

***THE  
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HISTORIAN***



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# Arkansas Genealogical Society

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*On the Cover:* John and Mattie Smith on the front porch of their home in Grady, Lincoln County, Arkansas in 1938. From the collections of the Arkansas State Archives in Little Rock.

## ARKANSAS FAMILY HISTORIAN

*Published quarterly since 1962*

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*“A map of the Course of the Mississippi, 1796”*

*(inside back cover)*



## FROM THE AGS PRESIDENT

As your president, I hope that you are all getting ready for our Fall AGS Conference scheduled for October 18-19, 2019, at the Benton Event Center in Benton, Arkansas. We are all looking forward to hearing our featured guest speaker, Judy Russell the legal genealogist. She is a genealogist with a law degree who says that part of her purpose is to help folks understand the often arcane and even impenetrable legal concepts and terminology that are so very important to those of us studying family history. Judy says, “Without understanding the context in which events took place and records that were created, we miss so much of both the significance and the flavor of what happened.” Judy holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism with a political science minor from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. as well as a law degree from Rutgers School of Law-Newark.

Our Friday evening program will feature Dr. Brian Mitchell, a native of New Orleans who has been a resident of Arkansas for nearly ten years. He teaches in the History Department at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. His interests include African American Antebellum History, free black communities, and Urban History. He is currently working on several digital projects which pertain to free blacks in the Antebellum South and commemoration of the 1919 Elaine, Arkansas, Race Riot. His academic interests include race and ethnicity, immigration, public history, African American history, 19th century history, Louisiana history, urban history, U.S. History, justice and inequality studies, historic preservation, digital history, and material culture. We are looking forward to having Dr. Mitchell with us as our Friday evening speaker this fall.

Registration for the 2019 Fall Conference is available on our website at [www.agsgenealogy.org](http://www.agsgenealogy.org). There you can also find membership information, available publications, and register to receive our free monthly eZine. If you are reading this issue of the *AFH*, we assume that you are a member of the Arkansas Genealogical Society. Thank you for your support. If you are not, perhaps you should consider becoming a member.

If you do so, you will not only receive your own copy of the *AFH* four times a year, but you will receive valuable information and notices of upcoming seminars, workshops, and other events. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions, suggestions, or information that you would like to share.

George Mitchell, President  
Arkansas Genealogical Society



## FROM YOUR EDITOR

Alex Haley in his epic work, *Roots*, states, “in all of us there is a hunger, marrow deep, to know our heritage.” The search for this hunger often expresses itself in personal genealogical research, a research that seeks to make connections in an increasingly disconnected world. Rather than focusing on great historical topics and history changing events, genealogy and family history research emphasizes understanding the lives and times of our ancestors. It is an extremely personal activity that often brings with it a sense of self-worth and achievement. This may be why it is one of today’s most popular pastimes. Interest in genealogy is not limited by age, social class, or ethnic background, but is an activity that brings together the past and present generations of a family.

The Arkansas Genealogical Society wants to help you with your family history research through the articles published in the pages of the *Arkansas Family Historian*, through our other publications, and our genealogical workshops and seminars. Why not join us in this great cause? We need your help to continue this work. If you have an early Arkansas family Bible record, a good story you want to share about your Arkansas roots, or information abstracted from local county records or newspapers, send them to the email address at the end of this article. We would love to look them over. Some, we hope, will eventually appear in the pages of this publication.

### *Early Arkansas County Maps*

A complete set of 1936 Arkansas county maps is available free on line from the Arkansas Department of Transportation at [https://www.arkansashighways.com/maps/historical\\_mapst.aspx](https://www.arkansashighways.com/maps/historical_mapst.aspx). Each map contains detailed information on locations of post offices, schools, churches, and even houses during that time. It also shows local township boundaries and the survey grid in each county. Many years ago, the Arkansas Genealogical Society republished this set of maps. However, it has been long out of print. Local and county maps are one of the most under-utilized sources for Arkansas genealogical research.

### *New Arkansas Collections from [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)*

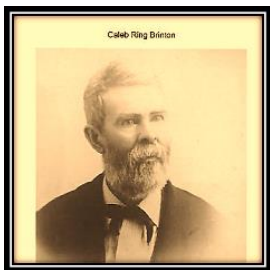
- Arkansas Confederate Pensions, 1901-1929. A complete index and set of images of applications for pensions filed by Confederate veterans and widows in the state of Arkansas. See <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1837922>.
- Records of Forth Smith’s St. John’s Episcopal Church, Sebastian County, Arkansas, 1922-1977, <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2790189>.
- The Familysearch.org website also offers a new searchable database and images of a collection of Civil War and Reconstruction era records relating to Arkansas and other southern states. Find it at <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2431759>. The collection is called, “United States, Freedmen’s Bureau Ration Records, 1865-1872.” These records deal with rations and other supplies provided to refugees and former slaves (freedmen) throughout the South. The records can be searched by name, age, residence, etc.

*A Good Source for Early French Place Names in the South*

For those with ancestors who settled in French Louisiana, including Arkansas, before 1804, check out John Francis McDermott, *A Glossary of Mississippi Valley French 1673-1850* published in 1941 and now available on line at [https://archive.org/stream/glossaryofmissis00mcde/glossaryofmissis00mcde\\_djvu.txt](https://archive.org/stream/glossaryofmissis00mcde/glossaryofmissis00mcde_djvu.txt). It is filled with wonderful information on French words and terms that became place names in early Arkansas and across the Old South.

The Arkansas Genealogical Society wishes you the very best of Arkansas ancestor hunting. Feel free to contact us at [gobgob3@mindspring.com](mailto:gobgob3@mindspring.com).

Russell P. Baker,  
Editor



**“STORMS AND STARLIGHT,” THE LIFE AND TIMES OF  
PRIVATE CALEB RING BRINTON, CSA**

by John D. Bybee<sup>1</sup>

Although Private Caleb Ring Brinton was a farmer and brick mason with Pennsylvania Quaker roots from Vermont, Illinois, during the Civil War he served in Captain Thomas F. Nolan's unit of Company E (Champagnolle Guards) of the Third Arkansas Infantry, Confederate Army. He fought with patriotic ardor and bled with some of the best blood in the CSA for the Southern Cause.

Caleb passed from this life into history one hundred and seventeen years ago and the silence of the past century has left us no clear evidence of Caleb's thoughts. However, we can gain insight into his life by making the acquaintance of some of his ancestors. Caleb was of English descent and sixth in lineage from Quaker Elder William (1636-1700) and Ann (Bagley) Brinton (1635-1698) of Nether Gournal (one of the nine villages in Sedgely), now a suburb of Birmingham, Staffordshire, England. The couple married in 1659 and had five children, Ann, Edward, Elizabeth, William Jr., and Esther. In 1683, William the Elder was arrested for conducting an improper form of public prayer in the Quaker Meeting House, in violation of the Nonconformity Act of 1662. The Crown fined William twenty-six shillings (\$6.24). The Crown also seized and held his goods and properties in the value of five pounds and eleven shillings (\$9.67) to compel payment of the fine.

Three years before, King Charles II of England owed the estate of the late Admiral Sir William Penn a very large sum of money.<sup>2</sup> The Admiral's son William Penn suggested that the Crown might cancel this debt by granting him 40,000 square miles for a new province to be named "Penn's Forestland," now Pennsylvania, in the new world. The new province would be a haven for those seeking freedom from religious persecution like William Brinton. The Crown gladly agreed to overlook any issues with allegiance of these despised Quaker Rebels and Presbyterians would depart England and journey to the inhospitable wilds of British North America. Perhaps they would drown on the six to twelve-week sea voyage or succumb to the wild animals and Indians.

<sup>1</sup> Contact the author at [jetb24d@gmail.com](mailto:jetb24d@gmail.com).

<sup>2</sup> That is some \$80,000 dollars.

This would solve the king's problems. In the spring of 1684, William and Ann Brinton and their only living son, William Jr. (their three daughters Ann Bennett, Elizabeth Harry, and Esther Willis and their husbands remained in England) sailed in the company of George and Ann (Gainer) Peirce aboard one of William Penn's ships for Pennsylvania. Their ship had an uneventful voyage and landed its passengers at Grubbs' Landing. The Brintons settled in New Castle, Delaware.

The winter of 1684 was spent in a dank and dark cave. Peaceful Indians supplemented the family's meager harvest with gifts of wild game. That summer the family built a plank cabin on land granted by William Penn near West Chester, Pennsylvania. William the Elder planted a lone pear tree to symbolize their faith in a bright future in the New World. In March of 1686, Thomas King sold the family 450 acres of land. In October of the same year, the Brintons purchased an additional 400 acres for their three daughters and their husbands who had arrived from England.

About 1691, Orthodox Quaker George Keith "raised a storm" by alleging that the other Quakers were Deists. Keith founded the Christian Quakers Movement. Seven years after rebelling against King Charles II, the Brintons found themselves in disfavor once again as they rebelled against the yoke of the conventional Quaker Church and joined with the Christian Quakers.

Later, a family descendent, Rebecca Brinton married William Levis. Their son Brinton was born December 19, 1805 in Chester County, Pennsylvania. In 1828, Brinton married his cousin Phebe Ann Ring, who was born on July 28, 1811, in Chester County to Caleb Brinton Ring and Lydia (Brinton) Ring. The Rings had eleven children, of which five, William, Joseph, Rebecca, Sarah Jane, and Mary Frances, survived to adulthood. In 1844, another family member, James Brinton and his wife Isabella (Hansley) Brinton and their five children relocated from Chester County, Pennsylvania, to Astoria, Illinois, in West Central Illinois. Edward Darlington Brinton, the second oldest, aided his father in clearing and planting a farm north of Astoria.

In 1848, Brinton Levis volunteered for the Mexican War and fought in several battles in and around Mexico City. Brinton's service earned him a land grant in Fulton County, Illinois. In 1850, he moved his family to Vermont Township about four miles north of the James Brinton farm. Brinton was a staunch Democrat, worked his farm, and was employed as a schoolteacher until his death in 1883. Phebe Ann had preceded him in death in 1878. By 1854, Thomas B. Brinton and his wife Jane (Dilworth) Brinton were the parents of Lydia, born 1828, Mary J., born 1832, Caleb Ring the subject of this article, born on February 3, 1834, and Caleb's two younger brothers Joseph and Thomas J. followed in 1840 and 1842 respectively. Thomas Brinton also settled his family on a farm in Astoria Township, Illinois. The Thomas Brinton homestead was about two miles southeast of their cousins James and Jane Brinton.

Caleb Brinton was not entirely satisfied with being a farmer. He soon learned the trade of being a brick mason. In the course of the next four years he did several contracting jobs for thirty-eight-year-old farmer and merchant Cleon Redick, formerly of Beaver County, Pennsylvania. The two men established a rapport as they shared a common belief that the newly formed national Republican Party was intent on raising social and racial tensions between the North and South and gutting the economic power of the South.

The nearby town of Vermont was a village of Abolitionists and a stop on the Underground Railway. After a speech by Abraham Lincoln, Brinton and Redick felt the weight of local resentment on their shoulders. Their neighbors and friends now referred to the pair as "Those People." On occasion, a large "D" preceded the words "Secesh or Reb" that were hurled at Caleb and Cleon. Lifelong friendships and family ties perished like dry twigs in a prairie fire.

Cleon Redick was aware that Arkansas's first railroad, the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad, had been surveyed between West Memphis and Little Rock. Cleon suggested to Caleb that with his considerable mason's skills, Little Rock might well be a favorable place for employment for his friend. Redick moved his family to Missouri. Cleon later became a colonel in a Texas regiment.

His twenty-one-year-old son, Desaix was killed on April 30, 1864, while serving with the 3rd Missouri at Jenkins Ferry on the Saline River, Arkansas. Thus, Caleb Brinton left his family for Little Rock. When he arrived, he quickly secured a job as a brick mason with the railroad. He was dispatched to the eastern end of the line at Madison in St. Francis County, where the line had been graded and laid with iron rail which stretched back to what is now West Memphis.

On November 6, 1860, a split vote between Northern Democratic Party presidential candidate Steven A. Douglas and Southern Democratic Party candidate John C. Breckenridge, handed the United States its first Republican President, Abraham Lincoln. The tumult occasioned by this election expedited the South's shift from civil to military resistance. By February of 1861, South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas had left the Union.

In March 1861, the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad opened construction operations on the west end of its line and began laying track to the east from Huntersville, now North Little Rock, on the Arkansas River towards DeValls Bluff. By June of 1861, Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee had joined the fold of the Confederacy. The roar of the cannons in South Carolina summoned Caleb and his fellows like a cathedral bell summoning monks to their devotional hours.

Caleb journeyed 110 miles south of Little Rock to Champagnolle which stood on the bluff on the west bank of the Ouachita River in Union County Arkansas. On June 20, 1861, Caleb enlisted as a private in Captain Nolan's Company E of the Third Arkansas Infantry. The 3rd Arkansas quickly reported to Lynchburg, Virginia, and was mustered into Confederate service for "three years or during the war."

The 3rd Arkansas was commanded by Colonel Vannoy Hartrog Manning and was assigned to the Army of the Northwest that was tasked with stopping the Union Army of the Potomac in what is now West Virginia. General George Brinton McClellan commanding that army was a distant cousin of Caleb Brinton as they were both descendants of Quaker Elder William and Ann Brinton.

The 3rd Arkansas spent the balance of 1861 on campaigns at Cheat Mountain, Elwater, Point Mountain Turnpike, Petersburg, Greenbrier River, and the Valley District in Romney, West Virginia. By New Year's Day while his unit was still at Romney, the strain of constant combat made Caleb weak in body and enfeebled his mind. He was detached and detailed as a cook to Berryville, Virginia, in the Shenandoah Valley near Harper's Ferry. Here he worked through January and February 1862.

Caleb returned to the 3rd Arkansas at Fredericksburg, Virginia, early in March of 1862. The stress of returning to the front line had a grievous effect on Caleb's health. On March 6, 1862, on account of a general lameness and feebleness, Caleb reported on sick call to Chimborazo Hospital No. 3 at Richmond. The doctors diagnosed his condition as *debilitas* or nervous prostration, or combat fatigue. He was treated with a nervine tonic of strychnia and phosphorus twice on March 6 and once on March 7 and was then released back to duty.

On September 16, 1862, Caleb's unit was at Antietam, Sharpsburg, Maryland. The battle that followed brought Caleb into direct brother against brother combat, as his brothers Joseph A. and Thomas were privates in a Pennsylvania Union unit, as was his cousin Joseph E. Brinton. On the second day at Antietam, Caleb was lightly wounded but remained on duty. His cousin Joe was captured at Shepherdstown on September 20, 1862, and remained a POW until December. Early in June of 1863, the 3rd Arkansas was ordered to Culpepper Courthouse and arrived there on June 8, 1863. The unit then marched to Gettysburg and fought there from July 1 until July 3.



July 4, 1863 saw the Confederate Army begin its retreat and Caleb and his fellows crossed the Potomac River at Falling Waters, West Virginia, on the evening of July 13 and the morning of July 14, 1863. Afterwards, General Rosecrans forced General Bragg to withdraw from Chattanooga to just across the border of Tennessee in northwestern Georgia. On September 9, 1863, reinforcements under Longstreet began a forced march from Virginia to Tennessee.

The 3rd Arkansas, one of the three brigades of Hood's Division, began its march there on September 14, 1863. The 3rd Arkansas crossed West Chickamauga Creek on the morning of September 19, 1863. Longstreet's army had not yet arrived. The Battle of Chickamauga began on September 19, 1863, and lasted until nightfall. At 11 pm Longstreet's Corps arrived. At about 9 am on the following day, the battle resumed. Soon the 3rd Arkansas came under fire from case shot and sweeping rounds of canister.

Then the 3rd Arkansas began an advance up the hill. At the time, Caleb Brinton and his comrades Privates Jermiah D. Kadle and Paschol H. Norris were not thinking about earning battle honors titles, they were just trying to stay alive. Above their heads they clearly saw the yawning black mouths of the Federal cannons. An unexploded shell crashed through Caleb's left arm above his elbow. His shoulder flesh peeled back like the petals of a dead rose. Mangled muscles, splintered bones and gushing arteries dissolve into an obscene cloud of mush. All three privates were down. Someone quickly used the remains of Caleb's bloody shirt and his rifle's ramrod as a tourniquet and prevented him from bleeding to death. His odds of survival were not good.

Caleb lay moaning under the stars until midnight, when he was hefted onto a stretcher, loaded into an ambulance and delivered to a field hospital. Several days and 500 miles later, after a series of jolting ambulance wagon and swaying train rides, Caleb was admitted to the Receiving and Wayside Hospital No. 9 at Richmond, Virginia. Caleb was initially treated for sixty days. On May 4, 1864, a medical board certified him as unfit for further service. He was retired to the Invalid Corps. On July 15, 1864, he received a final issue of clothing.

After Appomattox, Caleb was paroled on April 12, 1865. He returned to his home in Vermont, Illinois, where he formed a contracting partnership with his cousin Ed Brinton. Caleb could not now lay brick the usual way. Instead, he put mortar down extra heavily on the lower course of bricks and then slid the brick into place. Sliding the brick filled the joint between the bricks with mortar. Caleb could work faster like this than a two-armed worker laying bricks the normal way.

On the fourth of July 1871, Caleb married Sarah Jane Levis at the courthouse in Lewistown, Illinois. Five children were born to the couple; George (1872-1888, died at the Fulton County Poor Farm), William (1875-1934), Mary Jane (1877-1941), Harvey Levis (1880-1930), and Charles (1883-1963).

Sarah Brinton died of tuberculosis at age thirty-nine in 1891. Caleb put their two youngest children, Harvey and Charles out among relatives and paid them five dollars a month for their support. Caleb's grief over the loss of Sarah plus the carryover from the strychnia treatment of 1862 began the unhinging of his mind. Caleb's right hand now shook with palsy. He no longer could live on his own but lived alternately among his relatives. His mental state became more confused and his agitated flashbacks to Antietam and Chickamauga became more frequent. Caleb died in the Illinois State Mental Hospital in Jacksonville, Illinois, on January 12, 1899.

Caleb Ring Brinton, like ninety-five percent of his compatriots, never owned a slave. It was no accident that he enlisted in Arkansas as the state had the lowest percentage of slaves in the South. Caleb once stood at the crossroads of two loyalties, but he had only one conscience in 1861. He fought with a patriot's pride to defend the sovereignty of the individual and his state from being erased.

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<http://civilwarintheeast.com> 3rd Arkansas Infantry Regiment

<http://www.brintonfamily.org>

## **JEFFERSON COUNTY, ARKANSAS, HOME GUARD UNITS, 1861**

*by Russell P. Baker*

Jefferson County, Arkansas, located on the Arkansas River south of Little Rock, was created in 1829 by the Arkansas General Assembly from parts of Arkansas and Pulaski counties. In 1869, several of its western townships were annexed to the newly created county of Grant. In 1871, a portion was also annexed to the new county of Lincoln. In 1873, remaining areas in the southern part of the county became a part of the new county of Cleveland. Old River and Villemont townships, then part of Arkansas County, were added to Jefferson County in 1889. Pine Bluff has been its county seat since 1833.

In August of 1861, the county court of Jefferson County ordered the enrollment of volunteer home guard or Minute Men units. It was part of Arkansas's call for local troops in preparation of its entry into the Civil War. Enrollees were to serve for a term of three months. Most of these men would eventually see service in the Confederate Army. This information was taken from the Jefferson County, Arkansas, County Court Records, Book F, pp. 437-438, 452, 478-480, MFILM County Roll 2594.

Many of the names on these lists are difficult to read. In other cases, names appeared to be spelled phonetically. For additional information on the location of Jefferson County townships see Russell P. Baker, *Arkansas Township Atlas* (2006), pp. 88-91. Of the twelve townships in the county in 1861, home guard information was recorded for only four, Barraque, Vaugine, Washington, and Whiteville. These townships probably served as central places for enrollment.

### *Townships in Jefferson in 1861*

Barraque (in the northwest corner of the county),

Bartholomew (in the southern part of the county, annexed to Lincoln County in 1871),

Bogy (in the eastern part of the county),

Bolivar (in the northern part of the county),  
Darysaw (in the western part of the county, annexed to Grant County in 1869),  
Dudley Lake (in the northern part of the county),  
Plum Bayou (in the central part of the county),  
Talladega (in the southwestern corner of the county),  
Vaughine (in the Pine Bluff area),  
Washington (in the western part of the county),  
White Oak (in the southern part of the county), and  
Whiteville (southern part of the county, part annexed to Cleveland County in 1873).

*Vaughine Township*

[Part 1, enrolled on July 12, 1861]

Thomas Morton	Robert S. Thompson
James A. Jarvis	William J. D. Vernon
John W. Hawley	William A. Mills
Daniel Sullivan	Francis L. Thomas
William F. West	Marcus E. Hudson (?)
Jesse F. Walsh	Marcus L. Bell
William Allen	John W. Watkins
David S. Mills	Thomas A. Boone
Isaac C. Mills	Robert Hutchinson
Barney Fitzpatrick	John T. J. Havis
William A. Lee	Richard C. Thompson
J. C. McKelvie	Henry B. Worsham
John Gillespie	Jesse J. Busby
William P. Lipscomb	Alexander Hay
Joseph Perkins	William P. Stephens
Thomas McSwine	Obadiah Flynn
Newton Simonous (?)	William T. Hawley
Monroe Lowery	John Macon
George W. Anderson	T. F. Sorrells
John B. Monk	Edward W. Martin
J. W. Hellums	William F. Owen
John L. Buck	Jonathan Holcomb
R. Brunson	Wilkerson Brewer
Frank Jenkins	Benjamin Houston
James Williams	Henry A. Harding
Tyolus H. Boggs (?)	George W. Hawley
Simms	Erwin O. Buck
William B. Gord (?)	Henry Bumuss (?)
John F. McGregor	William B. Scull
Lindsay H. Oliver	David W. Carroll
William T. Hysloss (?)	Edgar T. Wilkins
Theodore Shupain (?)	David C. White
Paul Cossotte	J. C. Ragan
William Frederick Scull	Hensford T. Rogers

John Wiley  
T. A. Read  
B. F. McNeelly  
L. B. Sheppard  
Felix G. Smart  
Benjamin F. Sanders  
F. W. Clegg Jr.  
N. H. Cloyes  
Thomas S. James  
Lewis S. Reed  
Jacob S. Steck  
William H. Norton  
Zechariah Wells  
Samuel A. Lockhurst  
John O. Roane  
John J. Roane

*Vaugine Township*

[Part 2, enrolled on September 3, 1861]

W. B. Borden  
Vital Bogy  
Churchill Price  
Moses S. McCord  
C. L. Hill  
E. L. Flood  
Jacob Fris  
G. Meyer  
Mr. Levi

*Washington Township*

Robert Bryson  
Achilles Dendy  
Albert Eves  
John H. Mullens  
Cromwell Taylor  
D. L. Lee  
Lelister Pardue  
M. A. Pardue  
John Usery  
James Usery  
James Loper  
Aaron Webb  
Thomas Malone  
A. Hardin  
J. Hardin  
D. V. Buckley  
Louis Bateman  
James C. Poldman

F. M. Fergus  
John Taylor  
Joseph W. Wright  
Harvey Dunahoo  
W. H. Bradford  
R. F. Bradford  
John T. Bradford  
Caldwell Brewer  
Roberson Lytte (?)  
Samuel Wilson  
William L. Watkins  
Thomas R. Mitchell  
James W. Mitchell  
Elnathan B. Mason (?)  
John G. Balemant (?)  
Jonas Webb

John Bloom  
Jacob Bloom  
A. Furst (?)  
Lawrence Williams  
J. W. Anderson  
Benjamin Davis  
W. F. C. Faulkner

Thomas Goldman  
B. F. Goldman  
J. Rogers  
Owen Davis  
John Crossett  
Thomas McClellan  
Andrew Crossett  
William Crossett  
John Ashcraft  
Louis Cummins  
J. Cummins  
Robert Ingram  
Noah Coker  
Henry Harris  
James Collins  
Gillam Harris  
Silas Fragam  
James Davis

Mr. Phillips  
Mr. McCord  
John L. Cooper  
Mr. Coruth (?)  
Mr. Weaver  
James Hendrix  
Mr. Majors

*Barraque Township*

William Bell  
A. D. Blackwell  
M. Mitchell  
Uryze Willis (?)  
William Willis  
Marion Smith  
J. J. Albright  
William Albright  
William Jones  
R. J. Nichols  
H. Culwell  
James Piper  
William Piper Jr.  
Rufus Hopkins  
William Hopkins  
William Robertson  
William Gunes (?)  
Richard Whitmore (?)  
James Sorrels  
Samuel Sorrels  
Isaac Buecome (?)  
George Hardy  
Morgan Dulasey  
H. C. Saterfield  
Ed Havis  
Robert Williams Jr.  
A. Williams  
John Ezell  
Israel Stewart  
Asbury Burks  
George W. Meigs  
Thomas Gober  
Mr. Stewart  
James Beuce (?)  
John Gober  
John Henry  
George Henry  
James Camell

G. W. Baugh  
Joseph H. Doujan (?)  
Rail Hood  
A. McCance (?)  
E. Strown

Peck Camell  
Drew Corbin  
John Bantey  
J. T. Vasser  
John Tyner  
Bob Darity  
Martin Price  
Jack Pricke  
J. C. Newton  
E. Newton  
John Morris  
Mr. Miller  
Mr. Crow  
Willington Clark  
S. B. Crawford (?)  
James C. Thompson  
A. C. Thompson  
J. M. Thompson  
E. A. Thompson  
Richard H. Stanford  
John Bradshaw Jr.  
Anguish MeNeil  
P. P. Siler  
M. C. Stoop  
H. Ramsey  
James Dison  
Lafayette Dison  
George Shelton  
John Shelton  
William Moffit  
William Carroll  
James Tomberlin  
F. M. Loper  
Mr. Bagett  
John Walker  
Dr. Walker  
William Colum  
C. Doles

Henry Weaver  
Simon Weaver  
Jacob Weaver  
William Slaughter  
Jackson Brown  
Zack Denmore  
Marion Denmore  
Isaac Rodgers  
William McOrmic

*Whiteville Township*

William Case  
S. F. Ferguson  
W. Simpson  
H. McLam  
T. S. McElzy  
A. H. McKerson (?)  
P. B. Cokrage  
P. H. Oakes  
S. Griffin  
R. G. Mann  
D. B. Shacklett  
P. M. White  
T. M. Grey  
John Wooly  
E. H. Grane (?)  
H. O. Freeman  
A. Darmas (?)  
D. M. Anderson  
J. F. Pegrman (?)  
C. Gunley (?)  
J. G. Batley (?)  
J. C. Gillespie  
W. C. Bryant  
James Berry  
H. C. Gibbech (?)  
Sam Works  
Thomas T. Heppson  
W. G. Davis  
S. D. Dunlap  
William Culbert Jr.  
E. M. Emans  
J. R. Reed  
John W. Harris.  
J. M. Naly  
J. N. Genlian (?)  
L. B. Whitehead

Daniel McOrmic  
Levy McOrmic  
E. Bane  
Dock Johnson  
Dr. Britton  
James White  
William Windham  
John Windham  
Paul Mitchell

J. R. Case  
Sae Brinnings (?)  
Joseph L. Webb  
T. J. Martin  
J. T. Smith  
Thomas Wooly  
Mr. Davis  
William Hawkins  
J. A. Cogbill  
A. A. Bridges  
Thomas Cluck (?)  
Willis Casse  
G. W. P. Green  
George Zacby  
Gemls Owen  
John M. Wite  
Martin Dell  
James Studdun  
Newton Evens  
Warren Evans  
W. Wimberly  
W. Wickers  
John Smith  
John Mitchell  
Calvin Watkins  
George W. Clover  
W. Pearnunt (?)  
B. D. Webster  
Demsey Geter (?)  
W. Holcomb  
S. S. Orumstrice (?)  
Jeff Brummutt  
W. Hemly  
Buck Garber  
Mr. Farmer  
R. W. Knowell

Jesse Miller  
David Merrill  
Thomas Little

B. F. Ratliff  
Charles Johnson

## “TEN MILES WEST OF CAMDEN,” A CIVIL WAR LETTER<sup>1</sup>

William Evans Kittrell, the writer of the following letter, was born on February 6, 1845, in Tennessee, the son of Edger B. and Elizabeth Evans Kittrell.<sup>2</sup> The family was in Ashley County, Arkansas, by 1858, when the elder Kittrell purchased property near Bayou Bartholomew in the eastern part of the County.<sup>3</sup> By 1860 the family was living in Hamburg, Center Township in Ashley County, where William’s father was a merchant. At that time, William aged sixteen was working as a clerk in his father’s store.<sup>4</sup>

At the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, William enlisted in Company F of the First Battalion Arkansas Infantry. The next year, he was wounded at the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi, and became a prisoner of war, but was later paroled. In 1863, he was recaptured at the Battle Port Hudson on the Mississippi River and paroled again.<sup>5</sup> No record of his further service has survived. His father, Egbert B., who died in 1868, also served for a while in the Ashley County Home Guard.<sup>6</sup>

After the Civil War, William returned to Ashley County, where he operated a large plantation and owned a sawmill.<sup>7</sup> Later he operated a mill and a cotton gin in Hamburg.<sup>8</sup> On November 11, 1878, he married Elizabeth “Lizzie” Meek in Ashley County.<sup>9</sup> William’s father died in 1868 and his mother died in 1902.<sup>10</sup> William himself died on April 26, 1918.<sup>11</sup> Soon after his death, his wife received an Arkansas Confederate Pension for his military service.<sup>12</sup> He and his wife were the parents of Lavinia, born in 1879, Maggie F., born in 1884, John C., born in 1886, Edwin N., born in 1890, Willie, born in 1892, and Effie C., born 1893. Two other Kittrell children died in childhood.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Transcribed from a copy of a Civil War letter in the collections of the Arkansas State Archives, SMC Box V, Box 13, MG00201 AHC.

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/26963255/person/412003047167/facts?\\_phsrc=CBi29](https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/26963255/person/412003047167/facts?_phsrc=CBi29).

<sup>3</sup> Gregory A. Boyd, *Family Maps of Ashley County, Arkansas* (2007), p. 192.

<sup>4</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Center Township, Ashley County, Arkansas, p. 217A-B.

<sup>5</sup> “William E. Kittrell,” Arkansas Confederate Service Records, First Arkansas Battalion Arkansas Infantry, Microfilm Roll ML0715.

<sup>6</sup> [www.CouhgenWeb.com/civilwar/Ashleyco](http://www.CouhgenWeb.com/civilwar/Ashleyco) and Ashley County Genealogical Society, *Tombstone Inscriptions and Notes of Ashley County, Arkansas* (1992), p. 100.

<sup>7</sup> 1870 U.S. Census, Union Township, Ashley County, Arkansas, p. 211B.

<sup>8</sup> 1900 U.S. Census, Center Township, Ashley County, Arkansas, p. 100B.

<sup>9</sup> Ashley County Genealogical Society, *Ashley County, Arkansas, Marriage Records Books B-D, 1878-1888* (1986), p. 14.

<sup>10</sup> *Tombstone Inscriptions*, op cit.

<sup>11</sup> [https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?dbid=60525&h=73749375&indiv=try&o\\_vc=Record:OtherRecord&rhSource=7602](https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?dbid=60525&h=73749375&indiv=try&o_vc=Record:OtherRecord&rhSource=7602). His death date printed in the Ashley County Tombstone Inscriptions book is incorrect.

<sup>12</sup> “Mrs. William E. Kittrell,” Arkansas Confederate Pension Records, Roll ML0989.

<sup>13</sup> Little Rock, Arkansas, *Arkansas Methodist*, January 19, 1893, Roll MG06875 in the microfilm collections of the Arkansas State Archives. Willie died in December of 1892.

My dear Mother

“As Willis Lawson starts home tomorrow I write to you but I would not write now if I were not afraid I would not get another chance to send a letter soon, because our contact with [General] Steal [Steele] is not ended yet.

We have been skirmishing with him every day since he crossed the Little Missouri River and have had several night battles with him but no general engagement as his force was so much superior to ours. A portion of our Brigade fought this last Monday the 11<sup>th</sup>, in Prairie D’Ann and drove him until he brought up a heavy reinforcement and overpowered us driving our men in good order back in the prairie. On the 13<sup>th</sup> our hold Brigade except Col. Jones’ Regiment attacked their rear at the edge of Prairie D’Ann, next to Camden Road-for which place they had started-and fought and skirmished with them for three or four hours.

[We drove] them for about two miles or more when we came upon their whole army in line of battle when we slowly retired back to the edge of the prairie and formed a line of battle with two pieces of artillery in the center and had not more then got our line formed when they came in sight and formed one fronting us with two pieces of artillery in their center. When the fight soon opened with artillery and skirmishes and kept up for an hour or more when they brought up six more pieces of artillery and heavy infantry forces compelling us to fall back again onto the prairie where we formed another line and they came up again when Gen Cabell reinforced us with with four guns and we soon drove them from their position but could not follow them of course as we had nothing but a cavalry force and an inferior one at that. Our regiment lost none. Brigade lost one killed, one mortally wounded (died since) and four slightly, which covers our whole loss excepting two others killed in the rear by stray shots belonging to other commands. Enemies lost known fifteen of their horses found dead on the field next day by Lt. Carpenter. We have been annoying Gen. Steal [Steele] ever since he cross the Ouachita river, and compelled him to abandon his expedition to Shreveport vis Washington, and forced him into Camden, from which place I think he will soon start back to [Little] Rock or to Shreveport by some other way.

He is now in Camden and reported to be crossing the [Ouachita] river but I hardly think he is crossing yet. The day he entered Camden our troops took the pontoon bridge and carried it down the river, for what purpose I don’t know unless it was to cause our troops to follow Steal [Steele] if he starts back to Little Rock. Steals forces is reported to be ten or twenty thousand strong and ours about six or seven thousand entirely cavalry.

The prisoners we captured a day or so ago report Steals forces to be fourteen thousand and ours ten, but of course they don’t know nor [do] we either. The day we fought them at Mosco [Moscow] we were reinforced by sixteen or eighteen hundred Choctaw Indians from the [Indian] Nation under General Masie. They arrived just in time to see the fight and were all painted in war style and had feathers in their hats which made them look really dangerous. We captured eighteen prisoners day before yesterday among which were three Indians, I suppose of Blunts Command who I understand has reinforces Steal [Steel]. Our Indians were mightily tickled when they saw some of their old Indian nation enemies in our hands. Stanwitty with two regiments of Indians left the Nation for Fort Smith which I supposed was left by Blunt with only a small garrison.

We are making up another Indian Regiment in the [Indian] Nation. The Indians say we have five or six thousand troops in the Nations with the Indians and white together. We have had a very hard time getting to Red river. We have been two days without anything for ourselves and horses to eat several times since we met up with old Steal but as it was necessary, we did it cheerfully. We had to kill the [local] citizens hogs last night by Gen. Fagans order to get something to eat, but only killed a few to do us last night. We drew some bacon last night and don’t expect will have to kill any more hogs.



Provisions is not so scarce in the army here but only hard to keep up with us for we travel so fast and there is danger of them [our supplies] being captured if we keep the [supply] train with us. I reckon you all heard of the great victory below Shreveport gained by Taylor over Banks. They attacked us in superior force below Shreveport but our men receiving the attack with great determination, completely routed them and drove them seventy miles below the battlefield without stopping capturing a great many prisoners, cannon, wagons, and stores of all kinds.

[In] the last official news we received from them we had captured up to that time five thousand prisoners, twenty-three (or thirty-three, I forget which) pieces of artillery, a hundred or a hundred and fifty ambulances, two or three hundred wagons and great many small arms. Private letters and reports received since say from thirty to forty pieces of artillery, five thousand five hundred prisoners, two hundred ambulances, four hundred wagons and a great amount of commissary and quartermaster stores, burned one gun-boat and had the balance of the fleet cut off by low water [in the Red River].

[This left] the [Union] fleet only twenty-five miles to run up and down the river in and [we] had men on both sides of the river firing on it trying to capture it. It is believed to be one of the greatest victories of the war as we came in such a good time. I was not in the last of the fight the other day because I was sent around to the right of the Brigade to keep the enemy from flanking us while we were fighting. The Brigade fell back without notifying me and I got cut off and was reported killed or captured but before night got back to the Brigade. I was close enough to Yankees to hear them talk very plain but could not understand what they said. I could hear the officers trying to get the men to charge but they could not come [to] it. General Price don't intend to make a general attack unless he gets reinforcements, so you need not fear my getting into a fight soon. I must close but will write again tomorrow if I have time. Gen. Dockery ordered me to go on the country this evening to limit rations for the Brigade so I am bound to close until tomorrow. Charles is back safe with the wagon train but will be up tonight or tomorrow. I have all my clothes safe so I need nothing.

Your affectionate son  
W. D. Kittrell"

[The original transcriber of this letter noted that "Charles was the slave of William, Kittrell's uncle, David Evans" who went to the war with young William."]

## **BLYTHE-TAYLOR-COLE-DENT-KINDRED FAMILY INFORMATION**

*by Russell P. Baker*

Photocopies of records relating to the following family information came to me in no particular order. With them was a notation indicating that they were taken from "A Bible belonging to the Blythe Family from Blytheville, Mississippi, Arkansas." The records themselves appear to contain information on the Cole, Taylor, Dent, and Kindred families taken from two different Bibles. At some point the Bibles were in the possession of Ida Kindred Taylor, wife of William M. Taylor of Blytheville, Mississippi County, Arkansas.

### **BIRTHS**

*[Bible No. 1]*

All of these below were born in Granville County, North Carolina

John Cole was born the 15<sup>th</sup> of August in the year A. D. 1770

Wife of John Cole, Susan Gilliam was born the 11<sup>th</sup> of May in the year A. D. 1777

Doctor (sic) Cole was born June 6<sup>th</sup> in the year A. D. 1798

Hixey (sic) Cole was born September 1<sup>st</sup> in the year A. D. 1800

Tharin (?) White her grandson E. T. White in Oxford, Granville County, North Carolina.

Marina Cole was born March 26<sup>th</sup> in the year A. D. 1803

Anthony W. Cole was born July 31<sup>st</sup> in the year A. D. 1806

Charles T. Cole was born February 15<sup>th</sup> in the year A. D. 1809

Lucy F. S. Cole was born September 13<sup>th</sup> in the year A. D. 1841

*[Bible No. 2]*

Susan Gilliam b. May 11, 1777

John Cole b. August 15, 1770, d. August 17, 1857

Mary Anne Hutchison Byrum b. October 29, 1792

Ellen Hutchison was born April 1812

Lucy Francis Susan Cole was born Sept. 13, 1841, d. August 20, 1884

Pamelia Prudence Hutchison born 1815, d. May 15, 1892, age 78 years

Charles Thomas Cole born February 15, 1809, d. January 21, 188 (?), age 76 years, 11 months, 16 days

Joseph Thomas ~~Jefferson~~ Kindred born [no date given]

Mary Ada Dent was born October 28 in the year A. D. 1861 [another entry has her birth date as October 23, 1861]

Ida Pauline Kindred born March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1874 W. M. Taylor born September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1868

Children of W. M. and Ida Taylor

Lucy Pauline Taylor born July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1896

John May Taylor Sr. born September 13<sup>th</sup> 1897

Jesse Taylor born May 12<sup>th</sup> 1899, Friday 6:26 AM

Ida Taylor Jr. and William McHenry Taylor [twins] born August 5<sup>th</sup> 1901

(daughter) Taylor and Adam Harman Taylor (twins) born February 26, 1905

(son and daughter Taylor) born May 14, 1907

Mary Louise Taylor born April 6, 1909

Albert Kindred Taylor born July 27, 1914

Leah Marville Taylor (daughter of Albert K. and Isabel B. Taylor) born April 26, 1940, Methodist Hospital, Memphis

Jesse Thomas Taylor, son of Jesse Taylor and Gladys Hardin Taylor born February 15, 1942, Methodist Hospital, Memphis

Permelia Idar Kendred born March 23, 1874

Lucy Cole Dent Kindred born September 13<sup>th</sup> 1841

*[Births listed on a "Marriage" page]*

Ida Vivian (Susie) Taylor [born] August 29, 1932

William Wayne Taylor [born] July 8, 1934

Linda Lee Taylor [born] March 21, 1936

Adam Taylor [born] August 10, 1937

John Minyard Taylor [born] April 19, 1940

#### MARRIAGES

*[Bible No. 1]*

C. T. (?) Cole and P. P. Hutchison [Pamelia Prudence Hutchison and Charles Thomas Cole] were married the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 1838

S. W. Dent and Lucy F. S. Cole were married the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 1860

J. T. Kindred and Lucy Cole Dent were married October 10, 1869

J. R. Belland and Mary Ada Dent were married October 8<sup>th</sup> 1884

W. M. Taylor and Ida Kindred married October 10, 1895

J. T. Kindred's mother was named Tempe Dent, sister of Joseph, Jack, and William Dent all born in Franklin County, North Carolina

*[Bible No. 2]*

William McHenry Taylor and Ida Pauline Kindred were married October 10, 1895

Ida Taylor and William Houston Minyard married April 26, 1928

Adam Harman Taylor married Vivian Dillahunt June 13, 1931

Mary Louise Taylor and Logan Edward Old, Jr. married December 25, 1931

Jesse Taylor and Gladys Blyth Hardin married December 25, 1932

Albert Kindred Taylor and Martha Isabel Brandon married June 6, 1937

#### DEATHS

*[Bible No. 1]*

John Cole departed this life December 17<sup>th</sup> 1857

Anthony W. Cole departed this life August 8<sup>th</sup> A. D. 1878 Age 12 years 8 days

Permelia P. Cole died May 18<sup>th</sup> 1892 Age 78 years

Lucy Cole Dent Kindred [no date]

*[Bible No. 2 with several entries unreadable]*

Mary Anne Byrum died May the 7<sup>th</sup> 1881

Ellen Hutchinson departed this life July 1<sup>st</sup> 1892 Age 80 years

Permelia P. Cole departed this life March 15, 1892 Age 78 years

Charles Thomas Cole died January 21, 1886

Joseph Thomas [Kindred] (?) died January 1884

Lucy Pauline Taylor died June 21<sup>st</sup> 1897 age 10 months and 30 days

John May Taylor Jr. died October 13<sup>th</sup> 1901 [child]

William McHenry Taylor died September 1<sup>st</sup> 1902 aged 1 year and 27 days

Infant daughter of W. M. Taylor died February 26<sup>th</sup> 1905

Infant born to W. M. and Ida K. Taylor [died] May 14, 1907

Infant daughter of W. M. and Ida K. Taylor [died] May 16, 1907

John M. Taylor born May 18, 1838 died February 17, 1911

Job R. Bell died Van Buren Arkansas January 24, 1915

W. M. Taylor died March 8, 1925 at Baptist Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee

Amanda Jane (Mrs. John M. Taylor) [McHenry] Taylor born September 15, 1845 died June 19<sup>th</sup> 1931 at her home in Lexington, Tennessee

Mary Ada Dent Bell married J. P. Bell October 8, 1884 died at Fort Smith, Arkansas February 1945 (?)

Ida Kindred Taylor (Mrs. W. M. Taylor) died in Walls Hospital, Blytheville, Arkansas at 1:30 a. m. March 26, 1943 (war time)

Ida Taylor Minyard (Mrs. W. H. Minyard) died at her home at Blytheville 7:25 a. m. July 29, 1951

Jesse Taylor died at his beloved home at 12:05 a. m. June 30, 1959, born May 12, 1900

[Also, the following enclosed items]

1. Obituary of Mrs. J. R. Bell, sister of Mrs. W. M. Taylor, wife of Rev. J. T. Bell, widely known Methodist minister. Survived by granddaughter Mrs. C. S. Beebee.
2. United Daughter of the Confederacy Membership Application for Mrs. W. M. Taylor, niece of James Elisha Kindred, C. S. A soldier. Mrs. Taylor was born March 23, 1874 in Weakley County, Tennessee.
3. U. D. C. Membership Certification for Mrs. W. M. Taylor.

## INMATES” IN THE TEXARKANA BAPTIST ORPHANAGE, 1930

The Texarkana Baptist Orphanage, now called the Texarkana Baptist Children's Home, was founded in Texarkana, Arkansas, in 1908 as a charitable ministry of the churches of the State Association of Missionary Baptist Churches of Arkansas. Although children of Baptist parents are given priority, the home is open to all “orphaned, dependent, and neglected” children.

The home was first located at 29<sup>th</sup> and Garland streets in Texarkana. It remained there until 1953. During this period, it cared for the needs of hundreds of children. That year, its operations were moved to a new ninety-four-acre campus near the corner of highways 82 and 237 in southeastern Texarkana. The home’s first three superintendents were Josephus B. Sellman, Thomas H. Carter, and Wesley M. Davis.

For addition information on this organization see <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=4362>. The birthplaces of many of the children listed below are given as the United States, perhaps meaning that the information was unknown to the officials of the orphanage.

“Orphanage Baptist,” 1930 U.S. Census, Texarkana City, Miller County, Arkansas, p. 172A.

Name	Relationship	Gender	Age	Born	Comments
Wilson, Alfred G.	Head	M	31	Arkansas	Superintend
Wilson, Mary	Wife	F	26	Arkansas	Matron
Wilson, Frances	Daughter	F	15	Arkansas	
Wilson, Mae	Daughter	F	10	Arkansas	
White, James	Inmate	M	9	Louisiana	
Esary, Millard	Inmate	M	12	U. S.	
Esary, Willard	Inmate	M	12	U. S.	
Stucky, Arnold	Inmate	M	10	U. S.	
Allen, Doris	Inmate	F	7	U. S.	
Allen, Effie	Inmate	F	6	Texas	
McIntosh, Jessie	Inmate	F	13	U. S.	
Jamison, James	Inmate	M	12	U. S.	
Higginbotham, Louise	Inmate	F	15	U. S.	
Higginbotham, James W.	Inmate	M	10	U. S.	
Higginbotham, Curtis	Inmate	M	12	U. S.	
Higginbotham, John W.	Inmate	M	8	U. S.	
Kumpe, Marion	Inmate	M	16	U. S.	
Bush, Allen	Inmate	M	16	U. S.	
Green, Thrumon	Inmate	M	18	Texas	
Bowers, Mary (?)	Inmate	F	13	U. S.	
Jones, Nellie	Inmate	F	11	U. S.	

Gossett, Lois	Inmate	F	16	U. S.	
Roper, Cora	Inmate	F	17	U. S.	
Jones, Jimmie	Inmate	M	12	U. S.	
Dowling, George	Inmate	M	12	U. S.	
Gossett, Johnnie	Inmate	M	13	U. S.	
Higginbotham, Renfro	Inmate	M	15	U. S.	

The following information was taken from the “Report of the Texarkana Baptist Orphanage,” published in the *1931 Proceedings of the Arkansas Baptist State Association* (1931), p. 57, MG0794 AHC in the collections of the Arkansas State Archives in Little Rock. It gives some additional information on the children.

“We have in the home 33 children, 15 boys and 18 girls, this number represents the same number we had last year at this time. We have received in the home in the last year 7 children, number released 7. Those admitted are, Inez Roark, Fay Roark, Laverine Roark, Ruby Wynn, Robbie Wynn, Clara Wynn and F. D. Wynn. Those released are; Hazel Reeves adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Jody Smith, Mountain Home, Ark. Allen Bush, gone to a sister in Mississippi. James Jamison, living with Mr. and Mrs. Chiles, Bentonville, Ark. Cora Roper, living with Mrs. J. E. Gantt, Texarkana. Arnold Stuckey, released to relatives. Renfro Higginbottom, left the home on his own accord.”

## TWENTY-EIGHT ARKANSAS CONFEDERATE HOME RESIDENTS, 1913

The *Arkansas Veteran* was an occasional small newspaper published by Clarence P. Newton, the superintendent of the Arkansas Confederate Home, located in Sweet Home, Pulaski County, Arkansas. The original Home was founded in 1890 and was replaced by a new facility in 1955.<sup>1</sup> Scattered issues of this publication are in the microfilm collections of the Arkansas State Archives in Little Rock, MFILM News, Roll 000371. The following article was published in the November 1913 issue of the *Veteran*, p. 4. Col. 3 and lists the Arkansas ex-confederate veterans then living in the home. “As might be expected, there are more veterans in the Home who enlisted in Arkansas than any other State. There are 28 of them in the present. As follows: (sic)

William A. Blackwell, 5th Reg.,  
Churchill’s Bat.  
J. H. Balding, 15th Inf.  
A. J. Booth, 15th Inf.  
D. J. Bridges, 23rd Inf.  
W. R. Barnes. 34th Inf.  
Robert Cook, 3rd Inf.  
J. M. Cothorn, 11th Inf.  
H. C. Coffman, 3rd Inf.  
H. C. English, Coleman’s Reg. Cav.  
J. W. Green, 1st. Inf.  
Major R. R. Henry, 38th Inf.  
T. J. Marshall, 15th N. W. Ark Inf.

F. K. McLemore, 23rd inf.  
J. F. Medlock, 1st. Inf.  
W. K. Medlock, Crawford’s Cav. Vol.  
W. R. Nelson, 1st Cav.  
S. E. O’Neal, 10th Inf.  
John Phillips, Robert’s Bat.  
W. S. Patterson, 15th N. W. Ark Inf.  
E. J. Pennington, 2nd Mounted Rifles  
J. A. Reed, 45th Ark Cav.  
Edward Tillotson, 2nd Cav.  
Wiley Whitehead, 18th Inf.  
J. N. Ferguson, 5th Inf.  
A. M. Ferguson, 5th Inf.

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=2691> for additional information.

W. L. Griffing, 19th and 1st Bat. St. Tr.  
(sic)

J. W. Davis, 8th Inf.  
R. B. Faulkner, 1st Inf.

### A LIST OF PUBLIC OFFICERS IN EACH ARKANSAS COUNTY, 1853

The following information appeared in the Little Rock, Arkansas, *Weekly Arkansas Gazette*, December 9, 1853, p. 1, col. 4-5. The counties listed below are not necessarily in alphabetical order. The duties of the “Commissioners” mentioned here were to secure funds for the establishment of local public schools.<sup>1</sup> However, little was done at this time to fulfill these responsibilities. The establishment of public education in Arkansas would wait until after the Civil War.

The names on this list are often difficult to read due to the size of the type used in the printed article. They also occasionally have different spellings from other such lists.

Counties	Clerks	Sheriffs	Coroners	Treasurers	Commissioners	Post Offices
Arkansas	William Refeld	J. T. Hamilton	Edward Syncoe	B. L. Haller	R. H. Douglas (?)	Arkansas Post
Ashley	John B. Savage	William M. Ducker	Thomas P. Atlas	John Stewart	Philip Dertus (?)	Fountain Hill
Benton	A. G. Williams	John Gilbreath	H. O. Gilbert	William McDaniel	John Smith	Bentonville
Bradley	Alvin Bartlett	A. B. Coward	A. L. Temple	Bryant Garner	Samuel Hailey	Warren
Carroll	John W. Peel	Alvin C. Oliver	Gideon Weaver	Armstead Husley	John Davis	Carrollton
Chicot	Sam T. W. Cooper	William J. Neale	Michael Doran	Joshua M. Craig	John M. Robinson	Columbia
Clark	Isaac W. Smith	William C. Randel	William H. Stroop	James M. Chandler	Thomas A. Heard	Arkadelphia
Conway	Joshua Moses	R. S. Cargill	John Bowie	H. C. Watson	Bryant V. King	Springfield
Crittenden	O. P. Lyes (?)	B. C. Crump	Robert Hood	G. S. Fogleman	C. J. Barnard	Marion
Crawford	Alexander McLean	S. F. Cottrell	Gideon R. Bell	Augustus G. Ward	E. H. Bishop	Van Buren
Calhoun	James H. Means	J. Hollis	A. S. Ludlow	James S. Newton	David Bass	Hampton
Columbia	R. G. Harper	John E. Smith	J. Martin	Peter Farrar	D. Thompson	

<sup>1</sup> Little Rock, Arkansas, *Weekly Arkansas Gazette*, February 4, 1873, p. 1, col. 4, MFILM News, 00430, Roll 11.

Dallas	Joseph Gray	H. M. Bouldin	Jesse Council	George W. Mallet	Edward M. Harris	Princeton
Desha	John Davis	Elihu Randolph	James D. Turner	Calvin Stroud (?)	Andrew J. Abuey (?)	Napoleon
Drew	Young R. Royal	James S. Jordan	H. H. Wells	Jesse Newton	G. W. Simms	Monticello
Franklin	J. S. Garganes	Alfred Coffee	William Gray	Heary Eichenberger (?)	William C. Adams	Ozark
Fulton	William M. Bennett	Noah L. Baker		William Falkenbury	Enos C. Hunter	Salem
Green (sic)	M. T. C. Lumpkins	Wiatt M. Peebles (?)	Robert W. Dorsey	Claiborne G. Jones	James B. Ragsdale	Gainesville
Hempstead	S. T. Sanders	J. B. Sandafer	Jeremiah Pate	David Block		Washington
Hot Spring	John P. Emerson (?)	Joseph Jester		T. H. Cloud	Moses R. Woods	Rockport
Independence	William R. Miller	Urban E. Fort	Martin Cason	Burrel Lee	J. Ringgold	Batesville
Izard	William Wood	S. J. Mason		William Gray	Green Pryor	Mount Olive
Jackson	William R. Jones	Garlen Silvey	J. G. Venable	L. R. Clay	V. B. McCoy	Augusta
Jefferson	D. B. McLaughlin	Peter F. Morton	A. C. Randolph	William Wright	Jordan N. Embree	Pine Bluff
Johnson	A. M. Ward	C. B. Mann	Lewis Mathews	William Fritz	Wilson G. Taylor	Clarksville
Lafayette	Alexander Byrne	John S. French	N. P. Hobson	H. M. Lemay	Gaines B. Kremer	Lewisville
Lawrence	Jasper N. Hillhouse	C. C. Straghan	William Swann (?)	Edward Holt	Green R. Jones	Smithville
Madison	James R. Berry	Benjamin Vaughan	William G. Phillips	John C. Calico	William M. Payne	Huntsville
Marion	Thomas Austin	Jason Stinnett (?)	Benjamin Duvall	George Adams	John Estis	Yellville
Mississippi	H. A. Phillips	Charles Bowen	E. O. Cromwell	William C. Dallahey	Thomas J. Blakemore	Osceola
Monroe	E. W. Vann	John A. Harrick	Peter Jolly	T. D. Johnson	A. L. Wilson	Lawrenceville
Montgomery	David A. Woodard (?)	James H. May	V. Isenhour	James A. Stone	Grandville Whittington	Mount Ida

Newton	H. F. Cooper	Andrew J. Boon	B. B. Rose	John R. Thurman	William H. Cooper	Jasper
Ouachita	Phillip Agee	Green L. Grant	R. Butler	John H. Halcomb	James Vanghans	Camden
Perry	John W. Rison	Thomas A. Reeder	David Vann	William Smith	Isaac Russell	Perryville
Phillips	Edward H. Cowley	Arthur Thompson	Mortimore Platt	E. P. Scantland	John S. Harrar (?)	Helena
Pike	John S. Owens	Lewis Huddleston	William Huddleston	R. Stringer	L. M. Covington	Murfreesboro
Poinsett	Robert H. Stone	James Davidson	Elisha Robinson	J. M. Hale	William Nichols	Bolivar
Polk	John Brumley	John Lewis	J. R. Richards	H. W. Jones	David Geris (?)	Dallas
Pope	William Stout	R. H. Howell	James G. Banker	G. B. Davis	Isaac Brown (?)	Dover
Prairie	E. M. Williams	E. E. Dismukes	N. Kennedy	W. H. England	William Saunders	Brownsville
Pulaski	Garden N. Peay	John C. Peay	Samuel C. W. Lewis	William B. Easley	Roswell Beebe	Little Rock
Randolph	John S. Reyburn	William G. Murphey	William W. McNabb	J. D. Cross	L. Hassuer (?)	Pocahontas
Saline	J. W. Shoppach	William Crawford	John T. Walker	James T. Carter	W. Holliman	Benton
Scott	William Kenner	Reuben C. Reed	Allen Kuykendall	J. M. Swinney	Charles Humphries	Waldron
Searcy	Alexander Hill	Alexander Gray	P. L. Downey	Joseph Rea	John Bradshaw	Lebanon
Sevier	Henry G. Rind	J. S. Dollarhide	John D. Hudgins	James A. Williams	Robert C. Gilliam	Paraclifta
St. Francis	John M. Parrott	G. V. C. Johnson	F. M. Prewitt	John W. Martin	O. E. Caldwell	Mount Vernon
Sebastian	John Carrall	James J. Baker	H. L. Holliman	Sampson Norton	Samuel Edmonson (?)	Fort Smith
Union	William J. Locke	S. D. Drenon	Augustus Maderia (?)	William G. Gresham	James P. Peters (?)	El Dorado
Van Buren	George Counts	L. R. Venable	John McAllister	Mays Griggs	Daniel Griggs	Clinton



Washing- ton	Presley R. Smith	Z. M. Pettygrew	H. W. Fincher	J. B. Simpson	James P. Neal	Fayette- ville
White	Robert S. Bell	Joseph G. Robbins	Alex. Cullom	William T. Gillam	David Maxwell	Searcy
Yell	Thomas W. Pound	Joseph Gault	Neill B. Rose	Thomas J. Haney	John J. Striman	Danville

### **DESTITUTE FAMILIES IN ANTIOCH AND UNION TOWNSHIPS, HOT SPRING COUNTY, ARKANSAS, 1866**

This information relates to poor families living in what was then Hot Spring County, Arkansas, during Reconstruction and is taken from National Archives Microfilm Roll 34. It consists of the issuing for “rations” to destitute families living in Antioch and Union townships in old Hot Spring County, Arkansas, between February and August of 1866.

It comes from a set of records entitled, “United States, Freedmen's Bureau Ration Records, 1865-1872,” now accessible on the internet at <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9TZ-Z932-V?i=219&cc=2427901>. These records should not be thought of as pertaining solely to newly freed African Americans, called Freedmen. They also contain a great deal of information on White southerners.

Antioch Township was created in 1853 and located in an area west of the Ouachita River and south of the city of Hot Springs. Since 1873 this area has been a part of Garland County. A new township also named Antioch was later created in Hot Spring County. It was located west the Ouachita River along Prairie Creek. Union Township, created in 1852, is now located in the eastern part of Garland County.<sup>1</sup> The entry on John C. Brown, the last name on this list, gives the following instructions on how to locate his home, “send rations to [Brown, he] lives 7 miles west of Hot Spring, cross the Ouachita River at McDonalds Crossing, Brown lives 2 miles beyond on Arkadelphia Road.” This seems to place him in the center of old Antioch Township.

There is no indication in the following listing as to the race of those who received rations. At least some of the families were White; others may have been African Americans. There is also little information given as to whether those listed here were men or woman. However, families with two adults may indicate husband and wife. Single adult households may indicate that the person named is a widow.

<b>No. of Adults</b>	<b>Head of Family</b>	<b>Children under 14</b>	<b>Children over 14</b>	<b>Total in family</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1	Nancy Young	2	1	4	
1	N. A. Percy (sic)	2	2	4	Neama Percy listed on 1860 census of Antioch Township

<sup>1</sup> Russell P. Baker, *Arkansas Township Atlas, 1819-1930* (2006), pp. 63-65 and 73-75.

1	M. E. Coerum	1	0	1	
1	S. A. Barton	3	0	3	Sarah Barton listed on 1860 census of Antioch Township
1	A. Lynn	2	2	4	
1	M. J. Tomas (?)	3	2	5	
1	Widow Row	4	3	7	
1	E. Williams	3	2	5	
1	S. Brown	2	3	5	
1	N. Brown	4	4	6	
1	E. Parker	2	2	4	
1	J. S. Fulbright	5	0	5	
1	M. Comstock	1	0	2	
2	A. W. David	4	1	5	
2	J. E. Prichard	0	2	2	
2	A. J. Black	1	1	2	
2	P. H. Burrough	5	3	8	
2	J. C. Brown	1	0	1	
2	E. Williams	4	2	6	perhaps the Elizabeth Williams who is listed in Prairie Township
2	N. Denom (?)	3	1	4	
2	J. A. Burrough	1	1	2	
2	W. F. Brown	0	0	2	
2	L. J. Andrews	4	0	4	
2	S. Wright	4	1	5	
1	D. M. C. Huddleston	3	1	4	listed in 1860 in Antioch Township
2	J. Monk	3	0	3	
2	Claborn Perry	1	2	3	listed in 1860 in Union Township
2	L. S. Nabors	1	1	2	
2	E. Slaught	2	3	5	
2	W. J. Nabors	4	0	4	listed on the 1860 in Union Township
1	M. Crabtree	3	2	5	
1	B. Robins	3	6	9	

1	S. Vaneickle/ Vansickle	3	1	4	
1	M. J. Huddleston	0	0	2	
1	Miss Row	3	3	6	perhaps Jane Row who is listed in Prairie Township
?	John C. Brown	?	?	?	see above

## “THE WIDOW LAFFERTY,” A TRUE ARKANSAS PIONEER

*By Mary Miller<sup>1</sup>*

It was a glorious day when John Lafferty married Sarah Lindsey. No matter where the event took place, no matter the weather that day, no matter how many witnesses were present, that glorious day was a gift to their descendants and to Arkansas history. Josiah H. Shinn, noted Arkansas author, in his book on early state residents, wrote that the marriage took place in East Tennessee. Published in 1905, Shinn gave no footnotes, as was the custom of authors at that time.

A chapter on the Laffertys and another on the Lindseys provide much information for later researchers.<sup>2</sup> However, there were a few mistakes in his work, which have come to light only with more readily available modern research sources.

Shinn said John Lafferty served in the Revolutionary War and gave a specific unit. The Daughters of the American Revolution records show that particular John Lafferty was alive and drawing a pension in 1823.<sup>3</sup> The John Lafferty who later settled in the Arkansas Ozarks served from the State of South Carolina. For his services, Governor Thomas Pinkney awarded him a land grant of 1,000 acres located in Camden District, later named District Ninety-Six.<sup>4</sup> The marriage of John and Sarah most likely took place after the close of the Revolutionary War in that state. Then the State of South Carolina did not require recording of marriage records, as did other states.

A chronological account of the couple's residences, as they kept moving West, was published to document the family history. John was born in 1756 in Donegal, Ireland, and came to British North America when he was six years old. Sarah's birth date and place are unknown.<sup>5</sup>

According to deed records, the family lived in Camden District, South Carolina, Wilkes, Franklin, and Jackson counties in Georgia, Sumner County, Tennessee, Arkansas Post, the Territory of Louisiana; Missouri Territory, and finally in the Territory of Arkansas. The latter two locations were actually in the same cabin because the political boundaries changed.<sup>6</sup> John had "itchy feet," a colloquial term meaning he liked to move around. Translation, he roamed over the territory which later became several midwestern states, leaving Sarah at home to raise the children.

<sup>1</sup> Contact the author at marycoopermiller@gmail.com. She lives in Batesville, Arkansas.

<sup>2</sup> Josiah H. Shinn, *Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas*, (reprinted, 1967), pp. 269-280, 290-300.

<sup>3</sup> DAR Genealogical Research Database. Ancestor Search. Pension S42813, www.dar.org.

<sup>4</sup> A. B. Pruitt. *Abstracts of South Carolina Plats, Books 1, 2, & 3 (1781-1796)* (2003).

<sup>5</sup> Mary Cooper Miller. "The Widow Lafferty." *Izard County Historian* 41 (October 2018) pp. 4-32, 35.

<sup>6</sup> *ibid*, pp. 7-21.

His actions started shortly after their marriage and he may not even have been present at the birth of his children. It also explained the gap between the birth dates of their known seven children. When he said, "I do," John may not have realized how Sarah would contribute to the success of the marriage by holding the family together in his absences.

"Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life."<sup>7</sup> Self-sufficiency was a part of her nature, as well as her ability to teach the children her moral and spiritual beliefs. Sarah turned out to be the glue which kept the family together. One must imagine her shooting game with a trusty gun and working in her garden to grow and preserve the harvest to provide food for the table.

The children were also taught which wild foods could be safely gathered to supplement food sources. Household chores, such as cleaning, cooking, weaving, and sewing were taught, as well as the ethical use of gun handling, sportsmanship, and getting along with fellow men to become good citizens were also on her agenda.

Raising her children was a daily affair for Sarah. It was made more important to her due to the absence of her husband for months on end. She cheerfully packed up the household belongings and followed him as he found them a new home-always moving West. The children, in birth order, were Elizabeth, born ca. 1789 in South Carolina; Margaret, born 1791 in Georgia; John Lindsey, born February 20, 1794, in Georgia; Jacob Binks, born March 7, 1796, in Georgia; Austin R., born 1797 in Georgia, Henderson S., born 1798 in Georgia; and Lorenzo Dow, born 1800 in Tennessee.

After roaming for years as a hunter and trapper, John built a cabin on the White River for his family. The move began in the summer of 1810.<sup>8</sup> Shortly thereafter, John decided to help save the United States from England again and went to New Orleans, where he enlisted as "Laferte" in Andrew Jackson's military regiment. During the battle, he was wounded and came home to recuperate.

John Lafferty, husband of Sarah Lindsey Lafferty was a defendant on a case in Davidsonville, Lawrence County, filed Tuesday, June 25, 1816.<sup>9</sup> He died sometime between that date and January 29, 1817, when his son, John L. Lafferty and his son-in-law, James L. Creswell filed bond for his probate. Both men signed the document.<sup>10</sup>

Life continued for Sarah and the children. An oft repeated incident reported in many religious histories of Arkansas described Eli Lindsey, an early Methodist circuit-riding minister, sending word to the hinterlands he would be preaching in the village of Batesville, then called Poke Bayou.

"As was the custom of the time, any excuse for a social gathering was taken, and the people came from miles and miles away." The Widow Lafferty and her sons being among the crowd, the requisite visiting took place before the sermon began, and the men stacked their guns along the interior walls of the cabin as they entered. During the sermon, the dogs scented a bear and treed it in a nearby clearing in the cane brake. Brother Eli stopped his sermon, and the men left to kill the bear, afterwards returning to the church service. The sermon was finished, and Brother Eli "thanked God for men who could shoot and women who could pray."<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Proverbs 13: 10-13.

<sup>8</sup> Duane Huddleston. "A Biographical Sketch of the Charles Kelly Family," *Independence County Chronicle* 10 (April 1969), pp. 3-39

<sup>9</sup> Marion Stark Craig. *Lawrence County, Arkansas, Circuit Court Minute Books "A"-"C" (1816-1826)*. (1991), pp. 3-4.

<sup>10</sup> Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Lawrence County, Arkansas, Loose Probate Records, Roll #76.

<sup>11</sup> Horace Jewell. *History of Methodism in Arkansas*, (1892), p. 29 and Miller, pp. 12 and 19.

The Widow Lafferty hosted Henry Rowe Schoolcraft's expedition down White River on the night of January 17, 1819.<sup>12</sup> He noted her cabin was on the right bank of the river, which is in present-day Stone County.

The residents of the river valley were then in an uproar, because the government had made a treaty with the Cherokee Indians, giving them all the lands between the White and Arkansas rivers. The white settlers were to move off their improved farms.<sup>13</sup>

The successes of Sarah's children are a tribute to her influence on their upbringing.

1) The eldest child, Elizabeth, married Charles Kelley on June 11, 1810, in Sumner County, Tennessee.<sup>14</sup> The young couple traveled with the Lafferty family on the trip to the new home. After a stop at Arkansas Post for rest and replenishment of supplies, the journey proceeded up the Arkansas River to the mouth of the White River. Elizabeth died here of unknown causes.

Her husband continued with his journey together with Lafferty in-laws and was elected the first Sheriff of Independence County when it was created in 1820.<sup>15</sup>

2) The second child, Margaret, married James L. Creswell ca. 1813. Their land was in the part of Independence which was cut off when Izard was formed in 1825. A good-hearted man who loved to talk, he was appointed Commissioner to sell lots in the newly created town of Athens, Arkansas, after it was named the Izard County seat.<sup>16</sup> His speech to the Izard County Court influenced the election result for a chimney to heat the courthouse. He was opposed to "grinding the people to death with taxes" to pay for a native stone chimney.

He advocated the old traditional "sticks and clay" method. "Sticks and clay" carried the day.<sup>17</sup> Creswell died of cholera in 1844. Margaret continued farming and raising her family. Her death occurred on February 23, 1868. Over one hundred years later, her grave was marked as a "Real Daughter" by the Daughters of the American Revolution.<sup>18</sup>

3) John Lindsey Lafferty, the eldest son, was very civic minded, sitting on juries in Lawrence County, Territory of Arkansas. He also served as a delegate to the 1836 Arkansas Constitutional Convention. Continuing in politics, he was elected the first county judge of Van Buren County and represented the county in the Arkansas Legislature for three terms. He died in 1859, after having been married at least three times.<sup>19</sup>

4) Jacob Binks Lafferty, born March 7, 1796, in Georgia, married Sally Miller on August 16, 1821. She was the daughter of James Miller, another early Independence County pioneer. When Carroll County was created, Binks moved his family there and became active in local government. Family tradition says he died September 16, 1856, in Washington County, Arkansas, where he moved from Carroll County.

5) Austin R. Lafferty, born 1797 in Georgia, served as an Independence County Justice of the Peace and sat on juries. He died October 25, 1841, and his widow, Malinda, was appointed the executrix for his estate. Heirs listed were his wife, and children, Malinda H., Jesse, Mary, Ezra, Austin, Eliza, and William Lafferty.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> *Schoolcraft in the Ozarks*, (1955), pp. 152-153.

<sup>13</sup> Miller, p. 20.

<sup>14</sup> Edythe Rucker Whitley. *Marriages of Sumner County, Tennessee, 1787-1838*, (1981), p. 19.

<sup>15</sup> Bill McCuin, *Historical Report of the Arkansas Secretary of State*, (1986), p. 660.

<sup>16</sup> A. C. Jeffery. *Historical and Biographical Sketches of the Early Settlement of the Valley of the White River Together With a History of Izard County*. (1973), pp. 45-47.

<sup>17</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>18</sup> Miller, p. 22.

<sup>19</sup> *ibid.*, pp. 22-24.

<sup>20</sup> *ibid.*, pp. 24-25.

6) Henderson S. Lafferty, born 1798 in Georgia, married Nancy Craig in a double wedding with his brother, Binks. The marriages were performed by Peyton Tucker, Elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Tucker was also appointed postmaster at White Run, the first post office established in Independence County.<sup>21</sup>

He preached the first sermon in Carroll County, Arkansas Territory, and opened the first business there in 1834. The Church sent him to DeWitt County, Texas in 1844, and finally to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he died June 15, 1870.<sup>22</sup>

7) The "baby," Lorenzo Dow Lafferty, after he was grown and learned to read and write, gave their mother credit for their raising and their education. In 1875, he told his life story to H. A. Abney, and the biography was written in the flowery style so popular at the time.<sup>23</sup> Lorenzo Dow's life experiences read like a movie script.

Like his father, he roamed and seldom stayed home. Elvira Creswell was his unfortunate wife, being left to raise the children. After he returned home, about 1850, he discovered Elvira was having an affair and promptly killed the man. He left, for the last time, and returned to Texas, where he had a second family with a common law wife. His death occurred about 1881 and he was buried in Uvalde County, Texas, at his request.<sup>24</sup> After their move to what eventually became Arkansas, Lorenzo Dow described the family's friendships with the Native Americans already in residence, their high regard for his mother, and his experiences playing with their children, eventually going on hunting expeditions with them.

His brothers remained at home with their mother, who taught them the 3 R's, reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic, something he did not get, since he was out roaming with his friends. After a year-long adventure in Texas when he was eighteen, he returned home, to his mother's great joy. She then saw to it that he became literate. In his biography, Lorenzo Dow was lavish in his praise of his mother's teachings and her love for her family. From his descriptions of Sarah Lindsey Lafferty, she was a devout Methodist and set an example for her children. "Woman's work is never done," is a perfect adage of her life. It may have been her nature, or it may have been a necessity when she was left alone with the children for such long periods of time.

1817 "ends the mortal career of John Lafferty but opens the career of his Scottish wife, the widow Lafferty, and the mainstay of Methodism in the Lawrence county of early days...while the widow Lafferty...kept open house on Lafferty's creek, encouraging the pioneers to live godly and righteous lives and raising a family of splendid sons."<sup>25</sup>

Sarah was given credit for her sons being an honor to John's name and being a person who "stands as a monument to the sturdy virtues of the widow Lafferty..., the great Methodist mother of the barrens, will be crowned with laurels."<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Little Rock, Arkansas, *Weekly Arkansas Gazette*, August 25, 1821, p. 3, col. 1 and Reuel Walter Tucker, *Memoirs and History of the Peyton Tucker Family*, (1975), p. 40.

<sup>22</sup> Miller, pp. 25-26.

<sup>23</sup> A. H. Abney. *Life and Adventures of L. D. Lafferty Being a True Biography of One of the Most Remarkable Men of the Great Southwest*, (1875), pp. 15-16 and 23.

<sup>24</sup> Miller, pp. 26-28.

<sup>25</sup> Josiah Shinn, "The Lafferty Family and Their Many Descendants," *Arkansas Gazette*, April 28, 1907, Part III, p. 1, col. 2.

<sup>26</sup> *ibid*, p. 1, col. 2-3.

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."<sup>27</sup> was the advice given in her Bible, and she followed its teachings. To all those with whom she came in contact, Sarah taught by example. At home in her cabin where she had lived since 1810, death claimed Sarah Lindsey Lafferty on April 2, 1832, as recorded in the family Bible of her son, Binks.<sup>28</sup>

Lorenzo Dow lauded her thus, "her earthly pilgrimage was ended, leaving to her children the example of a life well spent, and giving bright evidence of her preparation to meet her God."<sup>29</sup> John's legacy to his children was self-sufficiency, the ability to reason, to plan ahead, use the law to their advantage, set goals, and achieve those goals. No wonder they were high achievers in religion, education, politics, and county governments in several north Arkansas counties.

Their descendants, down to the present day, have been successful lawyers and judges, civil servants, preachers, teachers, and one female opera singer. Sarah Lindsey Lafferty's legacy was taught by her example of how to lead a Christian life, how to treat others, and how to love.

Sarah lived her life demonstrating her life's motto, "And now abideth faith, hope, and love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."<sup>30</sup>

## SOME EARLY PHILLIPS COUNTY MAGISTRATES, 1821 - 1835

*By Russell P. Baker*

Eastern Arkansas's Phillips County is one of Arkansas oldest counties, having been formed in 1820 from parts of Arkansas County. It was named for an early settler in the area, Sylvanus Phillips.

Since early times, its county seat has been at Helena, a steamboat port on the Mississippi River.<sup>1</sup> During the Territorial period, justices of the peace were called magistrates. Together, they formed the county's executive body, the quorum or county court. Parts of Phillips County were taken to form Crittenden County in 1825, St. Francis County in 1827, Monroe County in 1829, and Lee County in 1873. The following information is taken from Clarence Edwin Carter, *The Territorial Papers of the United States, Vol. XIX* (1953), pp. 816-818. There is no explanation provided as to why some of the appointments are out of sequence.

A look at the location of Phillips County Townships during this period shows that the county covered much of eastern Arkansas.

Cache Township (now located in Woodruff County),  
Canadian Township (now located in Mississippi County),  
Hopefield Township (now located in Crittenden County),  
Johnson Township (now located in St. Francis County),  
Mitchell Township (now located in Cross County),  
Mooney Township (located in the southern part of Phillips County),  
St. Francis Township (located in the Helena area),  
Union Township (now located in St. Francis County and called Franks Township),  
Walnut Township (may have been located in either Cross or Woodruff counties).<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Proverbs 22:6.

<sup>28</sup> Mrs. Lynn (Marilyn Hambrick) Sickel, compiler, *American Bible Records*, (1994), pp. 199, 200, 205, and 206.

<sup>29</sup> Abney, p. 166.

<sup>30</sup> I Corinthians 13:13.

<sup>1</sup> Dallas T. Herndon, *Centennial History of Arkansas, Vol. I* (1922), pp. 789-791.

<sup>2</sup> For additional information on the location of these townships, see Russell P. Baker, *Arkansas Township Atlas, 1819-1930, Revised and Improved* (2006).

DATE	NAMES	TOWNSHIP	REMARKS
June 24, 1825	Benjamin Fooy		Resigned
June 24, 1825	William Davis		
June 24, 1825	William Cheney		
June 24, 1825	Daniel Mooney		Resigned
June 24, 1825	Townsend Webb		Removed from township
June 24, 1825	Daniel Michel		
June 24, 1825	William B. R. Horner		Resigned
June 24, 1825	William H. Smith		
June 24, 1825	William Black		
October 2, 1825	Sylvannus Phillips		
October 20, 1825	Isaac Forbes		
October 20, 1825	Peter Edwards		
March 21, 1821	William H. Bally/Baily		Commission renewed March 30, 1825
March 21, 1821	Andrew Dobbin		Commission renewed March 30, 1825
May 8, 1821	Thomas Maddox		Commission renewed January 12, 1825
May 16, 1821	Augustine Grand		Commission renewed May 16, 1825
May 16, 1821	Joshus Fletcher		Commission renewed May 16, 1825
May 16, 1821	William Rus		Commission renewed May 16, 1821
April 14, 1822	Patrick Cassidy		Removed
June 4, 1822	William Strong		
January 12, 1822	Thomas Maddox		
July 20, 1822	George W. Ferebee		
October 1, 1823	Frederick Barfield	Hopefield	Renewed
October 30, 1823	Joseph Standlee	Hopefield	
October 30, 1823	Benjamin Fooy	Hopefield	Dead
October 30, 1823	John H. Fooy	Hopefield	
November 4, 1823	William Smith Sr.	Cache	
April 17, 1824	Henry L. Biscoe	St. Francis	Resigned
April 17, 1824	John Sanford	St. Francis	
October 17, 1824	Silas Pledger	Walnut	
October 17, 1824	Edward Bridges	Walnut	
October 17, 1824	Cyrus Little	Union	
April 18, 1825	William H. Smith	Cache	
April 18, 1825	Peter Edwards	St. Francis	



May 7, 1825	Frederick Barfield	Canadian	
May 7, 1825	Owen Evans	Canadian	
May 7, 1825	William Lamb	Canadian	
May 7, 1825	Daniel Mitchell	Mitchell	
May 7, 1825	Joseph Standlee	Mitchell	
June 7, 1825	Duke H. Harris	Mitchell	
October 13, 1825	George W. Ferebee	St. Francis	[In place of] H. L. Biscoe
October 14, 1825	Benjamin Burress	St. Francis	
November 3, 1825	Griswold Latimer	St. Francis	
November 3, 1825	David Briggs	St. Francis	
February 11, 1826	Joseph Jacobs	Cache	
February 11, 1826	Thomas Maddox	Cache	
July 5, 1826	John R. Dye	Cache	
April 11, 1827	William Enos	Union	
April 18, 1827	Henry Huggins	Walnut	
February 20, 1826	Joseph Robbins	Cache	
July 25, 1826	Austin Kendrick	Mooney	
July 25, 1826	William Strong	Johnson	
July 25, 1826	Carnes H. Alexander	Johnson	
October 15, 1827	Peter Edwards	St. Francis	
October 15, 1827	George W. Ferebee	St. Francis	
October 15, 1827	Thomas S. Gagby	St. Francis	
October 15, 1827	John Sanford	St. Francis	
October 15, 1827	Benjamin Burress	St. Francis	
October 15, 1827	Thomas Maddox	Cache	
October 15, 1827	John R. Dye	Cache	
October 15, 1827	Joseph Robbins	Cache	
October 15, 1827	Joseph Jacobs	Cache	
October 15, 1827	Andrew Dobbin	Cache	
October 15, 1827	William Ritchey	Mooney	
October 15, 1827	William Tucker	Mooney	
October 15, 1827	Joshua Kendrick	Mooney	
October 15, 1827	Jehiel Ashley	Mooney	
October 15, 1827	Henry Wiggins	Walnut	
October 15, 1827	Silas Pledger	Walnut	
October 23, 1827	John Tackett	Mooney	
October 15, 1827	John Sanford	St. Francis	
October 17, 1828	Hamilton Montgomery	St. Francis	
October 15, 1829	Peter Edwards	St. Francis	
October 15, 1829	George W. Ferebee	St. Francis	
October 15, 1829	Benjamin Burrass	St. Francis	

October 15, 1829	John R. Dye	Cache	
October 15, 1829	Joseph Robbins	Ft. Francis	
October 15, 1829	Austin Kendrick	Mooney	
October 15, 1829	Jehiel Ashley	Mooney	
October 15, 1829	Henry Wiggins	Walnut	
October 15, 1829	Silas Pledger	Walnut	
October 15, 1829	John Sanford	St. Francis	
October 15, 1829	Philip Crise	Cache	
November 29, 1829	Joseph Robins		
November 29, 1829	Austin Kendrick		
November 29, 1829	Peter Edwards		
November 29, 1829	Benjamin Burris		
November 29, 1829	Boyd Bayly		
November 29, 1829	Farris Montgomery		
November 29, 1829	John Sanford		
November 29, 1829	Thomas Smith		
November 29, 1829	Washington Martin		
November 29, 1829	James H. McKenzie		
November 29, 1829	George W. Ferebee		
November 29, 1829	William H. Calvert		
November 29, 1829	John Ward		
November 29, 1829	Richard Stanford		
November 29, 1829	James Lean Sr.		
November 29, 1829	Salis Pledger		
November 29, 1829	Henry Wiggins		
November 29, 1829	Francis Leister		
November 29, 1829	Henry Kimball		
November 29, 1829	Thomas Eldredge		
November 29, 1829	Austin Kendrick Sr.		
November 29, 1829	Jehial Ashley		
November 29, 1829	William Tucker		
November 29, 1829	Dodson Tharp		
November 29, 1829	Thomas Bland		
November 29, 1829	William Ritchey		
November 29, 1829	Nicholas Harwick		
November 29, 1829	James Halloway		
November 29, 1829	Joseph Jacobs		
November 29, 1829	William Ingrum		
November 29, 1829	James Clark		
November 29, 1829	Andrew Dobbins		
November 29, 1829	John R. Dye		
November 29, 1829	Philip Crise		

November 29, 1829	Robert McElmurry		
November 29, 1829	John Clark Montgomery		
November 5, 1831	Henry Wiggins		
November 5, 1831	Charles P. Smith		
November 5, 1831	Silas Pledger		
November 5, 1831	Henry Kimball		
November 5, 1831	William B. R. Horner		
November 5, 1831	George W. Ferebee		
November 5, 1831	Eli J. Lewis		
November 5, 1831	John Sanford		
November 5, 1831	William H. Calvert		
November 5, 1831	Benjamin Burress		
November 5, 1831	Peter Edwards		
November 5, 1831	William F. Moore		
November 5, 1831	Isaac Bower		
November 5, 1831	James Hanks		
November 5, 1831	Edwin T. Clark		
November 5, 1831	James H. McKinzie		
November 5, 1831	Dodson Thorp		
November 5, 1831	David H. Harris		
November 5, 1831	William Tucker		See below
November 5, 1831	Silas Drewry		
November 5, 1831	Elijah F. McNabb		See below
August 9, 1833	John W. Cooper		Replaced William Tucker, who had refused to serve
July 13, 1835	Tubman Jones		Replaced F. M. McNabb who refused to serve
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Eli J. Lewis		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	George W. Ferebee		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	John R. Sanford		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	William H. Calvert		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	George W. Martin		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Peter Edwards		

November 12, 1833 (sic)	James Fleming		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	John Hartin (sic)		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Enos Askew		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Henry Kimball		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Lardner Clark		“Ref’d” to serve January 24, 1835 (sic)
November 12, 1833 (sic)	James Hanks		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Samuel Swan		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Elijah McNabb		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Dodson Tharp		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	David Briggs		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Zimri Barney		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	John W. Cooper		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Samuel Horner		Deceased
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Fielden Offett		
November 12, 1833 (sic)	Robert W. Barnett		
May 23, 1834	Jones Clark		Appointed in the place of Samuel Horner
August 10, 1834	Fielden Offett		
February 1, 1835	H. L. Biscoe		Appointed in the place of Lander Clark

## EIGHTY-ONE TEXAS CSA DEATHS IN ARKANSAS, 1862

*by John G. Tarbell*

The following list of deaths of Texas Confederate soldiers mostly stationed in Arkansas, was published in the January 14, 1863 issue of the Little Rock, Arkansas, *True Democrat*, page 2, col. 4 and 5, MFILM News roll 422.

It contains the names of eighty-one men who served in Colonel Horace Randal's 28<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry, discounted, who died in 1862. Most of these soldiers were from Fairfield and Shelby counties in Texas.

Some of this information is not found in their individual military service records. For additional information see FOLD 3 database, "28<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry service records," Joseph H. Crute, *Units of the Confederate States* (1987), p. 339, and *Supplement to the Official Records- Serial No. 80 – part II Texas* (1998), pp. 227-239.

"Little Rock, Arkansas, Little Rock True Democrat,  
Camp Palarm, Conway Co., Arkansas  
Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

Mr. Editor: As your paper has a considerable circulation in Texas, I wish you to publish a list of the deaths in our Regiment, the 28<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry, (dismounted,) commanded by Col. Horace Randal.

Co. A.,

Capt. A. M. Fruit, Shelby Co., Texas.  
John H. Forbes, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1862, Lewisville, Ark.  
John M. Wright, Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>, Arkadelphia, Ark.  
Benj. F. Biggers, Corpl. Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, Arkadelphia, Ark.  
Henry Dunbar, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, Benton, Ark.  
L. P. Mathews, Forage Master, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> Rockport, Ark.  
J. B. Burne, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>., Camp Holmes, Ark.  
Newton J. Johnson, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>, Little Rock, Ark.  
David Finley, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, Camp Holmes, Ark.  
Geo. Woodfin, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, Des Arc, Ark.  
Henry Samplin, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson, (formerly Camp Holmes,) near Austin, Ark.  
J. C. Bowlin, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
Wm. Wagstaff, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
Nathan W. Mathews, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
T. Lafayette Risinger, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
Robt. Lewis, Little Rock, Ark.

Co. B.,

Capt. Pat. Henry, Cherokee Co., Texas.  
Eli Simmons, Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>, Lewisville, Ark.  
Robt. Lowe, Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Camp Holmes, Ark.  
Henry Cox, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, Camp Nelson, Ark.  
Wm. Hardaway, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
J. T. Loden, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, Camp Bayou Meto, near Brownsville, Ark.

Co. C.,

Capt. A. W. DeBerry, Panola Co., Texas, no deaths.

Co. D.,

Capt. M. Y. Smith, Smith Co., Texas.  
R. C. Beavers, Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>, Wood Co., Texas.  
Thos. Davis, Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>, Lewisville, Ark.  
J. A. Watson, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, Camp Holmes, Ark.

Co. E.,

Capt. O. M. Doty, Cherokee Co., Texas.

John Packer, Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, Lewisville, Ark..  
J. M. Buckalew, Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>, Lewisville.  
Robt. Williams, Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>  
A. L. Dillard, Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
J. M. Simpson, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson, Ark.  
Lieut. T. J. Dillard, Gaudalupe Y. Barbo, Little Rock.  
Co. F.,

Capt. Phil. Brown, Harrison Co., Texas.  
L. H. P. Taylor, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, Arkadelphia, Ark.  
Thos. J. Bennett, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson, Ark..  
R. E. Coggins, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
J. M. Burns, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
W. B. Cox, Arkadelphia.

Co. G.,

Capt. W. H. Tucker, Anderson Co., Texas.  
John Day, Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>, Anderson Co., Texas.  
J. R. Wilson, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, Camp Holmes.  
W. J. Turner, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, Rockport, Ark.  
Geo. Johnson, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, Des Arc, Ark.  
Jas. Douthit, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, Duval's Bluff, Ark.  
T. J. Glenn, Brig. Com. Serg't, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
S. G. Hammett, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
B. W. Davis, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
A. H. Hughes, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
J. M. Calaway, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
D. C. Holliman, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
W. J. Adams, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, Camp Nelson.

Co. H.,

Capt. J. C. Means, Freestone Co., Texas.  
Thos. B. Pharris, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, Camp Holmes, Ark.  
Steph. Warley, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, Rockport, Ark.  
Steph. Richards, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, Arkadelphia, Ark.  
D. R. Adkins, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Camp Holmes.  
Samson Isaacs, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
J. A. Douglass, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
A. G. Stephens, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>  
G. W. Harrison, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
L. W. Thompson, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>  
J. H. Bigger, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>  
W. L. Streety, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, Camp Bayou Meto, Ark.

Co. I.,

Capt. Jno. A. McLemore, Houston Co., Texas.  
Marion Turner, July 27<sup>th</sup>, Lewisville, Ark.  
Abner Luce, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Camp Nelson, Ark.  
Wm. S. Vaughan, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.  
John D. Gordon, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>

Henry Sikes, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>  
Henry Creamer, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Sam F. Sansom, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>  
J. L. Taylor, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>  
J. J. Gregg, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, Little Rock, Ark.  
Wm. Adley, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, Little Rock.  
T. L. Simpson, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>  
Jas. Busby, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>  
J. W. McHenry, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>  
J. H. Mills, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson, Ark.  
J. S. Hallmark, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, Little Rock, Ark.

Co. K.,

Capt. M. T. Hoskins, Panola Co., Texas, formerly Capt. P. H. Martin, Shelby Co., Texas.  
F. M. Potts, July 31<sup>st</sup>, Collinsburgh, La.  
J. M. Pyle, Aug. 16<sup>th</sup>, Lewisville, Ark.  
Dan. E. King, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, Lewisville.  
A. C. Yates, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, Camp Holmes, Ark.  
Pat. H. Martin, Captain, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Camp Nelson, Ark.  
G. W. Pryor, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, Arkadelphia, Ark.  
J. V. Guinn, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, Hickory Plains, Ark.  
W. F. Parish, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>, Camp Nelson.

WM. NEAL RAINEY, A. Adjt.  
Col. Randal's Reg't, 28<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry."

## NO PLACE IN HELL FOR MARCUS NEWTON SHELTON

*By Jayne Munnerlyn Spears<sup>1</sup>*

Early in 2018, I was searching for a possible obituary for my great grandfather, Marcus Newton "Joe" Shelton who passed away in Cleveland County Arkansas, on January 14, 1901. I was seeking information to use in an application for a lineage group. To my surprise, I found several interesting articles in area newspapers from late summer 1902, but no obituary. However, I believe what I found was much more interesting.

The first article was on page 4 in the August 8, 1902, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, *Pine Bluff Daily Graphic*, entitled, "A Confused Correspondent." It contained a communication from Francis M. Smith of Brooks, Arkansas, on the sensational tale printed in the *Graphic's* recent article about Joe Shelton's dying, coming to life, and dying again after three days spent in riding over the country on a mule telling his friends that he had been to hell.

The write states that it does not possess the merit of a "good snake story." Such stories are played out and are more stale than the almanacs, but a story that sends a man to hades and then brings him back again for three days so that he may tell his friends what the place is like is something quite of out the ordinary. and while no rational person is expected to believe the yarn, it affords a change from the usual dog days [of summer] news items for the weekly paper in the small town.

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<sup>1</sup> Contact the author at jayne.spears58@gmail.com.

Mr. Smith seems to forget that the story was printed originally in the *Princetonian* and was credited to that paper by the *Graphic*, hence it is the editor of the *Princetonian* that Francis wants to go after for writing “A tale unworthy of space in a respectable newspaper.” Francis has evidently gone wrong all along the line in this matter. Francis says “Markus” N. Shelton, nicknamed “Joe”, died at his home near Brooks in Cleveland County in January 1901.

Then, Francis is certainly talking about one person and the *Princetonian* another. “The Joe Shelton that newspaper talked about did not reside near Brooks, but at White Oak. He died first time only a few weeks ago and three days later he died a second time, hence could not be the Shelton who died in 1901.”

If there is any malice in the item as printed in the *Princetonian* and reported in the *Graphic*, the *Graphic* has no knowledge of it. There was certainly none on the part of the *Graphic* and Francis should direct the complaint to the *Princetonian*.

Francis says, “Note that Shelton had been dead over a year and a half before this tale was told on him. “How does Francis know this tale was told on Marcus N. Shelton, of Brooks, and not Joe Shelton of White Oak, who is alleged to have had a dual death a few weeks ago?”

Come off, Francis; come off.”

This article was followed on Friday, August 14, 1902 by one entitled “CLOSED INCIDENT. So far as the *Graphic* is Concerned—Neighbors of the Late Joe Shelton make a signed statement for publication. Near White Oak, Ark., Aug 1902. To the Editor of the *Graphic*: ‘We, the undersigned, were well acquainted with Marcus N. Shelton, familiarly called Joe Shelton. We often saw him during his late illness. He died January 1901 and his neighbor, W. I. Jagers, conducted the burial services.

We are indignant at the late infamous tale which has been published in Pine Bluff papers and others. We have never heard of that tale before and we know it to be false and a cowardly attempt to slander his family. [Signed by] J. W. Flynn, Willie M. Cochrane, Graves Appling, W. A. Gates, G. W. Stover, E. M. Lambertson, Chas. Beck, S. B. Green, C. C. Varnell and fifty three others.”

As the *Graphic* has already stated, the article it printed was taken from the *Princetonian*, published in Princeton, Arkansas, giving due credit to that paper. The editors and publishers of the *Graphic* did not know the late Mr. Shelton personally or otherwise, and they did not know any members of his family.

In fact, the editor presumed the Joe Shelton mentioned by the *Princetonian* was only a fictitious character, hence no malice whatever on his part at the time the *Princetonian* story was reprinted in his paper and “there is none now, and the *Graphic* does not knowingly permit the slandering of people in its columns, consequently this matter becomes a closed incident so far as the *Graphic* is concerned and it will print no more statements with reference to the affair.”

The above transcribed article was printed on the front page of the *Graphic*. The tale did not end there. On Saturday, August 23, 1902, another similar article was published, this was on page one of the *St. Tammany Farmer*, published in Covington Louisiana.

“A Singular Incident. The Amite<sup>2</sup> city papers last week gave a remarkable account of a lady in that parish who recently died and then came back to life again and told of how she went to heaven and what she saw there, etc. As the story is quite long and most of the people have heard the particulars, we will not reproduce it, but will give a recent occurrence that happened near Pine Bluff, Ark., and is vouched for by the Princeton, (Ark.) *Princetonian*: ‘A singular incident is reported near White Oak in Cleveland County.

About three weeks ago Joe Shelton, who has been living in White Oak township for the past twenty-five year and who is known far and near because of the prominent part he has played in the courts of his country for years, laid down and died just as other people sometimes do and remained dead long enough for a wagon to be sent to Pine Bluff for a coffin. There is nothing very strange about this.

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<sup>2</sup> A town in Mississippi.



But he rose up a few minutes before that time for him to take his departure to the cemetery and mounted his mule and rode all over the neighborhood and told all his friends that he had been to hell, and that the place was so crowded there was no vacancy for him, and Satan instructed him to return to his body and that he would be called again in three days. At the expiration of three days, he died again – and was still dead when last heard from.”

Efforts done on-line to locate the actual original article in the *Princetonian* were not successful. That newspaper began publishing in 1894 and continued until 1905 when it merged with another newspaper in Fordyce. As for Francis M. Smith, the one I was able to locate in census records was born in 1812 in Virginia, making him 90 years when his writing was published in 1902. One other reference to him was in June 1902 stating that he was among other teachers at a meeting in Hot Springs and was listed as teaching in Brooks, Arkansas.

My great grandfather, Marcus Newton Shelton and his twin sister, Sarah Lila Shelton, were born October 19, 1831, in either Greenville, South Carolina or Haywood County, North Carolina, to Martin Van Buren Shelton and Tobitha Minerva Moore. His tombstone has his birthplace as Haywood County, North Carolina, but most people list South Carolina. By 1860, the entire family had relocated to Paulding County, Georgia. Marcus served as a private during the Civil War with Company C, 22<sup>nd</sup> Georgia Infantry from January 30, 1862, until he mustered out on February 27, 1865. He married Zilphia Jane Kennedy on December 20, 1866, in Paulding County, Georgia. They began their family and moved to Cleveland County Arkansas by the early 1870s, I suspect following Zilphia’s father. Marcus and Zilphia reared eight children, one of which being my great grandmother, Tobitha Vaughn Shelton.

He died on January 14, 1901, at Staves in Cleveland County Arkansas, and was buried at the Wilson Cemetery. I am certain that Marcus Newton “Joe” Shelton could have told many tales about his life. I seriously doubt that he died, went to hell and came back. I am, however, thankful that he came to Arkansas to settle.

## THE SAD DEATH OF STEPHEN P. BAKER

*By Russell P. Baker*

The following obituary was published in the Little Rock, Arkansas, *Arkansas Methodist*, June 8, 1893, p.7, col. 2.<sup>1</sup> Stephen Pelzer Baker, not to be confused with his grandfather or a cousin with the same name, was born September 23, 1867, the child of Civil War veteran, Patrick Henry Baker and his first wife, Mary Susan Smith, at Rock Creek, Pike County, Arkansas. Shortly before his birth, his parents and other members of his family moved to the northeastern corner of Pike County from Columbia County, Arkansas. Their new home is now part of Glenwood, Arkansas. His mother, Mary Susan, had tuberculosis, an illness that prompted her family to relocate from the flat, swampy lands of southern Arkansas to the mountains and valleys along the Caddo River. At the time, clean mountain air and good water was touted as possible cures of this dread scourge. His second child, James Maderson (Matt) Baker, was born at Rock Creek on October 2, 1869. However, the good air and clean cool water did not slow the progress of Mary’s disease.

She died November 2, 1874, shortly after giving birth to her last two children, the twins Walter M. and Vergie Baker, who were born May 1, 1874. She was buried in the old Palmer’s Chapel Cemetery near her home. Soon after her death, her husband married his second wife, Elizabeth Jane McMillan. By her, he fathered twelve additional children. None of Mary Susan’s children married, except Vergie. All of them would eventually succumb to tuberculosis.

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<sup>1</sup> Roll MG06875 in the microfilm collections of the Arkansas State Archives.

“S. P. Baker was born in Pike Co, Ark. Sept. 23, 1867 and departed this life at Amity, Clark Co., Ark. April 21, 1893. He was converted and joined the M. E. Church, South, in 1886.<sup>2</sup> He loved the Church, always, manifesting great interest in its progress, holding it as sacred and above everything else. He was a dear lover of the Sunday-school, prompt in filling his place both as scholar and teacher.

He was a student of Hendrix College [in Conway, Arkansas] in the years 1889, '90. '91. While there he was a member of the U. M. C. A. After leaving college [he] adopted the profession of law, and displayed a fine legal talent; in fact he was a young man of more than ordinary ability. Although he had been a suffered [of Tuberculosis] for months, the end was sudden and unexpected.

[He] having spent a pleasant evening with his Aunt, Mrs. [Martha] Richardson, at supper with the family, but on leaving was taken with hemorrhage of the lungs and in fifteen or twenty minutes his earthly career was ended, his suffering over, the debt paid, death had claimed him as its victim.<sup>3</sup>

I visited him several times during his illness, always found him cheerful and uncomplaining. He bore his affections with that meekness that characterizes the followers of our blessed Lord. His mother having proceeded him to the bettered world, he leaves a father, stepmother, brothers, sisters, and a host of relatives and friends to mourn their loss...

All that is mortal of Bro. Baker now sleeps in the [Palmer's Chapel] cemetery at Rock Creek, Ark., awaiting the resurrection morn.

C. W. Drake.”

## ARKANSAS GENEALOGICAL QUERIES

AGS members may submit as many free Arkansas genealogical queries for publication in this quarterly as they wish during the year. The queries will appear in the order in which they are received. Each should relate to an Arkansas family or location. Be sure to mention the county or region of Arkansas where the family lived, as well as full names and dates. In addition, submitters must include contact information and email address, if possible. Follow the format used below. Mail your queries to AGS, P. O. Box 26374, Little Rock, Arkansas 72221-6374. *Please print clearly.*

**Story-Scroggins-Shipp:** Looking for information on Georgia Ann Story, born December 1850 in Arkansas. Her mother was a Scroggins. Her father might have been either a Shipp or a Story. DNA indicates that he was a Shipp. *Carol Katzenmeyer, 2667 Esther Lane, Grants Pass, Oregon 97527, katzmeow39@gmail.com.*

**Stewart-Beard:** Need information on John R. Stewart (1861-1902) and his wife Laura Beard (1893-). He was born in Kentucky and lived in Greene, Clay, and Randolph counties in Arkansas. John and Laura were married in Greene County. *Lisa Kujawa, 14751 N. 100E., Macy, Indiana 46951, mkujawa@wildblue.net*

**McFerran-Bumpers:** Searching for relatives of the following families in Franklin County, Arkansas, Samuel McFerran, Kenneth Ray McFerran, Sheila Kay McFerran, and possibly Dale Bumpers. *James B. McFerran, 825 K. Kenwood Road, Texarkana, Texas 75501-2622, jmferran@cablone.net.*

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<sup>2</sup> That is the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

<sup>3</sup> According to Mrs. Ada Hubbert Baker, this man's sister-in-law, tuberculosis often claimed its victims in the spring, “when the sap was running.”

**Rogers-Forster:** Seeking information on the family of Adenstone Rogers, who was born in York or Goochland County, Virginia, moved to Campbell County, Kentucky, and then to Cape Girardeau, Missouri. By 1806, he was in what is now Arkansas County and died there two years later. Elizabeth Rogers was his wife. He was the father of some eight children. One daughter, Rhoda Rogers married Jacob Forster. Later his children lived in Conway, Pulaski, and Arkansas counties. *Eleanor Rogers Edmondson, 2803 Bryon Ave, Odessa, Texas 79762, genpic1968@att.net.*

**Johnson:** Seeking information on Jim Johnson born 1870 and lived near Waldron, Scott County, Arkansas. He was the father of Robert Lee Johnson born in 1892, in Scott County. *Perry W. Johnson, 3905 N E Cadbury Ave., Bentonville, Arkansas 72712, pwjohnson1966@gmail.com.*

**Johnston-Deed:** Seeking information on Rev. Michael David Johnston (1829-1903), who came from Texas to Polk County, Arkansas, about 1885. He was probably a minister for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His daughter, Sarah Jane Johnston married Frederick Pierce Deen. She sang at churches where her father preached. She died between 1895 and 1900. She was the mother of several children. Rev. Michael died in 1903 and is buried in Valliant, Oklahoma. *Kay Johnston, 58891 E. 301 Lane, Grove, Oklahoma 74344, lakehouse1952@att.net.*

**Martin-Walters:** Seeking information on father, Ezekiel Martin, born April 24, 1890, in southern Arkansas. Also, his grandfather, Henry William Martin, born in 1856, Auburn, Gwinnett County, Georgia, died in 1892 in Arkansas. Also, his wife, Sarah Ellen Walters Martin. *James L. Martin, 520 Jack Dr., Covington, Louisiana 70433, gramps05@gmail.com.*

**Abraham-Kener-**Need information on the African American family of Casper Abraham, born 1817 in South Carolina, was in Miller County, Arkansas, as early as 1878. He shows up on a Miller County poll tax receipt in 1893. In 1904, His daughter, Mary Abraham married Eliza Kener. *Sharon L. Henderson-Nichols, 3233 Storer Ave., Oakland, California 94619, shaybnf@sbcglobal.net.*

**McDaniel-**Seeking information on Amanda McDaniel, who lived in Yell and Perry counties in Arkansas from 1860s-1900s. *Sarah Robinson, 5230 Nickletown Road, Huntington, Arkansas 72940, srob0319@gmail.com.*

## BOOK AND PUBLICATION REVIEWS

The Arkansas Genealogical Society welcomes opportunities to review new and reprinted books, pamphlets, and other publications relating to genealogy, family history, local and community history, especially those concerning Arkansas and southern locations, families, and events. Send review copies to AGS at P. O. Box 26374, Little Rock, Arkansas 72221-6374. Be sure to include complete pricing and ordering information with each item. After review, volumes will be passed along to the Arkansas State Archives in Little Rock or other suitable institutions.

Sunny Jane Morton and Harold A. Henderson, *How to Find Your Family History In U.S Church Records: A Genealogist's Guide* (2019), soft cover, 143 pages, maps, illustrations, charts, and a full name index. This new volume should be of particular interest to Southern genealogists.

Family history is a very popular hobby among those who live in the South. However, researching ancestors who lived in this region can be difficult at best. One of the most serious problems is the destruction of vast quantities of local and county records during the Civil War. This is why all who seek information on early American ancestors, especially those who lived in our region, should familiarize themselves with the amazing kinds of genealogical information often found in United States church and religious records. These include material on births, deaths, family relationships, baptisms, marriages, etc. Although not specific to one region, this well written and well-presented work is designed to acquaint both beginner and advanced researchers with these often arcane and overlooked records. The authors display a thorough knowledge in locating, using, and understand such records. It is richly illustrated with samples of many original documents. Part I deals with basics such as what's in church records, how to identify one's ancestor's church, how to find and order church records, etc. Part II discusses in some detail the kinds of records kept by most major American denominations and gives hints on how to go about locating and understanding existing records. It is a volume destined to take its place in the personal reference library of many discerning American genealogists. The price is \$29.95 plus postage and handling. Order from Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, Maryland. Visit its website at [www.genealogical.com](http://www.genealogical.com) for additional information.

Dr. Jason S. Ulsperger, Kristen Kloss Ulsperger, and Kayla Osborne, *On the Edge of the Ozarks: Oral Histories from the Arkansas River Valley* (2013), 115 plus pages, soft cover. At its heart, genealogy is about preserving the personal history of one's ancestors. In this pursuit, locating an individual's life story is an important find. Unfortunately, most people pass away with their personal stories untold. Yes, we can reconstruct many of the events of their lives using basic genealogical sources. However, these often give us only dry facts that rarely allow us to peer deeply into the heart and soul of an ancestor. To counter this loss, the author, a native of Arkansas and a faculty member at Arkansas Tech University at Russellville, Arkansas, and his students have collected and preserved the reminiscences of fifteen older living residents of the Arkansas River Valley and northwest Arkansas in this little publication. Each transcribed interview is in a classic oral history format with the interviewer, one or more students, asking the questions and the interviewee talking about his/her life in an often frank and open manner. One can but hope that this will be the first in a series of such volumes that preserve the oral history of the people of our state. Accolades to Dr. Ulsperger and his students for preserving these stories for future generations. For ordering information, contact Xlibris LLC at [www.Xlibris.com](http://www.Xlibris.com) or call 1-888-795-4274.

## ARKANSAS ANCESTRY CERTIFICATES

Our popular *AGS Certificates of Arkansas Ancestry* are still available to all qualified readers. Membership in AGS is not required. Everyone with early Arkansas roots is encouraged to apply. Visit our website at <http://www.agsgenealogy.org/ancestrycert/default.html> for instructions, fees, and downloadable application forms. Follow the directions on the forms. Email [AskAGS@agsgenealogy.org](mailto:AskAGS@agsgenealogy.org) with your questions. For best results submit no more than three applications at a time.

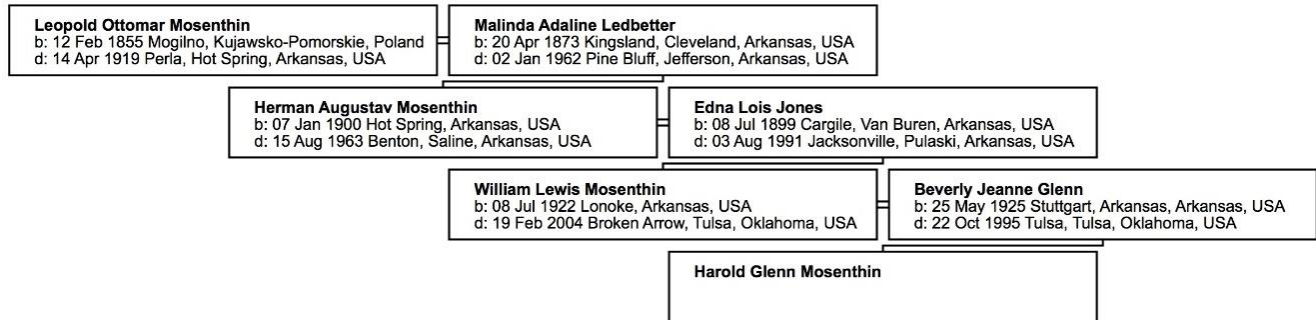
### *Certificates are available for the following categories:*

- *Colonial*--For an ancestor who resided in Arkansas prior to January 1, 1804.
- *Territorial*--For an ancestor who resided in Arkansas prior to June 15, 1836.
- *Antebellum*--For an ancestor who resided in Arkansas prior to May 6, 1861.

- *Civil War Ancestry*--For an ancestor who served in a Confederate or Union Arkansas unit between 1861 and 1865, or applied for an Arkansas Confederate pension, or whose widow applied for a pension, or a Union soldier or soldier's widow who applied for a U.S. pension while living in Arkansas.
- *Nineteenth Century*--For an ancestor who resided in Arkansas prior to December 31, 1900.

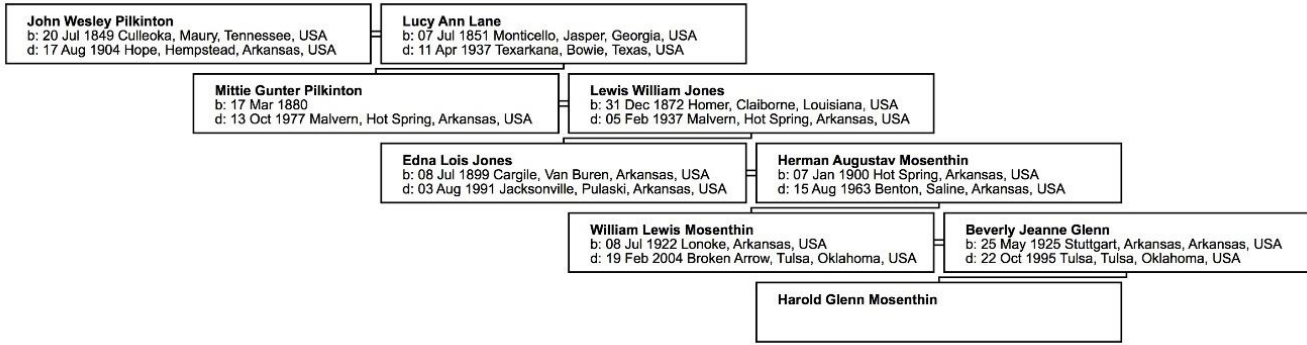
**Arkansas 19<sup>th</sup> Century Ancestry Certificate  
for Harold Glenn Mosenthin**  
*1024 Hope Ln., Searcy, AR 72143*  
*870-710-1240, hgmosenthin@gmail.com*

**Harold Glenn Mosenthin** received a Certificate of Arkansas Ancestry for the 19<sup>th</sup> Century period based on documentation submitted for his 19<sup>th</sup> Century ancestor. **Leopold Ottomar Mosenthin**, who was in **Hot Spring** County, Arkansas, prior to December 31, 1900.



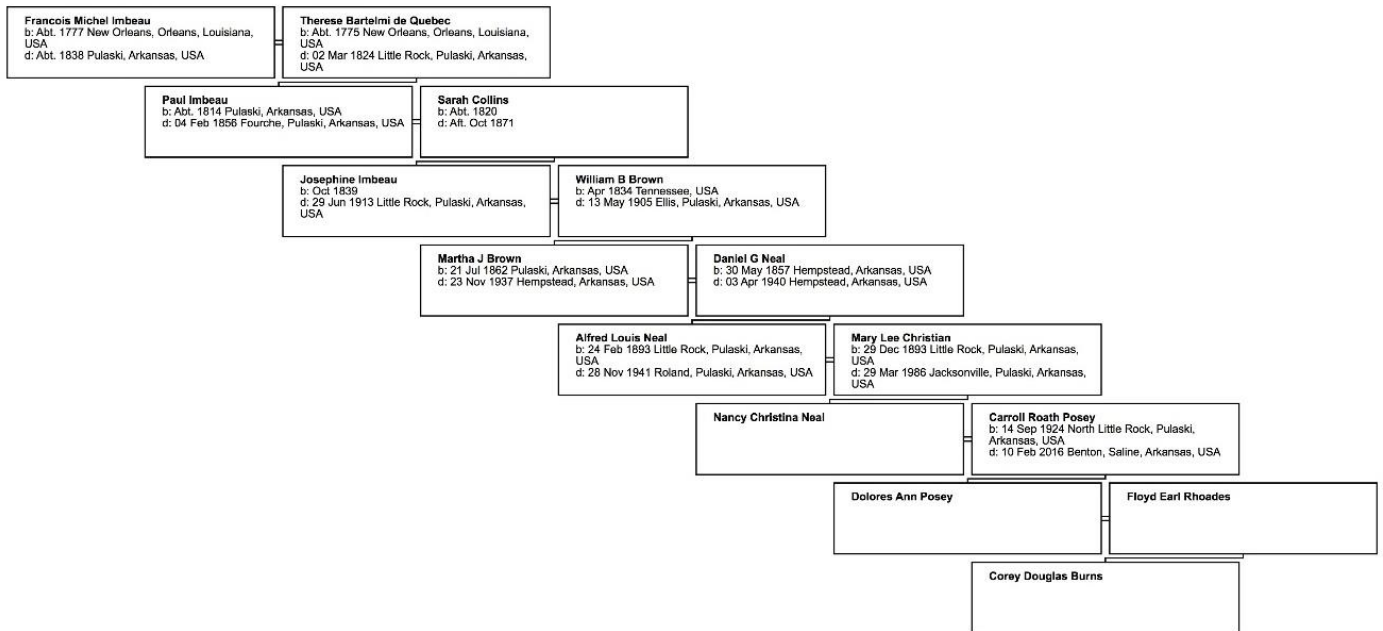
**Arkansas Civil War Ancestry Certificate,  
for Harold Glenn Mosenthin**  
*1024 Hope Ln.*  
*Searcy, AR 72143*  
*870-710-1240, hgmosenthin@gmail.com*

**Harold Glenn Mosenthin** received a Certificate of Arkansas Ancestry for the Civil War period based on documentation submitted for his Civil War ancestor, **John Wesley Pilkinton**, who served in an Arkansas **Confederate** unit during the American Civil War 1861–1865 or a veteran who received a Civil War pension (Union) while living in the State of Arkansas.



**Arkansas Colonial Ancestry Certificate,  
for Corey Douglas Burns**  
*183 Courts Ln., Little Rock, AR 72223*  
*501-448-2335, cdburns183@gmail.com*

**Corey Douglas Burns** received a Certificate of Arkansas Ancestry for the Colonial period based on documentation submitted for his colonial ancestor, **Jean Baptiste Imbeau**, who was in Arkansas County, Arkansas, prior to January 1, 1804.



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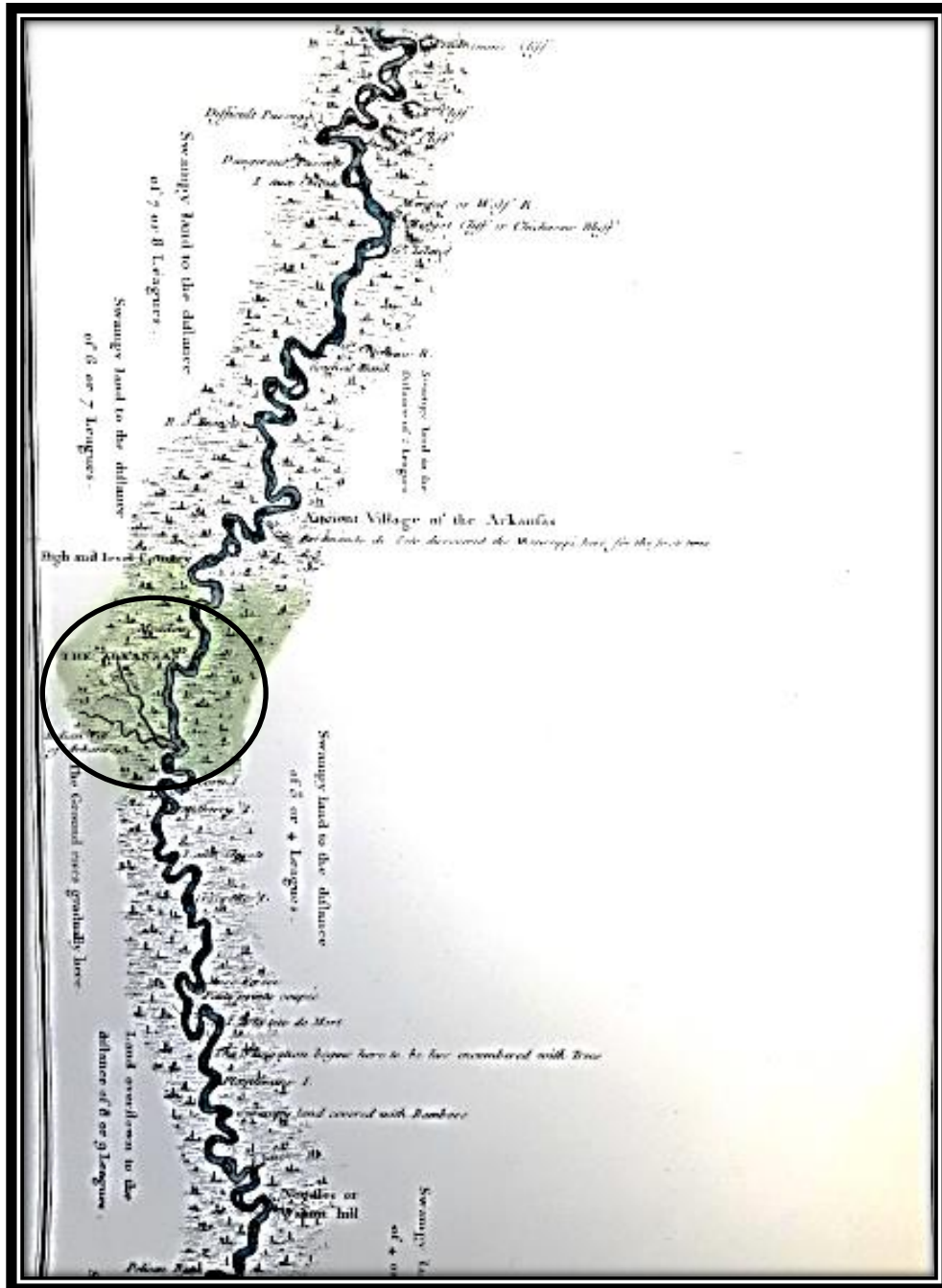
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**Arkansas's 75  
counties**





“A map of the Course of the Mississippi, 1796”



Taken from a section of a map of part of the Mississippi River said to date from 1796 by George Callot and P. F. Tardieu. The mouth of the Arkansas River is circled.

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