on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the State of Alabama



Valley Leaves a special edition December 1969

VALLEY LEAVES, A Quarterly Publication

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Map of Madison County, Alabama
- 2 Resolution Declaring the Admission of the State of Alabama into the Union
- 3 The Public Square in Madison County History
- 20 Madison County, Mississippi Territory Appointments, 1808-1817
- 35 Madison County, Alabama Territory and State Appointments, 1818-1822
- 40 Deed of Trust, 1820
- 50 Later History of Madison County, And, Incidentally, of North Alabama 1820-1840
- 101 Index

DEDICATED

to the pioneers of

HUNT'S SPRING About 1805-13 December 1808

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY 13 December 1808-10 December 1817

MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA TERRITORY 10 December 1817-14 December 1819

MADISON COUNTY, STATE OF ALABAMA 14 December 1819-14 December 1969



(Senate Document, Original Statutes)

December 14, 1819

Resolution declaring the admission of the State of Alabama into the Union.

Whereas in pursuance of an act of Congress, passed on the second day of March, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, entitled "An act to enable the people of the Alabama Territory to form a Constitution and State government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original States," the people of the said Territory did, on the second day of August, in the present year, by a Convention called for that purpose, form for themselves a Constitution and State government, which Constitution and State government so formed is republican, and in conformity to the principles of the articles of Compact, between the original States, and the people and States in the Territory North West of the river Ohio, passed on the thirteenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, so far as the same have been extended to the said Territory by the articles of agreement between the United States and the State of Georgia:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the State of Alabama shall be one, and is hereby declared to be one of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, in all respects whatever.

H. CLAY Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ja^S BARBOUR President of the Senate, pro tempore

December 14, 1819 Approved James Monroe

I certify that this resolution did originate in the Senate. Attest Charles Cutts Secretary

THE PUBLIC SQUARE

IN

MADISON COUNTY HISTORY

(The following history was written by Dr. Frances Roberts of Huntsville, Alabama and included in a booklet prepared for the 1967 Dedication of the Madison County Court House. Dr. Roberts and Mr. James Record, Chairman of the Madison County Board of Commissioners, have made the material available for this publication.)

The County of Madison was created by proclamation of Governor Robert Williams of the Mississippi Territory on December 13, 1808, but it was not until nearly three years later that the Public Square in Huntsville became the actual seat of justice for Madison County. During this intervening period the courts were created, officers appointed, fee simple land titles established through the public sale of federal lands, and the necessary legislation passed to establish a permanent county seat.

At the time Madison County was created there were approximately 2,500 settlers living within its bounds. On December 19, 1808, five days after its creation, Stephen Neal, a resident of Washington City, Mississippi, was appointed sheriff of the county as well as a justice of the peace. Thomas Freeman, chief government surveyor of Madison County lands, and two settlers, Hugh McVay and Benjamin Williams, also received commissions as justices of the peace.

Further steps of organization were taken on February 27, 1809, when the territorial legislature extended the laws of the United States and those of the Mississippi Territory over Madison County. On March 3, 1809, three additional officers were appointed. Louis Winston, a lawyer serving as private secretary to Governor Williams was made attorney general, Peter Perkins of Nashville, clerk of the circuit court, and William Winston of Madison County, clerk of the county court.

The resignation of Governor Williams on March 3, followed by an interim of four months before David Holmes succeeded to this office, probably slowed down the completion of appointments requisite to a full organization of the county's government. Shortly after assuming his duties as Mississippi Territorial governor on July 1, 1809, Holmes asked the aid of Attorney General Winston of Madison County and William Dickson of Nashville in completing the roster of Madison County officials.

Acting on recommendations submitted by these men, William Dickson, Edward Ward, and Peter Perkins of Nashville, Tennessee, and LeRoy Pope and Thomas Bibb of Petersburg, Georgia, were named justices of the quorum on November 7, 1809. Dickson was named chief justice and William Winston, who had received his appointment in March, was to act as clerk for the initial term of the Orphan's Court to be held on the first Monday in January, 1810. This court had jurisdiction in matters concerning the settlement of estates, care of the poor, transfer of lands, laying out of roads, licensing of

ministers, and enrolling of lawyers. It also served to supplement the work of the justices of the peace until a formal criminal court could be set up.

Before a superior court with criminal jurisdiction for Madison County could be established, special congressional action was necessary to create an additional federal judgeship for the Mississippi Territory. A law for this purpose, as well as to extend the right of suffrage to Madison's citizens, was approved on March 2, 1810. The guiding influence of the Georgia group who settled in Madison County was manifested in the appointment of the first superior court judge. Obadiah Jones of Georgia, recommended to the President by the Georgia delegation in Congress, was chosen in preference to Marmaduke Williams of Madison County, recommended by his brother, Robert Williams, former governor of the Mississippi Territory.

The first term of the superior court of law and equity convened on October 1, 1810, with Judge Jones presiding, Peter Perkins serving as clerk, and Louis Winston as Attorney General. The minutes of the court do not record the place where this session was held, but it **does** record that John C. Hamilton, George Coulter, Gabriel Moore, James Rogers, Louis Winston, Marmaduke Williams, and John W. Walker produced their commissions and were authorized to practice law.

Sheriff Stephen Neal, executive officer of the county, served the court by summoning jurors, executing warrants and writs, presenting offenders to the court, and performing other duties assigned to him by the judge. He was assisted in his work by John Hunt, pioneer settler for whom Huntsville was named, who was appointed coroner on May 16, 1810.

To insure law and order in the various settlements throughout the county, John Grayson, John Kirksley, William Lanier, Abraham Perkins, John Martin, and George Dilworth were appointed justices of the peace and David Cobb was named constable. Other officials added to the county's roster in 1810 and 1811 were Gabriel Moore, tax assessor, collector, and census taker; Hugh McVay, county surveyor; and Bennett Wood, treasurer.

To provide for defense, the Seventh Regiment was created as Madison County's unit of the Mississippi territorial militia and Colonel Peter Perkins was appointed commander of the group on January 4, 1810. During the following summer all the able bodied men between the ages of sixteen and fifty organized into eight companies and on October 29, 1810, the first county-wide muster was held. Governor David Holmes attended at the request of Louis Winston who felt that the Governor's presence would have a tendency to quiet some of the discontent among the settlers with the territorial administration. Militia companies were important units in the county's early development, not only from the standpoint of providing defense, but also in furnishing organized groups through which public affairs could be administered. At local muster grounds located at various settlements in the county, taxes were assessed and collected, notices of elections read, politics discussed, and terms of court announced.

By territorial statute of December 23, 1809, a commission composed of William Dickson, Edward Ward, Peter Perkins, Alexander Gilbreath, and Louis Winston, was appointed and vested with the authority to choose a permanent county seat for Madison County. The act further provided that a majority

of this group could "procure by purchase or otherwise" not less than thirty nor more than one hundred acres of land to be laid off in half-acre lots with the exception of a three-acre plot which was to be reserved for the location of the public buildings. All lots were to be sold at public auction on twelve months' credit and the proceeds arising therefrom after the land had been purchased were to be applied by the commissioners towards defraying the expenses of erecting public buildings for Madison County.

The second section of the act stated that the town to be laid out would "be called and known by the name of Twickenham." According to tradition, this name was suggested by LeRoy Pope, who had purchased the lands around Hunt's Spring with the idea of making it the county seat if possible. He was reported to have selected this unusual name because of his great admiration for the classical poet, Alexander Pope whose English home was called Twickenham.

Shortly after the passage of this statute, LeRoy Pope, James Jackson, and William P. Anderson, who had invested rather heavily in the lands surrounding and including Hunt's Spring, began to make plans for platting a town called Twickenham on this tract. Though no copies of the articles of agreement of these proprietors have been preserved, it is evident, from the correspondence of these men and the land office records, that Jackson and Anderson agreed to use their influence with the commissioners to locate the county seat at the "Big Spring" and to have the town platted. Pope apparently furnished a considerable amount of the money invested, for the two quarter sections involved in this transaction were entered in his name in the receiver's ledger at the land office.

John Coffee, a deputy surveyor for William P. Anderson, was chosen by Anderson and Jackson to represent them in platting the town and bargaining with the commissioners for its acceptance. In his instructions to Coffee, Anderson urged that the town plat be made as "dashing as possible and the ground on which it shall stand as eligible as may be."

John W. Walker, LeRoy Pope's son-in-law, represented him in bargaining with the commissioner for acceptable terms on which they would agree to locate the county seat at the Huntsville settlement. By this time, Hunt's Spring was generally spoken of as Huntsville, and the county court had convened its first session in this community. Walker's job, besides securing the support of the Madison County commissioners, included the superintendence of the sale of lots in the town plat reserved for the proprietors.

In late June, Coffee surveyed the original plat of "Twickenham" in order that it would be ready for the commissioner's meeting scheduled for the first week in July, 1810. The streets of the town were laid out with reference to the spring bluff and ran at the peculiar angle of thirty-four degrees north of west. By this arrangement Jefferson Street became the basis for the survey and made it possible for the spring area to be enclosed in one of the three-acre squares included in the plot. Three streets to the east and one to the west were surveyed parallel to Jefferson and six perpendicular to it. The rectangle thus formed contained twenty squares of three acres each or sixty acres exclusive of the land included in the streets that were sixty feet wide. Every block, with the exception

-5-



of the Public Square and the Big Spring Square, was subdivided into four lots and numbered from left to right beginning with the northwest boundary. Names given to the streets were selected from the heroes of the American Revolution. national political figures, and territorial officials. Near the center of the Public Square was an elevated rocky knoll, a fitting place indeed for a "Temple of Justice." Thus did Coffee fulfill the expectation of his employer as well as the specifications laid down by the territorial legislature.

Persuading the commissioners to agree to accept this wellplanned town proved to be much more difficult for Walker and Coffee than putting the finishing touches to a natural setting. Edward Ward, one of the commissioners who had

large land holdings in the county, led a forceful fight to prevent the acceptance of Coffee's plan. Not only did Ward use his eloquent oratory in the closed sessions of the commission, but he also spoke publicly to the populace. Finally, on July 5, 1810, a majority of the commissioners voted to make Huntsville, henceforth to be called Twickenham, the county seat.

According to the terms of the agreement, the proprietors agreed to sell thirty acres in the southern part of town to the commissioners for \$23.50 an acre, the exact amount paid by them for the tract. There was obviously a swap-out in the transaction by which the proprietors retained the southern part of the square containing the Big Spring and the commissioners received the northern part of the Public Square. The town was guaranteed the use of the spring waters, but no dams or machinery could be erected that might endanger the purity of the water. Special provision was also made whereby the proprietors were to receive lots in the southern part of the town to compensate them for the acreage contained in the streets not included in the thirty acre purchase. At first two lots were reserved for this purpose, but when the final deed was drawn, four lots were transferred because it was found that the streets in the commissioners part of town contained a little more than three acres.

When the first contract was drawn, only one-fourth of the purchase price of the land had been paid. Consequently, it was not until the final payment was made on February 3, 1815 that a patent was issued to Pope for the southwest quarter of section thirty-six, township three, range one west on which Huntsville was situated. In the meantime he had been successful in purchasing the interests of the other proprietors, and when the deed to the town was drawn up on September 1, 1815, Pope and his wife were the only grantors who signed the transfer.

On the evening of July 5, 1810, both the proprietors and the commissioners opened their lots for sale. Coffee and Walker disposed of only four while the commissioners sold twenty-four. The total sale netted around \$8,000 with lots selling from \$100 to \$750 each. In reporting this transaction to James Jackson and W. P. Anderson, Coffee stated that he and Walker had decided to postpone the sale of the rest of their lots to a future date when they would sell at higher prices and thus insure greater returns from their Huntsville "speculation."

Louis Winston, in a letter to Governor Holmes from Twickenham, September 23, 1810, reported that Colonels Pope and Bibb, and their friends from Georgia had all arrived in the county. In describing the populace, he wrote, "We have a fine society; Virginians are flocking to this delightful country."

Twickenham was never a popular name with the people living in the county seat for they had grown accustomed to the use of Huntsville. This question became a political issue and resulted in a special territorial act on November 25, 1811, which changed the official name of the town to Huntsville. Two weeks later, on December 9, an act of incorporation was passed, thus giving the town a charter and a government.

At the time of its incorporation, Huntsville had all the signs of becoming a thriving commercial center in the heart of a rich agricultural area. The squatter population in 1809 had numbered some three hundred, and to this group had been added a number of merchants, millers, clerks, distillers, mechanics, lawyers, doctors, and planters. Many of these people had been leaders in the states from whence they migrated; others, young men trained in law or medicine, had migrated to the frontier where advancement would perhaps be more rapid.

According to the territorial act which empowered the commissioners to create a county seat and erect public buildings, the courts were directed to occupy the courthouse as soon at it was "fit for the reception of the courts of said county." By November 1811, the first courthouse had been completed to the point that its courtroom could be used for the fall term of Superior Court.

The two-story brick structure on the highest part of the Public Square faced south. At first only the lower story was completed to house the county officials and the courts. The basement portion which opened on the north was apparently used for a public market place. On the northeast corner of the Public Square a small wooden jail with pillory was constructed to care for public offenders.

During this early period the courthouse served as a meeting place for both civic and religious groups, and the Public Square became the hub of commercial activity as stores were constructed on all sides of it.

Not until after the depressing years of the War of 1812 did the county officials take the necessary steps to provide for the completion of the second story of the courthouse. By a special territorial act of December 16, 1816, the justices of county court were empowered to act as commissioners to contract for and superintend its completion. The measure also

provided for the purchase of a suitable lot upon which to construct an adequate jail and pillory.

On June 10, 1817, William M. Watkins and John H. Hickman entered into a contract with LeRoy Pope, Abner Tatum, and David Moore, Justices of the Quorum, to undertake the completion of the courthouse within five months. The agreement included placement of encased window sashes in the upper story, repairing the crown molding of the cornice, covering the roof of the courthouse and its cupola with new poplar shingles, remodeling the cupola, and topping it with "a new and neat turned block, dressed off with gold liner and a new speare (sic) and twin blocks dressed off with gilt and crown the whole with a neat gilt Eagle not less than three feet across."

When it was determined that the undesignated funds in the county treasury were not sufficient to cover the cost of completing the courthouse and constructing a jail, a special tax not to exceed one-half of the territorial levy was authorized by the legislature on February 13, 1818, to provide the necessary finances. Although no permanent record was made of construction and total cost of the first public buildings, Judge Thomas Jones Taylor stated in his Early History of Madison County that the second jail was constructed on lot number fourteen located at the corner of Greene and Clinton Streets.

By 1818, the Public Square had become the hub of extensive activity. Ann Royal in her travel account, Letters from Alabama, reported on January 1, 1818, that Huntsville contained 260 houses made principally of bricks, a bank, a courthouse, a market place, and many stores. Commenting on the Square she wrote: "There is a large square in the center of the town, like the town in Ohio, facing this are the stores, twelve in number. The buildings form a solid wall, though divided into apartments. The workmanship is the best I have seen in all the State; and several of the houses are three stories high and very large. There is no church. The people mostly from Georgia and the Carolinas - though there are a few from almost every part of the world; - and the town displays much activity. The citizens are gay, polite, and hospitable, and live in great splendor. Nothing like it in our country."

In August of 1819, another writer described the county seat thus: "Huntsville is the principal and oldest town in the Valley of (The) Tennessee (River), and is the capital of Madison County. The United States have here a land office which, since its establishment (1811), has done more business than any two others. It has a bank with a capital of 500,000 dollars (Planters and Merchants Bank); two printing offices, and 2,500 inhabitants. It is a most flourishing town, in the midst of one of the finest counties on earth. Here met the Convention in July, 1819, to frame the Constitution for the government of the State."

The convention mentioned in this description convened in Huntsville's Assembly hall located on the corner of Franklin and Gates Streets on July 5, 1819, and by August 2 it had written and adopted Alabama's first state constitution. Since many of the political leaders of the newly created Alabama Territory lived in Madison County, it was through their influence that Huntsville was chosen as the temporary capital of the state from July

through December of 1819.

After the Constitution was completed, elections were held throughout Alabama on the third Monday and Tuesday of September 1819, to choose state officials and members of the legislature. On October 25, the legislature convened in temporary quarters to begin its work. On November 7, the House of Representatives began holding its meetings in the courtroom on the ground floor of the courthouse, and on November 9, William Wyatt Bibb was inaugurated governor in this room in the presence of a joint session of the House and Senate. Normally, the Senate held its deliberations in a room located in the house of James Dunn which was rented for this purpose. The work of this first legislative session was monumental in that it set in motion patterns of state and local government that served the needs of the people for many years.

Within the next few years the legislature provided a uniform system of government for all counties in the state. Since Madison County had been one of the seven units of local government created prior to the formation of the Alabama Territory, certain changes were made in its court system. The superior court was replaced by a state circuit court system, and Madison was made a part of the fifth judicial circuit in 1819 with Clement Comer Clay of Huntsville designated by the state legislature as presiding judge. Initially only the title of the county governing body was changed from Justices of the Quorum to Inferior Court in 1819, but two years later, sweeping changes were made which involved its jurisdiction and the selection of its members. A legislative act of 1821 abolished the five man county court and made provision for one judge to be selected by the legislature and to hold office "during good behavior." After 1831, his office was limited to a term of six years. Besides the civil judicial powers vested in this office, the county judge was also made the presiding officer of the commissioner's court created by the same act. Samuel Chapman became the first judge of this court, and James Manning, Gross Scruggs, Charles Betts, and Samuel Walker were elected to serve as members of the commissioner's court for a one-year term. In 1827, the commissioners' term of office was changed to three years.

The powers of the commissioner's court, predecessor of the present board of commissioners, included the levying of such general and special taxes as were necessary to maintain county government, controlling the property and finances of the county, constructing and maintaining roads, and appointing certain county officials as directed by law.

By 1830, the roster of county offices included commissioners of roads and revenue, county and orphans' court, circuit court, justice of the peace, notary public, circuit solicitor, sheriff, coroner, constable, tax assessor and collector, treasurer, county auctioneer, road apportioner and overseer, overseer of the poor, and county surveyor. This increase in the number of local officials is but one indication of the rapid growth of the county during its formative period.

The federal census figures for Madison County in 1820 showed a population of 17,481 almost evenly divided between whites and slaves, but by 1830 this figure had risen to 27,990 with the slave population making up fifty-three per cent of the total. A further analysis of the Alabama

census shows that Madison County continued to hold first place in population and wealth in the state.

Amid the prosperous years of the early 1830's, the commissioner's court made plans to build an imposing new courthouse to accommodate the needs of an expanding government and to grace the center of what was considered to be one of the most beautiful towns in the South. A special legislative act, passed on January 10, 1835, empowered the Madison commissioners to levy a tax for the purpose of defraying the expense involved in building a new courthouse in the town of Huntsville.

Meanwhile George Steele and Thomas and William Brandon, local architects and builders, were asked to submit proposed plans for the design and cost of the structure. On August 29, 1835, the commissioner's court adopted the plans drawn up by George Steele, and a committee was appointed to seek proposals from contractors who would undertake its construction. Advertisements for bids were placed in the Huntsville and Nashville papers, but none was forthcoming that was acceptable to the commissioner's court. Because immediate funds were needed in order to let a contract prior to the time that tax funds were made available, the county officials asked the state legislature to empower them to borrow \$12,000 from the Branch Bank of Alabama located in Huntsville.

The next attempt to secure bids for construction of the new courthouse bore fruit. Dr. Thomas Fearn and James I. Donegan, prominent businessmen of Huntsville, were selected by the commissioners to receive proposals on or before December 1, 1836, and to let a contract for a building to be constructed in accordance with George Steele's plan. They also were directed "to superintend the same in every manner and respect."

Early in 1837, the firm of Mitchell and Wilson was employed to construct a two-story stone and brick building with a dome on top and a full basement beneath at an approximate cost of \$31,000.

The building of Stephen S. Ewing located on the Public Square was rented to serve as a courtroom and county clerk's office while the new courthouse was under construction. According to the commissioner's court records, this building served as the temporary courthouse from August of 1837 to January of 1840. Apparently the new courthouse was occupied before its final completion during the early part of 1842.

On April 2, 1838, George Steele was appointed superintendent over the contractors to insure proper execution of the plans which he had drawn for the new courthouse. For his services, which were to extend to January 1, 1840, he was allowed \$1,500. The agreement further stipulated that in the event the building was not completed by 1840, then he was to receive further compensation for his work after that date. Because the project did extend well into 1840, he was further compensated \$500, thus bringing his total fee as architect and superintendent to \$2,000.

As the work got under way, the old courthouse was sold at auction for \$494.00 and removed. The ten-foot elevation on which it stood was then graded down and the rock used in macadamizing the area around the square.

Originally the contract called for a tin roof for the structure, but in 1839 the commissioner's court voted to spend the extra money necessary to obtain a copper covering for the roof and dome. The expense involved in this change added \$3,966.02 to the original cost anticipated and involved considerable time in securing the copper from a firm in Baltimore, Maryland.

On July 22, 1839, a contract was drawn between the commissioner's court and Thomas R. Rayon for the construction of a stone wall with oval corners around the courthouse to reach within fourteen feet of the streets on the Public Square. At this time, a contract with C. T. and R. Parker was also signed which provided for an iron railing to be placed on the stone wall. The total cost of the enclosure included \$4,761.25 for stone work and \$4,000 for the iron rail and gates.

Records of payments made to Mitchell and Wilson over a period from December 27, 1837, to February 7, 1842, show that they received \$33,893.37 for construction of the courthouse and grading the ground around it. The total expense involving this contract, the superintendent's fee, the copper roof, and other incidentals came to \$40,175.00. To this figure was added the cost of enclosing the courthouse square which amounted to \$8,761.00.

Incoming revenues to defray the expenses of improving the public buildings and other costs of local government were defined thus by the commissioner's court on May 4, 1840: Ordered the following be the rates of taxation for the year 1841 being by the authority of Acts of the Legislature to raise a revenue for building a new courthouse and other purposes to wit: "On every \$100 worth of land, ten cents; on every \$100 worth of town property, ten cents; on every \$100 worth of merchandize sold from. the first day of May 1839 to first day of May, 1840, twenty cents; on each slave not exceeding ten years old, sixteen cents; on each slave over ten and under sixty years of age, fifty-six cents; on each free male negro or mulatto, over the age of twenty-one years, one dollar; on each \$100 worth of pleasure carriage and harness, fifty cents; on each race, saddle or carriage horse, fifty cents; on each public race tract, ten dollars; ...on each gold watch, one dollar; on each silver or other watch, forty cents; on each metal clock, one dollar; on each clock not metal, twenty-five cents; on every \$100 loaned at interest, twenty-five cents; on each pack of playing cards sold, given away, loaned or otherwise disposed of, twenty-five cents; on all goods sold at auction, other than exempted by law, two percentum; on each share of bank stock of \$100 value in said state, one dollar; on each billard table kept for play, \$150 including state tax; on all white males over twenty-one and not more than forty-five years, twenty-five cents; and on such things as are not herein enumerated and were heretofore objects of state taxation, the amount of the state and said county tax for the year 1835, and it is further ordered that thirty percentum be added to the foregoing taxation for the purpose of defraying in part the building of a bridge across Flint River at the three forks thereof."

As soon as the new courthouse had been completed, plans were set in motion to construct a larger jail, and a legislative act of 1843 made provision for Madison County to levy a special tax to cover the cost of it.

Since the records of the commissioner's court are missing for the years 1844-1849, no figures are available to ascertain the cost of its construction. In 1862, however, it was partially destroyed by federal occupying forces and replaced at a cost of \$2,500.

One further addition was made to the courthouse in 1849 when the town and county governments cooperated in installing a large four-faced clock on top of its dome. This timepiece continued to serve the town of Huntsville until it was dismantled in 1964 to make way for the present courthouse, but as of January, 1967 its bell once again rang out the time on each half hour

Between 1830 and 1860 no radical changes were made in Madison County's government, but a number of offices were created. In 1833, the duties of assessing and collecting taxes were turned over to a tax assessor and a collector. In 1839, a district chancery court was created and a chancellor appointed to handle its affairs. At the county level a register in chancery was appointed the same year. In 1850, the probate court was established by a general legislative act which substituted such a court in every Alabama county for the early county court that had previously exercised probate jurisdiction and John W. Oatey became its first judge. At this time the county court's jurisdiction in civil suits was transferred to the circuit court. In 1856, the office of county superintendent of education was created to administer free public schools which had been created by general legislative action for the whole state of Alabama in 1854.

On the eve of the Civil War, Madison County was still considered one of the wealthier areas of the state and its political influence in state affairs remained strong. Huntsville also continued to be a key economic and cultural center in the Tennessee Valley. Because of its strategic position on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, it was occupied by federal troops as early as April 11, 1862, and continued to suffer the privations imposed by occupation until the war ended in 1865.

When it became evident that the courthouse would be taken over by federal military officials, most of the public records were removed to Blount County for safekeeping. Though the courthouse itself weathered the ravages of the war period, it, like many other structures in the town, received some permanent scars.

The reconstruction years in Madison County, in many respects, were more trying than the war years had been. This period was marked by inefficiency in government at all levels as well as economic depression. With the adoption of the Alabama constitution in 1875, local and state government resumed a more normal pattern of existence, and economy and honesty in government were emphasized to the detriment of needed educational and health services.

In 1879, a board of education was created for Madison County, but adequate financial aid to public education was not forthcoming until the first decade of the twentieth century. The post of county health officer was created as early as 1881, but it was not until after a series of typhoid epidemics in Huntsville that a movement was begun which resulted in the establishment of a Madison County Health Department in 1918.

Between 1880 and 1900, business leaders of Madison County worked to improve agriculture and bring in a variety of industries which would revitalize the economy. Nurseries were established, cotton textile mills built, and an assortment of small factories opened to produce wood products, small tools and implements. Monte Sano Mountain was developed as a summer resort in 1887 to attract tourists from all parts of the nation - a venture which prospered until 1900. Diversification in agriculture brought increased prosperity to Madison County's rural population, and this prosperity in turn aided the expansion of commercial interests in the town of Huntsville.

The federal census of 1910 listed the population of Huntsville as 7,611 and that of Madison County as 17,040 thus showing an increase of almost one hundred per cent within a fifty-year period. Although the ccunty remained economically prosperous, its political influence was considerably diminished in terms of state affairs. Tennessee Valley political leaders were no longer serious contenders for the governorship or other state offices.

After the adoption of the Alabama constitution of 1901, Madison County government became less autonomous. While continuing to retain its traditional functions regarding strictly local affairs, the county became more and more an administrative district of the state. As federal and state governments began to assume more responsibility for rendering services to people, Alabama tightened its control over tax assessment and collection, law enforcement, election administration, education, health, and public welfare at the county level.

As the number of county officials increased, the second courthouse was no longer adequate to furnish office space for them. Once again, as in the 1830's, the commissioner's court began to consider the feasibility of constructing a new courthouse. The commissioners as well as the people were divided on the question.

At a mass meeting held to discuss the matter on February 15, 1913, those who wished to preserve the imposing Parthenon-like structure insisted that it could be enlarged and improved to accommodate the needs of county government. Others who wanted a new and modern structure reasoned that the building should reflect the intelligence and progress of the people, and that visitors to the county would be more impressed with a new courthouse than the old delapidated one which stood on the Public Square. Some pointed out that they did not believe that the old courthouse could stand remodeling or reconstruction since the walls were badly cracked. One prominent citizen favored a new courthouse to be placed somewhere else so that the old building could be used as a place for exhibitions of products and as a home for county people when they spent the day in the city. The Chamber of Commerce presented a series of resolutions urging the construction of a new courthouse on the basis of such needs as adequate space for the daily transactions of government, adequate protection for valuable county records, and needed restrooms for the convenience of county people.

After considering the question for two months, the commissioner's court voted on March 26, 1913, to remodel and improve the old courthouse at a cost not to exceed \$75,000. On April 21, the plans of architect

C. K. Colley of Nashville were accepted with the stipulation that bids for construction would not exceed \$65,000. According to his plan, only the columns and sidewalls of the old building would be retained, and two wings with a third entrance facing west were to be added to the structure. To finance this project, warrants were to be issued by the commissioner's court bearing interest at a rate not to exceed six per cent per annum and payable by means later to be determined by the court. On November 3, 1914 a special election was held to empower the commissioner's court to issue \$85,000 worth of interest bearing bonds in order to buy up these original warrants and to pay for the total cost of the courthouse and its furnishings.

The bid submitted by Little-Cleckler Construction Company for \$59,000 was accepted on June 16, 1913, and plans were put in motion to remove the county officials' offices to the Elks Building the second week in July.

As work progressed during the summer months, it became evident that the walls and columns of the old building were in a crumbling condition, thus making it necessary to reconsider the construction of an entirely new building. The commissioner's court agreed on October 6, 1913, to build a new structure of the best quality of light or gray-colored brick with four entrances. Columns to be used on all four porticos were to be of hewn solid stone and fluted like the ones in the old courthouse. A sum of \$10,000 was appropriated to cover the increased cost involved in these changes.

At this term of court the commissioners also voted to accept the offer of the custodian of the United States Court Building to allow the various county courts use of this facility while the courthouse was being constructed.

Work progressed on schedule, and by April 22, 1914, a contract was let with the Art Metal Construction Company to supply the furnishings for the courthouse at a cost of \$12,522.18. By mid-August Little-Cleckler Construction Company had finished their work and plans were made to dedicate the building on September 10, 1914.

On September 9, the <u>Huntsville Mercury Banner</u> announced the forthcoming event and took occasion to comment on the courthouse which had recently been torn down: "...The old building was designed after the Greek Parthenon. It had a great history, and could its old walls have spoken they could have told of the oratory and eloquence of great lawyers, distinguished Congressmen, famous Senators in Congress and Presidents of the Republic. But, like all things of earth, having served its purpose and lived out its years of usefulness it passed away to make room for the new, larger, and better suited structure for the present day demands. May it (the new one) do so long and well as the old. The cornerstone will be laid at ll:00 o'clock on September 10, 1914 by the Masonic Lodge of Alabama. Everyone in Madison County is invited. Refreshments will be served and several speeches will be made...."

The crowd that come to view the new courthouse found it generally acceptable. The town clock encased in its new home, the old iron fence, and the massive doric columns supporting all four entrances helped to placate the feelings of those who had been the most severe critics of change.

The Confederate Soldier, a memorial to the confederate dead, placed on the west lawn by the U. D. C. in 1905 and the D. A. R. plaque containing a roll of Revolutionary soldiers buried in Madison County placed at the north entrance also remained to lend further evidence that all was not changed amid the rush of economic progress.

Late in 1914, the herd of pet deer which had lived on the courthouse lawn was transferred to the McCormick estate on Meridian Street, but the iron fence continued to serve as hitching posts around the Public Square for some years. After a heated argument concerning its removal, it was finally taken down in 1921 and a heavy iron chain put in its place. When it was discovered that the Big Spring, the town's main water supply, was being polluted by manure seepage from the hitching area around the Public Square, the commissioner's court had to take action in spite of the protests of those who hated to see the old landmark go.

Amid the economic expansion engendered by World War I and the boom period of the 1920's, the county government increased its activities as an administrative agent of the state. In 1911, the office of farm agent was created and in 1915 the position of home demonstration agent was added to farm extension service in Madison County. A license inspector was appointed in 1919 and in 1923 the Board of Review, later called the Board of Equalization, was established on a permanent basis. In 1923, the board of county commissioners replaced the board of revenue which had replaced the old commissioner's court in 1919. A county court which combined the offices of a number of justices of the peace was initiated in 1911, and a circuit court for the individual county of Madison was created as the twenty-third judicial circuit of the state of Alabama in 1931. With the coming of the depression in 1929, the need for the expansion of welfare led to the permanent establishment of a Department of Welfare in 1935 which later became known as the Department of Pensions and Securities.

By 1937, the courthouse had again become inadequate to house the daily activities of county government and the Elks Building on Eustis Street was acquired to relieve the situation. Extensive renovation of the courthouse in 1940 brought some relief but not enough to take care of the needs of an expanding population.

With the advent of the Tennessee Valley Authority, created by act of Congress in 1933, the potential for great economic expansion in Madison County, as well as the whole valley, soon became apparent. The varied T. V. A. programs resulting in more adequate flood control, improved water transportation, better land utilization, and the production of abundant hydroelectric power, did much to aid the valley's recovery from the depression years of the 1930's.

Between 1940 and 1966 Madison County experienced the largest population growth in its history. In 1941, just before the outbreak of World War II, the federal government made plans to place two large installations just south of the city of Huntsville. The Chemical Warfare Service built a chemical manufacturing plant on a site which became the Huntsville Arsenal, and the Ordance Department constructed a shell loading plant close by at Redstone Arsenal. As the end of the war approached, the work force at these two installations had grown to 20,000.

Shortly after V-J Day on September 2, 1945, all production facilities were placed on standby. Not until June 1, 1949, when Redstone Arsenal was reactivated to fulfill a new mission for the Ordance Department, did the military contribute substantially to the growth of the county's economy. With the transfer of a small group of German missile experts to Huntsville in 1950, there began a new era. The areas included in both arsenals were combined to form the Redstone Arsenal complex which, by 1966, included extensive activity related to research, development, and training for missile and space vehicle programs. Total employment of the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center and the various United States Army missile facilities had reached approximately 40,000 with an annual payroll of more than \$200 million. The total yearly industrial payroll for Madison County had reached a figure of more than \$460 million and the annual agricultural income stood at a figure in excess of \$23 million.

Census reports also reflected the extent of Madison County's growth. In 1950, its official population stood at 72,903, in 1960 at 117,348, and in September 1964 at 173,284. The dramatic jump in Huntsville's population from 16,437 in 1950 to 72,360 in 1960 can be explained in part by the extension of the city limits in 1956 to include many of the suburban areas that had grown up around it for a period of fifty years. However, the fact that Huntsville's population doubled between 1960 and 1966 to reach an estimated 114,000 by January 1, 1967, can best be attributed to its increased role in the missile and space effort of the United States.

Amid the rapid transformation taking place in all segments of life in Madison County, planning became a key factor in the activities of both city and county governing bodies. Working together, these governments set in motion extensive expansion and planning programs to allow orderly growth and to provide adequate services to its people. Such planning included a new municipal building, courthouse, library, auditorium, arts center, and community park areas.

Planning for a new courthouse began as early as April 13, 1961, when the board of commissioners voted to secure the services of Space Utilization Associates to survey the space needs of the county. On December 4, 1961, the chairman of the board of county commissioners was authorized to employ two architectural firms, recommended by this group, to draw up preliminary plans for a new building. Three months later on March 2, 1962, the Madison County Public Building Authority was created to implement the financing of the new courthouse. James R. Cleary became attorney for this group to help work out the details of financing which included a plan whereby \$4,501,500 could be secured by the sale of bonds and funded over a period of thirty years. On August 20, 1962, the commissioners voted to retain the Public Square as the location of the new building and raze the existing courthouse.

Public hearings were set for October to let citizens express their views concerning this decision. Once again those who loved the old familiar atmosphere of the Public Square tried to keep it intact, but the forces of change were too strong to allow the "nineteenth century look" to remain. When the Huntsville Historical Society, one of the chief defenders of historic preservation, realized its cause was futile, its members sought to compromise with those who wanted a "modern look" on the Public Square by

urging that the architecture of the new courthouse be of a "timeless type." They also urged that the southeastern residential section of "Old Huntsville" be protected by the creation of an historical zone to be known as the Twickenham District.

After considering the advice of architects, engineers, and geologists concerning the suitability of the Public Square for a multi-story structure, the commissioners decided on December 3, 1962, to move ahead with plans to build on the original courthouse sit. At this time, architects Loyd Kranert and Thomas Jones were authorized to submit preliminary plans for the building and on December 20, 1963, these drawings were approved.

The annex on Gallatin Street which had housed the educational program of the First Baptist Church before it was moved to Governors Drive was rented for use as a temporary courthouse, and county officials moved their offices to this location on August 20, 1964. The United States Courtroom located in the downtown postoffice on Holmes Avenue was used by the courts from September 1964 until December 1966.

On October 1, 1964, Bama Wrecking Company was awarded a \$37,050 contract to demolish the old courthouse. The contents of the 1914 cornerstone were removed for safekeeping, and the twenty massive stone columns were retrieved to be used elsewhere as a reminder of Huntsville's architectural past. In 1966, the Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee proposed a plan for their use in constructing a Parthenon-type structure on the Burritt Museum property on Round Top Mountain.

The architect's final plans for the new courthouse were accepted by the commissioners on November 16, 1964, and the Public Building Authority awarded a contract to Pearce, Demoss, and King of Decatur, Alabama, on March 16, 1965, for \$4,501,500 to construct an eleven-story building with basement. Since the jail was to be placed on the ninth and tenth stories of the new courthouse, the commissioners voted on October 8, 1965, to sell the old jail. They also agreed at this time to sell the courthouse annex on Eustis Avenue. As work on the new structure progressed, it was determined than an additional courtroom was needed to provide space for the four circuit judges new serving Madison County. For this purpose the commissioners voted to spend a maximum of \$75,000. To the original contract price, the county contributed \$800,000 in cash for construction costs and interior furnishing and equipment thus bringing the total cost of the courthouse project to approximately \$5,301,500.

During the summer months contracts were awarded to various business firms for equipment and furnishings at a cost of approximately \$300,000. Business Equipment Company, dealers for Art Metal Construction Company, and Roberts and Sons of Birmingham were the two principal contractors selected to supply most of the items required. Though the original September 26, 1966, deadline for completion was not met, the new courthouse was occupied within three months of the target date. County officials began moving into their new offices on December 26, and county court was held in its new quarters on January 5, 1967.

For the first time since 1818, the Public Square provided space for the jail which was located in streamlined quarters on the ninth and tenth

floors of the new courthouse. When the third jail on lot number fourteen had become too small, a site on Jefferson Street had been secured and a three-story brick building completed in 1929 at a cost of \$84,000. Prisoners were transferred from this location to their new quarters on January 28, 1967.

The one part of the original courthouse complex no longer associated with Public Square was the market house. When the first courthouse was torn down, the public market was moved to the Holding Block east of the Square. In 1850, it was transferred to a site near the corner of Clinton and Washington Streets where it remained until 1914. Between this date and 1935, farmers once again marketed their produce in the parking area on all four sides of the Square; but in 1935, the county furnished farmers a covered market house near the Big Spring branch directly across from the present City Utilities Building. In 1963 this facility was moved to Cook Avenue, N. W. to make way for the relocation of a portion of Gallatin Street in the Heart of Huntsville Plan.

Although the courthouse lawn was newly landscaped in 1966, the historic markers and monuments were returned to their places to remind people of their heritage. Temporarily missing from his pedestal was the old confederate soldier who was undergoing repair after losing a battle with a demolition squad employed by the Huntsville Housing Authority. As the last brick wall on Cotton Row came thundering down, the crew accidently let it crush the soldier as he stood on the lawn of the First National Bank awaiting his transfer back to his station on the Public Square.

Dedication of the fourth courthouse was set for March 5, 1967. At this time the cornerstone, containing items selected by the Huntsville Historical Society, was laid, speeches made, and refreshments served just as in September of 1914. Following the ceremonies, citizens of Madison County inspected their newest "Temple of Justice" located on the same Public Square that still served as the seat of county government for which it and the town of Twickenham, now Huntsville, had been created on July 5, 1810.

Today the Public Square has become largely a legal, financial, and professional center, and plans of the Central City Project will bring a further transformation of the area. In addition to the revitalization activities envisioned for the downtown business district, plans in this project include the construction of nine multi-deck parking structures, a mall around the three sides of the Public Square, a modernized street system, an International Big Spring Park, and new downtown shopping areas. Frances C. Roberts

References: Space does not permit the listing of footnotes, but the materials contained in this paper were secured from the sources listed below.

Madison County Records, Courthouse, Huntsville, Alabama Commissioner's Court Minutes Circuit Court Records Probate Court Records Orphan's Court Minutes Deed Books Inventory of the Madison County Archives

Mississippi Territorial Records, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi Correspondence relating to Madison County when it was a part of the Mississippi Territory Register of Appointments for Mississippi Territory 1804-1817 Alabama Records, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama Huntsville Newspapers Huntsville Public Land Office Records Superior Court Minutes John Coffee Manuscript Collection (Montgomery and Nashville) John Williams Walker Collection Historical Collections, Huntsville Public Library, Huntsville, Alabama Published Documents Carter, Clarence E. (ed.), Territorial Papers of United States, (Washington 1937-1938, 1952) Vols. V, VI, XVIII. Alabama Territorial Acts (1817-1818) Alabama Acts (1819-Alabama Codes Alabama Digests Mississippi Territory Codes United States Statutes at Large Published Reports City of Huntsville Huntsville Industrial Expansion Committee Madison County Commissioners United States Census Records Other Sources Abernethy, Thomas P., The Formative Period in Alabama, 1815-1828, University, Alabama: University of Alabama Press, 1965. Bailey, Hugh C., John Williams Walker, University, Alabama: University of Alabama Press, 1964. Betts, Edward C., Early History of Huntsville, Alabama, Montgomery: Brown Printing Co., 1916. Brantley, William H., Three Capitals..., Boston: Merrymount Press, 1947. Fleming, Walter L, Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama, New York: Peter Smith, 1949. Owen, Thomas M., History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography, Chicago: Clark Publishing Co., 1921. Vols. I-IV. Roberts, Frances C., "Background and Formative Period in the Great Bend and Madison County," Unpublished Ph. D. Dissertation, University of Alabama, 1956. Taylor, Thomas Jones, "Early History of Madison County," The Alabama Historical Quarterly, Montgomery: State Department of Archives and History, 1930. Vol. I. (End, The Public Square in Madison County History)

MADISON COUNTY MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS 1808 - 1817

Listed below are the counties originally in Mississippi Territory; militia regiment number for the county; and location of the county in 1817. Madison County was the only county to have two militia regiments.

COUNTY	MILITIA REGIMENT	1817 IN:
Adams Amite Baldwin Claiborne Clark Franklin Green Hancock Jackson Jefferson Lawrence Madison Marion Mobile Monroe Pike Warren Washington Wayne	<pre>3 rd 1 st 8 th 5 th 15 th 11 th 12 th 18 th 19 th 19 th 13 th 14 th 20 th 21 st 10 th 6 th 9 th</pre>	State of Mississippi State of Mississippi Alabama Territory State of Mississippi Alabama Territory State of Mississippi State of Mississippi State of Mississippi State of Mississippi State of Mississippi Alabama Territory State of Mississippi Alabama Territory State of Mississippi State of Mississippi
Wilkinson	2 nd	State of Mississippi

The following civil and military appointments were copied from two sources, both microfilm copies of the original records. Section I is located in The National Archives, Washington, D. C. Sections II and III are located in the State Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi. Although some of the records are duplicates, all of and only the Madison County, Mississippi Territory (later Alabama) appointments are presented here from the two sources. The "Remarks" were almost always in a different handwriting than the original entry, which indicates they were "added later." Madison County was a part of Mississippi Territory from December 13, 1808* until December 10, 1817, at which time Mississippi became a state and Alabama became a territory. Until early 1818 Madison was the only county in the northern part of Alabama Territory. (Copied by Mrs. Richard H. Gilliam, Jr., Huntsville, Alabama.)

* See page 3 for December 1808 appointments to Madison County, Mississippi Territory which are in an earlier Mississippi Territory Register.

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS 1808-1817

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MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS 1809-1815

(Taken from microfilm made by The National Archives, Washington, D. C. of the original unnumbered loose sheets. Madison County appointments are interspersed among the appointments for other counties.)

*

Appointments	made bj	r the E	xecutive	of	the	Mississippi	Territory	from the	
1 st Jany to	the 30	th Jun	e 1809						

011 0 0210 2007							
Date of							
Appointments	Office	District & c					
	Justice of Peace	Madison County					
Jan 1, 1809	Justice of Peace	Madison County					
March 3, "	Atty. General	Madison County					
" 3, "	Clerk Circuit Court	ditto					
" 3, "	Clerk County Court	ditto					
" <u>]]</u> , "	Justice of Peace	Madison County					
correct list o.	f all appointments made by	the Executive					
Territory from	the first January to 30 J	une 1809					
Given under my hand Tho. H. Williams							
	Secretary of the M. Terri	tory					
	Date of Appointments Jany 1, 1809 Jan 1, 1809 March 3, " " 3, " " 3, " " 11, " correct list o Territory from	Date of Appointments Office Jany 1, 1809 Justice of Peace Jan 1, 1809 Justice of Peace March 3, " Atty. General " 3, " Clerk Circuit Court " 3, " Clerk County Court " 11, " Justice of Peace correct list of all appointments made by Territory from the first January to 30 Ju Tho. H. Williams					

Abstract of list of appointments made by David Holmes Governor of the Mis-

*

sissippi Territory :				of July to the 31 st Decen		
	Date	e ol			District,	
Name			tment	Office	County & c	
William Dickson			1809	Chf. Justice Orp. Court	Madison County	
Edward Ward	11	7	11	Justice of Peace & Quorum	Madison County	
John Withers	11	7	11	Justice of Peace & Quorum	Madison County	
Leeroy Pope	11	7	11	Justice of Peace & Quorum	Madison County	
Thomas Bibb	11	7	f1	Justice of Peace & Quorum	Madison County	
Nicholas Perkins	11	8	11	Lt. Col. Commandant	7th Regiment	
Stephen Neale	11	8	11	lst Major	7th Regiment	
Alexander Galbreath	11	8	11	2nd Major	7th Regiment	
William H. Winston	11	8	11	Adjutant	7th Regiment	
Joseph Sissions	11	8	11	Aid de Camp to the Command	der in Chief	
Minor Sturgus	TT	8	11	ditto	ditto	
Thomas G. Percy	11	8	11	ditto	ditto	
John Haines	11	8	11	ditto	ditto	
The foregoing is a	corr	ect	list o	f all the appointments made	e by the Gover-	
nor of the Mississippi Territory from the 1st July to the 31 December 1809.						
Washington M. T.				Tho. H. Williams		
January 1st 1810				Secretary of the Mississi	ppi Territory	

(For abbreviations and explanations of words used in Mississippi Territory Appointments, see page 27. - Editor)

*

Transcript from the Register of appointments made by the Governor of the						
Mississippi Territo:	ry from the 31	December 1809 to the 1 Ja				
			County			
Name	Date	Office	District & c			
Gabriel Moore	Jany 1, 1810	Assessor & Collector for				
Peter Perkins	<u>n 7</u> n	Lt. Col. Commandant	7th Regiment			
Stephen Neal	я Д п	Major	7th Regiment			
Alexr. Galbreath	и Д и	Major	7th Regiment			
Peter Perkins	" 15 "	Clerk Sup. Court	Madison County			
George Coulter	" 19 "	Attorney at Law				
Marmaduke Williams	" 19 "	Attorney at Law				
John Grayson	May 9, "	Justice of Peace	Madison County			
John Kirksey	11 9 11	ditto	ditto			
William Lanier	" 9 "	ditto	ditto			
Abraham Perkins	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	ditto	ditto			
Francis E. Harris	" 9 "	ditto (declines acce	pting)ditto			
John Martin	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	ditto	ditto			
George Dilworth	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	ditto	ditto			
James Titus	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	Captain	7th Regiment			
John Grayson	" 9 "	Captain	ditto			
Robert Beatty	11 9 11	Captain (declines accepti	ng) ditto			
Joseph Acklin	11 9 11	Captain	ditto			
William Howson	11 9 11	Captain of Cavalry	Madison Troop			
William H. Winston	11 9 11	Adjutant	7th Regiment			
Peter Wright	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	Lieutenant	ditto			
Isaace Johnson	11 9 11	Lieutenant	ditto			
Thomas Couch	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	Lieutenant	ditto			
William Crawford	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	Ensign	ditto			
David Cobb	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	Constable	Madison County			
Allen C. Thompson	II 9 II	Captain	7th Regiment			
William Wyatt	¹¹ 9 ¹¹	Captain	7th Regiment			
Henry Cox	" 9 "	Captain	7th Regiment			
James Neely	May 9, 1810	Captain	7th Regiment			
John Hunt	" 16 "	Coroner	Madison County			
John C. Hamilton	" 18 "	Attorney at Law	-			
John Walker	יי 18 יי	Attorney at Law				
Nicholas Gilbreath	11 18 11	Constable	Madison County			
Gabriel Moore	Dec 26, 1810	Assessor & Collector for				
	*	(unsig	med at the end)			
		, · · · · · ·				

*

A copy of the	Register of ap	pointments m	ade in t	he Mississippi	Territory
from the 1st d	lay of January	1811 to the	lst day	of July 1811	

	Date of			District,
Name	Appointment	Office		County & c
Andrew Reiley	May 11, 1811	Constable		Madison County
Mathew Stoker	11	ditto		ditto
John Allison	11	ditto		ditto
Town of Washington,				
foregoing is a true	of the Regis	ter of appo	intments made	in the Missis-
sippi Territory fro	m the 1st day	of January	to the 1st day	of July 1811
		Henry Dang	erfield Secy.	Miss. Territory

×

(The list of appointments from July through December 1811 is missing.)

*

(On the list of appointments from January 1812 through June 1812 there were no appointments made in Madison County, however part of this list is obviously missing as there is no "title" page and no "ending" statement on the sheets that have survived for this six months.)

(Note: Madison County appointments are missing - July 1811 to July 1812 - for a whole year.)

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A copy of the Register of Appointments made by the Governor of the Mississippi Territory from the first day of July 1812 inclusive to the first of January 1813 transmitted to the office of State of the United States viz-Henry Dangerfield Secretary of the Mississippi Territory Date of District, County & c/ Appointment Office /Remarks Name John P. Hickman August 30, 1812 Captain rifle Company 7th Regiment - 30 -- 30 -Walker Allen Lieutenant rifle Compy. 7th Regiment Jesse H. Posey Ensign rifle Company 7th Regiment Sept 17, 1812 Captain 7th Regiment/ Thomas Eldridge /vice Busart resigned William Evans 17 Captain 7th Regiment James Burlison 17 Captain 7th Regiment William Crawford 17 Captain 7th Regiment/ /vice Titus resigned James Hamilton 17 Captain 7th Regiment Daniel Atkins 17 Captain 7th Regiment 17 Lieutenant Samuel Davis 7th Regiment 17 7th Regiment James Gilaspie Lieutenant 7th Regiment 17 Lieutenant Grief Johnston 7th Regiment 17 Lieutenant James Bell James B. Wood 17 Lieutenant 7th Regiment 7th Regiment 17 Thomas Love Lieutenant Ebenezer Birum 17 Lieutenant 7th Regiment 17 John Campbell Ensign 7th Regiment 17 7th Regiment William Kent Ensign 17 Ensign 7th Regiment John Ray James Smith 17 Ensign 7th Regiment Birum Hynes 17 Ensign 7th Regiment Dec. 20, 1812 Justice of the Peace John Turner Madison County 20 Justice of the Peace George Halmark Madison County William Roundtree 20 Justice of the Peace Madison County Hezekiah Bayless 20 Justice of the Peace Madison County Thomas Kearn (Fearn-Ed.)22 Surgeon 7th Regiment Henry Cox 23 Pay Master 7th Regiment Peyton Cox 23 Quarter Master 7th Regiment Charles Buris 23 Lieut. Colo. Commandt. 16th Regiment William Edmonson 23 Major 16th Regiment

*

A copy of the Register of Appointments made by the Governor of the Mississippi Territory from the 1st day of January 1813 to the last day of June

1813 inclusive.			
	Date of	County	y, District & c/
Name	Appointment	Office	/Remarks
John Read	June 2, 1813	Major	Madison County/
		/vice Alexr. Gi	lbreath resigned
John J. Winston	8	Captain of Cavalry	Madison County
Peter Perkins	8	Notary Public	Madison County
George Cox	8	Captain of Artillery	Madison County
John Stoker	8	lst Lieutenant of Cavalr	y Madison County
William W. Parham	8	2nd Lieutenant of Cavalr	y Madison County
Joseph Wyatt	8	Cornett of Cavalry	Madison County
	Henry Dang	gerfield Secretary of the	

A copy of the H	Regist	er of	f ap	pointme	ents ma	ade by	the	Execu	itive	of	the	e Missi	LS-
sippi Territor	y for	the s	six	months	which	ended	the	last	day	of	the	month	of

*

December 1813		
	Date of	District, County & c/
Name	Appointment	Office /Remarks
David Moore	July 9, 1813	Justice of Quorum Madison County/
	/vice	e John Bunch not now a member of the Court
John G rayson	9	Major 7th Regiment/
		/vice Major Neal resigned
Stephen Neal	12	Quarter Master 7th Regiment
		(unsigned at the end)

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS 1808-1817

from the 1st day	of January	to the 1st day of July 1814	
	Date of		County,
Names	Appointme	nt Office	District & c
John M. Taylor	Jan. 24,	1814 Assessor & Collector	Madison County
John P. Hickman	25	Major	7th Regiment
William Hancock	25	Justice of Peace	Madison County
Abraham King	25	Ditto	Ditto
David Black	25	Ditto	Ditto
Elijah Hill	25	Ditto	Ditto
Stephen Griffith	25	Captain	16. Regiment
William Johnson	25	ditto	ditto
William Crawford	25	ditto	ditto
Samuel Davis	25	Lieutanant	ditto
Nathaniel Smith	25	ditto	ditto
James Cauly	25	ditto	ditto
John Lenox	25	ditto	ditto
Thomas Love	25	ditto	ditto
William Williams	25	Ensign	ditto
James Childress	25	ditto	ditto
Elijah Weaver	25	ditto	ditto
William Kent	25	ditto	ditto
Burwell Johnson	25	ditto	ditto
Samuel Kelas	25	ditto	ditto
James Smith	25	ditto	ditto
John W. Walker	25	Commissioned to exami	ne certain offices
		in Madison	County
John M. Leake	26	Justice of the Peace	Madison County
	1	(u	nsigned at the end)

Register of Appointments made by the Governor of the Mississippi Territory

*

Register of appointments made by the Governor of the Mississippi Territory

Date ofCounty,NameAppointment OfficeDistrict & c	
John Hooker Aug. 19, 1814 Constable Madison Coun	
Walter Tate Nov. 11, 1814 Surgeon 16. Regiment	,
Thomas Wilson 11 Captain of a troop of Cavalry ditto	
Ephraim Robertson 11 1st Lieutenant ditto ditto	
Jonathan Greenhow 11 2nd Lieutenant ditto ditto	
Levi Cummins 11 Cornet ditto	
Morris Shenault(Chenault-Ed.)11 Lieutenant volunteer Rifle Company ditto	
Abraham King 11 Lieutenant 16. Regiment	1
James Childress 11 Ensign ditto	
John Rourk 11 ditto ditto	
Lewis Sanderson 11 ditto ditto	
Aaron Gibson 11 ditto ditto	
William Renick 11 Constable Madison Cour	ıty
William Rather Dec. 22 Coroner Madison Cour	ıty
Fleming Jordan 27 Justice of the Peace Madison Cour	ıty
Ephraim Anderson 27 ditto ditto	
Abraham Standeford 27 ditto ditto	
Robert Deal 27 Constable ditto	

John R. B. Eldridge	27	Ensign	7th Regiment
Benjamin Murrell	28	Justice of the Peace	Madison County
Jonathan Hardy	28	ditto	ditto
John Hull	28	Constable	ditto
John Benimon	28	Justice of the Peace	Madison County
Abraham King	28	Constable	ditto
			(unsigned at the end)

*

Mississippi Terr		ve proceeding -	lst half yr.	of 1815
	Date of			County,
Names	Appointment	Office		District & c
Robert Dial	June 14, 1815	Constable		Madison County
Ephraim Anderson	7/4	Justice of the	Peace	ditto
Barton Hamilton	74	Constable		ditto
William McBroom	7/1	Constable Town	of Huntsville	e Madison County
Asaph Hill	14	Justice of the	Peace	ditto
			(unsign	ned at the end)

The names of the Persons appointed to office within the Miss. Territory In the last six months ending 31st December 1815 with the offices they respectively fill -

*

(Note: There are no headings or dates on this list. The paper was very thin, written on both sides, and the ink came through very badly making this list extremely difficult to copy. The lines to the right of the names are obviously meant to be brackets-indicating that all of the men included in them held the position opposite.)

John Vining James Ervine John Scallion Fleming Jourdan James McCrackin Absalom Luney Hopkins Lacy Charles Kenady	Justice Peace Madison Coty
Amos Vincent David Boleaou Solomon Langham William Malone Amos Lewis Allen Massangale Greene McElroy Wm. Chenault Wm. N. Robertson	Constables Do
John M. Taylor	Collector Taxes Do
Wm. N. Winston	Lt. Col of the 7th Ridgt. Mil.

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS 1808-1817

William Vaughn Gidion G. Williams	Captains Do
Malcejah Vaughn Solomon Langham	Lieutenants Do
Thos. Simmons	Ensign Do
Clement C. Clay	Adjutant Do
Washington Eddins	Major of the 16th Ridgt. Mil.
John Scallion Joseph Teague Stephen McBroom	Captains Do
Martin Power	Lieutenant Do
Waddy Tait	Surgeon Do
John Vaught John Gamble	Ensigns Do
	(unsigned at the end)
(Note: The following letter is in ceeding list, on a different kind o	a different handwriting than the pre- f paper, and is very easy to read.)
Washington (Miss. Terr.) 25th Janu Sir:	ary 1816
I have the Honor to forward to you ings of this Territory for the half	a transcript of the Executive proceed- year ending the 31st December 1815 appointed to office in the Territory
-	Very Respectfully I have the Honor to be
Hon.ble James Monroe	your most obdt. svt. Nath. A. Ware

James Monroe Secreiry State

*

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Nath. A. Ware Secty. Miss. Terr.

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ABBREVIATIONS & EXPLANATIONS, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS

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Coty. = County Ct. = Court Ditto, Do. = Same as in preceding line Lt. Vol. = Lieutenant of Volunteers M. T., Miss. Terr. = Mississippi Territory Orp. = Orphans (Court) Reg., Redgt., Ridgt. Mil. = Regiment of Militia Sup. = Superior (Court) Vice = Instead of or in place of

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REGISTER 1812-1817

(Taken from microfilm made by the Micro Photo Division, Bell and Howell Co., Cleveland, Ohio of records found in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi. Madison County appointments, interspersed among the appointments for other counties, begin on page 178 for January 1812 at the back of the bound register in which Section III is located and go frontward through June 1815 ending on page 91.)

Names PAGE 156	Date of	Office District, County & c/
John P. Hickman	August 30, 1812	Capt. of a rifle company 7th Regiment/ /resigned
Walker Allen Jesse H. Posey PAGE 154	30 30	Lieut.of a rifle company 7th Regiment Ensign of a rifle company 7th Regiment
Thomas Eldridge	Sept. 17, 1812	Captain 7th Regiment/ (erased)/vice Busart resigned
William Evans	17	Captain 7th Regiment/ /resigned
James Burleson	17	Captain 7th Regiment/ /resigned
William Crawford	17	Captain 7th Regiment/ /resigned, vice Titus resigned (out) /W. Crawford transferred to 16th Reg.
James Hamilton	17	Captain 7th Regiment/ /resigned
Daniel Atkins	17	Captain 7th Regiment/ /transfered to 16th Redgt.
Samuel Davis	17	Lieutenant 7th Regiment/ /transfered to 16th Regiment
PAGE 153		/ Frankreide de redri hegrildite
James Gilaspie	17	Lieutenant 7th Regiment/ /Promoted in 16th Redgt.
Grief Johnston	17	Lieutenant 7th Regiment/ /Promoted in 16th Regt.
James Bell	17	Lieutenant 7th Regiment/ /resigned
James B. Wood Thomas Love	17 17	Lieutenant 7th Regiment Lieutenant 7th Regiment/ /transferred to 16th Regiment
Ebenezer Birum John Campbell	17 17	Lieutenant 7th Regiment Ensign 7th Regiment/ /Deceased
William Kent	17	Ensign 7th Regiment/ /transferred to 16th Regiment
John Ray	17	Ensign 7th Regiment
James Smith	17	Ensign 7th Regiment/ /transferred to 16th Regiment
		Ensign 7th Regiment/

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS 1808-1817

George Halmack William Roundtree	20 20	Justice of Peace Justice of Peace	Madison County Madison County
PAGE 146 Hezekiah Bagless (Bayles: PAGE 145	s-Ed.) 20	Justice of Peace	Madison County
Thomas Kearn (Fearn-Ed.) PAGE 143	22	Surgeon	7th Regiment
Henry Cox	23	Paymaster /no such	7th Regiment/ office now 1814
Peyton Cox	23	Quartermaster	7th Regiment
Charles Buris	23	Lieut. Col. Commandant	16th Regiment
William Edmondson	23	Major	16th Regiment/ /resigned
Nathaniel Power PAGE 111	23	Major	16th Regiment
Solomon Massengale	23	Justice of Peace	Madison County
William Easter	23	Justice of Peace	Madison County
Wiltshire Pool PAGE 140	23	Justice of Peace	Madison County
Rowland Cornelius	24	Justice of Peace	Madison County
James Gillaspie	24	Justice of Peace	Madison County
Fleming Hodge	24	Justice of Peace	Madison County
Kinchen Massengale	24	Justice of Peace	Madison County
Bledso Gore	24	Constable	Madison County/ /resigned
Hugh Wollard	24	Constable	Madison County
John T. Rather	24	Constable	Madison County
Samuel Fulton	24	Constable	Madison County
John Leonard	24	Constable	Madison County
Archilous Craft	24	Constable	Madison County
Richard Byrd	24	Constable	Madison County
Jonathan Burlesson PAGE 139	24	Constable	Madison County
Gray	24	Constable	Madison County
Murrel	24	Constable	Madison County
Thomas Howard	25	Paymaster	16th Regiment/
	~ (office now 1814
James McCartney	26	Assessor & Collector for	
			nty/year expired
PAGE 130 b (There are tw			
John Read Jun	le 2, 1813		7th Regiment/
		/resigned vice Alex /resigned-Jno. Read	
John J. Winston	8	Captain of Cavalry	
Sour S. Winston	0	Oap dain of Oavariy	/resigned
Peter Perkins	8	Notary Public	Madison County
George Cox	8	Captain of Artillery	
John Stokes	8	lst Lieutenant of Caval:	
William W. Parham	8	2nd Lieutenant of Caval:	ryMadison County/
Joseph Wyatt PAGE 127	8	Cornet of Cavalry	/resigned Madison County
· · · ·			

-29-

David Moore	July 9, 1813	Justice of Quorum /John Bunch not now a mem	Madison County/
John Grayson	9	Major	7th Regiment/
Stephen Neal PAGE 120	12	Quartermaster	or Neal resigned 7th Regiment
	an. 11, 1814	assessor and Collector f	or 1811 Madison
Sames neoar oney o	un. 11, 1014		nty/year expired
(Note: James McCart	new is the only	y name on this list not o	
		s from The National Archi	
		r Jan. 1, 1814 to Jan. 13	
		, was not among those she	
by The Archives in W			
PAGE 118			
John M. Taylor	24	assessor & Collector Ma	adison County/
00121 110 149 201			/year expired
John P. Hickman	25	Major 71	th Regiment
William Hancock	25		adison County
Abraham King	25	ditto	ditto
David Black	25 25	ditto	ditto
Elijah Hill	25	ditto	ditto
PAGE 117	-/	42000	41 0 00
Stephen Griffith	25	Captain 16	oth Regiment/
			/resigned
William Johnston	25	ditto	ditto/resigned
William Crawford	25	ditto	ditto
Samuel Davis	25	Lieutenant	ditto/resigned
Nathaniel Smith	25	ditto	ditto/resigned
James Cauly	25	ditto	ditto
John Lenox	25	ditto	ditto/Deceased
Thomas Love	25	ditto	ditto/resigned
William Williams	25	#### Ensign	ditto
James Childress	25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25	ditto	ditto/resigned
Elijah Weaver	25	ditto	ditto/resigned
William Kent	25 25 25 25	ditto	ditto
Burwell Johnston	25	ditto	ditto
Samuel Kelds	25	ditto	ditto
James Smith	25	ditto	ditto
John W. Walker	25	¢غرز Commissioner to	¢≠≠≠¢ examine
		certain offices in Ma	
			/time expired
John M. Seake (Leake	e-Ed.)26	Justice of the Peace	Madison County
PAGE 109			
	gust 19, 1814	Constable	Madison County
PAGE 105	0-1		
Walter Tate	Nov. 11 1814	Surgeon	16. Regiment/
		Contain at a Mara and Com	/resigned
Thomas Wilson	11 11	Captain of a Troop of Cav	• •
Ephraim Robertson Jonathan Greenhow	11	lst Lieutenant Dit 2nd Lieutenant Dit	
Levi Cummins	11	Cornet	Ditto
		Lieutenant Volunteer Rif	
Morris Shenault (Che	naurt-ra.) II	PIGUOGUANO ADIMUOGEL VII	/testened
			I TTTTDITT

MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS 1808-1817

Abraham King		11		Lieutenant	5			Ditto/
James Childers		11		Ensign				Ditto/ /resigned
John Rourk PAGE 10h		11		Ensign				Ditto
Lewis Sanderson Aaron Gibson		11 11		Ensign Ensign			16.3	Regiment Ditto/ /resigned
William Renick PAGE 103		11	÷	Constable			Madi	son County
	Dec.	22,	1814	Coroner			Madi	son County
Fleming Jordan		27		Justice of	the 1			son County/ w Register
Ephraim Anderson		27		Ditto		· · · · ·		Ditto
Abraham Standeford		27		Ditto				Ditto
Røøt, Deal		27		Øønstav <i>I</i> e				ガえたため/
	1					/see	lhth	June 1815
John R. B. Eldridge		27		Ensign			7.R	egiment/ /Promoted
Benjamin Murrell PAGE 100		28		Justice of	the i	Peace	Madi	son County
Jonathan Hardy		28		Justice of	the 1	Peace	Madi	son County
John Hull		28		Constable				Ditto
John Bennion		28		Justice of	the j	peace		Ditto
Abraham King		28		Constable	-	-		Ditto
PAGE 92								
Robert Dial	June	14,	1815	Constable			Madi	son County/ /resigned
Ephraim Anderson		<u>ון</u> ר		Justice of	the t	peace		ditto
Barton Hamilton		14		Constable	4	-		ditto
William McBroom		14		ditto I	lown o.	f Huntsvi	lle	ditto
Asaph Hill		14		Justice of	the 1	Peace		ditto
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REGISTER 1812-1817

(Taken from microfilm made by the Micro Photo Division, Bell and Howell Co., Cleveland, Ohio of records found in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi. These appointments are in the front of the register in which Section II is located. Madison County appointments are found on pages 37-43.)

Mames	Date of Commission	Office	Remarks
Leroy Pope		Chief Justice Coty Ct	

MADISON COUNTY

Justice Quorum

Sheriff

Leroy Pope Stephen Neal Thos. Bibb

PAGE 37

John Weathers		Justice Quorum
David Moore		Justice Quorum
A. Tatom		Justice Quorum
William N. Robertson	13 Dec. 1815	Constable
William Chenault	13 Dec. 1815	Constable
Greene McElroy	13 Dec. 1815	Constable
John Vining	13 Dec. 1815	Justice Peace
Amos Lewis	3 Nov. 1815	Constable
Allen Massingale	3 Nov. 1815	Constable
William Malone	19 Dec. 1815	Constable Resigned
James Ervine	19 Dec. 1815	Justice Peace
John M. Taylor	19 Dec. 1815	Assor. & collector
John Scallion	21 Dec. 1815	Justice Peace
Solomon Langham	21 Dec. 1815	Constable
Fleming Jourdan	21 Dec. 1815	Justice Peace
James McCrackin	20 Dec. 1815	Justice Peace refused to accept
		information from Capt. Titus
Absalom Luny	20 Dec. 1815	Justice Peace
Hopkins Lacy	26 Dec. 1815	Justice Peace
Charles Knady (Kenady		
Amos Vincent	26 Dec. 1815	Constable
David Bolloo	27 Dec. 1815	Constable
Nicholas Pope	29 Feby. 1816	City Magestrate for Huntsville
Benjn. Cox	31 July 1816	Notary Public
Asaph Hill	same date	Justice of the Peace
Robert Rogers	same date	Constable
John Martin	16 Oct. 16	Keeper wts. & measures
John David Maxwell	9 Dec. 16	Justice of Peace
Thomas Bell	1	Ditto
Alexander Perryman	11	Ditto
Thomas Hubbard	11	Ditto
Isaac Wilboune	11	Ditto
Andrew Rodgers	11	Ditto
Charles Cox	11	Constable
Henry King	11	Constable
Joseph Romione	tt	Constable
William Lampkin	31	Justice of Peace
George Dillard	11	Ditto
Henry Brown	11	Ditto
Benjamin Franks	11	Ditto
Archibald Mcfail	11	Constable
PAGE 38		00112 04020
Joseph Powell	18 Dec. 16	Justice of the Peace
James Henderson	18 Dec. 16	Constable
	13 Dec. 16	Constable of Flint
	11	Inspector of flour at Ditto's Landing
(There is a note by	the above entry sa	ying, "Three blanks commis. to Capt.
		anks shown Editor)
Joseph Teague	14 Decr. 16	Constable
John Hays	12 Feby 1817	Constable
William Simpson	same	Constable
John Logan	same	Constable
Thomas Austen	lst Feby 1817	Inspector of Flour Ditto's Landing
John P. Brown	5th Feby Do	Constable for Huntsville
	-	
MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY APPOINTMENTS 1808-1817

Nicholas Pope	5th Feby -	President board of Trustees for Huntsville
David Bailey	23 May 17	Constable
Henry Minor	21 Aug -	Attorney General-forwd. to Tcllooce
DAGE 20 Black		(Tuscaloosa-Editor)
PAGE 39 - Blank PAGE 40 - Blank		
PAGE 10 - DIAIR	7th REG	IMENT
	,	
Names Dat	e of Commission	Office Remarks
Gidion G. Williams	8th Dec. 1815	Captain removed from the county
William Vaughan	13 Dec. 1815	Captain removed
Malcijah Vaughan	13 Dec. 1815	Leuntenant
Thomas Simmons	13 Dec. 1815	Ensign
Solomon Langham	17 Dec. 1815	Lieutenant
Clement C. Clay		Adjutant refused to accept
William N. Winston	_	Lt. Colonel Resigned
John Rhea	10 June 16	Ensign
James Ross		Leiutenant
John Langdon		
Wm Rutledge Nathan Strong	~~~~	
David Barlow		Captain
Wm Franklin		ogh ogtu
John Jourdon		
Mathew W. Maoor (Moo	re-Ed.)	
Thos. D. Crabb		Capt. Cavalry
John W. Ledbetter		Ensign
Jesse Irwin		
John Eckford		Lt. Vol. Rifle Corps
Willis Elliott	-	Ensign Do Do Do
Thos. B. Eldridge	31 July 1816	Adjutant
John F. Walker	same date	Captain
David McClung	same date	Lieutenant
Ephrm. Ledbetter	same date same date	Ensign Ensign
Robert Allison	same date	Leiutenant
Joseph Pickens Hezekiah Tate	13 Aug. 16	Quarter Master
John T. Rather	18 Oct. 1816	Captain
Geo. Dillard	11	Captain
Wm. Harris	11	Leiutenant
Jos. H. Bils (Biles-H	d.) "	Ditto
Robert McGahee	11	Ditto
John Murry	Ħ	Ensign
Jas. Hollingsworth	97	Ditto
Jas. McClendon	11	Ditto
PAGE 42	0.0+ 20 1974	Contain
Charles Williams	Oct. 30, 1816	Captain Lieutenant
David Parker Thomas Simmons	13 Dec. 16	Captain vice Vaughan moved out of
THOURS STUDUTS	1000, 10	the county
Joseph Moore	14 Dec. 16	ensign
Francis Newman	Sept. 9, 1817	Captain
	- *	

Jno. D. Murray Bannister Win John Jordan John Blair	81 81 81 87 97 97 77 97 77 77 97 77 91 97 77	Lieutenant Lieutenant Ensign Ensign	
PAGE 43	16th RE	DGMENT	
Name Dat	e of Commission	Office	Remarks
Charles Burres Nathl. Power Washington Eddins Stephen McBrown (McB Martin Power John Vaught	23 Dec. 1812 23 Dec. 1812 13 Nov. 1815 room-Ed.) 14 Nov. 14 Nov. 1815 14 Nov. 1815	Lt. Colonel Major Najor 1815 Captain Lieutenant Ensign	
John Vaught John Gamble Waddy Tate Joseph Teague John Scallion Saml. French Ebenexer Petty Nathaniel Smith Henry King John Wright Wade H. Vining Wm. Shenault(Chenaul Amos French Joseph McCuller George Q. Pindexlers Willoby Roberts Drury M Allen Joseph E Stelwill	l4 Nov. 1815 13 Nov. 1815 13 Dec. 1815 17 Dec. 1815 4 Dec. 1816 " " " " " " " t-Ed)" "	Ensign Ensign Surgeon Captain Captain Captain Captain Captain Captain Captain Captain Lieutenant Leutenant Ditto Ditto Ditto Ditto	Promoted
John Gambal Absalom Halland (Hol John Smith Joseph Moore Archibald Mcfail John Maddox Samuel Croffard Philoman Packham (Be	11 11 11 11	Ditto Ditto Ensign Ditto Ditto Ditto Ditto Ditto Ditto	-

(End, Madison County, Mississippi Territory Appointments 1812-1817)

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(For abbreviations and explanations of words used in Mississippi Territory Appointments, see page 27. - Editor)

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MADISON COUNTY ALABAMA TERRITORY AND STATE APPOINTMENTS 1818 - 1822

Alabama became a territory December 10, 1817 and a state December 14, 1819. The registers of civil and military appointments are located in the State Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Alabama. Following are the appointments for Madison County, Alabama (Territory and State) from the earliest of these registers - pages 38-42 and 132-134. (Copied from photostats by Mrs. Roy J. Cochran, Huntsville, Alabama.)

PAGE 38	MADISON	COUNTY	Destand	
When Appointed	Names	Offices	Resigned or Removed	When
1818 Febru ^y 1818 Nov 12 Appointed by Gov. Holmes 1818 June 12 Aug 7 Nov 11 " - - - -	WT A Maxwell Nathan Baker Steph ⁿ Chiernault Nathan Farmer John Cox Jessie Irwin John Preast James McCary William Evans Henry King George Munroe David Grey George T. Jones Thomas Love Anth ^y H Metcalf	Do (note: John) Do Do Do Do Do Do Do Do Do Do Do Do Do	re S	
	Jourdan	Do		

	Nov. -	12	Jones John Boardman John Vining	Do Do Assr. & Col for 1819
	Febry Nov	1); 13 1);	John Boardman Lemuel Mead John James Thomas Ice	Ranger Notary Public Constable Do
PAGE	- 39	-	John H. Taylor	J. P.
1819	Mar. July	1 22	Hunter Peele Henry Stokes	County Surveyor J. P.
_	Nov. July	21 6	William Watkins Allan Urquhart	Do Do
	-	-	John Horton James Allan	Do Constable
	May July	10 23	Grant Taylor Daniel Rather	Do Town Constable for 1819
	July 30 Se	-5	Ditto A. D. Vietch	Auctioneer Ditto for Huntsville
PAGE	Nov.	-		Constable
			lith H	REGIMENT
1819	July	6	Griffin Lampkin	Colonel
	11	11	Thomas Eldridge	
	11	30	Adair	Major 2nd Batt. Adjutant
<u> 8 г 8 г</u>	Nov.	11		Quarter Master Surgeon
TOTO	NOV.	-		(Cap)
- 0		<i>.</i>		Lieut Beat No. 1 Batt. No. 1
1819	Sept	6	John Matthews	Cap. Lieut Beat No. 2. Batt. No. 1
	0ct	2	Biddle	(Cap.)
				Lieut Beat No. 3. Batt. No. 1 Ensign
				Cap. Lieut Beat No. 4. Batt. 1 Ensign (Cap.
				Lieut. Beat No. 5. Batt. No. 1 Ensign
				Capt. Lieut. Beat No. 1. Batt. No. 2 Ensign
			Rogers	(Capt.) Lieut Beat No. 2. Batt. No. 2. Ensign)
				(Capt Lieut.) Beat No. 3. Batt. No. 2. (Ensign)

MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA TERRITORY AND STATE APPOINTMENTS 1818-1822

PAGE 41

	(Cap Lieut Ensign)	Beat No. 4. Batt. No. 2
	(Capt. Lieut Ensign)	Beat No. 5. Batt. No. 2
Houson	{	Beat no. 6 Batt. No 2

		ן קיין קיין	EGIMENT		
1818 Nov.	11	Samuel Walker	Colonel		
1819 July	29		Lieut. Co	1.	
1818 Nov.	12	Nathan Smith	Major		
		Isaac Wellborne	Adjutant		
		Miller	Quarter M	aster	
		Ephraim B.	Surgeon		
1818 Nov.	12	John Leonard	(Cap)		
1819 Mar	6	Stephen Biles	Lieut.	Beat No. 1.	Batn. No. 1.
			(Ensign)		
1818 Nov.	15	Henry King	(Cap.)		_
1819 Feby	20	John Mopley	Lieut	Beat No. 2.	Batn. No. 1
- 0- 0	2/	T 177	Ensign		
1818 Nov.	16	James Allan	(Cap.)	Deat March	
		Matthew Pate	Lieut	Beat No. 3.	Bat. No. 1.
1819 Feby 1818 Nov.	13	Archd Campbell Daniel Millar	Ensign		
1819 Feby	21	Edwin Keiton	(Cap Lieut	Beat No. 4.	Bat. No. 1.
TOTA LEDA	13	Daniel B. Turner	Ensign	Deat NO. 4.	Dat. NO. I.
PAGE L2		Danter D. Turner	(DITOTEIN)		
1818 Nov.	14	Wade Vining	(Cap)		
1010 101.	17	Horton	Lieut	Beat No. 1	Batt. No. 2
1819 Februa	-	Parker Phillips	Ensign		
1818 Novem	17	Elias Wellborne	(Cap)		
11	15	McDory	Lieut /	Beat No. 2.	Batt. No. 2
11	11	Fowler	Ensign		
11	18	Franks	(Capt.)		
11	14	Stilwell	Lieut	Beat No. 3.	Batt. No. 2
11	11	McPhell	Ensign		
12	20	Cook	(Capt.)		
11	11	Golding	Lieut	Beat No. 4.	Batt. No. 2
- 0	1		Ensign/		
1819 Octr	4	Edward Dupuy	Capt	Volunteer Co	ompany
			-		
			L .		
PAGE 132		ΜΔΙ	DISON		
1819 Octo ^r	28	Lemuel Mead	Clk Cir (,t	
1019 0000	11	Thomas Brandon	" Cty (
11	11	Stephen Neal	Sheriff		
1820 Feby		James Bibb	Assessor		
-		William McBroom	Collector		
Mar	2	Daniel Rather	Coroner		

			V ALLILI			
	11	TT	Andrew D. Veitch)			
	11	11	Daniel Rather	Auctione	ers	
	11	TT	Nicholas Hobson	Not: Pub		Resigned (Ed
			HIGHOIGS HOODON			looks to have been erased)
1821	April	7.	Benjamin S. Pope	Prest Hu		
	Sept	29	Richard B. Purdom	Not: Pub		
1822		15	John W. Tilford	Prest: H		ville
	-Edito:					
•	April	21	John Martin	Justice	Peace	9
	11	11	Thomas Humes	11	11	-
	11	11	Thomas W. Winn	11	11	Removed
	11	11	Robert Bransford	11	11	Removed Mar 26.1821
	21	77	John Grayson	31	11	
	11	11	Ezekiel Craft	11	51	
	11	11	John Angel	51	81	
	11	11	John Burkner	ŤŤ	31	
	11	11	George T. Jones	51	11	
	11	TT	James B. Collier	11	TT	Removed
	ŤŤ.	11	William East	11	11	
	11	51	Thomas Bell	11	11	Resigned
	11	11	Ezekiel Eastland	11	11	
	11	11	John Vining	11	11	
	11	11	John Wright	11	11	
	11	11	William H. Clopton	11	21	
	51	ŤT.	Allen Erquart (Urquh	art-Ed.)	т	Resigned
	11	TT	Parker Campbell	11	11	Resigned 14 Mar 1822
	11	11	James A. Wall	11	11	
	11	11	George M. Whiter	11	-11	
	11	11	James S. Hendricks	11	11	
	11	TT	William Blake	11	17	Removed 2 Apl. 1822
PAGE	133	_				
	April	21	James Erwin	Justice		e
	11	11	John W. Looney	11	11	
	11	11	William Easter	11	11	Removed 14 Mar 1822
	11	11	Richard Wallpool	11	11	
	11	11	John Sprowl	11	11	
	11 51	11 11	John Hill	77 77	17 97	Resigned
	11	11	Jeremiah P. Horton		11	
	11	11	Littleberry Leiseur	" 9 "	11	
	11	11	William S. Allen	11	11	Deciment
	11	11	Lemuel Hutchins	11	57	Resigned
			David Capshaw	31	11	
	May	10	John M. Leake			Demostrad De cálena de 07 Mars 7 900
	11	11	William H. T. Brown William McBroom	1 ¹¹	11	RemovedResigned 27 Mar 1822
	11	11	James G. Carroll	51	11	Resigned
	July	8	William Roundtree	11	11	
	11	27	Robert W Roberts	11	11	
	Sept.	12	Randolph Sullivan	11	11	
	Octr	24	William Harris	11	11	
1821		29	John Franklin	11	11	
		26.	John S. Smith	TT	11	vice R. Bransford
	April	7.	James Drake	27	ŤŤ	
	11	11	John Hogan	tt	11	
			-			

MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA TERRITORY AND STATE APPOINTMENTS 1818-1822

1822	Feb: Mar " Apl	15. 11 3 10 15 11 14 " 27 2	Robert C. Masye William Kirkland Richard B. Purdom Henry Rigney Edward W. Parker Edmund Dupuy Richard Shackleford Henry Brown Nathaniel Davis William Wilkins	Just "		Peace II II II	Com Expired vice A. Urquhart vice WMcBroom vice John Hill Prest: Triana vice T. Bell vice Wm H. T Brown vice
PAGE	134						
1820	April	21	John K. Dunn	Cons	stable	9	
	11	11	James Taylor	1	Ť		Removed
	11	11	John C. Grayson	1	t		
	11	11	Lewis Meals	1	Ť		
	31	81	William Coffbey	1	1 -		
	11	17	William Gray	1	1		
	11	87	Nathaniel Terry	1	Ť		
	11	11	Berkan Goldan	1	t		
	11	11	John H Campbell	1	1		
	11	11	Benjamin McWhorter	1	Ť		
	11	11	William H. Robertso	n '	8		
	11	11	William Earnest	1	1		
	11	11	Thompson Harris	1	11		
	11	11	Henry H. Rigney	1	1		
	11	11	James White	1	11		
	11	11	James B. Nunnelly	1	11		
	11	11	Willie Elliotte		IT		
	11	11	Charles Moorman	1	11		
	11	n	David S. Williams	1	11		
	June	17	Samuel P. Pool	1	11		
	Septr	12	John Milan		11		
	Oct^r	24	John C. Gibbins(Gid	dins	-Ed.)	11	
	11	11	Holman Southall	1	IT.		
	11	ŤŤ	Robert Lewis		11		

(End, Madison County, Alabama Territory and State Appointments 1818-1822)

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ABBREVIATIONS & EXPLANATIONS, ALABAMA APPOINTMENTS

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Assr. & Col. = Assessor and Collector (of taxes) Ch. T. Co. Court = Chairman of Trustees of County Court Clk. Cir. Ct. = Clerk Circuit Court Clk. Cty. (or Co.) Ct. = Clerk County Court Clk. Sup. Court = Clerk Superior Court Com. = Commission Ditto, Do. = Same as given in preceeding line J. Q. = Justice of the Quorum Not. Pub. = Notary Public P. of T. = President of the Trustees Prest. = President (of Board of Trustees) Vice = Instead of or in place of

DEED OF TRUST

1820

(This Deed of Trust was selected for publication because of the number of residents who are mentioned in a year in which no census records are available for this area. Mrs. Eugene G. Cowart of Huntsville, Alabama prepared this abstract from the deed book located in the Record Room of the Madison County Court House, Huntsville, Alabama. The newspaper items were secured from microfilm in the Local History Room of the Huntsville Public Library.)

The Alabama Republican (newspaper), Huntsville, Alabama Saturday, 29 January 1820 and several dates thereafter: "NOTICE. To all persons who are indebted to us. You are requested to make payment in cotton, delivered by the 20th of February next at the market price, or Cash; longer than that time we cannot wait. PURDOM & PRITCHARD."

The Alabama Republican (newspaper), Huntsville, Alabama Saturday, 5 February 1820: "NOTICE. I will receive Cotton at the market price for all debts due P. & M'Alister, if delivered by the 20th February, 1820, (or cash,) as no longer indulgence will be given. R. B. FURDOM."

The Alabama Republican (newspaper), Huntsville, Alabama Saturday, 18 March, 1820 and dates thereafter:

"Notice. RICHARD B. BURDOM and Purdom and Pritchard, having by deed of trust bearing date the -- day of March, 1820, duly acknowledged and admitted to record, transferred and assigned all and every description of real, personal and mixed property of which they stand seized and possessed, together with the books, bonds, notes, accounts, and all and every other evidence of claim, debt or due, arising and accruing to them or either of them, to Stephen S. Ewing, William Patton, and Benjamin Patteson, in trust, for the purpose of securing John M'Alister for the debts for which he is liable and bound, as the partner of the late firm of Purdom & M'Alister.

The books and papers are transferred to the counting room of Stephen S. Ewing, where an agent will attend to the settlement and adjustment of the accounts. All persons being indebted to either the late firm of Purdom & M'Alister or Purdom & Pritchard, will make payment only to said Trustees, or either of them; and all persons having claims as above stated, will apply to them only for adjustment. All those concerned are hereby informed that the business must and will be closed as soon as human exertions will effect it. S. S. EWING, WM. PATTON, BENJ. PATTESON, Trustees.

The firm of Purdom & Pritchard is this this day dissolved by mutual consent. All those that are indebted to them will call on the above trustees."

Madison County, Alabama Deed Book "F," pages 206-218 (Abstracted)

Richard B. Purdom & wife To Deed of Trust Ewing, Patteson, and Patton

Whereas a partnership

DEED OF TRUST, 1820

heretofore existed between John McAllister of Jonesborough & state of Tennessee & Richard B. Purdom of Huntsville in the state of Alabama... Purdom & McAllister..in Huntsville under management..of..Purdom & the said partners by mutual consent having dissolved (same)..leaving..considerable ..debts unpaid, ..Purdom in order to secure and endemnify..McAlister against payment of said debts...agrees to transfer assign & set over all...hereinafter mentioned & described to Stephen S. Ewing, Benjamin Patteson & William Patton of..Huntsville in trust... This Indenture made & entered into this 7th March, 1820 between..Richard B. Purdom & Susan his wife..& John McAlister..& Stephen S. Ewing..Benjamin Patteson & William Patton...

Richard B. Purdom & Susan B. for and in consideration of the premises & for..one dollar..in hand paid by Ewing, Patteson & Patton..do grant. bargain, sell, alien & confirm assign transfer..to McAlister, Ewing, Patteson & Patton...house and lot in Huntsville...where Purdom lives opposite the residence of John P. Hickman, .. lots in town of Marathon at the head of Muscle Shoals, ... section of land in Madison Co. .. transfered to Purdom by John D. Carul (Carrell?) & John Martin, $\frac{1}{4}$ section. Lawrence Co. ..., a title bond executed by William K. Pawling & William Kelly..land Madison Co. for which a suit in chancery is now depending in which Pawling is complainant & William Pope & others are defendants, a negro boy named Isaac, a gray ho(r)se, & a sorrel horse, a Razer (carriage) & ..articles of household furniture ... together with the Books, bonds, notes and book accounts .. real estate ... to John McAlister, Ewing, etc ... under the conditions following that is to say the said Ewing, etc...shall under the direction of John McAlister collect said bonds, notes, etc. & apply the proceeds to the payment of the debts of said firm of Purdom & McAlister ... & if any surplus remains in their hand after paying all the debts provided by this trust..agree..to reconvey....such..to the said ...Purdom. (Signed by all parties) 7th March 1820

And whereas articles of partnership..entered into on the ______ day of July 1819 between Richard B. Purdom and James Prichard...Huntsville...at which time the remaining stock of goods then on hand at the dissolution of ..Purdom & McAlister, ..together with all purchase of goods...in Baltimore Philadelphia & New York ..for which Purdom & Prichard became responsible to..McAlister.... In order to secure the said John McAlister...I, James Pritchard do transfer..to Ewing, Patteson & Patton..all..to be held in trust as aforesaid and be applied for the purposes aforesaid.... (Signed) James Prichard, March 11, 1820.

Appeared before me, Thomas Brandon, clerk of the County court..... (all of the men aforementioned) and Susan B. Purdom...... (Signed) the 17th day of March, Thos. Brandon CCC.

Schedule of Real & personal property assigned ... by Purdom in Trust to secure John McAlister- viz-1 certificate of Lot no. 25 in the Town of Marathon No. of 156.25 certificate 7586 on which is paid the first installment of 1 Do. no. 7588 of lot no. 368. on which is paid Do. 12.75 1 Do. no 7589 of lot no. 272. on which is paid 17.75 1 Do. no 7590 of lot no. 274. on which is paid 17.50 1 Do. no. 7591 of lot no. 352. on which is paid 15.00 1 Do. no. 7592 of lot no. 347 on which is paid 14.00 1 Do. for 1 Share in the Town of Marathon no. 19 on which is paid 10.00

l Do. for 1 quarter Section No. 4060 in Madison County	
amt. paid-Transferd by John Martin	100.40
l Do. for 1 quarter Section No. 2707 transferd by Carrell & Martin amount paid	80.00
1 Tittle Bond given by Wm K. Pauling & William Kelly for 1 quar-	
-ter Section in Madison County No. 23, which is now in suit	
amt. paid	1200.00
l quarter Section in Lawrence County the certificate of which is, lost or mislaid, on which is paid	80.00
1 House & one acre and a half of Land in Huntsville, being	00.00
the same on which I now live opposite the late residence of	
John P. Hickman cost with the improvements	5000.00
l negro boy named Isaac	750.00
l gray horse 200 l sorrel Do 150	
	350.00
	400.
4 Beds, bed Steds & furniture	250.
l Side board	130. 120.
l china press containing Plates, Plates & C l Doz. Windsor chairs & 🚽 Doz. common Do	50.
Knives forkscups & Saucers &C. &C	5
I have 2 other negroes in my possession one of which was put in	
the possession of my wife by her father, on which I have no lega	l
claim the other negro woman belongs to my mother	
1 new ledger & Journal and all other articles of value now in my	
possession the amt. or quality of which is not assertained.	
Tist of water Dark Datts (C. due the business of Durder & Mellis	ten Neter
List of notes Book Debts &C. due the business of Purdom & McAlis A. Anderson Eph" & A. Cash $0.12\frac{1}{2}$ Crump John 0.	23.25
Austin Sanders 26.00 Cooper Solomon	11.45
Alford David 25.00 Cloud J. H.	200.00

	Austin Sanders			Cooper Solomon	11.45
	Alford David	25.00			200.00
	Armstrong John			Cain Thomas	46.99
Β.	Bayles Elias			Davidson John J.	5.00
	Benford Addison	200.44		Dicky Thos F.	45.22
	Brown John	12.00		Dicky Tho. F.	37.25
	Biddle John	63.68		Derrick W ^m E. 250	
				Derrick W ^m E. 150	400.00
	Brower Willis	10.00	F.	Fielder Enos	4.48
	Brodnax caª & J. P.	146.45	G.	Gutrie Dudly	24.00
		100.00		Griffin Joseph	8.00
				Glass Vincent	6.12늘
	Brown John	7.1.2늘		Grier Henry	2.12늘
				Hart Warren	29.92늘
	Brown John T.	63.12号		Hine Willis	16.00
C.	Clark Alfred	98.48		Halby W. J.	12.00
	Chills (or Chiles) Thomas	6.873		Harton Jno. P.	34.50
	Cross Andrew			Hicks Richard	25.63늘
	Caruthers Morriss			Hill William	26.91
	Caruthers Hugh			Hogan Saml G.	30.00
				Jones John	25.00
				Inman John K.	8.00
	Collins John			Jones John	4.95
		200.87불	Τ	Looney David	32.56
	Cash Benj ⁿ			Lincoln Jessee	27.80
				121100711 000000	

10

DEED OF TRUST, 1820

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м.	Ledbetter Joel Martin Woody	3.37½ 173.45		Henry Bishop Henry C. Bradford	53.00 427.42
	McWhirter Hanas (?)	32.50		James Ditto	85.00
	McClung Lesly	31,37		W ^m Chenault	105.28
	McClung Lesly Marah (?) Joseph	5.00 24.87	×	In the hand of Taylor and	Minor
Ν.	Neeley Andrews	24.87		Irby Jones	128.59
	Nelson Robert	0.00		Thomas K. Roberts	304.15
P.	Patterson, W ^m	11.05		David Randills A/C	304.15 162.48
	Pelly (Petty?) Gaydon	10.75	×	In the mands of Boardman	
	Page Lewis	39.25		Joseph Becker & Co.	85.00
	Pritchard Fances	116.70		J. J. Davidson	95.00
	Pride Thomas	7.34		J. S. Hendrix	57.28
	Price Hugh		÷	In the Hands of E. Titus	(7) (00
_	Benj ⁿ Patteson & co.				616.00
R.	Ragsdale S.	2196.60		W ^{TT} C. Allen	53.00
	Robison George	60.00 4.82	2/2	In the Hands of T. D. Cra	
	Rodgers George	18 401		John McCurley	66.00
	Rodgers George Robison Hardy Rodgers Moses	18.62 ¹ 40.40	76	In the hands of Clement C M. D. Williams	150 00
	Robison Benj.	13530.00		Anyon Randill	150.00 71.79 111.00
c	Spence Solomon	271, 701		D Randill	
J .	Spence Payton	122.60		Eph ^m Anderson In the hands of James Hog	350.00
	Stokes Henry	30.00	*	In the hands of James Hos	an at the
	Simmons W ^m	19.00		fall of the Warrior	,
	Stokes Henry Simmons W ^m Smith Jo ^S (Ja ^S ?) L.	5.00			57.02
	Scott Tho. S.	8.00		Thomas Carlton	
		46.23	×	In the hands of Mansfield	
т.	Thompson David			Wilson County	-
	Troop James	22.00		Tho ^S D. Martin 2 notes	85.00
	Thorn Presly	1.32	☆	In the hands of Robert Ac	- klin
	Tipton Stephen	5.00		James Copeland	10.33
W.	Wall James A.	528.00		W. W. Thompson	2.60
		23.872		John Turner	35.00
	Wood Ro. J.				8.80
	Woodfin W ^m	75.30		Thomas Evans	11.25
	Wyatt W ^m	23.25		Andrew Ryley	15.89
	White Bryson	3.50		Richard Smith	5.00
-	Woodfin W ^m	69.82		Dan. Coffman W ^M Stergis	34.00 39.00
I.	Young Ewing 40.00 Do 58.00			W. W. Thompson	14.00
	Do 136.82		25	In the hands of David Alf	
	Do 8.00		A	Cotaco County	.010,
	Do 50.00	292.82		Collin Arp	25.00
-15-	Young James A.	12.00	=	A Judgement in the court	
	In the hands of atto.			County brot by John Maze	
	for collection viz-			Jonathan Estill on an as:	
	Charles Stokes	126.00		of Fletcher & McClellan-	0
	Themas Woodfin	95.00		Estimated at	1320.00
	James Hollingsworth	120.00	=	Draft drawn by Thomas H.	
	Charles Sewell	78.00		dated 29th July 1819 and	
	Sam ¹ C. Gill	53.00		protested	1000.00
	George Mosely	54.00	=	Draft from the same prot	ested now
	Joseph D. Peoples	75.78		in the hands of Gilbert	
	Samuel A. Allen	100.00		Washington	479.65

+	A Deed of Trust on the property	
	of Sam. Clark advertised to be	
	sold 30th March 1820 1557.5	

=	A claim on the Estate of J. B.
	Chandler decd has been in suit
	and supposed to be collected
	managed by David B. Finlay St.
	Francisville the vouchers fow?
	by Samt Fain 1st March
	1820 1200.00
	I the hands of Stephen S. Ewing
	& WT Patton to secure them, for
	Endorsing amounting to 9594.30
	and in the hands of Richard B.
	Purdom all other debts dues &
	demands accruing to the firm of
	Purdom & Mcalister Richard B.
	Purdom & Purdom & Prichard the
	vouchers of which may either be
	-
	now in my possession or the
	possession of others, which said
	sebts and dues if there be such
	I hereby transfer all my right
	and title therto to the said
	Trustees for the benefit of the
	said John Mcalister
	List of Ballances as appears on
	the Books
Α.	David Abernathy 7.23

Sally Arbaugh Robert Armstrong Armstrong and Saunders Allison Joseph Armstrong John M. 112.48 416.61 Aday Levy Alford David George Anyon Eph^m Anderson Ashburn Lewis Alvestine Susannah Acernathy John Austin David Atwood Aday Loyd Adams H. W. Acernathy John 102.17 Ashburn Lewis Aday Boose Aclin Joseph Anderson Eph^m Burns Patrick Bird Michael Brown John T. Brandon Thos & WM

Balew Peter Blackburn J. W. Baylis Daniel Baxter Jesse Bayles Elias Brahan & Rose Brown John Dec ^d	6.90 22.21 2.75 1.25 89.20 83.75
Bird Jonathan Bond Nelson Blankinship Jo ^S Berry Robert Balew Nicholas Bacon Tho ^S Bibb William Blevins John Baker Allen Byrd Stephen Bradford Henry Billy (Waggoner)	$1.557.12\frac{1}{2}15.2590.902.507.357.00225.9310.001.6751.609.50$
Baxter Alexander Bird John	5.75 12.00
Brodnax T. F. Geo.	6.27불
Bishop Archibald	3.25
Brahan & Atwood	15.50
Bury (Berry?) John	1.00
Bayles Reuben	6.00
Boardman John	3.42
Bell William	3.00
Bell J. W. & R. A.	23.00
Benford Abner H.	9.621
Bealy (Beaty?) Capt. Robt	16.00
Bell James	12.50
Baker Sam & Co.	33.25
Byrum Ebenezer	1.87늘
Blow Peter	4.37
Blalock John	.62 <u>1</u>
Brown W. H. T.	21.804
Burriss Parson	8.00
Brandon T. & W.	139.65
Berry Robert	
Brown W. H. T.	
Buys James	
Benford Addison	139.65
Biles James	139.65 23.56
Blow Peter	-).)0
Bishop H. H.	
Boardman John	
Balew Peter	
Bell Thomas	
Bradford H.	
Bell 🗤 D.	
Baker Sam ¹ & Co.	
Baker Sam ¹ & Co. Binford A. H.	.901
Bruner (Brewer?) Willis	~

13.35 5.10

34.41

5.38

25.81

6.93

36.61

17.31 2.50

85.20

18.79 5.00

15.43

2.25

8.00

.75

1.25

12.04

41.31

2.38

75.621

DEED OF TRUST, 1820

	Bayles Elias			Clifton W ^m	
	Blakley Robert			Clifton Amsey	
	Blevins John			Cozby John	
	Barrot W ^m			Campbell George	
	Brown J. P.	62.53		Corloe (?) W ^m G.	10.00
	Beal (Beab?) John	- 10		Davis Robert	8.87킄
	Blankenship Jr. (Jn.?)			Delony E. B. W.	99.09
	Bell Isham			Duke Merrit	2.50
	Blevins Isaac			Derrick WT E.	230.73
	Bryant Jso (?)			Dickson Robert	3.00
С.	Craig John	3.00		Dillard George	20.62클
	Crabb Tho. D.			Davis Andru K.	7.68
	Clay C. C.	8.81		Drake Andrew	40.00
	Cannon David	3.25		Davis Allen Jr.	97.56
	Clemmons James	289.00		Davidson J. J.	
	Coffman Dan ¹	<u>1</u> 7.68		Dicky Ephraim	
	Cosby John	39.01		Donahoo J. S.	
	Clifton William	27.56		Donahoo Henry	
	Criss James	2.75		Dincle Sam & Co.	
	Carmichael Dan:	70 99		Day, Dudley	250 1.2
	Cowan Mose	19.88 13.48	Ε	-	259.42 3.75
	Coody James	6.62		English James Eason William	8.75
	Carus (?) Thomas Callaham A. M.	29.82		Easter Campion	3.00
	Copeland James	1.621		Ellison James	24.02
	Caroll & Bradford	16.17		Erwin James	10.00
	Collier Isham	9.62=		Evans Nathaniel	36.00
	Craft Sam	114.05		Erwin Robert	1.50
	Cosby Robert	16.12		English James	26.00
	Cruse W. & S.	5.25		Eaves Davis	13.00
	Cheek Stephen H.	49.92클		England Joseph	16.00
	Casai (Black) (as shown-ED.)13.62-2		Estell J.&J.	2.75
	Chapman Sam ^T	6.00		Eldridge J. R. B.	120.51
	Cooper William	6.00		Easley Joseph	
	Coons James	12.00		Eaves Davison	
	Cotrell J. A.	20.00		Erwin James	
	Cobb Wm	3.00	-	Elliot Richard	
	Caruthers Martha		r.	Farmer Stephen	3.94
	Craft Sam ¹	205.21		Fagan Peter Ford Richard	135.90 28.91
	Chambers Henry Clark Isaac			Fletcher Mrs.	3.80
	Cooper Solomon	67.45		Fennel Isham	22.23
	Cheek Stephen H.	0[.47		Fuqua Seth	21.25
	Cowan Archer			Fulton Sam	2.71
	Coons James	51.78		Ford Peter M.	2.31
	Clark Alfred	60.36		Fillpot Horatio	9.93
	Clay C. C.	-		Ford Ben	11.43
	Crabb T. D.			Fennel W. H.	1.00
	Cruse W. & S.			Fennel E. H.	4.50
	Clemens & M.		κ.	Flippo John	
	Carmichael Dan ¹			Fetze Marshall	
	Campbell A. A.			Farmer Nathan	
	Coulp_Fred:			Fuqua Seth	
	Cash Ben			Fagan Peter	

	Fearn Robert & Co.		Hind Wildman	16.28
G.	Gibson Hugh	4.01	Hughes Beverly	9.00
	Griffin John	7.00	Henderson B. H.	4.23
	George Thomas	1.82	Hogan Sam ¹	31.12불
	Gregory Edmand	46.00	Hill William	6.81
	Glass James	25.68	Hogan John	
	Gray John W.	159.68	Hawkins John P.	2.50
	•	11.00		16.00
	Grammer John		Higginbotham WM	28.81
	Gray David	17.87	Higginbotham Chas.	10.00
	Griffith Isaac	4.50	Henby George	3.75
	Grantland T. & J.	14.50	Holt Henry	2.50
	Gamble W. T.	1.25	Hoarg (?) Harman	3.65
	Gray James	2.06	Hawkins J. J.	53.00
	Gray Peter	17.87	Hillard John	8.00
	Gordon James	39.68	Harris Egbert	65.09
	Griffin W ^m	1.25	Hawkins Jas. J.	
	Grantland Thomas		Hickman J. H.	
	Green Mrs.	2.50		22.50
	Glaze Burnelle		Humes Thomas	
	Graham Sam ¹	29.87를	Hickman J. P.	2.87늘
	Glover W ^m H.	4.03		· 2
	Grimes Hugh	8.00	Holsey John	
	Graham John	8.00	Hogan John	
	Grant Thomas	15.75		
	Greer Robert	5.17	Ham James	
	Glass Vincent	J •=1	Hally Jo. W	
	Glover W ^m H.	46.95	Humphreys, Jessee	
	Glass William	40.95	Handwall Ezekiel	
	Greer Robert	2.50		
	7		Hinds Wildman	
	Grantham Sam ¹	23 • 37늘	Hodges James	
	Gray Peter		Harton Jno. P.	
	Gray David		Harly Themas	
	Grimes Saml		Hall Natt	
	Gray John		Hobbs John	
	Graham W ^m	15.75	Hobson & Ewing	
	Gray John W.		House James M.	
	Gray James		Hawkins John P.	
Η.	Harrisson Ophilia		Johnston William	6.00
	Hickman J. H.	1.43	Johnston Thomas	44.95
	Hendrix Aron	8.71	Johnston Thomas A.	17.82
	Hookins Eloa	3.00	Inman John	20.09
	Ham James	.25	Inman Ezekiel	57.621
	Hughes Joseph	1.75	Jones Fedk	28.25
	Haws Walker decd	250.30	Jordan Solomon	28.00
	Hutchings S. D.	13.10	Johnston John	5.93
	Hobbs John	6.00	Jordon John	3.37출
	Houston Sam ¹			34.63
	Hewlett Thomas	10.33 2 ali	Jordon Batt Jordon Henry	15.65
	Hicks John	2.34	Jordon Henry	
		46.40	Jones John J.	1.50
	Hest Henry	17.00	Judding Jno. G.	1.25
	Hood John B.	38.37	Jordon John of Batt	
	Ham William	31.18	Jones L. H.	1
	Hix Jessee	1.50	Jones Elizabeth	11.40
	Harris Daniel	13.38	Jordan John G.	

DEED OF TRUST, 1820

	Jordan Batt		Moore Gabriel	5.95불
	Jordan Henry		McCraken Sam ^l	6.25
	Jones Fred.		Morgan Thomas	.67
	Johnston Thos. A.		McCutching J. D.	28.57
	Jones Edwin		McWhorter James	226.56
	Kennedy Charles	35.25	Moody & Keys	43.44
		3.25	Moore Richard	9.50
		18.55	Murry John	9.00
	Kelly Moses	2.25	Mcfail Archer	14.42
	Keese Job		McIntire Peter	35.06
	King Elisha F.	15.37불	McClellan & Flecher	
	King Mary			69.87
	Keeton John	د موا	McIlhaney Moses	39.21
	Lawler Levi	5.37클	Mitchell Joseph	59.31
	Lockhart Jas. B.	7.12 <u>1</u>	Moore Robert	2.50
	Lanier Isaac	- -	Moreman Charles	11.08
	Lewis Charles	28.50	Mason James	17.37불
	Lacey Andrew	2.87불	McWhorter J & J	15.00
	Lacky Woods	16.75	McKay David	8.00
	Logan John	18.194	Mitchell T. B.	42.50
	Lockyear Thomas	7.13	Martin Hiram	3.62
	Lamkins Ezekiel	19.50	May Daniel	21.87늘
	Lewis John T. W.	15.87늘	Mason James	~
	Looney & Williams	2.12 -	McBroom W ^m	47.12
	Lang (Long ?) James	£.,	Marcum Thomas	21.183
	Lawler Levi	56.43	Mitchell Thos B.	40.51
	Ledbetter Joel	<i>y</i> = • = <i>y</i>	McCay William	
	Lanier Isaac		Martin Hiram	
	Love Charles		Mitchell Joseph	26.00
	Lanier W ^m D.		McIlhaney Moses	3.68
	Lanier Thomas		Moseley George	5.00
	Lester Miles		Marcum Arthur	2 25
			Mitchell Richard	2.25
	Lockhart J. B.			
36	Lesslee Williane	0.01	Moose (Moore?) Richard	
TAT •	Mason Joel	9.24	McCutchin J. D.	
	Moore John F.	39.25	McAmey James	
	Mullins Thomas	6.62	Mays Daniel	
	Murce (Monroe ?) David	13.12불	Mitchell Henry	
	Mitchell James	5.50	Moore John F.	
	McVey Hugh	10.75	McMahon W ^m	
	Mullins William	1.25	McIlhaney John	
	McCain Lucinda	3.00	Mount William	
	McWhorter Hance	12.88	McBroom Stephen	
	Michell Richard	3.12 ¹ /2	Miller Martin	
	McClendon John	4.63	McCutchen Joseph	
	McBroom W ^m		Montgomery John	
	Murray Lucey	8.61	Moore Gabriel	
	McElhaney W ^m	9.15	McBroom Tho ^S	
	McWilliams Hugh		Neely Andrew	24.87
	McClendon Jessee	3.13	Nesmith John	13.18-
	McWilliams And ^W	1.12	Newsom Jas. B.	38.85
	McClung Monty	1.00	Newman Francis	J
	Moore James	6.00	Neely James	7.85
	McWhorter George	0.00	Nabors Francis	1.000
	McBroom Stephen	14.112	Newsom James B.	
	TOPTOON O GEPTEN	144 • 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	Mensoli names P.	

No. A. A.

14

O. Owens William Owens William P. Otey & Stephens Owens William Owsley Seth	85.11 6.00 207.86	Ragsdale Sam ¹ Rose Geo. W. Reno Lewis Richmond Black Russell Albert	75.08 3.25 8.87 ¹ 20.50 4.87 ¹
P Prout Joshua Pore John Pratt Barnard Philips Joseph Prout J. W.	133.20 1.00 17.40 7.50 49.00	Ready N. Russell Mrs. Richard Rison	1.25 3.00 4.37 ¹ / ₂ 24.75
Petterson W ^m Parham W ^m W. Parsons William Pond Stephen	" 91 33.37 1.50 67.36	Robison W ^M Ronalds & Noble Reviere John E.	86 . 32½
Pope N. & T. M. Perkins Peter Indn. Pate John Patrick John Pain	4.50 14.25 17.50 17.39 3.00	Ryley Andrew Reedy John Robison Hardy Roberts & Vaughan	77.35 11.25
Pope & Hickman Pope Leroy Pope Nicholas Patch Ezra Prout W. H. Pride Burton Parker John Phemister W ^m	141.94	Renneks W ^M S. Street William Stenson Robert Sivily John Street Mrs. Smith Stephan Simmons Charles	15.37] 50.70 6.00 9.50 2.75 6.87] 22.29 1.20
Perkins Nicholas Prechard F. C. Perkins Nicholas Pride Hugh Pride Thomas Phemester W ^M Peebles Jo ^S D.		Sadler Isaac Simpson Robert Sharp Joseph Shields George Shenault Stephen Shenault Morris	6.12½ 1.13 1.25 8.05 1.20 22.75 1.50
Puryear Natt Purvis John Parish Peterson Petay Gabel Porter James B. Pryor Richard Fond Stephen	10.81 <u>1</u>	Saunders W ^m * Sprowl James Shepman Mathew Spence Joseph Strong Thomas Smith William	S.S.Ewing 31.03 12.00 62.96 46.06 8.00 8.00
Peters Freeman Pope Willis Fatterson W ^M Prout W.W. (or H R. Rodgers Rob! M. Rodgers James Richards Avan Rodgers Ben B. Phea John	1.W.) 82.17 1.05 12.25 38.87 1.00	Steager John P. Starke William Starky Jonathan Stephens&Otey Stokes Henry Seviere Richard Spence Joseph Simmons Vincent Stokes Chas. A.	24.00 7.12 1 8.00
Robison W ^m Rather John T. Rambolt Elisha Reedy John	158.84 62.87 2.62 1.71	Sheilds George Stray John L.	

-48-

DEED OF TRUST, 1820

	Saunders W ^m	10.2	71	Ward Matt	1.12=
	Scay W ^m G.	10.3	(2	Wilson Barbary Wilders George	3.75
	Smith Isaac	8.0	0	9	11.55 4.62불
т.	Teague Isaac			Woolbright & Horton	
	Thomas Margarett	24.3		Ward Joseph	2.08
	Teague Magness	1.5		Wilder Dant	11.87클
	Trimble Archibald	14.h		Watkins John F.	" 75
	Thompson David	5.5		Wheelbright	17.50
	Taylor Jeremiah	10.7		Webster John	$1.12\frac{1}{2}$
	Thomas Loyd	42.6		Wall Conrad	$27.12\frac{1}{2}$
	Taylor John M.	101.5		Whitfield Bynum (?)	30.07
	Taylor George	4.3		Williamson Jessee P.	36.31
	Turner John Sen?	114.9		Williams William	46.77
	Talbot Cayton	7.2		Watkins Isham	16.00
	Taylor & Foot	213.3		Warren Isaac	8.00
	Thompson Neal	1.3		Weaver Hannah	8.31
	Turner Sugars Jr.	63.9		Williamson J. P.	18.22
	Tripp Sam	1.8		Williamson John	43.78
	Thomas William	70.7		Wall Conrad	43.70 4.62 ¹ / ₂
	Turner John Jun ^r	9.5 7.7		W <u>inn</u> Banister Warson Alex ^r	4.022
	Tate Waddy	89.9		Wood Robert	
	Turner Thomas Trotter James	۰۶۰۶ ۳.5		Winston John Jr.	_
	Turner Donaldson		5	Woodcoke J. H. Dr.	
	Tate William	5.3		Ward Ansel	122.62
	Turner John Jun ^r .	9.2		Webster John	TTC . OC
	Turner Sugars Jun ^r	15.5		Windham J.	
	Turner Donalson	エノ・ノ	0	Williams & Woodside	3.37 1
	Tedford Alexander			Willburne W ^m	12.625
	Talbot (?) Clayton			Watkins Susan	29.50
	Turner James			Wilkins William	-/•/0
	Turner Saml			Whitfield Byrum	
	Thomas William	18.8	٦	Webb James	
	Thomas Stephen	16.1		Williamson Robert	
TAT .	Weal William	4.0		Williams Agness (Agress?)	18.25
	Watkins Capt. W ^m	26.4		Wilson Barbery	
	Weaver Elijah	44.2		Wilson Lucinda	
	Warley George	10.7		Weaver Hanna	
	Warren Mrs.	4.6		Vining Thomas	14.80
	Warson Alex ^r			Vineyard James	16.64
	Williams M. D.	8.9	0	Vincent Alex.	
	Wendle W ^m	2.0		Vaughan Mulkagy	50.54
	Williams Sam ¹	2.0		Vaughan David	21.25
	-Wharton John	1.5			186.69
	Wamble Ben	37.2			-
		- · · ·	-		

The above and foregoing Deed of Trust, and Schedule, was delivered into this office to be recorded on the 11th day of March 1820, and was duly recorded the 22^d day of March 1820.

Tho^S Brandon C.C.C.

(Note: In the foregoing Deed of Trust, * denotes the drawing of a hand with one finger pointing, the old style "ss" was used in all cases, and "I" and "J" seem to be used interchangeably.) (End, Deed of Trust, 1820)

LATER HISTORY of MADISON COUNTY And, Incidentally, of North Alabama

(By a Reliable Scribe.)

(The Later History of Madison County was originally published as a weekly series from 31 January 1884 until 22 May 1884 in The Huntsville Independent, a Huntsville, Alabama newspaper. These original newspapers are located in the Historical Room in the basement of the Madison County Court House, Huntsville, Alabama.

Each article or chapter was preceded by the heading "Later History of Madison County. And, Incidentally, of North Alabama. (By a Reliable Scribe.)" "A Reliable Scribe" was Thomas Jones Taylor who was born 2 July 1829 at Talladega, Alabama and died 12 November 189h at Huntsville, Alabama.¹ "The Early History of Madison County" to which he refers in the first chapter was published in The Alabama Historical Quarterly, Volume I - Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter issues - 1930 and Volume II - Spring issue -1940, by The Alabama Department of Archives and History. Publication of the quarterly was discontinued during the depression, hence the ten year delay in the issuance of Volume II.

The articles are copied here in their entirety as originally published. The date following each chapter title denotes the date of the newspaper issue in which that chapter appeared.)

> CHAPTER I - MADISON IN 1820. (January 31, 1884)

In the Early History of the county I gave a brief account of its origin, progress and development, to the formation of the State Constitution and the meeting of the first State Legislature, in Huntsville in the year 1819. My sources of information in regard to the first settlement of the county were meager, but as far as they went were, I believe, reliable. Many of the facts were traditions handed down by our fathers, but they are so recent in regard to time that there is but little difficulty in tracing them back through credible witnesses and testing their authenticity. Besides the light thrown about them by records of the county, there is but little written testimony extant in regard to the subject I have treated. This is a matter of regret, and to one who is interested in the past history of the Tennessee Valley, it appears surprising that so inviting a field for the historian has been so completely neglected. No chronicler of that period has given us an inside picture of the intercourse between the

1. Owen, Thomas M., History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography, Chicago: Clark Publishing Co., 1921, Volume IV, page 1652.

whites and the Cherokees and Chickasaws, when they were near neighbors; generally on friendly terms and trading with each other, as is customary on the boundary line of separate nationalities. We have had volumes written on the wars of the whites and Indians, but in the heroic struggle of the Creeks for their hunting grounds where their fathers were buried, when they fought against a superior race until they were nearly extirminated, no written record tells the wonderful tale of their devotion and patriotism. Their history lives only in tradition, and written history leaves so much untold that its details appear only as meager and barren outlines. Also, when in the development of our county's history we approach the period of the expansion and distribution of the population throughout the Tennessee Valley, there is a strong temptation to pursue the interesting theme, and I regret that the history of the valley had not been written by some of the gifted men who were prominent actors in those stirring scenes. With so inviting a field before us, we enter upon the annals of a single county with diffidence and with a doubt as to our ability of imparting interest to a ricital of events in its narrow limits. We are constrained to discuss matters that generally possess only a local or personal interest, and as the field of labor narrows and the material grows abundant the selection of the subject matter for these chapters becomes perplexing and difficult.

I now propose to take up the history of the county in the beginning of the year 1820 and bring it down to and include the survey and settlement of new Madison in the year 1830, and probably to a still later period, if I find on investigation I can make my narration of sufficient interest for publication. In the year 1820 the western boundary of the county had been changed to its present location and has never been disturbed. The Triana region had just been surveyed and sold, and the fertile lands of that fine country were being rapidly cleared for cultivation. A large population was pouring into that region and its development was keeping pace with the progress of the rest of the valley. New Madison had been ceded by the Indians and was in Jackson county, but not yet surveyed and sold. The only change in boundary was that made in organizing Jackson county, by which the territory from the point where the Cherokee line crossed Flint river near W.C.Carpenter's lying west of Flint, to its mouth was made part of Madison county, and this has never been part of any other county. But this triangle now so thickly settled was at that time without inhabitants. and there were no settlements along the Tennessee until we reached the beginning of what was known as the Chickasaw Old Fields extending from Dr. A. L. Logan's to Whitesburg. Thence up Flint river and all east of the old Cherokee boundary was one vast wilderness, with the settlements extending close along said boundary on the west side from the Tennessee line to the Tennessee river. The settled portion of the county included about five hundred square miles, and it is a remarkable fact that, with an estimated population in 1819 of twenty thousand, the settled portion of the county at that time had nearly the same number of inhabitants to the square mile as at the present day. It is said that there was a temporary decrease in population compared with two years previous, caused by emigration of settlers with their slaves to the fertile fields along the Tennessee Valley. In the year 1820 the population of the county was 17,481, of whom about seven thousand were slaves; but after 1820 our population rapidly increased. The population of the county was also differently distributed. West of Huntsville and northward to the Tennessee line was a

-51-

large white population, and also along the waters of Flint and in the Big Cove down to the Indian line. Around Whitesburg and down towards Triana along the river the country was as yet sparsely settled. In the year 1809 John Grayson was the only purchaser of land in the Big Cove, but in a few years there was a continous settlement from his place to the Huntsville mountain. Many of the ancestors of the present citizens of New Madison were settlers in that region; among whom were the Millers, Bufords, Brazletons, Ledbetters, Carpenters, DeBows, Wrights, Jenkins, Colliers and Anyans, many of whom lived within the recollection of the present generation. The county in 1820 was nearly thirty miles long and an average of about twenty wide, and the only mountain range of importance was the Monte Sano range running nearly south from near Huntsville to the Tennessee river near Chickasaw Island. The county, as then constituted, contained a large proportion of level, fertile lands, of which a large area was in a high state of cultivation and there was but little land then cultivated that did not yield an abundant return. The year 1819 witnessed a great change in the political status of our people. After the State Constitution was formed, the Legislature had convened at Huntsville and formulated a code of laws in conformity with that instrument, and the most important event in the year 1819 was the general State election for State and county officers. It sounds strange to people who live in this age of elections, that men who had lived here from ten to fifteen years had never voted except for militia officers at their company and regimental musters and members of the legislature, but it was not less strange than true. We may well imagine the bustle and excitement attending our first general election, and how awkward the candidates must have been in the electioneering business. The judges of the circuit and county courts were elected by the Legislature. The Constitution provided for a general election of State and county officers in September 1819. At this election William Bibb, then Governor of Alabama Territory, was elected Governor for a two years term, but dying on the 10th of July, 1820, he was succeeded by his brother Thomas Bibb, President of the Senate. They were both early settlers in Madison county. At this election the people voted for members of the State legislature, sheriffs and clerks of the courts. The election lasted for two days; the first day to receive votes, the second to count the vote and make returns. There was an election of members of the legislature, except senator, on the first Monday in August, 1820. Judges of the circuit and county courts were appointed by the legislature. The following is a list of the first officers under the Constitution: Governor, Wm. W. Bibb; U. S. Senators, John W. Walker and Wm. R. King; member of Congress, John Crowell; Judge of the 5th Judicial Circuit, composed of the counties of Madison, Jackson, Cotaco, Blount, Shelby and St. Clair, Clement C. Clay; members of the General Assembly, Gabriel Moore, Senator; Frederic Weeden, Samuel Chapman, John McKinley, John Vining, John M. Leake, David Moore and Samuel Walker for the lower house; Justices of the Quorum, Leroy Pope, chief justice, David Moore, John Withers, Abner Tatum and Edward Ward, associates; Stephen Neal, Sheriff; Lemuel Mead, Clerk of the Circuit Court, and Thomas Brandon, Clerk of the County Court. I have given the names of the members of the General Assembly in 1819 in a former article. The above members were elected in 1820. Many of them have been mentioned in the Early History of the County; but Dr. David Moore deserves more extended notice, as he was in many respects the most prominent man of that period. Dr. David Moore was of an old Virginia family of Irish descent and a graduate of the Philadelphia Medical College. He came here quite a

young man in 1809, when he invested exclusively in the public lands and entered into a successful practice of his profession. He was a justice of the quorum from 1815 until the office was abolished, and represented Madison county, with the exception of a few terms, in one or the other branch of the legislature until he retired from public service. In the year 1841 he was a candidate for the United States Senate, and was beaten by Governor Bagby seven votes. In this contest, although an avowed Democrat, he received the vote of the opposition, and was reelected by a Democratic constituency a member of the legislature in 1842. He was Speaker of the House of Representatives in 1841, and his financial ability, sagacity and pruduce gave him a potent influence in our legislative bodies. He was usually chairman of the committee on finance, and did efficient service in the shaping and controlling of the financial policy of the State. He manifested the same financial ability in the management of his private business. He was a progressive and successful planter, and was at his death the largest land owner in North Alabama, his cotton crop being one thousand bales annually. His health failed under the enormous pressure of public and private business and he died in the year 1844 at the age of fifty-five, and his vast landed estate but little diminished in area is still owned by his children, David L. Moore, Gen. Samuel H. Moore and Mrs. R. Barnwell Rhett.

CHAPTER II - COUNTY AND STATE OFFICERS TO 1823. (February 7, 1884)

At the period of which I am now writing, during the peaceful administration of James Monroe, there was but little political strife and the issues made by opposing candidates were more of a local and personal character than national. Consequently, while our legislators were enacting many laws, yet their enactments were local in character, and in alluding to them in the history of a single county I only mention those necessary to explain matters connected with the history of our own county. In mentioning the names of those who held offices in our county in its earlier days, there often appear the names of men who were holding county offices at the time they were members of the legislature. Although a strict construction of the State Constitution of 1819 prohibited the holding of more than one office of honor, trust or profit, yet for many years county officers served in the State legislature without any question as to their eligibility, and this circumstance accounts for the fact that David Moore. Samuel Walker, Lemuel Mead, Samuel Chapman and perhaps others were members of that body while they were holding county offices. This usage held until the year 1840, when a committee of investigation appointed by the legislature declared all county officers who were members of the legislature ineligible, and their seats were vacated. Green P. Rice, of Morgan county, President of the Senate and judge of the county court, was of the number, but in deference to his position the legislature did not vacate his seat until the day before adjournment. Among the old citizens of Madison, who thus lost their seats, were Robert T. Scott, clerk of the circuit court of Jackson county, Marmaduke Williams, of Tuscaloosa, judge of circuit court, and Percy Walker, of Mobile County, Bank Director. At the election in 1821 Samuel Chapman was elected chief justice of the quorum, and Gross Scruggs, Samuel Walker, Charles Betts and James Manning associates; but in the year 1823 this office was abolished and a judge of the county court

and four commissioners of roads and revenue substituted. Samuel Chapman was the first judge of the county court, and Samuel Walker, Nathan Smith, James Mauldin and Ezekiel Craft first county commissioners. At first the commissioners were elected annually, then for two years, and finally for three years. It would doubtless be for the interest of the people if the term of the county commissioners was extended to the same period as the judges of the probate court, thereby avoiding the embarrassment of a change of revenue officers in the term of the presiding officer of the court. From the creation of the office, it appears to have been an established usage to select the county commissioners from different portions of the county, as James Mauldin and Samuel Walker were residents of the northern portion of the county, Nathan Smith of the sounthern and Ezekiel Craft of the eastern. The judge of the county court had sole jurisdiction in the county court sessions and in the orphans' court, while pretty much the same duties as at present devolved on the commissioners' court. However, there were many matters under the jurisdiction of the commissioners' court at that time which changes in our laws have taken from their control. The laws regulating taverns, to which I have already alluded, required the commissioners annually to regulate the schedule of charges to be made by public houses, and this was one of the first duties performed by our first commissioners' court in 1823. As a matter of curiosity I give the tariff of charges for the year 1823, which all tavern keepers were required to keep posted up in a public place: Dinner 50 cents; breakfast 37 cents; supper $37\frac{1}{2}$ cents; lodging $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents; keeping a horse per night, 50 cents; single feed 25 cents; a quart of wine, \$1.50; ½ pint of Jamaica rum, 50 cents; $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of French brandy, 50 cents; $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of whiskey, 12 cents. Auctioneers were recommended by the commissioners' court and on giving bond in the sum of two thousand dollars were appointed and commissioned by the Governor. It appears that an auctioneer's business was a lucrative one. for, notwithstanding these restrictions and a tax of two per cent. levied on the gross amount of their sales, we find that Daniel B. Turner, George H. Malone, George W. Lee and James G. Carroll were appointed auctioneers in the year 1823. All county officers not elected by the people were appointed by the commissioners' court. Under this law they appointed an assessor and collector for the county, coroner, county treasurer and county surveyor. In February, 1823, these offices were filled by the appointment of Littleberry Mauldin, brother of James Mauldin, assessor and collector, Commissioner Ezekiel Craft county treasurer, who appears to have held both offices at the same time, Daniel Rather continued as coroner, and Hunter Peel county surveyor. Bennett Wood, a Baptist minister and original owner of the Bell Factory property on Flint river, who had been county treasurer since 1819, filed his account and vouchers for settlement at this term, which showed a balance of \$46.15 of county funds in his hands, which was paid into court and a discharge from......(Page is torn here; several sentences were lost.-Editor)

(A new paragraph was begun.-Editor) ...not be amiss in this connection. The rate of taxation on real estate at that time was ten cents on the hundred dollars, and land was divided into four grades for taxation, and all the assessor had to do was to decide to what class or grade it belonged. First grade lands were valued by law at sixteen dollars per acre, second grade at ten dollars, third grade at four dollars, and fourth grade at two dollars. Town property was valued by the assessor as at the present time. The county levee was fixed in 1823 at one-eighth of the state

tax. making the tax levy for State and county twelve and a half cents on the hundred dollars. A considerable portion of the land in the county was government land and was tax free, and a large portion of the land purchased at the land sales in 1818 had not been paid for. These last mentioned lands were taxed on the amount of the purchase money that had been paid on them, and consequently paid on a fractional part only of their valuation. The tax on real estate then was not more than one-tenth part of the levy made at present, and yielded an insignificant part of the State and county revenue. To the people of the present time the old revenue laws of the State would be objectionable on account of the inequality of taxation, and the present ad valorem system of taxation is a great improvement on the revenue legislation of our ancestors. Merchants paid thirty cents in the hundred dollars on the amount of their stock for the preceding year, money at interest twenty-five per cent, and banks fifty cents, carriages one per cent on their value, riding horses one dollar each, race horses five dollars each, racecourses twenty dollars per annum, and billiard tables one thousand dollars per annum. Slave property contributed a large proportion of the revenue, as they were all, to the age of sixty, subject to a tax of from twenty-five cents to one dollar each according to age, and all white males between the ages of twenty-one and forty-five paid a poll tax of fifty cents each.

There were but few changes in the legislature from 1819 to 1823, during which time Dr. David Moore continued in the State senate. In the year 1821 Major William Fleming was first elected to the State legislature. Major Fleming and his amiable and accomplished wife will long live in the memory of our people, and they lived so long in Huntsville and were so well known to its citizens that it is unnecessary for me to say anything regarding their many excellent traits of character. Major Fleming was a Virginian by birth, chivalric by nature, and generous and sincere to his friends and courteous and forbearing to his enemies. His want of oratorical powers and deficiency in literary attainments were more than counterbalanced by his eminent social qualities and his convivial proclivities, and for more than thirty years he had a strong hold on the democratic voters of our county. A few years after he entered public life he bought property on Flint river near the New Madison line, and in the southeastern portion of the county he usually got nearly a unanimous vote, and the rapid increase of the vote in that part of the county soon made him invincible in a county contest. In his speeches to the people of that section he gave southeast Madison the appellation of "the tall timbers," which it retains to the present day. With a harsh and discordant voice and an imperfect enunciation, yet the fund of humor characterizing his oratory and anecdote pervading his public speeches gave them a keen relish, while his rigid honesty and sound common sense made him an exceedingly formidable competitor before the people. After the retiring of Gross Scruggs from the position of justice of the quorum, in 1822, he served several terms as county commissioner. Like Major Fleming, he was an old Virginia gentleman by birth and breeding, and was the last survivor of the board with which he served. He lived to a good old age on what is now known as the Gus. Mastin plantation near Cedar Gap. He never sought public office, was a man of sincere piety and strict integrity, and was considered one of the purest and test men of his time. In the year 1822 Stephen Neal, sheriff of the county, was succeeded by William McBroom. Stephen Neal served as sheriff from 1809 to 1822, when he retired because constitutionally ineligible for another term. But a few weeks ago, Mrs.

Frances Neal, his widow, died, aged 96 years. For a score of years she was the last of that remarkable generation of pioneers that settled Huntsville, and but few people ever lived to witness the remarkable and startling changes that transpired and which she saw during her residence of seventy-five years in our city.

CHAPTER III - ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION. (February 14, 1884)

It is an old adage that a country about which little is written is generally in a peaceful and prosperous condition. This accounts for the dearth of the written history of events transpiring in our borders from the year 1820 to 1830, and may also justify us in the conclusion that during that decade our people were in a highly prosperous condition and that nothing disturbed the tranquility that pervaded our county, in common with the whole Tennessee valley. This period of our history was also remarkably free from political excitement, and party lines as yet had not sufficient divergence to identify the powerful political parties that afterwards divided the country and sought to shape and control the destinies of our republic. Madison County, in the full sense of the term, was an agricultural community. Our fresh and fertile fields yielded immense crops of corn and cotton, and it was the ambition of men in every profession to own and cultivate farms. The number of owners of small farms was also rapidly increasing, which materially contributed to the general prosperity of our people. In the northern and north-eastern parts of the county, where the population is now sparse and where the wornout fields are unfenced and grown over with sedge and undergrowth, there were communities of small farmers, many of them owning no slaves, and the slaveholders usually working in the fields with their slaves. The farming interests of our people naturally awakened an interest in the question of transporting our products to market. The country was new, the few public highways but newly opened, our streams unbridged, and intercourse of the people with the county site was subject to many drawbacks and obstructions. The transportation of our heavy cotton crop to market at the lowest cost was a problem difficult of solution, and enlisted the serious attention of business men. While salt, lumber, flour, fruit and other imported articles were readily floated down Tennessee river from its upper waters to Whitesburg and Triana, yet the carrying of cotton, out great export, to market was expensive and difficult. A considerable quantity of this staple was hauled in wagons to Nashville, and the wagons returned laden with goods and merchandise for our people. But New Orleans soon became the great center of the cotton trade, where the larger portion of the cotton crop was conveyed on flatboats down the Tennessee, Ohio and the Mississippi rivers by a long and tedious route to its destination. Below the Muscle Shoals there was but little trouble except in the long voyage, but here cotton shipping was attended with many vexatious delays and difficulties. The people had to haul their cotton to Tennessee river or some boatable stream emptying into it, and after their cotton was safely stowed in the large flatboats that were riding safe on the broad current of the Tennessee, they had to wait for a high tide that would carry them safely over the shoals, and sometimes the Spring season was nearly passed before it came. To the man who wanted to make money cotton was everything, because there was no other product that would bear transportation as it then existed. This question

-56-

originated many important enterprises, having for their object the improvement of facilities of transportation and the cheapening of the rates of carrying our enormous cotton crop to a ready market. The first of these enterprises was the formation and incorporation of the "Indian Creek Navigation Company," under the auspices of Leroy Pope, Thomas Fearn and others, to construct a canal from Huntsville Spring down Indian creek to Triana, and the "Flint River Navigation Company," whose object was to render Flint river navigable for flatboats and keel-boats from Scott's Mill (now Brownsboro) to the Tennessee. There was also an earnest effort to obtain the aid of the general government in opening the Muscle Shoals, and there was a considerable amount of money spent by the general government for that purpose. Yet, while the Indian Creek Navigation Company persevered in their undertaking and many of the original corporators were nearly reduced to bankruptcy before the enterprise was finally abandoned, and the Flint River Navigation Company kept up cotton shipments for a long time, none of these enterprises were successful, and water transportation down the Tennessee with all its old drawbacks was our great highway, until the advent of railroads revolutionized the carrying trade of the whole country.

Some of the cotton was laden on steamboats at the foot of the shoals from the flatboats, or "broad horns," as they were formerly called; but many of these flatboats were built and received their freight on the banks of Paint Rock and Flint and were unloaded at the levees of New Orleans. These boats would carry three or four hundred bales of cotton, and, the shoals once passed, they generally floated leisurely and safely down the current to their destination. The magnificent poplars of Madison and Jackson counties furnished excellent material for gunwales, or in boatman's phraseolgy "boat-gunnels;" many of these trees being from eighty to ninety feet to the limbs, and growing as straight as if adjusted by plumb line. and when cut down and split open furnished excellent material for the foundation of a flatboat. These gunwales were trimmed to proper shape and framed....(Paper torn, a couple of sentences were lost.-Editor).....and calked it was moved out to the projecting ends of the levers, generally working on rollers, where it was turned over into the stream, bailed out. finished off, equipped with its rowing and steering apparatus, loaded and launched on its long voyage. If its crew were so fortunate as to pass out with a shoal tide, a licensed shoal's pilot was taken on board at Whitesburg or Decatur, and in a short time they were shooting rapidly down the tumbling shoals; now dodging a dangerous obstruction and now rounding an abrupt point, where for an instant they would appear to be rushing headlong against the frowning rocks, but at a word from the pilot an oar would dip on this side or that side, the steering aor gently touch the water, and the boat would lightly glide round the point of danger and dash at headlong speed down the raging current. The skillful and keen-sighted pilot and experienced oarsmen, with every faculty intent and alert, would finally draw a sigh of relieve, as with muscles relaxed they passed into smoother waters, and finally cabled to the bank at the old city of Eastport, once a place of high renown among the river naginators, where the shoal pilot resigned his place to the river pilot. He, before untying his cable and launching on his long voyage, inspected his craft, repaired damages, and not unfrequently took a farewell spree, as the river code prohibited drunkenness while in command of a broad horn and in charge of its valuable cargo. While cotton was worth from twenty to twenty-five cents a pound, the river pilot received from one hundred and seventy-five to two hundred dollars

-57-

each trip, and as the pilot in the early times frequently walked from New Orleans to Decatur and Whitesburg, and at best never made more than two trips during the freighting season, his charge was certainly not exorbitant. The expense of carrying down a boat of four hundred bales was from five to six hundred dollars, and the freight charged was from four to five dollars per bale. The trouble of transportation was not so much the expense as the delay and uncertainty, as it was not uncommon for nearly half the summer to pass before the planter could get an account of his sales from his commission merchant at New Orleans.

Cotton freighting was a lucrative business, and many of our citizens found in it the road to fortune. They sometimes built boats for shipment to Tennessee river, but they generally bought good East Tennessee boats for the shipment of cotton delivered on the Tennessee river, and employed many men in the business who made corn crops in the summer and spent the fall and winter on the river. Of the old class of cotton-freighters, Richard W. Anderson was one of the best known and one of the last survivors. He was in this business from somewhere about the year 1820 and accumulated money, which being invested judiciously at the land sales of 1830 made him a wealthy man. He was a man of excellent judgment, was a good surveyor and made good investments in real estate. The Andersons were descendants of a prominent family in Maryland, and there were five brothers and two sisters of the family who came here at an early day. Dr. William Anderson, a well known physician who settled at Brownsboro, was of the number. He afterwards moved to Holly Springs, Miss., and for a long time was a prominent citizen of that place, where his descendants still reside. Richard W. Anderson was a noted pedestrian, and some marvelous stories of his pedestrian feats were formerly current in the county. It was said that he would frequently walk down to Whitesburg and back to Huntsville for exercise before breakfast. There was also a story in circulation that when he first embarked in the freighting business he always walked from New Orleans back to Huntsville and always came in three or four days ahead of the crowd, who never undertook to keep up with him, and that on one occasion being disgusted at the extremely low price offered him for one of his boat cables he coiled it up and stalked home on foot with it on his shoulders. After he retired from business he generally made his home in Huntsville, where he was as much noted for his eccentricities as he was respected for his benevolence. The monument erected by him in memory of the deceased members of his family and to mark the Huntsville meridian is likely also to perpetuate his memory for many generations. Wm. B. Taber, for a long time identified with our manufacturing interests as superintendent of the Bell Factory, in which he was a stockholder, married a sister of Richard W. Anderson, and dying at Nashville, last fall, he was brought to Huntsville and buried by the side of his wife, who for nearly forty years has slept under the shadow of the Anderson monument. Richard W. Anderson died in Huntsville at a ripe old age just before the beginning of the civil war.

CHAPTER IV - ELECTION DISTRICTS AND MUSTER GROUNDS. (February 21, 1884)

While Alabama was a Territory the people first voted for members of the Territorial Legislature at the county site. Juestices of the peace and constables were elected at the company muster-grounds, and the captains of the companies with two freeholders selected by him held the election. This

law prevailed for many years after the State government was organized, and these old mustering places were the original location of many of our present voting places in the different precincts. Thus it will be seen that the division of the county into election districts originated in the old militia organization of the county, and the law of 1852 defining the boundaries of the election districts was really nothing more than locating by written law what had for a long time already been located by common consent as the limits of the different company beats. The first voting place established after Huntsville was at Horton's Mill on Barren Fork of Flint river. nearly a mile above the bridge at the forks of the river, and for several years this place and Huntsville were the only general voting places in the county: and this did not interfere with the old district muster-grounds where justices and constables were elected. The war of 1812 and the rumor of wars after that period kept up a thorough military organization among our people, and the captain of a company was quite a prominent personage in his little principality, and there were generally many aspirants for military preferment at the election of military officers. In the course of time voting places were established in the larger number of these old muster beats for the convenience of the people in general elections, and finally, in the year 1852, the whole county was divided into regular election districts whose boundaries were accurately defined and made a matter of record, and each designated by a permanent name instead of being known as the beat of whoever happened to be captain of the company in that district. The sixteenth sections were made the basis of these divisions, and many of the old precincts still have their old boundaries.

The largely increasing population of North Alabama made it necessary for our State Legislature to establish new voting places in different parts of the county. Our first legislature, in 1819, established six voting places in Madison county, to-wit: At Henry Brazelton's in the Big Cove, at Mayor Griffin's above Maysville, one at Major Cottrel's at Hazel Green, one at Hillsboro on Hester creek, and one at Captain Leonard's above Wood's Mill on Flint river. In the year 1821 voting places were established at the house of Mr. Farley near Cluttsville, and at Capt. Jacob's near Whitesburg. and one at the house of Drury Connally near Meridianville. This made eleven voting places in the county, including Huntsville and Horton's Mill, and they were well distributed for the convenience of the people in the county. Although in general elections the people could vote at any voting place in the county, yet in elections the vote was pretty well distributed among these voting places, and the large vote hitherto polled in Huntsville steadilv decreased until its vote was but slightly different in proportion to the vote now cast under the law restricting the voter to his own election district.

The old muster-grounds where the justices, constables and militia officers were elected, possessed great attraction to our fathers, and the battalion and regimental muster-grounds of sixty years ago, the one muster being in the spring and the other in the fall, were anxiously looked forward to as the time of reunion among old neighbors who had separated by moving to different parts of the county. They were accustomed to meet on these occasions, exchange greetings and discuss the news of the day. In fact, it was a very common practice in trade to make notes due and payable on muster day and there was a great deal of business transacted on such occasions, even when there was no election on hand. The business, too, was of a varied character; for instance it was customary on this day to settle

feuds of the past year in a fair, stand-up fight, and a muster rarely passed without several breaches of the peace, which generally ended with but little damage to any one. The inevitable peddler of ginger-bread was on hand generally in the form of some son of Ham, who managed to coax or hire a holiday from his master and who had generally set up the entire night before in the business of baking up a cart load of good gingerbread for the crowd on the next day. Elections in those days were of frequent occurence, and as a consequence these old muster-grounds were much infested by candidates and whiskey flowed freely. To the little boys the muster-ground had all the attraction that the circus offers to the boys of to-day. The moving, animated crowd, formed of the flower of the chivalry of half a county like Madison, was of itself a sight worth seeing. The brigadier or major-general in his stylish new uniform, with three-cornered hat and dangling plume, reviewed the troops on his prancing steed. escorted by his brilliant, well-mounted staff in holiday attire, and the farce of a drill was soon over, as there seemed to be a tacit agreement to hurry through that part of the business as rapidly as possible and devote the greater part of the day to other business. It was at these musters that the alert, supple-jointed candidate was in his native element, and when he belonged to another regiment did not hestitate to take advantage of an unfortunate rival who, being subject to military duty, meekly marched in the ranks, by fascinating the fathers of the regiment by anecdote and humorous talk and and frequent proffer of an exhaustless whiskey-flask to those of a thirsty temperament. The eighth of January, long commemorated by our fathers, the fourth of July and regimental muster day were long the great holidays of our fathers. There were two regiments in Madison county, the Second Regiment being formed long before the State was admitted into the Union, and, as well as I can ascertain, its muster-ground was near old Blue Spring camp-ground. The other regiment (number not remembered) had its muster-ground at Henry Brazelton's in the Big Cove, and was the rallying point for the brave boys of New Madison. There were so many of these old companies that it is hard to locate the company muster-grounds, but I would fain preserve from oblivion the name of as many of these old captains of companies and their location as I have been able to gather from the meagre records on the subject. In the northern portion of the county were Captains Wm. G. Barton, Pitman Pitts, Allen Walls, Joseph Taylor, Wm. Kirkland and Jesse Bendall. From Meridianville westward to Madison and east to Flint river, were Captains W. Graves Bouldin, Wm. M. Roper, Dudley Sale, Friley Jones, Alfred Haggard, R. B. Armestead and James Johnston. Captains John Williams, John McDougall and George Kelly commanded companies from Hickory Flat to Bragg's; Nicholas Ware, J. J. Simmmons and R.G. Hewlett commanded companies including Cedar Gap, Maysville and Brownsboro; David Lacey at McNulbytown, John B. Turner at Whitesburg, Jason L. Jordan near Lanier's, Jonathan Collier and William Sutton near Collier's and Vienna, John Hill in the Big Cove, another Benjamin Clark on the Dug Hill road, and Frederick Elgin, John Harrison and Joseph Dunn around and in Huntsville.

One of the most noted military characters of that day was John K. Dunn, for a long time commander of the Madison Light Infantry Company, a roystering blade who gave himself the sobriequet of "H-1 and K Dunn." Thus it will be seen that at this time there was nearly thirty military companies, each forming a muster-beat entitled to two justices of the peace and a constable; but this number was gradually pruned down to about fourteen.

I have given the names of these old officers as a reminiscence of the olden time, and also to show that in those days the office of captain of a military company was considered an honorable and prominent position, as the older citizen will readily recognize in this list the names of many of our once prominent and respected citizens. For instance the names of the ancestors of the Wares, Hills, Taylors, Colliers, Kellys, Williamses and others, forming a large and most respectable number of the present citizens of Madison county. Of this number Dr. William Kirkland, who was a soldier of the war of 1812, was one of the latest survivors. Capt. Fred Elgin, an old and respectable citizen of Huntsville, died some three years ago, but the latest survivor was Capt. Wm. M. Roper, who died at his residence on the Winchester road at an advanced age during the past year. He lived so long in our community and was so well known by our people and so highly respected for his many excellent christian traits of character, that I can say nothing in regard to him that is not already known to the people of the county. Capt. Joseph Taylor and Capt. Allen Walls were prominent and influential citizens; both were for many years commissioners of roads and revenue for the county and both emigrated to Arkansas, where they diad after the close of the civil war. John T. Harrison was an uncle of our townsman Perry L. Harrison and the father of Dr. Wm. Harrison, once a prominent physician of Guntersville, Alabama.

I find but little allusion to the regimental officers. Among our old militia generals were D. M. Bradford, a veteran of 1812, John Brahan and B. T. Patterson, long U. S. Marshal of this district. Of the old militia officers there are but few survivors, and if the question of seniority were to arise Gen. John M. Humphrey would claim the higher rank, but Col. Wm. C. McBroom, of Gurleysville, would probably be ranking officer by date of his commission as colonel of the gallant old militia regiment of East Madison, if not by superiority in rank.

CHAPTER V - CLEARING THE LANDS. (February 28, 1884)

When our fathers came to this county it was everywhere covered with a magnificent growth of timber. Except the Chickasaw Old Fields around Whitesburg and the one solitary prairie on the Rice plantation north of Triana, which did not cover ha f a section of land, the forests were in their primeval state; and in order to prepare and fit the soil for farming purposes it was necessary that the land should be cleared of the gigantic forest trees that shut out the life-giving rays of the sun from the surface of the soil. In the first settlement, and until capital and slave-labor from the older States made this a possible task, the work had proceeded slowly, and a few acres here and there indicated the different settlements of the earlier pioneers in the county; and even when labor had become cheap and abundant in some parts of the county, the destruction of the timber in the new grounds required many years of serious work. Girdling the timber on the new grounds was almost the universal practice and was called deadening, and a tract of land where the trees were girpled and the land not fenced or cultivated was known as a "deadening." Trees deadened in August and September did not put forth any more leaves, and by the following spring cultivation of the land might commence with a prospect of a partial crop, though cultivating such land was generally rough work, as the roots of the trees, so thickly inter-

woven in the soil, made thorough cultivation and a fair return for the labor performed impossible. The timber was very seldom cut and hauled off the land, as most farmers were of the opinion that land was better on which the forest growth was allowed to remain and gradually decay. In old Madison, where large tracts of land were taken up and clearing was undertaken on a large scale, the landowners with their stalwart slaves and strong oxen and horses were able to girdle and fence large tracts in comparatively a short period of time, but the work awaiting a solitary laborer with his forty or eighty acres of virgin lands covered with giant forest growth, involving the labor of clearing and fencing enough land to support his family, was a task at once arduous and laborious. At the time of which I write, especially east of the mountains, a large number of small farmers were clearing lands-afterwards consolidated into larger farms, and their labor fitted for cultivation many of the clean, fertile fields on which, to-day, can be seen not the least vestage of the primeval forest that once thickly covered them. After the first year's cultivation, the tall poplars and sturdy oaks, in process of decay, began to drop their smaller branches, and by the opening of spring the earth was covered with their debris, that must be gathered and burnt before plowing began. In the course of another season the winds of winter prostrated the less durable and the smaller trees, and log-rolling commenced. At first this labor was not so heavy, as the logs were small and easily managed, and in a few years the taller and more durable trees, divested of bark and smaller limbs, the skeletons of the once living forest, remained. But the timber was so dense that there were immense numbers of these dead trees standing, and when, in course of time, the winds prostrated their huge trunks, their removal was a herculean task, requiring from one to two months' hard labor in the beginning of the farming season. Among the settlements of smaller farmers during log-rolling time, there was by common consent a community of labor. Every family was expected to furnish at least one good hand for a month's or six weeks' labor, and when his log-rolling day came round he expected his neighbors in person or by proxy to be on hand for business. The oak and poplar timber was notched at intervals of ten or twelve feet on the logs and fire kindled on them, which being built up morning and evening, soon gnawed its way through and severed the prostrate trunk into convenient lengths for rolling. Hickories of large size were very heavy, but fortunately when partly seasoned and once ignited they were generally consumed entirely. Just before log-rolling day, the farmer with his sharp axe inspected his new ground and severed all cuts not entirely cut off by the fire, as it was considered bad management to delay a score of men in chopping up logs on log-rolling day. It was wonderful to behold how a force of stalwart, experienced farmers would pile up the logs over acre after acre of fallen timber. They would approach the severed cuts of a log, oak or poplar, stretching out for sixty or seventy feet on the ground, inspect it a moment, divide into squads, turn a cut here and there into proper position, and almost as quick as thought two or three large log heaps would take the place of the prostrate timbers. From sunrise until sunset; with a single hour's rest at noon, the work would go on, or until the job was completed, and every man was expected to dine and sup with his neighbor who was furnishing the day's work.

There were giants in those days, the loads the men carried with their long dogwood hand-spikes were wonderful; sometimes the logs were so large that when raised the men on either side could sarcely see over them, and

to the bystander it presented the novel spectacle of a big log moving off with a row of men on one side. In this business, by long practice, our ancestors acquired a peculiar sleight in grasping the hand-spike, in balancing the body, and keeping proper step in bearing the unwieldly burden. From this branch of labor originated the phrase of "toting fair," as between men of nearly equal strength an inch or two difference in the divide of a stick gave great advantage, and where a strong man matched a weaker one it was expected to neutralize the difference in dividing the leverage of the hand-spike. The old settlers made the use of fire a valuable auxiliary in clearing up the lands in the spring, but sometimes it turned to a dangerous foe. In the spring, which in those days was generally early and warm, the logs in the fields would be piled, and through an entire settlement the logs would be fired nearly at the same time, and at night the face of the whole country would be illuminated by the blazing heaps. If the season was unusually dry, the sap of the standing timber would ignite and burn like tinder. Sometimes the wind would rise and the flying sparks would set the dead forest on fire, and the farmers would have to fight for their fences and fodder stacks through the entire night among the fire and smoke and blazing and falling branches and trunks of the burning trees. A blazing firebrand would fall on the dry fence, the watchful farmer would come to the rescue and the rails would be scattered to the right and left out of the reach of the flames, and the danger would hardly be averted before he would have to hasten to some other point of danger. These conflagrations would sometimes spread from field to field and the whole neighborhood would come to the rescue. During the winter the dark forests would drop a thick covering of leaves over the surface of the earth, and they, becoming dry in the spring, would accidentally or designedly be set on fire. The fire would probably start on the mountains, and night after night the bright fiery circles would increase in area until a rise or change in the wind would send them speeding down the valleys, and when they got among the canebrakes the popping of the cane would be like the collision of the skirmish lines of opposing armies. As the flames approached their fields the owners would clear long paths round their enclosures and fire would fight fire, the slower line of flame would meet the faster and with a brilliant glare on meeting would die out along the whole opposite line and the danger would be over for a season. From the first fencing of the lands until the disappearance of the original forest growth was a period of many years, and involved an immense amount of manual labor. Timber at that time was of little value and to our fathers the supply seemed inexhaustible, and the amount wantonly destroyed on lands of but little agricultural value was enormous. A large area of land was cleared by non-land owners, who would take leases on forty or eighty tracts which they would clear and fence and on which they would erect cabins, for the use and occupancy of the lands for from five to seven years. I can recollect many wealthy and prosperous farmers of the olden time who started in business on such leases of land, of which by, years of industry and thrift, they finally become owners. From long experience and labor in making rails to fence these lands and building their tenements the early settlers attained wonderful dexterity in the use of the maul and axe, and we have authentic evidence of a single laborer splitting one thousand rails between sunrise and sunset. With a heavy Collins' axe with a helve four feet long of strong white hickory, they tackled the immense forest trees, and in an incredibly short period of time they would fell and chop them into convenient lengths for rails or boards. While it was necessary for agricultural purposes that the forest growth should be removed, yet it was a great calamity that the

-63-

timber should have been wantonly destroyed on lands comparatively barren. on which the timber would finally have been incalculably of more value than all the land ever produced. It is possible that denuding the land of its forest growth has made the country healthier, by removing decayed vegetable matter that was once a fruitful source of disease, and in causing the filling up and placing in cultivation of what were once in summer stagnant ponds and lagoons, and in removing the causes of obstructions in our creeks and rivers and thus improving the drainage. Yet aside from the immense pecuniary loss to our people the wholesale destruction of our forests has in many respects inflicted serious injury upon our county. As a consequence of the destruction of our forests, the seasons are more uncertain. springs that once furnished an abundance of water throughout the year have failed, the annual rainfall diminished and drought is more frequent. When we see the settlers on the western prairies, by judicious timber culture, restoring the forest growth and know the success of their efforts in that direction, we are convinced that the time has arrived for our people to attend to the preservation of the remnants of our once magnificent forests, and also to restore the forest growth on their worn and useless land by the planting and culture of forest trees.

CHAPTER VI - 1823 to 1828. (March 6, 1884)

From the year 1823 to 1828, there was but little change in the condition of affairs within our borders. Our people were quietly engaged in developing the agricultural resources of the county and gradually extending the area of their farming lands, by clearing and fencing new fields. The tide of emigration that tended westward after the land sales of 1818 had reached its flood, and the decrease in the price of cotton, the great staple of the Tennessee Valley, together with depression resulting from wild speculation in public land, began to exert a depressing influence on our people. A large element in our population, consisting of small farmers seeking cheap homes, was rapidly filling up the eastern and southeastern portion of the county, and many of them were clamoring for the final extinguishment of the title of the Cherokees to the eastern part of Madison, and the placing of the same upon the market. The old Indian line stretching across the county to the Tennessee line, northeast of New Market to Flint River above Wood's Mill, was a barrier that could not be passed until removed by act of Congress, and the hardy pioneers who were crowding along this line looked with lingering eyes on the beautiful and fertile valleys of Flint and Hurricane, but various obstacles intervened and delayed the opportunity of possession for several years. Until the year 1822 or 23, the people east of the mountains had no public roads, and about this time a road was reviewed from Wofford's section by way of Brownsboro to meet a road coming from Woodville, the then capital of Decatur County, at the county line, which was then at the fork of the Bellefonte and Clear Creek roads west of Joe Criner's, now the Isbell place. When Decatur county was abolished, they became the great thoroughfare of travel between the counties, and the prominent attorneys of Madison county traveled over the route at least twice a year, on horseback, to attend the Jackson county courts, and then a stage route was established, and for many years transported the mails and passengers to and fro between the county sites. -- About the same time, John Grayson, John Webster, John Fortner, Henry Brazleton and others were

-64-

appointed to view and mark out a road from Huntsville across the mountain by way of what was then known as "Webster's Gap" to Henry Brazleton's where there was an election precinct and a regimental muster guard. Shortly afterwards, Joseph Pickens and others, as commissioners, extended this road to meet a road to be opened in Decatur county to the county line, which was near the old Cobb ford.

The Madison and Whitesburg road had already been opened from the Tennessee line to Tennessee river, which was crossed by the Limestone road forming part of the old military road from Winchester to Natchez by Hazle Green. This road was also tapped at Connally by the old Winchester road running from that point by the old town of Hillsboro, the then voting place of the New Market people. Below Huntsville a road had been opened through Blevin's Gap to the Big Cove, and also one from the Whitesburg road to Leemon's Ferry. The only bridges the county had built was one across Fagan's, now Dry Creek, near the site of the present bridge in the city limits on the Whitesburg pike, and a long wooden bridge across Flint river at site of old bridge at the mouth of Briar Fork, which was constructed by Bennett Wood, who then lived just beyond the river and was at that time County Treasurer. The bridge was insured for many years by the builder, who not only contracted to construct it but also gave bond to keep it in good repair for that period of time at his own expense .-- The records of the day show that during these years much was done in the way of facilitating communication throughout the county, and the opening of the great county thoroughfares greatly assisted in developing the business interests of our county site, and many of our merchants were building up a country trade that laid the foundation of their future prosperity. In the year 1825, William McBroom, sheriff, retired under constitutional enactment, and was succeeded by John P. Neal, who was sheriff until 1828.

In State and national politics our county still retained its prominence and the county furnished a large quota of the State's representatives in congress and in the senate. As regards United States Senators it is a remarkable fact that Madison county furnished a senator from the year 1819 to the civil war, with the exception of the term from 1842 to 1848, when Arthur P. Bagby and Dixon H. Lewis were in the senate from Middle and Southern Alabama, Dr. David Moore having been defeated by Gov. Bagby in consequence of an unfortunate division among the Democracy in the northern part of the State on local issues. As a matter of interest I give a list of our citizens either at the time or originally citizens of the county who have been United States Senators: John W. Walker, from 1819 to 1822; William Kelly, from 1822 to 1825; Henry Chambers, 1825 to 1826; John McKenley, 1826 to 1831; Gabriel Moore, 1831 to 1837; C. C. Clay, 1837 to 1843; Jere Clemens, 1849 to 1853, and C. C. Clay from 1853 to 1861. Thus we see that but for the defeat of Dr. Moore in 1842 by the opposition of some Democrats from the northern portion of the State this county would have had an unbroken line of State senators from the formation of the State Constitution in 1819 to the beginning of the civil war.

During this period there was much complaint about the court house and jail. The old square yellow brick court house that stood a little east of the present building and which had been finished about the year 1817, though a large and imposing edifice for a new county at that time, began to get out of repair, and was deemed by many unsafe on account of the size of the rooms

and the want of sufficient thickness of the walls. In the north western part of the present court house yard was the pillory, stocks and whipping post, nearly due west from the old jail that stood just outside of the railing round the court house square, in the northeast corner of the square. The steep declivity on which the court house stood descended abruptly in the direction of the jail, which stood on nearly level ground in a kind of basin that sometimes in winter turned to a pond. The following letter from Joseph Caruthers, the jailor, and John McBroom, sheriff, will give some idea of our jail comforts at that time. This letter is dated February 7, 1825:

"To the Hon. Judge of the County Court and County Commissioners of Roads and Revenues: It becomes my duty, as the Jailor of Madison County, to inform you that the jail of said county is insufficient for the safe-keeping of the peisoners committed thereto and has been so for a number of years. Owing to the frequent attempts to break through the windows they have become insecure, and the floors of the several rooms have become quite decayed and are falling through. The roof is so bad that whenever there comes a heavy rain almost everything within the walls become entirely wet. I therefore pray you to review the same, as I believe you are by act of the legislature required to do, have the necessary repairs done, so there may not be so great a responsibility on my part for escapes.

(Signed) Robert Caruthers, Jailor John McBroom Sheriff."

In the month of August, 1825, John P. Neal succeeded Mr. McBroom as sheriff, and soon after he went into office he wrote to the commissioners, and in his letter he says: "I call the earnest attention of the court to the insecure condition of the jail, and hereby enter my protest against it." But it was many years before the old jail and market house were torn down and a new jail built on the site of the present jail. This was owing, doubtless, to pecuniary troubles, as a committee to audit the treasurer's books from the year 1825 to 1828 reported the amount of outstanding claims against the county treasury over and above available assetts at forty-four hundred and thirty-eight dollars, which claims were cut in the form of county scrip and were at a heavy discount. About the year 1825, the old jail bounds that heretofore extended over an area of ten acres, were extended cne mile in every direction from the jail, thus giving prisoners for debt who could give bond not to try to escape the liberty of the whole city.

From the year 1823 to 1828 there was but little change in county officers, Samuel Chapman continued Judge of the County Court and Thos. Brandon Clerk, and Lemmel Mead Clerk of the Circuit Court. The Court of County Commissioners, being elected every two years, underwent some changes. Gross Scruggs served as commissioner for the greater portion of this period, and the office also filled by Thomas McGee, Joseph Pickens, Stephen Biles, Samuel Walker, James McCartney and Geo. T. Jones-all of whom are well remembered by the old cilizens of the county. Thomas McGee was then getting to be an old man, and lived near what is now known as the old Driskell place, on the Tennessee line. Joseph Pickens lived in the Big Cove, and was long one of the most popular and influential men in New Madison, noted for his kindness of heart and unstinted hospitality. Geo. T. Jones, who lived on Mountain Fork, was a man of more than ordinary talent, who frequently represented our county in the legislature, where his good sense and sound judgment made him prominent. He was a progressive and successful planter, and aside from public duties, by thrift and industry, accumulated a handsome property. But of the body of able men

-66-

who served as commissioners during this period James McCartney was by far the most prominent. Coming here about the year 1810, without capital, he entered on a career of successful speculation in which he distanced all competitors, and had his years been prolonged he would doubtless have been one of the wealthiest men in the State. When about nineteen years old he married Eliza Allen, a most estimable lady, and the sister of the Rev. John Allen, who for a period of many years was the venerated pastor of the Presbyterian Church of this city. In the land sales of 1830 James McCartney invested heavily, and had he lived to reap the fruit of his investments would have realized an immense profit from his ventures. He was also an extensive and progressive farmer, and was far ahead of public sentiment on the erection of cotton factories, and at the time of his death, in 1833, before he had reached his fiftieth year, he was devising plans for the erection of an extensive cotton factory on Flint river, which, under his management, would doubtless have greatly added to the material prosperity of our county.

During this period North Alabama still held the supremacy in the counsels of the State. Nich. Davis, of Limestone, who became the leader of the old Whig party in North Alabama, was President of the State Senate from 1823 to 1827, and during the same period Samuel Walker, William Kelly and C. C. Clay, of Madison, were speakers in the Lower House, except for the years 1826 and 1827, when the speaker's chair was filled by Samuel W. Oliver. of Conscuh county. James J. Pleasants was Secretary of State from 1821 to 1824. Henry Minor was first Circuit Judge of this District, and then reporter for the Supreme Court. In 1825 Jno. M. Taylor succeeded him as Circuit Judge, Jno. M. Taylor was a man of versatile talents, being at one and the same time merchant, preacher, and lawyer. As a merchant he was a failure, but he was an eloquent preacher and a brilliant lawyer. From the year 1823 to 1827, James G. Birney was solicitor for our judicial district, and was then a popular and talented lawyer, and when he sold out his property and went north, to become a leader in the old Abolition party and its first candidate for the Presidency, he voluntarily abandoned a career that promised him a brilliant political and professional future in our State.

CHAPTER VII - MERCHANTS OF MADISON COUNTY, 1820 to 1830. (March 13, 1884)

The decade in our history of which I am now writing witnessed a great development of the mercantile business of the county. Many of the successful and prosperous merchants of the time had commenced business here at an early period, and from small beginnings were now fairly launched in successful and profitable business.- During the prosperous era in the Tennessee Valley from the war of 1812 to the period of which I write, they had kept pace with the country's progress and established their business on a sure foundation. While some of the pioneer merchants had retired from business, and others had sought new fields of enterprise, an unusually large proportion of them were here actively engaged in business, and for many years were prominent business men in our community, and are well remembered by our old citizens. Of the number who came here at the first settlement of the country, Alexander Gilbreath, the first of the number who commenced business in Huntsville, had removed south of the river where many of his family still reside. Luther and Calvin Morgan and Samuel

Morgan went to Nashville, and if I mistake not one of them was the aneestor of Gen. John H. Morgan, so famous as a cavalry officer during the civil war. Samuel Morgan engaged in business in Nashville, Tennessee, and was for nearly a quarter of a century a prominent and successful merchant in that city. Concerning Joshua Falconer, John P. Hickman, Neal B. Rose and Philip Foote, well known merchants in Huntsville before Alabama was a State. I have but little information, and I believe thete are no representatives of their names now in the county.

But many of these old merchants lived and prospered and died at an advanced age in this community, and their families are largely represented in our county. I propose to devote this article to their memory. I regret that my sources of information are so meagre, as a recital of their struggles and trials and final success would be an interesting theme. Before the State was organized and when the Cherokees were east of us and the Chickasaws were west, the traffic with the Indians was an important part of the city's trade, and it was nothing uncommon for forty or fifty Indians from Tennessee river to march into the city and spend a day or two trafficing and bartering with the merchants. I can recollect many of the old merchants, and their tales of the olden time, when they travelled to Philadelphia and New York on horseback and by stage, were of the most thrilling character. They swam their horses across the swollen and unbridged watercourses, and traversed the Cumberland ridge in parties, as a precaution against robberies that sometimes occured in the mountain solitudes .- Some of them actually loaded wagons with their goods in the northern cities and conveyed them over the long and tedious journey to Huntsville. They were a most remarkable race of men, wise, prudent and courageous. never discouraged by difficulties nor dismayed by toil or danger. I have in previous articles briefly referred to some of them, and at the risk of repetition I again return to them. Among the early settlers, Stephen Ewing, James White, James Clemons, Andrew Beirne, William Patton, John Read and D. N. Bradford commenced business here at an early date, and were long well known and successful merchants. Among the number who commenced business from 1820 to 1830 and became prominent in our mercantile community, were Frank T. Mastin, Wm. H. Powers, B. M. Lowe and O. D. Sledge. Stephen Ewing was one of the earliest of our merchants, and was for a long time engaged in an extensive business. He belonged to the old and distinguished family of Ewings that has since furnished so many prominent men in the States of Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio, and was an honorable representative of a remarkable family. With but little capital. he commenced business in a small way, trading in salt and flour between Whitesburg and Huntsville, and won his way to fortune by untiring industry, sound common sense and unswerving integrity. James Clemens was also an early settler and a successful merchant. A man of sound judgment, fine business capacity and imposing appearance, though somewhat reserved in manner, his success was due more to native talent and thrift than to personal popularity. He was the father of Jere Clemens, one of the most brilliant, eloquent and popular politicians of his time. James White and Andrew Beirne were Virginia gentlemen of the old school, both scions of old and influential families of the Old Dominion, with many of the virtues and few of the vices of that splendid type of the Anglo American known as the Old Virginia cavalier stock James White was for a time in partnership with Alexander Gilbreath, the pioneer merchant in the county .-James White was a man of considerable means and invested largely in real estate, owning with other property a fine body of land on both sides of

-68-
Tennessee river near Whitesburg, which town received its name from him. He was blessed with a large family, of which Thomas W. White and Gen'l Ad. White are the representatives in Alabama, many of his descendants living in Virginia, where the family owned a large property. Of the family of Andrew Beirne, Col. Geo. P. Beirne was the only male representative, and at his death the name became extinct in our county. Col. Geo. P. Beirne was a worthy representative of a noble race, and will long live in the memory of our people, and in connection with this allusion to his father I take the liberty of quoting the following eloquent portrayal of his character from an address to the Huntsville bar in August, 1881, by one who knew him well: "He was as marked and distinguished among his fellow men for his personal appearance as for the attributes of his mind. He was a man of striking personal appearance. A tall and commanding figure, indicative of great strength, and a face of finely marked and manly features. with a broad forehead, a heavy brow and a large and lustrous eye. His face was an index of his character and frankness as a man. In its expression was reflected as distinctly the varied emotions of his nature as the mirror reflects the features of the face. In all the walks or life he exemplified in a high degree that order of refinement and that Type of civilization of which we are so justly proud, and by precept and example he exerted an influence rarely felt. A more touching and eloquent tribute could not be paid to any man than to say what can truthfully be said of him, that he will be missed, and his memory cherished sacredly by those who most need an unselfish friend, the widow and orphan."

William Patton, the other member of the old firm of Beirne and Patton, was of Irish descent, and he possessed in a high degree the rare business endowments that form the chararacter of the model merchant. He was at once merchant, manufacturer and farmer combined, and was remarkably successful in whatever he undertook. His cotton gin was one of the first erected in the city, if not the first, and it is said that his son, ex-Governor R. M. Patton, now a man advanced in years, is wont to boast that he was the pioneer gin driver of Madison county. William Patton's first gin stood south of Walker street and east of Meridian Pike, and the motive power is said to have been an old-fashioned one-horse tread-wheel power, and it was the business of the future Governor to keep the old horse that furnished the power to his work. William Patton had a natural turn for machinery, and owned several mill sites on which he experimented more or less. At length he became associated in business with J. J. Donegan, an Irishman also, who became one of the leading merchants of the period. Patton, Donegan & Co. finally became sole owners of the excellent water power at and above the Bell Factory on Flint river, which was for a long time the site of the most important cotton factory in North Alabama. It is my impression that James Manning was also in the mercantile business, though he was also an opulent planter. He belonged to the celebrated colony from Petersburg, Georgia. These colonists had come from Virginia to Georgia, and named their new place of settlement Petersburg, after the old Virginia home, and a large number of them came from Georgia to Alabama about the year 1809 or '10. Among the number were the Popes, Walkers, Bibbs, Mannings and Coxs, all of whom became more or less prominent in the new country. James Manning is said to have been a man of high culture, and his talent was inherited by his descendants, among whom were the Lowes and Congressman Van Manning, of Mississippi. His son, R. J. Manning, commenced business here and rose like a rocket, but lacking the judgment of the older

-69-

merchants, he made a disastrous failure. In his palmy-days of prosperity he placed the well-known "Manning money" in circulation, at one time as current as a modern national bank note, and erected one of the most costly residences in the city, on the north of Holmes street, which afterwards became the residence of Dr. David Moore. John Read, one of the oldest merchants in the city, was clerk in the land office when it was removed to Huntsville in 1811, and he was for over forty years a merchant in the town. Francis T. Mastin was from an old and respectable Maryland family, and after living in Virginia for many years came to this county about the year 1826. He was a man of fine business capacity; he accumulated a large property and enjoyed an enviable reputation in the community, which his descendants have maintained down to the third generation. He was the last survivor of the noble paternity who left the indelible impress of their high character on the citizens of this town. B. M. Lowe also came here during this period, and was rapidly advancing to the foremost position among our merchants that he held for ten years. He became exceedingly popular, and among other offices he was elected Mejor-General of the militia of that time, considered an exalted and honorable position. Gen'l Lowe married a daughter of James Manning and raised a family noted for culture and refinement. His daughters were intellectual and accomplished. Robert J. Lowe, one of the most brilliant of our young men, died during the first year of the civil war, and the intellectual power and magnetic influence over the people of our late Congressman, Wm. M. Lowe, the youngest of the family, was freely conceded by his most bitter politital opponents, and at the time of his sudden death his reputation had become national. William H. Powers, long a conspicuous figure in business circles, also commenced business here before the year 1830. He labored under the then disadvantage of northern birth and under a reserved manner and brusque speech and deportment he coucealed a liberal and benevolent nature. He was an old line Whig and a strong Union man, but when the war commenced he warmly sympathized with the cause of the South. During the war he went (paper torn) his native state, and (paper torn) confederates immured in Northern prisons were recipients of his bounty, and he is held in grateful remembrance by many survivors of the War who doubtless owed their lives to his prompt and judicious aid. After the war closed he returned to the city to which he was bound by so many ties of confidence and friendship, and died at an advanced age, honored and respected by our people.

In closing these sketches of our old merchants, I can but express regret that I know so little of them, and the little that I do know of them has mostly been handed down to the present time by tradition.

CHAPTER VIII - REMOVAL OF THE INDIANS. (March 20, 1884)

Before entering into the history of New Madison, dating from the great land sales of 1830, I hope that an article upon our first neighbors, the original owners as far as we know of the beautiful valley of the Tennessee, will not be inappropriate. I refer to the Cherokees and Chickasaws, who while they did not actually occupy any of the county away from the river, yet by agreement as far into the past as tradition reaches made the line between the two nations to meet somewhere near the present Cherokee or New Madison line, and as I have already stated, Old Madison was a debatable ground that the

government obtained by treaty with both nations. Our people came but little in contact with the Chickasaws after the year 1817. This tribe, once powerful and warlike, at the beginning of the century owned all the territory between the waters of the Ohio and the Tennessee and the Mississippi southward to the great bend of the Tennessee and South of the Tennessee from about Chickasaw Island to the Creek line, and thence, westward to the Mississippi above Natchez. The treaty of 1817 gave the United States all their territory in Alabama, except Colbert's reservation and some smaller reservations on the Tennessee, and they soon afterwards removed beyond the limits of Alabama, so that in the year 1830 the Tennessee valley west of Madison county had been occupied by white settlers, formed into couuties, and was a flourishing portion of the State. In the year 1836 the remaining portion of this once flourishing tribe, with the exception of a few scattering settlements in Mississippi, crossed the Mississippi and occupied their present domain. At first, they occupied that territory in common with the Choctaws, a nation of the same origin and speaking the same language. but the two tribes finally separated into two distinct nations and both tribes have made great advance in civilization and prosperity.

When the English first came to the Carolinas the Cherokees were one of the most prosperous and powerful tribes on the continent. In the year 1730, just one century before the sale of their remaining lands in the State of Alabama, they acknowledged allegiance to and made a treaty of peace with the English. This treaty was often broken by both sides, and hostilities between the whites and Indians were frequent. The Cherokees occupied the Alleghany ridge and as far Eastward as the head waters of Flint and Savannah rivers, their territory including portions of Tennessee. the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama, and their geographical position, in itself, gave them but little hope of permanent possession. The Cherokees were a superior race of aborigines, and before the beginning of the present century their sagacious leaders were looking westward for a land of promise. About the year 1800 three thousand of them went west of the Mississippi and formed the nucleus of the future nation on the head waters of the Washita. The Indians on the head waters of the Flint and Savannah made great advances in civilization, and when Madison county was ceded some of them were large slave owners and extensive planters. Many white men had intermarried in the tribe and settled among them, schools had been established, and great interest was manifested in education. But the Indians among the mountains had an intense love for their native valleys and steadily opposed all projects for removal, and discountenanced all departures from the old hunting life of their fathers. Thus originated the two parties whose feuds afterwards resulted in the violent death of some of the wisest and best of their leaders.

In the year 1818 another large body of the tribe went west of the Mississippi, and the question of removal was continually agitated until their emigration was finally consummated in the year 1836. Soon after the settlement of Charleston, South Carolina, a large number of Scotch emigrants came to the State on account of religious persecution and political dissensions in the old country. Many of this colony became Indian traders and married Indian wives, and became influential men in their councils. Of this number, Alexander McGilvary, the great chief of the Creeks, became most famous, and he was in many respects the most remarkable man of the time. But many of less fame pushed their way towards the bend of the Tennessee and came into

Madison county with the early settlers, and located on the Indian site of the boundary line. Among these were Capt. John Woods, the Wilsons, Stephens, McDuffs, McNairys and McNuttys, who, from a desire to live among civilized people, came and settled in Madison and the adjoining counties on the reservations that still bear their names. Conalesky, an Indian chief, also located in the county, and when he became civilized he called himself John Challenge, and lived for a long time on Challenge reservation, in Sharp's Cove. When the Creek war of 1813 broke out the Creeks tried very hard to persuade the Cherokees to join in a coalition against the whites, but in vain. The Cherokees were too well acquainted with the power of the whites. and when they found the Creeks would not allow them to remain neutral, they declared war against the Creeks and took part in Jackson's victorious campaign. By the treaty of 1818, that made the cession of their lands in New Madison, each Indian or half-breed who wished to remain within the limits of the ceded territory was allowed to retain one section of land with his house as near the centre of the track as practicable, and reservations of this character were retained by the Indians and half-breeds already mentioned. But as the Indians gradually disappeared from our proximity these parties also became dissatisfied, and all of them in Madison county, holding these reservations, disposed of their lands by sale or relinquishment, and crossed the Mississippi with the remainder of the tribe in 1836. By treaty, the Indians also reserved a track twelve miles square, to be disposed of on the same terms as government lands, and the proceeds of sale to go to their educational fund. This track comprised all of New Madison south of Keel's Mountain, and also parts of Jackson and Marshall counties. There remains unsold about ten thousand acres of this land which belongs to the Cherokees, and is the last remnant of the vast and rich domain which they once possessed East of the Mississippi. The Cherokees moved southwardly until they all had gone South of the river, and occupied a small portion of north-eastern Alabama.

The larger proportion of the tribe East of the Mississippi was concentrated in the State of Georgia. This portion of the tribe was divided into two factions, the party headed by Ross, who opposed removal, and the party of Ridge and Boudinot, who favored it, and their differences delayed the question for many years. There had never been any great cordiality between these Indians and the Georgia people, and the Georgians were very anxious for their removal from their borders, and persecuted them with a great deal of unfriendly legislation. While the State declined to recognize their rights as citizens, yet it extended the laws of the State over their territory. While it claimed the right to try them in court, yet it denied them the right to testify, and their condition was becoming desperate. They sent a deputation to Washington, and while they received many expressions of sympathy from those in power, yet they were informed that the government had no power to right their wrongs. As a consequence removal became inevitable, and even John Ross, the ablest and wisest of their leaders. was impelled by the circumstances to sign the treaty of removal. The government appropriated one million dollars for indemnity and expenses of removal and furnished each family with one year's subsistence in the new territory. We can but sympathize with this remnant of a brave and high-spirited nation, who reluctantly bade final farewell to their native mountain home and turned their faces westward towards the level lands of Western Arkansas. How they must have missed the mountain crags and beautiful coves of the Tennessee!

In the year 1838 General Scott, with two thousand troops, was detailed to remove them, and on a beautiful morning of spring all Madison county was in motion to see the Indians. Hundreds of children born in the county had never seen an Indian, and in their line of travel from one end of the county to the other an eager throng awaited them. And presently the melancholy procession appeared. There were carriages and wagons of every kind, horses, mules, donkeys, and dogs, all turned into beasts of burden. Besides the numerous vehicles loaded with travellers, there was a long procession of men, women and children bearing all kinds of burdens peculiar to a household. When they came to Flint river above Brownsboro, they rested two or three days, and the place can still be pointed out where they buried some of their number who fell by the wayside. Of all processions that ever passed through our midst this was the most tragic, and I have heard many spectators aver that the expression of the silent sorrow of their heart, depicted in their movements and faces, haunted them for months. They marched on towards the setting sun and the pageant was over, and when they crossed the Chickasaw boundary, six miles West of Huntsville, they bid a final farewell to their ancient domain, and entered into a land of strangers.

There were many wealthy men and large slave-holders both among the Cherokees and Chickasaws, and both sides sympathized with the South. But after the war commenced the Ross party returned to its allegiance, while the Ridge party fought through the war in the Southern armies. Their country was subject to all the evils of partisan warfare and the tribe suffered severely. The war closed, their slaves were free, and while the government interposed in behalf of the Ridge party that adhered to the South, to prevent their banishment and the confiscation of their property, yet it compelled the Cherokees to cede to the general government about seven million acres of land, at the rate of four and a half cents an acre, which purchase money they gave them the alternative of seeing donated to their former slaves, or receiving for the whole tribe an admission of their former slaves to citizenship, and the Indians took the latter alternative.

Having made this brief diversion, I now propose to take up the history of the settlement of New Madison from 1830, the year of the land sales.

CHAPTER IX - NEW MADISON (March 27, 1884)

The name of Old Madison, as used by our fathers, applied both to the original county formed in 1808 and to the southwest or Triana portion added from the Chickasaw nation in 1818. The Indians owned New Madison until 1819. Though it had been ceded a year or two before, yet it was not until 1818 that the United States entered formally into possession of the New Territory and surveyed out the Indian reservations and the twelve miles square line, and several years elapsed before even this was all accomplished. The history of the settlement of New Madison and the characteristics of the settlers differed as much from the settlement of Old Madison as the physical features of the two sections were dissimilar. A large proportion of the area of the old county consisted of level, fertile lands, offering an inviting field for the location of large plantations, while New Madison was broken, and there were but few locations suitable for the opening of extensive farms. The ranges of mountains extending through it from north

-73-

to south, with lateral ridges or spurs dividing a great portion of its area into valleys and coves, through which generally ran streams of pure water tributary to Flint river, made it eminently fitted in every respect for the location of small farms, and these peculiar characteristics made it essentially a region settled by a white, non-slaveholding population. During the settlement of Old Madison cotton commanded a high price, and farming with slave labor was highly remunerative, and the lands were sold at exhorbitant rates. But cotton had steadily declined in value, and after the flush times and the wild speculation of 1818 and '19 a reaction had taken place and prices had steadily tended downward. A large proportion of the capital that had come into Old Madison had been invested in land at ruinous rates, and men who had invested extensively had lived to see their dreams of a golden future dissipated by the decline in price of their great staple, and many of them were involved in financial difficulties from which they were not extricated until federal legislation afforded them relief. There were a few men who had weathered the storm, and were wise enough to foresee that if they could obtain the public lands at reasonably low rates in the future they would reap a golden harvest, and they organized into the ring of speculators against whom the body of actual settlers in the new county were pitted in purchasing their lands---- Many small farmers came into the county at this time from Tennessee and Georgia prospecting for permanent homes, and there were a large number of old citizens of the county who, by thrift and industry, had accumulated a small capital that they wished to invest in permanent homes in the new territory. At the land sales of 1809 and 1818 persons of this class had been outbidden by speculators, and many of them had lost their homes because they were not able to pay the exhorbitant prices paid for the land by the capitalists, and while from the conformation of the country and difference in its financial condition the evil would not have been so serious if New Madison had been put on the market in a more prosperous era, yet the tendency of federal legislation and of public opinion rendered it impossible that the early settlers on these lands should be treated with the injustice that deprived John Hunt and others of their homesteads at the sales of 1809. While no blame can attach to the early settlers who saw proper to bid high prices for valuable government lands, and while it was a great misfortune to many that they were too poor to compete with the capitalists for lands they had settled and improved, yet the many cases of hardship it entailed were calculated to create a prejudice against the wealthy and array the poor against the rich.

Before the year 1829 the administration had been composed of men principally from the Atlantic coast, who although wise and patriotic yet were not so fully in sympathy with the masses as their successors. The tide of emigration south and west and the admission of many new and prosperous States into the Union placed the reins of government under the control of men who had lived and moved and prospered with the people of the new States, and the movement took the form and spirit that resulted in the wise legislation that has done so much to prevent monopoly in control of the public domain and to guarantee cheap homes to actual settlers. Thomas H. Benton was the first great champion of pre-emption in the halls of congress. From his election to the United States Senate he devoted his attention to effecting a change in the land laws, by which the actual settler on the public domain could have the privilege of retaining his lands at the minimum price fixed by the government, and also to procure the passage of a law graduating the price of public lands, so that their price should be reduced in proportion to the

-74-

time they had been on the market without a purchaser. The elevation of General Jackson to the presidency in the year 1829 placed a ruler in power who was in full sympathy with him, and soon after his inaugural General Jackson earnestly recommended the passage of the preemption law to congress, and the law was enacted.

In the year 1829 C. C. Clay was elected to congress from this district, and no man in congress worked more actively and zealously in pressing this law to its passage. He was recognized by the people of North Alabama as the uncompromising enemy of monopoly and the champion of the people, and his course in congress made him the most popular man of his period and placed at his command the highest offices that the people of his State could bestow.

The Cherokee cessions made at different periods from the year 1819 to 1830 had placed the greater portions of the lands in North Alabama in the market, and the great land sales at Huntsville in the year 1830 was the most remarkable event of the time, and an examination of the census reports from the year 1830 to 1840 will show a remarkable increase in our population during that decade. The old Cherokee line of 1809 was resurveved in the year 1819, and soon after the work of dividing the lands in New Madison into subdivisions was commenced on the Tennessee line. Capt. Joseph Rice, a pioneer of New Market, deceased but a few months ago, was probably the last survivor of the men who participated in this work. He was one of the surveying party in the capacity of chain carrier, and used to tell in his inimitable style many anecdotes of the trip. A little south east of New Market there is a remarkable deviation in the line, of which he gives the following explanation: Benjamin Clements in his survey, coming near a settler's house, sent to the occupant for a jug of buttermilk. which was somewhat curtly refused him, whereon he deflected his line and put the settler out of Old Madison into the unsurveyed territory, and it required some years' time and a special order from the general surveyor to straighten the line. As the present maps of Madison county do not show the old Cherokee line it is difficult to convey an idea of the form of the territory added to the county and sold at the land sales of 1840. From the State line to its extreme southern limit at the mouth of Paint Rock is about thirty-five miles, being the maximum extent of the county north and south. The east and west boundaries, the first following the dividing ridge between Flint and Paint Rock and the last being the old Cherokee line, while both tend nearly a south course, are very crooked, and there can scarcely be found any two points in the whole extent of the same width, the widest portion being from Ashburn's Ford, on Flint river, to Paint Rock, east of Mt. Nebo Church, being about twelve miles on an air line. The narrowest part, from the township corner east of Thos. P. Gurley's to the Old Madison line near site of the old Gurley mill, is about two miles wide, and from McNulty town to the State line the average is about eight miles. and it added to the county an area of about three hundred square miles.

At the time of the land sales the largest body of level fertile lands offered in New Madison was the lands around the present town of Gurleysville, where the lands known as Ashburne's Cove breaks the connection between the more northern range and Keel's Mountain, and leaves the latter entirely isolated and interposing a solid barrier between the northern and southern portion of New Madison, around which we must skirt Flint on the

western side or Paint Rock on the eastern by nearly equal routes to the southern portion of the new county. This level table land, but little broken by mountain spurs, extends from Hurricane Creek to Paint Rock, and includes in its limits the Gurley, Robertson, Clay and Coles plantations east of Gurleysville and partly in Jackson county, and the plantations skirting the northern base of Keel's Mountain west of Gurleysville to Flint river, at John W. Grayson's. South of Keel's Mountain there are many mountain spurs and detached ridges interspersed over an otherwise level country between the waters of Paint Rock and Flint, giving great diversity of soil, including the pine flats west of New Hope, the rich alluvial lands on the banks of the rivers, the black, fertile lands of the cedar ridges, and the dark clay soil of the Cedar Ridge and Paint Rock, once covered with the magnificent poplar growth from which Poplar Ridge precinct derives its name. The northern portion of New Madison is mostly in the coves and valleys of Mountain Fork and Upper Hurricane, comprising some of the finest lands in many respects in the county. The region known as New Madison was formed by nature for the home of small farmers, and but little over half a century has elapsed since its permanent settlement. In no other portion of North Alabama has the population been more permanent or the original settlers as largely represented by their descendants on the homesteads of their fathers. A large number of these old pioneers have passed away in the memory of the present generation, and a few here and there still survive and live on their old homesteads purchased in 1830, and I propose before proceeding in the history of the county to devote one or more chapters to the memory of the pioneers of New Madison, who were here at the time of the land sales, and give their location.

CHAPTER X - LAND SALES OF JULY, 1830 (April 3, 1884)

The preemption law was enacted in May, 1830. This act gave to all parties who were in actual occupancy or who had cultivated or improved any public lands in the year 1829 the privilege of filing a preemption claim on their lands and obtaining a patent at the minimum price fixed on government lands. The act of 1820 had abolished the credit system in sale of public lands, and fixed the minimum price at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and reduced the minimum of quantity from one hundred and sixty acres down to eighty, except for fractions ranging over eighty acres and less than one hundred and sixty. This was a valuable concession to actual settlers wanting small homes, as each settler who could command one hundred dollars could secure his home. On lands on which there was no preemption the field was still open for speculators, and a stringent law had been enacted forbidding any one under penalty of imprisonment and a fine of one thousand dollars from offering any inducement to any one to refrain from bidding on public lands and from agreeing for a consideration to refrain from bidding. Notwithstanding these regulations and from other causes, the greater part of these lands sold at low prices and were bought by actual occupants.

The lands offered for sale in 1830 embraced New Madison and also Jackson county and a portion of the present counties of DeKalb and Marshall. The first sale of public lands for that year was in July, and embraced the upper portions of Jackson and New Madison. The second sale commenced on the first Monday in October, and at that time Huntsville was thronged with an eager crowd of purchasers, some of them speculators but the large body of them

small farmers with the means to purchase a home, or here endeavoring to raise money for that purpose .-- Prominent among capitalists buying lands on speculation were James McCartney, Wm. H. Moore, Richard W. Anderson, John Gilchrist and Terry Bradley, all of whom invested largely and realized handsome profits from their purchases. At the land sales of 1830, and in the course of a few months thereafter, a large number of the old citizens of New Madison, whose descendants still reside in the county, purchased homes. At the July sales many old citizens of the northern part of the county, who at the land sales of 1809 had bought lands on the old county line, made considerable purchases in the new territory. Isaac Criner. the pioneer farmer, with his brother Granville as partner, purchased, with other lands, the fine farm near where he built his first cabin, on which he lived for over half a century. The Walkers, Davises and Rices, whom he preceded but a few months, also made considerable additions to thier already fertile and flourishing farms. While the Walker family in the Hickory Flat region was not so fully represented as at the present time. yet there were not less than three represented in the July land sales, as we find the names of James and Samuel and William Walker among the purchasers of the beautiful region largely occupied to-day by the family. Moses Power and Sarah Williamson and Hawley Williamson and John Campbell, Robert and William Davis, Theo Pennington, John Green and James Moore are largely represented in our county .-- But the families of Thomas Dorgan, James Gillespie, James Carroll and Nancy McDougall no longer are numbered among citizens of Hickory Flat. neither do any of the Griggs or Wilkins family now live on lower Mountain Fork. Upper Mountain Fork, after passing the rich basin of land purchased by William Davis, was vacant until about the year 1832, when the greater proportion of the rich but narrow valley was taken up by Joseph Hudson, Wm. Clunn and William Petty, the former of whom has many descendants living in that region .-- Shortly afterwards came Abner Moore, now the patriarch of the valley, who when long past his fourscore years was still able to clamber over his mountain lands and point out the old landmarks of sixty years ago. I believe he is the last survivor of the old and vigorous race who opened these fertile valleys to cultivation.

George Tannehill Jones, whom I have frequently mentioned, purchased a considerable portion of his large farm at the land sales, and Thomas and John Miller added large acres to their fine lands in the old county. John Howard and Baldwin Howard and Jacob Scisco located east of New Market near Grimmett's and Terry's, and Samuel Yarbrough at the old homestead. George Smith, who was an early settler from the Hiwassee valley and the pioneer merchant and principal owner of the present town of New Market, and who already ran one mile along the Indian line, squared his lands by purchase of a fraction east of the boundary.

About the head of Hurricane Wm. Baker purchased several hundred acres of land which formed the nucleus of the large plantation afterwards owned by him. In a few years a large settlement grew up around him, and during election times candidates frequently resorted thither to frolics and merrymakings so much in vogue at that time, and also to seek the influence of the old gentleman and aunt Hannah Baker, his wife, a lady endowed with an unusual portion of good, strong common sense and a judgment on which it is said many of her voting neighbors were wont to rely in determining for whom their ballots should be cast. Uncle William Baker's neighbor and

friend, Joseph Hambrick, who like him purchased his first home at the land sales and accumulated a large pertion of this world's goods, was in some respects more fortunate than he. While the Baker name is now represented in the Hurricane region by Allison W. Baker alone, Joseph Hambrick left a large family of the name, many of whom of the third generation he lived to see attain the age of manhood Col. J. M. Habrick, the youngest son, was long a prominent man in the county, and fs too well remembered by our people to require any notice on my part. The Rices, Baylesses and Braggs were among the earliest settlers, and were several of them in the war of 1812 under their kinsman, the gallant Captain James Hamilton. The older members of these families having already purchased at the land sales of 1809, purchased but little of the new lands, but the younger members of the families sought homes in the new purchase, and Thomas and Benjamin and Joseph and Luna Bragg located near what is now known as Bragg's church, and no family in the county has preserved though three generations a better character for industry, sobriety and sound, practical common sense. Joseph Rice and Othniel Rice, the old representatives of a remarkable family, both long past their fourscore years, have recently passes away, leaving many worthy represensentatives of the old name, foremost among whom in talent and purity of character is Dr. Francisco Rice, well and favorably known to a large portion of the citizens of our county.

Among the old citizens of New Market Dr. Geo. D. Norris and Isaac Cook have probably survived the entire generation who lived in that vicinity when they first located in that town. Dr. Norris has for near half a century practiced his profession in that vicinity. A man of talent and culture and a close observer of men and manners, he is doubtless the best informed man on our early history in North Alabama. He is Past Grand Master of the Grand Masonic Lodge of the State of Alabama, and enjoys the honor of representing the Grand Lodge of England under a commission bearing the signature of the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Lodge of Great Britain.

From New Market southward to McNulty town the old Madison line ran on or near the mountain ridge dividing the waters of Hurricane and Flint. The long and narrow Hurricane valley, including the coves formed by the mountain ridges, included as fertile a body of land as can be found in North Alabama. These lands were taken up in small tracts by a large body of settlers, some of whom still occupy these lands, while others are largely represented by their posterity. Their number is so large that it is impossible to give all their names. South of Joseph Hambrick's and occupying lands east of New Market to Hurricane valley, I can name William Jackson, John and James Robinson, James and Levi Methvin and Eli Woodward, whose descendants have sought other homes. Eldridge Bailes and Robert Hall still live on their old homesteads. Joel and Jesse Stone, James Cochran, A. J. Fowler, Wm. Wells, George Howard, Abram Miller, Jno. W. Irby, the Braggs and Rogers are familiar names and largely represented in that part of the county. Out in Sharp's Cove, round a network of Indian reservations, purchased by James McCartney, and extending up the cove as far as the soil was tillable, was congregated a colony of the Sharp family, who as purchasers at the land sales of 1830 furnish us the names of John, Joe, William, George, Leroy and Patsey Sharp, and also Henry Scott, whose wife belonged to the Sharp family, all living in a body on an area of fertile land in the cove.

Old McNulty-town was a place of considerable importance at this time. It

was near the centre of McNulty's reservation, near Mrs. Maria Giles' residence, on Hurricane, and at one time there was a mill, a dry goods store and grocery at this point, and here Wm. Robinson, afterwards sheriff of the county and a man of wealth, commenced his successful career selling good and groceries. Just below McNulty town, on Wilson's reservation, James McCartney built the present "Bone homestead," the first brick house built in that part of the new county, and with the Indian reservations and adjoining small tracts purchased from the original owners located a plantation of two thousand acres. John Derrick owned the south half of Wilson's reservation, on which he lived for a long time.

In Killenwrth's Cove and east of Maysville nearly all of the available lands were purchased at the land sales, and I believe that Caswell B. Derrick is the only survivor of the original purchasers. In this vicinity were settled in 1830 David Pockrus, Sampson Province, Vincent Derrick, Samuel and John and Jonathan Tipton, Robert Light and Richard Bowhanan, many of whom died on their original homesteads. The lands from the Tennessee line down to Gurleysville were nearly all taken up at the land sales in July. The country from John Gurley's south to Paint Rock and Tennessee rivers was offered for sale in October, 1830, and will be takeh up in another chapter.

CHAPTER XI - LAND SALES OF OCTOBER, 1830--GURLEYSVILLE AND COLLIER'S (April 10, 1884)

From the point of the ridge forming the limit of Killinsworth Cove Hurricane Creek is deflected westwardly by the low cedar ridge known fifty years ago as Gurley's Mountain. Crossing the low gap commencing at the Steger place and ending at John Gurley's old homestead we come to the splendid body of land to which I have already alluded, reaching from Gurley's to Keel's Meuntain and from the waters of Hurricane to those of Paint Rock, and divided nearly equally by the line of Madison and Jackson running due south on the range line. The greater number of the purchasers of these lands were among the earliest settlers in the county, and their names are on our records back to the extension of organic law into the county. The McBrooms and Criners were related, and Stephen McBroom came here with Joe and Isaac Criner and one or two others on an exploring tour about the year 1804, and they were the first white men of whom there is any authenic record who visited Mountain Fork and Hurricane valleys. At the time of the land sales these men, with the McCartys, Rountrees, Reagans, Peeveys. Cromers, Stegers, Keels, Thomas M. King and others, were old citizens of the county, living along the line of Old Madison, and in 1830 purchased the greater portion of the territory in New Madison above mentioned. The fertile red clay lands were covered with a forest of towering poplars and the river bottons and low lands were a thick canebrake with narrow paths traversing them to the rivers. The country was full of game and was a favorite hunting ground for the sportsmen from the older portion of the county, John Gurley and Thomas M. King had settled near the big spring, south of the Vincent place, then a clear, lasting and large basin of water, and their hospitable home was a favorite resort of Thomas Brandon and other lovers of field sports during the hunting season.

At the land sales Thomas McBroom located the present Gurley homestead,

and Caswell B. Derrick was just north of him near the Steger spring. John Gurley purchased and built at his old homestead, and west of him, extending down to the corporation line of Gurleysville, John and Charles McCartney purchased half a section of land, and out west near the cedar ridge were the homes of George Lane and Thomas Ferguson. Robert Rountree lived at the present homestead of Wm. R. Gurley. For many years thereafter the land round Gurleysville was in the woods with no public road except the old Belle Fonte road on the east, running near the county line. The settlement along the base of Keel's Mountain consisted of a few small clearings, isolated from each other by a heavy forest growth. But the country improved very fast, and the industrious farmers, with abundance of fine building material in easy reach, constructed many substantial dwellings of hewn poplar that still remain in good condition. The old Gurley homestead, the McBroom and McCartney homesteads have been destroyed by fire, the two first during the war, the last since, but the houses built by Robert Reagan, Mai Taylor and David Cromer still remain in a good state of preservation. John Gurley became the owner of the greater portion of the lands east and north of Gurleysville. and there were but few better plantations in the county than the body of land he possessed. The Taylor place was entered by Wm. Keel, who sold to Mai Taylor in 1832 and settled on the mountain at the Chalybeate Spring, where he lived for a long time and gave the mountain its present name. Wherey Whittaker also settled at the base of the mountain, afterwards removed to the top, and thence to the neighborhood of New Hope, where he is now living. He and Mai Taylor are the only survivors of the old settlers of the land in Ashburn's Cove.

David Cromer and John Gurley built the first mills on lower Hurricane, both of which were kept up for a long time. Robert W. Peevey purchased the lands now owned by John W. Grayson at the spring, and Peevey's spring was the muster ground of the old militia battalion for over a quarter of a century. Just west of Gurleysville lived Samuel Barron, a school teacher of the olden time. He was of Irish birth, a man of will and varied information, with old orthodox ideas of training and discipline, and for the best of reasons is well remembered by scores of the old citizens of New Madison, who were boys when he was in the prime of his physical and intellectual strenth. He left two sons, Dr. Wm. J. Barron, of Huntsville, and Samuel B. Barron, a lawyer, and present Clerk of the County Court of Cherokee County, Texas. Thomas M. King, one of the oldest citizens in the county, was a Methodist minister widely known and highly respected in his time.

On the old Deposit road from Allen Sanford's to Peevey's spring there was no settlement for many years, and this whole country around to Gurleysville was a vast cattle and hog range for the people near the mountain. Sometimes the traveller would meet a drove of one or two hundred hogs roaming the woods, and their owners generally let them run in the woods until they were two or three years old before they were penned, fattened on corn and then made into bacon. These droves of porkers, when interrupted by dogs, were sometimes quite formidable, and hunters on foot sometimes had to take to trees and logs for safety, while their dogs had to run for their lives. On one occasion Thomas Brandon with a small hunting party was enjoying the hospitality of old brother King, and while on a hunting expedition had a severe battle with a drove of hogs that resented the intrusion of the hounds on their domain. After a lively skirmish their porcine antagonists were routed, but two or three of their best dogs were badly cut up in the encounter. They put their

dogs in a wagon and carried them to Parson King's. As was usual in slave times the kitchen was some distance from the house, and after supper while the Parson's cook, Manda, a full-blooded African, full of the superstition of her race, was getting the dishes together to carry to the kitchen to wash, the party went out to see about their dogs. A chilly, drizzling rain had set in, and the dogs were shivering from cold and loss of blood. Parson King suggested that the dogs should be wrapped in their bright-colored saddle blankets and carried into the kitchen and laid round the wide fireplace to dry, and his suggestions were promptly carried out. The more pretentious of our county people at this time were discarding the old-fashioned pewter and were beginning to make a display of delf ware and China on special occasions .- Therefore it so happened that Manda started to the kitchen with the whole precious lot of her mistress's finest table ware, and just before she reached the door she saw the pile of dogs in ghostly garb. and with an unearthly yell she dropped her precious burden on the ground and breaking it in pieces she fled to the house, and could not be induced to go back until the dogs were unveiled.

John McCartney was a keen sportsman and a celebrated bee hunter, and as bee trees were abundant he would go out and locate the conrse of the swarms, blaze a few trees to indicate the converging directions from different points, and then with a company prepared with axes, old rags, pails and pans he would unerringly ferret out the hiding places of the wild swarms, and the party would return laden with the rich deposit of the despoiled hives.

About this time the rough canebrakes about Cole's spring were the resort of a gang of rogues and conterfeiters that gave considerable trouble to honest citizens, and there is a tradition that, under pretense of manufacturing saltpetre, they carried on their counterfeiting operatious in the saltpetre cave on the Cole place. This gang was broken up through the potent influence of Captain Slick, whose name was at that time the terror of evil doers. A considerable amount of saltpetre was manufactured in this cave by the citizens to use in making gunpowder, and the remains of their old hoppers are still be saen. Keel's Mountain is about six miles across, and by the roads it is about eighteen miles round the mountain, and on it there are coal deposits that may prove at some day to be valuable.

From the corner of the Cherokee cession south of Guilford Bennett's the old Indian line runs on an air line to the Tennessee river, skirting Flint river from the McClung place to where it crosses above Wood's mill, and from that point all the country between Flint and Paint Rock is in the twelve miles square reserved by the Indians for educational purposes. From near Maysville to the old Larne Ferry on Paint Rock below New Hope there were but few settlements prior to 1830. There was an old settlement at the Cave Spring, and George Russell and David Lemly located on public land at Vienna, now New Hope, at an early day. Among the purchasers in 1830 in the neighborhood of Collier's Store and Cave Spring were Clement Baldwin, Jonathan Collier, Thomas Ellison, Bryant and R. W. Cobb, Josiah Cook and William and Richard Glover and George Eason. Jonathan Collier, an old militia captain, settled the old Wm. Wright place, and has many descendants still living in Collier's precinct, and Thomas Ellison was a prominent and influential man at that time. His son in-law, Joseph Collier, a son of Jonathan Collier, is the oldest living representative of these families.

-81-

David Cobb settled at an early day near Cobb's ford. His sons, Bryant and W. R. W. Cobb, were both prominent men in their time. Bryant Cobb was in the mercantile business for some time, in which he met disasters that seriously effected his business enterprises, but for half a century he was a prominent figure in that country, and died some two or three years ago at an advanced age. W. R. W. Cobb was raised in that neighborhood, and commencing life as a plow boy he became successively clock peddler, general trader and merchant. Removing to Jackson county he was elected to the legislature and then to congress, in which he served for fourteen years, and being invincible before the people would, but for the war, have remained there until he thought proper to retire from the field. His natural shrewdness and intimate knowledge of human nature obtained by a wide experience made him the most formidable opponent ever encountered by an aspirant for congressional honors, and the utter rout, at the polls, of such men as William Acklen, Jere Clemens, C. C. Clay and Jas. M. Adams, all far his superior in educational advantages, was to him but child's play. The Cobbs, with their other remarkable charactristics, were Titans in stature, towering several inches above ordinary men. During the days of W. R. W. Cobb's supremacy, when he mingled among his constituents at their political gatherings, he was the observed of all observers. The suavity of his address, his towering stature, the reach of his arms, his coolness, self-possession and undaunted courage and perseverance more than counterbalanced his lack of early educational facilities. and extended his popularity with the people of his district. The Cobb family is still numerous and influential in the county, and Dickson Cobb, now the oldest representative of the family, has served many terms as county commissioner. John Allison, a man of Irish descent and brother-in-law of Bryant and W. R. W. Cobb, was for a long time county commissioner, and was an early settler near Cave Spring, where from an humble beginning he by industry and economy accumulated a fine property, which is still owned by his heirs, of which there are many, he having left no direct descendants.

The lands thrown open to purchasers in 1830, which lie along the Deposit road from John W. Grayson's to the Cave Spring were taken up rapidly, and the whole region soon became thickly populated by a moral, intelligent and industrious community, whose descendants still form the best element of the lower Flint river country.

CHAPTER XII - LAND SALES OF OCTOBER, 1830--POPLAR RIDGE AND VIENNA (April 17, 1884)

South of Collier's Store Keel's Mountain and a low detached ridge extending westwardly from Cave Spring to the Fleming place. reaching nearly to the old boundary line, before the county districts were divided with reference to the sixteen sections formed a geographical as well as legal division between Collier's Store and the large district south of it, all of which was originally in the Vienna precinct. This country now includes four voting precincts, to-wit: New Hope, Owen's X Roads, Poplar Ridge and Cloud's Cove, of which Poplar Ridge was formed many years before the civil war.--Among citizens of the older part of the county who were here with the first settlers and selling out lands in Old Madison permanently located in this part of this county were Jabez L. Drake, George Dilworth, George and Robert Woody, the Middletons, Brazletons, Ledbetters, Joseph and Isham Collier and Jason L. Jordan, and the Whittakers.

Around Bethel Church, at the southern base of Keel's Mountain, was a body of fine poplar land that was located at the land sales of October, 1830. In what is now known as Manning's Cove the upper portion was entered by Wm. Honea, who made his first improvement at the head of the Cove, and the part including the Big Spring was entered by Wm. Babb, who built the houses still standing near the spring. This spring is the head of what is known as Trimble's creek that meanders sonthward four or five miles over some fine lands to Paint Rock. Francis Flippen, who purchased his first quarter section at the land sales to which by subsequent purchases he made considerable additions, came here from Virginia about the year 1819 or '20. and settled the place now belonging to the heirs of Dr. Isaac Sullivan, who was one of the pioneer Methodist ministers of that period and was afterwards a physician of high repute in New Madison.

The largest purchaser of land in that neighborhood was Edward Maples. who not only entered all the lands on the original homestead now owned by F. T. Butler, one of his descendants, but likewise made some purchases apart and separated from his homestead, among which was what is known as the "Cole eighty," north of "Bethel Cemetery." The Maples family have probably contributed a larger quota of pioneer population to the southern and western country than any other family in the State. The family came here from East Tennessee a short time before the year 1830, and their immediate ancestor, Noah Maples, was a soldier of the revolutionary war, and one of my first recollections of him was the prominent position assigned him at fourth of July celebrations and on public occasions as the surviving representative of the revolutionary war in his community. To the best of my recollection he was but once married, and he and his wife raised a family of nineteen or twenty children, the large majority of whom were boys, nearly all of whom reared large families in Madison and Jackson counties. The family generally had many of the old pioneer traits characteristic of their ancestry and also their pluck and enterprise, and as they grew up sought new homes in the west, where they, as a general rule, were prosperous. Although the family have numerons representatives in Madison and Jackson counties, yet in many counties of Missouri, Northern Arkansas and Texas we find them as fully represented as here in their original home. Of the sons of old Noah Maples, Ed, Peter, George, Josiah and James settled in New Madison, and several of the family, among whom were Moses and William, in Jackson county. Josiah Maples entered eighty acres of land east of Gurleysville, but I think he soon sold out and moved westward. Peter Maples now lives on the lands he purchased at the land sales in the house built by him nearly fifty years ago. He has been pastor of the Primitive Baptist Church for nearly forty years, and being well known to every old citizen of New Madison and still living in the enjoyment of health and with but little impairing of mental or physical vigor, I will not shock his modesty by paying that tribute to his sterling qualities of head and heart that my long and intimate acquaintance would jusjustify.

Thomas Woodall and Wm. Barclay purchased lands near Bethel Church, and Barclay's place was afterwards purchased by John C. Grayson, a man full of energy and enterprise, who put up a mill and cotton gin that ran all winter by the waters of the falling spring that during the large part of the season forms a romantic and beautiful little waterfall in the heart of the mountain above Bethel. Thos. Woodall established a hemp factory on his place, and but for the hard times of 1830-40 coming on them in the beginning

of their enterprises they would have succeeded in making the Bethel neighborhood a considerable industrial center. From Bethel towards Paint Rock Thomas Riddles, Joseph Manning and Job Wilhelms and Abe Atchley were the only purchasers of the land sales of 1830--the Woodalls and Kennemurs and Bryant Cobb at Cobb's mill making their entries a year or two later. From Bethel towards New Hope was an unbroken wilderness down to old Jimmy Taylor's place, where there was a settlement occupied by James Taylor, James G. Holmes, the Wooddys, George Dilworth, Henry Stammers, John Harless and others, on which lands there were but little improvements made and but few houses built.

What is now known as the big bend of Paint Rock remained vacant for some years longer, when it was occupied by the Whittakers, Staples, Vanns, Ikards and others, many of whom still live on their old homesteads. In fact both on Paint Rock and Flint but little of what is known as river bank land in this region was cleared until after the year 1865. At that time there was hardly a break in the timber along Paint Rock from Cobb's mill to the mouth of Cedar Creek, but now it is almos tone continuous field of cleared land of as fine corn land as can be found in the county. Jason L. Jordan, of Old Madison, purchased land near Vienna. I believe it was the lands afterwards owned by Dr. Davis Moore Thomas Vann, Sr. located the lands north of the town. The quarter section on which the town is located was purchased at the land sales by James McCartney and Robert Owen, and the town was laid off into lots for Robert Owen by Wm. B. Fant shortly afterwards.

The Deposit road was opened in time of the Creek war by General Jackson from New Market to Deposit Ferry, and was long called Jackson's trace. I do not know when Geo. Russell settled at Vienna, but I think he was keeping a hotel there for several years before the land sales. Aaron Harrison and Wm. Allison entered the lands south of the quarter section line and lived there for many years. Wm. Cloud was the first merchant there, and the town was first called Cloud Town, but in the year 1832 it was incorporated under the name of Vienna, but under the post-office regulations forbidding two postoffices of the same name in a State, and there being another Vienna in Alabama, the post-office was called New Hope, from the Methodist Church in the town, and the town was recently incorporated under that name. John Kennibrugh commenced the mercantile business there in the early days of the town, and was successful and prosperous in business. William Stone established a tan-yard there, and was long one of its most influential and prosperous citizens, and just before the war he emigrated to Talladega. It is said that his brother, George W. Stone, now Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, lived there a short time before he went south in pursuit of fame and fortune.

There was but little of the public lands sold in 1830 east of New Hope in the bend of Paint Rock, Joseph Stapler and one or two others being all who located theh lands that year.--West of New Hope on Paint Rock and along the Cedar Ridge there was a considerable settlement, the ancestors of the Hamers, Vanns and Hannahs being among the number who settled there. Reuben Lemley and Benjamin Inman entered the lands on the Phipp's place near the old fish trap. Many of the Lemly family are still citizens of the county, but there are but few representatives of the old Inman family remaining in the county.--There are but few people aware of the fact that the Inmans, some of whom are bankers in Georgia and others merchant princes in New York and Philadelphia, who were proprietors of the famous Inman line of ocean

steamers plying between New York and Liverpool, a little over forty years ago, were poor boys living on Flint river. Benjamin Inman entered land on Flint in 1830, and the elder sons of the family shortly afterwards sought their fortunes in the older States. The last of the family who went northward to join his brothers about the year 1838 left Vienna on a sorry pony, and he is now one of the richest merchants in the city of Philadelphia.

Out towards Ashburne's Ford John D. Wylie and Elisha Bell entered large and valuable tracts of lands, and west of the river John Ashburn, the Gardners, Stephen Richards, Sol. Spence and John Hobbs, all locating large bodies of lands, occupied nearly all the fine fertile lands from the mouth of Flint to the Cherokee line at John Logan's, including Chickasaw, now Hobbs' Island. A small portion of the Big Cove was in New Madison, and Burgess and Robert McGaha, Francis Worley and John Neal came across the old boundary line and settled west of the river near Woods' Mill. The mill, now owned by Walter O. Carpenter, was put up by Thomas D. Leonard and John C. Grayson, and is one of the old landmarks of New Madison. The land on which the mill is located was a fraction entered in 1830 by Dickson Cobb, and he and Azariah Cobb and Nancy Cobb owned the land west of the public road for two miles.

It was the year 1830 that Major Fleming made his first purchase in the "Tall Timbers," as he named this region, and for over a quarter of a century was the most popular and influential man in that region. Before the war he had purchased a large plantation in that region, that is now cut into smaller farms, with many settlers. A large number of old citizens who came into the county many years before this period located in this country and bought homes within a few years after the land sales, among whom may be mentioned the Elletts, Greens, Ledbetters, Carpenters and Millers, whose descendants form a numerous and influential element of their community at the present day. The Ledbetters were among the oldest settlers in the county, some of them being here in the year 1809 or '10, and many of them were prominent citizens, of whom John W. Ledbetter was the first tax collector elected by the people from the south-eastern part of the county. He was afterwards a prosperous merchant at New Hope, since the war a member of our State legislature, and now lives at Weaver's Station, in Calhoun county.

New Madison increased in population very rapidly, and soon became an important and influential section, as in the days of exclusively white suffrage its almost solid white population gave it the balance of power in our local elections.

I have now detailed the occupation and settlement of the last addition to our county limits, and in future articles my history will relate to the county with its present boundaries, which have not been materially altered since the land sales of 1830.

CHAPTER XIII - PUBLIC MEN FROM 1830 TO 1835 (April 24, 1884)

From the year 1820 to 1830 the population of Madison county increased from 17,481 to 27,990, or a little over ten thousand in ten years. In the south-western portion of the county the occupation of the fertile and

valuable farming lands of that region had largely increased the slave population, which outnumbered the whites until the advent of a large white population of small farmers in New Madison, just before the land sales, restored the balance, so that, by the census of 1830, the white and slave population were nearly equal. In the year 1830, the anti-bellum population of the county attained its maximum, as, from reasons to be given hereafter, there was a decrease of over two thousand in our population from 1830 to 1340, and but little difference in that number up to the census of 1860

From the year 1830 all the lands in our present limits have been open to entry and settlement, and for many years after the land sales many of the best farming tracts in New Madison remained vacant. An act of congress had appropriated four hundred thousand acres of the unsold land in and adjoining the Tennesse valley to the State of Alabama, to be sold by the State and the proceeds applied to the opening of the Muscle Shoals. This land was sold in lots from twenty acres upwards, and the greater portion sold in Madison county under this act was purchased by speculators, as there was but little demand for this class of lands for purchasers. The swamp lands, as they were called, sold under this act, were generally in the river bottoms and covered with cane, and the portion purchased by land-owners generally consisted of small tracts adjoining their farm, to prevent future intrusion or for the timber where their original purchases included land, all of which was susceptible of profitable cultivation.

From the settlement of New Madison until the advent of railroads the intercourse between the people in the eastern and western portions of the county was restricted, and the greater portion of the trade of small farmers was with merchants in their own localities. There was but little cotton raised east of the mountains, and that little was generally bought by the country merchants, who either sent it to Nashville in wagons that returned laden with goods, or they consigned it to commission merchants, who advanced them money on it and sent it down Tennessee river to New Orleans, and, except those peddling to Huntsville, very few of our small farmers living at a distance from the county site ever had occasion to come here on business.

The roads across the mountains toward Maysville and the Big Cove were newly opened and rough and difficult in winter, and Flint river, without bridges, frequently interposed a serious obstacle to travel. There are many citizens of New Madison who now visit Huntsville every week, raised in the county, who, until they attained their majority, had not visited the county site half a dozen times.

The older portion of the county, occupied by opulent slave holders making cotton bales by hundreds, gave Huntsville its original prosperity, and while there is doubtless a great increase in the mercantile business of the town, yet it is of quite a different character from that of 1830 to 1840. At that time a large majority of our planters raised their supplies at home, and corn or meat was seldom if ever seen on sale at the stores. But luxury and extravagance among the wealthier classes became the order of the day, and the merchants found their profit in the sale of goods, wares and merchandise pertaining to well ordered households and to customers who did not haggle over prices but turned over their cotton to their merchants at the close of the year, with the simple direction "Take my account out of it and keep the rest until I call for it." In those days suspicion or distrust seldom arose between

merchant and customer, and the long and intimate business relations subsisting between these parties, some of them for over a quarter of a century, is unquestionable evidence of the honesty and fair dealing of the merchants of that period.

But the yearly elections did more than anything else to extend the acquaintance of the two sections. As I have before stated, the voting population repidly increased in the new sections, and as Old Madison, for some twelve or fifteen years after the land sales furnished all the candidates, it is reasonable to suppose that they lost no time in making acquaintance with the new section that persisted in staying at home and attending to its own business.

From 1830 to 1835 witnessed radical changes in county officers and the retirement from office of the men who came in with the State Constitution and had served continuously with the approbation of their constituents until the time above mentioned. Most of these officers retired voluntarily to spend their old age free from public cares, and one or two of them were beaten on the clamor for rotation in office. The younger generation were more in sympathy with the spirit and progress of the age, and this period witnessed the advent into public life of a class of men who for a long period of years were prominent figures in our county affairs. C. C. Clay was on his first term in Congress, and Gabriel Moore in the United States Senate. John Vining was State Senator from 1830 to 1835, and in addition to several of the representatives already mentioned the names of Henry King, James G. Carroll, Samuel Peete, George T. Jones, Jabez Leftwich, John D. Phelan and Wm. H. Glasscock, all of whom are favorably known to the older men of the present day, appear in the list of our members of the lower house. The county did not endorse rotation in office, as regarded political offices, but elected, year after year until they voluntarily retired, such men as Dr. Thomas Fearn, Samuel Walker, James W. McClung and James Penn. the latter of whom was speaker of the house in the years 1830 to 1831.

In the year 1833, Arthur F. Hopkins, one of the most brilliant and popular men of his time, and afterwards the leader of the Whigs in the State of Alabama, made his debut in politics as a member of the legislature from the county of Madison. Hon. Samuel Chapman, Judge of Madison County Court, had gone into office on the creation of the county court in the year 1823, and retired from the office in the year 1832, having been elected at that time judge of the seventh judicial circuit, where he occupied the judicial bench until the year 1849, making over a quarter of a century holding a judicial office in our State. John C. Thompson, a man well known to the old citizens of Huntsville, succeeded him and held the office for twelve years.

Thomas Brandon, who held the office of clerk of the county court while Alabama was a territory, and afterwards, by successive elections by the people, to 1832, was in that year succeeded by Richard C. Purdem, who had served a term as assessor and collector fer the county from 1829 to 1832, and who now entered on the duties of clerk of the county court, which he performed acceptably for a period of twelve years. Lemuel Mead, who was deputy clerk in the superior court under Francis E. Harris, and a member of our State convention, was elected clerk on the organization of the courts in 1820, and was the only old officer who held over after the general election in 1832, resigning his office in 1836, when Wm. H. L. Brown succeeded

him. Many of the books of these old clerks are models in chirography and accuracy, with few erasures or blots, and must have represented a vast expenditure of clerical labor, as many of the books, from beginning to end, are but little inferior to copper plate and will compare favorably with the records of any age or country.

The constitution enforced rotation in the sheriff's office, which had become a lucrative one, and in 1830 was filled by Jeff. Mills, long a prominent and influential citizen of Madison county and son-in-law of Thomas Brandon. He was succeded by J.R.H. Acklen in 1831, and he by Daniel B. Turner in 1834, who on the expiration of his term of office served three years in the State Senate. He also served a term as postmaster of Huntsville, and was one of the most popular and influential of our public men. He died in the year 1866, and living through our civil war, in addition to the wreck of fortune and the usual calamities attending that disastrous period, experienced the saddest affliction in the death of his only son, James Camp Turner, one of the most promising young men of his time who fell in the first battle of Manassas.

James McCartney, Gross Scruggs, Stephen Biles and George T. Jones served as county commissioners for the greater portion of this time, and the county never had an abler or better board. On the death of James McCartney the vacancy was filled by Thomas McCrary, a man of fine business qualifications, who remained as member of the board until 1854, being the longest term of service in our county on record.

In the selection of officers to the time of which I write our county was peculiarly fortunate, as they were without exception, selected from the best of our citizens, and were so acceptable to the citizens of the county that there was but little disposition to change. There was but little of the political element in the selection of county officers, and when the old offices chosen on the formation of the constitution retired to private life they were succeeded by younger men full of energy and imbued with the progressive ideas of the period, who gave to the county prosperity at home and an enviable reputation abroad.

CHAPTER XIV - MADISON COUNTY 1835 AND '36--THE TEXAS REVOLUTION (May 1, 1884)

In a former chapter I gave a brief sketch of the old militia organization in the county and the names of some of the old company commanders. For many years prior to the period of which I now write there had been a military organization under different names in the city of Huntsville. In the year 1816, John W. Walker, in a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, asking that the old Planters and Merchant's Bank at Huntsville be made a bank of deposit for government bonds, after detailing the wonderful prosperity of the new county and city, states that there are two regiments of militia in the county besides a company of light infantry in the city. In the militia law of the legislature of 1821 the light infantry company of Capt. Jno. K. Dunn is exempted from its provisions, and this was probably the first company in the State regularly enrolled as "State troops." But in the year 1829 the old "Huntsville Guards" was organized, and for many years comprised in its ranks many of our best citizens and earned a reputation for tone and discipline. This company organized under the auspices of John K. Dunn and

Payton S. Wyatt, both men of military predilections, who, if they had not lived in a peaceful era, might have gone down to posterity with heroes who lived in later days. It numbered among its officers men like John C. Spotswood, Judge John C. Thomas and John W. Otey. In 1832 Payton S. Wyatt was elected Colonel of militia and was succeeded by Capt: John C. Spotswood, under whom the company was in its highest state of efficiency, and on his removal from Huntsville to practice his profession in Athens, John W. Otey was elected to succeed him and was an able and zealous officer of the company for many years. This company and its successor, the famous "Huntsville Rifles," the larger portion of whose members died on the battlefields of civil war, were the training schools of many of the officers of the Madison county companies who made a lasting reputation during that eventful period. Dr. John C. Spotswood, as far as I know, is the last surveying officer of the old Huntsville Guards, and there are but few of its old members now living.

Between the years 1830 and 1836 emigration from Madison county to Texas commenced. From the year 1803, when Louisiana was ceded by Spain to France, this has been debatable land with a disputed boundary, and when the United States with its restless border population, obtained possession of the lower Mississippi valley there were a series of battles around San Antonio and the old Alamo, the most serious of which was the defeat and wholesale massacre of a revolutionary army, 2500 strong, near San Antonio in 1836. But when Mexico formed a Republic and Moses and Stephen Austin had planted a flourishing American colony in the heart of Texas, there was a large emigration in that direction. The emigrants from Madison county went to New Orleans in flat-boats and thence on shipboard to Galveston. The first large body of emigrants from this county who went down the Mississippi and across the gulf in the early autumn of 1832 were most unfortunate. Before the vessel on which they embarked reached the mouth of the Mississippi the Asiatic cholera, that had gradually crept down the Mississippi from Canada and the great lakes, broke out on board of the vessel .-- The officers of the panic-stricken ship concluded to make a push for Galveston, but a storm arose and delayed their voyage for three days, and the storm raging without and the cholera preying on the panic-stricken passengers shut up in the hold of the vessel intensified the horror of the situation. Before the ship reached the land, out of one hundred and thirty passengers over sixty had died and had been buried in the sea, and many others died after they reached the land. The Nimmos and Davises were among the sufferers, three brothers of the Nimmo family dying on the voyage; but the survivors of this unexpected calamity pushed on into the upper country and performed their part in the stirring military events that were soon to follow.

At the commencement of the Texas revolution the emigrant population of twenty thousand in that State had come principally from the Southern States of Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi, and the news of the bloody tragedies at the Alamo and Goliad, in February and March, 1836, aroused the whole southern country to arms. There were in every county friends of the murdered heroes, and at the time of the battle of San Jacinto and the sudden termination of the invasion of Texas, thousands were "en route" for the theatre of the war. I have already mentioned Capt. Peyton S. Wyatt. He was a brother-in-law of B. S. Pope and uncle of Mrs. Frank Mastin, and raised a company in Madison county in the spring of 1836 and marched them into Texas. He arrived there much to his chagrin too late for

the battle of San Jacinto, but participated in the closing scenes of the war and then came back with many of his command. He married a daughter of Col. Routt, an old citizen of Madison county, and returned to Texas a few years afterwards, where he died a victim of consumption. George D. Spotswood, a brother of Dr. J. C. Spotswood, was a member of his company, a promising young man, who died shortly after his return. The other members of the company that I can remember were Green Hamlet, Jno. C. Grayson, Wm. Wilson, brother of Mrs. Jack Fariss, Jas. V. A. Hinds, the last known survivor of the company, and Peter Daniels, their fifer. Jas. V. A. Hinds, for a long time our county surveyor and a man well known to our people, spent several years in Texas. William Wilson, who never married, died about two years ago, and was an old, well-known citizen of the county. Peter Daniels was a freedman of color, a barber, and the most famous fifer of the day. If his history as I have heard it is authentic -- and I do not doubt it -- he was a hero of the Texas revolution deserving a monument for courage and fidelity. It appears that Peter Daniels' reputation as a musician had spread over into Mexico, and when Wyatt's company disbanded he remained in the Texan service. and in the desultory warfare following the battle of San Jacinto was captured by a band of Mexican troops. They gave him the alternative of immediate death or enlistlng in their service as fifer. He scorned their offer, told them he would die before he would play them a single note, and refusing even when confronted with his executioners he was riddled with bullets. This is a striking illustration of the intense hatred of the Texan soldiery against their Mexican invaders and of the cold-blooded barbarity of the latter. which was retaliated by the Texans, at and after the victory of San Jacinto. Several of our old citizens lost friends and relatives either at the Alamo or Goliad, and even the schoolboys were ready to march to the rescue. Circulars were distributed asking contributions in money and the names of volunteers, and there was doubtless a considerable sum raised for the cause. I have seen one of these old documents in the handwring of Copt. Joseph Rice, of New Market, dated May 18th, 1836. The battle of San Jacinto had been fought on the 21st day of April, and in those slow-moving days our people probably had not heard full details of its glorious results. The document pledges the parties whose names are subscribed to contribute the amount opposite their names to the support of the cause of Texas if needed, and Joseph Rice, Elkanah Echols, Reuben Shotwell, Thomas Miller, Wm. B. Miller and Parhem N. Barker subscribed twenty dollars each, and many others sums from one dollar to ten, the whole amount pledged being one hundred and eightyone dollars. The name of Wm. Smith is recorded as a volunteer, but the triumph of the Texans rendered any further material aid unnecessary.

While our county enjoyed profound peace during this period, yet there was considerable excitement about Indian troubles in the central portion of the State, and they became so serious that Hon. C. C. Clay, in 1836, as Governor and commander-in-chief of the Alabama militia, ordered out the State Troops and took the field in person in co-operation with General Scott and Jesup. Several companies were organized in Madison county and their services tendered to the governor and they were enrolled, but the troubles were soon ended by the submission of the Indians, and our troops were engaged in no active services.

During the period of which I now write Byrd Brandon was United States Attorney for the northern district of Alabama and actively co-operated with Gov. Clay and General Jesup in organizing the militia of the northern

district for a war that seemed inevitable. Col. Brandon was a young brother of Thomas and William Brandon, whose names have so often appeared in this history, and was superior to either of them in native talent. He studied law under Governor Clay, and had hardly attained his majority when admitted to practice, and when he was thirty years of age, had been associated as partner with such men as Judges Taylor White and Silas Parsons, had been commissioned as aid of Governor Israel Pickens with rank of lieutenant-colonel, and on General Jackson's accession to the presidency received the appointment of Attorney General, which office he held through General Jackson's administration. The state of his health requiring a change of climate, he was appointed by President Van Buren consul to Campeachy, and died in that county in 1838, at the age of thirty-eight. His career was a short and brilliant one, and by his death Madison country lost one of the most promising of a brilliant array of statesmen that gave us the prestige we enjoyed in our State and national councils. Jno. D. Brandon, of our city, is a son of Col. Byrd Brandon, a worthy son of a distinguished father, who being well known throughout the State as one of the leaders of the bar of North Alabama and being intimately acquainted with the people of our county, requires no eulogy from my pen.

CHAPTER XV - MADISON COUNTY TO 1840 (May 8, 1884)

The period in our county's history of which I now write was an uneventful one. Except the rumor of Indian troubles, to which I alluded in the last chapter, and in which companies under command of Capt. John W. Otey. Capt. Rob't W. Peevey, and others not remembered, were enrolled for service, there were no wars nor rumors of war. Our people had gone on in the even tenor of their way and were devoting their energies to the cause of education and internal improvement. Green Academy had, until within a few years of this period, stood without a rival in North Alabama. and was the nursery in which were trained many eminent citizens scattered throughout the State. who were now on the threshold of a brilliant future. On the 15th of January, 1831, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, the Huntsville Female Seminary was duly incorporated, with Arthur F. Hopkins, John M. Taylor, J. J. Pleasants, Wm. Clark, Thomas Fearn, B. S. Pope, James G. Birney, John Martin and Harry I. Thornton trustees, and launching out under the control of such an array of able and distinguished names it is not strange that its reputation became national. It would be interesting, if possible so to do, to detail the long list of names of talented and cultured women who have been trained within its precincts during its more than half a century's existence. Throughout the whole Tennessee valley its students are dispersed, the mothers and wives of the older school of divines, lawyers, statesmen and politicians.

While our educational facilities were improving, our works of internal improvement, commenced under favorable auspices, experienced the disasters of the financial crisis covering the decade in our whole country's history from 1836. The causes of these disasters belong to national history, and I shall not attempt to discuss them, interesting as the subject would be. I shall merely note their influence on the local interests of our county, and detail not the cause but the effect upon our county's welfare. One good effect produced by the financial crisis was the abolition of

-91-

imprisonment for debt in 1836, an old law which, separate and apart from a humanitarian view, would soon have been imperative, as in the course of a year or two the debtors outnumbered the creditors.

The old Planters' and Merchants' Bank of Huntsville, the oldest in the State, on expiration of its charter, was succeeded by a branch of the State bank, and taxation was so light that when the State tax was abolished in 1836 the expense of the State government being paid out of the State bank, it was considered hardly worthy of mention; and when, on account of financial disaster to the banks, the legislature of 1843 levied a State tax--the first in seven years--there was no opposition and very little discussion of the matter.

Roads and turnpikes were considered as important by our fathers as by the present generation, and but for the financial crisis of 1836 our roads of the present day would be on quite a different basis. During this period the Decatur and Tuscumbia railroad, the oldest in the State, was constructed. The works of internal improvement that our fathers contemplated were the following: First, the opening of the Muscle Shoals, in which Madison county, on account of its enormous cotton crop, was most vitally interested. This failed on account of the inadequacy of the proceeds of the swamp lands donated to the purpose and the straight-laced opposition of the Democratic party, then in power, to appropriations for internal improvement, though some of the work on the Muscles Shoals was permanent and excellent in its character and the money not entirely thrown away. In connection with this was also the incorporation of the Madison Turnpike Company, in 1834, and the building of the turnkpike from Huntsville to Whitesburg, which has been of lasting benefit to our people. This work was undertaken and completed when the favorite project of a canal from Huntsville to Triana was abandoned as impracticable, though persisted in by the projectors until the undertaking threatened them with bankruptcy. It was the intention of our people to construct a turnpike from the Tennessee line to Tennessee river, and if the enterprise had been undertaken ten years earlier the project would doubtless have been accomplished.

In the year 1838 the Meridianville and Hazel Green Turnpike Company, under the auspices of Rodah Horton, Valentine Pruit, Dr. Wyche and other publicspirited citizens of Meridianville and Hazel Green, was incorporated. They were authorized to establish a stock company with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars to construct a turnpike from the terminus of the Whitesburg turnpike at the Green Botom inn to the Tennessee line. The line of this road lay through a region of wonderful fertility, the greater portion of which had been purchased at the land sales of 1809, and a large portion of the lands had been cleared and was in a high state of cultivation, yielding enormous crops. But while a few of the incorpators tided over the financial difficulties of the times many of the citizens along the route were seriously embarrassed by the financial disasters of the period and a large number utterly ruined and the the enterprise was abandoned. The financial pressure prevailed so long that the people did not recover sufficiently to renew the undertaking until just before the war, the blighting effect of which laid our industries prostrate, and our people lost the opportunity of carrying out an enterprise that would have been a nucleus to an improved system of roads that would have proved of incalculable benefit to our people.

In opening Tennessee river to navigation it was thought that Flint river, traversing the eastern portion of the county, and Paint Rock, skirting our

south-eastern portion, could be opened to navigation, and it was conceded that a portion of the two and three per cent. fund could be legitimately appropriated to that purpose. A slight appropriation had been made for the improvement of Flint that was of but little benefit to the people. The Flint River Navigation Company, incorporated at an early day, had been able with a favorable tide to freight cotton to the Tennessee in bateaux or keelboats, but neither they nor the State government made it a navigable stream. Paint Rock being a narrower but deeper stream was considered more available. In the year 1839 the State legislature appropriated ten thousand dollars to the improvement of the navigation of Paint Rock. The counties interested in the work were Madison, Jackson and Marshall. Three commissioners were appointed, to-wit: W. B. Robinson, of Marshall county, Eldred W. Williams, of Jackson, and Dr. Alfred Moore of Madison, with authority to employ competent persons to examine the river and make estimates of the costs. Then they were to let the work out to contractors, make all payments, receive vouchers and make return of their work to the legislature embodying a full report of all proceedings under the law This proved to be an ill-advised and unfortudate expenditure. The commissioners faithfully performed the duties enjoined by law in having the river examined, estimates and contracts assigned, and scrupulously disbursed the appropriation for the work done; but the great mistake made was in attempting to open the stream for navigation by the expenditure of so small a sum. The river was lined to the water's edge by a luxuriant growth of white oak and other heavy timber, and it was decided to begin the work by clearing the stream of all timber likely to fall into it and obstruct its navigation. The contractors concluded to cut down all such timber into the river, on the theory that the high floods of winter would float it into the Tennessee and clear the river of all obstructions of that character. The work was done in summer when the trees were full of sap and covered with foliage. The river for nearly half a century has sent its annual floods to the broad Tennessee, yet the trunks of the prostrate giants of the forest lie buried in sand and drift in the bed of the river, in many instances not a dozen yards from their first resting-place, and as for aught we know may lie there buried for ages to come. When winter came the logs refused to float, and so many were there that, unless at high tide, upper Paint Rock became the most unnavigable stream in the State. Nearly all the fords were obstructed and had to be cleared out, the boys dared not take a header into the tempting waters unless by close examination of the theatre of operations they were satisfied there was no danger of a flattening out by contact with a hidden log or impalement on a treacherous snag, and seining in these waters was unheard of.

More than all the disappointment and chagrin attending the failure of the enterprise and the wasting of the money was the sickness that followed. The people along and near the river who had hitherto enjoyed average health with other portions of the country were for several seasons scourged by miasmatic diseases which they reasonably attributed to the obstructions in the course of the stream and the decay of so much vegetable matter, the lighter portion of which was on account of the obstructions in the current thrown into the sloughs and ponds to generate miasma during the summer months. The lapse of time has improved the stream and restored health to the country, but Paint Rock would now be better adapted to navigation if not a dollar had ever been appropriated to improve it.

During the time of which I treat the old jail was taken off the square and a new one erected on the present site and the present court-house commenced.

CHAPTER XVI - REPRESENTATIVE MEN FROM 1830 TO 1840 (May 15, 1884)

This chapter will be partly retrospective. In past articles I have had frequent inquiries concerning certain of our older public men, which I propose to answer. Men like John Hunt, Leroy Pope, David and Alfred Moore, John W. Linter, Governor Clay and some others who spent their lives among our people do not require any further mention, as their whole history is familiar to our people. But a few of our earlier statesmen died before the memory of the present generation and many at the time or soon after the rapid settlement of the Tennessee valley in 1813 and '19 followed the tide of emigration and became leaders and pioneers in their settlements.

Many of the great statesmen of the South, born and raised in the county, went southward on the settlement of the Creek lands, and at the time of which I write were entering on a brilliant career. Many of the younger men of this latter class still survive, and wherever their lot is cast they are trusted and honored leaders among the southern people.

Dr. Henry Chambers was one of the most distinguished of the early politicians. He was a Virginian by birth and a member of our first constitutional convention. He was a man of ability, of high literary attainments, in easy circumstances and one of the most popular men in North Alabama. He was twice beaten for Governor by Israel Pickens, one of the most popular and influential men of his time, and in the year 1825 was elected to the U.S. Senate over Judge Wm. Kelly, also a Madison county man, but died in Virginia in February, 1826, before taking his seat. His family emigrated to Mississippi, where his sons became prominent, one of them representing that State in Congress. The good old county of Chambers was named in honor of him. Jonas Titus is said to have been the oldest member of the bar in North Alabama. having been admitted to practice long before Madison county was organized. He was a member of the territorial legislature for several terms, and when Alabama was formed into a territory, in 1818, was elected a member of the council, as the upper house was called. It so happened that he was the only member of that august body, was of course president, opened and adjourned and did all the voting, and enjoys the honor of being the only man who ever held the office of member of the counbil of Alabama territory.

Judge Wm. Kelly, who came here from Tennessee about the year 1817, was then in the prime of life and had been judge of the circuit court, brought with him a high reputation which he fully sustained. He was elected to Congress in 1821, when the whole State was his district, succeeding John Crowell or first member of Congress. He was soon after elected U. S. Senator and served until succeeded by Dr. Chambers in 1825. He was a member of the legislature of 1827, and soon afterwards removed to New Orleans, where he died about the year 1835.

Wm. J. Adair, nepew of Gov. Adair, of Kentucky, and a distinguished lawyer, came here about the time of the land sales of 1818, served in the legislature in 1823 and '24, was elected circuit judge in 1832, and died in office

in 1835. The brothers, Harry I and Jas. I. Thornton, were raised in Madison county. Harry I. Thornton was district attorney during the term of John Quincy Adams, and was elected judge of the supreme court in 1833. He resided for many years in Green county, which he represented in the State senate, was afterwards appointed to the lucrative office of land commissioner of California, and died in San Francisca in the year 1862. Jas. I. Thornton read law in Huntsville and was the law partner for a short time of Judge Henry W. Collier, who, after a short residence of two years in Huntsville settled in Tuscaloosa. Jas. I. Thornton removed to Green county, was Secretary of State from 1824 to 1834, and a prominent and influential man in Green county.

Neither must I omit to mention Judge Jno. E. Moore and Col. Sydenham Moore, sons of Dr. Alfred Moore, noble scions of distinguished family. They both read law and were licensed to practice in Huntsville. John E. Moore, the elder brother, removed to Florence and entered on the successful practice of his profession. He represented Lauderdale county in the legislature of 1847, and was elected judge of the fourth district in 1852, and remained in office until the war, and upon the occupation of North Alabama by the federals he removed to Greene county, where he died in 1864. Col. Sydenham Moore settled in Eutaw about the year 1833, after Capt. Otey's company of volunteers, of which he was a member, disbanded. He was judge of the county court of Greene, served a year in the Mexican war, was appointed judge of the circuit court in 1857, was soon afterwards elected to Congress by a large majority, from which he withdrew on the secession of of the State of Alabama, was elected Colonel of the Eleventh Alabama, and was mortally wounded in the battle of Seven Pines. He was a veritable chevalier Bayard. gentle and courteous in behavior, of graceful demeanor and of undaunted courage, a man without fear and without reproach.

Judge Richard Ellis, of Franklin, was an old resident of Madison county, coming here at an early date, was delegate to the constitutional convention from Franklin in 1819, was first circuit judge of the fourth circuit, serving from 1819 to 1825, was a prominent actor in the Texan revolution and president of the convention that declared its independence. He was related by marriage to the Garths, then of Morgan county.

John D. Phelan, one of Alabama's distinguished jurists and the father of Major Ellis Phelan, our present Secretary of State, was born in New Jersey but raised in Madison. He was for a time editor of the "Democrat," and in 1836 was elected State's attorney. He represented Madison county in the legislature in 1834 and '35 and Tuscaloosa county in 1839 and was speaker of the house. He was circuit judge of that district from the year 1841 to 1852, when he was elected judge of the supreme court and was clerk of the supreme court until the war, and after the war was professor of law in Sewanee University. His brother, James Phelan, was born in Madison county, learned the printer's trade under Philip Woodson, was State printer in the year 1841, afterwards removed to Aberdeen, Misssissippi, and was Confederate States Senator from 1862 to the close of the war. Jas. Phelan was an able journalist and as an orator had few if any superiors in the south. He married a daughter of Dr. Alfred Moore.

John McKinley came to Huntsville in 1818. At that time he was about forty years of age and a distinghished lawyer. In 1826 he was elected to

the U. S. Senate, and about that time settled in Lauderdale county, and was again elected in 1836, but before taking his seat he was appointed associate justice of the supreme court, which office he held until his death in 1852. The old war horse of Democracy, David Hubbard, of Lawrence, settled in Huntsville about the time he attained his majority 1814 or '15, working here as a carpenter. Young as he was he had served in the war of 1812 and was wounded at the battle of New Orleans. He read law here and about the year 1819 or '20 opened a law office at Moulton. He was a man of strong common sense, a shrewd politician and popular with the masses. During a public life of over forty years he was solicitor, member of the legislature, either in the senate or lower house for several terms, was member of congress in 1839 and 1849, but was thrice defeated by General Geo. S. Houston, who was invincible in his district. Maj. Hubbard lived many years after the war, and I believe died at an advanced age in Tennessee, his native State. Wm. I. and Dr. David Hubbard McLain, two worthy citizens of our county, are his lineal descendants.

Madison county has furnished so many eminent men who became prominent throughout the south that it is impossible to enumerate them. Among them were Dr. J. P. Coman and Luke Pryor of Athens, Gov. A. E. O'Neal of Colbert, Gov. John J. Pettus, of Mississippi, Gen. Jones M. Withers, Judge A. R. Manning and Dr. Claude Mastin, and Hon. Percy Walker, of Mobile, Wm. B. Modawell, of Perry, and A. J. Hamilton and Morgan Hamilton and chief justice Wm. Moore of Texas. Many of them, at the time of which I write, were in the prime of life and at the Meridian of fame, while others, many of whom are still living, were just entering on a successful and honorable carrer and belong to a later era.

Gov. Reuben Chapman, one of the most noted men of his time, was an old citizen of Morgan county, coming to Madison about the year 1850, when he retired to private life and was a citizen of this county until his death in 1882. He was a native of Virginia. He came to Huntsville in the year 1324. read law with his brother, Judge Samuel Chapmen, and was admitted to practice in Huntsville, but about the year 1825 removed to Somerville. In 1832 he was elected State senator from Morgan county, and remained in office until 1835, when he was elected to congress, defeating Robert T. Scott, of Jackson, and William H. Glascock, of Madison. In 1837 he was elected over ex Gov. Gabriel Moore by a large majority, after which he was reelected four successive terms with but little opposition. In the year 1845 Joshua W. Martin, an independent candidate, had defeated Col. Nat. Terry, the regular nominee of the Democratic party, for Governor by near six thousand majority .-- This was owing to divisions in the party on local questions, and the Whigs were very hopeful of electing Col. Nich. Davis in 1847 and obtaining control of the State. The Democratic convention, in 1847 nominated Gov. Chapman without any solicitation or effort on his part, and he was elected by a handsome majority, and his wise prudent and economical administration relieved the State from its embarrassing financial position and restored confidence in and gave permanent control of the State to his party. But the Democrats who had voted for Joshua L. Martin resented his exclusion from a second term and united with the supporters of Hon. Henry W. Collier in opposition to Gov. Chapman's renomination. In this crisis Gov. Chapman set an example that later politicians could well imitate. A majority of the convention were favorable to him, but under the two-thirds' rule, though his success was quite probable, yet there was danger to the party in a heated contest for the nomination, and Gov. Chapman, for the sake of harmony, voluntrily retired from the contest and gave his influence

-96-

and support to his distinguished successor. Gov. Chapman, at the earnest solcitation of our people, became a member of the legislature in 1855, but served only a single term and filled no public position since that date, except presidential elector in 1860. Gov. Chapman was largely gifted with practical sense, eminent tact and farseeing political sagacity, and as an active, vigilant and resolute public officer had but few equals and no superior. He did not shine as an orator, possessing but little personal magnetism, boasted of none of the arts of the demagogue, and his deportment rather repelled than invited undue familiarity. Yet with all these serious obstacles to popularity his endowments were of a character to give him a strong and lasting influence with the the people. His financial ability was of the highest order and gave him a prominent place on the congressional committees. His mind was a storehouse of useful knowledge and his fine colloquail powers enabled him to give his sound practical convictions on the issues of the day in an intelligible and impressive manner that edified and enlightened his hearers and gave him an enviable reputation for honesty, sincerity and sagacity. In his old age he was the Nestor of our younger politicians, a wise and disinterested counsellor, eminently liberal and conservative and deeply solicitous of the welfare of his adopted State.

During this decade the most distinguished emigrant to our county was Judge Wm. Smith, who came here about the year 1834. He had already been supreme judge and U. S. State senator in South Carolina and the political antagonist of John C. Calhoun, and left South Carolina on account of his disapproval of the nullification tendencies of his people. When he came here he had passed his seventieth year and had already made a national reputation. He served in our State legislature from 1836 to just before his death in 1840, when he left an immense estate, and his descendants of the fourth generation still own considerable property in Huntsville and vicinity.

CHAPTER XVII - HUNTSVILLE, 1830 TO 1840 (May 22, 1884)

I have brought up the history of the whole county to the year 1840, but I have not for a considerable period of time alluded to the city of Huntsville I heretofore endeavored to picture the appearance of the city in the days when, by the building of the storehouses of the old merchants, the public square, with the old brick courthouse on an eminence in its centre, began to take form and shape, and the substantial brick residences south of Williams street formed an elegant suburb rather than a part of the city. In the year 1830, with the exception of the comfortable brick tenements embowered in native forests, scattered around the city and generally environed by fertile fields in a high state of tillage, the town was compactly clustered round the three sides of the square east of the spring. The water works, commenced by Hunter Peel and James Barclay in 1823, were in successful operation, and the old breast-wheel in its ceaseless round was furnishing the city with an ample supply of pure water. The greater portion of the city was included in the old corporation between Lincoln, Williams, Gallatin and Holmes streets and much of the city beyond these limits was then in cultivation, with old-fashioned worm fences reaching the streets on either side. Old Green Academy stood nearly isolated and embowered in a grove of primitive forest trees with open fields on the north. west and south. From the junction of Green and Holmes streets Levin Sheperd,

-97-

Major Fleming, James Neely, Jere Murphy and some others had built north of Holmes street, with no settlements south. The residence and the lots, negro quarters and outbuildings of Thomas and William Brandon were located near the junction of Jefferson and Holmes, and there was a burial gound a little north of this point, through which Jefferson street now extends, and it is probable that beneath this busy thoroughfare are the last resting-places of some of the forgotten dead of the early city.

Martin Miller lived in a substantial log house on the site of Mr. Weil's present residence, and at the foot of the hill the old tan-yard was in successful operation, and through its opengates there was a constant throng carrying in hides and returning loaded with the leather, that was distributed throughout the farms of the county and made into shoes by itinerant cobblers who traversed the county with their kit of tools and made up the shoes for the farmers. On a large number of these plantations they made shoes both for black and white, and there was but little difference in the style and finish of the work, except that the farmers laid in the leather for negro shoes of the russet shade, as it came from the tannery, and bought a side or two of finished black leather for the family supply.

The road to Whitesburg was much traveled, and in the winter season became almost impracticable, and outside of the old city limits there was not a hundred feet of McAdamized road in the whole county.

The population of the city in 1830 was about two thousand, and the Methodists, Presbyterians and Primitive Baptists had erected houses of worship and were supported by large and liberal congregations. From the year 1830 to 1840, though embracing a period of great financial distress, yet was included a period of great improvement in the city and vicinity. The corporation extended one quarter of a mile from the court-house to each side of the 160 acres of land in its bounds, from which was excepted the negro quarter of Thomas and William Brandon on Holmes street, then called the western road. The old jail was built on the present jail lot in the year 1832, and the market house on the public square had been taken away and the market place removed to the Holding Block. The old brick court-house on the public square had become dilapidated and insecure, and after discussing ways and means for several years the commissioners finally let out the contract for the building of a new one. George Steele, a fine mechanie and a scientific architect, planned the building and drew up its specifications. Geo. Steele had come here from Virginia young and poor, but by his energy and mechanical skill contributed largely to the development of architectural taste among our people and soon made a wide reputation and acquired wealth. He married a daughter of Col. Matthew Weaver and raised a large family, among whom were the accomplished wife of the lamented General E. D. Tracy, Matthew W. Steele, the well-known architect, and Col. Jno. F. Steele, a celebrated civil engineer. But one of the men who contructed the court-house from corner-stone to minaret still lives in our midst, one of the last survivors of the celebrated mechanics of that era, whose finished and skilful workmanship gave both elegance and stability to our public and private edifices. Our fellowcitizen William Wilson and James Mitchell were awarded the entire contact, and broke ground for the new building in the month of July, 1836, and the first court was held in the new court-house in the fall of 1838. The excellent blue limestone of the foundation was quarried on Russell Hill. The whiter limestone of the steps into the hall and of the upper stone work was

quarried on the spurs of Monte Sano, and the paving material from "Round Top." Messrs. Wilson and Mitchell's contract included grading the site of the new court-house and removing the old one, and the workman, in grading the square and digging the foundation, excavated a considerable quantity of loose flat rocks, which they used in covering fissures in the rocks of unknown depths across which the foundation walls were carried. To look upon the level green sward of the public square and the substantial basement of the court-house would make it difficult to realize that underneath are vawning caverns reaching down to the hidden waters of Huntsville Spring, with arches cleft by fissures extending up to the foundation walls of the court-house. Yet so sure and solid was the foundation laid that there was not on its completion nor has there since ever been any perceptible change or difference in level, except a slight depression of its north-east corner. The bricks for the court-house were made by Messrs. Wilson and Mitchell on the lots now occupied by George M. Neely and Fred. A. Howe. which were afterwards graded to the street level and sold for building lots. The court-house cost about fifty-two thousand dollars, and when finished it was considered one of the finest edifices of the kind in the Southern States. Messrs. Wilson and Mitchell quarried the stone in the mounsains, made the brick, superintended hauling and transportation of all the material. and also directed and managed the inside work and plastering, and when they delivered the keys of the completed building to the county authorities they left to future generations a lasting testimony of their skill and fidelity as master builders.

While the court-house was in progress of construction George Steele was building the bank edifice, now occupied by the National bank, which is another monument to the skill and fidelity of the builders of that time.

Bartley M. Lowe, at that time in the meridian of his prosperity, contributed greatly to the improvement of the city by erecting store-houses near the court-house square. Andrew Beirne erected the present Post Office building. Robert J. Manning built the present Bell Factory store and also the costly residence north of Holmes street afterwards occupied by Dr. David Moore, and Judge Wm. Smith built the substantial and costly establishment covering what is now known as the "Calhoun block" or United States court-house.

Although the banks had suspended and a large proportion of its paper currency was worthless and nearly all at a heavy discount, yet the town was steadily improving, and the period from 1830 to 1840 was remarkable not only for the erection of our public buildings and many private residences that have contributed to the reputation of the city, but also for a vast amount of work in extending and grading the streets and improving the drainage. The completion of the Whitesburg turnpike was of great benefit to the people of the city and entire county in facilitating the transportation of our large cotton crop to Tennessee river.

I have now brought this history down to the year 1840. Here I propose to conclude my work for the present. Should time and opportunity be afforded to resume the subject in the future I will write of men who still survive or live in the memory of the older citizens now living. Since entering on this work I have obtained much valuable information from our old citizens, both verbally and by reference to many interesting papers they

have kindly placed at my disposal, and should I ever revise my work by the information so obtained I will be able to correct some errors in former articles and also to add materially to the subect matter. While from county records and other resources I have been able to give short biographical sketches of public men who were prominent in their several vocations, I have been able to glean but little of the history of our periodicals and journalists or of our pioneer churches and ministers who came here with our ancestors and built up our religious denominations as the country progressed. The abundance of the material available for the chronicler of events from 1850 to the present time and the necessity of careful and judicious selection demands more time and attention than I can, at the present time, bestow. Should it be my good fortune to collate and properly arrange material for the continuation of these articles to later times, I will then undertake the task of completing the history of the county to the present time.

(End, Later History of Madison County)

INDEX

A name is often found more than once on the page on which it is listed. "Madison County" and "Alabama" were not indexed. Surnames are capitalized. Aberdeen, Mississippi 95 BABB, Wm. 83 ABERNATHY, David 44, John 44 BACON, Thos. 44 BAGBY, Arthur P. 65, Governor 53 ABERNETHY, Thomas P. 19 ACKLEN, J.R.H. 88, William 82 BAGLESS, Hezekiah 29 AC(K)LIN, Joseph 22,44, Robert 43 BAILES, Eldridge 78 BAILEY, David 33, Hugh C. 19 BAKER, Allen LL, Allison W. 78, ADAIR 36, Gov. 94, Wm. J. 94 Adams Co., Miss. 20 ADAMS, H.W. 14, John Quincy 95 Hannah 77, Nathan 35, Saml. & Co. ADAY, Boose 44, Levy 44, Loyd 44 44, William 77 "Alabama Republican" 40 BALDWIN, Clement 81 Baldwin Co., Ala. Terr. 20 Alabama Territory 2,8,9,20,35,37,39, 52 BALEW, Nicholas 14, Peter 14 Alamo 89,90 Baltimore, Md. 11,41 ALFORD, David 42-44 Bama Wrecking Co. 17 ALLAN, James 36,37 BARBOUR, Jas. 2 Alleghany Ridge 71 BARCLAY, James 97, Wm. 83 ALLEN, Drury M. 34, Eliza 67, Rev. Barclay's place 83 John 67, Samuel A. 43, Walker 23, BARKER, Parhem N. 90 BARLOW, David 33 28, William S. 38, Wm. C. 43 ALLISON, John 22,82, Joseph 44, Barren Fork (Flint R.) 59 Robert 33, William 84 BARRON, Samuel 80, Samuel B. 80, ALVESTINE, Susannah 44 Dr. Wm. J. 80 BARROT, Wm. 45 BARTON, Wm. G. 60 Amite Co., Miss. 20 ANDERSON, A. 42, Ephraim(Ephrm.) 25, 26,31,42-44, Richard W. 58,77, BASS, John 42 William 58, William P. 5,7 BAXTER, Alexander 14, Jesse 44 BAYLES, Elias 42,44,45, Reuben 44 BAYLESS, 29,78, Hezekiah 23 ANGEL, John 38 ANYAN family 52 ANYON, George 44 BAYLIS, Daniel 44 ARBAUGH, Sally 44 BEAB, John 45 Arkansas 61,72,83 BEAL, John 45 BEALY, Capt. Robt. 44 ARMESTEAD, R.B. 60 ARMSTRONG and SAUNDERS 44 BEAT(T)Y, Robert 22, Capt. Robt. 44 ARMSTRONG, John 42, John M. 44, BECKER, Joseph & Co. 43 BECKHAM 34 Robert 44 ARP, Collin 43 BEIRNE & PATTON CO. 69 Art Metal Construction Co. 14,17 BEIRNE, Andrew 68,69,99, Col. Geo. ASHBURN, Lewis 44, John 85 Ashburn(e)'s Cove 75,80, Ford 75,85 P. 69 BELL, Elisha 85, Isham 45, J.W. 44, James 23,28,44, R.A. 44, T. 39, Atlantic Coast 74 Thomas 32,38,44, William 44, Wm. ATCHLEY, Abe 84 Athens, Ala. 89,96 D. 44 ATKINS, Daniel 23,28 Bell Factory 54,58,69,99 Belle Fonte 80, Creek Road 64 ATWOOD ЦЦ, (See BRAHAN & ATWOOD) AUSTEN, Thomas 32 BENDALL, Jesse 60 AUSTIN, David 44, Moses 89, Sanders BENFORD, Abner H. 44, Addison 42,44 42, Stephen 89, Thomas 35 BENIMON, John 26 BENNETT, Guilford 81 BENNION, John 31 B., Ephraim 37

BENTON. Thomas H. 74 BENTLY 32 BERRY, John 14, Robert 14 Bethel 83,84, Cemetery 83, Church 83 BETTS, Charles(Chas.) 9,35,53, Edward C. 19 BIBB 69, James 37, Thomas(Thos.) 3,7, 21,31,52, William 44, William Wyatt 9, Wm. W. 52 BIDDLE 36, John 42 Big Cove 52,59,60,65,66,85,86 Big Spring 5,6,15,18,83, Square 6 BILES 33, James 14, Stephen 37,66,88 BILLY (Waggoner) 44 BILS, Jos. H. 33 BINFORD, A.H. 44 BIRD, John 14, Jonathan 14, Michael 14 BIRNEY, James G. 67,91 BIRUM, Ebenezer 23,28 BISHOP, Archibald 44, H.H. 44, Henry <u>Ц</u>З BLACK, David 25,30 BLACKBURN, J.W. 44 BLAIR, John 34 BLAKE, William 38 BLAKLEY, Robert 45 BLALOCK, John Lili BLANKENSHIP, Jn. 45, Jr. 45 BLANKINSHIP, Jos. 44 Blevin's Gap 65 BLEVINS, Isaac 45, John 42,44,45 Blount Co. 12,52 BLOW, Peter 44 Blue Spring Campground 60 BOARDMAN 43, John 36,44 BOLEAOU, David 26 BOLLOO, David 32 BOND, Nelson 44 "BONE Homestead" 79 BOUDINOT 72 BOULDIN, W. Graves 60 BOWHANAN, Richard 79 BRADFORD (See CARROLL & BRADFORD) D.M. 61, D.N. 65, H. 44, Henry 44 Henry C. 43 BRADLEY, Terry 77 BRAGG's 60, Church 78 BRAGG family 78, Benjamin 78, Joseph 78, Luna 78, Thomas 78 BRAHAN & ATWOOD 44 BRAHAN & ROSE 44 BRAHAN, John 61 BRANDON, Byrd 90,91, Col. 91, Jno. D. 91, T. 44, Thomas(Thos.) 10,37,41,

44,49,52,66,79,80,87,88,91,98, W. 44, William(Wm.) 10,44,91,98 BRANSFORD, R. 38, Robert 38 BRANTLEY, William H. 19 BRAZLETON family 52,82, Henry 59,60, 64.65 BREWER, Willis 44 Briar Fork (Flint R.) 65 BRODNAX, cad. 42, F.S. George 42, J.P. 42, John P. 42, T.F. George 44 BROWER, Willis 42 BROWN, Henry 32,39, J.P. 45, John 42,44, John P. 32, John T. 42,44 Wm. H.L. 87, William(Wm.)(W.) H.T. 38,39,44 Brownsboro, Ala. 57,58,60,64,73 BRUNER, Willis 44 BRYANT, Jso. 45 BUFORD family 52 BUNCH, John 24,30 BURDOM, Richard B. 40 (See PURDOM) BURIS, Charles 23,29 BURKNER, John 38 BURLES(S)ON, James 28, Jonathan 24,29 BURLISON, James 23 BURNS, Patrick 44 BURRES, Charles 34 BURRIS, Parson 14 BURY, John 44 BUSART 23,28 Business Equipment Co. 17 BUTLER, F.T. 83 BUYS, James 44 BYRD, Richard 24,29, Stephen 44 BYRUM, Ebenezer CAIN, James 43, Thomas 42 CALHOUN, John C. 97 "Calhoun Block" 99 Calhoun Co. 85 CALLAHAM, A.M. 45 CAMPBELL, A.A. 45, Archd. 37, George 45, John 23,28,77, John H. 39, Parker 38 Canada 89 CANNON, David 45 CAPSHAW, David 38 CARLTON, Thomas 43 CARMICHAEL, Danl. 45 Carolinas 8,71 CAROLL & BRADFORD 45 CARPENTER family 52,85, W.C. 51, Walter 0. 85 CARRELL 42, John D. 41

CARROLL, James 77, James G. 38,54,87 CARTER, Clarence E. 19, John 21 CARUL, John D. 41 CARUS, Thomas 45 CARUTHERS, Hugh 42, Joseph 66, Martha 45, Morriss 42, Robert 66 CASAI 45 CASH, Ben., Benj. 42,45 CAULY, James 25,30 Cave Spring 81,82 Cedar-Creek 84, -Gap 55,60, -Ridge 76,84 Challenge Reservation 72 CHALLENGE, John 72 Chalybeate Spring 80 Chambers Co. 94 CHAMBERS, Henry 45,65, Dr. Henry 94 CHANDLER, J.B. 44 CHAPMAN, Gov. Reuben 96,97, Samuel (Sami.) 9,45,52-54,66,87,96 Charleston, S.C. 71 CHEEK, Stephen H. 45, Stephen S. 45 CHENAULT 25,30,34, William(Wm.) 26, 32,43 Cherokee Co., Texas 80 Cherokee Indian Boundary 1, Line 85 Cherokee Indians 51,64,68,70,72,73, 75,81 Chickasaw, Ala. 85 Chickasaw Indian Boundary 1 Chickasaw Indians 51,68,70,71,73,85 Chickasaw-Island 52, -Old Fields 51,61 CHIERNAULT, Stephn. 35 CHILDRES(S), James 25,30,31 CHILES (CHILLS), Thomas 42 Choctaw Indians 71 Claiborne Co., Miss. 20 CLARK, Alfred 42,45, Benjamin 60, Isaac 45, Saml. 44, Wm. 91 Clark Co., Ala. Terr. 20 CLAY plantation 76, C.C. 45,67,75,82, 87,90, Clement C(omer) 9,27,33,43, 52,65, Gov. 90, 91,94, H. 2 Clearcreek Road 64 CLEARY, James R. 16 CLEMENS & Mc. 45 CLEMENS, James 68, Jere 65,68,82 CLEMENTS, Benjamin 75 CLEM(M)ONS, James 45,68 Cleveland, Ohio 28,31 CLIFTON, Ámsey 45, William(Wm.) 45 Clinton Street 8,18 CLOPTON, William H. 38 CLOUD, J.H. 42, Wm. 84

Cloud's Cove 82 Cloudtown 84 CLUNN, Wm. 77 Cluttsville 59 COBB family 82, Azariah 85, Bryant 81,82,84, David 4,22,82, Dickson 82,85, Nancy 85, R.W. 81, Wm. 45, W.R.W. 82 Cobb's Ford 65,82, Mill 84 COCHRAN, James 78, Mrs. Roy J. 35 COFFBEY, William 39 COFFEE, John 5-7 00FFMAN, Danl. 43,45 COLBERT 96, Reservation 71 "Cole Eighty" 83 COLE place 81, plantation 76 Cole's Spring 81 COLLEY, C.K. 14 COLLIER family 52,61, Judge Henry W. 95,96, Isham 45,82, James B. 38, Jonathan 60,81, Joseph 81,82 COLLIER's 60,79,81,82, store 82 COLLINS, John 42 COMAN, Dr. J.P. 96 CONALESKY, Chief 72 Conecuh Co. 67 CONNALLY 65, Drury 59 000DY, James 45 000K 37, Isaac 78, Josiah 81 Cook Avenue, N.W. 18 COONS, James 45 COOPER, Solomon 42,45, William 45 COPELAND, James 43,45 CORNELIUS, Rowland 24,29 CORLOE, Wm. G. 45 COSBY, John 45, Robert 45 Cotaco Co. 43,52 COT(T)REL(L), J.A. 45, Major 59 COUCH, Thomas 22 COULP, Fredk. 45 COULTER, George 4,22 COWAN, Archer 45, Mose 45 COWART, Mrs. Eugene G. 40 00ZBY, John 42,45 COX family 69, Benj. 32, Charles 32, George 24,29, Henry 22,23,29, John 35, Peyton 23,29 CRABB, T.D. 13,15, Thos. D. 33,13,15 CRAFT, Archilous 24,29, Ezekiel 38, 54, Saml. 45 CRAIG, John 45 CRAWFORD, W. 28, William 22,23,25,28,30 Creek Indians 51,71,72,94 Creek War 84

CRINER family 79, Granville 77, Isaac 77,79, Joe 64,79 CRISS, James 45 CROFFARD, Samuel 34 CROMER family 79, David 80 CROSS, Andrew 42 CROW, Mansfield 43 CROWELL, John 52,94 CRUMP, John 0. 42 CRUSE, S. 45, W. 45 Cumberland Ridge 68 CUMMINS, Levi 25,30 CUTTS, Charles 2 D. A. R. 15 DANGERFIELD, Henry 22-24 DANIELS, Peter 90 DAVIDSON, J.J. 43,45, John J. 42 DAVIS family 77,89, Allen Jr. 45, Andru K. 45, Nathaniel 39, Nich. 67,96, Robert 45,77, Samuel 23, 25,28,30, William 77 DAY, Dudley 45 DEAL, Robert 25,31 DeBOW family 52 Decatur, Ala. 57,58,92 Decatur Co. 64,65 DeKalb Co. 76 DELONY, E.B.W. 45 "Democrat" 95 Deposit Ferry 84, Road 80,82,84 DERRICK, Caswell B. 79,80, John 79, Vincent 79, Wm. E. 42,45 DIAL, Robert 26,31 DICKSON, Robert 45, William 3,4,21 DICKY, Ephraim 45, Thos. F. 42 DILLARD, George (Geo.) 32,33,45 DILWORTH, George 4,22,82,84 DINCLE, Sam. & Co. 45 DITTO, James 43 Ditto's Landing 32 DONAHOO, Henry 45, J.S. 45 DONEGAN (See PATTON, DONEGAN & CO.) James I. 10, J.J. 69 DORGAN, Thomas 77 DRAKE, Andrew 45, Jabez L. 82, James 38 DRISKELL Place 66 Dry Creek 65 Dug Hill Road 60 DUKE, Merrit 45 DUNN, James 9, John K. 39,60,88, Joseph 60 DUPUY, Edward 37,39

EARNEST, William 39 EASLEY, Joseph 45 EASON, George 81, William 45 EAST, William 38 EASTER, Campion 45, William 24,29,38 EASTLAND, Ezekiel 38 Eastport 57 EAVES, Davis 45, Davison 45 ECHOLS, Elkanah 90 ECKFORD, John 33 EDDINS, Washington 27,34 EDMON(D)SON, William 23,29 ELDRIDGE, J(ohn) R.B. 26,31,45, Thomas 23,28,36, Thos. B. 33 ELGIN, Fred 61, Frederick 60 ELLETT family 85 ELLIOT(T)(E), Richard 45, Willie 39, Willis 33 ELLIS, Judge Richard 95 ELLISON, James 45, Thomas 81 England 78 ENGLAND, Joseph 45 ENGLISH, James 45 ERQUART, Allen 38 ERVINE, James 26,32 ERWIN, James 38,45, Robert 45 ESTELL, J. & J. 45 ESTILL, Jonathan 43 Eutaw, Ala. 95 Eustis Avenue 17, Street 15 EVANS, Nathaniel 45, Thomas 43, William 23,28,35 EWING, PATTESON & PATTON 40,41 EWING (See HOBSON & EWING) family 68, Stephen 68, Stephen S. (S.S.) 10, 40,41,44 FAGAN, Peter 45 Fagan's Creek 65 FAIN, Saml. 44 FALCONER, Joshua 68 FANT, Wm. B. 84 FARLEY, Mr. 59 FARMER, Nathan 35,45, Stephen 45 FARRIS, Mrs. Jack 90 FEARN 23,29, Robert & Co. 46, Dr. Thomas 10,87, Thomas 57,91 FENNEL, E.H. 45, Isham 45, W.H. 45 FERGUSON, Thomas 80 FETZE, Marshall 45 FIELDER, Enos 42 FILLPOT, Horatio 45 FINLAY, David B. 44 First Baptist Church 17
First National Bank 18 FLEMING place 82, Major 85,98, Walter L. 19, Wm. 55 FLE(T)CHER & McCLELLAN 43,47 FLETCHER, Mrs. 45, Thomas H. 43 Flint River 1,11,32,51,52,54,55,57, 59,64,65,67,69,71,73-78,81,82,85, 86,92,93, Navigation Co. 57, Turnpike Co. 93 FLIPPEN, Francis 83 FLIPPO, John 45 Florence, Ala. 95 FOOT (See TAYLOR & FOOT) FOOTE, Philip 68 FORD, Ben 45, Peter M. 45, Richard 45 FORTNER, John 64 FOWLER 37, A.J. 78 France 89 FRANKLIN, John 38, Wm. 33 Franklin Co., Ala. 95 Franklin Co., Miss. 20 Franklin Street 8 FRANKS, 37, Benjamin 32 FREEMAN, Thomas 3 FRENCH, Amos 34, Saml. 34 FULTON, Samuel (Saml.) 24,29,45 FUQUA, Seth 45, Silas 43 GALBREATH, Alexander(Alexr.) 21,22 Gallatin Street 17,18,97 Galveston, Texas 89 GAMBLE, John 27,34, W.T. 46 GARINER family 85 GARTH family 95 Gates Street 8 GEORGE, Thomas 46 Geo. C. Marshall Space Flight Center 16 Georgia 4,7,8,71,72,74,84,2 GIBBINS, John C. 39 GIBSON, Aaron 25,31, Hugh 46 GIDDINS 39 GIL(L)ASPIE, James 23,24,28,29 GILBREATH, Alexander(Alexr.) 4,24, 29,67,68, Nicholas 22 GILCHRIST, John 77 GILES, Mrs. Maria 79 GILL, Saml. C. 43 GILLESPIE, James 77 GILLIAM, Mrs. Richard H., Jr. 20 GLASS, James 46, Vincent 42,46, William 46 GLASSCOCK, Wm. H. 87,96 GLAZE, Burnelle 46 GLOVER, Richard 81, Wm. 81, Wm. H. 46

GOLDAN, Berkan 39 GOLDING 37 Goliad (Battle) 89,90 GORDON, James 46 GORE, Bledso 24,29 Governor's Drive 17 GRAHAM, John 46, Saml. 46, Wm. 46 GRAMMER, John 46 GRANT, Thomas 46 GRANTHAM, Saml. 46 GRANTLAND, J. 46, T. 46, Thomas 46 GRAY 24,29, David 46, James 46, John 46, John W. 46, Peter 46 GRAYSON, John 4,22,24,30,38,52,64, John C. 39, 83,85, John W.76,80,82 Great Britain 78 GREEN family 85, John 77, Mrs. 46 Green Academy 91,97 Green Botom Inn 92 Green Co., Ala. 95 Green Co., Miss. 20 Green(e) Street 8, 97 GREENHOW, Jonathan 25,30 GREER, Robert 46 GREGORY, Edmand 46 GREY, David 35, William 39 GRIER, Henry 42 GRIFFIN, John 46, Joseph 42, Mayor 59, Wm. 46 GRIFFITH, Isaac 46, Stephen 25,30 GRIGGS family 77 GRIMES, Hugh 46, Saml. 46 GRIMMETT 77 Guntersville, Ala. 61 GURLEY homestead 79,80, mill 75, plantation 76, John 79,80, Thomas P. 75, Wm. R. 80 Gurley's Mountain 79 Gurleysville 61,75,76,79,80,83 GUTRIE, Dudly 42 HABRICK, Col. J.M. 78 HAGGARD, Alfred 60 HAINES, John 21 HALBY, W.J. 42 HALL, Natt 46, Robert 78 HALLAND, Absolom 34 HALLY, Jo. W. 46 HALMARK (HALMACK), George 23,29 HAM, James 46, William 46 HAMBRICK, Joseph 78 HAMER family 84 HAMILTON, A.J. 96, Barton 26,31, James 23,28, Capt. James 78,

-105-

VALLEY LEAVES

John C. 4,22, Morgan 96 HAMLET, Green 90 HAMNER, Johph (John) 35 HANCOCK, William 25,30 Hancock Co., Miss. 20 HANDWALL, Ezekiel 46 HANNAH family 84 HARDY, Jonathan 26,31 HARLESS, John 84 HARLY, Thomas 46 HARRIS, Daniel 46, Egbert 46, Franci(e)s HOPKINS, Arthur F. 87,91 William(Wm.) 33,38 HARRIS(S)ON, Aaron 84, John 60,61 Ophilia 46, Perry L. 61, Wm. 61 HART, Warren 42 HARTON, Jno. P. 42,46 HAWKINS, J.J. 46, Jas.J. 46, John P. 46 HAWS, Walker 46 HAYS, John 32 Hazel Green 59,65,92, Turnpike Co. 92 HENBY, George 46 HENDERSON, B.H. 46, James 32 HENDRICKS, James S. 38 HENDRIX, Aron 46, J.S. 43, Jso. 46 HEST, Henry 45 Hester Creek 59 HEWLETT, R.G. 60, Thomas 46 HICKMAN (See POPE & HICKMAN), J.H. 46, J.P. 46, John H. 8, John P. 23,25, 28,30,41,42,68 Hickory Flat 60,77 HICKS, John 46. Richard 42 HIGGINBOTHAM, Chas. 46, Wm. 46 HILL family 61, Asaph 26,31,32, Elijah 25,30, John 38,39,60, William 42,46 HILLARD, John 46 Hillsboro 59,65 HIND(S), Jas. V.A. 90, Wildman 46 HINE, Willis 42 Hiwassee Valley 77 HIX, Jessee 46 HOARG, Harman 46 HOBBS, John 46,85 Hobb's Island 85 HOBSON & EWING 46 HOBSON, Nicholas 38 HODGE, Fleming 24,29 HODGES, James 46 HOGAN, James 43, John 38,46, Saml. 46, Saml. G. 42 HOKER, John 30 Holding Block 18,98 Holland 34

HOLLINGSWORTH, James(Jas.) 33,43 Holly Springs, Miss. 58 HOLMES 35, David 3,4,7,21, James G. 84 Holmes Street 17,70,97,98,99 HOLSEY, John 46 HOLT, Henry 46 HONEA, Wm. 83 HOOD, John B. 46 HOOKER, John 25 HOOKINS, Eloa 46 E. 22,35,87, Kinnon 46, Thompson 39, HORTON 37, (See WOOLBRIGHT & HORTON), Jeremiah P. 38, John 36, Rodah 92 Horton's Mill 59 HOUSE, James M. 46 HOUSON 37 HOUSTON, Gen. Geo. S. 96, Saml. 46 HOWARD, Baldwin 77, George 78, John 77, Thomas 24,29 HOWE, Fred A. 99 HOWSON, William 22 HUBBARD, Maj. David 96, Thomas 32 HUDSON, Joseph 77 HUGHES, Beverly 46, Joseph 46 HULL, John 26,31 HUMES, Thomas 38,46 HUMPHREY, John M. 61 HUMPHREYS, Jessee 46 HUNT, John 4,22,74,94 Hunts's Spring 5 Huntsville 1,3-10,12,13,15-18,20, 31-36,38,50-52,56,58-61,65,67-69,73,75,76,80,86-89,92,95-97 Huntsville Female Seminary 91 "Huntsville Independent" 50 "Huntsville Mercury Banner" 14 Huntsville Spring 99 Hurricane Creek/River 76-80 Hurricane Valley 64 HUTCHIN(G)S, Lemuel 38, S.D. 46 HYNES, Birum 23,28 ICE, Thomas 36 IKARD family 84 Indian Creek Navigation Co. 57 Indian Line 77 Indians 68,70-73,77-79,81,90,91 INMAN family 84, Benjamin 84,85, Ezekiel 46, John 46, John K. 42 International Big Spring Park 8 IRBY, John W. 78 IRWIN, Jess(i)e 33,35 ISAAC 41,42 ISBELL place 64

-106-

JACKSON, General 72,75,84,91, James 5,7, William 78 Jackson, Miss. 20,28,31 Jackson Co., Ala. 1,51-53,57,64,72, 76,79,82,83,93,96 Jackson Co., Miss. 20 Jackson's Trace 84 JACOB, Capt. 59 JAMES, John 36 Jefferson Co., Miss. 20 Jefferson Street 5,18,98 JENKINS family 52 JESUP, General 90 JOHNSON, Burwell 25, Isaace 22, William 25 JOHNSTON, Burwell 30, Grief 23,28, James 60, John 46, Thomas 46, Thomas(Thos.)A. 46,47, William 30,46 JONES, Edwin 47, Elizabeth 46, Fedk. 46, Fred. 47, Friley 60, George Tannehill 77, George T. 35,38,66, 87,88, G.W. & Sons 1, Irby 43, John 42, John J. 46, Judge 4, L.H. 46, Obadiah 4, Thomas 17 Jonesborough, Tenn. 41 JORDAN (JORDON), Batt 46,47, Fleming 25,31, Henry 46,47, Jason L. 60, 82,84, John 34,46, John of Batt, 46, John G. 46, Solomon 46 JOURDAN 35, Fleming 26,32, John 33 JUDDING, Jno. G. 46 KEARN, Thomas 23,29 KEEL family 79, Wm. 80 Keel's Mountain 72,75,76,79-83 KEESE, Job 47 KEETON, John 47 KEITON, Edwin 37 KELAS, Samuel 25 KELDS, Samuel 30 KEILY family 61, George 60, Moses 47, William(Wm.) 41,42,65,67,94 KENADY 32, Charles 26 KENNEDY, Charles 47, Martin 47 KENNEMUR family 84 KENNIBRUGH, John 84 KENT, William 23,25,28,30 Kentucky 68,89,94 KEYS (See MOODY & KEYS) Killensworth's Cove 79 KING, Abraham 25,26,30,31, Elisha F. 47, Henry 32,34,35,37,87, Mary 47, Thomas M. 79-81, Wm. R. 52 KIRKLAND, William(Wm.) 39,60,61

KIRKSEY, John 22 KIRKSLEY, John 4 KNADY, Charles 32 KRANERT, Loyd 17 LACEY, Andrew 47, David 60 LACKY, Woods 47 LACY, Hopkins 26,32 LAMKINS, Ezekiel 47 LAMPKIN, Griffin 36, William 32 LANE, George 80 LANG, James 47 LANGDON, John 33 LANGHAM, Solomon 26,27,32,33 LANIER, Isaac 47, Thomas 47, William 4,22, Wm. D. 47 LANIER's 60 Larne Ferry 81 Lauderdale Co., Ala. 95,96 LAWLER, Levi 47 Lawrence Co., Ala. 41,42,96 Lawrence Co., Miss. 20 LEAKE 30, John M. 25,35,52 LEDBETTER family 52,82,85, Ephrm. 33, Joel 43,47, John W. 33,85 LEE, George W. 54 Leemon's Ferry 65 LEFTWICH, Jabez 87 LEISEURE, Littleberry 38 LEMLEY, Reuben 84 LEMLY family 84, David 81 LENOX, John 25,30 LEONARD, Capt. 59, John 24,29,37, Thomas D. 85 LESSLEE, Williane 47 LESTER, Miles 47 LEWIS, Amos 26,32, Charles 47, Dixon H. 65, John T.W. 47, Robert 39 LIGHT, Robert 79 Limestone Co. 1, 67 LINCOLN, Jessee 42 Lincoln Co. 43 Lincoln Street 97 LINTER, John W. 94 Little-Checkler Construction Co. 14 Liverpool, England 85 LOCKHART, J.B. 47, Jas. B. 47 LOCKYEAR, Thomas 47 LOGAN, A.L. 51, John 32,47,85 LONG, James 47 LOONEY & WILLIAMS 47 LOONEY, David 42, John W. 38 Louisiana 89 LOVE, Charles 47, Thomas 23, 25, 28, 30, 35 LOWE family 69, Bartley M. 99, B.M. 68,70, Gen'l 70, Robert J. 70, Wm. M. 70 Lower Mountain Fork 77 LUN(E)Y, Absalom 26,32 Mc (See CLEMENS & Mc) M'ALISTER (See P. & M'ALISTER) McAL(L)ISTER (See PURDOM & McALISTER) McAL(L)ISTER, John 41,44 McAMEY, James 47 McBROOM 34,66,79,80, John 66, Stephen 27,47,79, Thos. 47,79, W. 39,(Wm.) William 26,31,37,38,47,55,61,65 McBROWN, Stephen 34 McCAIN, Lucinda 47 McCARTNEY 80, Charles 80, James 24, 29,30,66,67,77-79,84,88, John 80,81 McCARTY family 79 McCARY, James 35 McCAY, William 47 McCLELLAN (See FLETCHER & McCLELLAN) McCLENDON, Jas. 33, Jessee 47, John 47 McCLUNG place 81, David 33, James W. 87, Lesly 43, Monty 47, Willm. 35 McCORMICK 15 McCRACKEN, Saml. 47 McCRACKIN, James 26,32 McCRARY, Thomas 88 McCULLER, Joseph 34 McCURLEY, John 43 McCUTCHEN, Joseph 47 McCUTCHIN(G), J.D. 47 McDORY 37 McDOUGALL, John 60, Nancy 77 McDUFF family 72 McELHANEY, Wm. 47 McELROY, Green 26,32 McFAIL, Archer 47, Archibald 32,34 McGAHA, Burgess 85, Robert 85 McGAHEE, Robert 33 McGEE, Thomas 66 McGILVARY, Alexander 71 McILHANEY, John 47, Moses 47 McINTIRE, Peter 47 McKAY, David 47 McKINLEY, John 52,65,95 McLAIN, Dr. David Hubbard 96, Wm.I.96 McMAHON, Wm. 47 McNAIRY family 72 McNulbytown 60 McNulty Town 75,78,79 McNulty's Reservation 79

McNUTTY family 72 McPHELL 37 McVAY (McVEY), Hugh 3,4,21,47 McWHIRTER, Hanse 43 McWHORTER, Benjamin 39, George 47, Hance 47, J.&J. 47, James 47 McWILLIAMS, Andw. 47, Hugh 47 MADDOX, John 34 Madison, Ala. 60,65 Madison Turnpike Co. 92 MALONE, George H. 54, William 26,32 Manassas (Battle) 88 MANDA (Negro) 81 MANNING family 69, Judge A.R. 96, James 4,53,69,70, Joseph 34, R.J. 69, Robert J. 99, Van 69 Manning's Cove 83 MAOOR, Mathew W. 33 MAPLES family 83, Edward 83, George 83, James 83, Josiah 83, Moses 83, Noah 83, Peter 83, William 83 MARAH, Joseph 43 Marathon, Ala. 41 MARCUM, Arthur 47, Thomas 47 Marion Co., Miss. 20 Marshall Co. 1,72,76,93 MARTIN 42, Hiram 47, John 4,22,32, 35,38,41,42,91, Joshua L. 96, Joshua W. 96, Thos. D. 43, Woody 43 Maryland 58,70 MASON, James 47, Joel 47 Masonic Lodge -of Alabama 14, -Grand 78, -of Great Britain 78 MASSANGALE (MASSINGALE), Allen 26,32 MASSENGALE, Kinchen 24,29, Solomon 24,29 MASTIN, Dr. Claude 96, Francis T. 70, Mrs. Frank 89, Frank T. 68, Gus 55 MASYE, Robert C. 39 MATTHEWS, John 36 MAULDIN, James 54, Littleberry 54 MAXWELL, David 32, Wm. A. 35 MAY(S), Daniel 47 Maysville, Ala. 59,60,79,81,86 MAZE, John 43 MEAD, Lemuel 36,37,52,53,66,87 MEALS, Lewis 35,39 Memphis & Charleston RR 12 Meridian Pike 15,69 Meridianville, Ala. 59,60,92 METCALF, Anthy. H. 35 METHVIN, James 78, Levi 78 Mexico 89,90

MIDDLETON family 82 MILAM, John 39 MILLAR, Daniel 37 MILLER 37, family 52,85, Abram 78, John 77, Martin 47,98, Thomas 77, 90, Wm. B. 90 MILLS, Jeff 88 MINOR (See TAYLOR & MINOR), Henry 33,35,67 MICHELL, Richard 47 Mississippi 20,69,76,89,94,96 Mississippi River 56,71,72,89 Mississippi Territory 3,4,20-29,31, 33,34 Missouri 83,89 MITCHELL & WILSON 10,11 MITCHELL, Henry 47, James 47,98, Joseph 47, Mr. 99, Richard 47, T.B. 47, Thos. B. 47 Mobile 96 Mobile Co. 20(Ala. Terr.), 96 MODAWELL, Wm. B. 96 MONROE, David 47, James 2,27,53 Monroe Co., Ala. Terr. 20 Monte Sano 13,52,99 MONTGOMERY, John 47 Montgomery, Ala. 35 MOODY & KEYS 47 MOORE 33, Abner 77, Alfred 77, Dr. Alfred 93,95, David 8,24,30,32,35, 52,53,55,65,94, Dr. David 70,99, Dr. Davis 84, Gabriel 4,22,47,52, 65, Gov. Gabriel 87,96, James 47, 77, Judge Jno. E. 95, John F. 47, Joseph 33,34, Richard 47, Robert 47, Samuel H. 53, Col. Sydenham 95, Wm. 96, Wm. H. 77 MOORMAN, Charles 39. MOOSE, Richard 47 MOPLEY, John 37 MOREMAN, Charles 47 MORGAN, Calvin 67, Gen. John H. 68, Luther 67, Samuel 67, 68, Thomas 47 Morgan Co. 1,53,95,96 MOSEL(E)Y, George 43,47 Moulton, Ala. 96 MOUNT, William 47 Mountain Fork 66,76,79 Mount Nebo Church 75 MULLINS, Thomas 47, William 47 MUNROE, George 35 MUROE, David 47 MURPHY, Jere 98 MURRAY, Lucey 47, Jno. D. 34

MURREL(L) 24,29, Benjamin 26,31 MURRY, John 33,47 Muscle Shoals 41,56,57,86,92 NABORS, Francis 47 Nashville, Tenn. 3,10,14,56,58,68,86 Natchez, Miss. 65,71 National Bank 99 NEAL(E) 24, Mrs. Frances 56, John 85, John P. 65,66, Stephen 3,4, 21,22,24,30,31,35,37,52,55 NEEL(E)Y, Andrew 47, Andrews 43, James 22,47,98, George M. 99 NELSON, Robert 43 NESMITH, John 47 New Hope 76,80-82,84,85 New Hope Methodist Church 84 New Jersey 95 New Madison 51,52,55,60,66,70,72-77,79,80,83,85,86 New Market 64,65,75,77,78,84,90 New Orleans, La. 56-58,86,89,94,96 New Territory 73 New York, N. Y. 41,68,84,85 NEWMEN (NEWMAN), Francis 33,47 NEWSOM, James(Jas.) B. 47 NIMMO family 89 NOBLE (See RONALDS & NOBLE) NORRIS, Dr. Geo. D. 78 NUNNELLY, James B. 39 OATEY, John W. 12 Ohio 8,68, River 56,71,2 OLIVER, Samuel W. 67 O'NEAL, Gov. A.E. 96 OTEY & STEPHENS 48 OTEY, Capt. 95, John W. 89,91 OWEN, Thomas M. 19, Robert 84 OWENS, William 48, William P. 48 Owen's Cross Roads 82 OWSLEY, Seth 48 P. & M'ALISTER 40 PACKHAM, Philoman 34 PAGE, Lewis 43 PAIN 48 Paint Rock River 57,75,76,79,81,83, 84,92,93 PARHAM, William 24, William(Wm.) W. 29.48 PARISH, Peterson 48 PARKER, David 33, Edward W. 39, John 48 PARSONS, Silas 91, William 48

VALLEY LEAVES

PATCH, Ezra 48 PATE, John 48, Matthew 37 PATRICK, John 48 PATTERSÓN, B.T. 61, Wm. 143,148 PATTESON (See EWING, PATTESON & PATTON), Benjamin(Benj.) 40,41, Benjn.& co. 43 PATTON (See BEIRNE & PATTON CO.), Gov. R.M. 69, William(Wm.) 40,41,44,68, 69 PATTON, DONEGAN & CO. 69 PAULING, Wm. K. 42 PAWLING, William K. 41 PEEBLES, Jos. D. 48 PEEL(E), Hunter 36,54,97 PEETE, Samuel 87 PEEVEY family 79, Robert W. 80,91 Peevey's Spring 80 PELLY, Gaydon 43 PENN, James 87 PENNINGTON, Theo 77 PEOPLES, Joseph D. 43 PERCY, Thomas G. 21 PERKINS, Abraham 22, Nicholas 21,48, Peter 3,4,21,22,24,29,48 Perry Co. 96 PERRYMAN, Alexander 32 PETAY, Gabel 48 PETERS, Freeman 48 Petersburg, Ga. 69, Va. 69 PETTERSON, Wm. 48 PETTUS, Gov. John J. 96 PETTY, Ebenezer 34, Gaydon 43, William 77 PHELAN, Maj. Ellis 95, James 95, John D. 87,95 PHEMESTER, PHEMISTER, Wm. 48 Philadelphia, Pa. 41,68,84,85, Medical College 52 PHIL(L)IPS, Joseph 48, Parker 37 PHIPP place 84 PICKENS, Gov. Israel 91,94, Joseph 33,65,66 Pike Co., Miss. 20 PINDEXLERS, George Q. 34 PITTS, Pitman 60 Planters and Merchant's Bank 88,92 PLEASANTS, James J. 67, J.J. 91 POCKRUS, David 79 POND, Stephen 48 POOL, Samuel P. 39, Wil(t)tshire 24,29 POPE family 69, Benjamin S. 38, B.S. 89,91, Le(e)roy 5-8,21,31,35,48,52, 57,94, N. 48, Nicholas 32,33,48, T.M. 48, William 41, Willis 48

POPE & HICKMAN 48 Poplar Ridge 76,82 PORE, John 48 PORTER, James B. 48 POSEY, Jesse H. 23,28 POWELL, Joseph 32 POWER, Martin 27,34, Moses 77, Nathaniel(Nathl.) 24,29,34 POWERS, William H. 68,70 PRATT, Barnard 48 PREAST, John 35 PRECHARD, F.C. 48 Presbyterian Church (Huntsville) 67 PRICE, Hugh 43 PRIDE, Burton 48, Hugh 48, Thomas 43,48 Primitive Baptist Church 83 PRI(T)CHARD (See PURDOM & PRITCHARD) PRI(T)CHARD, Fances 43, James 41 PROVINCE, Sampson 79 PROUT, H.W. 48, J.W. 48, Joshua 48, W.H. 48, W.W. 48 PRUITT, Valentine 92 PRYOR, Luke 96, Richard 48 PURDOM & McAL(L)ISTER 40,41,42,44 PURDOM & PRI(T)CHARD 40,41,44 PURDOM, R(ichard) B. 38-41,44 Richard C. 87, Susan (B.) 41 PURVIS. John 48 PURYEAR, Natt 48 RAGSDALE, S. 43, Saml. 48 RAMBOLT, Elisha 48 RANDILL(S), Anyon 43, D. 43, David 43 RATHER, Daniel 36-38,54, John T. 24, 29,33,48, William 25,31 RAY, John 23,28 READ, John(Jno.) 24,29,68,70 READY, N. 48 REAGAN family 79, Robert 80 RECORD, James 3 REEDY, John 48, Nicholas 48 REILEY, Andrew 22 RENICK, William 25,31 RENNEKS, Wm. 48 RENO, Lewis 48 REVIERE, John E. 48 RHEA, John 33,48 RHETT, Mrs. R. Barnwell 53 RICE family 77,78, plantation 61, Dr Francisco 78, Green P. 53, Joseph 78,90, Capt. Joseph 75,90, Othiel 78 RICHARD, Rison 48 RICHARDS, Avan 48, Evan 48, Stephen 85 RICHMOND, Black 48

INDEX

RIDDLES, Thomas 84 RIDGE 72,73 RIGNEY, Henry 39, Henry H. 39 ROBERTS & VAUGHAN 48 ROBERTS, Dr. Frances C. 3,18,19, Robert W. 38, Thomas K. 43, Willoby 34 ROBERTSON plantation 76, Ephraim 25, 30, William H. 39, William(Wm.) N. 26 ROBINSON 43, James 78, John 78, W.B. 93, Wm. 79 ROBISON, Benj. 43, George 43, Hardy 43,48, Nelson 48, Wm. 48 RODGERS, Ben B. 48, George 43, James 48, Moses 43, Robt.M. 48 ROGERS 36,78, Andrew 32, James 4, Robert 32 ROMIONE, Joseph 32 RONALDS & NOBLE 48 ROPER, Wm. M. 60,61 ROSE (See BRAHAN & ROSE), Geo. W. 48, Neal B. 68 ROSS 72,73, James 33, John 72 "Round Top" 99 ROUNDTREE, William 23,29,38 ROUNTREE family 79, Robert 80 ROURK, John 25,31 ROUTT, Col. 90 ROYAL, Ann 8 RUSSELL, Albert 48, George 81,84, Mrs. 48 Russell Hill 98 RUTLEDGE, Wm. 33 RYLEY, Andrew 43,48 SADLER, Isaac 48 St. Clair Co. 52 St. Francisville 44 SALE, Dudley 60 San Antonio, Texas 89 San Francisco, Calif. 95 San Jacinto, Texas 89,90 SANDERSON, Lewis 25,31 SANFORD, Allen 80 SAUNDERS (See ARMSTRONG & SAUNDERS), Wm. 48,49 Savannah River 71 SCALES, Henry 48 SCALLION, John 26,27,32,34 SCAY, Wm. G. 49 SCISCO, Jacob 77 SCOTT, Gen. 73,90, Henry 78, Robert T. 53,96, Thos. S. 43

Scott's Mill 57 SCRUGGS, Gross 9,53,55,66,88, Wm. B. 48 SEAK, John M. 30 Seven Pines (Battle) 95 SEVIERE, Richard 48 Sewanee University 95 SEWELL, Charles 43 SHACKLEFORD, Richard 39 SHARP family 78, George 78, Joe 78, Joseph 48, John 78, Leroy 78, Patsey 78, William 78 Sharp's Cove 71,78 SHEILDS, George 48 Shelby Co. 52 SHENAULT, Morris 25,30,48, Stephen 48, Wm. 34 SHEPHERD, Levin 97 SHEPMAN, Mathew 48 SHERWOOD, John 43 SHIELDS, George 48 SHOTWELL, Reuben 90 SIMMONS, Charles 48, J.J. 60, (Thos.) Thomas 27,33, Vincent 48, Wm. 43 SIMPSON, Robert 48, William 32 SISSION, Joseph 21 SIVILY, John 48 SLEDGE, O.D. 68 SLICK, Captain 81 SMITH, George 77, Isaac 49, James (Jas.) 23,25,28,30,43, John 34, 48, John S. 38, Jos. 43, Nathan/ Nathaniel 25,30,34,37,54, Richard 43, Rosanna 48, Stephan 48, William 48,90, Judge Wm. 97,99 Somerville, Ala. 96 South Carolina 97 SOUTHALL, Holman 39 Space Utilization Associates 16 Spain 89 SPENCE, Joseph 48, Payton 43, Sol. 85, Solomon 43 SPOTSWOOD, George D. 90, John C. 89, 90, Capt. John C. 89, Dr. John C. 89,90 SPROWL, James 48, John 38 STAMMERS, Henry 84 STANDEFORD, Abraham 25,31 STAPLER, Joseph 84 STAPLES family 84 STARKE, William 48 STARKY, Jonathan 48 STEAGER, John P. 48 STEELE, George 10,98,99, Col. Jno.F.

STEELE(cont.) 98, Matthew W. 98 STEGER family 79, place 79, Spring 80 STELWILL, Joseph E. 34 STENSON, Robert 48 STEPHENS & OTEY 48 STEPHENS family 72 STERGIS, Wm. 43 STILWELL 37 STOELWELL, Joseph E. 35 STOKER, John 21, Mathew 22 STOKES, Charles 43, Chas. A. 48, Henry 36,43,48, John 29 STRAY, John L. 48 STONE, George W. 84, Jesse 78, Joel 78, William 84 STREET, Mrs. 48, William 48 STRONG, Nathan 33, Thomas 48 STURGUŚ, Minor 21 SULLIVAN, Dr. Isaac 83, Randolph 38 SUTTON, Wm. 60 TABER, Wm. B. 58 TAIT, Waddy 27 TALBOT, C(1)ayton 49 Talladega, Ala. 50,84 "Tall Timbers" Region 85 TATE, Hezekiah 33, Waddy 34,49, Walter 25,30, William 49 TATOM, A. 32 TATUM, Abner 8,52 TAYLOR family 61, place 80, George 49, Grant 36, James 39,84, Jeremiah 49, Jimmy 84, John H. 36, John M. 25, 26,30,32,35,49,67,91, Joseph 60,61, Mai 80, Judge Thomas Jones 8,19,50 TAYLOR & FOOT 49 TAYLOR & MINOR 43 TEAGUE, Isaac 49, Joseph 27,32,34, Magness 49 TEDFORD, Alexander 49 Tennessee 1,58,68,71,74,83,89,92,94, 96, Line 66,75,92 Tennessee River 51,52,56-58,65,68-72, 79,81,86,92,93,99 Tennessee Valley 8,12,13,50,51,56, 64,67,71,86,91,94 TERRY 77, Nathaniel(Nathl.) 36,39, Col. Nat. 96 Texas 83,88-90, 96 THOMAS, Loyd 49, John C. 89, Margarett 49, Stephen 49, William 49 THOMPSON, Allen C. 22, David 43,49, John C. 87, Neal 49, W.W. 43 THORN, Presly 43

THORNTON, Harry I. 91,95, James I. 95 TILFORD, John W. 38 TIPTON, Jonathan 79, John 79, Samuel 79, Stephen 43 TITUS 23,28,32, E. 43, James 22, Jonas 94 TRACY, Gen. E. D. 98 Triana, Ala. 39, 51,52,56,57,61,73,92 TRIMBLE, Archibald 49 Trimble's Creek 83 TRIPP, Saml. 49 TROOP, James 43 TROTTER, James 49 TURNER, Daniel B. 37,54,88, Donal(d)son 49, James 49, James Camp 88, John 23,28,43, John Junr. 49, John Senr. 49, John B. 60, Saml. 49, Sugars Jr. 49, Thomas 49 Tuscaloosa, Ala. 33,53,95 Tuscumbia, Ala. 92 Twickenham 5-7,18, District 17 U. D. C. 15 United States 2,3,8,16,23,71,73,89, 90, Army 16, Senate 2,74 Upper Hurricane 76 Upper Mountain Fork 77 URQUHART 38, A. 39, Allan 36 VAN BUREN, President 91 VANN family 84, Thomas, Sr. 84 VAUGHAN 33, (See ROBERTS & VAUGHAN), David 49, Malcijah 33, Mulkagy 49 VAUGHN, Malcejah 27, William 27,33 VAUGHT, John 27,34 VEITCH, Andrew D. 38 Vienna, Ala. 60,81,82,84,85 VIETCH, A.D. 36 VINCENT place 79, Alex. 49, Amos 26,32 VINEYARD, James 49 VINING, John 26,32,36,38,52,87, Thomas 49, Wade 37, Wade H. 34 Virginia 53-70,83,94,96,98 WALKER family 69,77, James 77, John 22, John F. 33, John W. 4-7,25, 30,52,65,88, Percy 53,96, Samuel 9,37,52-54,66,67,77,87, William 77 Walker Street 69 WALL, Conrad 49, James A. 38,43 WALLPOOL, Richard 38 WALLS, Allen 60,61 WAMBLE, Ben 49

WARD, Ansel 49, Edward 3,4,6,21,52, Joseph 49, Matt 49 WARE family 61, Nath. A. 27, Nicholas 60 WARREN, Isaac 49, Mrs. 49 Warren Co., Miss. 20 Warrior, at the falls of 43 WARSON, Alexr. 49 WASHINGTON, Gilbert 43 Washington City, Miss. 3 Washington Co., Ala. Terr. 20 Washington, D.C., 20,21,30,72 Washington, Miss. Terr. 21,22,27 Washington Street 18 Washita River 71 WATKINS, Isham 49, John F. 49, Susan 49, William 36, Capt. Wm. 49, William M. 8 Wayne Co., Miss. 20 WEAL, William 49 WEATHERS, John 32 WEAVER, Elijah 25,30,49, Hanna(h) 49, Col. Matthew 98 Weaver's Station 85 WEBB, James 49 WEBSTER, John 49,64 Webster's Gap 65 WEEDEN, Frederic 52 WEIL, 98 WELLBORNE, Elias 37, Isaac 37 WELLS, Wm. 78 WENDLE, Wm. 49 WHARTON, John 49 WHEELBRIGHT 49 WHITE, Gen'l A.D. 69, Bryson 43, James 39,68, Taylor 91, Thomas W. 69 WHITER, George M. 38 Whitesburg 51,52,56-61,65,68,69,92, 98,99 WHITFIELD, Bynum 49 WHITTAKER family 82,84, Wherey 80 WILBOUNE, Isaac 32 WILDER, Danl. 49 WILDERS, George 49 WILHELMS, Job 84 WILKINS family 77, William 39,49 Wilkinson Co., Miss. 20 WILLBURNE, Wm. 49 WILLIAMS & WOODSIDE 49 WILLIAMS (See LOONEY & WILLIAMS) family 61, Agness(Agress) 49,

Benjamin 3,21, Charles 33, David S. 39, Eldred W. 93, Gidion G. 27,33, John 60, M.D. 43,49, Marmaduke 4,22,53, Gov. Robert 3, 4, Saml. 49, Tho. H. 21, William 25,30,49 Williams Street 97 WILLIAMSON, Hawley 77, J.P. 49, Jessee P. 49, John 49, Robert 49, Sarah 77 WILSON Family 72, Mr. 99, Barbary 49, Barbery 49, Lucinda 49, Thomas 25,30, William 90,98 Wilson Co. 43 Wilson's Reservation 79 WIN(N), Bannister 34,49, Thomas W. 38 Winchester 65, Road 61 WINDHAM, J. 49 WINSTON, John J. 24,29, John Jr. 49, Louis 3,4,7,21, William 3,21, William H. 21,22, William(Wm.) N. 26,33 WITHERS, John 21,35,52, Gen. Jones M. 96 WOFFORD's 64 WOLLARD, Hugh 24,29 WOOD, Bennet(t) 4,35,54,65, James B. 23,28, Jno. L. 43, Robert 49, Rob. J. 43 WOODALL family 84, Thomas 83 Wood's Mill 59,64,81,85 WOODCOKE, Dr. J.H. 49 WOODDY family 84 WOODFIN, Thomas 43, Wm. 43 WOODS, Capt. John 72 WOODSIDE (See WILLIAMS & WOODSIDE) WOODSON, Philip 95 Woodville 64 WOOLBRIGHT & HORTON 49 WOODWARD, Eli 78 WOODY, George 82, Robert 82 WORLEY, Francis 85, George 49 WRIGHT family 52, John 34,38, Peter 22, Wm. 81 WYATT, 90, Joseph 24,29, Payton S. 88,89, Capt. Payton S. 89, William(Wm.) 22,43 WYCHE, Dr. 92 WYLIE, John D. 85 YARBROUGH, Samuel 77 YOUNG, Ewing 43,49, James A. 43





