

Governorship. He lost, but President U. S. Grant appointed him with House approval to become a Justice of the Supreme Court for the District of Columbia.

Another famous gentleman who settled in Madison County was the Honorable Hopkins Lacy. However, nothing is written about this illustrious gentleman, who arrived in the county from East Tennessee. More is written about his brother, who was the first banker of the famous Bank sitting on top of the Big Spring in Huntsville. Yet, Hopkins Lacy, a former Member of the House of Representatives from Tennessee, has very little information written about him. He was a soldier in the American Revolution from Virginia and North Carolina. He was an officer in the Tennessee Militia appointed by Gov. Blount. He served as Attorney General for the Washington District and was a Trustee of Nancy Academy in Sevierville, Tennessee. He was also a legal representative for both John Coffee and his brother-in-law Andrew Jackson who became President of the United States. Hopkins' arrival into Madison County was about 1812, and he became an associate of Dr. William Simpson. Together they purchased land with William Robinson and Thomas Austin and created the Town of Liberty situated due west of Ditto's Landing. In 1820 Hopkins Lacy operated a ferry that ran from Liberty to what was known as Leeman's Ferry northwest of Lacy's Spring, which was settled by the Lacy family in 1823. John Lacy, another brother, was the first white settler in that area that was once was an Indian campsite. The town was first spelled Lacy Springs, until some pre-Civil War postmaster changed it to today's spelling: Lacey's Spring.

Maybe that might be a project you might consider undertaking. Something I might consider helping you do, if you decided to undertake it someday...

Dennis

On Tue, 18 May 2004 11:02:48 -0500 "John P Rankin" <jprankin@knology.net> writes:

Dennis --

I spent yesterday at the Heritage Room in the Huntsville library. I examined your two books on the Simpson and related families of the area, and I am quite impressed. Those works obviously entailed an enormous amount of research. It is hard for me to understand how the arsenal family cemeteries have been so neglected in our area histories, when they contain the pre-eminent pioneers of the region.

I made several digital photos of the pictures and some of the pages. Will it be okay if I include them (with appropriate reference data on each image) on the