



The

# Gems of Pike County Arkansas

Vol. VIII No. 2

Publication of the Pike County Archives and History Society

Spring 1997

Box 238 Murfreesboro Arkansas 71958

## WILLIAM T. DICKSON

William T. Dickson was born February 14, 1800 in Kentucky. He was the son of David Dickson of North Carolina. His father moved from North Carolina to Kentucky and to Tennessee by 1803. He thereafter settled in Hempstead now Pike County, Arkansas about 1825 or 1826 "in the region where Murfreesboro now stands" according to Sam Williams in his sketches of Pike County pioneers. He came to Arkansas territory from Jackson County, Tennessee. Also from this Tenn-essie county to Pike County, Arkansas by 1833 were David S. Dickson, John Dickson, John M. Dickson, Samuel A. Dickson, Sion B. Dickson, Abner H. Hancock, Isabella Hancock afterward the wife of Micajah Johnston, Mary S. Hancock after-ward the wife of Clement Davis, William T. Hancock, George W. Hensley, Isaac White, John White, and Jordan White.

William T. Dickson entered as private in the service of the United States in the War of 1818 against the Seminole Indians. He was mustered in at Camp Blount, Tennessee on January 31, 1818 for the term of six months and actually served five months in Captain James Rodgers' Company of Tennessee Volunteer Mounted Gunman. He was honorably discharged at Columbia, Tennessee in Maury County on June 30, 1818.

William T. Dickson and Nancy "under the name of Dickson" were married by John Wilson, Esquire in Jackson County, Tennessee on January 22, 1822. Their known children were:

Leroy Allen Dickson born 1823 in Jackson County, Tennessee; married Mary Agness White daughter of John White and Martha Mitchell about 1845 in Pike County, Arkansas; died June 2, 1886 in Pike County, Arkansas. They are buried in the

Delight Cemetery (old section) behind the Antioch Church of Christ at Delight, Arkansas.

John W. Dickson born 1827 in Jackson County, Tennessee; married Nancy, maiden name unknown, about 1868 in Pike County, Arkansas.

William J. Dickson born 1835 at Wolf Creek, Missouri Township, Pike County, Arkansas.

George Washington Dickson born 1838 at Wolf Creek, Missouri Township, Pike County, Arkansas; married Ellen, Ellie, or Elbe (Huffman) Wingfield daughter of Joseph Huffman and Jamima Thornton and widow of William H. Wingfield, on October 10, 1869 in Clark County, Arkansas.

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Dickson born 1840 at Wolf Creek, Missouri Township, Pike County, Arkansas.

Francis M. Dickson born 1842 at Wolf Creek, Missouri Township, Pike County, Arkansas.

Mary Caroline Dickson born 1845 at Wolf Creek, Missouri Township Pike County, Arkansas; married Cornelius Waller Threlkeld son of Thomas Atwell Threlkeld and Parmelia Ragsdale on February 1, 1875 in Pike County, Arkansas; died March 1882.

Abner H. Dickson born 1848 at Wolf Creek, Missouri Township, Pike County, Arkansas; moved to Texas.

William T. Dickson, Nancy Dickson and Leroy Dickson are among sixty-four listed as "charter members" in the records of the Antioch Church of Christ at Delight, Arkansas. This church originated in 1833. William T. Dickson was ordained the first deacon of record for this church on October 29, 1842 and continued in this office until his resignation March 4, 1855. The church selected as successors Richard Boyer and Cyrus Hubble.

William T. Dickson purchased 80 acres of public land, the south half of the southeast quarter of Section 24 in Township 8, South of Range 24, West, from the Land Office at Washington, Ar-

kansas on February 22, 1836. This parcel comprises the greater part of northwest Delight, Arkansas. His land joined the 42.62 acres of Samuel Hasley.

William T. Dickson died in Pike County, Arkansas on July 10, 1859. Nancy Dickson born June 29, 1805 in South Carolina died after 1878.

**BOUNTY LAND CLAIM**

Form of Declaration for  
Surviving Officer or Soldier.

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Pike,

On this 21st day of May A.D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty one, personally appeared before me, Jackson Brock, a Justice of the Peace duly authorized to administer oaths within and for the County and State aforesaid, Wm. T. Dickson age 51 years, a resident of Pike County in the State of Arkansas who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical Wm. T. Dickson who was a private in the Company commanded by Captain James Rogers in a Regiment of T.V.M.G. M. (Tennessee Volunteer Mounted Gunman) commanded by (blank) in the war with the Semi-nole Indians; that he volunteered at McMinnville, Tennessee (in Warren County) on or about the (blank) day of (blank) A.D. 1818 for the term of 6 months and was honorably discharged at Columbia, Tennessee on the 30th day of June A.D. 1818, on account of (blank) as will appear by the original certificate of discharge hereto attached and also the muster rolls of said Company.

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which he may be entitled under the "act granting bounty land to certain officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States "passed September 28th, 1850."

WM. T. DICKSON

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the day and year above written. And I hereby certify, that I believe the said Wm. T. Dickson to be the identical man who served as aforesaid, and that he is of the age above stated.

JACKSON BROCK, J.P. (L.S.)

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Pike,

I, Thomas K. Dossey, Clerk of the Circuit Court, in and for the County and State above mentioned, do hereby certify, that Jackson Brock, whose genuine signature appears above, is, and was, at the time of signing the same, a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, duly commissioned and

sworn; that all his official acts as such are entitled in full faith and credit; and that the aforesaid Circuit Court, is a Court of Record, having general jurisdiction.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at Murfreesboro, Pike County, Arkansas this 21st day of May A.D. 1851.

THOMAS K. DOSSEY, Clerk.

**Certificate of Discharge**

This is to certify that William T. Dixon private in Capt. James Rodgers' company of T.V.M.G.M. has served a tour of five months as a Volunteer, on an expedition against the Seminole Indians; he carries with him the thanks & gratitude of his commanding officer and merits the applause of his country, and is hereby honorably discharged.

JAMES RODGERS, Capt.

Columbia, June 30th 1818.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY.**

Know all Men by these Presents:

That, I, Wm. T. Dickson of the County of Pike and State of Arkansas do hereby irrevocably make, constitute and appoint Wm. K. Sebastian my true and lawful Attorney, for me and in my name, to demand and receive from the Department of the Interior of the United States, the Certificate or Warrant, to which I am entitled for my Military services, as set forth in the foregoing Declaration; and, for good and sufficient reasons, do hereby revoke and countermand any and all other powers of attorney or other authority that may have been heretofore given by me.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 21st day of May, 1851.

WM. T. DICKSON (L.S.)

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Pike,

On this 21st day of May 1851, personally appeared before me, Jackson Brock a Justice of the Peace duly authorized by law to take acknowledgements in and for the county afore-said, William T. Dickson and acknowledged the above Power to be his act and deed, for the purposes therein mentioned.

JACKSON BROCK, J.P. (L.S.)

**BOUNTY LAND CLAIM**

Form of Declaration for  
Surviving Officer or Soldier.

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Pike,

On this eleventh day of June A.D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, personally appeared before me, I.D. Wall a Justice of the Peace, duly authorized to administer oaths within and for the County and State aforesaid, William T. Dickson aged 55 years, a resident of Pike County in the State of Arkansas, who being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical Wm. T. Dickson who was a Private in the Company commanded by Captain James Rogers in the 2d (as he believes) Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers com-manded by Col. Haines in the war against the Seminole Indians; that he volunteered at Jackson County, Tennessee on or about the 1st day of February A.D. 1818 for the term of six months and continued in actual service in said war for the term of six months and was honorably discharged at Columbia, Tenn(essie) on the (blank) of (blank) A.D. 1818 on account of (the) expiration of term of service as will appear by the muster rolls of said Company.

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Bounty Land to which he may be entitled under the "Act granting additional bounty land to certain officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States," approved March 3, 1855. And refers to his former declaration made under act of 1850 upon which he applied for Land Warrant No. (blank), for (blank) acres, which he having never received, (and) is not within his power to return.

He further declares that he has not received a warrant for bounty land under any other act of Congress, nor made any application therefor, than the one above referred to, under act of 1850 upon which (he) applied for, the said Land Warrant, No. (blank), for (blank) acres, and the one now presented.

WILLIAM T. DICKSON

We, Abner H. Hancock and Elijah Kelley, Senr., residents of Pike County, Arkansas, upon our Oaths, declare that the foregoing declaration was signed and acknowledged by Wm. T. Dickson in our presence, and that we believe from the appearance and statements of the applicant, that he is the identical person he represents himself to be.

ABNER H. HANCOCK  
ELIJAH KELLEY, SEN.

The foregoing declaration and affidavit were sworn to and subscribed before me, on the day and year above written, and I certify that I know the affiants to be credible persons, that the claimant is the person he represents himself to be, and that I have no interest in this claim.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office, at office in the County of Pike, State of Arkansas, the day and year first above written.

I.D. WALL, J.P.

\_\_\_\_\_

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That, I, William T. Dickson, of the County of Pike and State of Arkansas, have constituted and appointed Wm. K. Sebastian of Washington City, D.C. my true and lawful Attorney, irrevocably, for me and in my name, to prosecute and received from the United States the Bounty Land certificate, or warrant, due me under existing Laws granting Bounty Land for services rendered in the United States in the different wars, and generally to do all lawful acts and things whatsoever touching the premises, and an attorney or attorneys under him, for the purpose aforesaid to make, and at his pleasure to revoke, hereby confirming all and whatsoever my said attorney shall in my name legally do, or cause to be done, in the premises.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this thirteenth day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

WILLIAM T. DICKSON (Seal)

Acknowledged and subscribed before the undersigned, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Pike County, in the State of Arkansas.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office, at office in the town of Mur-freesboro, Arkansas, this thirteenth day of June, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

WM. R. McFARLIN, Clk.

\_\_\_\_\_

The State of Arkansas,

ss:

County of Hempstead,

Be it remembered, that on this 25th day of April A.D. 1856, personally appeared before me, Simon T. Sanders, clerk of the Circuit Court for the County of Hempstead and State afore-said, duly authorized to administer oaths and take affirmations within the State aforesaid, by virtue of my office of clerk aforesaid, Grandison D. Royston, a person well known to me to be the identical individual he represents himself to be and being first duly sworn by me for the purpose, did make and subscribe before me and in my presence the following affi-davit, viz:

That he has never received by mail or otherwise, a certain Land Warrant issued by the Pension office of the United States of America, entitled "Warrant No. 32,605" for 80 acres and issued in favor of "Mr. William T. Dickson" for his services in "Capt. Rogers' Company Tenn. Vols." and which was sent "March 20, 1852" to the "Hon. W.K. Sebastian" of the U.S. Senate from said office, as deponent is informed by letter of "S. Cole" for Commissioner of Pensions, to "Hon. E.W. Johnson of U.S. Senate" now in deponents possession and which said Warrant was on the 25th day of March, 1852 transmitted by Senator Sebastian by mail to this deponent to his address at Washington, Arkansas, as this deponent has been advised since by the Hon. W.K. Sebastian, and that he confidently believes that said Warrant has been lost or de-stroyed in transit by mail from Washington City, D.C. to the address of deponent at Washington, Arkansas.

G.D. ROYSTON

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this, the day an year first above written, as witness my hand as said clerk as aforesaid, as also my seal of office affixed at my office, at the town of Washington, in the County and State aforesaid.

S.T. SANDERS, Clerk.

---

State of Arkansas,

Sct:

County of Hempstead,

I, Orville Jennings, do solemnly swear that the notice of William T. Dickson of "Land Warrant Lost" as represented by a copy thereof affixed in the margin hereof, was duly published in the "Hempstead Democrat" a newspaper published weekly at Washington, in the County and State aforesaid, for six weeks successively, to wit: from Tuesday April 3d, 1855 to Tuesday May 25, 1855, during which period I was one of the publishers of said newspaper, and that the copy in the margin hereof was cut from one of the numbers of said papers issued during said period, by me, so help me God!

ORVILLE JENNINGS

Sworn to and subscribed before me, Simon T. Sanders, Clerk of the Hempstead Circuit Court, on this 25th day of April, A.D. 1856.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my as such clerk and affixed my seal of office at my office in the town of Washington, in the County and State, aforesaid, upon the day and year, aforesaid.

S.T. SANDERS, Clerk

---

**Land Warrant Lost!**

NOTICE is hereby given that military Bounty Land Warrant No. 32,605, for 80 acres, issued in favor of William T. Dickson, for his service as a private in Capt. Rogers' Company, Tennessee Volunteers, has been lost; and this is to forewarn all persons from purchasing the same. The Department having been notified of its loss, a caveat will be filed, and a duplicate applied for.

WILLIAM T. DICKSON

April 3, 1855.

---

LETTER

U.S. Senate May 19, 1856

Sir:

Mr. W.T. Dickson under date of May 2 to Hon. R.W. Johnson writes that he had "sometime last Spring" a warrant issued from the Dept. for 80 acres which was addressed to G.D. Royston at Washington, Arks., but never came to hand. That he made the proper shewing (sp) in order to account for it & made application for more land under the last act of Congress giving

more land & made me "agent". I have no recollection of any such warrant under the supplementary act.

I obtained for Mr. Dickson his original warrant for 80 acres which was lost, "No. 32605" for 80 acres & made application for a duplicate in 1852 from which I have not received since. Can he confound the cases? Please answer me as to the first named &c., who obtained, when issued, to whose care & what proceedings are on file for a duplicate, & by whom made.

Very respectfully,

W.K. SEBASTIAN

J. Minot, Commissioner.

---

LETTER

U.S. Senate May 20, 1856

Sir:

I have to state that the warrant described in the affidavit aforesaid, was issued to my care at Washington City, and that inasmuch as I had received the original Declaration & proofs from Mr. G.D. Royston, as the attorney of W.T. Dickson. I forwarded said Warrant to said G.D. Royston as appears from an entry in my memorandum made at the time. The warrant was transmitted about the 25 March 1852.

Respectfully,

W.K. SEBASTIAN

J. Minot  
Commissioner, Pensions.  
Washington City, D.C.

Bounty Land Warrant Applications of William T. Dickson, 1851 and 1855, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

---

**Declaration to be made by a surviving Officer  
or Soldier claiming additional Bounty Land.**

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Pike,

On this 2d day of July, 1856, before me, a Justice of the Peace, in and for the county and State aforesaid, personally appeared William T. Dickson, aged 56 years, who being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical William T. Dickson who was a private in the company com-manded by Captain Rogers, in the 2d Regiment of Mounted Volunteers of Tennessee, commanded by Col. Haynes. That he volunteered at Gainesboro, Jackson Co., in the State of Tennessee, on or about the (blank) day of January, 1818 and was honorably discharged at Columb(ia), Tennessee, on or about the (blank) day of April, 1818.

He further states, that about the year 1851 he made application to the Pension office for Bounty Land Warrant for said services, that he has been informed that Bounty Land Warrant No.

32605 for 80 acres, (was) issued under the act of 28th Sept. 1850 from Pension office, by reason of said service. He further states that said Warrant has never come to his possession, that he has never sold nor assigned said Warrant & that he is informed that a caveat has been filed in the Gen(era)l Land Office.

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the additional Bounty Land, to which he is entitled under the Act of March 3d, 1855, never having received Bounty Land except as above stated, and he hereby constitutes and appoints W.K. Sebastian, of Arkansas, his Attorney to prosecute his claim and procure his warrant. Hereby authorizing and empowering Attorney to obtain from the proper authorities which his said service may be recorded, and to procure any and all other evidence that may be necessary to establish his claim, as fully as he might or could do if personally present, and revoking and countermanding all other authority that may have been given for the above specified purpose.

WILLIAM T. DICKSON

Sworn to, subscribed and acknowledged before me, the day and year first above written, and on the same day personally came before me William Kelley and Elijah Kelley, residents of Arkansas, to me known as creditable witnesses, who being duly sworn according to law, declare that they are personally acquainted William T. Dickson, who has made the foregoing declaration, that they were present and saw him subscribe & sworn to said declaration, and that from their personal acquaintance with him, they believe that he is the identical person who performed the military services, and they further swear that they are disinterested in his claim.

WILLIAM KELLEY  
ELIJAH KELLEY

Sworn to, and subscribed before me, and I certify that I am not interested in the claim, or concerned in its prosecution, and I believe that the claimant is the person he represents himself to be.

I.D. WALL, J.P.

State of Arkansas,  
County of Pike,

I, Wm. R. McFarlin, Clerk of the County Court in and for the County and State above named, do hereby certify that I.D. Wall, Esq., before whom the foregoing affidavits were made, and who has thereunto signed his name, was at the time of so doing a Justice of the Peace, in and for the County and State above named, duly commissioned and sworn, that all his official acts as such are entitled to full faith and credit, and that his signature thereto is genuine.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed my official seal, this 4th day of July A.D., 1856.

WM. R. McFARLIN, Clerk by  
WM. J. KELLEY, D.C.

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Pike,

On this 2d day of July 1856, before me, a Justice of the Peace in & for said County & State, personally appeared William T. Dickson aged 56 years, who being duly sworn according to law, declares that he has never received Bounty Land Warrant No. 32605 of 80 acres issued under the Act of 28th September 1850, for his services rendered in the year 1818 & that he has never sold nor assigned said Warrant.

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining a Duplicate of said Warrant to which he is entitled as will more fully appear by reference to his first application under the date of April 1856, forwarded by O. Jennings, Esq. of Washington, Arks. on file in the Pension Office, as he is informed & believes, & he hereby constitutes & appoints W.K. Sebastian of Arkansas his attorney to prosecute his claim & procure his Duplicate Warrant.

WILLIAM T. DICKSON

Sworn to & subscribed & acknowledged before me the day & year first above written.

I.D. WALL, J.P.

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Pike,

I, Wm. M. McFarlin, Clerk of the County Court in & for the County & State above named, do certify that I.D. Wall, Esq., before whom the foregoing affidavit was made & who thereunto signed his name, was at the time of so doing, an acting Justice of the Peace, in & for the County & State, aforesaid, duly commissioned & sworn, that all his official acts as such are entitled to full faith & credit, & that his signature thereto is genuine.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name & affixed my official seal at Murfreesboro this 4th day of July, 1856.

WM. R. McFARLIN, Clerk by  
Wm. J. KELLEY, D.C.

LETTER

U.S. Senate July 22, 1856

Sir:

I herewith transmit the papers of Wm. T. Dickson certifying his proof for a duplicate of Warrant & also his application for additional bounty taken out.

Respectfully yours,

W.K. SEBASTIAN

J. Minot, Commissioner  
Pensions.

---

LETTER

General Land Office  
July 31, 1856

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 24th. Inst., I have to state that a communication from the Hon. W.K. Sebastian, of the U.S. Senate, date July 18, 1854 is on file in this Office, requesting a Caveat to be filed against the issue of a patent on Land Warrant No. 32,605 for 80 acres, Act of 1850, and a Caveat was accordingly entered as desired.

Very Respectfully,

(name not deciphered)

Hon. J. Minot  
Commissioner of Pensions.

---

LETTER

Committee on Printing U.S.S.  
November 9, 1857

Dear Sir:

On January the 14, 1856 I enclosed you at the instance of Hon. R.W. Johnson, application of Wm. T. Dickson for additional Bounty Land under act of March 3, 1855 and have not been advised, as yet, what disposition, if any, has been made of the application by your department. John Dickson's application was enclosed at the same time and a warrant issued on the 3d of April 1857 for 80 acres, No. 45,780. G.D. Royston, Esq., Washington, Ark. is the attorney in both cases.

Will you please inform me as soon as practicable of your action in the case of Wm. T. Dickson.

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,

J.K. ROGERS for  
R.W. JOHNSON

Hon. Geo. C. Whiting  
Commissioner of Pensions.

The military record of William T. Dickson indicates he mustered in as a private in Capt. Chism's Company, 1st Regiment, T.V.M.G.M. on January 31, 1818. He was attached to Capt. James Rodgers' Company as given in the certificate of discharge. The military record under Capt. Chism and discharge above both indicate he was discharged on June 30, 1818 at Columbia, Tennessee.

Bounty Land Warrant Supplemental Application, 1856, and Military Service Records of William T. Dickson. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

---

**WAR OF 1812.**

Declaration of a Widow for Pension  
under Act of February 14, 1871;  
also February 28, 1878.

State of Arkansas,

ss:

County of Pike,

On this 18 day of March, A.D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight, personally appeared before me Wm. B. Thomasson, Clerk of the Circuit Court, a court of record within and for the county and State aforesaid, Nancy Dickson aged seventy-two years, a resident of Pike county, State of Arkansas, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow of William T. Dickson, who served the full period of sixty days in the Military service of the United States in the war of 1812; and who was the identical William T. Dickson who volunteered in Captain Chisham's (or Chis-holm's) company, (blank) regiment ... at Jackson County, Tenn., ... that she received a land warrant for her said husband's services in the War of 1812; that said land warrant was obtained in her said husband's lifetime, to obtain which, his discharge and other evidence of his identity and service in said war, was forwarded to the department at Washington City & is of file there. She prays that they be taken as evidence, that she was married under the name of Nancy Dickson to said William T. Dickson on the 22d day of January, 1822, by John Wilson Esqr. at home, county of Jackson, State (of) Tennessee, there being no legal barrier to said marriage; that her said husband died at Pike County, Arks., on the 10th day of July, 1859; and that she has not remarried since his death; that at no time during the late rebellion against the authority of the United States, did she or her said husband adhere to the cause of the enemies of the Government, giving them aid or comfort, or exercise the functions of any office whatever under any authority, or pretended authority, in hostility to the United States; that she will support the Constitution of the United States; that she is not in receipt of a pension under any previous act; that she makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States under the provisions of the act approved February 14, 1871 and hereby constitutes and appoints, with full power of sub-stitution and revocation Enoch P. Hale, of Prescott, Nevada County, Ark., her true and lawful attorney to prosecute her claim and procure the issuance of a pension certificate to her. That her post office is Wolf Creek P.O., county of Pike, State of Arkansas, and her domicile or place of abode is Pike County, Arkansas; that she can not recollect the Col.'s name or the commanders of his regiment &c., nor the term of his enlistment or discharge.

NANCY (her x mark) DICKSON

Witnesses:

Quincy H. Lewis  
Henry C. Polk

Also personally appeared Quincy H. Lewis, residing at Murfreesboro and Henry C. Polk, residing at Murfreesboro, persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say: They were present and

saw Nancy Dickson, the claimant, sign her name (or make her mark) to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of said claimant and their acquaintance with her, that she is the identical person she represents herself to be; and at no time during the late rebellion against the authority of the United States did she, or her said husband, adhere to the cause of the enemies of the Government, or give them aid or comfort; and they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

QUINCY H. LEWIS  
HENRY C. POLK

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of March, A.D. 1878, and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration were fully made known and explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing, including the words (blank), erased and the words (blank), added; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

WM. B. THOMASSON,  
Clerk of Circuit Court,  
Pike Co., Ark.

---

Navy, Old War, and Bounty  
Land Division.

CMB

Acknowledging Receipt of Claim.

**1812.**

SERVICE PENSION.

**Department of the Interior,**

PENSION OFFICE,

Washington, D.C., May 6, 1878.

Sir:

The application of Nancy Dickson, widow of Wm. T. Dickson for Service pension No. 13,303, under act of March. 9, 1878, has been received and filed in this Office.

You will be informed if any testimony is required in support of the allegations made in the declaration.

In all communications address to this Office relative to your claim, the number of the claim, and the act under which you have applied, must be given as furnished above.

Very respectfully,

J.A. BENTLEY, Commissioner.

Enoch P. Hale  
Prescott, Ark.

---

(No. 60)

WIDOW'S DIVISION

**Department of the Interior,**

PENSION OFFICE,

Washington, D.C., Aug. 19, 1878.

Madam:

To aid in the tracing the claim referred to in the inclosed papers, **THEY SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THIS OFFICE** with answers in full to the subjoined interrogatories, which answers should be inserted on the blank lines below.

Any communications heretofore received from this Office relative to the claim should also be returned.

Very respectfully,

O.R.G. CEARKE, Commissioner.

Nancy Dickson, widow W.T.D.  
Prescott, Arkansas  
Care of Enoch P. Hale.

---

INTERROGATORIES.

1st. What number was give to the claim by the Pension Office?

Answer: No. 13303.

2nd. What is the claimant's full name and relation to soldier?

Answer: Nancy Dickson, Widow of.

3d. What was the soldier's full name?

Answer: William T. Dickson.

4th. What was his company and regiment, and when did he die?

Answer: Captain Chisom's or Chisholm Company, Tennessee militia, died, See Declaration.

5th. When, or about when, was the claim filed?

Answer: About May 6, 1878.

6th. If Pension has been paid, at what Agency?

Answer: (blank)

ENOCH P. HALE for  
NANCY DICKSON

---

**Department of the Interior.**

PENSION OFFICE.

Washington, D.C. Sept. 5, 1878

Sir:

In the claim No. 13,303 of Nancy Dickson, widow of Wm. T. Dickson for Pension under Act of March 9, 1878 you are informed that she is required to state the number of the land warrant she received for her husband's Services and the date of issue of the same.

Please return this letter with the answer thereto.

Very respectfully,

J.A. BENTLEY, Commissioner  
by W.B.E.

Enoch P. Hale  
Prescott  
Nevada Co., Ark.

---

LETTER

Prescott, Nevada County, Arks.  
September 11, 1878

Sir:

Yours of 5th Inst. received yesterday in regard to Claim 13,303 of Mrs. Nancy Dickson, widow of Wm. T. Dickson for Pension under act of March 9, 1878. You are informed that she is utterly unable to give the number of the Land Warrants her husband received for his service as a Soldier of the War of 1812. Nor the date of the same. That her husband William T. Dickson applied for his land warrants and received them and at Washington, Hempstead County, Arks., at the Land office, he located his land in Pike Co., Arks. and received Patents from U.S. Land office marked. viz: "Cert. 11,009 for East half, S.W. qr. Sec. 24, Township 8 South, Range 24 W., dated 1st July 1859, recorded Vol. 21, page 190, E." She believes these lands were entered by warrants received by her husband for his services &c.

E.P. HALE  
Attorney for N. DICKSON

Commissioner of Pensions  
Washington City, D.C.

---

Navy, Old War and Bounty Land Division.  
Service Pension, War of 1812,  
or Bounty Land Claim.

**Department of the Interior.**

PENSION OFFICE.

Sept. 11, 1878

Sir:

You are respectfully requested to furnish official evidence of the enrollment, muster, service, duty, and discharge or death of William T. Dickson, who is alleged to have been drafted at Jackson Co., Tenn., on the (blank) day of (blank) 18 \_\_ , in

Captain Chisham or Chisholm(s) Company, of Col. (blank) Regiment of (blank) and to have been discharged (or died) at (blank) on the (blank) day of (blank) 18 \_\_ .

If the above name is not found on the rolls of said Company, will you so state, and report as to enrollment, &c., in the case of any man bearing a similar name, when you have good reason for believing to be the soldier inquired for.

Please return this Circular with your report.

Claim No. 13, 303

Respectfully yours,

J.A. BENTLEY, Commissioner.

Hon. third Auditor, Present.

---

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Pike,

On this the 22nd day of October A.D. 1878, before me S.H. Wingfield, an acting Justice of the Peace, of the place in and for the County and State, aforesaid, Charles Wingfield, aged Eighty years, and Elijah Kelley, aged Seventy-eight years, and who being duly sworn according to law, declare:

That, they, were well acquainted with William T. Dickson the husband of Nancy Dickson applicant for Pension No. 13,303. That said William T. Dickson died in Pike County in the State of Arkansas on the 10th day of July 1859. The said Charles Wingfield was with the said Dickson till within a few hours before his death and the said Kelley was present when said William T. Dickson died. They further state that they are well acquainted with Nancy Dickson the widow of said William T. Dickson deceased, that she has not remarried but remains a widow to the present time.

They further declare that they have examined the family Record of William T. Dickson, deceased in which we find the following entries, viz: "William T. Dickson was born February 14, A.D. 1800. Nancy Dickson was born June 29th A.D. 1805. They were married January 22, A.D. 1822."

That, they, reside in Pike County in the State of Arkansas and that their Post Office is Antoine, Pike County and State of Arkansas and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

ELIJAH KELLEY, SR.  
CHARLES WINGFIELD

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 22nd day of October 1878, that they are credible witnesses and I have no interest in the prosecution of this claim, that the contents of the foregoing were fully made known to the witnesses before sworn to.

S.H. WINGFIELD, J.P.

---

State of Arkansas,

ss.



County of Pike,

On this 22 Oct 1878, personally appeared before me, an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Mary Threlkeld, who being duly sworn, declares, that the family record examined by the foregoing witnesses is the Genuine original Family record of William T. Dickson, deceased. That she is his daughter and the record has long been in her possession.

MARY THRELKELD

Sworn to and subscribed before me, an acting Justice of the Peace for Pike County, this 22nd day of October, 1878.

S.H. WINGFIELD, J.P.  
No. 13303

Treasury Department  
Third Auditor's Office  
November 29, 1878

Respectfully returned to the Commissioner of Pensions with the information that there are no Rolls of Captain Chisham, or Chisholm's Company of Tennessee Militia, War of 1812, on file in this Office.

A.M. GAUGEWER, Deputy Auditor.

---

Claim No. 13303  
Act of Mar. 9, 1878  
Cert No. Rejected, P.B.  
Original Case

**SERVICE PENSION**  
**War of 1812**

WIDOW'S BRIEF.

Nancy Dickson (the) widow of William T. Dickson. Rank: Private, Captain Chisham, (James Rogers); Regiment: Militia; State: Tennessee; Post Office: Wolf Creek, County of Pike, State of Arkansas; Attorney: Enoch P. Hale, P.O. Prescott, Nevada County, Arkansas; Fee (blank); Contract (blank); Application filed March 29, 1878.

Alleged service: Volunteered in Capt. Chisham or Chisholm's Company at Jackson Co., Tenn., in 1818 as shown in application for bounty land. In application for pensions the period of service is not stated. P.B. Third.

Record evidence of service: Second auditor reports that there are no Rolls of Captain Chishams or Chisholm's Company Tennessee Militia and second auditor reports that Wm. T. Dickson served in Chisham (Rodgers') Co. from Jan. 31 to July 6, 1818.

Length of service: 157 days. Subsequent to Feb. 17, 1815.

Proof of identity: By affidavits of Quincy H. Lewis and Henry C. Polk.

Proof of loyalty: (blank)

Rejected January 25, 1879 on the ground that soldiers service was rendered subsequent to date of ratification of treaty of Peace. P.B.

No pension previously applied for.

J.H. BATCHELOR, Pension Searcher.

Bounty Land Wt. 40,554-80-55.

J.G. WILSON, Bounty Land Searcher.

S.F. KAMPF, Examiner.

Rejection approved, January 30, 1879.

PAUL BRODIE, Reviewer.

Widow's Original, Pension File, No. 13303 of Nancy Dickson, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

---

**Confederate Pension Application Files**  
**Pike County, Arkansas Veterans &c.**

Name of Veteran	County	Appl #	Name of Widow
Alford, Andrew J.	Pike	9101	
Alford, James M.	Pike	8792	
Alford, Dr. W.D.	Pike	25328	
Ashcraft, S.T.	Pike	9102	
Bachelor, S.B.	Pike	765	
Bacon, Jesse J.	Howard	18792	Bacon, Rebecca
Beaty, Thos. L.	Pike	25329	
Bell, John C.	Sevier	11999	Bell, Mary A.
Billings, John B.	Nevada	8111	
Blackwood, Andrew	Howard	18794	Blackwood, Mary
Blackwood, Wm.	Howard	27980	Blackwood, Mary
Bradford, R.W.	Pike	2083	
Brock, Geo. W.	Pike	8841	
Brock, James	Howard	18795	
Brock, M.	Howard	5156	
Brock, M.K.	Perry	8684	Brock, Sarah J.
Brown, Thomas M.	Howard	18783	Brown, E.H.
Buck, J.G.H.	Pike	29744	
Callaway, M.	Pike	8163	
Clark, John S.	Howard	5342	Clark, Mary
Coe, George W.	Garland	1612	Coe, Harriet
Conatser, David A.	Sevier	1562	
Cooper, T.L.	Hot Spg	19695	Cooper, L.E.
Cummings, Benj'n	Pike	25349	
Daniel, Henry C.	Hmpstd	18479	Daniel, M.E.
Daughtery, Thomas	Pike	9086	
Davis, R.L.	Pike	9117	
Davis, W.J.	Pike	9119	
Dean, M.H.	Pike	9116	
Dickinson, Joel Sr.	Pike	15314	
Dingler, J.M.	Pike	8846	
Doss, Willis H.	Pike	25330	
Duke, Aaron V.	Pike	9118	
East, Capt. T.M. Sr.	Clark	21863	East, T.E.
Estes, H.H.	Sevier	11811	
Floyd, L.C.	Pike	1573	
Floyd, Samuel	Sebstdn	15521	Floyd, Louisa
French, John C.C.	Pike	25331	

Fuller, Stephen A.	Pike	25350	
Funderburk, J.H.	Pike	25351	
Garner, Columbus	Pike	9097	
Gatliff, J.W.	Pike	8798	
Hale, A.T.	Howard	5357	Hale, Margaret A.
Hamilton, J.W.	Pike	25333	
Harris, W.W.	Pike	9153	
Haynes, J.M.	Howard	23092	
Haynes, Thomas J.	Hmpstd	18509	Haynes, Eugenia
Henderson, A.N.	Pike	9151	
Henderson, John W.	Hot Spg	5431	Henderson, E.
Henderson, W.P.	Pike	9147	
Hicks, James M.	Saline	10839	Hicks, Martha R.
Holland, George W.	Pike	29077	
Holliday, John	Howard	18855	Holliday, Missouri
Horn, William	Howard	18854	Horn, Jane
Horton, W.A.	Pike	2798	
House, T.T.L.	Pike	9145	
Howard, Hiram H.	Sevier	1713	Howard, Rosa
Huddleston, D.F.	Hmpstd	5282	Huddleston, Fannie
Huddleston, Wood	Hmpstd	5215	
Hutchings, Hickmon	Pike	8847	
Johnson, Perry	Pike	9157	
Johnston, J.L.	Pike	25335	
Kelley, Giles	Pike	25336	
Kelley, James A.	Pike	25337	
Kelley, R.F.	Pike	29080	
Kirkham, S.T.	Clark	26762	Kirkham, Eliza A.
Kizzia, Nathan	Pike	8849	
Levillian, John W.	Pike	8876	
Lingo, Thomas R.	Hmpstd	27956	Lingo, Mrs. Thos.
Logan, G.W.	Clark	15412	Logan, Mrs. G.W.
Mansfield, J.D.	Pike	25338	
Mayben, H.Z.	Pike	9144	
Mayben, W.Z.	Pike	8804	
McCarty, Wm. I.	Pike	9142	
McDaniel, S.S.	Pike	1574	
McRae, Silas	Pike	1611	
McRay, George W.	Pike	8829	
Miller, S.T.	Howard	18899	Miller, Rebecca
Moon, William H.	Pike	8803	
Moran, John M.	Pike	8877	
Nichols, D.P.	Pike	9083	
Oden, J.B.	Pike	8852	
Patterson, Frank	Pike	25346	
Polk, H.C.	Sevier	11820	
Ponder, W.M.	Pike	9126	
Power, J.R.	Pike	638	
Presley, Ben H.	Pike	8858	
Price, J.G.	Sevier	24262	
Propst, J.W.	Pike	21242	
Rabjohn, B.F.	Pike	9073	
Roberson, J.H.	Nevada	8306	Roberson, A.C.
Rodgers, J.H.	Pike	8837	
Rollins, Francis M.	Pike	8859	
Ross, John	Pike	639	
Sanders, J.C.	Pike	2805	Rejected
Sanderson, C.C.	Pike	9080	
Slaughter, John	Pike	9077	
Smith, G.C.	Pike	9045	
Smith, John B.	Pike	25340	
Snow, F.L.	Pike	21241	
Sparks, C.N.	Pike	29083	
Stell, A.A.	Pike	8827	

Stewart, William M.	Woodrff	8853	Stewart, Mary F.
Stokes, G.W.	Pike	9044	
Stover, R.M.	Pike	8809	
Strasner, Lewis	Pike	8842	
Sutton, Sidney D.	Pike	25339	
Tatum, L.C.	Pike	8861	
Name of Veteran	County	Appl #	Name of Widow
Taylor, C.C.	Pike	9053	
Trout, J.G.	Clark	26441	Trout, Mary
Tyer, D.A.	Pike	25360	
Wall, S.B.	Pike	9036	
Walls, J.W.	Pike	29745	
Ward, Green	Pike	9056	
Watkins, G.W.	Pike	9035	
Watson, Henry C.	Pike	8864	
Watson, N.S.	Pike	1577	
Webb, EriPike		9032	
West, Daniel J.	Pike	9039	
Westerman, M.L.	Hmpstd	5245	
Whisenhunt, Bailey	L. River	6726	Whisenhunt, Mary
Whisenhunt, G.A.	Howard	20712	
Wilson, Wells H.	Pike	8825	
Wingfield, W.H.	Sevier	11930	
Wright, W.M.	Pike	25362	

The applications of veterans and / or their widows from other counties are of those who once lived in Pike County, Arkansas or who have or may have had service originating out of Pike County. Abstracts of other Confederate Pension Applications of Pike County, Arkansas veterans and / or their widows have been previously printed in THE GEMS, Volume 5, pages 50-56, 64-70; Volume 6, pages 26-35, 42-52.

### James Trout and Ann Hopper

James Trout and his wife Ann or Annie Hopper are the progenitors of Trout families in both Clark and Pike County, Arkansas. They lived in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia. Ann Trout eventually came to Clark County, Arkansas from Gordon County, Georgia to live with her son Wilson Nesbit Trout where she died in October 1859 age 77. She was described as having black hair and eyes and very "swarthy" (of dark complexion). Her father Ash Hopper or Ash-hopper was considered by family a full blood Cherokee Indian. She was the mother of ten children, order of birth uncertain.

### Children of James Trout and Ann Hopper

Gideon H. Trout born about 1810 in York County, South Carolina married first Elizabeth (maiden name not known) about 1831. She died prior 1860. He married second Frances R. (maiden name not known). He moved to Clark County, Arkansas from Gordon County, Georgia between 1855 and 1860

and later purchased property in Pike County where he resided in Caney Fork Township. Thereafter he moved to Grayson County, Texas where he died at Whitewright on February 21, 1889. He is buried in the Pilot Grove Cemetery seven miles south of Whitewright.

George Trout died in Georgia.

John H. Trout born in North Carolina married Ailsey Owens on September 11, 1838 in Floyd County, Georgia. He was living in Texas in 1852 and in Sevier County, Arkansas in June 1854. According to census records he was in Missouri Township, Pike County, Arkansas in 1860 and Terre Noire Township, Clark County, Arkansas in 1870. He died after 1870 in Clark County, Arkansas.

Wilson Nesbit Trout born September 11, 1816 in North Carolina married first Emily Reece on August 2, 1840 in Floyd County, Georgia. She died September 16, 1851. He married second Mary Ann Huffman on June 6, 1856 in Clark County, Arkansas. He moved to Clark County, Arkansas from Gordon County, Georgia between 1852 and 1856 and in 1867 purchased property in Pike County, Arkansas and lived in Caney Fork Township. He died August 2, 1886 and is buried in the Story Cemetery in Clark County, Arkansas.

Joseph Q. Trout born April 30, 1818 in North Carolina married Lucinda W. McNeal on August 11, 1845 in Marshall County, Alabama. He came to Clark County, Arkansas from Blount County, Alabama between 1850 and 1855. He died January 3, 1898 and is buried in the Smyrna Cemetery in Clark County, Arkansas.

Esther Trout married \_\_\_\_\_ Kennedy and died in Georgia.

Letty L. Trout born in North Carolina married Jonathan Davis on October 10, 1837 in Floyd County, Georgia. She lived in Gordan County, Georgia and died in Texas.

Elvira Trout married \_\_\_\_\_ Ferkinson and died in Georgia.

Elizabeth Didama Trout born near Calhoun, Floyd County, Georgia on April 22, 1826 married John

Morris on May 12, 1844 in Floyd County, Georgia. She lived in Lamar County, Alabama and eventually Texas. She died at Honey Grove, Fan-nin County, Texas on April 28, 1895 and is buried in Willow Wild Cemetery.

Annise or Ann Trout married Frank Reese and moved to Alabama and later Texas.

---

LETTER

17355

Mr. Miller

Dear Sir.

You asked me to answer your letter. I am too nervous to write a long letter. So I got my son to write it and I would sign it.

I told him what to write. I hope it will be all right.

Yours truly,

Mary A. Bailey

---

Caledonia, Miss.  
Dec. 16th 1909

Mr. Guion Miller  
Washington, D.C.

Kind Sir.

In reply to yours of the 9th inst. relating to my application to participate in the Eastern Cherokee fund.

I note you want to know who first told me that Ash Hopper was my Great Grand Father and why I failed to mention him in my original application.

When I made my first application 3 or 4 years ago I claim(ed) my Indian blood through my Grand Mother Ann Hopper who married James Trout (and) who was a half blood Cherokee Indian, but since that time I have made our family history a special study. My Father moved from Georgia to Alabama

in 1855. I (was) a child only about 9 years old. In 1857 or 8 my uncle Frank Reese who married my mother's sister Ann Trout came from Georgia to Alabama and my Grand Mother Ann Hopper Trout came with them and they came to Father's house and stopped a while with us and my Mother was asking them about Ash Hopper and they talk(ed) about him in a general way. Then after that my Grand Mother Ann Hooper Trout live(d) with my Mother about one year and my Mother & Grand Mother referred to Ash Hopper very often. Then my Grand Mother went to live with my Uncle Nesbit Trout in Arkansas (and) I never heard much more about Ash Hopper as my Mother (now) would not talk to her children about her Indian blood. She seem(ed) to think it dis-honorable. My Father would refer to us children as being Indians (in a joking way) so I now am fully confident that Ash Hopper is my Great Grand Father and when my first application (was) re-jected I filed my objection on this belief.

I note you want to know who told me that he lived on Pea Vine Creek (in) Walker County, Georgia and (was) enrolled from there in 1835. My Mother often referred to Pea Vine Creek & (?) Creek and one Mr. Enoch Vandiver who came from Georgia with my Father (did) tell me that my people once lived in Walker County, Georgia. He came and spent a day with me and I learned a great deal about my Family history back in Georgia before my day. He was a full grown man when he left Georgia and I heard my Mother say that when the Indians left Georgia that they came by her Father's home and stopped a while and my Grand Mother conferred with them. My mother was then a child about 9 or 10 years old. This is my reason for believing or knowing that he lived in Walker Co., Georgia on Pea Vine Creek.

Now my mother was born in 1826 and she said she was 9 or 10 years old when the Indians left Georgia. This would bring the date up to 1835-6. This is my reason for believing that he (was) enrolled on Pea Vine Creek, Walker Co., Georgia (in) 1835.

I note you ask if I can find the name of any person who knows that my Great Grand Father did live on Pea Vine Creek in Walker Co., Georgia. Nothing more than the above.

I note you want to know when did I first learn that my Great Grand Father lived at this place and from whom did I learn it.

I learned it from my Mother speaking of Pea Vine Creek as though she lived there and her statement corroborated by Mr. Enoch Vandiver. I feel confident that the Court of Claims will sustain my application for I know that I am contending for my just rights and I feel sure you will agree with me.

Yours Respt.,

Mary Ann Bailey  
by J.W. Bailey

P.S. My mother is too nervous to write a long letter so she ask(ed) me to write for her. I am her son.

Eastern Cherokees Application 17355, U.S. Court of Claims 1906-1910. Letter of Mary A. Bailey to Guion Miller.

---

### **FAMILY GROUP RECORD**

Benjamin F. Barentine & Media Blackwood

Husband: Benjamin Franklin Barentine son of Alexander Barentine and Tabitha Overton born March 16, 1852 in Arkansas; died April 9, 1919 buried in Monroe Cemetery, Monroe, LeFlore County, Oklahoma.

Wife: Mede or Media Blackwood daughter of John Blackwood and Lizzie Cantrell born March 8, 1866 at Center Point, Arkansas died December 6, 1949 at Monroe, LeFlore County, Oklahoma buried in Monroe Cemetery.

Marriage: Benjamin Franklin Barentine and Mede or Media Blackwood were married December 26, 1880 in Howard County, Arkansas.

#### **Children**

Laura Barentine married J.D. Jackson died 1949.

Rebecca Barentine married Juetta Webster died 1943.

William Jack Barentine married Alice Nichols.

Louiza Barentine born October 6, 1885 married Mack Mahoney died May 18, 1964.

Thomas Barentine born 1890 married Nellie Ballard.

Bert Barentine born December 15, 1894 married Dona Fortenberry died November 2, 1953.

Ollie Mae Barentine born March 14, 1898 at Jensen, Arkansas married Merit Maddox died August 26, 1991 at Hayes, Ellis County, Kansas buried in Stockton Cemetery at Stockton, Kansas.

Bennie Barentine born September 14, 1901 at Little Rock, Arkansas married Harve Webb died September 21, 1992.

Mabel Barentine born May 25, 1903 married John Wilson.

Family Group Record courtesy of Goldia Robinson, 933 S. Beech Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80228-3011.

---

## RESEARCH BREAKTHROUGH

Entry 606 Mississippi Choctaw Applications

### COMMISSION TO THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

Ardmore, Indian Territory, Sept. 21, 1898

In the Matter of the application of Mary A. Bittick, et al, Petitioning for identification as Mississippi Choctaws with their descendants. Examination by Mr. G.M.P. Turner attorney for petitioners.

Mary Ann Bittick being duly sworn by Commissioner T.P. Needles testifies as follows:

Question: About how old are you Mrs. Bittick?  
Answer: Well, I know I am somewhere in eighty - somewhere in eighty; maybe eight-three or eighty-four or maybe more. I am in eighty.

Question: Who was your mother? Answer: My mother was Rosa Ann (Rosanna) Ballew before she was ever married. She married James Green (Guinn) Melson, but her name was Rosa Ann Ballew.

Question: Who was her father? Answer: William Ballew and her mother Sarah Jones.

Question: Who was Sarah Jones? Answer: She was Tom Jones daughter.

Question: Now state to the gentleman what Tom Jones was? Answer: He was a full blood Indian.

Question: What sort of an Indian? Answer: A Choctaw.

Question: You say Rosa Ann Ballew was his (grand) daughter and married a Melson? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: Who was (your) mother? Answer: Rosa Ann Ballew.

Question: How much Indian did she have in her veins? Answer: Well, her father - she was one quarter Indian.

Question: Was she the daughter of (Sarah) Jones? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: Was Tom Jones wife a white woman or an Indian? Answer: She was a white woman.

Question: And your mother was the (grand) daughter - Rosa Ann Ballew? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: And Rosa Ann Ballew was the daughter of Sarah Jones? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: And Sarah Jones was the daughter of Tom Jones? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: Where were you born? Answer: I was born in seven miles of Natchez, Mississippi. I do not know what county it was.

Question: Do you know any road that would indicate leading to the town? Answer: Now here is a house (witness indicates) and there is a field of that way (witness indicates) and the road went off between the field and the house.

Question: Did you live with your parents all the time? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: Did you move to any other place? Answer: No sir. We just stayed and stayed there until we moved to Arkansas.

Question: And you afterwards moved to Arkansas? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: Do you remember whether you moved after the Choctaws left the country? Answer: Yes sir. Two or three years after the bulk left.

Question: I will get you to state Mrs. Bittick whether you were considered a white or a Choctaw girl? Answer: I was considered a Choctaw girl among the girls and some of them sorter looked on me as an Indian and other nice girls would say: "I do not care if she is a Choctaw Indian. She is a good girl and I like her and I am going to be with her and associate with her. She is a nice girl."

Question: You remember these doings back in your girlhood days? Answer: Yes sir. I remember that just as well as anything can be.

Question: You are very feeble in health are you not? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: And very old? Answer: Yes sir. I am old.

Question: Dr. Bittick is your son? Answer: Yes sir. The only child I have got.

Question: What is your son's given name? Answer: Samuel G. Bittick.

Question: You heard me read the ... list of grandchildren and great grandchildren several times? Answer: Yes sir.

Question: Were these all your grandchildren and great grandchildren you gave me the names of? Answer: All my grandchildren.

Question: Have you got your picture taken when you was a young woman? Answer: I have got it taken since we were married. I have not (had) it taken when I was a young woman or girl. There was no pictures taken when I was a girl.

Question by Commissioner A.S. McKinnon: Where has she been residing since she came from

Mississippi? Answer by Mr. Turner: In Arkansas, Hempstead County.

Continuation of examination of witness by Mr. Turner.

Question: Did you have a sister? Answer: Yes sir.

Question. Who did she marry? Answer: I had several sisters. One of them married a Milson and one of them married a Johnson.

Question: The one who married a Milson who was that? Answer: Rebecca.

Question: And Mr. (Howard) Milson the gentleman here was he her son? Answer: Yes sir.

---

Affidavit of J.S. Snellgrove

Indian Territory,  
Southern Judicial District.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for said District, on this day personally appeared J.S. Snellgrove, who after being by me duly sworn on his oath states and says: that he resides in the Chickasaw Nation and Indian Territory and has so resided for a period of 13 years. That he is personally acquainted with Dr. S.G. Bittick who resides at Ryan in the Chickasaw Nation in said Territory. That he was personally acquainted with the late Mary A. Bittick who was mother of S.G. Bittick and who departed this life Nov. 15th 1898. That the said Mary A. Bittick during the latter part of her life and at the time of her death resided at the town of Ryan in the Chickasaw Nation Indian Territory. That upon her death she left surviving her as one of her heirs at law, a son, the said Dr. S.G. Bittick who from all appearance is now of the age of 51 years. Affiant further states that he knows that the said Mary A. Bittick was the identical person she claimed and represented herself to be during her lifetime, and that the said S.G. Bittick is the same person whom he represents himself to be in his application for citizenship in the Choctaw Nation. Affiant furthers says that the said Mary A. Bittick at the time of her death was a very old woman. That she was from all appearances above the age of 80 years. That she was a very large woman with coarse straight black

hair and black eyes. That she was of a dark copper color and that she had the appearance of being of Indian blood. Affiant further says that the said Mary A. Bittick's maiden name was Mary A. Melson and that affiant was personally acquainted her brother Sol Melson when he resided in the state of Arkansas where affiant knew him. Affiant further says that he became acquainted with the said Sol Melson about the year 1862 and that he lived nearby him in the same neighborhood from about 1862 to 1877 and during this time he was well acquainted with Solomon Melson and with his relatives and family residing in said neighborhood. That the said Sol Melson was of a dark copper color with coarse straight black hair, black eyes, and high prominent cheek bones. That he showed from his appearance that he was of Indian blood. That he was, when affiant last knew him, about 65 years of age. That the said Sol Melson and Mary A. Bittick, nee Melson, resembled each other very much and that all the other members of said family with whom affiant was acquainted, and he knew several of them, had the same general appearance. Affiant further says that the said Melson was generally known and recognized in the neighborhood in which he lived and among the people he was most intimately acquainted to be of Choctaw Indian origin and that it was generally understood in that neighborhood among the people that said Melson was of Choctaw Indian blood.

Affiant further says that he was acquainted with such reputation at the time last above named and that such was their general reputation in that neighborhood at that time. Affiant further says that said Sol Melson is now dead. That the said Mary A. Bittick in her lifetime also claimed to be of Choctaw Indian blood. Affiant further says that the complexion, physical appearance, language and manners of the said Mary A. Bittick and the said Sol Melson indicated that they were of Indian origin. That from the facts and circumstances and from the statements above made out affiant says that he has every reason to believe that the said Mary A. Bittick and Sol Melson and said S.G. Bittick are of Choctaw Indian blood. That the said Sol Melson and the said Mary A. Bittick claimed to have emigrated to the state of Arkansas from the state of Mississippi a great many years ago and that it was generally understood in the neighborhood where

they lived that they came originally from Mississippi to Arkansas.

Affiant further says that he has no interest in the prosecution of the claim made by the said Mary A. Bittick and now being prosecuted by her son S.G. Bittick for identification and enrollment as Mississippi Choctaw Indians and as descendants of such Indians.

J.S. SNELLGROVE

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 26 day of June, 1900.

G.L. Tyson, Notary Public

---

Affidavit of Emeline Pertate

Indian Territory,  
Central District.

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day appeared Emeline Pertate who after being by me duly sworn on oath says: that she is a Mississippi Choctaw Indian of the full blood. That she is about 80 years of age though she is unable to state what her exact age is. That she was born in the state of Mississippi where she lived until she was about eleven years old when she was taken to the state of Tennessee. That she is a lineal descendant of the Mississippi Choctaw Indians. That during her childhood she knew and often played with Mary Ann Melson who was then a girl of about eleven or twelve years of age. That the said Mary Ann Melson was the daughter of Rosanna Melson, formerly Rosanna Ballew, who then resided in the State of Mississippi. that affiant also knew while she lived in Mississippi an old Indian man who was a full blood Choctaw Indian and who was very old who went by the name of Possum Jones. That he claimed to be related to the said Rosanna Melson and to the said Mary Ann Melson. That the said Rosanna Melson and Mary Ann Melson called him grandpa Jones. That said Possum Jones often visited the family of said Rosanna Melson and Mary Ann Melson whom he claimed as his *grand* children. Affiant says that she knew the said Possum Jones well while she lived in the State of Mississippi and that after she moved

to Tennessee he visited the house where she lived and that she saw and talked with him there.

That affiant at that time did not understand the English language and could not understand it when she heard it spoken and that she spoke the Choctaw language and that she talked with grandpa Possum Jones in that language. That when this affiant left the State of Mississippi she left the said Rosanna Melson and Mary Ann Melson living in that state. That this affiant can not state from memory at just what time she left the State of Mississippi, but that she left there about the time the Choctaw Indians were leaving the State. Affiant further says that she removed to the State of Texas about forty years ago and that she has lived most of the time in Lamar County, Texas. That she saw and knew Mary Ann Bittick, the mother of Dr. S.G. Bittick, before her death. That she last saw and talked with said Mary Ann Bittick during the year 1898. That said Mary Ann Bittick was then a very old woman. This affiant knows that the said Mary Ann Bittick was the same person whom she knew as a child in the state of Mississippi as Mary Ann Melson the daughter of Rosanna Melson. That she and the said Mary Ann Bittick, often during the year 1898, talked over their childhood days together when they lived as little children in the state of Mississippi, and that they each remembered little incidents which had occurred during their childhood together. That this affiant now has upon her foot a scar left by a wound which was made during her childhood and which was treated and sewed up by the said Rosanna Melson in the State of Mississippi when this affiant was a little girl. That said Mary Ann Bittick was dark complexioned, was quite dark and had coarse straight black hair and black eyes and had every appearance of being of Indian blood and that she and her said mother always claimed to be of the Choctaw Indian blood and to be Mississippi Choctaws. That the said Rosanna Melson also had every appearance of being of Indian blood.

That while said family resided in the State of Mississippi they associated with the Choctaw Indians and that they and the Indians visited each other and that they were then recognized as Choctaw Indians by the people among whom they lived. That this affiant can not read and write, but that she remembers distinctly the facts above stated. That this affiant did not know the given name of Possum

Jones and that she always understood that the name Possum was a nick name and that she knows that he was called Possum Jones by the Indian children.

EMELINE (her x mark) PERTATE

Witness: S.S. Wigand

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 12 day of June, 1900.

B.C. Wigand, Notary Public,  
Southern Dist(ri)ct, I.T.

Research Breakthrough information found in the National Archives, Washington, D.C. by Tom Milson, great great grandson of Thomas Milson and Rebecca Melson. Refer to Research Breakthrough, Melson Family, THE GEMS, Vol-ume 6, pages 64-69.

---

## FAMILY GROUP RECORD

James Guinn Melson & Rosanna Ballou

Husband: James Guinn Melson born 1771-1780, age 50-59 in the 1830 Clark County, Arkansas census, Missouri township; died 1839 at Little Missouri, Pike County, Arkansas.

Wife: Rosanna Ballou or Ballew born about 1785 in Mississippi, age 65 in the 1850 Hempstead County, Arkansas census, Redland township; died about 1852 in Hempstead County, Arkansas.

Marriage: James Guinn Melson and Rosanna Ballou or Ballew (married under the name Macfall); bond and license issued May 31, 1808 in Jefferson County, Mississippi by application to the registry of the Orphan's Court.

Children

Mary Ann Melson born 1809 near Natchez, Jefferson County, Mississippi; married Francis Bittick on February 7, 1833 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; died November 15, 1898 at Ryan, Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory, now Oklahoma; buried in Delta County, Texas.



Rebecca Melson born about 1812 in Missouri; married Thomas Milson about 1826 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; died before June 1857 in Hempstead County, Arkansas.

Solomon Melson born December 15, 1815 in Boone County, Missouri; married Jane Elvira Ward on October 18, 1842 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; died April 15, 1892 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; buried in Bethel Cemetery, Blevins, Hempstead County, Arkansas.

(not identified) Melson a daughter; married a Johnson.

Lucinda Melson born in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married Chesley Hughes Rogers about 1836 in Pike County, Arkansas.

Rosanna Melson born about 1823 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married Bazil Brashears on January 27, 1842 in Hempstead County, Arkansas.

Washington Green Orr Melson born 1825 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married Mary Jane Wingfield on February 8, 1849 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; drowned in the Little Missouri River, Hempstead County, Arkansas in March 1860.

(not identified) Melson a daughter; born 1826-1830 or about 1828, age under 5 in the 1830 Clark County, Arkansas census, Missouri township.

Emily Brunetta Melson born April 9, 1831 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married John Vivan (or Viven) Ward on February 8, 1849 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; died April 9, 1872.

---

## FAMILY GROUP RECORD

### Solomon Melson & Jane Elvira Ward

Husband: Solomon Melson born December 15, 1815 in Boone County, Missouri; died April 15, 1892 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; buried in Bethel Cemetery, Blevins, Hempstead County, Arkansas.

Wife: Jane Elvira Ward daughter of Isaac Ward and Mary McMahan born January 26, 1821 in Ouachita Parish, Louisiana; died March 11, 1886; buried in Bethel Cemetery, Blevins, Hempstead County, Arkansas.

Marriage: Solomon Melson and Jane Elvira Ward were married October 18, 1842 in Hempstead County, Arkansas.

### Children

Leander Elmore Melson born August 26, 1843 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; married Mary Ellen Wingfield on July 17, 1864 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; died February 2, 1890 in Nevada County, Arkansas.

Leandus Elmington Melson born November 14, 1845 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; married first Amanda Rosenbum on June 20, 1866 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; married second Rosina Mautz on November 5, 1885.

Leanah Elbe Melson born February 18, 1848 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; married Henry Clay Carlton on September 23, 1869 in Hempstead County, Arkansas.

Isaac Gwinn (Guinn) Melson born August 25, 1850 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; died October 16, 1857.

John Washington Melson born May 4, 1853 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; died March 25, 1858.

Mary Rosanah (Rosanna) Melson born February 4, 1856 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; married John William Connel on March 16, 1871 in Hempstead County, Arkansas.

William Green Orr Melson born January 19, 1859 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; died February 7, 1864.

Thomas Charles Eldrige Melson born December 26, 1861 in Hempstead County, Arkansas; died October 17, 1865.

---

## CAMPING IN OLD COLBATH:

A Short History of the Bethel Missionary  
Baptist Church by R.P. Baker (c) 1980

### Earliest Settlement

The earliest American settlement in the middle reaches of the valley of the Caddo River dates from about 1812 with the arrival of the Collier family who came to what is now southern Montgomery County and settled on the river about twenty miles from the nearest white settlement. Soon they located on what is now Collier's Creek near Old Liberty. Jefferson Collier was born here on June 15, 1820 perhaps the area's first white birth. Clark County was formed in 1819 followed by Pike County in 1833 and Montgomery County in 1842. The boundaries of these three counties were not defined as they are now until 1873. Before that time a large area surrounding Glenwood was in Clark County; the line between Pike and Clark counties running up the main channel of the Antoine Creek to its head; then, on a line due north to the South Fork of the Caddo River, down it to its mouth; then, due east to the Hot Spring County line. This placed all of extreme north-eastern Pike, as well as a strip along the southern boundary of Montgomery, in Old Clark County. County Line Methodist Church and cemetery mark the location of this old line. It is about one mile north of the present boundary.

### Early Roads

At an early date two roads were "cut" through this area. They evidently followed ancient Indian paths down the Caddo. When the area was first mapped by U.S. Government Surveyors in 1841-2 these roads stood out very prominently. The main road from the south crossed the Caddo River at a now abandoned ford just upstream from the mouth of Caney Creek. It then connected with a road coming from the east and continued in a westerly and northerly direction along what is now the "Bethel Road" by County Line Church, then north to Caddo Gap. It was known as the Caddo Cove (now Black Springs) or Mt. Ida Road. The second road also ran north and west through the region. However, this route lay to the south of the river. It was called the

Mountain Road and roughly parallels Highway 8. This road was less widely traveled because it crossed much rougher terrain. At a later date another road was built through this section connecting Hot Springs and Murfreesboro. It also crossed the Caddo at the mouth of Caney (Creek) and then continued to the southwest.

### Early Townships

There were enough settlers in this area by 1836 for the Clark County Court to set aside the area as a new township named Colbath in honor of Winthrop Colbath an early settler. It consisted of all of the country lying to the north of a line beginning at the confluence of the Brushy Fork and the Caddo and then running west to the Antoine. By 1840 Colbath Township boasted 169 souls. In 1849 the southern portion of this township was cut off into a new district named Tucker township in honor of William Tucker who was a charter member of Bethel Church. Late in 1850, upon the request of its citizens, the name was changed to Alpine Township. The line between the two townships ran along that portion of the Murfreesboro Road which was south of the river. In 1873 most of the western and northern parts of Colbath Township were given to Pike County by the State Legislature. The area remaining in Clark County became Amity Township and that portion now in Pike County became Clark Township.

### Caddo Narrows

A post office called Caddo Narrows was established in Colbath township on July 16, 1842. James S. Pettijohn was appointed its first postmaster. The exact location of this office is not known, but the original survey maps place "J. Pettijohn's Field" just east of the mouth of the Mud Lake Creek on property now (1980) owned by Mrs. Steve Baker. Eli J. White was the second postmaster. He is thought to have lived near the junction of the Murfreesboro and Mt. Ida roads on Caney Creek. At this same time John Shipp had a "house and field" opposite the mouth of Caney on the high ground south of the Caddo. Other early residents of the area were James A. Crow and the numerous Markham clan.

These early settlers of the Glenwood-Amity area were squatting upon public lands since none were available for purchase until the area had been surveyed and the lands advertised. This process began early in 1841 and was not completed until about 1848. At that time there was an influx of new permanent settlers as well as a subsequent exodus of many of the original pioneers. Several families moved further up the river and settled in Montgomery County. This out-migration was so drastic that the post office at Caddo Narrows was closed on March 16, 1848.

### The Browning Family

However, with the opening of these lands for legal purchase, a new phase in the history of the region began. Attention can now be turned to a review of the events surrounding the organization of Bethel Church itself. It is impossible to separate the beginnings of this church from the life of William F. Browning who was born in 1802 in Thomas County, Georgia and who moved to Clark County, Arkansas in 1841 settling near Mount Bethel Baptist Church. He and his family, augmented by his second wife Mary L. Burke the sister of an up-and-coming young surveyor Robert S. Burke, soon became members of Mount Bethel Church. Browning became a prosperous land and slave owner and was elected Clark County Surveyor in 1846 a post he held off and on until his death.

The records of Mount Bethel Church furnish some excellent material concerning the life of the Browning family. One amusing entry will serve to illustrate this point and also add a human touch to this founding member of Bethel. In 1843 the following query was put before the business meeting "If a brother of the church is afflicted with deafness is it the duty of the church to consider his situation and if they can employ means to enable him to understand what is transacting in conference?" It was decided by the church that it was the duty of the moderator to "inform brother William F. Browning what is done in conference while it is transacting.

### On To Amity

Browning and his brother-in-law "Captain" Burke in their work as surveyors were not unaware of the

choice of new lands now available in Colbath Township, thus, on Christmas Day 1847, Mt. Bethel Church granted letters of dismissal to Bro. and Sister Browning, Nancy Foshee and Frances Manior/Maynard. It is felt that one of the contributing factors in this move was a "difficulty" between Browning and another brother-in-law Michael Bozeman concerning "a black horse belonging to the estate of John Browning." This misunderstanding was brought to the church and resulted in the exclusion of Bro. Bozeman upon whose land the church house was then situated. Whatever the cause the winter of 1847-48 saw the Brownings and a number of other families making the trek north "over the mountain" to Colbath Township. Browning settled neared where the old "Burke Cemetery" is now located and built "a large double log house" which was still standing in 1900. This was on the Mt. Ida Road north of the river. Because of its central location the Browning farm soon became the center of a rapidly expanding community. There is some evidence that Browning soon began the operation of a store. Legend recalls that he named his new home and the neighborhood Amity which means peace and brotherhood. A post office was established by that name on November 7, 1848 with Robert J. Billingslea as postmaster. Just where it was located is not known, but it was in the Browning settlement. Browning, himself, was appointed postmaster in 1852.

### Caddo Valley Church

It was at the home of Bro. Browning on August 5, 1848 that Bethel Church was constituted. He had invited two Baptist preachers to aid in the organization. They were William Hardage the pastor of Deroche Church now in Hot Spring County and William L. Anderson of Mt. Bethel Church. There were seven who presented their letters and agreed to begin "keeping house for the Lord." They were: William F. Browning, an ordained deacon, Jesse Cunningham, William Tucker, Mary L. Browning, March C. Browning, Frances Maynard and Nancy Foshee. They voted to adopt the name Caddo Valley Baptist Church of Christ. Delia McTygert became a member of the church at its next meeting in September. Most churches then had what was called "quarter time" preaching, i.e. one a month. In March of 1849 the church met at the home of William Tucker near Alpine and received James Deaton by

letter and Nancy Tucker by "experience." A church was formed in Alpine about 1857 and named "Union." It is now known as the Alpine Baptist Church.

#### Pleasant Grove Church

The decade of the 1850's was a time of growth as well as testing for the young church. On August 4, 1850, its second anniversary, the church voted to change its name to Pleasant Grove. At the same time a committee made up of William F. Browning, William Tucker and William G. Sanders who had become a member in 1849 were instructed to raise a subscription for the erection of a house of worship. Bro. Browning undertook to construct said building to be built of split logs at a cost of \$225 on a site near his home. Its exact location is not now known though its ruins were still visible about 1900. This first building may have stood near the "Burke" Cemetery or may have been near the spring at the base of the hill, or perhaps somewhere in between. For some unknown reason, perhaps because "Captain" Burke was to use the structure as a schoolhouse, the church did not ask for, nor did Browning offer a deed to the property. This oversight was to lead to problems within a few years.

No sooner had the church occupied its new house, than it was called upon to, resolve, "that said meeting house was built by the Baptist denomination and by individuals friendly to the Baptist cause," with the exception of \$2 subscribed by the Methodists, and therefore should be used solely by Pleasant Grove Church. No doubt this contribution had been made by Dr. A. Biggs a physician and Methodist preacher who had recently settled at what is now Amity. Notwithstanding this re-resolution, the facilities of the church seem to occasionally have been used by the Methodist and perhaps the followers of Alexander Campbell who had established a church at what is now Delight in 1833. Dr. Alexander B. Clingman who operated a mill on Caney Creek just north of Browning was a charter member of that congregation.

#### The Building

This first Bethel church building must have looked very much like the following description, written

in 1854, of that Campbellite Church. "The walls are made of hewed logs, about twenty by twenty-four feet in extent, with a wooden chimney at one end and a place cut out for a chimney at the other end, which is partly closed up with slabs. In the front is a large door with a center post and double shutters ... Immediately opposite on the other side is a pulpit which projects some six feet from the wall, the forepart of which is so high that when he preacher kneels to pray he is nearly concealed ... Behind ... is a window without glass, the shutter of which is neither long nor wide enough to close it ... the roof is made of clapboards, between which and the floor there is no ceiling ... the cracks between the logs are neither chinked nor daubed ..." After the completion of this structure the church appears to have been unable to pay Bro. Browning the full amount agreed upon.

#### Death of Bro. Browning

The fledgling village of Amity was shocked and saddened on July 26, 1854 by the death of its founder William F. Browning. He was laid to rest in the cemetery which had grown up near the church house. His marker still stands in the abandoned portion just north of the Sloan residence. Elder William Spates his pastor at that time chaired an associational committee which wrote the following tribute to this remarkable man: "We your committee on obituaries beg leave to report that whereas our much esteemed Brother and fellow citizen Wm. F. Browning had recently departed this life and in consideration of his many amrable (sp) qualities as a Baptist and especially as clerk of this association, Therefore, resolved that we as a boddy (sp) do deeply simathise (sp) we (with) his bereaved family and friends in thare (sp) irreparable loss ..."

#### New Settlers

In the years that followed new settlers continued to arrive. Many became members of Bethel. Among there are some whose names are still familiar in the community today (1980): Bohannon, Dillard, Henthorn, Jackson, Mitchell, Neighbors, Parker and Wright. Other families who were prominent during this time, have left few descendants in the area: Erwin, Gee, Jordan, Legg and Stuart. May of the

aforesaid families relocated to Nevada County in the late 1860's.

In the fall of 1854, Elder Thomas F. Welch and his large family became members of the church. The story of their settling in this area is most interesting: "He and a number of families loaded their covered wagons and left Hardeman County, Tennessee for Waco, Texas. On their long journey they camped on Saturday night on Collier's Creek, Montgomery County, Arkansas to rest on Sunday which was their custom on the entire trip. Some of the citizens in that community, learning that (Bro. Welch) was a preacher, persuaded him to abandon his long trip to Waco, and stop there. He was told that there was a fine farm for sale at the mouth of the South Fork just below the Gap owned by James Chaney. Early Monday morning he asked the crowd to remain in camp and he would go over and look at the place but with very little thought of stopping in that country. After looking over the farm, however, and having been influenced by the fact that there were no Baptist preachers in all that country and by the persuasion of his new friends, he bought the place."

"Parson" Welch, as he was called, pastored Bethel Church off and on from 1854 to his death on August 22, 1871. His was the first burial in what is now the Glenwood Cemetery. It was he and his family who formed the Antioch Baptist Church just north of the South Fork of the Caddo in 1855. This church was disbanded during the Civil War, but was later revived under the name Oak Grove and moved to its present location.

#### Reunion Days

In January 1856, a committee was appointed by the church to have seats and a pulpit built for the meeting house. They were also to see to the fencing in of the cemetery. However, the committee reported that they, "best stop the work until they collect an pay off the debt already incurred," before the cemetery project was un-dertaken. In the Summer of 1857 the church set aside a Saturday for erecting a brush arbor and "cleaning off" the church grounds. This seems to have been the beginning of the annual memorial day services that the church still celebrates today. By 1862 there is definite mention of "reunion days" at the church.

#### Church Discipline

The Arkansas frontier of the 1850's was a rough and rugged place. Law and order were often left to more civilized locations. In many cases the only force for moderation and temperance in most communities was the church. Old Amity was no exception. In March of 1858, Marcus Dillard was called to account before the congregation for, "carrying concealed weapons and threatening to use them upon William Dillard when opportunity afforded," itself. However, the most serious difficulty of the period was between the Dillard and Jordan families. Yet, the problems created by this feud continued to plague the church until late in 1867.

#### Bethel Church

Mary L. Browning the widow of Bro. Browning married John H. Stegall who was ten years her junior in 1857. Thus, control of the Browning property passed into the hands of a man who was not a member of the church. This may have prompted the church in June of 1860 to vote to move to the spring, "near Bro. J.N. Parker's as soon as a house can be built." The usual committee was appointed to raise the money necessary for such a project. This "spring" was later known as the Bohannon Spring and is located near the residence of Mr. Robert Baker. About this time, continued difficulties between the Dillard and Jordan families resulted in a considerable exodus from the church. Consequently, in December of 1860, the church voted to, "move to the storehouse at Bro. Parker's and occupy that until a house can be built."

On February 2, 1861 the church voted to again move, this time to the "new schoolhouse" near the Jordan and Dillard farms. On April 6, 1861 the church agreed to increase its once monthly preaching to twice monthly. It also voted to change its name to Bethel, a name it has retained until the present. This "new schoolhouse" is thought to have been located near the old school site just below the present property where it was served by a large spring. It was about this time that the church started its first Sunday School, though particulars of its organization and operation are not known.

There has been considerable speculation as to the date that the church occupied its present site. The late Mrs. Eva Willis Burke, whose family became members of Bethel in 1870, recalled that the date of

the move was about 1867. There had been repeated attempts during the Civil War to obtain a deed to the church grounds. Church records recount that one was obtained and ordered to be recorded at Arkadelphia. However, none has ever been located at that courthouse. In the Spring of 1873, that church voted to have the "grave-yard" fenced in to contain an area of 88 square feet. However, it was not until 1879 that a deed was secured from Martha Strickland the daughter of A.B. Clingman an ordained Campbellite preacher.

### "New" Amity

With the removal of the church from the site of Old Amity the community began to decline. After the Civil War the "Mountain Road" which lay south of the river began to assume more importance. The village of Rock Creek was found in 1866 by Stephen P. Baker who built a store and a mill there that year. In 1870 several developers laid out the new town of Amity to the south of the Caddo at its present location. The first houses were built soon thereafter and the masonic lodge moved there, presumably from Old Amity. The post office was relocated there at the same time.

Captain Robert S. Burke obtained the Browning lands after the family moved to Texas in 1866 and the Old Bethel Cemetery continued as the burial place for members of the Burke family. The community shift was completed and an era along the Caddo came to a close.

### The Civil War

During the Civil War the Bethel Community suffered many privations and hardships. Loyalties were often divided even among members of the same family. Forces from both the Union and Confederate armies roamed the countryside. The following account was written by Isaac F. Welch a son of "Parson" Welch in 1912. The Welch's were living at what is now (1980) known as the "Jessup" property in Glenwood.

"I often think of many things that occurred during the Civil War. I remember the good-byes when my brothers John, Tom and Jim took up their haversacks, canteens and guns, and took their leave for services in the Southern Army. I was just as great a rebel as the crowd that went; although I was too young to go. One thing never to be forgotten was a visit of Federal Scouts to our home, who took away some of our horses and cursed my

father, threatening to kill him if he said anything more, while he was begging them to leave him one of the horses. I remember he told them they would not cheat him out of many years, if they did kill him.

I think it was in 1864, when we were thrashing our wheat at Jordan's Gin between our place and Old Bethel, we had a home-made thrasher attached to the gin-power. The neighbors swapped work helping one another harvest and thrash wheat. One day during this time a man came dashing down the road under whip and spur to tell us that a large body of Federal troops were coming on just behind him down the Arkadelphia road. My father owned at that time a grey mare that was being used in thrashing. Taking the stock out of the harness as quickly as possible my father told me to take the mare home with all possible speed and hide her out. I rode bare back, up hill and down hill, as I had never before or since ridden. Upon reaching home I took the mare to her hiding place on the other side of the mountain from our house, sparing her for that time, but a few weeks after this, when it seemed that all was quiet and there were no rumors of troops in the country my father had us bring the horses down to the lot to feed them. At that time we had left, I think, an old pony and the large grey mare. They had scarcely begun to eat when a bunch of Cavalry dashed up and took the last horse we had. We plowed Old Buck and Old Bright from that time on until the war closed."

Several entries from the Bethel Church records may served to make the War more real: "June, 1862. No Conference. Mustering out of men ... November, 1863. No conference because of the War ... January 9, 1863. No conference because of snow and cold weather ... April 2nd, 1864. No conference because of the troubles of the war ... October 3, 1864. No conference because of small turn out of male members ... December 31st, 1864. No conference because of smallpox and burying the dead."

---

### MOUNTAIN LEGEND OF ALBERT PIKE'S TWO YEARS IN THE OUACHITAS

by Ida Sublette Cobb

Transcribed from **The Mena Evening Star**, Saturday,  
April 22, 1939 issue by Ezra Vaught, December 1989

I knew by the smoke  
That so gracefully curled  
Above the green elms  
That a cottage was near  
And I said "If there's peace  
To be found in the world  
A heart that was humble  
Might hope for it here."

It is a well known fact that Albert Pike, the great Mason, spent thirty three years of his life in Arkansas, but the fact that is not so well known is that he spent two years of that time in the Ouachita Mountains in Montgomery County of Southwestern Arkansas. In 1861 when Arkansas cast her lot with the Confederacy, Albert Pike was made a Brigadier General and placed in command of the Indian Territory. While filling this position in the Territory he heard great talk of the beauty and vastness of the forests and mountains in this section of the country. The mountains at that time were called the Ozarks, but at present time they are called the Ouachitas. The name doesn't matter, the mountains in all their glory still remain just as God created them.

It was in the year 1862 General Pike came to this country from the Indian Territory by way of Fort Smith, Arkansas. I shall now try to tell you the story of General Pike's arrival, sojourn, and departure from the mountains just as the people and especially the old settlers tell it to me. I have heard it told so many times over by both young and old. The story runs something like this:

In late October, 1862, ... when ... Boreaus was shining down upon the mountains and valleys of Montgomery County, where each bright ray revealed a gorgeous glow of color, ... nature in all her beauty was beckoning to the artist, the poet, the lovers. It was in and through this great panorama of color and beauty ... that General Albert Pike arrived in Caddo Gap like a Monarch in a beautiful shiny buggy, his white hair falling over his shoulders, his snow beard billowing upon his chest. To the buggy was harnessed two of the most superb white horses the mountain people ever beheld. In front of the horses marched the vanguard of twenty negroes. Behind the buggy came a heavily loaded wagon of the prairie schooner type. To this wagon slowly prancing were four or five more fine horses. Following in the wake of the wagon ... marched twenty solemn stalwarts forming a rear guard. It being war time made the incident far more interesting than it would have in time of peace. The great majesty and nobel bearing of General Pike was noted and appreciated by all. The mountain people were quick to note and appreciate their honest perceptions.

The grand cavalcade came to a halt, inquiry was made, the General wished to find the Post Office. A young man by the name of Sheffield gave the information required. Albert Pike entered the Post Office and introduced himself to Dave Basinger, the Postmaster. In the handshake which followed in all propriety with the introduction, General Pike discovered that Dave Basinger was a Mason. It also developed in a course of the conversation that General Pike was on a quest of land, wanted to buy a home here in the mountains. He had important writing to do and wished to be in a quiet place for a few years. Could Mr. Basinger tell him of likely place? Yes. Mr. Basinger knew just the ideal place for a writer, a lover of nature, or a poet. So Mr. Basinger told the General in a very effective way of a little farm that nestled in a valley at the foot of a high mountain. There was also a bubbling stream close by. This little farm nesting in the lap of nature belonged to a close friend John Berry Vaught also a brother Mason. From the accurate description of the place, the General was most sure it was just the kind of place he had in mind, so, thanking Mr. Basinger and promising to see him again soon, he returned to the buggy and mounted to the seat. Looking about him as a monarch would inspect things from a throne he gave an order and the strange cavalcade moved on toward the "cove" and the Vaught farm.

The sun was low in the west, the lingering rays crowning each high point of the mountains with diadems of light while the glowing shades deep in the valley were taking on a purple hue. Cow bells could be heard in the distance as the tired bovines trudged homeward when the cavalcade approached its destination and the coveted place of rest. In answer to the lusty "HELLO THE HOUSE" Mr. Vaught appeared in the doorway, called off the dogs, and walked out to the gate. The General put his hand somewhere about his collar in what looked almost like a sign. Mr Vaught lifted his hand and smiled. "Get out" said Mr. Vaught. "Come right in. Supper will soon be ready." Vaught's wife who liked company flew around adding extra hot biscuits, fried the best part of the last ham on the place, opened a can of peaches and announced "Supper's ready." Before bedtime General Pike had become the owner of the Vaught farm paying John Berry Vaught four hundred dollars in gold for forty acres of land and the house. Mr. Vaught gave up possession the following day. General Pike

unpacked his books, stored his trunk of gold in the loft, nailed the boards back on and made himself at home.

A Masonic Lodge was organized in Caddo Gap in the year 1857. The Masonic Hall was the second story of Dave Basinger's store and Post Office. It was here in the modest surroundings of this unassuming hall that the Masons of the mountain country heard their first great lectures on Masonry from Albert Pike. General Pike made many friends among the Blue Lodge Masons (and) ... it was while living here in Montgomery County that he wrote the great Masonic book supposed by Masons to be his masterpiece: *The Morals and Dogma of Scottish Rite Masonry*.

General Pike found this country an ideal place for a writer. He soon learned to love his mountain retreat so in the spring of 1863 he erected a beautiful two story building, bought furniture from Little Rock, fitted up his place of abode in real style and comfort. A man by the name of Dick Whisenhunt was the carpenter who built the Gen-eral's new house. Uncle Dick passed away two years ago, but as long as he lived he never tired in telling of General Pike and the house he built. He never failed to described the "windin' stairs." All confess General Pike was a God-send to the peo-ple of this country in the stricken siege of war. The General spent his gold lavishly and helped many of the farmers through a tight place when their finan-ces were low. General Pike was so lavish in his support of schools, churches, lodges and humane societies: Ever a true friend in time of need.

One of General Pike's closest friends while living here was Captain Burke of Amity a leading Mason of the section. They made many trips together to Fort Smith, Little Rock, and many other places. Captain Burke spend much of his time in the Albert Pike home. The beauty of the Pike home was the wonder of the great mountain country. Wagon after wagon load of farmers and small town residents would drive over the rough roads just to see "The Pike Mansion." The beauty of the grounds, the artistic landscaping (Pike was a lover of beauty) made the place the more impressive and too, the warm handclasp and the hearty "Come in" from the General made the congenial people want to go there.

Albert Pike Vaught, one of our leading citizens here in Caddo Gap, is the son of the late John Berry Vaught, was named after General Albert Pike. His brother, the late Ham Vaught, was named for Ham Pike, the son of General Pike.

On a cold rainy afternoon in late November, 1864, some strangers came into Caddo Gap inquiring about General Pike and the hoard of gold he was supposed to have somewhere about his place. John Berry Vaught who happened to be in Caddo Gap on business heard the inquiry. Keeping his eye on the suspicious strangers, he soon discovered one of them off to one side on low-toned conversation with a man considered to be the "rakings." He became very alarmed and going out the back way to the hitch rack, he untied his horse and mounted quickly. Leaving his parcels behind he rode in all haste to his farm which was near General Pike's place. He wrote a note to the General, placed the late J.R. Vaught on the fresh mount (a mule) and started him on his way to the General's house. The General must be warned. The rain was cold and the road was rough and dark. Young Jim the messenger was only ten years of age, but never-theless about midnight he reached the Pike home and delivered the note.

There ensued a mad scrambling of packing. What could be taken along? Piles and piles of manuscripts were jammed into suitcases or carpet bags and boxes. Some tied in bundles. The precious papers and the gold were the things to be saved. At one thirty a.m. John Berry Vaught arrived to render his assistance in effecting the "get-away" from the lawless band of "Jayhawkers" or "Bush-whackers" as they were sometimes called. At two a.m. all was in readiness. The vehicle used this time was a sturdy hack. All small bundles and grips were placed in the receptacle under the high seat and the lid fastened. Then came six husky negroes with the trunk of gold (and) from the staggering of the negroes ... Mr. Vaught offered his assistance in hefting the trunk up into the hack. He often vowed it was the heaviest thing he ever helped lift.

The General called all negroes around him and said "I can't take you with me this time, boys, but here is something to tide you over." He proceeded to give each one a handful of gold coins and in a backward glance with a husky voice, he prayed "GOD SAVE MY HOME." The General then mounted into the



seat by the driver John Berry Vaught who touched the impatient white horses and they were off in a mad gallop up hill and down through dark gulches and muddy swirling creeks. Finally they reached the Caddo Gap River at the narrows. The river was high, the angry water roaring, but without hesitation they dashed right into the seething tide. Before they reached the center of the current the horses plunged under. So did the hack and its occupants. The driver, being mountain raised and used to swimming the streams, held on tight and came ashore with the hack. Then plunged back into the flood, breasted the tide to the General's side, giving him a hand. They reached the shore and safety. General Pike drenched to the skin, his gray hair falling in wet masses upon his shoulders, lifted his face to the heavens and said, "Oh God, I thank Thee." After bidding his friend adieu and expressing heart felt thanks, he climbed into the hack, picked up the reins, and the valiant horses and the General were off with the wind.

The "Bushwhackers" made all the preparations for carrying out their murderous plan not knowing the bird had flown. The raid was made the following night and the place ransacked, books and records torn and strewn in every direction. Just at dawn the house was set on fire and the most beautiful home in the Ouachitas was destroyed. To this day the name (of) Albert Pike is revered by the people of Caddo Gap and Montgomery County.

Courtesy of Ezra Vaught, Box 164, Glenwood, Arkansas 71943, portions edited.

---

March 22, 1942

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Burke Kelley

Burke Kelley was born August 9, 1868, in Murfreesboro, (Arkansas), the youngest son of Nancy Scott and William Kelley. His grandparents were among the members of a caravan formed by the ... Scott (family) to make the long and hazardous trip (from Tennessee) to Arkansas, where they settled at Nashville, Pike County. The trip was made over wild and unsettled territory and the company of other people was necessary both for protection and aid in crossing mountains and fording rivers.

The (Scott) family, having owned considerable land on the present site of Nashville, Tennessee, named the new town for their original homestead. After his

father's death, resulting from a wound suffered in the War Between the States, Burke moved with his mother and two brothers to Brinkley. The other two Kelley boys were Robert, who was a doctor, practicing in DeWitt and Arkansas County for a decade, and Edward, who moved to Washington D.C. A sister, Minnie Bridewell Kelley, married William J. Knox and moved to Memphis.

Burke went to work on the old Brinkley Argus as one of the youngest printers' devils in the state. During his youth, he moved more often than a Methodist preacher and worked on almost every newspaper in Arkansas. At one time he was on the staff of the Arkansas Gazette with his close friend, Louis Audigler of Portland, Oregon, who is today a nationally known writer and traveler. Burke's mother died and he returned to Brinkley to settle down. There he met and courted his future bride, Ludie Yates, taking her on a wedding trip on the new railroad to Newport in the late 1880s.

Ludie Yates was born September 15, 1874, in Lee County, the younger of two girls, daughters of Americus Wilkes and William Yates. Della, the sister, married David Tate of Jacksonville, and she died in 1910. The marriage of Americus and William was a war romance. The young soldier in the War Between the States was on furlough in 1863 when he visited the Wilkes home in Mississippi with the two Wilkes brothers. He fell in love with Americus then and promised to come for her after the war. Following their marriage, they settled in eastern Arkansas.

The Kelleys lived in Forrest City for awhile, where Kelley was associated with the Forrest City Times. In 1912 Burke Kelley moved to Lonoke, where he first leased, then bought the Lonoke Democrat, one of the oldest and largest weekly papers in the state. When the modern Linotype was installed Kelley kept his case where he "could feel the type." He died in 1925 and Mrs. Kelley died in 1933.

Children: Mrs. Lawrence Church of DeValls Bluff, who became editor and publisher of the Lonoke Democrat, serving for 12 years following her father's death; Mrs. Joseph R. Roberts of Little Rock; and Mrs. Mark B. Grimes of McCrory. A son, Edward Foreman Kelley is superintendent of the Buckeye cotton Oil Mill at Selma, Alabama.

Grandchildren: Mrs. Walter Gardner of Lima, Peru; Kay and Joe Robert Jr. of Little Rock; and Jimmy Grimes of McCrory.

From Arkansas Families: Glimpses of Yesterday Columns from The Arkansas Gazette, published by Arkansas Research, P.O. Box 303, Conway, AR 72033. Price: \$24.50 plus \$3.00 postage.

**Pike County Arkansas Deaths G-L  
1914-1923 & 1934-1940 (Part 2)**

Name of Deceased	Death Date
Garner, Munroe	07/01/1936
Garner, Otto	09/02/1914
Garrett, Martha I.	10/17/1937
Gay, Mattie F.	03/06/1936
Gentry,	12/02/1936
Gentry, Alice	03/03/1940
Gentry, Ed	12/06/1936
Gentry, Eva Mae	12/03/1939
Gentry, Evelyn	04/24/1936
Gentry, Rector	05/01/1937
Gentry, Will	10/22/1940
Gibbs, W.K.	10/06/1920
Gilleylen, Margret	03/22/1922
Gilmer, James A.	04/20/1940
Ginwell, Calvin G.	03/13/1914
Golden, Louis D.	09/01/1940
Grant, Leonard E.	12/01/1923
Gray, J.N.	05/21/1922
Green, Ezra Ray	05/10/1914
Green, Henretta	05/27/1914
Grey, Joseph	01/27/1940
Guise, Wise H.	07/25/1922
Hairell, Emma P.	11/24/1921
Halcomb, Lee Roy	02/27/1938
Hale, S.E.	12/03/1915
Hall, Lula J.	01/04/1923
Hammond, Lora I.	09/21/1938
Hampton, Ray C.	06/27/1939
Hancock, Josie O.	02/19/1916
Hardaway, Troy	06/18/1919
Harley, Edgar T.	08/17/1922
Harris,	09/28/1914
Harris, Mary	12/16/1936
Have, Martha J.	04/13/1915
Haygood, Tom C.	11/28/1921
Hays,	10/28/1914
Henderson, Elbert W.	10/16/1914
Henderson, Ethel	11/12/1914
Henderson, Grover	02/10/1914
Henderson, Ida	09/22/1934
Henderson, Jonas E.	02/26/1922
Henderson, Levin E.	02/04/1938
Henderson, Lorene	06/28/1915
Henderson, Luella C.	09/12/1937
Henderson, M.C.	10/05/1938
Henderson, Nancy	05/27/1914

Herndon,	07/25/1914
Herndon, O.K.	07/24/1937
Herring, Ray	02/17/1937
Hewitt, Elizabeth	01/06/1936
Hill, John B.	12/29/1938
Hilliard, Gertrude	05/12/1915
Hipp, Hazel	05/30/1914
Hoaker, Glenn	12/15/1936
Hobbs, J.C.	03/23/1937
Hodges,	02/07/1915
Hoggard, Rosie	10/23/1914
Holdman, Jim	03/27/1916
Holloway, Martha	10/20/1914
Hooker, Robert J.	12/19/1934
Hoover, Hazel	6/20/1914
Hoover, Ray	08/06/1914
Hopper, John H.	05/08/1915
Hopper, Sherman	10/20/1914
House, Joseph W.	09/08/1937
Howard, Margueret	06/02/1923
Howard, Rush	01/13/1916
Howell, Sarah	07/09/1934
Huddleston, Jane B.	12/07/1914
Huddleston, Sallie Ann	08/08/1937
Hughes, Bobby Joe	02/09/1937
Hughes, James K.	11/04/1939
Hughes, Thomas	12/12/1935
Hulbert, Edna	04/15/1934
Humphrey, M.	03/17/1923
Hunt, Thomas A.	12/02/1939
Hunter, Virgil E.	06/06/1938
Hurst, Charly	10/19/1918
Hurt, Julia B.	07/14/1936
Hutchings, Beriok E.	09/21/1937
Hutchinson, Eliza J.	02/28/1914
Irion, Rebecca	01/05/1923
Jackson,	10/16/1921
Jackson, Betty Ann	09/30/1939
Jeffers, Thomas	06/20/1914
Jefferson, Mary	09/07/1939
Jester,	03/28/1939
Jett, Minor	05/22/1938
Johnson, Eliza	06/22/1938
Johnson, Jesse S.	01/29/1937
Jones, Catherine	09/16/1915
Jones, Charlie	08/15/1922
Jones, Ella	05/07/1940
Jones, Elnora	04/05/1939
Jones, J.L.	11/09/1938
Jones, John W.	04/21/1937
Jones, Luba L.	05/21/1915
Jones, Pearl	09/19/1934
Keeling, J.L.	04/13/1940
Kelley, James J.	01/01/1915
Kelley, William J.	12/06/1922
Kelly, Blanch	09/25/1922
Kelly, John B.	11/20/1935
Kelly, Thomas Lee	07/03/1914
Kempson, Maryann	01/14/1937
Kesterson, Allie	04/17/1915
Killian, Anna	05/12/1921
Killian, Bertie	09/27/1936
King, L.L.	07/03/1938

Kirkham, Mary	02/19/1923
Kitchens, Obie	01/24/1938
Kizzia, Casabianca	11/08/1940
Knighten, A.J.	01/28/1937
Knighten, Lillie	06/21/1938
Kykendall, Deliah	04/11/1936
Lacy, Susie A.	01/23/1923
Lamb, Drewey J.	02/24/1936
Lamb, Mary J.	01/01/1923
Lamb, Ramond	06/06/1923
Lambert, John W.	04/13/1938
Lambert, Mary	05/27/1935
Launders, Eunice	01/31/1923
Lawrent, Percy A.	12/01/1940
Leak, Vella	04/06/1935
Lee, George S.	12/26/1938
Lee, H.W.	02/16/1940
Lemons, Mary	08/21/1923
Lewis, Quincy H.	10/22/1939
Ligon, John C.	01/03/1934
Ligon, Mandy	06/08/1915
Lingo, Glen A.	07/09/1938
Lingo, William Y.	01/14/1936
Lockett, William C.	10/03/1936
Lowery, Bessie	10/17/1940
Lowery, Louisa E.	07/28/1938
Lowther, Jesse M.	10/09/1921
Lucketh, Acie	10/22/1920
Lucy, John A.	01/10/1920
Luplace, Aileen	10/20/1914
Luplace, Lloyd	07/05/1922

Desmond Walls Allen

Desmond Walls Allen has especially provided these death records at the request of the editor with permission for publication in THE GEMS.

#### **Arkansas Death Record Indexes are AVAILABLE!**

If your roots are in Arkansas, here's a valuable new source to help with your research: death certificates! The State of Arkansas began keeping death records in February, 1914, and these index volumes, taken from Health Department records, are to those records that have the potential to be very helpful to your search for those elusive Arkansas ancestors. These indexes show the deceased person's name, date of death, and the county from which the death was reported. Unfortunately, they don't show all the deaths which occurred in Arkansas, only the ones reported to the state.

One of the biggest values of these indexes is looking up collateral relatives, those great aunt and uncles and cousins, who may seem like fallen leaves off the family tree, but whose information can be helpful to you. A death record for some third cousin, twice removed may lead you to a family cemetery where generations of your family are buried.

Previously, to find out if a certificate was on file for a particular person, you had to pay your money and take your chances. The Health Department keeps your money as a search fee if no

record is found. Now, with these valuable indexes, you'll know what's available before you order certificates.

These indexes are arranged two ways - statewide and in regional volumes. This makes the information more affordable and tailored to your needs. The data are the same in the statewide and regional volumes, only the arrangement and selection are different. See "How to Order" after the book descriptions.

#### \*\*\* STATEWIDE VOLUMES \*\*\*

Arkansas Death Record Index, 1914-1923  
ISBN 1-56546-078-2, 572 pages, \$49.50

Arkansas Death Record Index, 1934-1940  
ISBN 1-56546-086-3, 475 pages, \$49.50

#### \*\*\* REGIONAL VOLUMES \*\*\*

Northwestern Arkansas Death Record Index, 1914-1923:  
Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton, Searcy, and  
Washington Counties, ISBN 1-56546-081-2, 53 pages, \$15.00

North Central Arkansas Death Record Index, 1914-1923:  
Baxter, Cleburne, Conway, Faulkner, Fulton, Independence,  
Izard, Jackson, Lawrence, Randolph, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren,  
White, and Woodruff Counties, ISBN 1-56546-080-4, 74  
pages, \$16.00

Western Arkansas Death Record Index, 1914-1923: Crawford,  
Franklin, Johnson, Logan, Montgomery, Polk, Pope, Scott,  
Sebastian, and Yell Counties, ISBN 1-56546-082-0, 61 pages,  
\$15.00

Southeastern Arkansas Death Record Index, 1914-1923:  
Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Desha, Drew,  
Jefferson, and Lincoln Counties, ISBN 1-56546-083-9, 54  
pages, \$15.00

Southwestern Arkansas Death Record Index, 1914-1923:  
Calhoun, Clark, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard,  
Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Pike, Sevier,  
and Union Counties, ISBN 1-56546-084-7, 72 pages, \$16.00

Central Arkansas Death Record Index, 1914-1923: Garland,  
Grant, Hot Spring, Lonoke, Perry, Prairie, Pulaski, and Saline  
Counties, ISBN 1-56546-085-5, 128 pages, \$18.00

Eastern Arkansas Death Record Index, 1914-1923: Clay,  
Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Lee, Mississippi,  
Monroe, Phillips, Poinsett, and St. Francis Counties, ISBN  
1-56546-079-0, 109 pages, \$16.00

#### \*\*\* HOW TO ORDER \*\*\*

Snail mail: Arkansas Research, PO Box 303, Conway, AR  
72033-0303; Fax: 501/470-1120; E-mail:

desmond@intellinet.com

1. Send us a list of the books you want and say where we should ship them.

2. Add \$3.00 postage for the first book and \$1.00 for each additional.

3. Arkansas residents must add 4.5% sales tax.

4. Pay by check through snail mail. Fax or e-mail a credit card order (Visa or MasterCard). Send credit card number, expiration date, and please give us a day-time phone number in case we have a problem.

Thanks! Good luck on researching your Arkansas ancestors. If you would like for us to mail you a complete catalog of nearly 200 books about Arkansas, just send an e-mail message to [desmond@intellinet.com](mailto:desmond@intellinet.com) and include "Catalog request" on the subject line of your message. Give us a mailing address and we'll get the catalog sent right to you.

Arkansas Research  
P.O. Box 303  
Conway, AR 72033

---

### Died

Logan. - Mrs. Dorcas Logan was born in Bellevue (Washington) county Mo., September 19th, 1805, emigrated to Arkansas in the year 1817, and settled in Clark County. Her maiden name was Crow. She was joined in marriage to John C. Logan on December 25th, 1826, with whom she lived until his death, which occurred in 1867. From then until her death, which occurred November 15th 1880, she lived with her son. My mother was a good woman; had been a member of the M.E. Church, South, from early life, and was willing to go. God bless her relatives and friends, and help them to so live that they may meet her in the home of the good.

Her Son

Murfreesboro, Ark. Nov. 16th 1880.

Southern Standard, November 27, 1880, page 3, column 3.

---

### Hon. Henry W. Carter, Dead.

Represented Pike County to  
Constitutional Convention in 1874.

Special to the Gazette. Murfreesboro, June 29th. In the death of Hon. Henry W. Carter at his home in Nathan recently, Pike County loses one of its best citizens. Mr. Carter was 82 years old and his life was one of honorable distinction among his fellow men. He served gallantly in the Confederate Army in

Monroe's Regiment from Arkansas and it is a noteworthy fact he outlived more than fifty of his colleagues of that session. He was one of seventy-seven members of the convention of 1874.

Arkansas Gazette, Little Rock, Arkansas, June 30, 1906.

---

### Prominent Citizen Dies.

W.N. Thompson, an old resident of this county, died at 7:45 Saturday evening at his home at Kirby, following a paralytic stroke. Mr. Thompson lacked but one month of being 75 years old, was born and reared in Clark county, moved to Pike in 1898. He had been a minister of the Church of Christ for 45 years and a well beloved citizen of the community. In politics he was actively Republican and served as a member of the Arkansas legislature for the term of 1905. Besides the widow, he leaves a son, T.R. Thompson, of Hot Springs, a daughter, Mrs. M.E. Tolleson, of Kirby, ten grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Glenwood News Press, Glenwood, Arkansas, April 22, 1921,  
page 1, column 2.

---

### Uncle Ashley Kelley Dead

Dies After Several Months Illness  
At the Home of E. Kelley Here.

Uncle Ashley Kelley, aged 83 years, died at the home of his son, E. Kelley, here early Saturday morning, after several months of illness. Mr. Kelley is survived by five children, E. Kelley, of this place, William Kelley, of near Gurdon, Boyd Kelley, of Graysonia, Mrs. G.W. Clingan, of Nashville, and Mrs. J.L. Ballew, of Antoine, and one brother and sister, John Kelley and Mrs. John Lamb, both of this place (Delight). Funeral services were conducted at Antioch Sunday evening by Rev. G.L. Cagle, of Murfreesboro. Burial was in the old cemetery here.

Pike County Tribune, October 21, 1927, page 1, column 6.

---

### BILL OF SALE

Know All Men By These Presents:

That I, Morgan Cryer Senr., of the County of Clark & Missouri Territory, have Bargained and Sold and Delivered Unto David Mobley of the said Terri-tory, a Negro Girl, a Slave for life of a Yellow Complexion about Five years of age Named Rachel For the Sum of two Hundred and Fifty Dollars to me in hand Paid, the Sealing and Delivering of these presents, I do Bind Myself, my heirs, Executors and Administrators, firmly by these presents ever to the Said David Mobley, his heirs and Assigns against all Persons Whatsoever.

Given under my hand and Seal this First day of July 1819.

Morgan Cryer (Seal)

Attest:

William Conly  
Alexander (his x mark) McTygert

Received and Recorded the 1st day of July 1819.

William Miles, Clerk  
& Exofficio Recorder.

Clark County, Arkansas Deed Book A, page 23.

### PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS TAX LIST 1842

A List of Persons and Property Assessed for Taxation  
in Pike County in the State of Arkansas.

Ashford, James	Davenport, James	Hughes, William
Atkins, W.H.	Dickson, Sion B.	Hughes, James
Alford, Madison E.	Dickson, David S.	Hughes, Thos. M.
Bankston, Marshal H.	Davis, Clement	Henry, James
Benson, Wm. H.	Edwards, John	Harel, Thompson
Brinley, Jacob	Weaver, Jeremiah	Holiday, Wm. H.
Baxter, Joel	Franks, Abraham	White, Jordan
Baxter, Jesse	F(al)kner, Hiram A.	Jones, Absalom
Blaylock, Willis	Griffin, James E.	Jones, Wm. J.
Bagwell, Milas	Gillmore, Wm.	Jenkins, Thos.
Burkett, Jonas	Goodman, Arch	Joiner, Wesley
Brewer, Henderson	Green, John W.	Justice, Jacob B.
Brewer, Wm. A.	Green, Rich'd	Johns(t)on, William
Brewer, Harmon	Goliher, Jno.	Johnston, Charles
Blocker, Sarah	Galbreath, Joseph	Jacobs, English
Blocker, John	Green, John	Jenkins, Jesse
Brewer, John	Green, A(a)ron	Johns(t)on, Mic(a)jah
Brewer, Oliver's heirs	Wakley, Samuel	White, Isaac
Bizzell, Wm. H.	Ward, John	Kelley, Elijah
Burton, Stanford	Williams, Walker T.	Kelley, Wesley
Burton, W.S.	Helm, John	Kelley, William
Brewer, Jas. S.	Helm, Owen	Kelley, Giles
Basset(t), Thos.	Hancock Ab(ner) H.	Kizzia, James C.
Brewer, Wm.	Hasley, Sam'l	Kizzia, William
Brewer, Henry	Hud(d)leston, David	Kelley, Robert
Conway, Thos. J.	Harris, A.F.	Kirkham, James H.
Dickson, Wm. T.	Hale, Elbert G.	Kizziar, James
Dickson, Sam'l A.	Hensley, George	Langdon, Robert
Davis, Wm.	Hughes, John	Lattimore, Isham
Davis, Abijah	Hancock, Wm.	Lupton, Richard
Dickson, John	Hill, James	Mansfield, James C.
	Huddleston, Jno. W.	McLaughlin, W.C.

Milson, Thomas  
McWalkins, Jas. C.  
Mobley, William  
Mobley, David  
McLaughlin, Jno.  
Massey, P.P.  
McDoneld, Leroy  
McDoneld, Jas. M.  
McDonield, Robt.  
Morris, Isaac A.  
McDoneld, Alvin  
Orrick, William  
Orrick, And(rew) B.  
Orrick, Wm. J.

Owens, Edw(in)  
Oliver, Wm. H.  
Prince, C.G.M.  
Price, Erwin  
Patterson, Edmon R.  
Preston, W.H.  
Bittick, Jesse  
Self, Forgey  
Sanders, John T.  
Scott, Benj.  
Simpson, Sam'l  
Scott, Thomas  
Stone, William  
Stone, William & Sarah

Blocker, Admin. of the  
Estate of Jno. (John)  
Blocker Decd.  
Self, Lackey W.  
Swan, Wilson H.  
Steel, Thomas  
Simpson, Jesse  
Stringer, Rice  
Sharp, John  
Stone & McDoniel(d)  
Stone, F.G.  
Scott, James  
Scott, Patrick M.

---

The State of Arkansas,  
County of Pike.

This day received of D.S. Dickson Clerk (of) the County Court of Pike and Exofficio Recorder in and for the County aforesaid, the Tax Book for which this is a true copy for the (year) eighteen hundred and forty Two and the same is the sum of:

Amt. of State Tax \$122.96  
Amt. of County Tax \$48?..??

HENRY BREWER, Sheriff

---

The State of Arkansas,  
County of Pike.

I, David S. Dickson, Clerk of the Circuit and County Court and Exofficio Recorder in and for the County of Pike, Do hereby certify that the within is a true amount of the taxable property as appears by the assessment list for the year A.D. 1842.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand as Clerk and exofficio Recorder as aforesaid, and affixed the seal of office at Murfreesboro (Murfreesboro) the 28th day of April, A.D. 1842.

D.S. DICKSON  
By RICE STRINGER

---

Little Rock, Arkansas

Pike County Tax List for the year 1842 recorded and filed 7th May 1842. \$122. 96/100 State tax charged to Sheriff, page 7.

E.N. CONWAY, Auditor of Arks.

---

---

## Obituary

### DIED.

Near Antoine, in Pike county, Arkansas, Sister EMILY WESSON, consort of Henry Wesson, at the advanced age of 67 years. She was born in Newberry District, S.C. August 8th, 1805; had been a member of the Presbyterian Church for more than forty years. Shortly before her death she was immersed and united with 'Disciples of Christ.' Her confidence in the Christian's hope grew stronger as she approached "the Jordan of Death." It was pitiful to look upon her emaciated form, wasting slowly away under the weight of twelve months illness; but consoling to hear her calm farewell as she talked calmly of the resurrection. She died in hope of incorruptibility, and eternal life to come. She leaves an aged husband, and large circle of relatives and friends to mourn her loss, only consoled by the assurance that it is her eternal gain.

The Lord knoweth when the mourner goeth  
To weep for the lost by the cherished grave, Unseen  
He speaketh, to the heart that breaketh  
I can restore her, for 'tis I that can save.

Southern Standard, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, October 12, 1872,  
page 2, column 7.

---

## BROWNING FAMILY

### I

Capt. John Browning, born 1588 in England; died Elizabeth City, Virginia; came to America on the Abigail (sp) in 1622; married 1614, wife \_\_\_\_\_ .

### II

William Browning, born 1615 in England; died Jamestown, Virginia; came to America with father on Abigail (sp); wife \_\_\_\_\_ .

### III

John Browning, Sr., born 1645 in Jamestown, Virginia; died 168-, in Jamestown, Virginia; married 1665 or 1675, wife \_\_\_\_\_ .

### IV

John Browning, Jr., born 1666 or 1675, Jamestown, Virginia; died after 1711; married 1699, wife \_\_\_\_\_ .

### V

Francis Browning, Sr., born 1700, Carolina County, Virginia; died 1775, Culpepper County, Virginia; wife Elizabeth Lloyd.

### VI

John Browning born 1728, Culpepper County, Virginia; died December 12, 1803, Culpepper County, Virginia; soldier in Virginia, American Revolution; married 1744, wife Elizabeth Demerest, French Huguenot.

### VII

John Radford Browning, born May 17, 1767, Culpepper County, Virginia; died May 3, 1844, Clark County, Arkansas; moved to Thomas County, Georgia in 1792; Captain in Seminole War; married 1780, first wife, unknown; married September 27, 1890, second wife, Nancy Peebles, born November 6, 1776, died July 3, 1868.

### VIII

Francis John Browning, born October 1, 1800, Thomas County, Georgia; died September 1, 1886, Clark County, Arkansas; married June 13, 1822, wife Sarah P. Veazey, born July 17, 1804, Thomas County, Georgia, died February 1, 1871, Clark County, Arkansas.

### IX

Permelia Charity Browning, born May 19, 1842, Clark County, Arkansas; died August 17, 1927, Pike County, Arkansas; married April 1, 1857, Clark County, Arkansas, John Benjamin Rountree, born August 19, 1826, died August 18, 1914, Pike County, Arkansas; both buried in Pisgah Cemetery near Delight, Arkansas. Children of John and Permelia Rountree:

Mary Peak Rountree born December 18, 1867; died June 16, 1961; married on November 15, 1883, John May, born September 30, 1861, died November 17, 1936.

Sarah Ellen Rountree born February 16, 1870; died 1953; married Sam Harris.

John Holcomb Rountree born November 12, 1873; died 1958; married on March 16, 1898, Hettie Ann Steed, born June 25, 1878, died 1944.

Micajah Rountree born October 19, 1877; died January 3, 1937; married on September 19, 1902, Minnie Ola Steed, born March 1, 1886, died April 11, 1973.

Browning Family courtesy of Winston & Betty Harris, 619 Jefferson St., Centralia, WA 98531.

---

---

**PRINCE**

Ethel Taylor

P.O. Box 1263  
514-347-2018  
Bandon, OR 97411  
September 3, 1996

Ms. Dorothy Kennedy Partain  
P.O. Box 238  
Murfreesboro, AR 71958

Dear Dorothy,

I am currently trying to connect my great great grandmother, Mary Ann Williams Prince, with her parents. Mary Ann married Peter Prince, son of Zachariah and Suvannah Prince, who had relocated to Hot Spring County (AR) from Jackson County, AL the summer of 1854. They married December 23, 1855 in Hot Spring County. Their marriage states "with the consent of her parents" since she was only 15, but did not name her parents. Mary Ann was a full Cherokee, born May 1838 in AL.

Mary Ann (AKA Polly) and Peter had the following known children: Mary Jane born 1857, Clark Co., died Aug. 1869, Pike Co., buried in Howerton family cemetery near Kirby. (Peter and Mary Ann Prince Howerton, wife of William Howerton were brother and sister); John born March 10, 1860, married Eliza "Phemey" Green, 1890, died Jan. 1918; Berry S. (or Berry Peter?) born Dec. 1865, married Mary Ann Howerton, 1887, died Feb. 1917; Eliga Paskell born Oct. 9, 1869, married Mary Lorenda Jane Woodall, 1887, died Aug. 27, 1950; Simon Peter born April 1, 1868, married Ann Virginia Greeson, died July 3, 1941; Elizabeth "Betty" born 1876, married a Woodall; Eliza Jane born Nov. 1879, married James Rutherford "Pode" Howerton, died Sept. 18, 1966; William Andrew born Feb. 28, 1882, married 1st Elizabeth Gregory, 2nd Lucy Donaldson, 1909, died Aug. 5, 1921. Peter and Mary Ann owned some land very near his sister and husband, the Howerton's in (Sec. 28) TWN 5 S, R 25 (W), just west of Kirby. Peter was a Civil war veteran, serving with the 21st Arkansas Infantry. During a battle, he was shot in the hip and remained crippled. Peter died Sept. 11, 1882 and is buried in the Howerton Cemetery. Sometime after Peter's death Mary Ann married Pascal M. (Marion) Woodall. After Pascal died, she married an E.O Waid (Wade?) in 1901, whom she divorced.

The 1910 Pike County Census shows her living with her daughter, Eliza Jane and J.R. Howerton in Self Creek Township. She applied for and was granted a Confederate widow's pension, July 31, 1914, warrant #9124. The Arkansas History Commission says she lived in or near Kirby while receiving the pension. The column for payments shows she received them for 1916, but the 1917 column has the notation "Dead. Warrant canceled."

I found one of Mary Ann and Peter's granddaughters, Cintha Sanders, daughter of Eliga, who told me Mary Ann is buried near Mt. Ida, Montgomery County. There is a Mary Ann Prince buried in Murphy Cemetery about 14 miles east of Mt. Ida. Her grave was among those moved from Mayberry #1 when Lake Ouachita was built. There are no dates on the tombstone. There is also a Mary Prince with the date died May 6, 1917 buried at Pike City Cemetery. I tend to believe the Mary Ann Prince buried at Murphy Cemetery may be my grandmother for a couple of reasons, but

can't totally discount the one at Pike City, Arkansas, vital Statistics does not have a death certificate for her.

I have been told by other family researchers that Mary Ann had twin sisters, Jody and Judy, that had died young and supposed to be buried near Mt. Ida. She also has a brother, Joseph, who lived and died in the Cherokee Nation. There are several Josephs listed but so far, have not ascertained which one was him, as I don't have (a) birth date, death date, or parents to go on. There are a lot of Williams.

I don't know if there are any of Peter and Mary Ann's descendants still living in Pike County.

In the last issue (The Gems), Summer 1996, I read about David Bixby (pg. 7-99) in which he had married an Elizabeth Babbit, whose children included one Mary Magdalene Babbit born 1837, who married Paschal Marion Woodall about 1856 in Pike County. Since this is the name of the man my grandmother married some 30 odd years later, it caught my interest. Also, Woodall is a collateral family to my Princes. (The Gems), Spring and Fall, 1994, also had information on Paschal Marion Woodall and his family, as well as in the (Pike County) "History." Apparently Mary Ann and Peter were acquainted with Paschal (Woodall) before Peter died, as their son Eliga was given the name Paskel. Eliga also married a Mary Lorenda Jane Woodall, a relative or perhaps child of Paschal M.? Eliga's sister Elizabeth "Betty" also married a Woodall (first name unknown) perhaps a brother of Mary Jane? Another curious item, one of Eliga and Jane's daughter was named Mary Magdalene. Could it be that Mary Lorenda Jane, and Betty's husband were children of Paschal and Mary Magdelene? ... if you happen upon some one that might have information about Mary Ann Williams Prince's parents, or if there happens to be some Woodall descendants in the area that would care to share a bit about the above Woodalls.

Sincerely,

Ethel Taylor

P.S. Caught your page on the Internet. Very nice.

---

Charles C. Scott  
8476 Dogwood  
Germantown, Tennessee 38139  
November 20, 1995

Matthew Scott, born 1698 in Donegal, Ireland, married Ann Fulton, born 1701 in Convoy Parish, Donegal, Ireland in 1726. We know of one child born to this marriage, William Scott, was born in 1727 in Donegal. Matthew died in 1758 and Ann Fulton died in 1779. Both died in Ireland.

William Scott married Mary \_\_\_\_\_, born 1732 in Donegal, Ireland. We do not have a record of the year of their marriage. This is the couple that brought our family line to the United States. Patrick Scott was born to this marriage ... in Newberry, South Carolina. William Scott died before February 19, 1810 and Mary died Before February 20, 1819. Both died in Newberry, South Carolina.

Patrick Scott married Caroline Elizabeth Wilson about 1790. This was the first generation born in the United States. There were 11 children born to this marriage, six sons and five daughters. (The



daughters are with their married names. Sons: James - farmer (the oldest), William - doctor (botanical), Joseph - farmer, Benjamin - lawyer, Addison - lawyer, (and) Patrick. Daughters: Ann McClure, Isabell - died as infant, Mary Crawford, Eliza Matthews, (and) Rebecca Weir. The 1830 census for Pike County, Georgia indicates that Patrick Scott had moved to that location.

James Scott was born in abt. 1791. He was married twice. The first wife was Margret McCarnathy. She died in Abbeville County, South Carolina in 1822. To this marriage there were seven children born: Samuel - died as infant, Patrick Milton, Thomas, Sarah Ann, Martha, Margaret Isabelle (b 10.29/1820), (and) Ruth (youngest) ... The second wife of James Scott was Nancy Fulton. There were only two children born to this marriage. Descendants of children from the first marriage state, however, that Nancy Scott provided a loving home for all the children. Children from this marriage: William James -a preacher (born 1/5/1825), (and) Catherine (no other information). James and Nancy Scott moved their family from Abbeville County, South Carolina in 1825 to Pike County, Georgia. There has been conflicting information from various sources about where William James Scott originated. Some say South Carolina and some say Georgia. It appears that he was barely from South Carolina (born there in January and moved to Georgia the same year). In 1837 the family moved to Pike County, Arkansas. James Scott served as a judge in Pike County, Arkansas during 1848 through 1850. He died in 1859 in Texas.

#### MEMORABILIA

Uncle Philip Williams, grandfather's older brother participated (at the battle of King's Mountain) ... The British and their red-skin allies were posted on a spur of the mountain, and the patriot troops had to advance up the side of it during the attack. The fighting was severe, and for some time the advance was slow ... From the position which Uncle Philip occupied he had a very clear view of the field in front, the obstacles being few. The firing was only desultory, each man being his own commander, as was then common in Indian battles. Uncle Philip observed that there was a fallen tree in front of them, the butt end of which was pointed directly toward him, and it seemed to be hollow. Every little while he noticed a puff of white smoke curl out of the end of this tree trunk, and each time a patriot soldier was either killed or wounded. He conjectured that there was an Indian concealed in it, and acting upon this thought he fired a charge directly into the end of the log. He saw no more puffs of smoke come out of there. Very soon after this the enemy gave way, the Colonists advanced at a charge, and the day was won. After the battle was over Uncle Philip related the circumstances to some of his comrades, whereat it was proposed to go to the spot and ascertain the result of his shot. Upon reaching the hollow log and instituting an investigation they found an Indian lying dead within ... Judge A.B. Williams ... in 1850 ... then a very young man, was at the residence of Judge

James Scott, in Pike county, (Arkansas). The latter had passed the middle age of life, and was very fond of reciting reminiscences of the early days and of how his ancestors had suffered at the hands of the Tories in South Carolina. His father had fought in the battle of King's Mountain, and he related to Judge Williams the story of the soldier shooting into the end of the log, killing the Indian, returning after the battle was over and finding his dead body, which, he said, his father witnessed, and he had often heard him tell the story, though he could not recall the name of the soldier. Judge Williams, having often heard his grandfather recount the same incident, knew that Uncle Philip must have been the man. Corroboration of such incidents among the descendants of those good and brave men after the lapse of many years should make us very tender in our criticisms of their wondrous stories, about which we are sometimes half inclined to accuse them of shooting with a long bow.

S.H. Williams

271 Franklin St., Chicago

Washington Press, Washington, Arkansas, 1886, Memorabilia, Samuel H. Williams. Excerpt from No. XXXII.

---

#### QUERIES

**Carlile, Jones, Norman, Bobo, Lucas, Whitaker, Whisenhunt** Where did Wiley B. Jones die? The Jones family came to Pike County, Arkansas before 1850 from Bedford County, Tennessee. Part of the family came on to Lamar County, Texas. Wiley B. Jones was born about 1808 in S.C. to Charles Jones and Rebecca (Norman) Jones. Where did Mary Jane (Jones) King Whisenhunt marry Carrell Walker? She was the daughter of Wiley B. Jones and Nancy Lucas Jones. Her second husband was Adam Whisenhunt. Any information on this family would be appreciated. I will gladly ex-change my information. **Betty Thoms, P.O. Box 75, Roxton, TX 75477.**

**Bright, Sutton** We are tracing our family tree and need information from marriage records: Shelby Eugene Bright married Mary Ethel, need last maiden name, date of marriage, where married, names of both groom and bride's parents, address of bride and groom at time of marriage. Also for: Henry Elbert Bright to Imo or Ines, need last maiden name, date of marriage, where married, names of both groom and bride's

parents, address of bride and groom at time of marriage. **The Brights, 1123 W. Walker St., Denison, TX 75020.**

**Walker, Whisenhunt** I'm looking for a marriage for Carroll Walker, not sure about the first name, and Mary Jane Whisenhunt who married between 1880 & 1910. **Betty Thoms, P.O. Box 75, Roxton, TX 75477.**

**Brock, Reid, Dyer** Seeking info about Moses Brock, Sr., b. 1803 Grainger Co. TN. (His) father George Brock, mar. Amey Dyer, 1795, Pittsylvania Co., VA. Moses Brock mar., #1 Zephrona Dennis, #2 Mahala Dyer, 1833, Grainger Co., TN. Issue of Moses and Mahala: Booker D., Nancy Al, George W., Sarah E., Moses Kilburn, & John W. Moses Kilburn Brock res. Pike Co., Ark., CSA Lt., 4th Ark Reg., mar. Sarrah Jane Reid, 1865. Issue of Moses Kilburn & Sarrah Jane: Mary M. Margaret A. Nancy E. Martha E., Sarah A., John W., Moses Edward, Amanda Josephine, George A., Ada Louise, Ida, Sam. K. **Margaret D. Findley, 1938 S. Thomson Rd., Iowa, LA 70647-9501.**

**Morris** I am searching for a marriage record for a person who is buried in Halfway Cemetery (Clark County) close to Pike County. There is a child buried next to this person which suggests to me that there was a second marriage, but there is no record in Clark County of such a marriage. The tombstone for this person reads: W.F. Morris and the two year old child reads J.R. Morris. William Frank (Morris) was born in Dallas County (Arkansas) and married Willie Williams in 1886. Willie was dead by 1894 and Frank abandoned his children and must have started another life in Clark County. I am aware of Morris families that are buried in Weir Cemetery, but have been unable to establish a connection with Frank. Frank died Oct. 26, 1899. This William Frank (Morris) was the father of R.O. Morris who had a grocery store in Okolona, and before, he was the town's blacksmith. **Wanda J. Karnes, 1711 Magnolia Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72903.**

**Ford, Staton** I need information on Absalom Ford. He was married to a Sarah Elizabeth Staton in 1822. He moved from Calloway Co., KY in 1838 to Pike Co., AR. He appears on the tax records from 1838-1841. I suspect he died at this time. He had 4 sons and 4 daughters. I suspect that my 2nd great grandfather

Josiah Ford was one of his children. I need any information available. Josiah (Ford) fought in the Civil War out of Ark. under Capt. Upton, Company J, Regiment un-known. **Ken Ford, 101 Valley Road, Paducah, KY 42001.**

**O'Neal, Philips, Black, Bennett, McCord** I am researching the O'Neal family. I am very much interested in Atlas (O'Neal) who was born 1811 in North Carolina. I was under the impression he married Lucassy Philips in Linden, Marengo County, Alabama on December 27, 1832. I thought they had four sons born in Alabama. They were Reet (1839), Acetas Otto (1840), Marion Hinton (1843), and James Jackson (1846). I have now received information that perhaps he married Ann Black, December 13, 1837 in Clark County, Alabama. I am a descendant of his last marriage to Jane W. Bennett McCord on December 27, 1849 in Lafayette County (Arkansas). They lived for a short time in Arkansas before moving to Lavaca and Karnes counties in Texas. I would appreciate any information about Atlas (O'Neal), his parents, marriages, children and spouses. I thought he was the son of Bridgers (O'Neal) who was born in North Carolina and the grandson of William (O'Neal) born in Johnston County, North Carolina. Since he is not mentioned in the Last Will and Testament of Bridgers (O'Neal), he could be the son of Frederick (O'Neal), the younger brother of Bridgers. **Loraine B. Whittemore, 1100 Maple St., Lockhart, TX 78644.**

**McKinney** Seeking information about Joseph W. McKinney of Monroe Co., MS. Wife poss. Eliza-beth \_\_\_\_\_. Issue: Omar L. & Joe (Jr.?). Omar b. 1878, Amory, MS, mar. Ada Louise Brock in Pike Co., Ark. **Margaret D. Findley, 1938 S. Thomson Rd., Iowa, LA 70647-9501.**

**Hancock, Howard** I am trying to locate my grandfather. According to the birth certificate of my father Noah Hancock, obtained by his mother in 1942, his name was George William Hancock. George (as the family tale goes) was killed near Gurdon, Ark. in 1900 leaving a wife, Beuna Vista Howard Hancock and a son Noah Hancock. The records I have received from (the) Clark County Historical Association, show an obituary of a Joe Handcock being killed in a railroad accident in Gurdon, loading logs on September 15, 1900. The 1900 Clark County Census show Joseph living (in) Beech Creek Township, born 1863 in Maryland, his occupation is saw mill laborer,

his wife is listed as "Budona" born August 1881, in Georgia. Their son Noah was shown to have been born in May 1900. My father Noah Hancock was born May 15, 1900. I would appreciate any help that would set the record straight as to my family. I have never known any of my family past my father Noah Hancock. **Jack Milford Hancock, 12245 No. 26th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85032-7008. Phone: (602) 867-2577.**

**Caney Valley Baptist Church, Hardy, Herring** I would like to get in touch with the Caney Valley Baptist Church to get a copy of their founding member's record. Not only are my Hardy's on it, but Herring's as well. **Pattie Bethune, 4914 Portola Dr., Garland, TX 75043.**

**Book on Delight** Miss Bess Galloway my fifth grade teacher wrote and published a book on Delight. Are there any in existence? **Billie Harris, 123 Mar Vista Dr., Monterey, CA 93940.**

**Shaw, Bolls** My great greandfather was recorded in Newport, RI, as dying in Auburn, Arkansas on 4 May 1853. Would like a copy of a record of his death or anything about where he was buried. His name was Rev. Benjamin Shaw, wife Emeline Bolls Shaw. **Irmalee K. Barney, 18 Joy Lane, North Attleboro, MA 02760.**

---

## REUNIONS

### U.S.A. Brees/Breese

The U.S.A. Brees/Breese Family Genealogy Swap Meet, Best Western Inn, 2101 S. 4th St., located on corner of 4th and Grand Streets, Chickasha, OK 73018, Ph (405) 224-4890. September 25-28, 1997, (Thr-Sun) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Reservation cut off date August 1, 1997. Contact Dale F. & Clara Ann Brees Phillips, 1927 S. 7th St., Chicasha, OK 73018, Ph (405) 224-6927. Please send a SASE when requesting information.

---

### Doyle Methodist Church and Cemetery

The Doyle Methodist Church and Cemetery re-union is the fourth Sunday in April (27 April 1997). Contact Orville & Mildred Westfall, (501) 845-2991.

---

### 5th Annual Self Reunion 1997

Members of the Self family invite you and your family to attend a fun filled weekend at Norman, Arkansas, April 19-20, 1997. Come meet your relatives and Self clan from Arkansas. Bring yourself and family and anything you might enjoy sharing. Saturday, April 19, 1997, sandwiches, finger food, at the City Hall in Norman, for our family gathering place, reserved all day. Afternoon, visit with family and a sight-seeing area, potluck supper. Sunday, April 20, meet 10:45 a.m. at Liberty Church for those wishing to attend church. The church provides their kitchen to have our sandwiches and visit. Out 4th reunion was busy with the Memorial Day events and cooking. We plan to have this reunion on a non holiday weekend and just sandwiches, finger food, for both lunch and dinner. In other words a Self serve reunion. Please contact one of the following for information:

Sue Ferguson  
3119 North 5th St.  
Coeur D'Alene, ID 83814  
Phone: (208) 765-5086

Hazel Sowaski  
3444 Cherrywood Lane  
Plano, TX 75074  
Phone: (972) 423-2487

Clettis Self  
Rt. 2, Box 290  
Saline, LA 71070  
Phone (318) 875-3158

Come and have a fun filled weekend. Hope to see you there.

Sue Ferguson

---

### Smedley Family Reunion

Hear ye! Hear ye!

You and yours are hereby invited to the Smedley Family Reunion on the 5th of July 1997. An all day event in the community of Japany, south of Murfreesboro, Arkansas, at the home of Billy and

Martha (Smedley) Graves, the home place of my grandfather and grandmother Samuel Lewis and Louella Missouri (Hutson) Smedley. All Smedley's and their "Relatives by Marriage" are invited to attend this reunion. Please bring your old family bibles, pictures, and any genealogy information you might have on your families. We will have pot luck, hot dogs and hamburgers for lunch and for dinner and all the trimmings furnished by your host. You can fish and swim in beautiful Lake Greeson and Little Missouri River, Canoe or float the river, hunt diamonds, visit the Ka-Do-Ha Indian burial grounds, and I might even take you to visit where Kaolin was once mined. Please tell all your children, parents, grandparents and relatives by marriage and plan to make this a day to remember. Let me know by telephone or letter by May 1, 1997 if you will be joining us.

Jim Smedley  
2005 Paisley Dr.  
Arlington, TX 76015  
(817) 265-2345

Call anytime Sunday through Saturday. If no answer, please leave message.

---

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Marie W. Sanders, mother of Joyce Couch one of our PCAHS members, who passed away last November 26.

#### **Marie W. Sanders**

De Queen - Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 29 in the Wilkerson Funeral Home Chapel for Mrs. Marie Whitlock Sanders, 89. The Rev. Bill Fish will officiate. Burial will follow in the Green's Chapel Cemetery under the direction of Wilkerson Funeral Home.

Mrs. Sanders was born Aug. 6, 1907 in Ashley County and she died Wednesday, Nov. 26, 1996, at a Nashville hospital. A resident of Sevier County since 1932, she was a homemaker and retired teacher. During her 40-year career in education she taught in Lockesburg, Horatio, and De Queen. She was a members of the Eastern Star and Paraclifta Chapter DAR, where she served as Regent, Vice-Regent and Registrar. She was a member and president of the Sevier County Historical Society and Hospital

Auxiliary. She was also a members of the Sevier County Genealogical Society and First United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Sanders was preceded in death by her husband, D.L. Sanders, on Oct. 19, 1983. Survivors include: one daughter, Joyce Couch of Nashville; one grandson; one granddaughter; one great-great grandson; and one sister, Ruby Allison of El Dorado.

#### **Pike County Families Database**

Cindy Scott is building a database of people who lived in Pike County at any time and their ancestors and/or descendants. She began with a personal database of almost 5,000 individuals and has added about 8,000 more since beginning work on the new Pike County Cemetery Book.

Dorothy Kennedy Partain has sent copies of some of the family histories (from her personal collection not associated with PCAHS) which she's gathered over the years and Cindy is entering them as she has time. When the cemetery book is finished Cindy will add the family histories at hand and the information in the book to the database. Then she will start adding information from the Pike County Marriage Records and Censuses that have been published. These sources may not be perfect, but it is a good place to start. Cindy plans on maintaining this database for at least 20 years and hopes that someone will be willing to take over and continue the project.

David Kelley has agreed to share his wealth of information to be included in the database and may even be pressed into service entering data. She plans to "add anything she can get her hands on" - Goodspeed's book, Wills, Bible records, etc. Shane Hill has contributed a copy of his data base of 3,400+ individuals and Cindy is hoping for more computerized information.

If you use a genealogy program on your computer and would like to contribute your information for inclusion in Pike County Data Base, please send a GEDCOM on a 32 or 53 floppy disk to Cindy. Her mailing address is:

Cindy Scott  
13 Adams Street  
Ft. Bragg, NC 28307-2001

A GEDCOM can also be attached to an Internet message and sent to Cindy via e-mail >>> shadowone@mindspring.com.

If you have any questions about making a GEDCOM file, please contact Cindy and she will help you through the process. She uses several different genealogy programs and is familiar with many others.

If you have sent a paper copy of your family history to PCAHS, a GEDCOM would still be appreciated to eliminate reentering your data into computer files. It would also prevent typographical errors during reentry. You don't have a computer but would like to contribute your family history information to this project? Just mail a clean, clear copy to Cindy. She can work with family histories, family group records, pedigrees, descendants & ancestry charts,

etc., done by hand or typewriter. Please include any reference/research notes in your database or on your paper copies if possible.

Cindy will share any information she has with other family history researchers, and try to assist researchers who are "stumped." She has researched families for many years and has found that the best leads are from other researchers who were willing to share their information. She encourages you (does not insist) to include your name, address, and phone number in the database so that other's interested in your families can contact you.

---

### Pike Co. Ar. Archives & History Society!

Just wanted your book committee to know what a truly GREAT job they did when they completed "A Look At The Past." Never let any complaints get you down. No work is ever perfect. You actually put together a work that will be long appreciated & remembered. I found pictures of family members I never expected to see. I can't thank you enough for hanging in there to complete a great work. I would pay twice as much for a Volume II. This is one of the most valuable books I own.

Teresa Burnham Harris

---

#### Free Resource

Celebrating the significance of Family History, ANCESTORS, a ten-part PBS/AETN television series about genealogy and family history, offers AETN's latest outreach booklet *Ancestral Avenues, A Guide to Your Past*, designed to aid in your family research. It is available by writing to:

Ancestors  
AETN  
P.O. Box 1250  
Conway, AR 72033

This information booklet contains a copy of the Pedigree Chart, Family Group Record, a comprehensive list of Arkansas' genealogical and historical organizations, Arkansas family history centers, genealogical vendors, a statewide list (organized by county) of the state's libraries and research centers, and an impressive bibliography of Arkansas genealogical books available to anyone researching their family history.

---

#### ARCHIVES UPDATE

We wish to thank all of you that have sent family group sheets that are now referenced in our surname file. We appreciate everyone's generosity in sharing their family records with PCAHS. It will continue to help us build a written history for Pike County,

Arkansas. We have about 400 files.

Our picture book "A Look At The Past," has been very popular and is sold out and we will be reprinting it. We have received spiral bound copies of family histories for Spring-Orr-Jester and Hatch-Brewer and a book "Poems" by Buddy (Elbert) Watson. The front cover has a drawing of the old Doyle Methodist Church. To those interested the Doyle Cemetery has been cleared of brambles, trees & briars and their annual homecoming is announced on page 76.

---

Dorothy Kennedy Partain

---

#### Poems: About The Author

Elbert Vernon Watson was born in the Zion Community outside of Nashville, Arkansas on November 30, 1921. He was the son of Wimberly Franklin Watson and Jane Elizabeth Hatch. Wimberly Franklin was the son of Alexander Watson and Mary Clementine Parker. Jane Elizabeth was the daughter of Thomas Hatch and Vicie Ann Stewart (Stuart). Brothers and sisters are Martha Ann Watson Orr (deceased), Orville Watson (deceased), Lula Belle Watson Cooley, Virgil Watson, Carl Watson (deceased), Robert Cecil Watson and Sam Leon Watson.

He has been married to Esther Lee Orr for 56 years. They now reside in Texarkana Arkansas enjoying life in the country living next door to their granddaughter's home. They have one son Reuben Vernon Watson who lives in Lewisville, Arkansas. One daughter Patsy Ruth Nicholas Livingston who lives in Atlanta, Texas. They are blessed with six granddaughters: Deborah Kay Nicholas of Linden, Texas; Sydney Sue Nichols Westbrook of Texarkana, Arkansas; Pamela Diane Weston Conway of El Dorado, Arkansas; Vicki Lynn Nicholas McDowell of Texarkana, Arkansas; Sandra Darlene Watson Hendrix of Camden, Arkansas and inherly Dawn Watson of Texarkana, Arkansas. They also have seven great grand-children. They are Angela Michelle Hyman, Nicholas Ross McDowell, Winter Ashley Hendrix, Nathan Lynn McDowell, Lacy Nichole Hendrix, Ross Edgar Westbrook and Jeffery Dakota Coway.

Daddy dedicated one of his poems to a lady who had great influence on many lives of the people who attended the Doyle Methodist Church and lived in Doyle, a community near Nashville. This lady was Mrs. Lula Belle Jackson. I can remember going to Sunday School in this church when I was growing up and how impressed I was with her as a Sunday School teacher.

Daddy also has told many stories of his life in the community and of the many people he knew growing up. He always said when he was small and sick he had rather see Mrs. Clara Hutson coming in the door than the doctor. He has always spoke highly of the community of Doyle.

---

Patsy R. Livingston.

**PCAHS PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE**

<b>1870 Pike County Arkansas Printed U.S. Census</b> by Andy Cooley & Dorothy Partain .....	\$15.00
<b>1880 Pike County Arkansas Federal Census</b> by Dorothy K. Partain & Linda W. Meek .....	\$20.00
<b>1890 Census of Pike County Arkansas: A Reconstructon</b> by Russell P. Baker .....	\$15.00
<b>1900 Pike County Arkansas Federal Census</b> by Shane Hill & Dorothy K. Partain .....	\$25.00
<b>1910 Pike County Arkansas Federal Census</b> by Shane Hill & Dorothy K. Partain .....	\$25.00
<b>A Look At The Past: A Pike County History in Pictures</b> by PCAHS .....	\$25.00
<b>Crater of Diamonds: Jewel of Arkansas</b> by Bobbie Hendrix .....	\$6.00
<b>The Diary: Family History</b> by Carleton Denny .....	\$3.00
<b>The Early History of Pike County Arkansas: The First One Hundred Years</b> .....	\$12.00
<b>Pike County Arkansas Marriage Records: 1895-1910</b> by Linda W. Meek & Dorothy K. Partain .....	\$15.00
<b>Pike County Arkansas Marriage Records: 1910-1925</b> by Linda W. Meek & Dorothy K. Partain .....	\$15.00
<b>Pike County Arkansas Marriage Records: 1925-1948</b> by Shane Hill & Dorothy K. Partain .....	\$15.00
<b>Pike County Arkansas Marriage Records: 1895-1925 combined</b> by Linda Meek & Dorothy Partain ...	\$25.00
<b>Back Issues of The Gems: Volumes 1-7</b> four issues each volume ..... per issue \$2.00 per volume \$8.00	
<b>Index of The Gems of Pike County Arkansas: Volumes 1-7</b> ..... per volume \$3.00	

**1997 ANNUAL PCAHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Regular Annual membership rate is \$10.00 and Lifetime membership rate is a one time fee of \$100.00 Please make check or money order payable to Linda Wilson, Treasurer of PCAHS and mail along with the following information to: Linda Wilson, Treasurer of PCAHS, P.O. Box 276, Delight, AR 71940

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE (Area Code + Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in HISTORY \_\_\_ GENEALOGY \_\_\_ BOTH \_\_\_ ? Please mark one or both of the above. If you are interested in genealogy please list the Surnames you are researching below or if you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper and mail along with your membership application. You are also encouraged to include a Pedigree Chart and Family Group Sheets with your Membership Application. All surnames submitted to PCAHS will be placed in our Surname File. Queries submitted to "THE GEMS" are FREE to members and will be published as space permits. Please be specific when writing your query regarding names, dates, places and the information you are seeking.

SURNAMEN BEING RESEARCHED

\_\_\_\_\_

## PIKE COUNTY ARCHIVES & HISTORY SOCIETY

President	Harrison Gilmer, Rt. 1, Box 334, Murfreesboro, AR 71958
Vice-President	Shane Hill, P.O. Box 152, Delight, AR 71940 E-Mail: hilljs@concentric.net
Secretary	Shirley Graves Martin, Route 4, Box 135 M, Nashville, AR 71852 Telephone: (501) 285-2752
Treasurer	Linda Wilson, P.O. Box 276, Delight, AR 71940
Editor	David L. Kelley, P.O. Box 741896, Dallas, Texas 75374 Telephone: (972) 907-2344, E-Mail: a0009792@airmail.net
Co-Editor	Dorothy Kennedy Partain P.O. Box 238, Murfreesboro, AR 71958 Telephone: (501) 285-3528
Internet Page	Sponsored by Shane Hill @ <a href="http://www.concentric.net/~Hilljs/Pike">http://www.concentric.net/~Hilljs/Pike</a>

### PCAHS MEETING TIME

The Pike County Archives and History Society meets the first Thursday night of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Murfreesboro Municipal Building. The 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. time period is set aside for members and guests to discuss and exchange ideas on history, genealogy and effective ways to do research. Business meeting is held from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Annual membership dues are \$10.00. Lifetime membership dues are \$100.00. The Pike County Archives and History Society was founded in 1986 and is a non-profit organization. It is located on the third floor of the Pike County Courthouse in Murfreesboro, Arkansas and the Heritage Room at the Library in Murfreesboro. Library hours Tuesday-Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. The PCAHS courthouse hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If Court is not in session call first: Harrison Gilmer 285-3187 or Linda Wilson 379-2471 or Dorothy Partain 285-3528. Helpful telephone numbers: Pike County Clerk's Office (501) 285-2231; County Judge Courthouse (501) 285-2414; Mayor's Office for Library (501) 285-3732.

*" ... you must know the past - to determine the future."*

**Pike County Archives and History Society  
P.O. Box 238  
Murfreesboro, AR 71958**