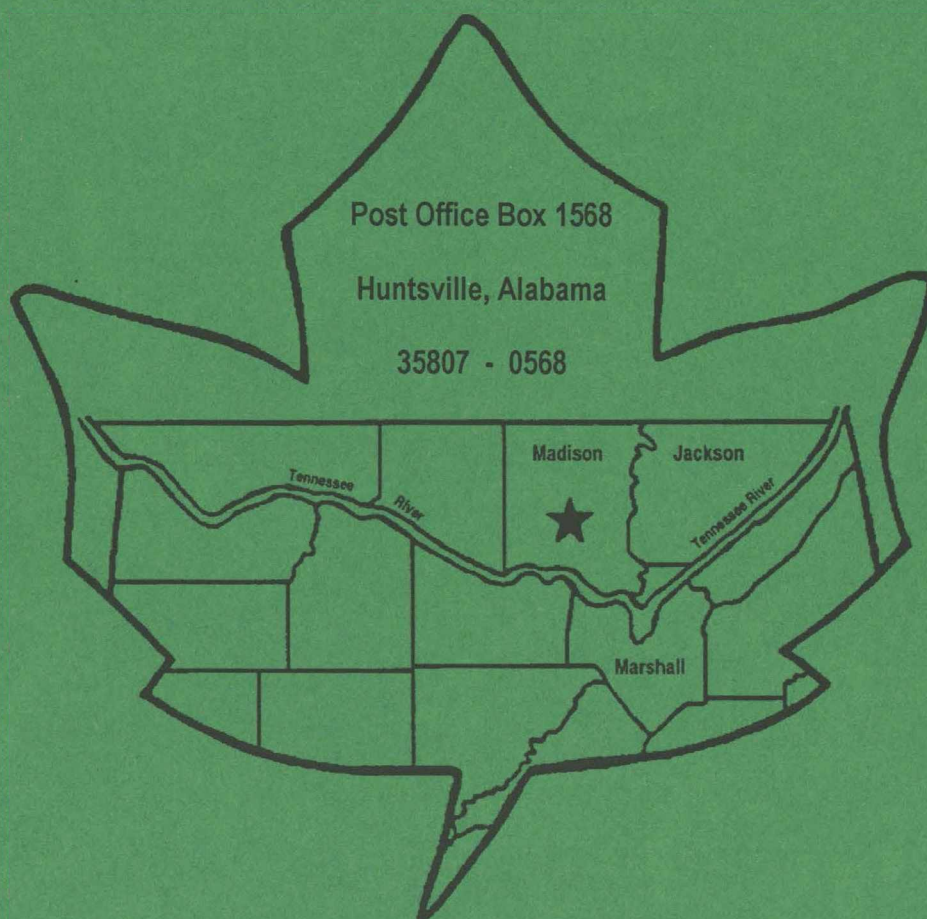

(North Alabama)

Valley Leaves

TENNESSEE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

QUARTERLY



Volume 43, Issue No. 4,

June 2009

Valley Leaves

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Public Library
This is our annual potluck and
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Jackson County

Probate Court Records

Part 7 - Continued from Volume 43, Issue 3

Copied, Abstracted, and Contributed by Jacquelyn Procter Reeves

The following records were recorded in the Probate Minutes, Book TT, dated 1897 to 1900 at the Jackson County Courthouse in Scottsboro.

Charlotte Parris, Deceased
Estate of
Order Setting day to Probate Will
July 24, 1899
Page 359

This day comes H. D. Latimer and filed his petition in writing and under oath, praying for such orders, decrees and proceedings as may be proper and requisite for the due probate and record of in this Court, of an instrument of writing heretofore produced and filed in this Court, purporting to be the last will and testament of Charlotte Parris deceased, which said instrument appears to be attested by T. Boyd Foster and J. R. Green of this County, and who are alleged to have signed the same as subscribing witnesses thereto.

And it appearing to the Court from said petition that said petitioner is one of the creditors of the estate of the decedent and that said deceased left surviving her the following witnesses (?) children: Mary F. Stephens, James C. J. Parris, Mollie Parris, Lucy A. Tally and Adaline Walker, all of full age and reside in this County. It is therefore ordered by the Court that the 10th day of August 1899 in and before this Court to testify and give evidence of and concerning all and any facts touching the question of validity of said instrument as such will. That Mary F. Stephens, James C. J. Parris, Mollie Parris, Lucy A. Tally and Adaline Walker be notified of this proceeding

and of the day above set for hearing the matter by citation to be served upon them at least 10 days before said day of hearing.

Thomas D. Starnes, Deceased
Estate of
Decree to Sell Real Estate
July 24, 1899
Page 359

This being the day to which this cause was regularly continued for hearing the petition filed more than 40 days since by Milton P. Brown, the administrator in this court of the estate of Thomas D. Starnes, deceased, praying for an order to sell certain lands hereinafter described for the purpose of division, on the grounds that the same cannot be equitably divided among the heirs of said estate.

Now comes the said administrator and moves the Court that said application be granted, and also comes S. W. Tate who is not of kin to said administrator, nor in any way interested in this proceeding and who was heretofore duly appointed and has consented in writing to act as guardian ad litem to represent and protect the interest of George Carter and also comes Joseph H. Gregory who was heretofore appointed and consented in writing to protect the interest of the estate of William D. Starnes, a deceased child of

Thomas D. Starnes, who died without issue.

Said administrator ad litem and said guardian ad litem each having filed answers in writing denying the allegations of said petition and the following non-resident heirs having been brought into Court by publication in the *Progressive Age*, a newspaper published in Jackson County, Alabama according to the order of this Court made and entered in the premises on the 20th day of June 1899, whose names are as follows to wit: Beulah Foy, wife of E. D. Foy, Dallas, Texas; Lucinda Boydston, wife of B. L. Boydston, Baird, Texas; Kate Higgins, wife of George Higgins, Somerville, Tennessee; Thomas Dupree Starnes, Greenville, Texas.

Also the following resident heirs: Eliza Starnes, widow of the deceased; T.D. Starnes; and Nellie G. Starnes of Scottsboro, Ala. all being of full age except George Carter. All of said heirs have had due notice of said application and the day appointed for hearing the same by publication and citations served upon them as required by law and in accordance with the orders of this Court made and entered in the premise on the 20th day of June 1899, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court by the oaths of James H. Young and James W. Moody disinterested witnesses whose testimony has been taken by deposition as in Chancery proceedings and which testimony has been filed as record in this cause which testimony states that it is necessary and will be to the interest of said estate and to said minor heir to sell said land for division, which is described as follows, to wit: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 33, T3, R6E and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 20, T3, R6, and the SE triangular half of the east half of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 27, T3, R6

East, and all known as the Thomas J. Gulatt land.

Also a one-fourth undivided interest in the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 27 or T6 South of Range 7 East of and known as the J. T. Butler land. Also, the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 13, T5, R5, containing 75 acres and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec 13, T5, R5 of Section 13 T5, R5, containing 37 70/100 acres and being a part of the Finney tract.

Also the East quarter of the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec 12, T5, R6 East and known as the Moon land. Also SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 24, T5, R5, containing 10 acres known as the Mary I. McKay land.

Also the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 7, R6, known as the J. S. Thorp land. All of which land is situated in Jackson County, Alabama, except the land known as the Butler land. It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed that said application be granted and said administration is hereby ordered to sell the above described land at public outcry at the Courthouse door of said County in manner and form as the law directs in such cases after having first given notice at least three successive weeks of the time, place, and terms of sale in some newspaper published in said County.

Said sale to be made for one-half cash and the balance on a credit of 12 months with interest from date; and Eliza Starnes the widow of said decedent having filed her dower interest in said lands may be sold so as to vest in the purchaser complete title. It is further ordered, adjudged, and decreed that said dower interest of said widow be sold with the residue of said land for the purposes of division as aforesaid to the heirs and tenants in common therein.

It is further ordered that the administrator pay the cost of this

proceeding out of the proceeds realized from the sale of said land. It is further ordered that all the papers in this proceeding except the interrogatories be recorded.

Emily J. Raney
Non Compos Mortis
Estate of
Order Appointed Guardian
July 25, 1899
Page 361

This day comes J. C. Raney and files his petition in due form in writing and under oath, asking that he may be appointed guardian of the person and estate of Emily J. Raney. And it appearing to the Court that said Emily J. Raney has been declared to be of unsound [mind] and is now in the Insane Hospital, and is incapable of taking care of herself and of her affairs, that she has property in this state of the value of \$200 and probably not more, consisting of a homestead entry made by her about the year 1894 and the time for making the final proof to the same as required by the government is now at hand, and no guardian has been appointed upon said estate, and that the applicant is the father of said Emily J. Raney and an inhabitant of this state, that otherwise he is a suitable person for such guardianship.

Now therefore, said J. C. Raney having given bond for the sum of \$4,000 conditioned as the law requires with H. D. Austin and D. C. Burkhalter as his sureties thereon, which bond with said sureties has been duly taken and approved by the Judge of this Court. It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed that said J. C. Raney be and he is hereby appointed guardian of the estate of said Emily J. Raney to be held and managed by him as the law in such cases directs.

It is further ordered that letters of guardianship issue to him forthwith.

Benjamin T. Kelly, Deceased
Estate of
Order Setting Day
Petition Sale of Lands
July 28, 1899
Page 362

B. F. Kelly and J. P. Manning, the administrators of the estate of Benjamin F. Kelly, deceased, having this day filed their application in writing and under oath praying for an order and proceeding to sell certain real estate in said petition described of the property of said decedent at the time of his death for the purpose of division upon the ground that the same cannot be equitably divided among the heirs of said estate.

And it appearing from an inspection of said petition that the heirs of said estate are his children and grandchildren, to wit: Petitioner, B. F. Kelly, John M. Kelly, Lena Ashmore, Ida Stapler, Malissa Manning, Emma Wright, Elsie Ashmore, wife of J. W. Ashmore, who departed this life intestate since the death of her father, all of whom are children of said Benjamin F. Kelly deceased, of full age and residents in the State of Alabama; Pearl, Olive, Retta, Mattie, Nellie, and Joe Ashmore, minors, and reside with their father J. W. Ashmore, and Lawrence and Eunice Kennamer both minors who reside with the Grandfather Stephen Kennamer, in Marshall County, Ala.

It is therefore ordered that the 9th day of September 1899 be and is hereby appointed a day for hearing said application and the proofs which may be submitted in support of the same. It is further ordered that due notice of the nature of said application and of the time above set for hearing the same be given

all of the adult heirs by citation to be served upon them at least ten days before said day of hearing.

It is further ordered that S. W. Tate who is considered in every way worthy, be and he is hereby appointed guardian ad litem to represent and protect the interest of the minors interested in this cause on the said day of hearing. It is further ordered that said S. W. Tate have notice of his said appointment. It is further ordered that said report be recorded.

Thomas J. Hargiss, Deceased
Estate of
Order Setting Day-Final Settlement
July 28, 1899
Page 362

This day comes N. H. Snodgrass, the administrator of the estate of Thomas J. Hargiss, deceased, and filed his accounts, vouchers, and evidences of debt for a final settlement of said estate. It is ordered that the 22nd day of August 1899 be appointed a day to make said settlement. It is further ordered that notice of the time and nature of said settlement be given for three successive weeks by publication in the *Scottsboro Citizen*, a newspaper published in this County.

Eliza L. Kirby, Deceased
Estate of
Order to Sell Perishable Property
July 28, 1899
Page 363

This day comes Thomas S. Kirby the administrator of the estate of Eliza L. Kirby, deceased, and files his petition in writing and under oath praying for an order of this Court to sell certain perishable property belonging to said estate.

It appearing to the Court that there is one gray mare belonging to said estate and that the condition of said animal and the interest of said estate will be promoted by a sale thereof. It is ordered that said petition be granted and said administrator is hereby authorized to sell said personal property on the premises at his residence in this County on the 8th day of August 1899 to the highest bidder for cash.

After first giving notice of the time, terms and nature of said sale together with a description of the property by publication in the *Scottsboro Citizen* a newspaper published in this County for at least one insertion. It is further ordered that said administrator make report of said sale in due form to this Court as the law directs. It is further ordered that said petition report be recorded.

Willie Fridell, Estate
Tenants in Common
Order Confirming Sale of Land
July 30, 1899
Page 363

This day comes J. H. Gregory, the Commissioner heretofore appointed by an order of this Court, to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of Willie Fridell and others as tenants in common, and moves the Court to confirm his report made in writing and under oath more than 10 days before this day setting forth among other things that on the 20th day of July, within the legal hours of sale in pursuance of law in such cases made and in strict accordance with all and singular the tenements terms and requirements of the former order and decree of this Court granted and entered in the premises on the 24th day of June 1899, he proceeded and sold at public outcry in front of the post office at

Stevenson in this County, the lands set forth and particularly described in said former order and decree. And that said land was purchased at said sale by Joe Delzell for the sum of \$300.

And it appearing to the Court that said report was filed more than 10 days before this day and no exceptions to the same have been filed, and it further appearing that said amount so bid for said land by Joe Delzell was the highest and best bid for the same; that said sum so bid was not greatly less or disproportionate to real value, that said was legally and fairly made, conducted, and concluded, and that all of said purchase money so bid has been paid in cash to said Commissioner, J. H. Gregory, according to the terms of said sale and the former order of this Court.

It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed that said sale be and the same is hereby approved, and in all things ratified and confirmed, and said Commissioner J. H. Gregory be and he is hereby authorized and directed to convey by proper deed to said Joe Delzell all of the right title and interest of said tenants in common or joint tenants had or may have in said real estate. It is further ordered that all the papers on file relating to said sale except the depositions, be recorded.

It is further ordered that the cost of this proceeding be paid out of the purchase money so paid to said Commissioner. It is further ordered that said Commissioner pay to the administrators of said estate in Tennessee the balance of said purchase money.

A. H. Coffey, Deceased
Estate of
Order on Probate of Will
July 31, 1899
Page 364

This day having been regularly appointed for hearing the application of R. A. Coffey, which was heretofore filed in this Court for the probate of an instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of A. H. Coffey deceased.

Now comes the said applicant and also comes J. H. Gregory who was heretofore duly appointed by an order of this Court to act as guardian ad litem for Harold Coffey, the minor son of said decedent, who has filed his consent in writing to act as such guardian ad litem.

And it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that notice of the said application and of the time appointed for hearing the same has been given in pursuance of law and in strict accordance with the former order of this Court made and entered in the premises on the 20th day of July 1899 by citations to be personally served on Mrs. Annie Coffey the widow of said decedent at least ten days before this day.

And the same kind of notice for the same length of time was to be given Harold Coffey, the minor, by serving the same on his mother who has the custody of said minor. Now on motion of said petitioner, the Court proceeds to hear said application.

And it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court from the testimony of J. M. Thompson and W. C. Maples that they respectively signed the said instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of the said decedent.

And which writing is now shown to them, on the day of the date thereof in the presence of said testator and at his request as subscribing witnesses to the same the said testator then declaring that said instrument constitute his last will.

And it being also shown to the Court by satisfactory proof, that said testator

was of full age of twenty-one years and upwards at the time of making said will; and that he was of sound mind and fully capable of making his said will.

It is therefore ordered, adjudged, and decreed by the Court that said will and testament of A. H. Coffey, deceased, be received and the same is hereby declared to be duly proven as the last will and testament of said decedent and as such, admitted to probate and ordered to be recorded together with the proof thereof and all other papers on file relating to this proceeding.

And it now appearing to the Court that said testator did name R. A. Coffey as the sole executor of his last will and testament and also to be the guardian of the estate of his son, Harold Coffey. And by an express provision therein did exempt him from giving bond or other security for the faithful performance of said trust. And now on motion of said executor and guardian it is ordered, adjudged, and decreed that letters testamentary be and the same are hereby granted to the said R. A. Coffey as executor thereof and also as guardian of Harold Coffey, said letters bring now forthwith issued in accordance with the terms of said will.

Thomas Frazier, Deceased
Estate of
Order to Sell Personal Property
August 1, 1899
Page 365

This day comes J. P. Williams, the administrator of the estate of Thomas Frazier, deceased, and filed his petition in writing and under oath praying for an order of this Court to sell certain property herein after described, belonging to said estate.

And it appearing to the Court that said property is of a perishable nature,

and liable to damage, and so alleged in said petition. It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed that said administrator sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at or near Trenton, Alabama in this county one sorrel horse after first giving notice for five days by one insertion in the *Scottsboro Citizen*, a newspaper published in this County, of the time, terms, and place of sale together with a description of the property.

It is further ordered that said sale be made on the [blank] day of August 1899 and due return of the same made to this Court.

Thomas Frazier, Deceased
Estate of
Report Com. to Allot Dower
August 1, 1899
Page 366

This day comes W. T. Eustace and four others who were heretofore appointed and commissioned by an order of this Court to allot and set apart to Nancy J. Frazier, the widow of said decedent, a dower out of the realty belonging to said estate, and file their report in writing and in proper form showing how they have executed said trust.

And it appearing to the Court that said report is in all things regular, it is ordered that said report lie over for ten days for exceptions and that all matters relating to this proceeding be deferred till August 11, 1899.

John T. Anderson, Deceased, Estate of
Order for Repairs on Hotel
August 2, 1899
Page 366

On this day comes John F. Proctor the administrator de bonis non of said estate with the will annexed and files his

report in writing and under oath showing that he has caused certain improvements and repairs upon the Stevenson Hotel, the property of said estate to be made, and that he has incurred expenses for that property to the sum of \$245.97.

And it appearing to the Court that said improvements and repairs were needed, and that the sum so expended was reasonable. It is ordered, adjudged, and decreed by the Court that said reports be confirmed and that said administrator appropriate the sum of \$245.97 of the funds of said estate in his hands to the payment of the expenses incurred in making said improvements.

Langston, Alabama
Town of
Order of Incorporation
August 2, 1899
Page 366

Whereas on the 30th day of June 1899, J. B. Haralson and 20 other adult male inhabitants of Langston, a town not incorporated in this county, the population of which is not less than 100 nor more than 1,000, and presented their petition in writing and signed by them, stating that they desired said town to be incorporated; that the Corporate name of said town should be Langston and that the boundaries thereof should be as follows to wit: Beginning at the bridge in the center of the cross roads near the Grantham old store house, and running east ½ mile to an oak stump in the G. Q. Davis garden, thence north ½ mile to an oak stump in the field of N. H. Benson, thence west one mile to an oak stump in the wood lot of W. P. Moore, thence south one mile to a sweet gum sapling in the field of Mrs. Paralee Jackson, thence east 301 rods to a red bird tree on the side of the mountain on the lands of Mrs. Ann Austin, then in an easterly direction

one half mile to the corner in the G. Q. Davis garden.

At the same time filing the written concerns of the land owners of the enclosed boundary to have the same incorporated.

And whereas the Probate Judge did on the day of the filing of said petition order an election to be held within the limits of said proposed corporation at the usual place of voting on the 31st day of July 1899 for the purpose of voting on the question of "Incorporation" or "No incorporation" appointing B. F. Shook, H. B. Jones, and D. M. Webb as inspectors of said election and giving 30 days notice of said election by posting up three written notices at different public places in said town to the inhabitants thereof.

And whereas the said inspectors of said election did on this the 2nd day of August 1899 certify the result of said election to the Judge of this Court showing that a majority of the votes cast at the election were "for corporation" there being 17 votes cast for and 15 against corporation. It is therefore ordered, adjudged, and decreed by the Court that the inhabitants of said town within the boundary hereinabove set forth are incorporated under the name of Langston and are hereby vested with all the powers and authority given municipal Corporations under the laws of the State of Alabama.

It is further ordered that the Sheriff of this County have notice forthwith of this entry of records of incorporation who shall within ten days appoint three inspectors, a place of voting in said corporation, and a day not more than 15 days from such notification for the purpose of electing one intendant and five aldermen who shall be vested with the Corporate authorities of said town.

W. R. W. C. Keys, et al
Tenants in Common
Order on Report Sale of Lands
August 8, 1899
Page 368

This day comes J. H. Gregory the commissioner heretofore appointed by an order of this Court to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of said joint tenants or tenants in common, and files his report in writing and under oath of the sale of said real estate under said commission made by him.

It is ordered that said report be filed and lie over for 10 days to wait further action thereon by the Court.

Charlotte Parris, Deceased
Estate of
Decree for Probate of Will
August 10, 1899
Page 368

This day having been regularly appointed for hearing the application of H. D. Latimer which was heretofore filed in this Court for the probate of an instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased.

Now comes the said applicant, also comes Mary F. Stephens, James C. J. Parris, Mollie Parris, Lucy A. Tally, Adaline Walker, all of the parties interested in this cause who are all of the full age of twenty-one years and upward.

And it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that notice of the said application and of the day appointed for hearing the same has been given in pursuance of law and in strict accordance with the former order of this Court made and entered in the premises

on the 24th day of July 1899 by citation served personally on each of them, more than 10 days before this day.

Now on motion of the said H. D. Latimer, the Court proceeds to hear said application. And it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court from the testimony of R. J. Greer that he and T. Boyd Foster each respecting signed the said instrument of writing purporting to be the last will and testament of Charlotte Parris, deceased, and which writing is now shown to them, on the day of the date thereof, in the presence of said testator and at her request, as subscribing witnesses to the same, the said testatrix having signed the same then declared that said instrument constitutes her last will; and it being also shown by proof which is satisfactory to the Court that said testatrix was of full age of twenty-one years and upwards at the time of making said will and that she was of sound mind and fully capable of making her said will that she was an inhabitant of this county at the time of her death that she died on or about the [blank] day of 1896. It is therefore ordered adjudged, and decreed by the Court that said will of said Charlotte Parris, deceased, be received and the same is hereby duly proven and declared so to be, as the last will and testament of said deceased as such admitted to probate and ordered to be recorded together with the proof thereof and all other papers on file relating to this proceeding. It is further ordered that said applicant pay the cost of this proceeding.

~~~~to be continued~~~~

# Madison County

## Flint River Baptist Church Minutes Beginning in 1809

### Part 2

Copied, Abstracted, and Contributed by Dorothy Scott Johnson

*The first Baptist church in what would become known as the State of Alabama was originally named Flint River Baptist Church of Christ. Known today as the Flint River Primitive Baptist Church, members of the congregation celebrate their 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

The original minutes go beyond 1850 but the last pages are illegible and no attempt was made to copy them. The original spelling is retained throughout. In most cases, if we can clarify any word or name, we have done so in the footnotes; other clarifications are made by the corrected word being put in brackets next to the erroneous word.

This work is primarily geared to genealogy rather than theology, so we have abstracted the minutes and omitted any lengthy theological discussion. All items brought up in these meetings are copied here.

Many of the names shown here are not found in other records in this county and, therefore, these minutes prove that they actually lived here. These minutes also contain clues or proof of husband and wife relationships.

#### Page 11

##### July 1810 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in July [1810]

Church met and after worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Reference of Bro. Teague called for & continued.

2<sup>nd</sup> The case of Bro. John Killingsworth taken up and he declared non-fellowship with the Church for his principles, for not holding to open Communion: therefore, he no more under our watch care and is debarred from the privilege of this Church.

Also a report taken up against Martha Jordan; the Church appointed sister Rebecca Byram & sister Sarah Byrom to labor with her & make report to the next conference.

Sunday after divine worship a door was opened for the reception of members.

Recd. black sister Charity by acknowledgment and recantation.

##### August 1810 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in August

Church met and after worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> A reference was taken up concerning Magness Teague, an allegation brought by Bro. Bennet Wood, for deception and disobedience, [and by]

#### Page 12

the injunction of the Church, we declare an unfellowship for same.

2<sup>nd</sup> For the act of fornication we exclude Martha Jordan from our fellowship.

##### Sept. 1810 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Sept.

The Church met after divine worship, proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> We chose to the association Bro. John Nickelson and Bro. Bennet Wood, if failure, Bro. Benjamin Wafford.<sup>1</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> Bro. Alden Byram requested a letter of recommendation from the Church which was granted.

3<sup>rd</sup> Recd. Bro. John Rice by experience.

Sunday after sermon, a dore [door] was opened for the reception of members.

Recd. sister Elizabeth Sanderson by recommendation of Brother Wesseman.<sup>2</sup>

#### Nov. 1810 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Nov.

Church met and after divine Worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. Sister Nancy Morresion<sup>3</sup> by recommendation of Bro. Wiseman<sup>4</sup>.

2<sup>nd</sup> Recd. Bro. Jno. Morrison by recantation and recommendation of Bro. Wiseman.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sister Anny Bradly requested a letter of dismissal and it was granted.

#### Dec. 1810 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Dec.

Church met and after divine Worship proceeded to business, were dismissed all in peace.<sup>5</sup>

#### January 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Jan.

Church met after divine Worship and proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> An allegation laid in the Church by sister

#### Page 13

Nancy Ice against sister Milley Bayley. Referred to next Conference.

<sup>1</sup> Means that Wafford was alternate in case one of the others failed to attend.

<sup>2</sup> Believed to actually be Wessman.

<sup>3</sup> Believed to be Morrison.

<sup>4</sup> Is written Wesseman elsewhere.

<sup>5</sup> Apparently there was no business to take up.

#### Feb. 7, 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Feb.

Church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> The reference called for and continued.

#### March 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in March

Church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> A door was opened for the reception of members.

2<sup>nd</sup> Received Bro. Lewis Page by letter.

3<sup>rd</sup> Received Bro. & sister "James and Mary, Mary by letter."<sup>6</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> Reference taken up by the satisfaction of the sisters and settled.<sup>7</sup>

5<sup>th</sup> For the act of fornication we declare [decline?] our fellowship with Mary Moore.

#### April 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in April

Church met and after worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. sister Hannah Peters under our watch care.

2<sup>nd</sup> Recd. Bro. & sister Thomas & Elizabeth Bragg by letter.

#### May 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in May

Church met and after worship [and] proceeded to business. The Church all in peace.

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#### June 1811 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in June

Church met and after worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. Bro. & sister Samuel & Mary Hockady by letter.

<sup>6</sup> No last name given

<sup>7</sup> This probably referred to the differences between sisters Nancy Ice and Milley Bayley.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after sermon a door was opened for the reception of members.

3<sup>rd</sup> Recd. Bro. William Haughton by letter.

**July 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in July**

Church met and after worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. sister Hannah Peters by letter.

2<sup>nd</sup> Recd. sister Margaret Fitzjarrel by experience.

**August 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Aug.**

Church met and after worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> There being a public rumor against Bro. & sister Frederic & Nancy Ice, the Church chose Bro's. Jordan and Bailey and E. Byram to cite them to next conference.

**Sept. 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Sept.**

Church met and worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. Bro. Levi Lawler.

2<sup>nd</sup> According to reference "took the case up [of] Bro. and sister Ice." After an investigation they were cleared.

3<sup>rd</sup> Chose Bro. Bennet Wood & Jno. Nikelson our delegates to the association and in case of failure, Bro. Hockady<sup>8</sup>.

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After the sermon on Sunday, a door was opened for the reception of members.

1<sup>st</sup> Received Bo. & sister Jno. & Jane Duncan by letter.

**Oct. 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Oct.**

Church met and after worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. Bro. Garret Fitzjarrel under our watch care.

2<sup>nd</sup> Recd. Bro. Elijah Lawley<sup>9</sup> by experience.

3<sup>rd</sup> Recd. Bro. Wm. Baker by experience.

**Nov. 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Nov.**

Church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. sister Sally Rountree by experience.

2<sup>nd</sup> An allegation brought forward by Bro. Pounder against Bro. Levi Byram for communing with the Sismatics<sup>10</sup> and postponed until next conference.

**Dec. 1811 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Dec.**

Church met & after divine Worship proceeded to business. Reference called for and continued.

**January 1812 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in Dec.**

Church met & after Divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> The case of Bro. Levi Byram was taken up and [he was] excluded for communing with Brothers of another faith and order.

**Note: No February meeting shown.**

**March 1812 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in March**

Church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. Caty Strong by letter.

2<sup>nd</sup> Brother & sister Fitzjarrel requested a letter of dismissal and it was granted.

<sup>8</sup> Meaning Hockady was an alternate delegate.

<sup>9</sup> Is probably Elijah Lawler.

<sup>10</sup> Sismatics. This may be Semitics but is problematical.

**Page 16**  
**May 1812 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in May**

The Church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> A report against Bro. Jas. Deaton for defraud. Bro. Levi Lawler was appointed to cite him to next conference.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after sermon Brothers Elisha Lawler, Jas. Lawler, Wm. Baker and sister Milly Bailey requested letters of dismissal and it was granted.

**June 1812 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in June**

Church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> A reference was taken up concerning Jas. Deaton and no fault was found of him.

2<sup>nd</sup> Recd. Bro. & sister Murry by letter.

3<sup>rd</sup> Recd. sister Elizabeth Lawler by Experience. Sunday after Sermon a dore [door] was opened for the reception of members.

1<sup>st</sup> Rec. Samuel Moore by Experience.

2<sup>nd</sup> Recd. Mary Lashly by experience.

3<sup>rd</sup> The Church agreed by Committee to divide the Association.

4<sup>th</sup> An allegation brought in against Bro. Jesse \_\_\_\_\_ for attempting to commit adultery.

5<sup>th</sup> Referred to a committee, John Nickelson, Levi Lawler, Ebenezer Byram and Lewis Page; the committee met according to appointment and the allegation was settled by acknowledgment and recantation.

**July 1812 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in July.**

Church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> Recd. sister Hulda Hinds by experience.

2<sup>nd</sup> Bro. Bell & wife applied for a letter of dismissal & it was granted.

3<sup>rd</sup> Bro. & sister Rice requested letters of dismissal and it was granted.

4<sup>th</sup> Brothers Sam. Hockaday & Alden Byram was chosen to fulfill the office of a deacon.

**Page 17 (July 1812)**

5<sup>th</sup> An allegation brought in my Bro. Wood against Bro. Nimrod Graham for communing with the Sysmatics.<sup>11</sup> We permit Bro. Hackaday and Bro. Alden Byram to cite him to our next conference.

**August 11, 1812 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat. in August.**

Church met and after divine worship proceeded to business.

1<sup>st</sup> A reference was called for and continued.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sister Wafford, Malinda Wafford, and a black sister of Bro. Wafford's by the name of Cate, requested letters of dismissal and they were granted.

~~~~~Final~~~~~

Back issues of Volumes 1 through 13 (1966 to 1980) of *Valley Leaves* are now available on CDs for only \$10 per volume. Until now this information was previously available only on microfiche. Order today!

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¹¹ Sysmatics. A variation of "Sismatics" above.

Acts of Alabama (Territorial)

Abstracted and contributed by
Dorothy Scott Johnson

Part 2

Acts Passed at the Second Session
of the
First General Assembly
of the
Alabama Territory
1818

Continued from Volume 43, Issue 3

The *Acts of Alabama* are often overlooked sources of history and genealogy in the early formation of the state. There were only a few copies printed of which many have been lost. The remainder, unless photocopied, are to be found only in select places such as the Alabama Supreme Court Library. The Law Library in Huntsville is fortunate to have copies. Each entry begins with "*Be it enacted by the Legislative Council and House of Representative of the Alabama Territory*" and is not included since these minutes are abstracted.

The counties of Madison and Jackson have been abstracted here and, incidentally, Morgan and Limestone since they border on our covered counties. Also included is Franklin County since early records there are so scarce due to multiple fires.

Acts of Alabama

The lots on the north side of the town of Huntsville, Madison Co., and adjoining the same, at present are owned by Elisha B. Clark, Alexander A. Campbell, William W. Harris, George W. Harris, Francis Newman, Fleming Ward, Daniel Murphy, Nicholas Stiefeld*, William Clarke, Andrew Cross, William Steelman, and Thornton H. Cook. These lots are hereby annexed and made a part of the town of Huntsville. Approved November 16, 1818.

Mary P. Moore is hereby divorced from her husband Gabriel Moore and the bonds of matrimony between them are dissolved and that the said Mary P. Moore be hereafter known and called by the name

of Mary P. Caller. Madison County. Approved November 17, 1818.

Maria Fuller is hereby divorced from her husband William Fuller. The bonds of matrimony heretofore subsisting between Maria Fuller and her husband William Fuller are hereby annulled and made void and Maria Fuller is restored to all the rights and privileges of a *feme sole*. (No county mentioned). Approved November 17, 1818.

Ann Hughes, guardian of the minor heirs of Releigh Hughes, deceased, is hereby authorized and empowered to appropriate and lay out the proceeds of the sale of

* This may be "Stringfield" as that family was in Madison Co. by 1812. "Stiefeld" appears nowhere in Madison Co. Territorial records.

twelve acres of land lying in Madison County, Alabama Territory, heretofore sold by authority of an Act of the General Assembly of the Mississippi Territory, entitled "An Act to authorize Ann Hughes to sell certain lands therein mentioned, passed the twenty seventh day of November 1816," upon the most advantageous term, in the purchase of lands wheresoever she may deem most advisable for the benefit of the said heirs of Raleigh Hughes. That the said Ann Hughes and her securities are hereby released and discharged from the penalties of the bond by them made and executed pursuant to the provisions of the said Act of the Mississippi Territory. Approved November 19, 1818.

All marriages solemnized, without License, in any county of this Territory before the organization of same, are hereby made lawful and obligatory in all respects, and the offspring of such marriages are hereby made legitimate to all legal intents and purposes. That all and every person or persons who may have celebrated any marriage, without legal authority, be and they are hereby released from all and every penalty or penalties to which they may be liable therefore. Approved November 19, 1818.

William Henry be and he is hereby divorced from the bonds of matrimony heretofore subsisting between him and Ann Henry, his wife. That the marriage of said William with Amelia Bradley, previous to the granting of this divorce be, and the same is hereby declared to be good and valid in law, and that George Gaines Henry, Carline Matilda Henry, Cornelia Henry, Julia Burnette Henry and William Jackson Henry, the issue of said marriage be, and the same are hereby declared to be legitimate. (No county mentioned). Approved Nov. 20, 1818.

John F. Everitt is hereby divorced from the bonds of matrimony subsisting between him and Sarah Ann L. Everitt, his wife. That the marriage of the said John F. Everitt and Sarah Hand, previous to the passage of this Act, is hereby declared to be good and valid in law, and Mary Elizabeth Everitt and Enoch Everitt, the issue of said marriage, are hereby declared to be legitimate. (No county mentioned). Approved November 20, 1818.

Susannah Cannon, administratrix, and David Cannon, administrator of Henry Cannon, deceased, late of Madison County, are hereby authorized to sell a certain lot or parcel of land in the town of Huntsville known as Lot No. 17 fronting Gallatin and Clinton Streets, belonging to the estate of said decedent.

Gray Syms is hereby divorced from the bonds of matrimony heretofore subsisting between him and Catharine Syms, his wife. (No county mentioned.) Approved November 20, 1818.

John Barron is hereby divorced from the bonds of matrimony heretofore subsisting between him and Clarissa Barron, his wife. (No county mentioned.) Approved November 21, 1818.

Resolution for the relief of William D. Gaines who is to be allowed \$46.12-1/2 for stationery furnished the two houses during the present session of the Legislature; said money to be paid out of any monies in the Treasury. Approved November 21, 1818.

-This ends the abstracts of the *Acts* of the
Alabama Territory-

Acts of Alabama (After Statehood)

Until the mid-19th century, certain legal transactions, such as divorces, adoptions, legitimizations, etc., had to be approved by the state legislature.

The records in the Acts cover the entire state but those copied here are incomplete in that we have included only the records of interest to our readership. Not only included are Madison, Marshall and Jackson Counties, but also Morgan and Limestone. Because of the scarcity of early records in Franklin County due to multiple fires, we have also included them.

Divorce. Harriet Dillard from Nicholas Dillard (Madison Co), Sept. term 1820, approved Nov. 20, 1821.

Divorce. Sarah M. Bracken from James A. Bracken (Franklin Co.), approved Dec. 17, 1821.

Divorce. Nancy Clift from Jesse Clift (Madison Co.), approved Sept. term, 1821.

Divorce. Elizabeth Caley from Henry Edward Caley (Morgan Co.), approved Oct. term 1821. [*Henry Edward Caley m. Elizabeth Lay Sept. 26, 1814 in Madison Co.*]

Divorce. Tempy Williams from George Williams (Decatur Co.), approved Dec. 29, 1823.

Divorce. Drury Connally from Nancy Connally (Madison Co.), approved Dec. 29, 1823.

Divorce. Robert Blassengam from Elizabeth Blassengam (Madison Co.) approved Dec. 29, 1823.

Divorce. Sarah Ann Newman from Francis Newman (Morgan Co.), approved Dec. 26, 1823. [*Sarah Ann Newman m. Francis Newman in Madison Co. May 17, 1817.*]

Divorce. William Gates from Susannah Gates (Franklin Co.), approved Jan. 12, 1826.

Divorce. William Roundtree from Sally Roundtree (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 12, 1826. [*Note: This name is actually Rountree.*]

Divorce. Naomi Pond from Stephen Pond (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 12, 1826. [*Stephen Pond m. Naomi Carlissle, a widow, on Aug. 5, 1813 in Madison Co.*]

Divorce. Deborah Dixon from Samuel Dixon (Madison Co), approved Jan. 12, 1826.

[*Samuel Dickson m. Diborough Horton in Madison Co. Jan. 8, 1816.*]

Divorce. Kelly Stegall from Nancy Stegall (Limestone Co.), approved Dec. 30, 1826. [*Kelly Stegall m. Nancy Wilbourn Jan. 13, 1810 in Madison Co.*].

Divorce. John Hamblin from Hannah Hamblin (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 5, 1827.

Legitimization. Emily Mercury[?], natural child of Benjamin Frost is hereby legitimized and known as Emily Frost and is entitled to heirship the same as if she were his legitimate child. [*No county given but may be either Madison or Limestone.*]

Divorce. William O. Russell from Nancy G. Russell (Franklin Co.) approved Dec. 14, 1827.

Divorce. Elizabeth W. Cowell from Samuel Cowell (Franklin Co.), approved Dec. 14, 1827.

Divorce. Matilda S. Chann from Lancelot Chann (Morgan Co.) and her name changed to Matilda S. Read. Approved Jan. 9, 1829. [*This name is Chunn, not Chann.*]

Divorce. John Layman from Rebecca Layman (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 24, 1829.

Divorce. Elizabeth Littlepage from Thomas W. Littlepage (Madison Co.), approved Dec. 20, 1828.

Divorce. Clarissa Wade from George W. Wade (Limestone Co.), approved Dec. 20, 1818.

Divorce. Milly Beckham from William C. Beckham (Limestone Co.), approved Jan. 15, 1831.

Divorce. Elizabeth Eastham from Robert Eastham (Limestone Co.), approved Jan. 15, 1831.

Triana Academy. Source: Acts of the General Assembly of Alabama, 1831-1833, pp 90-91. For the purpose of establishing an academy at Triana in Madison Co: William I. Adair, William T. Young, Daniel H. Tillinghast, Samuel Breck, William A. Aikin, Edward W. Parker, Richard Forsey, William Stewart and Hutchinson Dent, trustees of the Triana Academy, constitute a corporation.

Election precincts. An election precinct is hereby established at the home of William Blancett in Jackson County.

An election precinct is hereby established at the home of John McNulty in Madison County.

Divorce Law Change: In 1831 the law changed to allow divorce for abandonment for three years (instead of five), cruelty, and if the offending party lived in adultery.

Divorce. James Levesque from Sarah Levesque (Limestone Co.) approved Jan. 21, 1832.

Divorce. John R. Murphy from Lucy Murphy (Limestone Co.) approved Jan. 21, 1832.

Divorce. Sarah Hine from Wyldman Hine (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 21, 1832. [*His name written Wildman Hind and Hinds in other Madison Co. records.*]

Divorce. Betsy Felton from John Felton (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 11, 1834.

Divorce. Anna Sanders from William Sanders (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 11, 1834.

Divorce. Charlotte Dillard from George Dillard (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 10, 1835.

Feme covert. Charlotte Dillard (Madison Co.) is hereby given the right to take, receive and hold by purchase, gift or inheritance, any property, either real or personal, free from the hindrance, molestation or authority of her husband, George Dillard. [Source: *Acts of the General Assembly of Alabama*, pp 170. Approved 1833.]

Feme covert. Vienna Jolly of Jackson County is hereby given the right to take receive and hold by purchase, gift or inheritance, any property, either real or personal, free from the

hindrance, molestation or authority of her husband, William Jolly; she shall not be subjected to the payment of the debts of her husband, William Jolly. Approved Jan. 17, 1834.

Divorce. Robert M. Richards from Elizabeth H. Richards (Madison Co.), approved Dec. 17, 1834.

Divorce: James D. Bradley from Henrietta Bradley (Franklin Co.), approved Dec. 9, 1835.

Divorce. Thompson J. Coleman from Martha Coleman (Morgan Co.), approved Jan. 9, 1835.

Divorce. John Briggs from Elizabeth H. Briggs (Franklin Co.), approved Dec. 22, 1836.

Removal of property. Moses L. Barr, guardian of Mary and Julia Harding, minor heirs of Joseph Harding, decd., (Madison Co.), is permitted to remove such property or monies as may have come to his possession, as guardian aforesaid, from the county of Madison to the county of Benton.

Name change. That the name of Dolly Beverly B. Harrel, an illegitimate child of Beverly B. Pryor, be changed to Dolly Beverly B. Pryor; she is hereby capable of inheriting the same as if she had been born his lawful heir.

Town of Vienna incorporated. David Moore, Edward Vann and William W. Wadley are authorized to hold elections for officers for the said town the first week of May 1837.

Divorce. John P. Hall from Mary Hall (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 17, 1839.

Divorce. John Youngblood from Eliza Jane Youngblood (Morgan Co.), approved Jan. 17, 1839.

Divorce. Eliza A. F. Anderson from Edmond R. Anderson (Limestone Co.), approved Jan. 17, 1839.

Divorce. Elizabeth Dance from Henry B. Dance (Morgan Co.), approved Jan. 28, 1829.

Divorce. Lucretia T. Tate from Griffith Tate (Limestone Co.), approved Jan. 28, 1839.

Divorce. Elizabeth Green from John M. Green (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 28, 1839.

Divorce. Sarah Green from William Green (Jackson Co.), approved Jan. 28, 1839.

Land excluded from Huntsville. An act for the relief of William Smith of Madison being an act incorporating the town of Huntsville, approved Feb. 12, 1828, the corporate limits of the town was extended so far as to embrace an area of one square mile, whereby a portion of a tract of land belonging to William Smith which he had purchased from General John Brahan, was included within the aforesaid extended limits of the said incorporation without either his consent or knowledge. Therefore, so much of said land embraced within the town limits of Huntsville is here by declared to be without the city limits. Approved Jan. 24, 1839.

Name change. The name of Harriet Newell Moody, of Madison Co., is hereby changed to Harriett Newell Rose. Approved Jan. 29, 1839.

Name change. The name of Thomas Johnson of Jackson Co. is hereby changed to Thomas J. Evans. Approved Jan. 29, 1839.

Apprenticeship. The Judge of Jackson County is authorized to cancel and destroy the bonds of apprenticeship by which Phillip H. Lacy was bound as apprentice to Daniel M. Martin. Approved Feb. 1, 1839.

Name change. That the name of William Laycock of Jackson Co. be changed to William Warren. Approved Feb. 2, 1839.

Citizenship reinstated. Golden Harper is hereby reinstated in the rights of citizenship he was deprived of in consequence of a conviction for mayhem in the circuit court of Morgan County.

Divorce. Martha Ann King from John M. King (Madison Co.), approved Feb. 4, 1840.

Divorce. Nancy P. Morrow from James Morrow (Madison Co.), approved Dec. 23, 1841.

Divorce. John F. Lehr from Sally Lehr (Madison Co.), approved Dec. 31, 1841.

Name change. The name of John Spence of Madison Co. is hereby changed to John Smith Adams and he is hereby made a legal heir of

Smith Adams of Madison Co. and be entitled to all rights and privileges, and be capable of taking by inheritance or otherwise, any property, real or personal, that may descend to him as such. Approved Feb. 3, 1840.

Feme covert. Africa Rountree of Morgan County may hereby have her own property without control of husband, Thomas B. Rountree.

Divorce law enacted. If the wife is pregnant, previous to the time of marriage, by a man other than her husband, it constitutes grounds for divorce. Enacted Jan. 16, 1844.

Divorce. John W. Jones from Minerva Jones (Madison Co.), approved Dec. 14, 1843.

Divorce. Benjamin S. Parsons from Eliza T. Parsons (Marshall Co.), approved Jan. 16, 1844.

Divorce. Rebecca Kithel from William S. Kithel. She is to be hereafter known as Rebecca McCarjo. (Limestone Co.). Approved Jan. 16, 1844.

Divorce. John Shannon from Angeline A. Shannon (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 16, 1844.

Divorce. William H. Clay from Moranda Clay (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 16, 1844.

Divorce. Eliza Jane McAdory from Samuel McAdory (Madison Co.), approved Jan. 16, 1844.

Name changes. The names of Elizabeth Jane McCay and Josephine Renfrow of Jackson Co., minors, be and they are hereby changed, and they shall hereafter be severally called and known by the names of Elizabeth Jane Newberry and Josephine Newberry. Approved Jan. 1, 1844.

Divorce. Charles M. Weatherford from Susan Weatherford (Limestone Co.), approved Jan. 22, 1845.

Divorce. Richard F. Williams from Mary Williams (Madison Co.)

Divorce. Benjamin Stephens from Lavinia Stephens (Marshall Co.), approved Jan. 23, 1845.

Divorce. Energy H. Vincent from Eliza Vincent (Franklin Co.), approved Jan. 22, 1845.

Divorce. Martha E. Cunningham from James T. Cunningham (Jackson Co.), approved Jan. 22, 1845.

Divorce. Ann G. Callahan from William Callahan (Morgan Co.), approved Jan. 8, 1846.

Divorce. Achilles Whitlock from Letitia W. Whitlock (Limestone Co.), approved Feb. 4, 1846.

Divorce. Josiah Reddick from Jemima Reddick (Madison Co.), approved Feb. 4, 1846.

Marriage legalized. The marriage solemnized between John Riley and his wife, Sarah Riley, formerly Sarah Rainey, is hereby legal and valid. Furthermore, James Zachariah and Margaret Jane, issue of said marriage, are hereby declared legitimate. (No county mentioned.) Approved Jan. 29, 1846.

Divorce. Benjamin Nearin from Rachael Nearin (Marshall Co.), approved March 3, 1848.

Divorce. Martha Young from William Young (Limestone Co.), approved March 3, 1848.

Divorce. Fielden Fields from Mary Fields (Limestone Co.), approved March 3, 1848.

Divorce. Louisa J. Chambers from William K. Chambers (Madison Co.), approved March 3, 1848.

Divorce. Mary Wilkerson from James Wilkerson (Franklin Co.), Approved March 3, 1848

Divorce. Mary C. Seay from William Seay (Madison Co.), approved March 3, 1848.

Divorce. Jeremiah Burns from Rachael Burns (Madison Co.), approved March 3, 1848.

Divorce. Elizabeth C. Wilber from Ezra Wilber (Jackson Co.), approved March 3, 1848.

Divorce. Rebecca Little from William Little (Jackson Co.), approved March 3, 1848.

Divorce. Martha Nowlin from Calvin Nowlin (Marshall Co.), approved Feb. 3, 1848.

Divorce. John G. Sharp from Nancy Sharp (Madison Co.), approved Feb. 7, 1850. [Note: In the engrossed bill the name is given as **Tharp**, not **Sharp**, however there are no **Tharps** listed in the 1850 Madison Co. census.]

Divorce. Almond Attkinson from Mary T. Attkinson (Jackson Co.), approved Feb. 12, 1850.

Divorce. John Bernard from Julia Bernard (Madison Co.), approved Feb. 13, 1850.

Divorce. William H. Lewey from Eleanor Lewey (Franklin Co.), approved Feb. 9, 1852.

Divorce. Mary A. D. Donalson from John A. Donalson (Jackson Co.), approved Dec. 16, 1851. [One John A. *Donaldson* is shown in the 1850 census of Marengo Co.]

Divorce. Frances D. Nopie from William A. Nopie (Limestone Co.), approved Dec. 16, 1851.

Divorce. Pleasant M. Lamay from Elizabeth W. Lamay (Morgan Co.), approved Feb. 10, 1852.

Divorce. William Gage from Mary Ann Gage (Morgan Co.), approved Feb. 10, 1852.

Divorce. Frances C. Gosslin from Peter C. Gosslin (Morgan Co.), approved Feb. 9, 1852.

Divorce. William F. Williams from Tempe Williams (Marshall Co.), approved Feb. 9, 1852.

Divorce. Sarah Reese from John C. Reese (Morgan Co.), approved Feb. 9, 1852.

Names changed. After the passage of this act, the names of Alexander Hall, Elijah Hall and Hugh L. White Hall, of Jackson Co., will be changed to Toney. They are hereby made the legal heirs of Elijah Toney.

Name change. The name, Alexander Simpson of Jackson Co., is hereby changed to William A. Brooks who, under that name, shall be constituted a legal heir of Dillard Brooks.

~End~

The next meeting of Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society will be Thursday, July 23 at the Huntsville/Madison County Public Library at 7 p.m.

Marshall County

Deed Record Book A

Part 21

Continued from Volume 43, Issue Number 3

Copied, Abstracted and Contributed by Coy Michael

Copies were previously taken from very large, aged books in the Marshall County Court House. Most of the deed books have been replaced by electronic duplication and printed to letter-sized paper and placed in small books. Unfortunately, these recent copies are much more difficult to read. Question marks have been placed after names that cannot be read.

Note: Pages 206 – 210 are illegible

Deed

**James M. Hill to Joseph P. Garrett
Pages 211, 212**

This indenture made this ? day of July 1838 between James M. Hill and his wife Mary Ann Hill of Talladega County and Joseph P. Garrett and Harriet ? Garrett, his wife, of the County of Marshall, all of the first part, and Burgess McGaha of the other part.

Wherewith that the said James M. Hill and his wife Mary Ann Hill and Joseph P. Garrett and his wife Harriet ? Garrett for and in consideration of the sum of \$2,500 in hand to them and have this day bargained and sold to the said Burgess McGaha the following parcel of land lying and described as the SW quarter of Section 25 in Township 6, Range ? East containing 160 acres.

Also the fractional part of Section 13 on the North side of Paint Rock River in the County of Madison in the aforesaid Township 6 in Range ? East containing 80 acres, also fractional part of Section 13 in Township 6 in Range two? East containing 80 acres lying in Madison County on the South side of Paint Rock

River, also the NW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 24 in Township 6 in Range ? containing 40 acres more or less.

Signed by James M. Hill, Mary Ann Hill, Joseph P. Garrett and Harriet ? Hill.

Richard S. Randles certified the above document was filed in his office November 18, 1838 and recorded in Book A on pages 211 & 212.

Deed

**A. R. Barclay to James White
Page 213**

This indenture made and entered into April 11, 1835 between Archibald R. Barclay and his wife Martha C. Barclay of the County of Jackson in Alabama of the first part, and James White of the County of Washington in the State of Virginia of the second part.

Whereas the said Archibald R. Barclay and his wife Martha C. Barclay for and in consideration of the sum of ? hundred dollars in hand paid by James White do hereby bargain and sell the following described property in the County of Jackson: the South half of the SW quarter of Section 25 in Township 7 of Range ? East containing 86 acres, also

the South half of SW quarter of Section 25 in Township 7 of Range 3 East containing 86 acres.

Signed by A. R. Barclay and Martha C. Barclay. Booker Smith, Justice of the Peace, witnessed the signatures of Archibald R. Barclay and his wife Martha C. Barclay. He separately and apart questioned Martha C. Barclay that she signed the deed without any threat or fear of her husband.

Deed

**A. R. Barclay to James White
Page 214**

This indenture made April 11, 1835 between Archibald R. Barclay and his wife Martha C. Barclay of the County of Jackson in Alabama of the first part and James White of the County of Washington in Virginia of the second part. Whereas that the said Archibald R. Barclay and his wife Martha C. Barclay for and in consideration of the sum of \$500.00 ? in hand to them paid by the said James White do bargain and sell to the said James White a certain tract of land lying in the County of Jackson containing 50 acres more or less. (Land description illegible).

Signed by A. R. Barclay and Martha C. Barclay and signatures witnessed by Booker Smith, Justice of the Peace. Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court certified the above document was registered in his office and duly recorded in Book A on page 214.

Deed of Trust

**William L. Walker to John S. Boggess
Pages 250-251**

This indenture made January 28, 1839 between William L. Walker of the first part and John S. Boggess of the

second part and Isham H. Fennell of the third part, all of the County of Marshall.

Whereas the said William L. Walker is justly indebted to the said Isham H. Fennell by a certain note executed to him January 26, 1839 and due July 26, 1840 with interest from its date in the sum of \$130.00 which debt the said William L. Walker is willing and desirous to make safe to the said Isham H. Fennell.

Wherewith for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar to the said William L. Walker in hand paid by the said John S. Boggess then the said William L. Walker doth bargain and sell to the said John S. Boggess one tract or parcel of land described in the Land Office in Huntsville as the South part of the NE part of Fractional Section 10 in Township 7 of Range 2 East containing 49 and 80/100 acres, two feather beds and furniture, one black and brown horse mule two years old, two pots, one skillet, one smoothing iron, one rifle gun and (numerous other household items were listed). If default be made then the said John S. Boggess shall sell the previously described property to the highest bidder after giving at least 20 days notice by posting advertisements at three public places within the vicinity of the place of sale. Signatures of Wm. L. Walker, John S. Boggess and Isham H. Fennell were on the document.

Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court certified the foregoing Deed of Trust was filed in his office January 26, 1839 in Book A on pages 250 and 251.

On January 22, 1840 Richard Griffin shall act as Trustee in place of John S. Burgess and shall perform duties as described in the above-described document. Richard S. Randles also attested this change in Trustee.

Deed of Trust
Samuel Harper to Daniel G. Hamner
Pages 252-253

This indenture made January 25, 1839 between Samuel Harper of the first part, Daniel G. Hamner of the second part and John H. Harper of the third part.

Whereas the said Samuel Harper is justly indebted to the said John H. Harper in the sum of \$70 by note becoming due December 25, 1839 with interest, and which debt the said Samuel Harper is willing and desirous to secure to the said John H. Harper.

Witness that for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar to him in hand paid by the said Daniel G. Hamner, Trustee it is hereby acknowledged the said Samuel Harper hath this day given, granted and sold to the said Daniel G. Harper the following described property: one Bay horse with two white feet three years old next spring, and one black colt with two white feet, a small white star in his forehead. The said Daniel G. Hamner shall permit the said Samuel Harper to remain in quiet and peaceable possession of the above described property until default of above described note. If upon default, the said Daniel G. Hamner shall sell to the highest bidder at public auction after giving 30 days notice by posting three or more advertisements in public places.

Signed by Samuel (his mark) Harper, Daniel G. Hamner and John H. Harper.

Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court, certified the foregoing Deed of Trust was recorded in his office January 26, 1839 and recorded in Book A on pages 252-253.

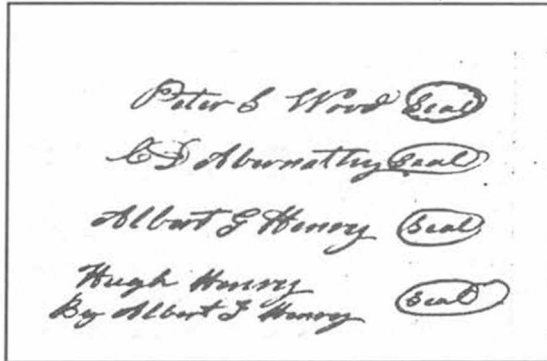
Deed of Trust
Peter S. Wood to C. Abernathy
Pages 253-255

This indenture made and entered into (January 25, 1839) by and between Peter S. Wood of the first part and C. Abernathy of the second part and Hugh Henry of the third part, all of the County of Marshall. Whereas the said Peter S. Wood is justly indebted to the said Hugh Henry in the following sum of money: two notes of hand payable to Hugh Henry and Son, one for \$31.70 dated January 7, 1839 and due one day after date, one note for \$36.15 dated January 25, 1839 and due one day after date in all amounting to \$67.85.

The said Peter S. Wood is willing and desirous to secure the payment of the same. This indenture witnesses that for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar in hand paid to the said Peter S. Wood by the said C. Abernathy, the said Peter S. Wood hath this day sold, bargained and transferred to the said C. Abernathy the following described property: two yoke of work oxen, eight head of stock cattle, 16 head of stock hogs, one four wheel wagon, 50 bushels of corn, one loom, one feather bed and furniture, one sorrel mare, one man's saddle, one improvement where I live on the road landing from Warring to (Deposit on the Tennessee River) containing about 10 acres of cleared land and 500 bundles of fodder.

The said C. Abernathy shall permit the said Peter S. Wood to remain in quiet and peaceable possession of the above described property until default be made in above described notes. If default, then the said C. Abernathy shall sell at public auction on the first day of December next enough of the above described property to pay the sum of \$67.85 after

giving 20 days notice by posting advertisements in three or more public places. Signed by the following signatures:



Witnesses to the document were John M. Scott and Anderson (his mark) Feitcheny (?)

Richard S. Randles certified the Deed of Trust was duly filed in his office January 25, 1839 and recorded in Book A on pages 253, 254 and 255.

Deed of Gift
James King to Mary Ann King
Page 255

Know all men by these presents that I, James King, of the County of Marshall have this day for the natural love and affection I have and bear towards my daughter, Mary Ann King, the following property: two horses, one black pony now about nine years old next spring, one yellow horse about 15 hands high, four head of cattle, one white with a white yearling calf and two red and white yearlings, three sows and pigs, one black sow with eight pigs, one black sow with four pigs, two beds and furniture, one man's saddle and all my right, title and interest I relinquish to my daughter Mary Ann King. In witness this first day of October 1838. Signed by James (his mark) King.

Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court, certified the above document was duly filed in his office on February 1, 1839 and recorded in Book A on page 255.

Deed of Trust
John B. Walker to Peter C. Starnes
Pages 256-257

This indenture made January 21, 1839 between John B. Walker of the first part, Peter C. Starnes of the second part and Hezikiah Bailey and William S. Logan of the third part.

Witness that the said John B. Walker is indebted to the Branch of the Bank of the State of Alabama at Decatur in the sum of \$800 by note payable in the month of October 1839 and the said (illegible) and William S. Logan have signed their names as security for the payment of the said sum of money when it becomes due and the said John B. Walker is willing and desirous to secure to the said Hezikiah Bailey and William S. Logan.

Now that for and in consideration for the sum of one dollar paid to the said John B. Walker by the said Peter C. Starnes the said John B. Walker does bargain and sell to the said Peter C. Starnes the following described property and lot of land to wit: one large sorrel horse four years old with some white in his face, one small bay mare with a small rupture in her flank five years old, one wagon and two yoke of oxen, one yoke black and white, two beds and furniture, one wood clock and one lot known as Lot No. One in the Town of Claysville containing one half acre, the one on which his drug store now stands including all the drugs, medicines and groceries, also all books, notes and accounts.

The said Peter C. Starnes shall permit the said John B. Walker to remain in quiet and peaceable possession of the above described properties until default be made in the above described note. Upon default the said Peter C. Starnes shall proceed to sell to the highest bidder at public auction all or a part of the above-described property to pay the sum of \$800 and interest after posting 20 days notice in three or more public places in the Town of Claysville. Signed by J. B. Walker, Peter C. Starnes, Hezekiah Bailey and William S. Logan.

Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court, certified the above document was filed in his office January 21, 1839 and recorded in Book A on pages 256 and 257

**Deed of Trust
John B. Walker to Peter C. Starnes
Pages 257-259**

This indenture made January 21, 1839 between John B. Walker of the first part, Peter C. Starnes of the second part and William Richie and William S. Logan of the third part.

Whereas the said John B. Walker is duly indebted to the Branch of the Bank of the State of Alabama at Huntsville in the sum of \$800 by note payable in the following sums and following dates, one-fourth due April 1838, one-half of the remainder due in April 1839 and the remainder due in April 1840 and the said John B. Walker is willing and desirous to secure the said William Richie and William S. Logan.

Whereas for and in consideration of one dollar in hand paid to him by the said Peter C. Starnes, the said John B. Walker had given, granted and sold to the said Peter C. Starnes the following described property and lots of ground to

wit: one two horse barns and one lot of ground lying in the Town of Claysville known as town lot No. 10 containing one-half acre more or less containing the dwelling house in which the said John B. Walker now lives with all the improvements to said lot, also lot No 11 in the Town of Claysville containing one-half acre more or less.

The said Peter C. Starnes shall permit the said John B. Walker to remain in quiet and peaceable possession of the above-described property until default is made in payment of above described note. If upon default the said Peter C. Starnes shall proceed to sell to the highest bidder at public auction the above described property after giving 30 days notice by posting advertisements in three or more public places in the Town of Claysville. Signed by J. B. Walker, Peter C. Starnes and Wm. S. Logan.

Richard S. Randles certified the Deed of Trust was duly recorded in his office January 21, 1839 and recorded in Book A on pages 257, 258 and 259.

**Genealogical Research
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Marshall County

Deed Record Book B

Part 9

Copied, Abstracted and Contributed by Coy Michael

Continued from Volume 43, Issue Number 3

Deed of Trust

Archibald Tucker to John L. Downs Pages 126-128

This indenture made and entered into March 6, 1841 between Archibald Tucker of the first part and John L. Downs of the second part and Arthur C. Beard of the third part. Whereas the said Archibald Tucker is justly indebted to the said Arthur C. Beard in the sum of \$96.70 on a note executed March 6, 1841 and due December 1, 1841 which debt with legal interest thereon Archibald Tucker is willing and desirous to secure to the said Arthur C. Beard. Now for and consideration of the sum of one dollar to the said Archibald Tucker in hand paid by the said John L. Downs the said Archibald Tucker hath given, granted and sold to the said John L. Downs the following described property: One sorrel horse about eight years old, one blind bay mare about ten years old, two cows and calves, 16 head of stock hogs, 100 bushels of corn and one man's saddle.

The said John L. Downs shall permit the said Archibald Tucker to remain in quiet and peaceable possession of the said above mentioned property until default be made in payment of the said sum of \$96.70 and interest. If default be made then the said John L. Downs shall take possession of above described property and shall sell at public auction

to the highest bidder after giving 20 days notice by advertisement at three public places.

Signed by Archibald (his mark) Tucker, John L. Downs and Arthur C. Beard. The signatures were witnessed by James Anderson. Richard S. Randles recorded the above document March 10, 1841 in Book B on pages 126-128.

Legal Judgment by Sheriff Joel Higgins vs. Joseph B. Tate and John M. Tate Pages 128-129

To all to whom this presents shall form, I, Joel Higgins, Sheriff of Marshall County send greetings. Whereas by our ? of executions find out of the County Court of Marshall County ? and delivers justice September 5, 1840. I was commanded to make of the goods and chattels of Joseph B. Tate and John M. Tate in my county the sum of \$125.00 which Alfred Derrick recovers against the said Joseph B. Tate and John M. Tate in the said court for their debt and damages which he has sustained as well by reason of the non-payment of certain promises as for their costs and charges and that if sufficient goods and chattels cannot be found that have ? ? where of the said Joseph B Tate and John M. Tate was seized on October 5, 1840 on at any time afterwards. I did by virtue of writ did seize and take the land hereafter

described and sold at public auction to Isaac Morrow for the sum of \$150, it being the highest bid.

In consideration of the sum of \$150, to me in hand paid by the said Isaac Morrow have granted, bargained and sold to the said Isaac Morrow the right and title that the said Joseph B. Tate had to the NW fourth of the SW fourth of Section five of Township seven in Range three East the land subject to sale at Huntsville. December 10, 1840

Signed Joel Higgins, Sheriff, by his Deputy, William T. Todd. Richard S. Randles certified the document was delivered to him March 12, 1841 and was recorded in Book B on pages 128-129.

Legal Judgment by Sheriff Joel Higgins vs. Joseph B. Tate
Pages 130-131

To all to whom these presents shall come. I, Joel Higgins, Sheriff of Marshall County, send greetings. Whereas by this Writ of Execution out of the Circuit Court to me directed and delivered October 8, 1840 I was commanded to make of the goods and chattel of Joseph B. Tate the following items to wit: \$42.39, \$55.97 and \$56.68 which Thomas (?) and John Benson claim against the said Tate in the said court for their debts and damages which they had sustained by means of the non performance of certain promises. If the amounts are not found then I will possess the lands and tenements of the said Joseph B. Tate and seize them October 6, 1840 or at any time afterwards according to the said Writ of Execution.

Lands later described were sold at public auction to Isaac Morrow for the sum of \$50, it being the highest sum bid, It is hereby acknowledged I have

bargained, sold and delivered unto the said Isaac Morrow the following described parcel of land: The SW fourth of the SW fourth of Section No. (?) in Township six of Range three East the same parcel of land subject to sale at Huntsville.

Signed Joel Higgins by his Deputy William Black. Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the County Court, certified the above document was filed in his office March 12, 1841 and recorded in Book B on pages 130-131.

Deed
Demcey White to Jabez Perkins
Pages 131-132

This indenture made November 13, 1840 between Demcey White of the state of Kentucky and Whitley County of the first part and Jabez Perkins of the other part. Where forth that the said Demsey White for and in consideration of the sum of \$300 to him in hand paid hath this day bargained, sold and delivered to the said Jabez Perkins the following described parcel of land: the South half of the NE quarter of Section 19 in Township five of Range four East in the district of lands to have and to hold.

Signed by Demcey White with signature witnessed by Presley Woodall, Justice of the Peace. Richard S. Randles certified that he recorded the foregoing document March 15, 1841 in Book B on pages 131-132.

Deed
William Black and Delilah Black to James Gipson
Pages 132-133

This indenture made February 19, 1841 between William Black and his wife Delilah Black of the first part and James Gipson of the other part.

Wherewith the said William Black and Delilah Black for and in consideration of the sum of \$1,500 to him in hand paid by the said James Gipson hath this day bargained, sold and delivered the following tracts or parcels of land to wit: the South part of fractional Section 27 in Township six in Range four East containing 55 acres, also the SW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 28 in Township six of Range four East containing 40 and 27/100 acres, also the fractions Section 34 in Township six of Range four East containing 46 and 62/100 acres. Above tracts are subject to sale at Huntsville, Alabama.

Signed by William Black and Delilah (her mark) Black and signatures witnessed by W. C. Thomas, Justice of the Peace. Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the County Court certified that he recorded the above document in his office March 15, 1841 in Book B on pages 132-133.

**Deed of Trust
James Gipson to Lewis Manning
Pages 134-136**

This indenture of three parts entered into February 19, 1841 between James Gipson and Isabel Gipson, his wife, of the first part, Lewis Manning of the second part and William Black of the third part. Whereas the said James Gipson is justly indebted to the said William Black in the sum of \$1600 by these notes under seal and Rudolph Boshart security to the note bearing date of February 19, 1841 due and payable March 1, 1842 for the sum of \$533.33 with interest from the date thereof conditions that if the said James Gipson pay the said William Black \$250.00 of the amount of said note on or before March 1, 1841 then further interest not to accrue on the balance of said note

until March 1, 1842. One other note payable on or before March 1, 1843 for the sum of \$533.33 and another note payable on or before March 1, 1843 in the sum of \$533.34 and is willing and desirous to secure the payment of said several sums of money in the said notes.

The said James Gipson and Isabel Gipson, his wife, for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar to him in hand paid by the said Lewis Manning has granted, bargained and sold unto the said Lewis Manning the following tracts or parcel of land lying in the County of Marshall: the South part of fractional Section 27 in Township 6 of Range four East containing 55 acres, also the SW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 28 in Township six of Range four East containing 40 and 20/100 acres, also fractional Section 34 in Township six of Range four East containing 46 and 62/100 acres.

If the said James Gipson defaults upon payment then the said Lewis Manning shall sell at public auction to the last bidder after giving 30 days notice by posting advertisements in three or more public places. Signed by James Gibson, Isabel (her mark) Gipson, Lewis Manning and Wm. Black.

Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court, certified the above document was recorded in his office March 15, 1841 and duly recorded in Book B on pages 134-136.

**Deed of Sale: Amos Mitchel to
(Illegible) Mitchel
Pages 136-137**

This indenture made March 15, 1841 between Amos Mitchel of the first part and (Illegible) Mitchel of the second part. Whereas for and in consideration of the sum of \$500 to him in hand paid, Amos Mitchel has this day bargained

and sold unto the said (Illegible) Mitchel a Negro woman named (?) being 30 years of age. Signed by Amos (his mark) Mitchel. Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court, certified this document was filed in his office March 23, 1841 and duly recorded in Book B on pages 136 and 137.

Deed of Sale
Amos Mitchel to Sarah S. Mitchel
Pages 137-138

This indenture made March 15, 1841 between Amos Mitchel of the first part and Sarah S. Mitchel of the second part. Whereas the said Amos Mitchel for and in consideration of the sum of \$500 to him in hand paid by the said Sarah S. Mitchel the said Amos Mitchel does hereby bargain and sell to Sarah S. Mitchel two Negros, George five years old and Mary three years old. Signed by Amos (his mark) Mitchel. Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court, certified this document was filed in his office March 23, 1841 and duly recorded in Book B on pages 137 and 138.

Deed of Sale: Amos Mitchel to Martha Mitchel
Pages 138-139

This indenture made March 15, 1841 between Amos Mitchel of the first part and Martha Mitchel of the second part. Whereas the said Amos Mitchel for and in consideration of the sum of \$500 to him in hand paid by the said Martha Mitchel does hereby bargain and sell a Negro boy of the age of 16 years.

Signed by Amos (his mark) Mitchel. Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court, certified this document was filed in his office March 23, 1841.

Deed of Trust: Wallis P. MacFarland to Joseph May
Pages 139-141

This indenture made and entered into March 5, 1841 between Wallis P. MacFarland of the first part, Joseph E. May of the second part and John Baker and Thomas J. Moore of the third part.

Whereas the said Wallis P. MacFarland is duly indebted to the said John Baker in the sum of \$1340 for which sum the said Wallis P. MacFarland executes his note to the said John Baker and Thomas J. Moore payable which the said Wallis P. MacFarland is willing and desirous to secure from John Baker and Thomas J. Moore. Whereas for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar paid to Wallis P. MacFarland by the said Joseph E. May the said Wallis P. MacFarland does hereby bargain and sell to Joseph E. May the following described property: One Negro girl named Candis about 16 years of age, 140 head of cattle, 160 head of hogs, one small two horse wagon, two mules about two years old, one Bay colt one year old. (Several other items were also listed.)

The said Wallis P. MacFarland shall be allowed to remain in quiet and peaceable possession of above listed property until default of payment of stated loan. If upon default the said Joseph May will sell at auction to the highest bidder after giving 30 days notice at three public places.

Signed by W. P. MacFarland, Joseph E. May, John Baker and Thomas J. Moore. Richard S. Randles, Clerk of the Court, certified that he recorded this document March 26, 1841 in Book B on pages 139, 140 and 141.

~~~~to be continued~~~~

# Things You Should Know

## African American Ancestors

According to the recent *Preservation Report* from the Alabama Historical Commission, a new book on researching African American ancestry has recently been published by New South Books. Frazine Taylor's book "Researching African American Genealogy in Alabama: A Resource Guide," is considered the first comprehensive resource guide for Alabama researchers of black history. This book details what one can expect to find in courthouses, libraries, and archives in Alabama.

For more information, see [www.newsouthbooks.com](http://www.newsouthbooks.com).

## Italian, German, and Russian Immigration Records

*News 'n Notes*, a publication from the St. Louis Genealogical Society, writes that many records of immigrants from Italy, Germany, and Russia are now available on-line.

The "Germans to America" series contains 4,048,907 names of passengers who arrived between 1850 and 1897.

The "Italians to America" series contains 845,368 names of passengers who arrived between 1855 and 1900.

The "Russians to America" series contains records of 527,394 names of passengers who arrived between 1834 and 1897.

These immigrants arrived through ports of Baltimore, Boston, New Orleans, New York, and Philadelphia. Two websites can be accessed for this valuable information:

[www.archives.gov/genealogy/immigration](http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/immigration)

and also:

<http://stevemorse.org>.

## Research Tips

The Spring Issue of *Heir Lines* – Warren Co. Genealogical Society from Warren County, Ohio sends us some great tips on research. For example:

- If you find your ancestors have moved to a different county in the same state, keep in mind that the county lines may have changed, not their residence.
- Carefully copy all notes and information you find, even if it doesn't immediately make sense. It may be cleared up for you at a later date as you gain more experience as a researcher.
- It can be quite difficult to read old handwriting, especially as styles in penmanship change over time. Learn the difference between "s" and "f" or "S" and "L." If you can't immediately decipher a word, put it down and look at it again hours or a day later. It may jump out at you then.
- A genealogy glossary is helpful in understanding the interpretation of words that have changed either meaning or popularity over time.
- When looking at headstones, keep in mind that there are sometimes mistakes that are left "as is" for whatever reason. It isn't unusual to see names spelled differently in the same family plot. Also, if a headstone reveals that someone died "in the 51<sup>st</sup> year," it means he or she was 50 years old at death, or had not yet reached their 51<sup>st</sup> birthday.
- Keep in mind that as family stories are passed down from one generation to another, it may differ somewhat over time, and it is necessary to keep



an open mind in case a different version is found in writing. Who knows which is correct? If neither can be proven, there is only one thing to do – pick the one you like!

- If something doesn't make sense, put a question mark next to it, and record the source of the information in case you need to go back to it later.
- Remember that names can be spelled (and misspelled) several different ways. Research every conceivable version you can think of.

### Florida Genealogy Conference

Melbourne, Florida will be the site of the conference sponsored by the Florida State Genealogical Society on November 12-15, 2009. Craig Roberts Scott will be the featured speaker at the event which will be held at the Hilton Rialto Place in Melbourne. For more information, contact Ann Mohr Osisek at [amo.gen@worldnet.att.net](mailto:amo.gen@worldnet.att.net) or check the FSGS website for continual updates at <http://www.flsgs.org>.

### Another Great Tip...

...comes from *The Journal of the Kanawha Valley Genealogical Society* in South Charleston, West Virginia. We research our past, nothing wrong with that, but what about our present and future? Cousins, nieces, nephews may live close by and it would a shame not to get to know them. Better yet, they may have some information we've been looking for. But more importantly, you might do them a great favor by sharing information and family stories.

### Fun and History

For those of you who enjoy entertainment along with your history, there are many opportunities this summer. For instance, the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ohio Scottish Games will be held in Wellington, OH on

the weekend of June 26 and June 27. Friday night begins with a barbeque dinner (What? No haggis?) and a Highland Concert followed by a torchlight Call to the Clans. The next day will be filled with competition, vendors, dancing, piping and drumming, fiddles, Clydesdale horses, Highland cattle, Border Collies and sheep. And probably haggis. For more information, call (440) 835-9794 or see: [www.ohioscottishgames.com](http://www.ohioscottishgames.com)

### Closer to home:

From June 19-21, the Scots are coming to Scottsboro! The annual North Alabama Scottish Festival, sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Scottish Society, will be held at Goosepond Colony in Scottsboro. Clan McKenzie is the featured family, but along with food and fun, there will be information on clan histories. For more details, see their website at: <http://tennesseevalleyscottishsociety.org/download.php>.

On September 5 and 6, the Appalachian/Celtic Festival and Highland Games will be held at the Lee & Gordon Mill at Chickamauga, Georgia. Call (706) 673-6730 for more information.

On September 11 through 13, the Sycamore Shoals Celtic Festival will be held in Elizabethton, Tennessee at the Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area. Call (423) 262-9348 for more information.

On September 19, the Charleston Scottish Games & Highland Gathering will be held at Boone Hall Plantation at Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina. Call (843) 552-2563 for more information.

Yikes! It is time to pay your dues for 2009-2010! Make your \$25 check out to TVGS and send it to P.O. Box 1568, Huntsville, Alabama 35807-0567. Don't let your membership lapse!

## Now Accepting Ads in *Valley Leaves*

As announced in the March 2003 issue of *Valley Leaves*, the Tennessee Valley Genealogical Society is now accepting advertising from individuals and societies. The subject matter must pertain to genealogy or legitimate historical material. TVGS retains the right to refuse an ad from any individual or organization.

TVGS has published *Valley Leaves* for over 35 years. During that time, our reputation has built and our membership grown. We presently exchange with over 100 societies or libraries and boast several hundred paid members. Readership is in the thousands.

If you have just published a family history, advertising in *Valley Leaves* will make potential buyers aware of the existence of your product and promote sales due to our wide readership.

Since we are a non-profit organization, we are deliberately keeping our rates low: The rates quoted are for one-time ads:

|                         |         | <u>Art Area</u> |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Full page               | \$50.00 | 6½ x 9 inches   |
| Half page               | \$25.00 | 6½ x 4½ inches  |
| Quarter page (vertical) | \$12.50 | 3¼ x 4½ inches  |

We are not set up for color so all will be in black and white. Neither are we set up to print photographs at these prices. All ads will be at the back of each issue.

### Advertising Copy Must Be Received By:

| <u>Issue</u> | <u>Deadline</u>          |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| September    | August 1 <sup>st</sup>   |
| December     | November 1 <sup>st</sup> |
| March        | February 1 <sup>st</sup> |
| June         | May 1 <sup>st</sup>      |

### Book Reviews

Book reviews are still free upon receipt of a book. Once the book is reviewed we donate it to the Huntsville Public Library. One might do well, however, to follow up the review with an ad in the following issue.

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