medicine at the University of Louisiana, graduating in 1859. He then returned to his native county, and began practicing at Sturgis, Miss., where he met with great success. He was a man of strong and vigorous mind, a deep thinker, and a very intertaining conversationalist. His[1] entire time was given to his profession and his drug store at Sturgis, however, he owned several tracts of land in the two counties over which his practice extended. One of his sons, O.L.Barron, followed his father's profession and practiced with his father as well as local surgeon for the Illinois Central railroad.

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(1) Report- Mississippi Historical Association.

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Dr. W.N.Ames, the fourth child of Judge David Ames, was born in 1837 and died in 1898. He was born in Starkville, Miss., and received his education in the public school of his native city. He then attended the Medical school of the University of Louisiana. After graduating, he came back to his old home county to practice his profession. In 1878, he was appointed the Chairman of the County and City Health Board where he served until the close of the century.

Dr. Ames was a man of high ideals for his profession and lived up to them in a very sincere manner. In his reports to the State Board of Health he gave all the information he could gather under the loose systems then in vogue for gathering health data. He emphasized every year, of legislation, making reports mandatory. This was finally done by an unwilling Legislature when the spread of communicable diseases forced to their attention. To Dr. Ames goes the credit of laying the foundation of the public health consciousness of the county. He was serving in the first Yellow Fever epidemic in 1878 and put into force the first quarentine in the county. The fever never reached our county.

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(1) News Paper Recounts and his reports to the State Board Of Health.

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Dr. John W. Caldwell, one of the outstanding physicians of Oktibbeha county was born in 1817, the year that Mississippi became a State and died after several years of sickness in 1885.

Dr. Caldwell received his Literary and Pre-medical education from the University of Louisiana, receiving special lectures on Anatomy from Dr. A.J.Wedderburn of that Institution. He also received training from the University of Transylvania from such eminent scholars as Dr. N.R.Smith. After receiving his medical degree he returned to his home county and gave his life to the profession. Dr. Caldwell was a man of unusual personality, reserved but at all times a cultured gentleman. He took great interest in the welfare of his patients and in the general progress of his community. He was the father of our esteemed citizen Mr. J.W. Caldwell.

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(1) Personal Conference.

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It will be interesting to the modern generation to know that our early colonial physician had no well-stocked drug store on which to depend for their medical supplies; as result most of them had to resort to the common medical plants for their supplies in the treatment of diseases of their day.

Barks were gathered as soon in the spring as they would peel easily, leaves and herbs were collected just before they began to fade in the autumn, flowers when they first began to bloom, seeds after they were ripe, and roots were dug almost anytime, thoroughly washed and dried.

The common plants used by the early doctors, sometime known as "still" doctors, were often grown in the garden and their uses were known to many of the early homes of Oktibbeha County. Some of the most common of these plants were as follows: The American poplar was considered a good tonic and an excellent remedy for chronic rheumatism, dyspspsia, and general debility. The inner-part of the bark was peeled out, dried and powered and a heaping teaspoonful a day was prescribed; the blackberry root was recommended for diarrhea, dysehtery and summer complaint in children . Small roots of this plant were boiled in a quart of water and one or two tablespoonfuls of this solution were given 3 or 4 times a day. In scrofulous and other skin diseases a

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(1) Personal Conference and Historical Sketches.

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handful of roots of burdock wers boiled in two quarts of water and about one pint of this was to be taken each day, garlic was recommended and was a common home remedy, for whooping cough, colds, asthma, and worms. It was used as an external application or made into a syrup by adding sugar or molasses and taken in such quantities as was thought necessary. The flowers, berries and bark of the black elder were all thought to posess medicinal properties, an anointment was made of the fresh flowers by cooking them in clean melted lard and was considered an excellent remedy for burns, scalds, wounds and old obstinate sores. The berries were taken directly as a laxative and were good also, for rheumatism, gout and skin diseases. Berries were often reserved by canning or by drying. Another common home remedy for poor digestion was cayenne pepper. As a medicine it was considered a powerful and useful stimulant in paralysis and fevers and was used as a gargle for sore throat by boiling a small quantity in a cup of water. No other plant was so common about the early home and so generally used, as catnip. It was considered an excellent remedy for the various childrens diseases, such as measles, colds, etc. A strong tea was made of this plant, either green or dried and a large quantity was taken before retiring. It produced active perspiration. The dandelion was a common wild flower that

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grew all over the country side. The root of this plant was collected during July, August and September, a strong infusion of which was recommended for billiousness, constipation and chronic inflamation of the liver. Boneset was another common medicinal plant. The leavesand flowers were made into a strong tea and taken for malarial diseases. The horse-radish was made into a syrup by boiling the root in water with sufficient sugar and was taken for hoarseness, rheumatism, dropsy. Lobelia was a common plant grown in practically every garden of the early colonial doctor for use in asthma. This plant was poison and was not taken except as recommended by the family doctor. One of the most popular plants common in every garden was the pennyroyal. It was used for coughs and colds a strong tea of which was taken when going to bed.

There were many other wild and garden plants in common use in those days such as pepperment, sassafras, sweet-flag, wild cherry, sage and red pepper, all of which served useful purposes but are scarcely known today.

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Dr. Felix B. Long, an outstanding member of the medical profession of Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi was born on the 17th of October, 1882 in Choctaw County, same state. He was the eldest son of Benjamin Franklin and Cleopatra Watson Long, both of whom were born in Choctaw County and on both sides were Scotch-Irish ancestry.

Dr. Long obtained his early education in the public schools of Nacogdoches County, Texas and at Ackerman, Mississippi where he graduated in 1904. He taught school for a few years in Choctaw County and received his M. D. from the University of Tennessee Medical College at Memphis in 1914. Immediately after his graduation he located in Oktibbeha County to practice his chosen profession.

During the World War Dr. Long was stationed at A. & M., now State College Mississippi. He Served as Health Officer for this county from 1917 to 1923, during the time, the present sanitary sewerage system of Starkville was started. Sanitary toilets were built in all public school buildings in the county. Immunization against infectious and contageous diseases were instituted.

In May, 1927 Dr. Long established and since that time has operated the Oktibbeha Hospital, the only Hospital in the county.

On February 1st, 1931 he was awarded a loving cup by the citizens of Oktibbeha County for rendering the most outstanding service to his county during 1930.

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(1) News Paper Statements, Personal Conferences.

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Dr. Long is endowed with a fearless and aggressive spirit with the courage of his conviction to do the logical thing and has met and surmounted the common obstacles that are met by all pioneers.

Dr. Long is a member of the Baptist Church, Odd Fellows, Masonic Lodge, Order of the Eastern Star, The Oktibbeha County Medical Society, the Thirteen County Medical Society, the Mississippi State Medical Association, the Southern Medical Association, the American Medical Association, the State Hospital Association and the American Hospital Association.

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Doctors in Oktibbeha County

Dr. J.W.Crumpton,	Sturgis, Miss.	
Dr. O. W. Roberts,	Sturgis, Miss.	
Dr. W.E.Murphy,	Sturgis, Miss.	
Dr. D.H.Fondren,	Maben, Miss.	
Dr. C.B. Mitchell,	State College, Miss.	
Dr. C.R.Dodds,	Starkville, Miss.	
Dr. F.B.Long,	Starkville, Miss.	
Dr.H.L.Scales,m	Starkville, Miss.	
Dr. J.W.Eckford,	Starkville, Miss.	
Dr. J.F. Eckford,	Starkville, Miss.	(County Health Officer)
Dr. F.E.Barr,	Starkville, Miss.	

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(1) County Health Nurse.

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Graduate Nurses in Oktibbeha County

Miss Marie Long

Miss Beatrice Kames

Mrs. Hubert Nowell

Mrs. Sumpter Camp

Mrs. Louise Webber (County Health Nurse)

Miss Luvenia Henderson (Nurse at College Hospital)

Mrs. Robert Cunningham

Hospitals

Oktibbeha Hospital, Starkville, Miss.

J. Z. George Memorial Hospital, State College, Miss.

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY. HEALTH

The greatest tragedy of the world was the Influenza Epidemic. State College had a training camp of several hundred soldiers when the epidemic broke out both in the city of Starkville and among the soldiers. Hundreds died while every aid was being rendered for the sick. The sick filled every available space.

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Acts of the Legislature or Legislative statutes from 1877 to date relative to health.

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4.
Manuscripts and excerpts from early papers, secured from local citizens.

5.
Conferences with local physicians.

6.
Carroll's Historical Sketches of Oktibbeha County.

7.
Yellow Fever Epidemic was taken from the report of the A. & M. College, Mississippi., given by the president 1898, and from local citizens who served on the "shot gun" quarentine.

8.
Cushman's History of the Choctaw Indians.

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Early in this century, the forward thinking men and women interested in farming began to advocate a greater interest, on the parm of the farmers, in growing more corn and hogs. Bill Arp, in the Atlanta Constitution, gave great interest in advocating more "hog and hominy" for every farm home. Soon the College Agricultural Department began to promote this idea among the farmers of this county and throughout the State. The press then took up the cause by calling attention of the farmers that we were raising more cotton to buy more corn and meat in order that we might raise more cotton, and thus continue the endless chain of poverty. The press advocated more corn for home use and for cattle. The "live-at-home" idea began to take root among the better farmers. The college advocated more poultry, more cows, more hogs; and then more home grown feed.

In 1908, Supt. W.H.Miller, catching the spirit of the educational world, sent out the following letter to the school boys of Oktibbeha County. "Mississippi; a great Agricultural State ; her future glory and prosperity will always be linked with those who till the soil. It is my ernest desire to assist the boys in every community of the county to organize a Farmer Boys' Corn Club for the improvement of farm life, and for the study of the production of corn, and cotton and other farm

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(1) Report of Department of Agriculture,- A. & M. College- 1900
(2) East Mississippi Times- 1908
R.C.Morris, Historian

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produce with best results. Talk this matter over with your teachers and parents and, with their consent, send your name and address to me along with other boys, as a member of this club. This should be done at once, so that I may complete arrangements for our meeting on Saturday December the fifth.

This work as being done in many of the progressive sections of our country. It is full of interest-instructive and profitable. It will be of no expense to members of the club and I feel that boys of the county will enter heartily into the plan which is about as follows:

1. Those who join the club are to meet at the Court house in Starkville on Saturday, December the fifth, to perfect the organization. At this meeting experts on the growing of these products will address the members of the club and others present, on the testing of seed, preparing the soil, cultivation of the crop etc. Literature and some seeded varieties of seed will be distributed to the members of the club at the proper time.
2. Each member will be expected to lay off a plot of ground of half an acre, prepare the soil, plant and cultivate the crop under the rules of the club to be announced at the meeting. Every boy will be expected to grow

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Ibid

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either corn or cotton. 3. Next fall, at some suitable time, we will have another meeting for the purpose of exhibiting the products and awarding the prizes to the winners. Prizes will be offered for the great yield per acre, the best developed stalk, the largest ears or bolls, and the best exhibition of corn or cotton. You are advised to take this matter up at once and report. For further information, address me at Starkville, Miss.

Yours sincerely, W.H.Miller."

This letter was written in November, 1908 but outside of its publication in the local papers, no further mention of the project was ever made by the press of the county. However, in the same issue an article appeared which reads in part as follows: "In these days of low priced cotton, the cotton grower, whether he be a small or large planter, cannot do better than to sow down several acres of his land this month to small grain, either oats, or rye, or wheat. Any man who puts the burden of his crop largely to cotton will never be able to become independent. He will always be a slave to the credit system. Every farmer of the county knows this to be true, and why a larger majority of them do not adopt a more extended system of diversification is one of the unexplainable things of the times." Supt. Miller had his initial meeting at the court house as advertised and organized with 180 "bright", enthusiastic boys who will be heard from

(1) Starkville News-1908

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in the fall when the crops are gathered and when their fathers see the large yield to the acre and the fine ears of corn displayed next fall in the court house yard, they will want to know of their sons' By what method of planting and cultivation did you accomplish this result'?"

The idea had grown so fast since Supt. W.H.Smith had organized his first club in Holmes county in 1907, that a committee consisting of Commissioner of Agriculture, H.E.Blakesles, Prof. E.R.Loyd, of the A. & M. College, A.S.Mehrarg of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D.C. and W.H. Smith, Superintendent of Education of Holmes County met with the State Superintendent, J.N.Powers and made the foblowing recommendations to the county superintendents concerning the School Boys' Experiment Clubs. This is done on the request from all parts of the state for suggestions and plans for organizing clubs.

Purposes-

Believing that an agricultural people should have practical and systematic instruction along agricultural lines and that such organizations among school boys will stimulate interest in the development of our wonderful resources and awaken greater interest in popular education, the committee suggest the following as some of the purposes of the organizations:

1. To aid, through practical demonstration work, the State Agricultural and Mechanical College and the Extension Department at Washington in reaching

(1) State Superintendent Report- 1907
(2) State Superintendent Report- 1908

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the masses of the people, with their extension work.

2. To make farm life more attractive and farm life more profitable,

3. To make the study of agriculture in the public schools more practical and interesting.

4. To make the rich rural environment of the child minister to its education.

5. To enable the people by making them more prosperous, to take better advantage of their public schools.

6. To encourage soil study, soil improvment, better cultivation, seed selection etc.

7. To enforce the idea that farmers need as thorough mental training as professional people.

County Superintendents who had already given the club work a trial were enthusiastic over the results obtained.

On the recommendation of the committee and the county superintendents over the state, the Legislature then in session, passed an act enabling the Boards of Supervisors to offer prizes to boys clubs not to exceed fifty dollars. This was to stimulate additional interest on the part of the cluhs. Supt. Miller, immediately took advantage of this law and secured a donation of fifty dollars from the Board of Supervisors of this county. Merchants were then called upon and farm implement concerns joined to make a considerable prize list for the fall of 1909.

Ibid

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Mr.H.E.Blakeslee, Commissioner of Agriculture at Jackson then took the matter up with State Fair Association and got the following prizes awarded for club work:

For the best general exhibit of corn by a boys corn club:

First prize -----$40.00; Second prize, $30.00; Third prize, $20.00.

For the best ten ears exhibited by any member of a boys corn club:

First prize, $10.00; Second prize, $6.00; Third prize, $4.00.

Provided that twelve or more boys representing the corn clubs and not more than three from any one county are on hand to contest. A thoroughly competent judge will be secured to pass upon the exhibits. It was recommended that free tickets be offered to winning teams and the State Fair Association offered free tickets to three winners from each county. Ofcourse all these offers were immediately sent on to the various schools who were promoting the work and to the clubs at their regular meetings in the court house.

In May of 1909 Supt. Miller had the offer from Dr. S.A.Knapp of the U.S. Department of Agriculture stating that he would pay $2.00 per bushel to the boy producing the most profitable acre of corn in Mississippi and also offered a free trip to Washington with all expenses paid for one week. These were the requirements: The contestant must belong to a regularly organized Corn Club in one of the counties that is affiliated with the Dept. of Agriculture and his plat must be worked according to Dr. Knapp's instructions.

In spite of all this publicity on the part of the Department of Education

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(1) Report of Commissioner of Agriculture- 1908.
(2) Report of the State Fair Association.-1908

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and the college, neither papers made any editorial comment on the program nor did the County Fair committee mention it in their broad side advertisements in the fall. The Fair had on a Big Baby Show, A Balloon Ascension, and a fine stock exhibit for the college, Horse races and a Floral Parade with scores of prizes. Anyway, Supt. Miller had his prize list well in hand and in some manner, the Fair Committee discovered his program and offered him space which he gladly accepted. The year had been unusually bad through drought, etc. The following reports was published by Supt. Miller after the County Fair. Considering the many discouragements and drawbacks, the Corn Club Boys had this year, they made a fine showing at the fair. There were 35 exhibits.-------the efforts had been worth much and the lessons they had learned in preparing the land, cultivating the corn and then in judging and selecting the corn have been of incalculable benefit to them."He urged every boy from ten to sixteen years of age to become members of the club another year with the assurance that the prizes would be more numerous and the opportunity much greater. He assured the members of the wide interest on the part of both Federal and State Authorities in the work of t the clubs. The following prize winners were announced for that fall-1909.

Best Ten Ears Of Corn.

First Joe Buckner-----$25.00; Second prize, Westmoland Wofford, $15.00; Third prize, Oscar Butler, 20th Century Corn Planter; Fourth prize, Maxwell Crow, $10.00; Fifth prize, Curtis McCreight, Rastus Harrow;

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(1) Starkville News-1909
(2) County Fair Bulletin-1909
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Best Five Ears-
First, Maxwell Crow, 1000 pounds of fertilizer;

Best Shelled bushel of Mosby Corn, First, Frank Bell; Harrow;

Second, Claud McCreight, 1000 pounds of Fertilizer; Third, J.A.Fulgham, Six Bath Towels;

Best One Ear-

First- Dervy McReynolds, 500 hundred pounds of Fertilizer; Second, Claud McCreight, Pair of Shoes; Third, Curtis McCright, 2000 pounds of fertilizer;

Largest Yield to 1/2 acre

First, Curtis McCright, 2000 pounds of fertilizer.

Supt. Miller was highly appreciative of the cooperation received and heldd the awards in his office for some time in the event the boys might like to enter the contest then offered at the State Fair for just such Club work. He called the attention of the boys to the fact that there were some valuable prizes offered at the Fair and urged them to enter their winning prizes.

In November of 1909, Supt. Miller addressed a circular letter to the teachers of the schools of the county requesting them to canvass the boys of their schools in view of enrolling them in the club work for next year, stating that there would be a much greater number of prizes offered next year than were offered this year, and they will be well worth striving for. He called the attention of the boys to the fact that they had an unusual unfavorable season but in spite of it they had made a very creditable showing and assured them of better luck next time. Immediately Supt. Miller began to give thought to

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(1) East Mississippi Times-November 1909.
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the proper use of the larger yield of corn that was sure to come with the improved methods of cultivation, fertilization, and seed and arrived at the idea of a Pig Club to be organized in conjunction with the Corn Club. He immediately wrote the Departmant of Agriculture at Washington, D.C. Expecting the whole hearted cooperation of this group of advanced scientists as they had shown much interest during the previous year in the Corn Club work; but for some reason he was unable to get any cooperation but in spite of this lack of interest, he forged ahead with the organization among his corn club members in the public schools of the county. Prizes of 25, 12.50, 7.60, and 5 dollars were being offered in reward of the successful efforts of the boys. The contest consisted in rearing and feeding a pure bred pig in such a way as will make it produce the largest average gain of weight for each day of its life. The pig had to be pure bred and registered and entered by April the first 1910. Prof. P.P.Garner was employed as Agent in Charge of Boys' demonstration work by the college and he wrote Supt. Miller on January the 6, 1910 as follows:

" I have been noticing what you have been doing in Oktibbeha County and I wish to congratulate you. I saw your nice exhibit of corn at the State Fair; and I have gone very thoroughly into your plan for a pure-bred pig raising contest, and I give it my unqualified endorsement. I hope you will be able soon to inaugurate a poultry-raising contest among the girls. We must keep

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(1) Report of College- 1910.

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Oktibbeha in the lead, for she logically belongs there."
Dr. Tate Butler, then at the State College came out with the following statement: Hog and Hominy"the Most Important question to the people. of Mississippi. " To Oktibbeha County and its Superintendent of Education , Mr. W.H.Miller belongs the credit and honor of starting a unique movement for the encouragement of stock raising among the school boys of the county. It is Oktibbeha County Boys' Pig Club."During the year the boys will be called together several times and given instructions regarding the most improved methods of feeding and managemnet. The club has already a large membership, and the interest is increasing. If other counties will fall in and organize the boys in this line of work, Mississippi would soon get into position to raise more "hog and hominy?"
The idea took and swept like wild fire over the state andnation during the next two years. Supt. Miller was very mush chagrined to see the Department of Agriculture at Washington coming out with instructions for the Pig Clubs as though the idea was promoted by the department. The superintendent of the county was not mentioned as the originator of the program. This was in keeping with the treatment rendered to Col.Muldrow as a member of the Congress from this district, he offered a bill for the advancement of the Bureau of Agriculture as it was at that time, to a regular Department with a member in the President's cabinet. The bill was sent tot the committee and held there

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(1) Congressional Records - 1876-1877- 45 Congress.

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in spite of all Mr. Muldrow could do. It finally came out re-organized and re-named and passed. To Col. Muldrow, the credit belongs. To Supt. Miller, the credit belongs. The Meridian Dispatch came out in an editorial stating that a movement that means much to the agricultural interest of the state has just been inaggurated in Oktibbeha County, and the plan is well worth trying in all counties of the state. The Collins Commercial writes "To Prof. Miller, Superintendent of Education of Oktibbeha County belongs the credit of inaugurating the initial movement----it is no more or less than the Oktibbeha Boys' Pig Club'.# In March 1910, the East Mississippi Times came out with the following: A PUBLIC BENEFACTOR.

Superintendent of Education, W.H.Miller, who has for the past two years worked so energetically and successfully to promote the Boys Corn Club in this county recently organized a new kindof juvenile agricultural club which bids fair to become more conducive to prosperity than corn clubs. We have reference to the Boys' Pig Club which was organized by Mr. Miller in this county. Now the idea is spreading over the state and adjoining states. The boys will demonstrate what can be done and the fathers will profit their example."

During the Teachers' Summer School held at the College during the summer of 1910, Prof. P.P.Garner, employed a specialist in "corn judging". This was Mr. Hudson. This proved very helpful to all interested but showed how widely the club idea had spread as an educational means of promoting scientific agriculture. Oktibbeha County Fair Association had an entire

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(1) Report of the President of the College- 1910.
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page in their Catalogue for 1910 given to prizes for the Oktibbeha County Corn Club. "A list of eight substantial prizes were offered as a "substantial encouragemnet for the Boys". These consisted of fertilizers, trousers, poultry fending, plows, planters, etc. No mention was made of the Pig Club as it was then in the making but Supt. Miller had provided prizes and the the October issue of the Times we have the following: The exhibition of pigs by the Boys and Girls Club, an organization recently inaugurated by Superintendent of Education, W.H.Miller, was one of the finest exhibitions of pigs ever seen at this or any other fair. This exhibition caused general comment. The first prize of $25.00 for the best pig was awarded to Nannie Sikes and the second prize of $12.50, to Hugh Sikes.

Supt. Miller followed this successful showing at the County Fair with a fine inspiring letter addressed to the club members in the various schools of the county. " I want to take this means of congratulating you for the interest you have taken in this work and the magnificent showing made. Your exhibits received more praise than any other department at the fair grounds. The fine hogs, nicely selected corn and pig yields as shown by you would have done credit to grown-up farmers with years of experience. But you can still do better. Begin now to prepare your ground for next year. A proper preparation of the soil before planting is more than half the battle. Lets

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have more than 150 bushels to the acre. You can do it; select your seed with care. Remember the instructions you have had by lecture and by bulletins along this line.------ I want each boy to join the Pig Club. There will be two classes of entries- registered and unregistered. The club members were notified that $85.00 had been subscribed for prizes and much more was being offered. One hundred members were suggested for the next year. Plans for the work and schedule of prizes was to be sent out soon. During the summer a program of club work was made out and when the schools opened a full program of club work had been in operation during the vacation. The Pig Club was made co-educational with both boys and girls competing. A chicken club was organized for girls, and the boys Corn Club continued to function. On the premium list of the Oktibbeha County Fair Association we find a full schedule with prizes for all three clubs as follows:

Oktibbeha County school boys'and girls' Pig Club.

Pure Bred Hogs-

Largest daily gain in weight:-

First prize, $25.00; Second prize, $12.50; Third prize, $7.50; and Fourth prize, $5.00.

The next group was:

Grade Hogs.

Largest daily gain in weight:

First prize, $15.00; Second prize, $10.00; Third prize, $5.00 etc.

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(1)Oktibbeha County Fair Association-1910.

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Another group of prizes were for the best pure bred hogs judged by the usual show yard standards. Then should boys or girls not win in any of the prizes for the Pig Clubs, they might contest for the regular prizes offered by the Fair Association for pure bred registered swine.

In the girls chicken club, all entries must be pure bred chickens. Prizes were offered on the basis of profits on the yard of five hens and one rooster; best trio; best single cockerel; best single pullet. The corn club was again featured, prizes being offered for the best half-acre and the best two ears of any variety. A prize of $25.00 was offered for the largest yield, and $15.00 and $10.00 in order for the second and third yields, per half-acre. Due to the fact that files of the county press was not kept for 1911, we are unable to determine who were winners of the prizes during the County Fair in the fall of that year.

In 1912, a tomato club was organized for the girls, and prizes were offered by the Board of Supervisors, for all club work, under the supervision of the county superintendent of education. Supt. Edgar Green was taken sick and later died while serving, He was succedded by his wife and Prof. C.E.Scroggins. This resulted in some disorganization during the year but in 1913, under Supt. Scroggins, the work was re-organized and the Board of Supervisors offered the following prizes which were to be administered by

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(1) Board of Supervisors- 1913.

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the County Superintendent of Education:

$75.00 was appropriated for the Tomato Club girls, fifty dollars, for Corn Club, and fifty dollars for Pig Clubs. The same to be paid out of the county treasury on the certificate of the County Superintendent of Education. One unfortunate event occurred at this date that materially hindered the work of the clubs. This was the disorganization of the County Fair with its wide publicity, then too, the Agricultural High School had its origin, to a great extent, to the work of these clubs in scientific agriculture. The citizens of the county in this manner began to recognize the value of scientific training in agriculture. This school was to give specific training to the boys and girls of the county in this much needed field of education. The school was organized during the administration of Superintendent Miller and began at once to take over the Boys and Girls Club work into its own curriculum. On November 28, the East Mississippi Times came out with an explanatory of the movement-rather satirical-The Hog Club movement is not a political move, as its name would seem to indicate. Neither does it refer to the men who refuse to give up their seats to ladies, nor to the merchants who overcharges for their goods, nor to the men who spit tobacco juice all over the side-walks, but it is a movemant to get the boys of Mississippi to raise more hogs and less devil--

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(1) East Mississippi Times- 1913.

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ment". Miss Susie V. Powell had begun the Tomato Club Program in 1910 in her school in Lincoln County but in 1911 was assigned to the work for the entire state. Under her supervision, the work was put into operation in this county. In 1915, she came to the college when the entire extension force was transferred from Jackson to the College. At that time the county had no County Home Demonstration Agent but, through Miss Powell, some of the work was put on through our County Superintendent of Education. The Board of Supervisors were quick to see its value and thus made the above appropriation for the Tomato Clubs. About the opening of the present century Mr. J.C.Fondren of Maben was serving as county agent under the Rockefeller Foundation for Webster and Oktibbeha Counties. After this, Mr. Cunningham was serving as agent for the county and city as Business Agent but not under the supervision of the Extension Work of the State. He acted as advance man for the regular trained man soon to be employed by the Board of Supervisors under the direction of the Extension Department headed by W.S.Wilson. Mr. J.T.West followed Mr. Cunningham as county agent under the auspices of the Extension Department, who was in turn, followed by Mr.C.B. Barrett. In 1917, under the stress of war conditions, the Mississippi Times comes to the front seeking the reorganization of the County Fair, emphasizing the influence of the competition as a force which will carry

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Local Press-1915
(2) Mississippi Times-1917.

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one along the road of successful production. The friendly rivalry for premiums will spur every one to his best efforts. The Fair was never reorganized so the work was taken over entirely by the county agents beginning with 1916 and 1917.

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9.
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Almost as soon as Oktibbeha County was oeganized and the various Protestant churches were well established the early citizenship began to feel the need of the social and sympathetic advantages of the fraternal organizations back at the old home, but due to distance, these were not available; so dispensations and charters were soon secured from mother organizations. In 1846, eight years after Thos. Wildey had organized the first Odd Fellows Lodge in the state, at Natches, a lodge was organized in the town of Starkville.

Ridgely Lodge No. 22.

This Lodge was first located on the South side of Main street on the second floor of the Davenport and McDowell Drug Store, near the Bell Cafe. This was a frame structure and during the Carpet Bag Regime, it was destroyed by the great fire which swept the town clear of practically all buildings- fifty two in all. During all these vicissitudes of fire, sickness, and negro domination this lodge kept its organization and at each of these visitations of disaster, its treasury was emptied in the service of humanity. In 1894, in conjunction with the Masonic Lodge two splendid big brick buildings were constructed just across the street from the court house, but due to inaccessibility, these buildings were sold and disbanded. Today this lodge owns its own building in the business section of the city. Some of the early members of this organization found on the panel of "OUR HONORED DEAD" are:- H.C.Powers, R.R.Butler, M.L.Owen, L. Martin, A Tannerbaum, S.Pierce, C.A.Hogan, J.J.Yeates, J.[illegible].Stillman, S. Fried, W.N.Nash, who was Grand Master in 1890,

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(1) Data secured from the Odd Fellows Lodge, Starkville, Miss.,
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J.S.Woodward, F.E.Gottseelig. Most of these were outstanding of the local and State organizationsbut as the original Charter was destroyed in the "great fire" of 1875, it is impossible to ascertain who were the charter members of this splendid organization.

Masons-

Two years later, in 1848, the Masons were granted a charter for the "Oktibbeha Lodge"to be organized at Starkville, Mississippi. It was located on the third floor of the Davenport and McDowell drug store on the South side of Main street just above the Odd Fellows. The name of this lodge was almost immediately changed and chartered as the Abert Lodge No. 89. The charter was granted by the Grand Secretary at Natches, Mississippi in Anno Lucis 5848, A.D. 1848, on the application of Wm. R.Cannon, J. Pearson Smith, R.A.Lampkin, John H. Gay, W.A.Thompson, and Thomas E. Cannon. The Charter appointed William R. Cannon, W.M. J.Pearson Smith, and R.A.Lampkin S.W. and J.W. respectively; until the lodge could have its regular election of officers. The following charter members then had an election:- O.L.Nash, J.Pearson Smith, R.A.Lampkin, R.C.Love, Thomas Tabb, J.G.Carlisle, J.W.May, Z.P.Alexander, H.J.Pearson, G.A.Battle, T.W.Dillard, Marion Stinnit, D.A. Walton, and J.H.Westbrook. These men then elected the following officers as the first officers of the Lodge:- William R.Cannon, W.M.; Simon Muldrow, S.W.

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(1) Interview with Mr. W.F.Pierce, Starkville, Miss.,
(2) Manuscript furnished by the Grand Sec't'y of the Masonic Lodge of Miss., through Mr. S.E.Hawkins.
(3) Minutes of the Grand Lodge furnished by Mr. S.E.Hawkins.

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S.W.Easley, J.W.; Moses I. Westbrook, Treasurer; William G. Lampkin, Sect'y,; John T. Freeman, S.D.; Alexander Walker, J.D.; and Charles Dibrell, Sentinel and Tyler. The following degrees were conferred during 1848:-

Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.
J.P.Smith	J.P.Smith	J.P.Smith
A.W.Lampkin	A.W.Lampkin	A.W.Lampkin
R.C.Love	R.C.Love	R.C.Love
Thomas Tabb	Thomas Tabb	Thomas Tabb
J.G.Carlisle	J.G.Carlisle	J.G.Carlisle
J.W.May	J.W.May	J.W.May
Z.P.McAlexander	Z.P.McAlexander	Z.P.McAlexander
H.J.Pearson	H.J.Pearson	H.J.Pearson
Jos. Johnson	J.Johnson	J.Johnson
G.A.Batte	G.A.Batte	G.A.Batte
T.W.Dillard	T.W.Dillard	T.W.Dillard
M.Stinnet	M. Stinnet	M. Stinnet
D.A.Walton	D.A.Walton	D.A.Walton
J.H.Westbrook	J.H.Westbrook	J.H.Westbrook
Oats Caroway	Oats Caroway	Oats Caroway
David Lawrence	D.Lawrence	
H.D.Kinard	L.H.McGowen	

Ibid

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Initiated	Passed
F.G.Brown	Thomas H. Fields
L.H.McGowen	S.W.Donthan
James Pearson	
Jas. J. Riddle	
Thomas J. Fields	
John Phillips	
S.W.Donthan	
Charles R. Gordon	

This Lodge went through the same trying disasters of fire, disease, and political treachery mentioned in our study of the Odd Fellows. Its first meeting place was destroyed by the Great fire in 1875 but its membership went to work at once and by 1894 in conjunction with the Odd Fellows bought and constructed two new buildings just across the street from the county court house. These buildings served until about 1908 when an ordinance was passed by the Board of Alderman of the City, requiring all entrances to second story buildings to be constructed within the building. This necessitated the entrance of these buildings

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(1) Interview with older citizens

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which were built on the side walks be taken down, so the lodges sold their buildings for business houses, and located at their present sites. The new brick buildings erected by the Masons was destroyed by a fire in 1830. This splendid organization then went to work and now have one of the best structures in the State with sufficient revenues derived from rentals to meet all obligations. Its membership reaches many of the best citizens of the entire community.

Annual Return of Abert Lodge No. 89, For Dec.,27, A.D.1860. just prior to the Civil War:-

Officers

1 W...Dunn, P. M.,	W.M. 5	George H. Owen,	Secretary.
2 John McCaughey,	S.W. 6	John L. Parham,	S.D.
3 S.R.Westmoreland,	J.W. 7	Albion Ames,	J.D.
4 W.J.James,	Treasurer, 8	W.F.Yeargar,	S.and Tyler.

Members.

9 Billington,John	19 Jolly, C.	28 Pate, F.S.
10 Bishop, W.C.	20 Jordan C.R.	29 Rogers, W.M.
11 Bealle, F.	21 James John W.	30 Randolph, J.T.
12 Cole, Jas.	22 Kniffin,Ward	31 Randle, J.W.
13 Collier, John R.	23 Lockhart, W.T.	32 Sellers, T.G.
14 Craig, Robert	24 Lampkin, R.A.	33 Sullivan, Charles.
15 Cannon R.L.	25 Lampkin, W.G.	34 Sudduth, B.P.

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(1) Lodge minutes
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Members

16 Ellis, R.W.	26 Montgomery, D.F.	35 Tabb, Thos.
17 Graves, James L.	27 Nash A.N.	36 Tabb, W.L.
18 Hinkle Albert		

Degree Conferred

Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.
1 F.S.Pate,	1 Sam McIlwain,	1 F.S.Pate
2 F. Beall,	2 Coleman Jolly,	2 Coleman, Jolly
3 Ward Kiffin,	3 F.S.Pate,	3 F.Beall,
4 Robt. L. Cannon,	4 F.Beall,	4 W.Kiffin,
5 E.W.Gandy,	5 Ward Kiffin,	5 Robt. L.Cannon,
6 J.H.Alston,	6 Robt, L. Cannon,	6 J.W.Randle,
7 D.F.Owen,	7 J.W.Randle,	
8 J.W.Randle,		
9 W.L.Cromwell,		
10 H.W.Doss,		
11 Jas. L. Boyd,		
12 Jas. P. Hogan,		
13 W.L.Weathersby,		
14 J.N.Gilmore,		

Ibid

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Admitted.--- Albert Hinkle, W.L.Tabb.

Demitted.---S.M.Goldbeck, S.M.Fields, Jas. M. May, Jas.C.Rogers, W. L.Thompson, Thos. W. Dillard.

Reinstated.--Thos. W.Dillard.

Died.--W.W.Montfrow.

Dues to the Grand Lodge.

For 76 Officers and Members, at 75 cents each.----------$57.00

For 27 Degrees conferred, at $1.00 each,----------$27.00

For Thos. W.Dillards dues, last year,----------75-$54.75

OFFICERS FOR THE PRESENT YEAR.

1	Chas.R.Jordan,	W.M. 5	F.Beall,	Secretary.
2	T.G.Sellers,	S.W. 6	-------	S.D.
3	Jno. L.Parham,	J.W. 7	A.N.Nash,	J.D.
4	W.S.James,	Treasurer.	F.E.Pate,	S. and Tyler.

I certify the foregoing returns to be correct;

W.H.GUNN? Master.

Attest: Geo.M.Owen, Secretary.

Ibid

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Big Creek Lodge--

The second Masonic Lodge to be organized in Oktibbeha County was the Big Creek Lodge No. 204 at Wiggins Chapel, Whitefield. This charter was granted in 1856 but was recalled and annulled in 1872. It was then restored in 1873 and continued in active operation until February 2,1932.

Its first officers were R.C.Love, Master; J.W.Bond, Senior Warden; J.J.Henry, Junior Wardan; J.H.Steele, Treasurer; Peter Quinn, Secretary; T.P.Montgomery, Senior Deacon; Milledge Turner, Junior Deacon; Nathan Turkeynet, Tyler. Other members of the original membership were: C.G.Nimoo R.Fulgham, John Richie, R.Friday, J.W.Edwards, L.S.Scott, James B. Long, During the year the following Degrees were conferred:

Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.
John Richie	John Richie	John Richie
A.J.Hutchinson	A.J.Hutchonson	A.J.Hutchinson
R.Friday	R.Friday	R.Friday
L.S.Scott	L.S.Scott	L.S.Scott
James B. Long	James Long	James Long
Willie Allen	Willis Allen	R.Fulgham
G.B.Walker	G.B.Walker	
F.Sansing	F.Sansing	
	R.Fulgham	

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(1) Lodge Minutes

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Whitefield.

This organization was originally at Big Creek and Wiggins' Chapel, the second Lodge as mentioned above. A dispensation for the organization of a asonic Lodge at Whitefield was granted in 1873. It was number 365. A charter was issued in 1874 and the lodge remained active until 1893. A dispensation was issued in 1873 to change the location of the lodge to Chestnut Grove and a charter was then granted in 1894. The lodge began a new work in this community and remained active for several years. The lodge was then removed to Sturgis and is an active organization. It is now Sturgis Lodge No. 365 since 1913.

Officers,

E.D.Hyde,	Master	J.W.Edwards,	Secretary
.W.Sharp,	Senior Warden	O.J.Hollis	Senior Deacon
N.Q.Adams,	Junior Warden	W.T.Weeks ,	Junior Deacon
F.F.Sharp,	Treasurer	G.M.Carroll,	Tyler

Members.

W.T.Adams
J.J.Bailey
W.G.Bullington
J.W.Edwards
L.M.Landrum
Jonethan Scarbrough
William Shaw
S.H.Shaw

Ibid

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William Edwards
D.P.Foster
S.J.Lowery
Daniel C. Wallace

Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.
Jonathan Scarbrough	Jonathan Scarbrough	William Edwards
L. M. Landrum	John Shaw	Jonathan Scarbrough
William Edwards	William T. Adams	W.T.Adams
W.G.Bullington	D.P.Foster	W.G.Bullington
William T. Adams	L.M.Landrum	William Shaw
D.P.Foster	William Edwards	Daniel C. Wallace
Daniel C. Wallace	Daniel Burnett	S.H.Shaw
Daniel Burnett	William Shaw	D.P.Foster and John Shaw.
S.H.Shaw	W.G.Bullington	
William Shaw	S.H.Shaw	
Green Woodward		
T.P.Stanton.		

Ibid

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Brooks Lodge---

The Brooks Lodge No. 262, of Choctaw Agency was given a dispensation on March 4, 1861 but no record of its charter is found by the Grand Lodge. The following is the list of officers:for 1869 and 1870,,the members and Degrees conferred in 1869 of Brooks No.262, Choctaw Agency.

Charter Members.

B.J.Brown	A.J.Halbert
S.R.Bunn	George Jackson
W.H.Carpenter	A.L.Lide
C.Carpenter	H.H.Lincecum
R.A.Crump	Samuel McIlwain
J.L.Crigler	H.D.Nichols
J.W.Davis	Joseph Oliver
B.Eastis	J.B.Perkins
T.G.Gray	G.W.Porter
J.T.Hollenshed	J.L.Ryan
J.M.Sandifer	J.S.Tucker
P. White	

Initiated	Passed	Raised
M.W.Williams	M.W.Williams	B.M.Walker

Demitted. E.Gaston, W.M. Kee, P.H.Selby, A.H.Ridley, B.M.Walker.

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(1) Lodge Minutes
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Officers for 1869.

J.M. Brooks,	W.M.	D.A.Flournoy	Secretary
E.Redus	S.W.	D.W.Outlaw	S.D.
J.L.Crigler	J.W.	F.B.Roberts	J.D.
M. Mims	Treasurer.	B.S.Selby	Tyler.

Officers for 1870.

E. Redus	W.M.	A.S.Lide	Secretary.
J.M.Brooks	S.W.	J.L.Crigler	S.D.
J.W.Davis	J.W.	B.S.Selby	J.D.
F.B.Roberts	Treasurer.	J.B.Perkins	

Oktibbeha Lodge No.251, Tampico. Fourth Organized.

This Lodge was chartered in 1864 and arrested in 1918. The following were its officers and members. (See page 13)

This Lodge took the old name first given to Abert, No.89. It was then located in Oktibbeha County at Tampico, the location was later changed to Henryville, and still later to Cedar Bluff and still later in 1904 to Pheba, Mississippi. The dispensation for this Lodge was granted on March 11, 1861, but the charter was not granted until 1864. The Lodge is still at this date (1937) an active organization. It owns its own hall in the academic building of the Pheba Consolidated School. It has a large enrollment.

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Charter
Officers and Members.

T.P.Montgomery, Master	D.F.Ramsey, Senior Warden
John Clark, Junior Warden.	Joseph W.Joiner
Thomas Dillard	R.J.Johnson
George Justice	J.H.Wellingham
Thomas Strayhan	W.W.Goss
A.J.Rife	

Ibid

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The Double Springs Lodge No. 251--The third Masonic Organization.

The Double Springs Lodge was chartered January 22, 1861 and is still an active organization. In 1927 it was consolidated with the W.A.Roane Lodge No. 588 and continued the name Double Springs. The Charter members of this Lodge at its organization in 1861 were, L.P.Ramsey, Master; J.G.Bell, Senior Warden; W.A.Montz, Junior Warden; J.M.Bell, Treasurer; J.M.Watson, Sect.; G.W.Holland, Senior Deacon; John Henry, Junior Deacon; Wm.Adamson, Tyler. Other members were; O. Brewer, J.R.Ramsey, Jas. Steele. These names were taken from the original charter of the Lodge. The W.A.Roane Lodge was organized in 1923 with the following charter members: W.O.Kuykendall, H.J.Harpole, O.P.Breeland, W.E.Sherman, W.P.Harpole, Mack W. Stallings, W.C.Sanders, M.S.McLemore, B.F.Sanders, Its first Master was W.O.Kuykendall.

Annual Return of Double Springs Lodge (U.D.?)
For the year ending December 27,A.D. 1860.

Officers

1 L.P.Ramsey,	W.M.	5 J.M.Watson,	Secretary.
2 J.G.Bell,	S.W.	6 G.W.Holland,	S.D.
3 W.A.Monts,	J.W.	7 John Henry,	J.D.
4 J.M.Bell,	Treasurer.	8 Wm. Adamson,	S.and Tyler.

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MEMBERS.

9 O. Brewer. 10 Ramsey, J.R. 11 Steel, Jas.

Degrees Conferred.

	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.
1	J. W. Butler,	1 J. W. Butler,	1 J. W. Butler,
2	Andrew Hughes,	2 Andrew Hughes,	2 Wm. Fielding,
3	William Fielding,	3 William Fielding,	3 J. M. Glenn,
4	Greenwood, Durrette,	4 J. M. Glenn,	4 M. W. Arnold,
5	Fluette Wetherspoon,	5 J. H. Butler,	5
6	J. M. Glenn,	6 M. W. Arnold	
7	J. H. Butler,	7 J. M. Fielding,	
8	M. W. Arnold,		
9	J. M. Fielding,		
10	J. M. Quinn,		
11	E. D. H. Templeton,		

I Certify the foregoing Returns to be correct;

L. P. Ramsey, Master.

Attest: J. M. Watson, Secretary.

Ibid

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The Starkville Parent-Teachers Association.

The Starkville Parent-Teachers Association was organized in 1913 with Mrs. M.A. Saunders as its first president. It soon affiliated with the Miss Congress and through it with the National Congress of Mothers and Teachers.

Its purpose then as now, was to promote child welfare in the home, school, church, and community; to raise the standards of home life; to secure the passage of more adequate laws for the care and protection of children; to bring into closer relation home and school, to the end that parents and teachers may cooperate more intelligently in the training of the child, and to develope between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for every child the highest advantages in physical, mental, moral, and Spiritual education.

The Organization soon spread to every school of any importance in the county and became potent factors in promoting community interest in their schools. As a result, new libraries were enstalled, better equipment provided, and above all, a more regular attendance was secured all the year round. It gave the teachers an opportunity to study the home conditions and parental reactions under which their students had to work.

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(1) Starkville News 1912.

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Lectures were provided on health, home sanitation, child health, pre-school physical examinations for every child in the county. A group known as the Child Study Group was organized with this distinct purpose in view, resulting in many advantages being provided for poor children then unknown in the schools, such as hot lunches, milk, rest periods, and special promotions for the gifted child.

The Nocturn Music Club.

The Nocturn Music Club was organized in 1929 or 1930 when a group of music lovers got together for this purpose. Its Motto is to"Make our Community more Musical" and it is toward this goal that the club today is striving. Mississippi artists and those out of the State, on occasion, are presented in concert, for the benefit of the public at large. The lub has a regular printed program which includes occasional public prorams of local talent. With the coppsration of the College Y.M.C.A. the club is able to put on many lovely Sunday Musicals. It may be of interest to the public to know that some of the most active members of the organizations are men who have shown their love for music by their active participation. Each year the club follows the study course suggested by the National Federation of Music Clubs which includes the lives of famous composers,

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(1) Starkville Press. 1929

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Fundamentals of Music, American and European Classics. The club has many visitors at each meeting who "sit in" for the enjoyment of the excellent programs. It is open at all times to the public who may be interested "In Making our Community More Musical". At this writing Mrs.Wm. Portlock is President.

The American Legion Auxiliary.

The American Legion Auxiliary has for its purpose the same ideal of the National and County Legion-that of promoting the best Americanism. The Auxiliary was brought into active operation in 1925 and became post No. 13 of Oktibbeha County.

Besides the Ideal of Americanism, the post promotes National Defense, Child Welfare, Rehabilitation, Education of War Orphans, and aiding the sick soldiers who are now in the various hospitals. This organization has the selling of poppies or other flowers for the interest of sick children etc, in hand.

The present active president is Mrs. R.J.Sloan.

The American Legion has for its purpose the same ideal set forth by the Auxiliary and Mr. Wm. Portlock is the present president or Post Commander.

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(1) Starkville Press

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The Home and Garden Club.

The Home and Garden Club was organized in 1931 for the purpose of stimulating a knowledge and love of gardening, to aid in protecting our native trees and birds, and to encourage civic planting and yard beautification. Meeting of this club is usually held two times each month and its officers consists of a president, vice-president, and secretary, and treasurer. The club has served a very definite purpose in fostering community pride in beautifying the streets, yards, and homes of the city.

The Hic-a-sha-ba-ha- Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Hic-a-sha-ba-ha Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized in Starkville in 1910, October the eighth. The chief organizer of the Chapter was Mrs. W.L.Hutchinson, the first was Mrs. W.F.hand. The organization took its name from the Indian Village which means "Sweet-gum Springs". These springs are now dry but the location is well known in the city which is just west of the Court House. The Charter members of this chapter were: Miss Maria Ames, Carrie Bardwell, Stella Bardwell, Mrs.L.H. Ford, Rosa Eiland, W.F.Hand, J.C.Herbert, W.L.Hutchinson, Allie Montgomery, Miss Daisy Hogan, Mrs. H.L.Noel, A.W.Reynolds, D.A.Saunders, H.L.Scales, D.E.Slaughter, Miss Elizabeth Yearger, and Miss Donie Saunders.

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(1) Starkville Press
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The purpose of this organization is to promulgate the spirit of patriotism through the schools by emphasizing the study of the outstanding historic personages of both State and nation.

The Starkville Branch of the American Association of University Women was organized in 1931. To be eligible for membership one must be a graduate of a standard College or University, but women who have completed two years work in an approved institution may become an associate member. This organization is interested in the developement of women's education and of professional opportunities for women. The organization makes a series of studies of international affairs such as the Sino-Japanese situation, the League of Nations, Hitlerism, the Paris Peace Pact, and the Nine Power Treaty etc. Membership in the organization makes one a member of the National A.A.U.W. where one may take advantage of the cultural advantages of this organization in Washington, D.C.; it makes one a member of all International Units and gives similar advantages in foreign countries; makes one eligible for graduate fellowships; enables one to join Adult Education study groups which are organized under the supervision of specialists; gives its members the opportunity of meeting other University or College women with whom there is much in common.

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(1) Personal Interview

R.C.Morris, Historian

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The Sturgis Woman's Club.

The Sturgis Woman's Club has for its purpose the civic improvement of the town and school. The club meets once each month and devises ways and means of beautifying the school grounds by planting shrubbery, laying out drives and walks, and building athletic fields and play-grounds, and furnishing equipment for these fields. During the year the club sponsored one or two flower exhibits and gives much time to yard culture.

The Octoc Garden Club.

The Octoc Garden Club was organized in the home of Mrs. A Blockner in 1923 with twenty-two ladies as charter members. The first president was Mrs. J.D.Hartness. During the year the club was affiliated with the Society of Little Gardens. It took for its first project a club garden which was located at Vernon Church which had been landscaped with the assistance of Prof. A.B.McKay.

The Club meets now two times each month and has voted to federate with the Mississippi Federation of Womens Clubs and the American Rose Society. This club maintains a plant exchange among its members, has regular programs on home beautification and country roads landscaping, a cotton style show, together with an annual flower show usually in June. This show is usually put on display at the county court house where it attracts much attention. Prizes are offered for the best flower display. Much attention is now given to wild flowers of the county.

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(1) Starkville Press. 1923
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The Starkville Chapter of the Eastern Star.

The Starkville Chapter of the Eastern Star, known as the Elizabeth Chapter, number 73 was formed by Mrs. Elizabeth Beattie one of the most beloved and revered women our community has ever known. The Chapter was therefore, named the Elizabeth Chapter with its first matron an equally beloved woman in the person of Mrs. Bertha McGee Scales, who later served the State as Grand Matron and did much for the advancement of the local Order. The first Patron was our late esteemed fellow townsman, Mr. J.D.Deans.

This organization has at all times, been made up of the most worthy ladies of the community, representing among women the same spirit that govern the Masons in rendering service to their fellows. Since the date of its organization the women, like Ruth, have followed their Masonic Brothers in doing those good things to alleviate sickness and distress and to bring the spirit of comradship into their social relationship.

The Starkville Mother's Club.

The Starkville Mother's Club was organized in 1927 with Mrs. B.M.Walker, Jr. as its first president. It has now completed a five year course of study provided by the Twentieth Century Culture Association which is based on the Berle Self Culture series of books. Its motto is " Come Let Us Live With Our Children". And its aim is to help give each child "A sound Mind, Sound Morals, and a Sound Body." The local organization is both a study and a social

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(1) Manuscript by Miss Blumenfeld
(2) Starkville Press - 1927

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club. In addition to its reuglar study course, it has regular programs of lectures by authorities on subjects of interest. An annual feature of the club is a delightful music program. On occasions fathers' evenings have been provided. The idea of this club is that working together much more can be accomplished for the good of the home than working as a unit or family. Those members who have been active in the organization declare much good has been derived from the course of study provided and the scientific lectures delivered under its auspices.

The Neo-Cycle Club.

The Neo-Cycle Club was organized in 1907, just thirty years ago by one of Starkville's most estimable ladies, Mrs. A.W.Reynolds. The name was suggested by her fathee, the Reverend W.S.Harrison and the motto was suggested by Mrs. Reynolds. It is: "Seek not for praise, but seek to deserve it". As was stated by its founders, the club was conceived in the need of Starkville women-the need for a closer bond- that we might get a better insight into and a more intimate knowledge of every subject affecting the lives of its members-social, ethical, cultural, and domestic.

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(1) Starkville Press. 1907

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The club has promoted "The Town Beautiful" and with this end in view, has fostered the planting of trees, flowers, shrubbery, in the yards, and on the streets. It has contributed its part to better homes, to better music, and to better literature-altogether making a better atmosphere in which to live. The club stands,in the community, for virtue truth and morality. It is one of the oldest women's clubs i n the community, yet there is a great need for such an organization in the community in bringing about a closer fraternal attitude.

The Sessums Community Club.

The Sessums Community Club was first organized as a home demonstation club in 1916, having for its purpose the propotion of practical home-making in fostering scientific canning of vegetables, meats as well as occasional demonstrations by our agent. In 1921 the club voted to join the State Federation of Womens' Clubs and was at that time the second federated club in the county. Its first president was Mrs.J.C.keane. The club then began to make its own programs which consisted of one federated club program and one Home Demonstration program. This soon elicited the interest of every woman in the community and the club boasted of a membership of sixteen

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(1) Starkville Press. 1916

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teen enthusiastic women. It was then decided that a club house was necessary through the interest of the Board of Supervisors the abandoned school building was secured for this purpose. This enabled the club to have the entire family at certain programs and through the organization the needs of the entire community is filled. The building is now a possession of the club.

The Thalia Chapter of the Delphian Society.

The Thalia Chapter of the Delphian Society, In April, 1920, representatives of the National Organization came to Starkville and aroused the interest and enthusiasm of a group of women to organize a local chapter which they called the Thalia Chapter which was one of the three Grecian Graces and the Muse of Comedy. Since its organization this chapter has been an active unit of the National Organization. The course of study provided by the local chapter is composed of the following subjects: Epochs of Progress, The Drama, The History of Art, Modern Nations, Poetry and Music. The chapter year book provides suggestions for the study of each subject. No written

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(1) Starkville Press, 1920

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papers are prepared and all reports are given informally thus giving its members training to talk on their feet. The chapter has been a decided asset in the cultural developement of the community life.

The Starkville Rotary Club.

The Starkville Rotary Club, eithteen in number making up its charter membership, received its charter on April 20, 1937.
The purpose of the organization was to bring about a better fellowship among the men of the community and to aid in promoting all other organiations having similar purposes. West Point, Columbus, and Aberdeen, had already organized and members of these organizations, especially Columbus, aided materially in organizing the leaders in this community. Bolton Smith, Governof of this district also rendered valuable aid as did John M. Frierson of Columbus, Mississippi. Hon. John Frierson was called on by Governor Smith to present the charter to the Starkville Organization which he did in an appropriate address.

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(1) Starkville Press- Personal Interview

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More than fifty visiting Rotarians and their wives from Aberdeen, Columbus, and West Point were present and participated in the exercise that constituted the Starkville Club as a working organization with full Rotary Prerogatives. The Rotarian Civic Motto was then adopted.

"He profits most who profits best."

A splendid banquet was served by the ladies of the Eastern Star in the Masonic Hall.

The Charter members were; D.C.Hull, T.G.Golson, who was the first Secretary, R.K.Wier, Baker Harrington, Wirt Carpenter, W.W.Magruder, Dr. Jim Eckford, Hugh Critz, Boyd Smith, James Reed.

The Officials of the organization at this writing 1937 are: Mellville Johnson, Pres., Dallis Clark, Vice-president, Frank Welch, Secretary, Mr. Welch is the third secretary, and succedded Benton Farthree who served as sect., since Golson resigned.

The Oktibbeha County Post of the American Legion.

The Oktibbeha County Post of the American Legion was organized on August 29, 1919, with the following charter members:

B.M.Walker Jr., Guy Nason, B.S.Chambers, W.C.Howell, R.J.Goodman, S.E.Nash,

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(1) Manuscript furnished by Mr. Guy Nason.

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S.F.Blumenfeld, H.T.Powers, W.W.Magruder Jr., W.R.Sanders, Carl J. Carpenter, and W.B.Stringfellow. Its first Post Commander was B.M.WalkerJr., and the following have served since that date:

A.L.Goodman in 1920, H.S.Chilton 1921, Guy Nason 1922, C.C.McCall 1923, Ben F. Killman '24, T.H.Mosley '25, M.C.Howell '26, H.H.Kimbell '27, E.R.Bobbett '28, H.E.Wamsley '29, Lewis E. Long '30, J.P.Broadstreet '31 and '32, J.P.Hartness '33, T.H.Mosley '34, Walter Didlake '35, Mitchell Robinson '36, W.R.Portlock '37.

Hon. Ben F. Hillburn has served as State Commander.

In the early days of this organization it held all meetings in the building where the Security State Bank now stands. The organization in this county has always been an aggressive force in the promotion of Civic improvements. It has given its influence towards National defence and on Armistice Day it has promoted the spirit of peace through programs given to the public on this occasion. Locally it has encouraged Scouting among the younger boys of the community and was instrumental in building up the Morale of the young man-hood of the community.

Oktibbeha County Post ranked first in the National Convention recently held in New York City, as a result it headed the procession that marched through the streets of that city. The Legion was represented by Post Commander, W.R.Portlock and H.M.Maxwell.

Ibid

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By R.C.Morris

The Sorosis Club.

The aim of the Sorosis Club is an enrichment of life through a greater understanding of human relathonship; consequently the betterment of our community as individuals of various tastes it is the purpose of the club to have such varied programs or study and pleasure as all will appreciate and enjoy. Some of these studies are the American Home, Art, Citizenship, conservation, Education, Legislation, The Press and Publicity, Music and Public Welfare.

The Organization seeks to aid our community by participating in all worthwhile activities in so far as it is able. Thus it takes active interest in the Red Cross campaign, the needy and unfortunate and penal or corrective institutions. It has a kindness committee whose duty is to be "instant in season and out of season;" in offering a word of encouragement, a friendly greeting or a flower of sympathy and understanding to any who have need of human kindness. Its Motto is "O Lord Let Us Not Forget To Be Kind." Its membership has been active in all social service work in the community.

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(1) Starkville Press.

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Boy Scouts---

The Scout movement in Oktibbeha County, in a way, grew up without any public pronouncement, out of the boys' club of the City high school. In the spring 1923, a group of the Boy's HiY and other clubs under the guidance of Mr. Guy Nason held a camp at Camp Pushmataha on the river near West Point, Mississippi. At this camp Mr. Nason discovered some fine material for this work and on returning home, the organization was begun. The first meeting was held in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce. Some of the charter members of this group were: John Moore, John Edward Yeates, Roy Chester Jarnigan, Clarke Morris, Alfred Block, Wilburn Maxwell, John Page, M.H.Moore, Eustace Williams, Fred Price, William Herbert, Frank Hogan etc. Mr. Nason had as its Scout Master, Mr. Marshall McKell. It goes without saying, that very little actual progress was made under these conditions as no one knew the work, nor the equipment for carrying on the work. The boys had no uniforms and very few got of the work for the first advancement. Shortly after this Prof. C.E.Cain of State College became Scout Master and had the good fortune to secure the services of Mr.P. W.Miller, "Pip Miller" as the boys knew him. He was from Meridian. He was an Eagle Scout and knew the workf from the bottom up. He was the first leader in Starkville that knew anything about the fundamentals of Scouting. Troops 14 were actually organized and every man had a uniform and

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(1)

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY. ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

was actually engaged in passing Scout Tests for advancement toward the Eagle Scout Award. Another great aid, at this time was the interest of Col. R.E.Grinstead, a member of the Troupe Committee. At this time a troup was organized on the college campus, for the benefit of the boys, sons of college professors. This troupe however, did not grow due to the limited number on the campus. They then came into the city and organized with troupe 14. The Scouts then were offered a room in the basement of the Presbyterian Church and held their meetings there. The work progressed from year to year with young John Moore, John Edward Yeates, Roy Chester Jarnigan, and Clarke Morris as Patrol Leaders at one time or another. Starkville was handicapped in its early work in Scouting due to the fact that there was no scouting territory close at hand. A great deal of the scout program has to do with the "out of doors" where most of the work is done. It presumes many nights and days on the bank or IN some stream. Such was not available at that time.

In 1934 the scouts entered for the first time the Council Jamboree at Columbus, Mississippi and won. It was a beautiful loving cup which is still held by the troupe 14.

Shortly after this,troupe 14 became too large and it was divided into two-14 and 27 which are still functioning. During this time a scout hut was built by the business men of the city, headed by Dr. Long, on the land held by the American Legion. It remained a meeting place for several years but due to the distance it was from town, it was given up by the boys

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and the boys began meeting again in the basement of the churches of the city.

(1) Interview- Hon. Guy Nason.

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5-
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11-
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12-
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Page #1
Topic: Re: 4-H Club Boys
By: Kathleen Boyet
February 24, 1937

Lewis Henderson:

(1) Lewis Henderson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Henderson of Sessums, Mississippi. He was born at Hattiesburg, Mississippi July 9, 1905.

Lewis started to school at the age of seven and the first school he attended was at Sessums, Mississippi. He completed the eighth grade in this school and from there he went to Longview, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, in 1920. From this A. H. S. he was graduated in the year 1924. He went to Mississippi State College the following year and completed his four-year course in the year 1928 receiving his B. Sc. Degree in June. In October 1931, he received his M. S. degree in Agricultural Journalism at the University of Wisconsin. He also attended the Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

From 1921-1925, inclusive he was a member of the 4-H Club livestock judging team and was selected at Mississippi State College in August 1923. In September 1923, he was winner of the Individual First Place in Tri-States 4-H Club Livestock Judging Contest at Memphis, Tenn. From this, he won a free trip to Nat'l 4-H Club Congress at Chicago in December of the same year.

Lewis was coach and member of State Champion High School Live-stock judging team selected at State College in April 1924 to represent Oktibbeha County A. H. S. also coach of State

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1--Lewis Henderson, Philadelphia, Miss.--Interview, 2/22/37
Minnie Walker, Supervisor

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Champion High School Live-stock judging teams, 1925-1926 again representing Oktibbeha County A. H. S. this time winning permanent possession of Trophy.

In the Fall of 1924, Lewis won a $500 scholarship offered by L. K. Salsbury, then President of Delta & Pine Land Co. of Scott, Mississippi. This was a scholarship to Mississippi State College.

In 1927-28, Mr. Henderson was founder and editor of THE MAGNOLIA FARMER, student farm monthly magazine at Mississippi State College; president of Band Company, and President of the Philotechnic Literary Society during the session of 1927-28, at Mississippi State College, and life Secretary of the Class of 1928 (M.S.C.).

From May 1934 to June 1935, Mr. Henderson was editor of/ and publisher of THE WEEKLY STAR, of Starkville, Mississippi.

(Mr. Henderson's photo is enclosed)

Ibid.
Minnie Walker, Supervisor

(1) James Brooks, Jr.:

James Brooks, Jr. is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brooks. He is one of Oktibbeha County's own sons, having been born in this County in 1906 and has made his home here practically every since. His parents came to this county from Choctaw County. They are both living and make their home on a thriving farm located about 10 miles west of Starkville, on the Maben Road.

James' first school-days were spent in a school known as the Christopher School--from here he went to Longview A. H. S. While in this school, he made an enviable record in 4-H Club Work. He was a club member for two years, his first year was in 1923. It was in this year that he was fourth in the County in Corn production--producing 83 bushels to the acre, and second in corn exhibited. In 1924, in his High School work, he studied Live-stock Judging and entered the stock judging contest at Mississippi State College and won first place.

As a prize for winning the state championship, he was given a free trip to the Tri-State fair at Memphis, Tenn. and in this contest, he also won first place with a trip to the Live-stock show at Chicago as a prize. The free trip to Memphis was sponsored by Mr. Frank Fuller, Sect'y Tri-State Fair Ass'n of Memphis, Tenn. James' trip to Chicago, however, was unfortunate as he arrived in

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1--James Brooks, Jr., Pontotoc, Miss. --Interview, 1/25/37

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

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Chicago too late to judge in the National contest, but it was marked with many educational advantages. There were many sight-seeing trips, banquets, shows etc given in their honor.

From the Longview High School, James came to Mississippi State College where he majored in Agricultural Education and Science. While in this college, he was an outstanding athlete,he played foot-ball four years, making the Varsity team the last two years in College, and played in the positions of Tackle and End.

James graduated from Mississippi State College in 1929, and spent one summer at the University of Alabama doing post-graduate work in mathematics. His grades averaged upward of eighty per cent.

After graduation, he taught school and coached athletics for six years; two years at Chickasaw County Agricultural and four years as Principal and Athletic coach at Opp Alabama.

Mr. Brooks has been employed for the last eighteen months by the Government under Civil Service, as a Junior Soil Conservationist, making his head-quarters in Pontotoc, Mississippi.

Ibid.

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Jesse Josey:

(1) Jesse Josey is the son of Mrs. R. E. Josey of Starkville, Mississippi. His father died in April , 1933. Jesse is a member of a large family of brothers and sisters. He is 35 years old and was born in Oktibbeha County.

Jesse is a graduate of Oktibbeha County A. H. S. located at Longview, Miss. After his graduation from this school he attended College at Mississippi State College for three years. In college, he majored in Agricultural Engineering.

In the summer of 1925, Jesse won a trip to the Tri-State Fair at Memphis, Tenn. This was during the 4-H Club Congress at Miss. State College. From Memphis, he won a trip to the National Live-Stock Exposition at Chicago, Ill. Jesse reports many interesting events on the trip and in every way obtained educational advantages. The I. C. Railroad sponsored these trips.

In the Fall of 1936, Jesse was again fortunate to get a trip given to him. This time by the National Bottler's Convention of Chicago. The Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Starkville, Miss. was Sponsor of the trip. He is now in the employ of this company.

Jesse is a married man. His wife was the former Miss Bernice Rutledge, of Pontotoc, Miss.

1---Jesse Josey, Starkville, Miss. --Interview

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

OKTIBBEHA COUNTY. ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

Ben Douglas:

(1)Mr. Ben Douglas is the son of Mr. And Mrs. J. W. Douglas of Maben, Miss. He was born in 1910 and he also makes his home in Maben, Miss. He is an Oktibbeha County boy and this county has claimed him for her own as he has spent practically all of his life here.

Mr. Douglas entered school at the age of six years and his first school days were spent in the Center Grove school. He attended this school through the eighth grade and from there he went to Maben High School and graduated in 1928. The following term he entered Miss. State College at Starkville, Miss. and finished his college course in 1932.

Mr. Douglas' 4-H Club work began in the Maben High School and for the last three years of his course in this school, he was very active in this work. He was President of the 4-H Club the last two years of his High School training. He chose dairying as his 4-H Club Project. In 1927, Mr. Douglas was given a trip to Chicago by the I. C. Railroad and the Chamber of Commerce.

In college, Mr. Douglas majored in Science; also took R. O. T. C. work and received a commisssion in Organized Reserve and is at present a First Lieut.

1--Mr. Ben Douglas, Maben, Miss. Conference
Minnie Walker, Supervisor

After graduation from College, Mr. Douglas taught school at Self Creek for two and one half years. He resigned this position and did R e-settlement work in the summer of 1936.

Mr. Douglas is now State Representative from Oktibbeha County.

Ibid.
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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY. ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

Eugene Howerton:

(1) Eugene Howerton is th e son of Mrs. J. T. Howerton who now lives in Jackson, Mississippi. His father has been dead for some time.

Eugene is now 35 years of age having been born in Oktibbeha County in the year 1932. He completed his High School course in the Starkville High School and enrolled in the State College of Starkville thefollowing year. He attended this college for three years and while there made a fine record for himself.

4-H Club work was one of the places in which he excelled as his record there is splendid and in 1919 he was declared District Champion in "Pig Club Contest".

Eugene has all the characteristics which go to make up a man who is a sure winner as he is energetic, honest, capable and ambitious. At the present time he is a travelling salesman for the Chevrolet Motor Company and is making a success at his work.

1--Mrs. J. T. Howerton, Jackson, Miss. --Conference

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Robert A. Hogan:

(1) Robert A. Hogan was born in June 1903 and died in November 1928. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Hogan of Starkvill, Miss.

Robert was probably one of Oktibbeha County's pioneer Club Boys. There are no records, of his 4-H Club work--only snapshots, trophies, and very interesting memories on the part of his family.

He began this training early and was never again without a project in animal Husbandry. First, he studied Hogs, experimenting with different breeds. His favorite was Poland China. After finishing them off, he usually sold his animals, and in this way had money to finance other projects. Once a pet hog of his was slaughtered for home use. He loved "Red" so much that he could not take a bite of the meat.

He had several experiments with Steers in Calf Club. They studied Breeds, Feeding, Costs, Care, Judging and Marketing. This kept up through years and led to many thrilling experiences. He competed in County, State, and Tri-State Fairs. He received a number of first places and was awarded several trips to Chicago Stock Shows.

All of this training lead a fine foundation for his work in Agricultural and Animal Husbandry at State College--Mississippi A&M it was at that time. There he became a member of a Stock-Judging team that went places--Eugene Ferriss, Eugene Howerton and one other boy besides Robert made up this team and were trained by Professor

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1--Mrs. F. L. Hogan, Starkville, Miss., Conference

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY. ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES

C. J. Goodell. They visited many famous herds across the states, entered and won numerous contests but finally lost to Texas by one-fourth of a point and missed a coveted trip to London, This was a great disappointment to the boys.

After leaving College, Robert went into business in West Point, Mississippi. He worked for the Oil Mill and had a cattle breeding business of his own. He owned a splendid herd of Registered White-face cattle and had built up a remunerative business - shipping animals for breeding purposes.

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

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Ibid.

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Page #12
Topic: Re: 4-H Club Boys
By: Kathleen Boyet
February 24, 1937

The following list of 4-H Club Boys are those whom we cannot locate. If we can get any information on these at a later date, we shall be glad to forward same to you:

Obie Makamson --- 1918

Robert Sanders ---1925

Nash Hamill ----1926

John Coleman ---1935

Ibid.

Minnie Walker, Supervisor

Oktibbeha County

It's a fact:-

That the first milk Condensary opened in the south is at Starkville, Miss.

Ref. Mess. Adv't. Com.

Page # 1
Topic: Professional and Civic Leaders --- Robert A Lampkin.
Assignment # 31
October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

Robert A. Lampkin came to Oktibbeha County from Tennessee in 1833, two years before the county was organized, and engaged in agricultural pursuits, with which he was continuously identified until the time of his death. This pioneer settler of this county, like so many others, came here from Tennessee where he was born in 1809. He was just twenty-four years of age on his arrival. The Choctaw Indians were still roving the trails from one of their communities to another. Wolves, wild turkeys, and many other wild animals and fowls filled the woods, Flocks of wild pigeons were so numerous that they darkened the sun and often broke the limbs of trees where they roosted. The farmers would visit these roosts at night and flay them by the thousands and carry them away by the wagon loads. Mr. Lampkin soon located in the central section of the district and became an extensive landholder and planter and thus wielded much influence in public affairs.

One of his fellow travelers to this new country was his brother-in-law, Mr. Elijah Hogan. They made their way over the Robinson road through Columbus and Folsom to this section, finally locating their home in 1834, just after the treaty had been signed with the Indians in which they ceded the last of their land east of the Midsissippi River for an unknown region to the West. Asa Reed and a few others, including Isom Henry, made their way further West and settled in the section of the Double Springs.

On the organization of the county, Robert Allison Lampkin was ~~elected~~ appointed sheriff and in this capacity was a religious, business, and political

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leader until his death in 1885. In 1834, Mr. Lampkin and William Cushman, a brother of the Missionary, sold to the Board of Police a tract of land of their holdings, for a town site. Elijah Hogan, The president of the Board of Police and acting for them, divided the tracts in lots and began to sell them out to the highest bidder. The town was then named "Starkville" instead of "Boardtown" as it was then called due to the fact that many of the buildings were constructed of boards instead of logs, which was customarily used at that time. A post office was established and young Lampkin became the first postmaster. It is said that he carried the mail around in his hat.

Prior to the location of the county seat at Starkville, old Hebron was organized as the center of government and the first courts were held at that place. On June the 17th, 1834, Mr. James McCalla wrote: "I was a juryman last week for the first court in the county. The court sat under a large hickory tree for want of a house, but there was no business in court and it did not hold more than three or four hours, but I expect it will have plenty for the next term."

Young Lampkin, as Sheriff, served this court. A building was soon erected in the new seat of government and also a jail of hewn logs with neither doors nor windows. The sheriff let his prisoners down by means of a rope. The town soon went on a boon and Lampkin and Bell formed a partnership and organized one of the five or six stores in town. During 1835, State Banks were being organized every where under the Jackson regime, so Lampkin,

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY.
PROMINENT CITIZENS

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Fitzsimmons, Quinn, Reese, Yeates, Oakley, Hines, Talbert Ward, Moore, Peeden and L.L.Reese, organized the Starkville Real Estate and Banking Company, with Lampkin as Presidant. The bank made its own money under the liberal banking laws then in vogue. It did a thriving business for several years until the panic came in 1838 or 1839. The bank failed. A church for the Methodist denomination was needed and Mr. Lampkin offered a lot which where the present church now stands, and was accepted, and a house erected in 1836. It was a frame building and had seats in the gallery for the slaves. Mr. Lampkin was one of the leading members of that church and on occasion acted as lay preacher. In 1857, Lampkin together with William R. Cannon, J.P.Pearson, Smith, John H. Gay, W.A.Thompson, and Thomas E. Cannon; petitioned the Grand Secretary at Natchez, Mississippi for a dispensation to organize a Masonic Lodge. This was granted and a Lodge Organized in 1848 by a charter with Wm. R. Cannon as W.M.; and J. Pearson Smith and Robert A. Lampkin, as S.W. and J.W. respectively; by appointment by the Grand Secretary. In 1857, John M. Clark the Probate Clerk died and R.A.Lampkin served in this capacity by appointment by the Board of Police until a successor was elected. When the War between the States came on, although Mr. Lampkin was then fifty-one years of age, he served as a member of the State Militia and gave protection to the women and children from the ravages of

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the scouting expeditions of Northern soldiers toward the close of the war.

After the war Mr. Lampkin, Uncle Bob as he was known by all the older citizens, moved to town and built a two story home on the Louisville road where the Norris home is now located. He became more and more attached to his church as he grew older and usually sat by the old stove and kept it replentished with wood as the sermon progressed. He was often called upon for an opening or closing prayer and he often brought his entire audience to a throne of grace in his fervent petitions. During the Carpet bag regime he withdrew entirely from politics and busied himself in more worthy causes. His old home was located on the Mayhew road near the Walker place, about six miles from town. Here he reared his family and attended his large planting interest. He had several slaves but did not lose his interest after the war gave them their freedom. In 1887, this grand old man passed to his reward of a life well spent at the ripe old age of seventy wight, honored and revered by the entire county in which he had played so important a part in developing.

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(1) Mrs. A.B.Butts manuscript.
(2) Carroll's Historical Sketches
(3) Files of Chancery Clerk's office.

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY.
PROMINENT CITIZENS

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Oktibbeha County

Page # 5
Topic: Professional & Civic Leaders---Mr.Elijah Hogan
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October 20, 1937
By R.C.Morris

One of the most outstanding citizens in the early history of Starkville was Mr. Elijah Hogan. He came into this community among the earliest settlers after the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek in 1832, together with such men as Malcolm Gilchrist, Robert A. Lampkin, William Cabaniss and Charles Dibrell. Mr. Hogan was the first to see the possibilities of this section as a town site, so in 1834 he bought a quarter-sec section on the ridge near the two springs from Robert A Lampkin, the Sheriff, and William B Cushman, the author of the history of the Choctaw Indians, and brother to the Missionary, for $20.000 . Elijah Hogan was then President of the Board of Police and by its authority he surveyed this tract into town lots. The boundaries according to Carroll's Historical Sketches were as follows:-From the intersection of Cushman and Lampkin streets east to the intersection of Lampkin and Houston(now Jackson), thence north to the crossing of Houston and Stagg(now Jefferson); thence west to the intersection of Stagg and Cushman; thence south to the point of beginning.

The most westerly street was Cushman; next, Walker, which ran through the Ward gin site; then, Washington; then, Lafayette; last, Houston. The most northerly street was Stagg; thee middle, Main-- 20 feet narrower than now; the southern, Lampkin, which ran just back of

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Topic: Professional and Civic Leaders --- Elijah Hogan.
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where Zeno Yeates' residence is today.

The Board of Police marked off lots. These were larger than our present day lots, being about 66 feet wide and 160 feet long. This done, the Board offered the lots, all except one centrally located, for sale. They conducted at least two public auctions, and then effected some private sales. In the auctions only the lot on which the Walker building stands and the blocks on which the Methodist parsonage and Martin's Hardware store stands brought the highest price -- $182.50; Elijah Hogan bought it; that upon which the Walker building stands brought only fifty cents less. The lots farthest to the east commanded the smallest price; those in front of our Baptist church brought only $12.00 apiece.

And now Boardtown changed its name to Starkville, and secured a postoffice. Robert A. Lampkin, the sheriff, was the postmaster.

In 1835, Starkville became the county seat; and on the lot reserved, the board built of hewn logs a courthouse and a jail. Each was a one-roome structure, the courthouse being the larger. The jail had neither doors nor windows; the officers let prisoners down by rope.

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(1) Personal Interview
(2) Carroll's Historical Sketches
(3) Files of Chancery Clerk's Office.

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OKTIBBEHA COUNTY.
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(1) Rev. David Pressley, D. D. was born in Chester County, S.C. Jan. 8, 1820. Son of Dr. Samuel Pressley and wife Elizabeth Hearst Pressley.

He accepted the call to the Associated Reformed Presbyterian Church of Starkville, Oktibbeha County 1842. He lived on his farm 2 miles north of Starkville, where he remained for over forty years.

During the Civil War he was detained at home to comfort and to bless. Having a musical voice often as he rode at night or by day on missions of mercy his psalm of praise gently floated on the breeze, soothing and comforting the sad and lonely, or bringing courage and hope to the dispairing.

Dr. Pressley was a preacher full of faith, love and patience. He felt he had a special message for emery one he knew, biding his time to deliver it. His happy face reflected the peace that the world can not give. A faithful sermonizer, he often adjusted the manuscript of his discourse as he strolled over the farm. Stopping and delivering long passages as he afterwards did with gesture and emphasis. He made notes, but used no manuscript in delivering it.

Blessed with remarkable health and a high sense of duty he braved snow and ice, bad roads and swollen streams to fill an appointment.

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(1) Information from Miss Minnie Walker

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In fifty years he only lost four Sabbaths from his pulpit. Two of them being on his death bed.

He was the guardian of quite a number of orphan children. Lawyer Miller was his legal adviser who said to him ever "You do what is best for each one and I will find the law to sustain you".

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Topic: Professional and Civic Leaders -- Capt. George Washington Naron
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By R.C.Morris

Capt. George Washington Naron was born in Coweta County, Georgia, April 15, 1828, and was the third of nine children born to Thomas and Mary Corker Naron. The family moved to Chambers County, Alabama, from thence to Randolph County and in 1842 came to Chickasaw County Mississippi, settling in a tent in the woods. Two years later they went to Arkansas and settled near Little Rock. The father and mother died the same year and the children returned to Chickasaw County, Mississippi.

At an early age G.W.Naron became familiar with duties of the farm. He attended school only about six months. During the Mexican War he was in the quartermaster's department, serving about eight months under General Taylor's command. He, then, returned to Mississippi and in 1849 married Miss Mahala Pew. G.W. and Mahala Naron and seven children: Sara F. who married Rev. R.P.Gore, William W., Riley, Martha J., who married E.P.St.Clair, Alonzo C., Rebecca Orr, who married T.G.Mancill, and Laura E.

Early in the War between the States Mr. Naron was made lieutenant of Company H, Thirty-first Mississippi Infantry, and later became captain of the company, operating in Mississippi the first year or two. He fought at Chickasaw Bayou, Baker's Creek, Jackson, and then on to Resaca, fighting all the way to Atlanta. From there he went to Franklin and Nashville, back to Mississippi, and rejoined General Johnston in North Carolina. He was wounded three times. During that time his wife and children struggled hard to make a living on a farm. About 1875 Mr. Naron began merchandising at Atlanta,

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Miss., and later when the present Columbus and Greenville Railroad was built, he, his son, Riley, and son-in-law, T.J.Mancill, opened up a mercantile business at Maben.

Mr. Naron was for a number of years a prominent member of the Masonic Fraternity at Atlanta Lodge No. 392, having taken the Past Master degree. When he moved to Maben, he was one of the leading members of the New Hope Lodge No. 224. When a young man, Mr. Naron joined the Baptist Church and was for a number of years a member of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Chickasaw County. After allaying himself with the Maben Church, he became a deacon and one of the most progressive and enthusiastic members of the organization. Just before moving to Maben he lost his first wife and in 1891 he married Mrs. B.F.Montgomery, a native of Oktibbeha County. The last twenty years of his life were spent for the progress of Maben in business, Schools, and churches. He retired from active business after he was seventy years old but his interest and influence were always for making Maben a better town.

On March 1, 1911, just before he was eighty-one years old, he passed away and was laid to rest in a vault which he had had built in the Maben Cemetary.

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(1) Manuscript furnished by W.W.Naron.

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Rev. Thomas Coke Wier was born in Green County, Alabama, December 15, 1827. His father, Rev. William Wier was born in Ireland, June 5, 1792. The family came to South Carolina in 1795. Here William grew to manhood and married Miss Elizabeth Lipscomb, a sister of Dr. Lowndes Lipscomb, long and esteemed citizen of Columbus, Miss. Thomas Coke Wier graduated in Lagronge College, Ala., in 1849. This institution also confined on him the degree of A.M. He taught one year in the College after graduation. In the spring of 1854, he graduated in medicine in Charleston, S.C.

While persuing his medical studies he was impressed with a call to the ministry, and was at once licensed to preach, George Shaeffer being presiding elder. In 1894, he was admitted into the Alabama Conference at Talladega. Dr. Wier's first appointment was Montivalla Stations, with no house of worship, and few members. He continued here two years, the limit of the Methodist pastorate at that time.

His second appointment was Wisby Chapel, Mobile. In the second year of his pastorate there, May, 4, 1858, he was happily married to Miss Mary L. Baker, whose father, Col. R.A.Baker, was a prominent lay member in Alabama Methodism. In 1859, Dr. Wier was stationed in Livingston, and in 1860 was presiding elder on the mMacon District where he remained till he became Chaplain of the Confederate army. Soon after the War he taught one year in the Female institute in Summerfield, Ala.

By change of Conference boundaries, he became in 1870, a member of the North Mississippi Conference. For eight years he was President of the

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Verona Female College. In 1880 he was President of Grenada Institute. Since then his work as pastor and presiding elder has been mainly in this immediate territory. His services in the cause of religion and education have been long, honorable and useful. He was for fifty-two years in the active work of this church, having only a few years ago retired into the superanuated ranks.

At Coldwater, Miss., the faithful wife closed her beautiful, consistent, Christians life. For more than thirty-eight years she was the loving and sympathetic companion and helpful comrade of her husband. Ten children blessed their union, eight of whom still survives and are well known to our community.

Dr. Wier was blessed in advantages far above many of his brethren in the ranks of Methodist preachers. He was well born, well reared, well educated. As a result, he had the self-mastery which gave him due poise in any presence, before any congregation. With pleasing manners, unfailing good humor, and manifest love for his kind, he was always the ideal of the ministerial gentleman. Rather below medium size, erect, alert, he was the embodiment of health and activity. His voice was clear, strong, disciplined, and of extraordinary compass. Needless to say he was a strong preacher, delivering his sermons in well wrought thinking and precise language. Even

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after he passed four score years he preached with great vigor, scarcely falling below the efforts of his palmy days.

After Dr. Wier retired from the ministry, he remained in active force in promoting the program of the church, the school and the community at large. He was a powerful teacher in the Sunday school of his church and today one of the classes bears his name. Dr. Wier passed to his final reward

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(1) East Mississippi Times, Starville, Miss., 1916.

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Col. W.B.Montgomery was born in Fairfield, S. C., August 21, 1820. About the year 1835 he moved with his parents to Oktibbeha County, where he resided until the time of his death. His father, Mr. Hugh Montgomery died many years ago and his mother died about 1893, having lived to the ripe old age of 95 or 96. Col. Montgomery was first married to Miss Gillespie, sister of our townsmen, Messrs George and Tom Gillespie. Several years after the death of his wife he was married to Miss Glenn, who still survives him.

He was a graduate of Princeton College, N.J., a man of education, great culture and splendid attainments. Form, fashion or popularity had no influence with him. He was a man of strong convictions and moreover had the courage to advocate and stand by those convictions. A man never lived in this part of the county with greater individuality and personality than Col. Montgomery. No man's judgement was more highly respected and no man's influence was greater. All men who knew him turned to him for counsel and advice. He gave advice generously and always unselfishly. He was never noisy or aggressive, but calm and self-contained and was governed by a pure, unquestioned self respect. There was never a blot upon his character, never a stain upon his fair name. He was a representative of the old South, the South of high breeding and chivalrous practice. Such men exemplify to us the pride and glory of the South of fifty years ago; its influence upon the thought of that time and its lofty standards.

East Mississippi Times- January 28, 1916.

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Col. Montgomery never aspired to political preferments. Before the war between the states, he belonged to the Whig party. After the war, he was independent of politics, though he invariably affiliated with and voted the Prohibition ticket. He was a sincere Christian, in faith, he was an Associated Reform Presbyterian, until about the year 1891. His congregation then became so depleted in strength that its very existance was threatened, whereupon he influenced and engineered a transfer of his local organization to the United Presbyterian Church, and sought to build up this church, in part by immigration from the North. His scheme succeeded, and our Northern brethren always found him a friend and adviser of exalted worth.

Before the war, he was one of the largest planters in East Mississippi and he and Major McCarthy, formerly of Columbus, Miss., formed a co-partnership and were commission merchants in Mobile until the breaking out of the war. After the war, the firm resumed business and continued it for four or five years, when Col. Montgomery returned to Mississippi and devoted his whole time to agricultural pursuits and began to raise Jersey cattle. To him is due the introduction of Jersey cattle into this county. In this industry he spent many thousands of dollars. Many of his cattle died before becoming acclimated, but this did not discourage, dishearten, or in any manner divert him from his plans. At one time he owned the largest Jersey herd in the South, if not in America. Along with the Jersey cattle business, he introduced many hays and grasses and at his own expense, demonstrated to the people that this is the county for cattle and grasses as well as for cotton and corn. He determined to succeed in introducing Jersey cattle and grasses into this part of the county. He succeeded and this county was made famous through him as a cattle and hay county.

He was considered the father of our great A. & M. College. He was among the first to believe that an industrial education could be placed within the reach of the farmer and the mechanic, and entered heartily into the scheme for providing an institution in the state of Mississippi where science could be applied to the farm and the shop. His wonderful mental and physical powers were thrown into the project, and as a result of his efforts, together with his colleagues, we have the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College. (Now State College) This noble and grand institution will ever stand as a living monument to his zeal, efforts and many personal and financial sacrifices. No pile or shaft of stone or marble can form a greater monument in perpetuation of his memory and greatness. He was the first trustee of the institution and remained its local trustee for a quarter of a century, when owing to failing health, he resigned. The A.& M. College was always nearest Col. Montgomery's heart, and with tireless energy and fearless courage, he fought to make this great school thorough and pure.

At an age when most men retire from active life, he undertook the organization of the cotton mill at this place and gave it the name of his great friend, Mr. John M. Stone.

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On Sunday, September, 28, 1904, at 1 o'clock P.M., Col. Montgomery died. Recognizing the valuable and eminent services of this great man, the President, J.C.Hardy and faculty of the A.& M. College made the request of the family of the deceased, that as a mark of high esteem and appreciation of the life and character of the Colonel, that his remains be taken to the College Chapel and the funeral conducted there. The request was granted and the services were held in the chapel, the day following the Colonel's death. Among the many distinguished personages present was Gen. Stephen D. Lee.

In testimony of the high regard and esteem in which he was held, the largest attended funeral ever seen in the community was present on this solemn occasion. Such men never die, for they live in the hearts of those left behind.

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(1) East Mississippi Times-Starkville, Miss., January 28, 1916

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It is the opinion of the writer that, to no one man, in the City of Starkville and surrounding country more indebeted from a moral and educational standpoint than to Thomas George Sellers, D.D.; that no man has done more for the uplift of these people.

Dr. Sellers was a native of South Carolina. He took a full collegiate course at Union University, Tenn, - graduating in 1851. He filled his first pastorate at Athens, Ala in 1855-6. In August 1856 he married Miss Mary E. Crenshaw and moved to Starkville, and in '57 was elected pastor of the Baptist church and served in that capacity altogether 35 years.

In 1885 the honorary degree of D.D. was conferred on him by the South Western University. For 20 years he was Moderator of the Baptist association, and previous to that, he was secretary of this organization 10 years. For 8 years he was president of the Executive Board.

In addition to his regular duties as pastor of the Starkville church he frequently served neighboring churches, thereby increasing the field of his usefulness.

During all these years, while faithfully and conscientiously

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(1) Starkville News, December 10, 1915

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performing the manifold duties devolving on him as pastor of a prosperous and growing church, Dr. Sellers was a successful and widely known educator, and, it is to this phase of his lifework that the writer desires to call special attention in this brief sketch.

Previous to 1858 the only school building for boys in Starkville and surrounding country was an 18 by 20 brick building just in rear of, and only a few feet from the old Methodist church. This church was on the site of the present handsome structure and faced to the east.

This school was taught by Dr. Bishop, Miss Sallie Hillhouse, George Owen, and William Morgan consecutively.

About 1858, this building, not being adequate to accommodate the increasing population, and too- possibly- the proximity to the Methodist church leading some of the different faith to fear the Methodism might be absorbed by the pupils, a new, raghly constructed, two room house was built just north of the Seceder grave yard on the West Point road.

The writer cannot say, positively, what influenced the selection of this location; but, since there was a luxuriant growth of haw-bushes in the vicinity, we can at least say it was a wise and appropriate selection; for in those days a good tough hickory was considered a "sine quanon" to good discipline.

This modest building , when completed, was dubbed "The Starkville Male Academy." We didn't believe much in "co-eds" at that time. The Female school was in the rear of a house on Main street, about where the Wier drug store now is,-or possibly to the east somewhat.

In '58 Dr. Sellers, assisted by Prof. Wm. Lockheart, took charge of the Male Academy. Boys for ten miles attended this school, riding from home every morning. Think of it. Now, if a boy has to go as far as 2 miles he thinks it a terrible hardship.

We had no free public schools in Miss, then; parents had to pay tuition. However, they received some help from the interest and rent on the 16 section land, which at that time was in good shape and well managed. But during the war and immediately after the war a good portion of it was lost to the county.

Dr. Sellers proved to be peculiarly fitted for a pedagogical career. He had a well stored, analytic mind and a collegiate education; was patient, even tempered, slow to anger,-yet firm and positive. He made an ideal teacher. He invariably participated in the boys' sports.- entering into them with as much zeal and earnestness as one of the boys. His pupils were devoted to him.

The male academy was well patronized and was a success from the beginning.

But alas; the peaceful life of a pedagogue was suddenly and rudely interrupted "by wars loud alarms". Our beloved Southland had with-

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drawn from the union which she had been such a potent factor in establishing and was calling for volunteers to protect her homes and firesides.

Being a minister, Dr. Sellers could have remained at home, without fear of criticism, but he was among the first to enlist to go to the front. He first joined a 90 days company and served the time in Kentucky. After the 90 days had expired, he enlisted in a company organized by Capt. Joel Rogers, called the "Sharpshooters". He was elected lieutenant in this company and served two years in Virginia.

He next joined a company raised by Capt. Montgomery and served the remaining period of the war in Miss.

After the war, he again took charge of the Male Academy. Everything was badly deranged and the prospect gloomy, All, alike, were bankrupt and discouraged. During this period, that "tried mens' souls," Dr. Sellers, with his indomitable energy, pleasant manners and genial disposition, sublime faith in his country men and his God, set to work to rehabilitate his adopted town and county.

To talk with and associate with him was an inspiration. It gave one new hope and courage for the future.

Many of his former pupils never returned to school. They were the main stay at home, and had to earn a living for widowed mother and orphaned sister.

Many who were too young to work, were unable to raise money necessary to pay tuition. These, Dr. Sellers taught without money and without price.

In 1870 Dr. Sellers gave up the male academy and erected a large, two story frame building on spot where our commodious and handsome public school building now stands, for the purpose of establishing a Female Institute. He secured an able faculty. After doing some canvassing and advertising, in the fall of 1870, this new venture was launched with flattering prospects. The Institute grew in influence and popularity from the very beginning, until soon it ranked as one of the leading female colleges in Miss. There was a boarding department attached, and young ladies attended from all sections of this and adjoining states. The graduates stood high, and were in demand as teachers.

About 1890, denominationalism, which, when it makes its appearance in school matters, is a hydraheaded monster, was rampant in Starkville. This fact, together with the fact that Dr. Sellers was getting along in years, induced him to give up teaching and he sold his institute property to the city of Starkville.

About 1892 the pastorate of the Baptist church became vacant by reason of the resignation of Rev. C.H.Carter, and Dr. Sellers was called to this church, after having been out of it ten years.

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In '92 the county supt. of education apppinted him on the board of examiners, together with Prof. S.W.Smith. These two eminent educators by reason of the fact that they had to pass on the qualifications of the teachers for the county, insured to Oktibbeha county a body of teachers who compared favorably with those of any county in the state.

As a member of this important board, Dr. Sellers was rigid, but fair and impartial. He served until his death, which sad event ocuurred in 1899. In the brief space allotted for this sketch, it has, ofcourse, been out of the question to do the subject justice. If however, what has been written, serves to refresh the memories of his old friends, and to recall to them the many noble traits of this good man, and cause them, anew to resolve to imitate his example, the writer will feel that this short and feeble sketch has not been in vain.

And if the children of the public school, when they assemble in the hall for chapel exercises, will look upon the picture of Dr. Sellers, which hangs therein, and try to realize what a help he was in the times past to their forebears, from an educational and moral standpoint, it may be an inspiration and a spur to better things.

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Thomas George Sellers was born in Cheraw, South Carolina, in 1830, and while an infant was brought by his parents to Monticello, Georgia, where his father died quite soon with typhoid fever. The young mother, with her child, returned to her parents in Athens, Tennessee, and lived with them a few years until she was married again. But my father remained with his grandparents during his childhood and youth, and was tutored by his talented Aunt Caroline Gilledge, afterwards Mrs. P.H. Hale. He never attended an organized school during his youth and was prepared for college by self-instruction, assisted by his aunt. After entering Union University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, in 1851, he felt a call to the ministry and remained in the University a year longer to complete his theological training. He was graduated with honors in 1856, and was called tonthe pastorate of the Athens, Alabama, Baptist Church that same year. Parenthetically, it may be observed that Union University conferred three degrees on my father, A. B. in 1856, A. M. in 1859, and D. D. in 1880. Remaining only one year at Athens, he accepted a call to the Starkville, Mississippi, Church. Starkville became his permanent home where he continued as pastor of the Church until his death in 1899, excepting two interruptions, two years during the Civil War and twelve

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(1) Starkville News, May 10, 1935- By his brother, J.F.Sellers

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years before his retirement from the Presidency of the Starkville Female Institute in 1892.

My father was married twice. First, to my mother, Mary Elizabeth Crenshaw of Athens, Alabama, whom he met while she was a student at the neighboring Mary Sharp College, and whom he married soon after they graduated, while he was pastor at Athens. My mother was my father's intellectual and cultured equal, and assisted him in the preparation of his sermons and articles for publications. Like thousands of war mothers, she kept the home fires burning while her young husband was fighting the battles of their country. I was born while my father was marching to the Second Battle of Manassas. The tragedies of the war undermined my mother's health and she died in 1869, leaving three children, William Alston, James Freeman, and Dessie (Mrs. W.C.Lattimore). My sister died in 1906, survived by three sons. My father's second wife was my aunt, Sarah Washington Crenshaw, whom he married in 1870. She survived him more than thirty years, and died in Texas in 1931. Seven children remain, Annie Lee, Sallie Graves, Ada Curry(Mrs. W.C.Lattimore), Mary Crenshaw, Robert Pearson, Elva Gulledge (Mrs. Eugene Davenport) and Thomas George. All of the younger children are now living in Texas, where the family moved after my father's death. My second mother's college education was inter-

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Ibid

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rupted by the War, but what she lacked in college training she was more than compensated in rare wisdom, native intelligence and sound knowledge, acquired by liberal reading and constant association with cultured people. With courage and patience she assumed the burden of the care of her family after my father's death, and now her reward is abundent and her children call her blessed.

As a scholar and teacher , my father was well equipped in the learning of his period. It was my privilege to have him instruct me in Latin, Greek and mathmatics, preparatory for college, and on the entrance examination, I was admitted to the Junior class in the University. I attribute all credit to the thorough instruction given by my father. His special scientific desire was for a knowledge of astronomy, and he was better informed in the geography of the Heavens than any-one I have ever known. He could trace all of the constellations of the northern Heavens, and name and describe the planets and stars of the first magnitude. Frequently visitors would accompany him on starlit nights while lecturing to his class in astronomy. The last year of his life, with his eye-sight greatly impaired, I spent the summer in Starkville and read popular history with him several hours each day. The two great works which we read were Mothey's Dutch Republic and Prescott's Conquest Series. This was

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Ibid

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coincidental with my father's condition, as Prescott was blind when he wrote his volumnious histories of Spain and her unholy conquests.

As a citizen, my father was devoted to his town and State with almost sectional bias. He knew practically every human being in his county, and probably baptised, married and buried more people, white and black, than any other minister in the state. He was opposed to slavery and secession, but when his state went out of the Union he volunteered as a soldier, though as a minister he could have been exempted or gone as a chaplain. But he cast aside his clerical robes, buckled on a saber and pistol, and rode with Joe Wheeler to the front. He fought with the cavalry in the field by day and prayed with the soldiers in the bivouac by night. After the War he took the oath of allegiance to the Union and was instrumental, with other citizens, in preventing serious negro riots during the Reconstruction. As a citizen he was social minded and joined several fraternal orders, including the Masons, both for his own pleasure and in order to be of service to people not of his religious faith. He attained the thirty-third Degree, and was buried with the Masonic ritual.

As a Christian minister, my father exalted his sacred office, and his profession was the prime factor in his life. Though many-sided in thought and conduct, no intellectual desire or secular pursuit sould es-

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Ibid

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trange him from his service as a minister. During the War, he preached th the soldiers, and after the emancipation of the negroes, he was pastor of one of their churches, with services on Sunday afternoons. These former slaves had been members of white churches before the War, and petitioned my father to continue as their pastor after the separation. This indeed was a tribute to the practice of pure and undefiled religion. Even while connected with the Institute for more than twenty years, he preached to country churches. Though liberal and tolerant of the faith's of his fellowman, he was a loyal advocate of the interests of his denomination. For more than twenty years he was moderator of the Columbus Baptist Asso ciation, and was at times a Truetee of Union University and Mississippi College.

Simplicity of heart, loyalty to truth, abhorrence of hipocrisy, fidelity to personal faith, tolerance for the creeds of neighbors, intere est in the welfare of friends, devotion to loved ones- these virtues epitomize the character and conduct of my beloved father. I have never known a man more worthy of being loved, of being honored, of being remembered. But physical strength and human endurance have limits of time and circumstances and a life of anxious and unremitting toil exacted a toll o f unfinished years. The house of his habitation rapidly dissolved under the stress of superhuman strain, and the spirit of the Christian teacher

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Ibid

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quietly and peacefully passed into its reward.

Ibid

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Dr. Arthur Hopkins Rice (1852-1921) was born in Talladega, Alabama, August 21, 1852, at the home of his paternal grandparents, John Sanders and Nancy (Herndon) Rice. He was of English and Welsh decent. His ancestors first settled in Virginia whence they moved to North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi. He was the son of John Washington Rice, who was born in Chester District, South Carolina, in 1815, and died in Mobile, Alabama, in February, 1857, and of Augusta Hopkins Rice, who was born in Huntsville, Alabama, in 1831, and died in Oktibbeha County in 1906.

His childhood was spent in Mobile, where he was educated in the public and private schools of that city, and on the plantation, Meadow Woods, in Oktibbeha County, Mississippi, near the Robinson Road and Octoc. After the war between the States his mother took her two children to Europe where educational facilities were less expensive than in this country. Dr. Rice and his sister studied for three years in the schools of France and for two years in the schools of Germany.

On his return to this country he taught modern languages in Towles Academy, Mobile, until he began the study of medicine. In 1873 he was graduated from the Mobile Medical College and in 1874 took a postgraduate course at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City. In New York he

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(1) Manuscript furnished by Miss Nannie Rice.

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spent an additional six months in hospital service in the Orthopoedic Dispensary and the Presbyterian Hospital. Following this he practiced for one year in St. Louis, where he was assistant to the clinic for women and children at the Sister's Hospital.

In 1875 he returned to Oktibbeha County where he practiced medicine but spent most of his energies rebuilding a rundown plantation. In 1879 Dr. Rice was married to Francis Mary Smith, a native of Charlestown, Massachusetts, who was living at Artesia, Mississippi, at the time. (Mrs. Rice's father, Joseph Hunt Smith, a native of Vermont, a first cousin of Senator Justin Morrill, sponsor act establishing Landgrant Colleges, had followed his brothers South in the decade before the Civil War. While his brothers engaged in the lumber industry in South Mississippi, he became associated with the newly developing railroad business.

To Dr.and Mrs. Rice were born eight children, Augusta Hopkins, died in 1927; Arthur Hopkins, Jr., Captain U.S.N., died 1932; Francis McFarland, Mrs. F.D.Mellen, Murray, Ky., Nannie Herndon, State College; Joseph Smith, Starkville; Cornelia Lowe, Mrs. R.H.Bartran, Laurel; Harriet McFarland, Mrs. H.H.Harned, State College; John Washington, Captain C.C.C., Jonesboro La., Mrs. Rice died October 18, 1930, nearly ten years after her husband's death.

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From 1875 until his death in 1921 Dr. Rice spent in active farming and in the practice of medicine in Oktibbeha County, except for an interval of two years. He early applied scientific principles to his farming as a result of his study of the chemistry of the soil and his understanding of plant cultivation, and through diversification and rotation. He was especially interested in the raising of pacing and trotting horses and Jersey cattle. Although the field for the practice of medicine was limted he kept up his study through medical journals and books. His observations on malaria were acute and his treatment of it unusually successful. In 1885 and 1886 he practiced medicine in Mobile, serving as visiting physician to the city hospital and lecturing at the Mobile Medical College. The claims of his farming interests were too strong and he returned to his farming and country practive.

Dr. Rice was also interested in public affairs, keeping touch through newspapers and magazines. He represented the Western half of Oktibbeha County in the Legislatures of 1892 and 1894, serving on the Committees on Appropriations, Benevolent Institutions, Penitentiary, Public Health and Quarentine, and Railroads.

Dr. Rice's only sister, Nannie Herndon, who was married to John Simpson Walker of Huntsville, Alabama, died in 1924, in Nashville, Tennessee, leaving only one son, Col. Richard Wilde Walker, U.S.Army, retired, of Ijamsville, Maryland.

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Studious and serious as Dr. Rice was to a marked degree, he also had a strong sense of humor, a disinterested, unselfish spirit for public service, a fondness for people and a geniality of nature that made him many friends. Extracts from an article written in the East Mississippi Times for January 21, 1921, shortly after his death on January 14, pay just and appreciative tributes to him.

"The funeral services were held in Starkville Sunday afternoon at the Episcopal Church, Arch Deacon Gordon Smeed of Jackson officiating, assisted by Dr. Malone, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Columbus. Throngs of people from the city and surrounding country who came to pay their last tribute could not find seats in the church which was filled to its capacity.

"One of the pathetic scenes of the service was a number of Dr. Rice's old plantation servants who had been in his employ for many years and had followed him to the grave and in the emotional manner Characteristic of the old time negro, exhibited the most poignant grief, which brought to the mind that old plantation melody:

" All dem darkies am a weepin'
Massa's in the cold, cold ground!"

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"Dr. Rice was a gentleman of the old school. He was a scholar and a deep thinker, a man of strong convictions and when once convinced that he was right could not be swayed.

"He made this county one of the best representatives it ever had in the State Legislature and was instrumental in the enactment of many of our good laws and beneficial measures.

"He was a courteous and genial companion to his friends and was held in the highest esteem and respect by every one who knew him.

"While was what the world terms a financial success, he never made the almighty dollar his God, but looked upon money as means of doing good for others as well as for himself. He gave liberally to charity and the cause of religion and he never turned a deaf ear to any just appeal for financial aid.

"In religious belief he was an ardent Episcopalian but never united himself with anychurch. With a record without blemish, a clean, useful, and honorable life, we know when the spirit of Arthur Hopkins Rice approaches the 'gateway to eternal life' the gates will be found ajar."

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Dr. William Hampden Barr was born in Pontotoc, Mississippi, June 21, 1853, the son of Samuel McCorkle and Elizabeth Hodges Barr, of a line of ancestors who were doctors and ministers in North Carolina and South Carolina. His family came to Pontotoc County from Abbeville, Abbeville District, South Carolina.

He had his medical training at the Medical College of Alabama at Mobile, graduating in the class of 1875. As a young man practicing his profession in Artesia he was married to Sarah Elzena Ellis, daughter of Robert Underhill and Martha Curry Ellis.

In 1883 he was appointed resident surgeon of the Mississippi A.& M. College and held the position until his death on March 29, 1906.

Dr. Barr was a member of the American Medical Association. He was an active member of the Presbyterian church and was long an elder of it.

Dr. and Mrs. Barr were the parents of four children, Arthur, the eldest, who died in 1903, soon after completing his medical training at the University of Virginia and Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, and locating in San Angelo, Texas for practice; Ruth, who died in infancy; Frank Ellis, who is a practicing physician in Starkville, and Mildred, State College, Mrs. Barr, his widow, died June 6, 1937.

Dr. Barr's outstanding success in his profession and the strength of his personality were recognized in the resolutions adopted by the faculty of

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the College he had long served and a tribute paid him by a friend at the time of his death. It probably serves our purpose best to quote from these two articles to give us a glimpse of the man as he was known in the community in which he spent his working years.

" We mourn the loss of a most worthy and efficient officer of this institution -- we point with pride to his long and admirable record of painstaking and skillful service to the sick of the student body, and turn with tender and grateful memory to the thought of his kindly ministration to the sick of our own families.

" In the death of Dr. Barr the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College has lost a faithful friend and advocate, this community an esteemed and valued member, the State a patriotic and useful citizen, truth a fearless champion, and noble, virtuous Christian manhood, an unswerving representative."

A close personal friend and brother physician said in writing of him:

"Dr. Barr passed away in the high meridian of his usefulness, and suddenly, as if to emphasize his loss and to stamp the more deeply upon our minds the lessons of his life. He was built on noble, forceful, manliest lines in heart, mind and character and he ever steered his course by lofty ideals.

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His life should be a wholesome inspiration to the thousands of young men from all over the State who have come in contact with him, as well as to others.

"With a bright and active mind, with industry, sobriety and truthfulness for a heritage; with an interest determination to succeed, and blessed with that rare vein of humor which, next to belief in religion, is one of the most valuable possessions of the mind; with confidence in himself, dealing candidly and squarely by his fellowmen and expecting such treatment in return, with his usefulness to his world in his chosen profession ever before his eyes and in his thoughts and counting not the cost of whatever might enhance or widen that usefulness; with patience to bide his time- with such characteristics, failure to succeed in any surroundings would have reflected less on him that in the community in which his lot was cast. And success to the fullest was his reward, a success that his friends, even professional, rejoiced at, and to which none could take exception - and his character stood the trying ordeal of success and prosperity.

"Professionally he possesses rare combinations of qualities: ambitious, yet recognizing the limitations of his surroundings and making very much of the opportinities that were his. He was practical always, conservative

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but ever testing the new, "trying all things", and had most uncommon common sense. His professional life was singularly successful, so markedly so in some directions as to have puzzled more than one of his brother physicians.

"He was resplendent in his social endowments; cherry, witty, kind, considerate; loyal in friendship, even abstemious, in his personal habits, there was never about him the slightest savor of intoleranee toward the petty foibles and weakness of others. His character was rounded out by an unostentatious devotion to his religious duties."

There are many incidents of interest that might be told of his personal life and practice, many little personal incidents recounted by those who knew him and were his patients, but the recording of the following w will at least be of general interest in a professional way and give us an insight into that pabt of his history. In 1898 the College was visited by the then mush dreaded scourge yellow fever. Dr. Barr diagnosed the malady as such, and when this diagnosis was known Starkville was siezed with panic. The people of the townw were harangued on the street by a local preacher, inflaming the population to believe that the"physician " of the College had hidden the fact of the sickness being yellow fever until it was well established and all persons in and around had been exposed. A special

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train carried crowds from this section to St. Louis for safety. Guards with shot guns were ordered out and general pandemonium and fear reigned. Dr. Barr remained calm through it all, made his diagnosis and immediately requested the attendance of an expert to look into the matter authoritatively. Through the efficient actions of General Stephen D. Lee, President of the College and Co. W.B.Montgomery, home trustee, excitement was quelled and voilence held in check until some action could be taken to know the truth. In response to Dr. Barr's request, Dr. H.A.Gant, of Columbia, Tenn. , at that time State Yellow Fever Expert, was sent to Starkville. Dr. Gant substantiated the diagnosis as made by Dr. Barr and cleared him of any desire to keep the malady a secret except in so far as it was necessary for the protection of the persons actually affected. A number of years after in writing of this occasion Dr. Gant stated of Dr. Barr: "He showed great cpurage and wonderful ability in so successfully handling the outbreak of fever that not a death occurred and the college was not suspended - I delight to honor his memory." These years fell in that period in medical history in which the manner of transmission of this disease was still an uncertainty, and the information secured from this outbreak at the College forged another link in the chain of evidence against the mosquito as a carrier.

Dr. Barr died suddenly of a heart attack after having met the students of that day at the hospital hour according to the usual schedule. On March

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31 he was laid to rest in the family plot in Starkville, Miss. It was a cold, stormy day in March and the ground was sodden with rain but hundreds of people stood at the grave side for the last rites, attesting to the love and respect felt for "their physician," offering what comfort there is at a time like that, by their presence, and realizing with one who knew him as a life long friend that "a successful career had closed - if in its prime, untimely, yet full of deeds and accomplishments - as a noble example complete."

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(1) Manuscript furnished by Miss Evelyn Barr.

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Born in Bavaria, Germany, April 4, 1843.
Died at Starkville, Miss., October 11, 1912.
A pythian for forty-two years.
A resident of Starkville for over fifty years.

This was the news that was flashed over the State on the morning of the eleventh of October, and no news ever given out tonour people caused more profound sorrow. Simon Fried no more. O! what a worldxof wealth there was in the very magic of his name.! He has been the counselor of the young, the adsicer of the middle aged and the sympathizer of the older men. He had been not only a great and true citizen of Mississippi, but he had been in the true and noble sense abfraternalist. His life was one that showed to the world not only from a business standpoint that he believed in the principles of fraternalism but actively, not only in his home, but in all of his relations with his fellow-men. Bro. Fried was the ideal, acknowledged by all men. Bro. Fried was what might be termed as exceptional character; in that he took advantage of the opportunities f for good wherever it was possible. He was not a native of this country but there was no more loyal and patriotic American than Simon Fried in the confines of our Union. He was born in Bavaria inn1843 and became a resident of Stroudsburg, Pa., where in May 1870, he became a member of the Order Knights of Pythias. Some thirty years ago he became a resident of

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The Pythian Journal, October, 1912

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Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi. He transferred his membership at once to the local Lodge. He soon became a Past Chancellor of his lodge and entered the Grand Lodge and there his merits were soon recognized and he was the fifteenth Grand Chancellor of the State of Mississippi; serving through the administrative years of 1888 and 1899 and made an exceptionally strong Grand Chancellor. But probably his greatest work i in Pythianism, from the active standpoint, was not while serving as Grand Chancellor but for years he was a member and Chairman of the committee ond Law and through his wise counsel the best work for the Order was accomplished. Not only did he serve this State in all these capacities but he was taken to the Supreme Lodge as one of our Supreme Representatives. First being elected in 1890 and later being elected again in 1905 to serve a term of four years and again in 1909, dying during his last term as Supreme Representative. He took a prominent part in the Supreme Lodge and was one of the very few members of that distinguished body who was not a lawyer, who had a place on the Judiciary Committee of the Supreme Lodge. Thus was his ability recognized, Not only in the Pythian Order but in the Masonic and the Odd Fellows as well was he recognized; having been Grand Master of the latter fraternity and having served upon the Judiciary

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Ibid

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Committee of the former. He was recognized throughout the length and breadth of our land as one of the best posted men in fraternal law and not only did his knowledge of the law from an expert standpoint make him a power but he always wove into his decisions that beautiful fraternal spirit that the tenets of various orders so wisely teach and it is this we believe was the reason that he was more influential than other men. At our session at Gulfport we missed him frim our annual convention for the first time in twenty-nine years and many were the expressions of hope that he would again assume his place in the Grand Lodge, but Providence has willed it otherwise, and now all that we can have of Simon Fried is the beautiful benediction of his splendid life. We believe that it is such an example that we can hold up to the young men of our Order. We can say to the young man who for the first time kneels at the Pythian Altar, "So live that when you shall become a Pythian Knight that you will emulate the virtues of Simon Fried; if so you will be a Pythian in fact and in truth." Such was the life of Simon Fried and we pause to say that the home circle and his own town will not miss him more sorely than does the Order of Knights of Pythias that he honored so nobly by his excellent life.

Col. Fried was sixty-nine years old at the time of his death and had resided in our city for over thirty years, honorable, upright, active

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Ibid

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in all good works, a safe counsellor, progressive and enterprising and ever true and loyal to a friend under any and all circumstances. He was a man of peace and nothing afforded him greater delight or more gratification than to do everything in his power to promote peace and harmony in the community in which he lived and was a manb of magnetic influence.

He had filled the position of alderman-at-large for the city for a number of years most satisfactorily and efficiently, being a man of good judgement and of large experience. At one time he was chairman of the county executive committee and was rightly appreciated for the good services rendered in that capacity, ever conservative, but positive. He was a man that always battled for and stood up for the right. Such a man could not be otherwise than beloved and respected by fellows.

Ibid

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Nothing better exemplifies the high character of this great Hebrew than the following excerpt taken from the East Mississippi Times of July 9, 1909, on the life of Isadore Newman which reads as follows:

Isadore Newman lived a simple life, true as the needle to the pole; his love for his family, for his adopted country, for his fellowman and for his God were the guiding stars of his existance. He came from Europe when a boy, unacquainted with the language, equipped with nothing but his industry, his honesty and his determined will to gain a good name. He succeeded well. The name he leaves to his posterity is a princeless heritage, unsullied and unstrained. He was charitable, he was free from guile, he was as gentle as a child, he was a contributor to every benevolent and moral movement organized in our community.

He was the spiritual leader of those of our faith residing in Starkville for over forty years. Year in and year out, on all of our holy and festive days, he conducted our services purely from love of our faith. He was a firm adherent to our Jewish doctrines and a strict observer of its rules and regulations, still he was very broad minded and liberal in his religious ideas. He believed in fraternity, in the Father-hood of God and the brother-hood of man. He was the friend of all and the helper of all

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when it was in his power to do so, whether Jew or Gentile. His ambition was to do good and to instill in the hearts of every one the golden rule, to "do unto others as you would they should do unto you". He lived in this community for over forty years, taking an active part in all that is required of a good citizen and patriot, serving the South in the War of the rebellion, and while he lost his all like a good many others in that great strife, he accepted the enevitable and loved his country and his flag to his dying day.

If Isadore Newman had an enemy, I have never heard of it. He was loved and honored by all who knew him and his exemplary life will be held in appreciative memory by the coming generations.

To the bereaved widow, children, grandchildren and relatives our heart goes out in sympathy. May Divine Providence grant them strength to bear the blow and to find consolation in the loved ones that remain.

As for the departed, it is but transition, transition which released the shattered frame from torture and gave the weary bones their rest, transition which he from suffering, hoped and wished and prayed for many a day, for it is not on earth that Heaven's justice ends. Think what earth is compared to the blissful realms beyond to which this weary spirit

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winged its flight, and you will realize that God in his wisdom "doeth all things well." And now "peace to his ashes."

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One of the best known of our public men, and one universally liked and esteemed for his many admirable qualities, a man fully up with the times and in full sympathy with all movements looking to the general welfare of our city, county and state, a friend tothe old and young, white and black, is Professor W.H.Miller, County Superi tendent of Education. Born July 16, 1851, he is now in his 46th year. His father was Charles F. Miller, a pioneer of Oktibbeha County, and for a lomg time one of the leading lawyers of this section of the state, and Henry was his oldest son. He received a preliminary education in the primary schools of Starkville and was doubtless a bright and studeous youth. He attended the Franklin Academy at Franklin, Tenn., for five years, and afterwards took a collegiate course at the Emory and Henry College, of Virginia. From there he went to Kentucky and took a special course in physics and chemistry at the Transylvania University of Lexington.

Returning to his native heath, he engaged in the drug business which calling he followed successfully until 1891, when he was elected County Superintendent of Education and a good druggist became a better Superintendent. He is now serving his second four-year term, having had no opponent at the last primary election. He is a staunch Democrat, a Southerner to the manor born and loyal through and through. He is an up-

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to-date educator, fully identified with the forward movement of education in our State and enjoys the confidence and respect of our teachers to the fullest extent.

Mr. Miller was matried in 1877, to Miss Ruby Askew, who died July 2, 1897, after a lingering illness, leaving him the care of four childrem three daughters and one son.

Ibid

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Mrs. Bertha McGee Scales, daughter of George M. and Mrs. Regina Moody McGee was born near Hernando in Desoto County Mississippi, November the 3rd 1874. Her father died while she was in her third year. Three years later her mother was married to the Rev. J.W.Dorman of the North Mississippi Conference, by whom Bertha was educated at Centenary College at Cleveland, Tennessee. Miss McGee was married to W.W.Scales Jr., in October 1895, and from this union was born Walter M. Scales. From the date of her marriage Mrs. Scales made her home in Starkville to the end of her useful life, in which cultured city she indentified herself with every good movement. She loved church work in all its phases and gave her energies to it unstintedly. The following information only indicates how busily and how earnestly Mrs. Scales lived.

In the work of the women of the church Mrs. Scales gave several years to the presidency of the local Home Mission Society in Starkville, Miss., to secretaryship of the District. For a number of years she was secretary of the Conference Missionary Society. For two terms she was treasurer and two terms president of this body. This only indicates something of the extent of the work given to department of Church work.

When the Woman's Home Mission Society and the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society were merged into one, Mrs. Scales was called to the presidency of the new organization of the North Mississippi Annual Conference for the purpose of solidifying two extinct organizations into the

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Woman's Missionary Society. History stands to show how perfectly this delecate undertaking was accomplished.

During these busy years Mrs. Scales was called to the exacting duties of the office of Grand Matron of the Eastern Star of Mississippi for the year 1916-17. This work carried her into every part of Mississippi. For many years Mrs. Scales was a member of the Board of Directors of the Orphans Home and served on the executive committee of that body for a number of years. But undoubtedly the crowing works of this busy life was as the Organizer and teacher of the Character Builders class in the Sunday School of her home church in Starkville, Miss. This class was composed of student in the A.& M.College who were gathered from all sections of Mississippi and many other states of America. Her careful preparation, her Christian character, and her attractive personality, reached and impressed for good, much of the young life of the United States, and whent these students were scattered to the different parts of the world and were burdened with various responsibilities, they sent many messages of thanks from far off regions, for the preparations of life they had received from this brilliant and consecrated teacher.

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On July 15, 1921 at two o'clock, just a little while before dawn, her busy hands dropped all earthly labor, and Mrs. Scales soul passed into realms of everlasting light and peace.

She acquired in her early youth, all the religious zeal of her parents, hence during her entire life, it was her ambition to devote her life in service to humanity, in the most unselfish manner. Starkville News, July 29, 1921, on the event of her death, had the following statement:- "To her belonged the personal charms and great beauty of heart. The sweetness of her disposition was unexcelled, and her service as an earnest Christian worker cannot be estimated. Some twenty years ago she organized the "Character Builders", a Sunday School class composed of A. and M. students at the Methodist Church. About fifteen young men were in the original class but new members were added, until more than a thousand members have been enrolled. From this class the young men are scattered over the world, some being employed in South America, West Indies, Europe Asia and Africa. Mrs. Scales made it a point every year to present to the young men who were perfect in attendance, a gold star or medal. When one graduated at the college he was always awarded an Oxford Bible, with his name, date, and name of college stamped on back, as a constant re-

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minder to inspire them to strive only for that which is highest and noblest in life. Her constant thoughts were on these boys of her Sunday School class, a devotion which was shared in the same way by these young men."

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(1) Starkville News - 1926
(2) Manuscript furnished by Mrs. J.M.Dorman, Water Valley, Mississippi.

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Dr. Buz M. Walker, the third son of six children, is the son of William Walker, one of the pioneers of Oktibbeha County, settling in the county in the early part of the last century. Here he was a surveyor, teacher, and planter. On his father's farm, Dr. Buz Walker was born, August 20, 1863 where he remained until the death of his father in 1874. During this time he received the fundamentals of his education from his cultured mother and poor county schools of the Reconstruction regime. He then entered the high school and later the Agricultural and Mechanical College at the opening of its first session, graduating with honors with the first class in 1883, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science.

As a college student he saw dormitory life at its worst. All dormitories had crude fireplaces with grates. Students had to carry their coal from the common dump to their rooms. Water had to be drawn from a deep well by means of a rope and windless and later pumped and also carried to the students respective rooms. Coal oil lamps were the only means of lighting and the oil had to be secured from the store room on schedule or do without. The oil can had to be hung out the window for fear of fire and hence each can had to be tied or the student just above, in the event of shortage, would let down a hook on a string, and confiscate the can and oil.

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The mess hall was in the basement of the old administration building, most of the time it was crude in all its equipment and had only a dirt floor.

He was one of the organizers of the Young Men's Christian Association and was its first president; he was a member of the Dialectic Literary Society and always took an active part in its proceedings; in the military organization, he was a good officer and disciplinarian; and served as senior captain in charge of the student battalion for a year and a half. Immediately after graduation, Mr. Walker was employed in the college as instructor in the preparatory department during the session of 1883-1884, and then was transferred to the department of mathematics as assistant professor, which position he filled until 1888 when he was promoted to professor of mathematics and given a years leave of absence. He spent the summers of 1885, 1886 and 1887 studying mathematics at the University of Virginia under Professor Wm. M. Thornton, who said to his pupil: "It gives me great pleasure to certify that you were a student of my private class in mathematics during three summers, and worked with me through courses in plane analytical geometry of three dimensions, differential and intregral calculus, and elementary theoretical mechanics. Your work was exceedingly satisfattory, done with unusual zeal and intelligence, and quite up to the grade of the best college

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work". The degree of Master of Science was conferred on him by his alma mater in 1886. He spent the session of 1888-1889 in Gottingen and Berlin studying mathematics under the German masters. After his return from Europe, Gen. S.D.Lee wrote of him as follows: "I know of no young gentleman of Professor Walker's age who has more thoroughly prepared himself as a teacher. He has had five years' training in Latin, one and a half in Greek, two years in German, fifteen months in French and has a reading knowledge in Italian. He is an apt scholar, is quick, and has a very analytical mind. I consider him one of the clearest and most successful teachers in the section room I have ever heard." However, Professor Walker was not satisfied with His education and in 1895 obtained a second leave of absence from the College and went to the University of Chicago, which institution probably had the strongest mathematical faculty in America, and spent fifteen months studying mathematics and mathematical astronomy. At the close of this time, Head Professor of Mathematics E.H.Moore, said in his letter to him: "I am glad you honor our University and our department so signally. It is men of your make-up that we rejoice exceedingly to come in contact with." He continued his work by making a critical review and examination of the literature treating of the singularities of algebraic curves and undertook the difficult task of solving the celebrated mathematical problems, "On the resolution of higher singularities of alge-

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braic curves into ordinary nodes." Professor Walker spent several years in conquering this problem; he attended to his regular college duties during the sessions and spent his summer vacations in Chicago doing mathematical reading with Professor Oskar Bolza and studying this problem. His laborious efforts were crowned with success. His solution is entirely new proof of this celebrated theorem, a method different from any offered before. It was accepted by the University of Chicago as a dissertation submitted to the faculties of the graduate schools of arts, literature, and science in candidacy for the degree of Doctor of Phylosophy. The degree was conferred on him at the August convocation in 1906. The solution of this celebrated problem gives Dr. Walker a promdnent and permanent place in the mathematical history, makes him a credit to the college, and an honor to the State and the entire South. Dr. Walker keeps in close touch with modern thought in science and education; he is a member of the American Mathematical Society, a member of the London Mathematical Society in England and a life member of the Deutsche Mathematicker - Vereinigung in Germany, a member of the Circolo Matematico di Palermo in Italy, a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the National Educational Association. Being a man of executive ability combined with administrative capacity, he was a power in the college, and an inspiration to the faculty and students

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with whom he was universally popular. In 1902 when the president and Board of Trustees organized the School of Engineering, he was made its Dean, in addition to being professor of mathematics. He is a great believer in the doctrine of a practical education for the masses of the people, not forgetting that the people should be educated for the main business of life, such as agriculture, horticulture, mechanics and the industrial pursuits, thus he devoted his attention to the developing the School of Engineering, which had for its primary object the training of the young men of the college in those fundamental principles of mathematics and along the different lines of engineering which make the foundation and form the basis of all successful specialization; and, further, prepare the young men to do the engineering work called for in this state and section. He stoutly advocated the principle that the education of the engineer must be well balanced and well rounded, it must be broad enough to make its men respect other lines of work, and thorough enough to make them hold their own among other men, that as a profession, engineering must maintain its rank among the liberal professiona and, at the same time, it must have its share of thinkers and writers, from which its men rise to accept the most influential and responsible work, when called to take their places og higher honor and trust in the land.

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In 1913 he was made vice-president of the college and served in this capacity until 1925. During this time he was also serving as professor of mathematics and Dean of the School of Engineering. On him fell a large percent of the administrative and disciplinary duties of the college. He was faculty chairman of the Committee on Courses of Instruction, chairman of the Committee on Discipline, chairman of the Athletic Committee, and made out all schedules of recitation for all Schools of the College, the Library Committee, the Housing Committee, etc.

In 1925 Dr. Walker was elevated to the presidency of the college he had served so faithfully from his youth as a student to mature manhood. In this capacity, he desired, above all, to give the poor young man a chance to secure the best education the times demanded. To accomplish this he obtained through the board of trustees and the State Legislature, a bill for Working Boys Dormitory with its own farm and living arrangements to accommodate the demands of these worthy young men. The building was immediately filled to capacity with these hard working young men and the college records of their achievements attest to the wisdom of the recommendation. Dr. Walker also improved and enlarged various buildings and put down a system of streets on the campus which has materially improved the transportation and beauty of the grounds. The system of concrete roads, which cost $80,000.00, was the basic foundation for the future growth and development of the college. The plan was carefully studied out in

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advance to prevent mistakes being made in the location of future buildings to meet the growing needs of the institution. In addition to the dormitory for the working boys, was erected the agricultural building, the experiment station building, remodeling and improving other college buildings , additions to the properties of the sub-stations, and the purchase of the working boy's farm. The total additional growth of the college was $750,000.00 during the five years of his incumbency as president of the college. An average of $150,000.00 per year in added wealth to the college property. His plan on which he was daligently working was to increase the college property $1,500,000.00 in a ten year period to accommodate a student body of 2500 students. It included an enlargement of the Chemical Laboratory, the Engineering Building, the Dairy Building, the Hospital, and building a Library, Gymnasium and Stadium, additional dormatories, etc.

As persident Dr. Walker showed great administrative ability, a man who had the courage of his convictions and who made no compromise with principle - a devout Christian gentleman. His first move ~~as president~~ was to get recognition of the college by the Southern Association of the Colleges which placed the institution on a firm educational basis in this country and this recognition was quickly followed by the recognition being given the college by the National Engineering Societies, the Association of Colleges and Universities, the American Council on Education, the

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Association of College Presidents, etc. The college was then recognized abroad. He was a charter member in the establishment of the Louisiana - Mississippi Section of the Mathematical Association of America and was elected as its first chairman. In politics, he is a Democrat. In religion, he is a Baptist and a deacon in the First Baptist Church, Starkville, Mississippi.

In the business world Dr. Walker is regarded as a conservative and successful business man. He owns extensive City and farm property and is a director in the Security State Bank, Starkville, Mississippi. In 1935 he received an invitation from the Mathematicians of Norway to attend the International Congress of Mathematicians in Oslo, Norway, July 1936, and read a paper. He chose as his subject "The Higher Singularities of Algebraic Curves." To duly appreciate the significance of this task one needs to know this brief mathematical history:- " The theory of the singularities of algebraic curves is historically celebrated, it is extremely important in the science of mathematics, and has been extensively studied by mathematicians for two centuries. In 1736, Newton began investigations to determine the expansions of an algebraic curve in the vicinity of a singular point; in 1750, Cramer carried out the work of Newton; and in 1850, Puiseux made an extended treatment of his theory. The resolution of higher singularities began to attract wide attention and was studied by many mathematicians, Arthur Cayley being among the number. In 1875, Noether established the theorem that every algebraic curve which has no

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other singular points than ordinary multiple points; soon afterwards the theory wasstudied by Weirstrass, Hamburger, and many others, including Halphen who enunciated the problem that any algebraic curve having only ordinary multiple points can be transformed into another having only ordinary doubls points. The Halphen theorym in the final enuncuation of the celebrated problem, which had been of so much interest in the mathematical world; it naturally attracted wide attention as it promised high honors to the mathematician who could solve it, and consequently had been vigorously attached in different countries. Three essential different methods have been employed for its proof by the great mathematician of Europe; but, however, all of these proofs are written in an exceedingly concise style and leave a great many minor points to the reader.

Dr. Walker appeared in person at the Oslo Congress of Mathematicians and read his paper which was well received. At the request of the officials of the Congress an abstract was furnished for publication in the official proceedings to be distributed throughout the world. A reprint of the full paper as published in the National Mathematics Magazine is herewith appended. He is the only Mississippian to have ever received this distinguished honor. His name appears in the hall of Fame in Mathematics among the world'd great Mathematicians. He is duly recorded in American

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