



Garrison Avenue . . . Belly Deep in Mud (1870)



Garrison Avenue . . . The Red Brick Road (circa 1907)

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The JOURNAL

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COVER: Garrison Avenue, 1870 (photo courtesy of Jim and Alice Dew) and Garrison Avenue, circa 1907.

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Editor's Notes

Mark your calendar now for TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 7:00 PM, and plan to attend the ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY in the Railroad Chair Car at the Fort Smith Trolley Museum, 100 South 4th Street. There will be a program by Guy Nichols, National Historic Site ranger, with a business meeting, refreshments and a visit to the Trolley Museum afterward. Guests are welcome — so bring your friends, too. Ballot for election of board members is inserted in front of this *Journal*. Please complete and mail or bring ballot to annual meeting.

It is with sadness that we report to you the death of our board member and corresponding secretary, Leonna Belle Cotner on November 7, 1989.

Pat Birkett, who has served as recording secretary in the past, is now corresponding secretary to answer inquiries and requests for information.

The Fort Smith Historical Society has received \$1,000 from the estate of Helen Foristell Southard, a charter member and supporter of our Society from its beginning. We appreciate her thoughtfulness and continued support of our work through this gift.

This issue of *The Journal*, in addition to regular features, focuses on brick plants, stone quarries, paving streets (particularly Garrison Ave.), builders in Fort Smith and others instrumental in paving streets, including Asa Clark, Isaiah W. Bruce, Jesse Reed, James Reed, Annabelle Pilgrim whose father was R.L. Pilgrim (a brick maker), Dr. Joseph Gilbert Eberle (a paving commissioner for paving district number one - Garrison Avenue), William F. Farrior (Fort Smith street commissioner), and Mayor Fagan Bourland.

Our associate editor, Sarah Fitzjarrald, has done an indepth study of the subject in her article "Blocks and Stone and the Red Brick Road". The story of Asa Bruce Clark, builder who owned the first stone quarry and brick plant in Fort Smith, was written by Larey Dane Clark, his great-great grandson.

Our thanks to all who assisted with the compilation of this material, especially Larey Clark, Coly Clark, Mrs. George Shankle, Beverly Palmer Mitchell, Guy Nichols, Catie Fenn, Roger Coleman, Angie Carter, Mary Campbell, Janie Glover, Gordon Kelley, Roy Tipton, Carroll West, Bradley Martin, Wanda Karrant, Gail Underwood, Billie Bair, Charles Winters, Margaret Ann Barber, Annabelle Pilgrim, Bernice Cole and Bob Rice.

Would you like to write for *The Journal*? All manuscripts on Fort Smith History considered for publication. Need a subject? Call Amelia Martin, 783-1237 or Sarah Fitzjarrald McCullough, 646-9542, or write to Fort Smith Historical Society, c/o Fort Smith Public Library, 61 South 8th Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901, attention Amelia Martin.

If you see the name of a friend or the friend's family in *The Journal*, your friend would be glad to know it. Spread the word — tell your friend — or better yet, buy a copy of that issue of *The Journal* and give it to your friend.

[illegible]

Blocks and Stone and the Red Brick Road

Sarah Fitzjarrald

Fort Smith has always been blessed with an abundant supply of building materials — pine and hardwood trees, formations of sedimentary sandstone and rich clay deposits suitable for brick manufacture.

On the grounds of the Fort Smith National Historic Site are the stone foundation of one of the earliest structures built at the first fort (1817-24); the old commissary building, finished about 1850; and the brick barracks building, finished about 1891 (after several alterations when it was first built about 1851). The barracks building is now our familiar "Judge Parker's Court House".

In 1838, when Captain Charles W. Thomas went to Bangor, Maine, to recruit laborers and technicians to build the second fort¹ he brought with him a very remarkable man, Asa Clark. (See accompanying story.)

Clark would become Fort Smith's first brick and stonemason. For several years he owned the only brick works and stone quarry in town. It is quite possible that he helped build, or was the overseer in the construction of, the commissary and the barracks building. It is noted in passing that the bricks on the lower (original) part of the Court House (1851) show less erosion and seem more durable than those on the upper part of the structure. It is doubtful that Clark had a part in the latter construction since he died in 1890.

Incidentally, the stone used in building the commissary was quarried at Belle Point, practically on site.²

For many years after Fort Smith was incorporated as a town in 1842, the community's fate was tied to that of the Arkansas River and the weather. When the water level in the river was extremely low the steamboats could not bring goods and supplies upriver, thereby depressing the economy. During rainy seasons construction slowed and the town was literally bogged down. On the river front the roads were stabilized by board planks.³

In 1850, the town council contracted with Asa Clark "to build a wharf 900 feet in length... a huge log crib, to be filled with rock, with a top layer of earth."⁴ But the council ran out of money and it was not finished. Clark later built his own wharf at the foot of Mulberry Street (North B).⁵ (That would place it almost directly across Clayton Expressway, slightly north of Miss Laura's Social Club.)

Stone quarrying and stone masonry have always had an important place in the building of Fort Smith, and the industry is still alive and well. Gordon Kelley, whose grandfather, Harry E., and father, Leigh Kelley, were active and contributing citizens to the well-being of the community, relates some of the history of the quarries.

The Kelley family, at one time or another, owned three quarries. The oldest one she remembers is located between Johnson Street and Birnie Avenue (extended), southwest of the old cotton compress. The stone from there was very hard and she believes that the curbstones on Garrison Avenue might have come from there. A beautiful hilltop at the site overlooks the Arkansas River and it would be an outstanding home site, except that it looks down on the rendering plant (and its smell). Also interesting is that a railroad track went in to the quarry and Gordon remembers that it was called the "crusher track", implying that there was a rock crusher there.

Another quarry owned by the Kelley family is the one between North O and Q Streets, east of May Avenue. Leigh Kelley and S.E. Evans operated the quarry and rock crusher during the late 1920's and early 1930's, but it was not a financial success. The Arkola Sand and Gravel Company, however, is now doing a thriving business there.

The third quarry owned by a member of the Kelley family has an interesting story behind it. Located on East Rogers Avenue, Gordon believes that rock taken from there was used in the building of Camp Chaffee (now Fort Chaffee) in the 1940's. It was used in road building and taken to Chaffee where there was a rock crusher. This was only one of the projects which were supplied with stone from this site.

When quarrying at the site ceased, a beautiful small lake was created. Lined by rock on bottom and sides, the water was clear, blue and inviting. Sheltered from view of the Rogers Avenue traffic by trees, it became a favorite swimming hole. Fire trucks were also taken there for practice pumping and as late as the 1970's scuba divers explored it.

Finally, the Kelley family requested that the State Health Department test its water, and much to their relief it was closed down.

What makes this particular quarry most interesting is that Central Mall, our largest shopping center, sits directly over the former lake (filled in, of course).

Quarries, or former quarry sites, are all over town. The lake at Carol Ann Cross Park is an old quarry pit.

We take all these things casually, only occasionally being reminded of what they meant to our city, not to mention the very old and beautiful stone buildings and homes we see almost every day — the old commissary, "Marble Hall" at Garrison Avenue and Third Street, and the Joseph Knoble brewery at North 3rd Street and E Street, to name a few.

During the early years the small town of Fort Smith continued to grow and prosper, benefiting from the Fort and the Arkansas River traffic, in spite of the distressing conditions of poor drainage and near impassable streets.

In early December, 1877, the *New Era*, local newspaper, noted, "Our streets are... a positive disgrace... not only is Garrison Avenue... after every rain a perfect swamp... but nearly every other street has become dangerous... and positively impassable."⁶

In early February, 1878, two months later, the same newspaper reported, "... the streets... wretched beyond description. Indeed so notorious has this fact become, that popular indignation found vent in keen and well deserved satire; and no little amusement was created one day last week when there was seen in a large pool near the business center of the street a pair of muddy boots sticking out of the water, soles up, as if their owner had gone down, head foremost."⁷

By 1879, the population was 5,000 and the streets still "were in a deplorable condition, which doesn't help passengers in buggies that frequently are hurled pell mell down streets by runaway horses."⁸

Mud and dust were not the only street problems. In the spring of 1881, Garrison Avenue, as well as streets in other parts of town, were overrun by cattle, horses and hogs.⁹

The brick works were coming into their own and about the same time the local newspaper carried a brief announcement, "Mr. Geo. H. Williams will soon have his wonderful brick machine running... The machine turns out about 25,000 bricks per hour."¹⁰ Mr. Roy Tipton, manager of Acme Brick Company of Fort Smith, says there was a mistake, either in printing or reporting, since 2500 bricks per hour would have been more likely, if that many.

But at least the weather was dry and allowed for the construction of new brick buildings in the business district.¹¹

There was practically no improvement in street conditions for the next two or three years.

The first mule drawn street cars made their appearance in 1883. (See the Streetcar Story in the September, 1979, issue of the *Journal*.) There had been growth in the population and there were some 7,000 citizens in the town.

Guttering of Garrison Avenue was done in 1884 but it was not a rousing success. Another Fort Smith newspaper, the *Elevator*, reported in January, 1885, "The streets of this city are in worse condition than we have ever seen them." However, in the same story the editor praised the city council for doing more than any other council had done before, and further offered, "The grumblers will find, if they take the trouble to investigate, that there is not a paved street in Little Rock, and her streets are in much worse condition than ours..."¹²

The following May (1885) welcomed the first electric lights to Fort Smith, and many businesses on the Avenue were supplied with them.¹³

The new year, 1886, found the city council arranging to put stepping stone crossings on about fifty street crossings running north and south, at bids for \$2.00 per crossing.¹⁴

But the city council could hardly please anybody. Only two months later the *Elevator* noted wryly, "The stepping stones at the corners of the streets are just a little treacherous. If one does not measure his steps exactly, he is apt to measure his length emphatically."¹⁵

The item of the year, 1887, noted that "Little Rock has begun paving her principal streets."¹⁶

A very momentous meeting took place in Fort Smith on February 21, 1888. The *Elevator* carried the story.¹⁷ A call had gone out for interested citizens to meet and discuss the paving of Garrison Avenue. The rooms in the Chamber of Commerce were packed. Col. Wm. M. Cravens presided over the meeting and Martin Theurer officiated as secretary. The discussion involved paving with native stone at a cost of \$25,000. The group was inclined in favor of stone. But the scheme of paving with brick also received much attention, and a committee was appointed to investigate the different methods and report back as to their efficacy. The committee consisted of Wm. Breen, W.N. Ayers, W.J. Johnson, H.E. Kelley, Frank Parks, C.E. Bocquin, and G.T. Sparks.¹⁸

Committee reports and preparation seemed extremely slow. In May, 1889, the editor of the *Elevator* was urging the paving commission to "get to work as soon as possible and let the people know what you intend to do."¹⁹

On June 21, 1889, the *Fort Smith Elevator* reported that the oath administered to J.A. Hoffman, Harry E. Kelley and Dr. J.G. Eberle as paving commissioners for Paving District No. 1 was irregular, in that it omitted a clause required by Section 29 of the city charter, and to correct this defect, the city council adopted a resolution that the paving commission be unanimously re-elected.

Finally, from the *Arkansas Gazette*, July 15, 1889, datelined Fort Smith — "Fort Smith is rejoicing over the letting of the contract to have Garrison Avenue, her main business thoroughfare, paved with brick. W.A. Dagle of Kalamazoo, Michigan, secured the contract at \$1.86 per square yard. The Avenue is about one mile long and 120 feet wide and the job amounts to \$96,000."²⁰

However, less than eleven years later, on February 6, 1901, the *Fort Smith Times* newspaper noted simply, "The brick paving is in very bad condition."

Later that year, in June, the city council passed an ordinance requiring the owners of wheeled vehicles — carts, buggies, carriages, surries, delivery wagons and other vehicles — to pay licenses.²¹

A month earlier the council had passed an ordinance requiring "sidewalk construction of stone flagging, dressed smooth, at least 2" thick, not less than 4 feet in width, or of hand burned paving brick, thirty days from date, by owners of property fronting or along said sidewalks" (business district).²²

Incidentally, stone curbing thought to have been laid by Asa Clark can still be seen on Garrison Avenue from about Sixth Street westward to the bridge, still serving its purpose. And on the southeast corner of Garrison Avenue and Second Street, butted up against the brick building is still the flagstone pavement, somewhat the worse for wear after more than one hundred years' use, but mostly intact, serving its purpose and probably installed by Asa Clark.

One would think, and we feel sure Fort Smithians expected, that brick paving with an expenditure of almost \$100,000 to have longer durability than was proved.

Ironically, on July 11, 1890, the *Fort Smith Elevator* carried a small item, "... Paving of the Avenue was resumed Monday morning. The brick from the last kiln seems to be of an extraordinary fine quality..."

On August 8, 1902, the *Elevator* reported, "The Board of Public Affairs met Monday and awarded McCloud and Anderson a contract for furnishing the city 100,000 brick for street repairs. The price is \$9.50 per 1000."

An interesting sidelight appears in the minutes of the city council meeting on December 3, 1903.²³ An ordinance was passed for improving the bridge at 21st and B Streets. (Have you noticed the hump at that crossing? Guy Nichols, park ranger at the National Historic Site, recalls reading that there used to be a branch there. Ed.)

Also on that date the city council passed an ordinance recommended by the Board of Public Affairs — "that the expense of the quarrying, loading and transportation of the stone from Stillwell in the Indian Territory (Oklahoma) to Fort Smith shall be borne by the City of Fort Smith."²⁴

This seems highly unusual in view of the fact that Fort Smith has always been surrounded, as heretofore noted, by stone quarries.

Several reasons come to mind as to why the original brick paving on Garrison Avenue did not hold up. Perhaps the metal horseshoes and metal rims on vehicle wheels, and the heavier traffic had something to do with it.

The project had been embraced by all concerned with high hopes, as witness the editorial comments in the *Fort Smith Elevator* on January 10, 1890: "The new pavement now being laid on Garrison Avenue, a mile in length, composed of vitrified brick, made of the best quality of clay found here in inexhaustible quantities, based upon a concrete foundation, will, when completed next spring, give us the best and most durable paved streets in America. And the spirit of progress in that direction will cause other prominent streets to be paved in a similar manner at an early day."

Three months later, on April 18, 1890, the same editor wrote, "... We have within five miles of the city enough paving brick shale to pave all the cities in the United States, and it makes the finest pavement known."

But for whatever reason, the brick was too soft and the wheels of wagons, carts and other vehicles made grooves in the pavement, conditioning it for further erosion.

The city and its people put up with it for several years. Finally, on May, 1911, the Commercial League (forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce), President Richard Ney presiding, opened the discussion in the matter of repaving Garrison Avenue. The committee chosen to represent the League consisted of James Grier, J.M. Sparks, Leigh Kelley, William Wegman and W.J. Murphy. The estimated cost of the project would be slightly in excess of \$50,000, with the Fort Smith Light and Traction Company (Streetcar Company) furnishing 20% of the cost.²⁵

The exciting aspect of the repaving was that it was to be done with wooden blocks.

On November 29, 1911, the Traction Company announced to the City Council in its meeting that the company was ready to begin the expenditure of a large sum in reconstructing the double track on Garrison Avenue, of which \$25,000 worth of material and supplies had already been assembled.²⁶

Again, the project was slow in progress. But on May 16, 1912, J.B. Bateman of the contracting firm of Shelby and Bateman of Pine Bluff, came to Fort Smith to "perfect" (finalize) the contract for paving Garrison Avenue with creosoted wooden blocks. The Fort Smith Light and Traction Company would pay for two feet of wood blocks on each side of the streetcar tracks.²⁷

The contracting company would give a maintenance bond for five years, and a Chicago company would supply the creosoted blocks and give a ten-year bond covering the wearing qualities of the blocks. Also, a strip 30 inches wide adjoining the curbs and a strip two feet wide next to the streetcar rails would have the blocks laid in pitch. (This is the same company which paved the Little Rock streets with wooden blocks.)²⁸

A month later the paving commission sold \$45,000 worth of paving bonds to Cyrus Adler of St. Louis, formerly of Fort Smith, with the right of reserving \$5,000 for underground drainage, etc.²⁹

A few days earlier the City Council announced that old bricks would be given away, particularly to property owners on the Avenue for the purpose of paving alleys. "It will be remembered," the news item said, "that nearly half the width of Garrison Avenue between the 6th and 8th Street crossings was paved only two years ago and some of the bricks are in good condition."³⁰

Finally, on August 12, 1912, the *Southwest American* newspaper was able to report, "Unless interrupted by rain the paving of Garrison Avenue will be completed this week." However, there was a kink in the works, or we should say, paving. The story continued about some minor problems. There was a hollow sound in places, indicating that the

blocks were laid too close, causing the pavement to bulge, and there was a strong odor in places. The ten-year guaranty was yet to be filed.

Less than a month later Mayor Bourland, Aldermen Jim Johnson and J.R. Templeton announced that the cost of the paving was \$67,457, to be divided between the Traction Company, the city and the paving district.³¹

On October 20, 1920, the Paving Commission Board received a communication from Robert W. Hunt and his co-engineers saying the blocks had been laid "too close". And earlier they had said the blocks were creosoted properly.³²

Then two months later the same newspaper carried the sad story: "The city, the Garrison Avenue paving district and the Traction Company are confronted with an expensive problem growing out of the evident capacity of wood block paving to spread itself." The worst problem was that the cross section pressure of the blocks caused by the swelling had narrowed the gauge of the rail tracks by fully three-fourths of an inch. "However, the Shelby and Bateman bond protects the city from this expense."³³

The next three years were simply a holding pattern apparently since not much, if anything, was mentioned in the newspaper of the day, the *Southwest American*.

But August 20, 1915, the paper could hardly fail to note that in four separate places on Garrison Avenue between Eleventh and Thirteenth Streets, the block pavement yesterday "pooped up" (sic), making the street impassable in two places. The two bad places were adjoining expansion joints built to accommodate such swelling but which seemingly had not served their purpose.³⁴

The city made an attempt during the next year (1916) to apply asphalt filler to the blocks but it failed to work, as there was no asphalt in the core of the blocks and they soaked up water and became spongy. Again, the swollen blocks lifted the pavement far above the concrete base.³⁵ (See picture.)

City Engineer Evans said the blocks contained a weight of filler exceeding the contract specifications but the trouble was the ease with which water



Replacing wooden blocks on Garrison Avenue after a rain. Courtesy Bernice Cole.

passed between the blocks, soaked the foundation and was drawn up into the blocks. He recommended that when the weather got dry the applying of asphalt and sand over all the pavement would prevent the water from soaking between the blocks and standing on the concrete base.³⁶

Another four years went by and in early May, 1920, City Engineer Walter Evans received a report from a Chicago laboratory saying that the blocks sent to them had been creosoted as per specifications.³⁷

July of the next year (1921) saw Mayor (Fagan) Bourland favoring bricks again.³⁸

The local newspaper, on July 26, 1921, advocated native brick for paving. "It is here, it is of good quality, and it is better than asphalt."³⁹

On November 18, 1922, more than a year later, the newspaper carried a significant message just above the banner headline, "If Garrison Avenue Paving is postponed much longer, and it continues to rain, the city will be saved the expense of removing the old wood blocks, anyway. They float."⁴⁰

After several more meetings of the city council they, along with Paving District Commission (16) and the Fort Smith Light and Traction Company offered bids for paving.

Then, on April 21, 1923, the contract was awarded to Kaw Paving Company of Topeka, Kansas.⁴¹ It was not the lowest bid offered but it was not much above the nearest contender and Kaw Paving Company had paved Sixth Street seven years earlier.⁴²

The work was finally completed in November, 1923. Total cost for the entire paving district was \$166,115.65, with the Fort Smith Light and Traction Company paying \$11,780.19. Cost of the remainder was \$154,335.46 while Garrison Avenue alone was approximately \$135,000 to \$140,000.⁴³

Part of the cost was for removing all the old wooden blocks and the old brick. We feel sure that the old bricks were given away as formerly to those who could put them to good use. But what was to be done with the wooden blocks?

In one instance, some of them may be found in the Fort Smith Trolley Museum.⁴⁴ And one farmer, Max Kelley near Spiro, has his barn floored with wooden blocks. His wife, Melissa, relates that a former owner of the farm brought his wagon and team to Fort Smith to get the blocks.

But the paving of Garrison Avenue was at long last completely taken care of. With the removal of the street car tracks after they ceased operation and the subsequent covering with asphalt (several times through the years) we enjoy a well maintained main street.

1923 was a notable year. Along with Fords and Chevies there were the Nash sedans and Willys-Knight overland touring cars. Alas! The price of gasoline jumped 6¢ in one week-end, making a cost of 26¢ per gallon. The *Ladies Home Journal* magazine was 10¢ per copy.⁴⁵

On April 22, 1923, the Fort Smith Brick Company merged with Acme Brick Company of Bennett, Texas, the deal being finalized within one week of the awarding of the paving contract in District 16.

Acme Brick Company on Old Greenwood Road is our one surviving brick manufacturer. And according to a Chamber of Commerce publication in August, 1989, it is part of the combine of the largest brick manufacturer in the United States. The quarry and plant cover 125 acres on both sides of Old Greenwood Road and the shale pit has a 30 to 40 year reserve. It employs 55 people and produces 25 million bricks per year.



A large steam engine at Burke Brick Company hauling about 7000 bricks to the place where they were to be used. The engine made four trips a day to haul 28,000 bricks daily. Courtesy Bob Rice.

Earlier, the Acme Brick Company was first the Burke Brick Company (1908-1917), then the Fort Smith Brick Company (1917-1923) when it was sold.⁴⁶

One story has it that the Burke Brick Company received the contract for paving seventy-one miles of city streets. They agreed, as part of the contract, to erect a plant for making the brick at a cost of \$170,000 and a capacity of 100,000 bricks a day. However, the same story says it happened in the summer of 1906, which is incorrect.⁴⁷ Nevertheless, the Acme Brick Company undoubtedly supplied the



Kilns at Burke Brick Company. Wagons in foreground are loaded with brick waiting to be delivered. Courtesy Bob Rice.

brick for paving Garrison Avenue, as confirmed by Mr. Carroll West, present sales manager of the local plant.

On January 4, 1990, the *Arkansas Gazette* carried an old picture postcard, showing a man on a paving machine laying bricks, circa 1905. On the face of the card was the very indistinct writing, "Paving D Street".

Brick making is a highly technical art. Mr. Roy Tipton, superintendent of the local plant, explains that "fiber" brick is that which is made of shale crushed into a fine powder, pushed through an extruder and cut into bricks. The bricks are then burned in a kiln for 45 hours at 2000 degrees fahrenheit. They are then cooled for 12 to 14 hours before they can be moved to a shaded area for grading and packaging.⁴⁸

The plant routinely makes more than 30 varieties of brick, the most common of which are the kingsize and the modular, which resemble the old-fashioned 8-inch brick.⁴⁹

Annabelle Pilgrim shares the story of another brick plant operating in the area from the late 1800's until about 1934. It was the Coffeyville Vitrified Brick & Tile Company. In addition to the local plant the company had plants in Coffeyville and Cherryvale, Kansas, and in Collinsville, Oklahoma. Located just across the State line in Arkoma, the local plant was as large (judging by old pictures) as the Acme plant but it did not own as much acreage.



Opened March 6, 1908, the Coffeyville Vitrified Brick & Tile Company employed 200 men, nearly all of the male population in Arkoma. Courtesy Annabelle Pilgrim.

The Missouri Pacific Railway company laid tracks and sent in freight cars to haul out the finished brick. The Coffeyville Brick & Tile Company furnished the brick for building many, if not all, of the stations on the Missouri Pacific Line.⁵⁰

The Arkoma plant was forced to cease operation in 1934 because they could not close off a very short street (some 2 or 3 blocks). In 1924, R.L. Pilgrim, Annabelle's father, received a letter from the home office asking that he try to secure the closing of the street through the property so they could have access to their acreage on the other side. Two property owners in near proximity refused to relinquish right-of-way and they were upheld by the

court. The plant continued to operate until 1934 when it ran out of "dirt". Pilgrim was plant superintendent from 1926 until the plant's closing. He then began working for Acme in Fort Smith. In 1939, he and his wife bought all the Coffeyville property in Arkoma for \$400.

In 1938, the Coffeyville Brick & Tile Company became the United Brick and Tile Company with home offices in Kansas City, Missouri.

Meanwhile — back on Garrison Avenue. It is not clear why the avenue began as 120 feet wide. Many explanations have been offered. One is that it was to be used as a parade ground for the soldiers at the fort, but the reason the stone wall came down was to have the parade ground there. Up to the present time none of the speculations seem to fit.

The next time you drive down the avenue it might be fun to note those old curbstones. And if you have

time to stop, take a look at the brick sidewalk at the corner of 2nd Street and Garrison Avenue, on the west side above the Frisco Depot. The bricks are beautiful and look as if they might have been laid only last week.

D.A. O'Connell, writing in *The Bull Pup*, publication of the United Brick & Tile Company, June, 1927, penned this jingle:

I wish I was a little brick,
Built into a mill;
Doin' nothin' all the day
But just asittin' still.
I wouldn't eat, I wouldn't drink,
I wouldn't even wash,
I'd sit and sit a thousand years
And rest myself, b'gosh.

Who knows? Garrison Avenue just might make it yet.

Source Notes

Note: *Journal* refers to the *Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society* unless otherwise specified.

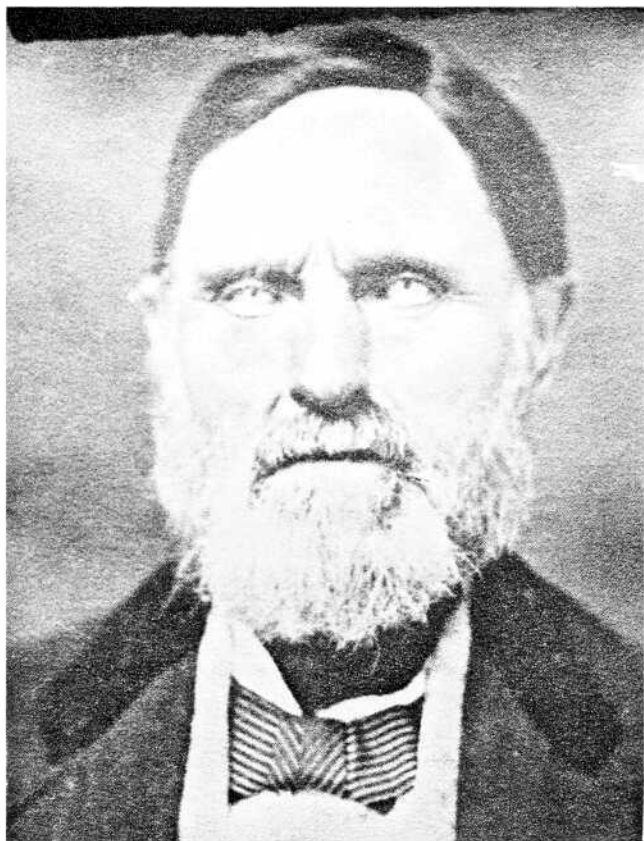
1. *Journal*, Sept. 1982 issue, pg. 8.
2. Archives, National Historic Site, courtesy Guy Nichols.
3. *Journal*, Dec. 1977 issue, pg. 89.
4. *Journal*, Sept. 1982 issue, pg. 20.
5. Ibid.
6. *Journal*, Dec. 1977 issue, pg. 91.
7. *Journal*, April 1978 issue, pg. 35.
8. *Journal*, April 1979 issue, pg. 39.
9. *Journal*, April 1981 issue, pg. 41.
10. *Journal*, April 1981 issue, pg. 42.
11. *Journal*, April 1981 issue, pg. 47.
12. *Journal*, April 1985 issue, pg. 41.
13. *Journal*, April 1985 issue, pg. 47.
14. *Journal*, April 1986 issue, pg. 35.
15. *Journal*, April 1986 issue, pg. 37.
16. *Journal*, Sept. 1987 issue, pg. 43.
17. *Journal*, April 1988 issue, pgs. 42-43.
18. Ibid.
19. *Journal*, Sept. 1989 issue, pg. 43.
20. *Journal*, Sept. 1989 issue, pg. 45.
21. Minutes of City Council, June 17, 1901, on file at the National Historic Site, Fort Smith.
22. Minutes, op. cit., May 21, 1901.
23. Minutes, op. cit., Dec. 3, 1903.
24. Ibid.
25. *Southwest American Newspaper*, Fort Smith, May 11, 1911.
26. *SWA*, Nov. 29, 1911.
27. *SWA*, May 16, 1912.
28. Ibid.
29. *SWA*, June 16, 1912.
30. *SWA*, June 12, 1912.
31. *SWA*, Sept. 12, 1912.
32. *SWA*, Oct. 20, 1920.
33. *SWA*, Dec. 29, 1912.
34. *SWA*, Aug. 20, 1915.
35. *SWA*, Dec. 17, 1916.
36. Ibid.
37. *SWA*, May 5, 1920.
38. *SWA*, July 14, 1921.
39. *SWA*, July 26, 1921.
40. *SWA*, Nov. 18, 1922.
41. *SWA*, April 21, 1923.
42. Ibid.
43. Complete Resume of District 16 Paving, 1923. Files of Fort Smith Streetcar Restoration Association, courtesy Bradley Martin, General Manager, Fort Smith Trolley Museum.
44. Bradley Martin, op. cit.
45. *Southwest American*, April, 1923.
46. Deed Records, Guaranty Abstract Company, 1 North 6th Street, Fort Smith, courtesy Mary Campbell.
47. , courtesy Bob Rice.
48. *Fort Smith*, August, 1989, Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce.
49. Ibid.
50. Courtesy Charles Winters, author of "The Street Cars of Fort Smith," *Journal*, Sept. 1979 issue.

Special thanks to the personnel at the National Historic Site — Guy Nichols, Catie Fenn, Roger Coleman and Angie Carter; Mary Campbell at the Guaranty Abstract Company; Janie Glover, Chamber of Commerce; Gordon Kelley, Kelley Realty Company; Roy Tipton, Acme Brick Company; Carroll West, Acme Brick Company; Bradley Martin, Fort Smith Trolley Museum; Wanda Karrant, Gail Underwood and Billie Bair at the Fort Smith Public Library; Charles Winters, Margaret Ann Barber, Annabelle Pilgrim, Bob Rice and Bernice Cole.

Asa Bruce Clark

Larey Dane Clark¹

Dedicated to Coly Clark, Fort Smith educator and artist who assisted with research and family records.



Asa Clark. Photograph courtesy Coly Clark.

Asa Bruce Clark, carpenter, brick mason and stone mason, who came to Fort Smith with Captain Charles W. Thomas in July, 1838, to help build the second Fort Smith, was born on June 9, 1808, in Newburgh, Maine, about ten miles southeast of Bangor. The year Asa was born, Congress prohibited the importation of slaves, James Madison was elected president, and Ludwig Beethoven composed his Fifth Symphony (in C minor).

The Clark family Asa was born into seemed to be of average size for that time. It consisted of his mother, Mary, and father, Asa; brothers: Minot, Hugh, Allen, John, Willard; and sisters: Mary and Elizabeth.² It appears Asa received a good, basic New England education which stressed the three R's, which was typical of the time. Upon leaving school, Asa served his five year apprenticeship and then worked as a journeyman carpenter in the Bangor area for about ten years.

By the 1830's, the tiny United States felt the need to expand to the south and west. Much of the farmland in the original colonies had started to play

out, and for an economy based on agriculture, this did not bode well for the coming generations of farmers. Because of many Indian tribes having been relocated from the deep south to west of the Mississippi River, settlers were afraid to claim the new lands without army protection.

On April 7, 1836, Asa wedded Miss Sarah Hayt/Hoyt/Hiatt/Whozt³ in Bangor. Miss Sarah was 23 years old and originally from New Hampshire. Their first born was a son named John Baxter, after Asa's older brother. Baby John Baxter was born ten months and one day after their marriage. Their second born child was a daughter named Melvina E. She was born two years and eight months after their marriage and about six months after Asa had left for the frontier wilderness.

In 1838, Captain Charles W. Thomas, who was stationed in Buffalo, New York, was directed by the army quartermaster to proceed to the site of the old Fort Smith (Belle Point as the French called it) located where the Arkansas and Poteau rivers met. He was to build a new fort. His orders further directed him to proceed to New York City and on to Boston to secure civilian mechanics (craftsmen) and laborers to help with its construction. In New York City, Captain Thomas was unable to sign on the necessary "Mechanics", owing it would seem to the threat of safety presented by the Indians in the area of the proposed fort. Captain Thomas proceeded to Boston where he was met with the same situation. Moving on to Bangor, Maine, Captain Thomas hired his needed 39 mechanics and 16 laborers. The mechanics were to be paid \$1.50 per day plus expenses and the laborers were to receive \$15.00 per month and also expenses. Captain Thomas' success is believed to have come about in Bangor because the area economy was depressed. Asa signed a one-year contract with the army, as did the other men, and proceeded west into the wilds of Indian country. Captain Thomas, Asa, and the rest of the group boarded the steamboat, "Dayton", at Pittsburgh. A stop was made at Cincinnati to purchase tools, materials, and provisions. The "Dayton" made it up the Arkansas as high as Lewisburgh and could go no further because of low water. At this point, the men had to walk the remaining hundred miles, arriving the last week of July, 1838.

Major Stephen H. Long, who led the first party of Topographical Engineers that surveyed the site for the first fort which was built in 1818, described it as follows:

"Belle Point is situated in North Latitude 35° 23' 12" at the mouth of the Porte(sic) River, four hundred and sixty miles from the mouth of the Arkansas, pursuing its meanders, and about twenty miles above the Osage boundary.

"The site selected for the Garrison is secure and healthy: and affords a complete command of the rivers above mentioned. Its elevation is about thirty-five feet above the water, from which it is accessible by easy ascent(sic). The point is supported upon a basis of stratified(sic) sand stone, well adapted to building, and is surrounded by woodland affording an abundance of erecting timber. The soil of the adjacent country is exuberant, producing corn, cotton, and in great abundance."

Upon arriving, many things had to be gotten underway. The old buildings of the original wooden fort at Belle Point were found, by Thomas, to be in wretched repair — "covered with the filth and rubbish of the years". The commander, however, wasted little time in putting Asa and his other men to work repairing the buildings and cleaning the grounds. During their first month at the post, the men had "few or no convenience for cooking or sleeping", according to Captain Thomas.

Actual work on the construction of the fort was painfully slow. The few building materials that the party had, from their stop in Cincinnati, were soon exhausted. It was clear that being supplied by an outside source, either Cincinnati, Ohio; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; or another army fort, was not practical. Captain Thomas directed his men to cast about the surrounding area for a natural source of local building material. Lumber was plentiful along the lush Arkansas River, however, the army had learned from their experience with the original fort of 1818 that a more permanent primary source of material was more desirable. History offers separate credit to both Captain Thomas and Asa Clark for discovering a rock quarry site and locating natural materials for composing and firing of brick. The archives at the National Park Service in modern day Fort Smith give full credit, for both, to Captain Thomas. It must be considered, however, that military documents, which tend to be the major source for federal historic sites, generally attribute full credit of positive actions to the commanding officer. Sebastian County historical documents, however, give complete credit for both discoveries to Asa. This version appears to be much more believable in light of the fact that Asa, for many years, owned Fort Smith's only rock quarry and brickyard.⁴

Entertainment in frontier Arkansas in the 1830's was very scarce. The occasional barn dance in this western wilderness drew dancers and party-goers from a fifty mile radius and would last, more or less, nonstop for up to a week. Local historians note that when the jug or jar was passed at these social events, "those in attendance would partake one and all regardless of age or sex". The principal instrument and favorite source of music was the fiddle. A fiddler

that could play the three top songs of that time, "Sugar in the Gourd", "Leather Britches", and "Possum Up a Stump", was always assured of a comfortable night's lodging and a good meal anywhere on the Arkansas frontier. The earliest professional shows on the frontier seem to have consisted of one man and one or more animals. A man often walked from place to place with a trained monkey, an acting dog, or a wrestling bear. As time passed, a man brought an elephant through the backwoods bringing intense astonishment to the people. A camel, while less spectacular, received due homage from the early settlers.

An 1838 circus in Arkansas was that of W. Waterman and Company. Its troupe consisted of a two-horse rider, one-horse rider, tumbler, plate dancer, balancer, and a clown. A writer of the *Batesville News* thought that the one-dollar admission was a trifling sum to pay for such fun. Slaves and children were admitted for half price.

There is no record of Asa's having been distracted by foolishness such as trained animals and week long barn dances. Asa had found himself to be a talented and resourceful man on the ground floor of a fast growing wilderness town. It appears his full attention and energies were directed toward carving out a place for himself and his family.

Asa's westward movement seemed to have sparked interest in both his brothers, John B. and Willard P., to venture west in search of a better life than the Bangor style in the 1830's. By 1840, brother John had relocated in Cincinnati, Ohio, and brother Willard had been to St. Louis and Jefferson City in Missouri, into the state of Illinois, and had visited John in Cincinnati. In August of 1841, Willard had returned to Brewer, Maine, to move his family to parts west. The illness of his children prevented his moving at that time. The series of illnesses took a heavy toll on the money he had set aside for moving. It also took the life of his youngest child. Willard worked for several more years at dairy farming and school teaching to save enough money to finally move his family to St. Anthony Falls, Minnesota, the outskirts of modern day Minneapolis.

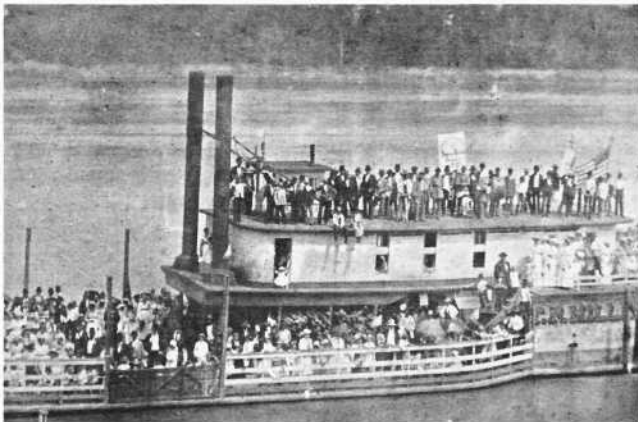
Sarah and Asa had a plan. It was, as soon as money permitted, that they would meet in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Asa would escort his family to their new home on the edge of the Indian territory. In letters to Asa from Sarah, she made references to their separation as "taking a toll on her health and constitution". Her letters from this period were signed, "your lonely and dejected wife". The many friends of Asa and Sarah, in Bangor, were shocked that Asa was going to require his wife and their young children to travel, unescorted, to the wilds of Ohio. Brother Willard offered to escort Asa's family, provided Asa would pay his expenses. It appears, however, that Sarah and the children did make the journey alone. Sarah had made previous arrangements to have their most valued and prized



Canopy bed shipped from Bangor, Maine, to Fort Smith in 1842. Each post was made from an individual cherry tree. Now owned by the Bob Clark family, Greensboro, North Carolina. This photograph was taken while the bed was in the Clifton and Coly Clark home in Fort Smith. Courtesy Coly Clark.

possessions sent by an ocean-going ship to New Orleans and then, by riverboat, up the Mississippi and Arkansas rivers. These possessions consisted mostly of two canopy beds and two spool beds which were given to the young couple as wedding gifts from Sarah's father.

It appears as though the long awaited reunion took place in Cincinnati during the late spring of 1842, with John Clark in attendance. Asa booked passage from Cincinnati on the P.N. Mills, a side-wheel, river steamboat.



P.N. Mills, side-wheel riverboat on which Asa Clark's family came from Cincinnati, Ohio, to Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1842. Courtesy Coly Clark.

The following description of the river journey was written by Mary "Molly" Clark Wren, daughter of Asa Clark, many years after the event, from her memory. Records show that the dates she gives in this account are earlier than the actual journey. Mrs. Wren died in 1924.

My mother has often told me about her long and tedious journey to the far west, but I was quite small and while it was very interesting at the time, I did not give it the attention that I have many times wished I had.

However, I remember some incidents very distinctly: My parents came from Bangor, Maine; my father came out in 1832 with Major Thomas who was sent with men and means to build the large and beautiful Fort at this place, Fort Smith. In 1834, he sent for his family and went as far as Cincinnati, Ohio, to meet them. Such a trip was not as much of a joy ride as in these days. It took time, patience, and a fat pocketbook. Transportation was very poor and unreliable in those days, having to make many changes enroute, they traveled by rail, canal, stage, and steamboat. My mother has often told of her experience on the Arkansas River. They had all kinds of trials, disappointments and heartaches before reaching Little Rock, but at that point the boat went aground hard and fast — nothing to be seen for miles but sandbars and no prospects of a rise in the river for months to come. There were very few accommodations in the Capitol in those days and vacant houses were hard to get. The officers and crew all became very much attached to the children and would often fill their pockets with lunch and take them out for a ramble in the woods — sometimes staying all day. Father finally rented a little cabin on the river bank and they moved up to it. The crew insisted on taking their meals with them and mother agreed to set up a boarding house on a small scale and as a side line, Mother baked pies and cakes and sold them readily and at a good price. The river remained low for three months. After leaving Little Rock, they often got on sandbars and would have to stay days at a time before the boat could get shoved off again, only to get on another bar in a few hours time. They were six months reaching Fort Smith, from the time they arrived in Little Rock.

Mother often became so discouraged and heart-broken, she would go out in the woods and have a cry and wish she was back in Bangor. Although she expected to see Indians, she was terribly frightened when the first crowd of Squaws came to the door with their papooses tied on their backs and a dozen baskets of all shapes and sizes hung on each arm. They wore rings in their ears and noses and beads galore around their necks.

It was not long until my Father built the first brick building in Fort Smith. It was a large hotel known as the Saint Charles Hotel, here they lived and ran the hotel for many years. They were identified with the building of Fort Smith from the foundation and spent more than fifty years in our beautiful city where they raised a large family of which I am the only surviving member.

In May of 1841, Colonel Zachary Taylor was ordered to take command of the vast Second Military Department, an area embracing all territory south of the 37th parallel from the Mississippi River to the Mexican and Texas border. His primary job was to settle unrest and possible war between the immigrant Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes and the wild plains Indians. This problem between the Indians was being aggravated by Texas adventurers. Colonel Zachary was originally head-quartered at Fort Gibson, but the future hero of the Mexican War and future President of the United States, soon moved his headquarters to Fort Smith.

Taylor proved to be an active and dynamic leader. He handled the Indian problem like a master. A Grand Council, as it was called, was held on the Deep Fork of the Canadian River in May, 1842, about 75 miles west of Fort Smith. The purpose was to promote good will between the Indian tribes, in what would one day be the state of Oklahoma. Attending the meeting were representatives of the Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles, Shawnees, Delawares, Kickapoos, Quapaws, Osages, Caddos, Peankashaws, Kickais, Wichitas, Sawnees, Senecas, and Tawakenis. A correspondent working for the *Arkansas Intelligencer* told his readers of an encampment two miles in circumference, filled with lodges. "The woods and prairies for three or four miles were crowded by horses hobbled and feeding upon the rich, succulent herbage."

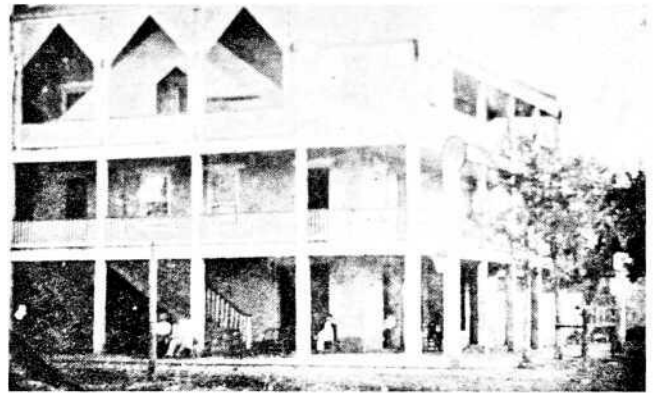
Taylor addressed the Grand Council through interpreters and urged the Indians to keep the peace. A number of white children had been carried off by the plains Indians from their homes in Texas. Taylor promised a ransom for these and the children were released within two years.

In June of 1843, Taylor repeated his Grand Council at Tahlequah. Eighteen tribes and some three or four thousand Indians attended. The councils were for the purpose of renewing "old customs and friendships and to enact international laws among the tribes". Taylor's grand scheme seems to have been successful as there were no major conflicts between these tribes until the Civil War.

About 1842, Asa finished his fourth One Year contract with the army quartermaster. Having recently had his family join him from New England, the 34-year old Asa decided to become self-employed and make a name for himself in the Fort Smith area, as a pioneer builder and businessman.

It appears as though Asa bought several lots from Captain John Rogers, who was called the "Father of Fort Smith". Rogers, a civilian of prominence, had arrived in Fort Smith in the early 1820's and had acquired considerable acreage east of the Choctaw boundary and some of it fronting the Arkansas River. The Choctaw boundary was the line which had been drawn in 1825, one hundred paces east of Fort Smith, in effect, dividing the Choctaw nation from western Arkansas territory. In 1838, Rogers laid off

160 acres in the vicinity of the original Fort Smith into town lots. In May, 1838, he began to sell these lots, offering to sell the government any land that was needed for a "fair and reasonable" price.



St. Charles Hotel about 1870.
Photo courtesy Fort Smith Public Library.

In the mid to late 1840's, Asa built the first true hotel in Fort Smith. He named it the St. Charles Hotel and it was located on the corner of what are now First and "A" streets. Prior to the St. Charles Hotel, Captain John Rogers owned what he called the "Dog Trot" hotel, which from all accounts was perfectly named and had a reputation for unwelcome guests, both two-legged and eight-legged. The St. Charles Hotel was an imposing structure in the rapidly growing frontier settlement. The hotel had white wood frames and brick. It had an exterior staircase which connected the three floors along with exterior or open halls which connected the rooms. Sarah prepared meals that were served in the dining room, boarding house style, which meant that he who ate the fastest got most. For many years in the 1850's, most meetings of civil groups and fraternal organizations met regularly at the St. Charles.

On February 3, 1853, Asa was initiated into the Bellevue Royal Arch Chapter No. Eight of the Masonic Lodge which he remained a member for life.

St. Charles Hotel Guest List, June 3, 1850

NAME	PROFESSION	BIRTH PLACE
1. Eseph W. Findver	Lawyer	Kentucky
2. George E. Bomford	Physician	D.C.
3. Francis H. Woolf	Silversmith	Pennsylvania
4. Wesley W. Gaston	Carriage Maker	Tennessee
5. Mayberry Robinson	Carriage Maker	Virginia
6. Dillon H. Unby	Carpenter	Kentucky
7. Labinus B. Boynton	Laborer	Massachusetts
8. William Armires	Fiddle Maker	Pennsylvania
9. Ganek Broson	Fiddle Maker	Arkansas
10. Thomas Hestor	Carriage Maker	Maryland
11. Henry L. Holloman	Carpenter	Tennessee
12. David Beasot	School Teacher	Mississippi
13. Thomas Pelkason	Carpenter	Pennsylvania
14. Martin Holly	Laborer	Tennessee

The hotel at that time was valued at \$11,600.00.

Asa's fortune grew steadily through the early 1850's. By this time, Asa owned the St. Charles Hotel, a busy rock quarry, and a flourishing brick business. It was about this time that Asa became a slave owner. There is no indication that anyone else in the Clark family had ever owned slaves to this time. Slavery was never popular back in Maine, and Asa's younger brother, Willard, according to his letters, strongly opposed living in a slave state. However, the slaves were probably of much value to Asa in running what would amount to a small empire in the years to come at Fort Smith.

The decade from 1850 to 1860 was a busy and prosperous one for the Clark family. It seems Fort Smith became the last good supply point for people going west to California to seek their fortune in the great Gold Rush. Supplies were a bit difficult to get because snags and sandbars in the Arkansas River made Fort Smith hard to reach at times.

For a number of years, Fort Smith was without a wharf and the steamboats were compelled to discharge cargo on the bank just below the foot of Garrison Avenue. The landing, as it was called, was approached by a road that had been cut through the river bank at the foot of Walnut Street which had its exit at Garrison Avenue. The lack of a wharf occasioned great inconvenience because in rainy weather the landing would become a mire through which teams could make their way only with great difficulty. Often the freight that had been unloaded would become damaged by the harsh weather.

This was the condition until 1850 when the town council contracted with Asa Clark to build a wharf. It was to be 900 feet in length, extending from the south side of Garrison Ave. to the north side of Mulberry St., or a little below Johnson & Grimes' Storehouse. The wharf was to be a huge log crib filled with rock and with a top layer of earth.

This appears to have been the most important step taken in public improvements that the city fathers had ever undertaken in the small town. The following item was found in the local newspaper:

"The town council have at last concluded to build a wharf. We hope as they have resolved to do this work that they will not let the matter rest, but drive it ahead while the water is low and an opportunity is afforded for its completion. No step taken by the council has met with such approbation as the building of a wharf, and no public work is so much needed in this place. It will have a happy influence upon all classes of our citizens, and will give encouragement to those who have been rather halting between two opinions, whether to build good houses or not. We have already been assured by one man, who is wealthy and a large property owner, that he will now go on and build several houses and improve his property. All that is now necessary to accomplish this work is constant and untiring perseverance. We do hope the council will not let the matter sleep."

The wharf was never completed. Asa entered upon the work of construction with the degree of energy for which he was noted, but abandoned it within a couple of months. Meager records which are available today show the reason for this halt in the wharf construction was the inability of the town to make good with the financial end of the bargain. Later, other parties came forward and completed the structure from the foot of Walnut Street, half way to Garrison Avenue. Asa afterward built a wharf of his own, with permission of the town council, at the foot of Mulberry St., which bore his name as long as it lasted.

Asa conveyed freight up the river bank by means of a heavy cart attached to which was a cable connector with a capstan, and oxen furnishing the power.

By the early 1850's, the Arkansas River was seeing a steady flow of riverboats that were supplying both the townspeople and the late Forty-niners with a steady flow of goods from all over the settled United States. History books tend to make a big deal of the treacherous Mighty Mississippi River. Mark Twain writes of the ever changing snags and sandbars that were encountered by the skillful river pilots. The truth is that the Mississippi, as compared to the Arkansas, was a piece of cake. The Mississippi at its worst was still about three times the width of the Arkansas and always had a wide channel, natural hazards accepted. The Arkansas at its best had many hundreds of snags, more than the old Mississippi mile for mile.

One river pilot was a standout on the Arkansas. His name was Philip Pennywit. Mr. Pennywit had quite a reputation as a skillful pilot on the Arkansas. Oftentimes, Mr. Pennywit would have several boats waiting each way for him to pilot them through a particularly rough section of the river. Mr. Pennywit's reputation made him a great deal of money as a river pilot. Part of the money that was made from his skill on the Arkansas was spent to buy the "Philip Pennywit". The "Pennywit" was a side-wheeler, 246 tons, built in Cincinnati. In 1851, she struck a snag and sank in Cherokee Bend, as the big bend in the river was named. John Melvin, her pilot, wept over the accident.

Asa Clark lived for several years on the corner of what are now Fourth and "B" streets in a house built with lumber rescued from the wreck of the "Pennywit".

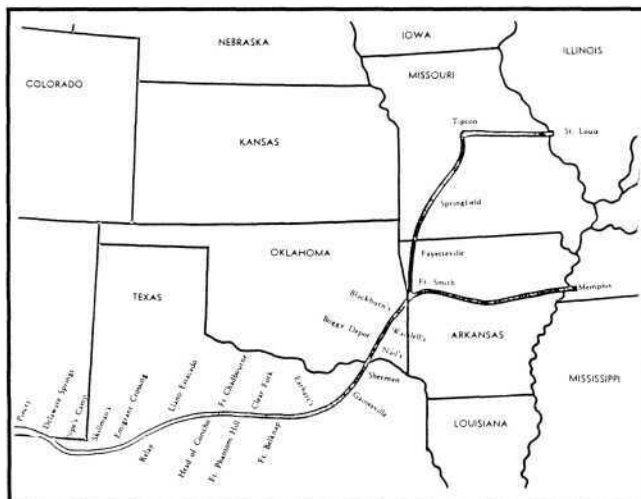
As the California Gold Rush got under way, the size of Fort Smith was at times twice its normal size. In one letter to Asa, dated February, 1852, from brother Willard, he says, "Many are rushing to California to mine gold from Bangor. California has drained Maine." Many joining the Gold Rush were God-fearing, hard-working, common folk but with the good people came many who had no intention of working. They were the con-men, opportunists, murderers, and thieves. The records indicate that at one time or another most of these unsavory

characters either stopped in or passed through the western outpost of Fort Smith. The town started to see gun play in the streets and murder became a sad, regular occurrence. The town quickly realized that they must beef up their local government and local laws. In 1850, the townspeople recognized Asa as a leader in the town and he was elected to the position of Alderman (City Councilman).

In the early 1850's, Asa opened a livery stable. Records about Asa's livery business are almost nonexistent. The livery stable of this period, however, kept and fed horses and rented horses, mules, and an assortment of vehicles including a buckboard and buggies. These were light one-horse carriages with a single seat. This business venture was a natural off-shoot of another business Asa owned during this period, a freight transportation business.

Generally, anyone heading west during the early 1850's was bound for either the gold covered mountains of California or the wide open plains of Texas. The Mexican War had ended in 1848 after two years of fighting. No doubt the cheap or free land in Texas drew many families from Missouri, Kansas, and points north. Asa's freight business ran from Fort Smith to Boggy Depot, Choctaw Nation. It appears that the freight wagons of that time would have followed the famous Butterfield stage line as it ran from Fort Smith to Boggy Depot. By 1854, John Baxter Clark had become involved with his father's businesses. Letters of John mentioning the freight business sent from Boggy Depot talked of matters of finance and Indian problems caused by whiskey. Boggy Depot at this time had to have been a very interesting place for 17-year old John to visit. John would have been no stranger to the sight of Indians having lived in Fort Smith. Actually, visiting in the heart of the Choctaw Nation, along with the many travelers who made Boggy Depot the jump off point for entering Texas, must have been quite an education for young John.

The Clark family in Fort Smith, by 1850, included: Asa 42, Sarah 37 and children: John Baxter, Melvina E., Emma Frances, Mary, and Catherine Ophelia.⁵



Route of the famous Butterfield Stage Line

Sarah had given birth to two boys who died in infancy. The Clark household was moved several times over the years, usually the particular dwelling reflected the family fortune. Asa's home was a busy place as he seemed to always have had visitors or employees staying with him. He appears to have been a very likeable and outgoing man who drew people to him. The 1850 census lists Asa's occupation as Hotel Keeper and in addition to his family, lists seventeen boarders in his home.

The next major event in the Clark home was the marriage of son, John Baxter Clark, to the attractive Miss Celeste Rhyne in 1859. Celeste was seventeen and John was twenty-two. Celeste, originally from Missouri, was of German origin. The couple was married on June 26, 1859 in Fort Smith, no doubt in the Methodist Church.

Asa and Sarah must have been very happy with their healthy family and hard earned wealth. If there was any sad spot, it had to have been in regard to Emma, their second oldest daughter, who was born deaf. During this period, this handicap was known as Deaf and Dumb. It must have been sad to Sarah to see her children growing up and going to school with poor Emma stuck at home with no chance for an education.

At this point in history, Sarah moves into the spotlight. It would appear that Sarah took it upon herself to organize a school for the deaf, the first or possibly second in Arkansas depending on which historic version you choose. A class of six was formed and taught by Mathew Clark, relation unknown, a deaf-mute educated in the New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, a school founded in the year 1818. In December, 1860, Sarah Clark, Mathew Clark, and three pupils, no doubt one being Emma, went to Little Rock to request financial aid for the school from the legislature which was in session. An appropriation for the support of the school was granted, two thousand dollars for the first year and fifteen hundred dollars each subsequent year. The school continued until October, 1861, at the home of Asa and Sarah Clark, with Sarah as matron, when it was forcibly closed because of chaotic conditions in the state due to the Civil War.

Abraham Lincoln was elected to the presidency in November, 1860. The states' rights issue pointed toward civil strife. On February 12, 1861, two steamboat loads of supplies for Fort Smith were seized by certain individuals pretending to act for the state of Arkansas. Although Arkansas as yet had not seceded from the Union, six states in the lower South had, and other states, including Arkansas, were expected to follow.

April 12, the Confederates opened fire on Fort Sumpter in Charleston Harbor and the Civil War had begun. The Union troops abandoned Fort Smith on April 23, in the face of the 1,200 man Confederate force that was closing in.

Confederate forces occupied Fort Smith for more than two years. During the first part of 1863, there was a series of engagements and skirmishes in northwest Arkansas and in the Indian Territory. Major General James Blunt, with the First Arkansas Infantry, Union Forces, crossed the Poteau River from the Territory on September 1, 1863, and reoccupied the fort.

Feelings ran high for both sides in the Civil War in Sebastian County. Asa, being a slave owner, favored the Confederate side, as did his son, John Baxter Clark. John had been active in the southern cause in the area prior to the Union's re-occupation of the fort. With the coming of the Union soldiers to the fort, he and other Confederates fled the state to Doaksville, Choctaw Nation, where he joined up with a Texas Confederate unit. John became a courier and carried messages by horseback, between southern forces in Texas and Cherokee forces, Confederate, in the Territory. John eventually sent for Celeste and family and finished the war out in that region.

Asa must not have hidden his loyalty to the South very well as his life was in danger at one point and he was almost moved north for his own protection. The plan was that if Asa had to be moved north, as other notables in Fort Smith were, Sarah was going to stay behind and look after the Clark interests in Fort Smith. Sarah had very strong feelings about loyalty herself. At one point, her son, John, became very discouraged with the cause. Word got back to Sarah that he was considering deserting to return home. Word was sent back to John, through Celeste, that his mother had said, "I would rather have you dead than return home in disgrace." Very strong words for a mother to speak but they were an accurate indication of how very strong feelings ran on the war issue. John stayed.

During the later years of the war, Asa had property seized by "the Feds", that amounted to \$2,556.00. Asa filed a claim to be compensated for property lost under a Southern Claims Recovery Act. It does not appear that Asa ever pursued the matter in the courts.

The end of the war brought great change to the Fort Smith area, the Indian Territory in particular. Some Confederate men returned home following the war only to find they had their property burnt out or taken away all together, this was enough of an excuse to turn many of them to a life of crime. The Indian Territory made an excellent retreat and hide-out to escape from the law. At one time or another, such famous outlaws as the James Gang, Dalton Gang, Younger Gang, Pearl Starr, Cherokee Bill, and countless others fled the long arm of the law into the Territory.

Between the Civil War and 1875, when Judge Isaac Charles Parker took the bench in Fort Smith, there were no extradition laws effective by which a

criminal entering the area could be removed to answer for his offense elsewhere. The Fort Smith *New Era* observed in 1872, "The Indian country is beginning to be a rough region." The editor of the Fort Smith's *Western Independent* said:

"We have lived in and around the Indian country since the spring of 1834, but have never known such a state of terror. Now it is murder throughout the length and breadth of the Indian country. It has been the rendezvous of the vile and wicked from everywhere, an inviting field for murder and robbery because it is the highway between Texas, Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas... Stealing horses is an everyday occurrence, and murder and robbery seem to equal that sin. It is dangerous to travel alone where villains from four quarters of the United States congregate to murder, rob, and steal..."

Judge Parker came to Fort Smith after fourteen years of private practice and having been elected to Congress twice. Parker was known as a "firm-believin'" Methodist, and from his first day in Fort Smith, he served fair warning that he practiced "eye for an eye" justice. Parker was armed with new powers from President Grant to clean up the Indian Territory. Parker promptly hired 200 deputy Federal Marshals and sent them across the river into the Territory with general orders to bring back the desperadoes.

The people of Fort Smith wanted proof that Judge Parker wasn't corrupt and they quickly got it. On May 10, only eight days after his arrival at Fort Smith, he opened his term at court. Eighteen persons came before him charged with murder and fifteen were convicted. Eight of these, he sentenced to die on the famous gallows.

Following the Civil War, Asa went back to his original chosen profession of carpentry. He seemed to have lost his drive to own everything in Fort Smith. He worked at building houses and laying rock. A sample of Asa's rock laying exists today in the form of rock curbs which line both sides of Garrison Avenue for many blocks.



Rock curbs on Garrison Avenue, Fort Smith, Arkansas, said to have been laid by Asa Clark in the late 1800s.

Asa died June 4, 1890, at the age of 82. His health failed him in the early part of 1890 and after several months, he died of what L.L. Saunders, the medical doctor who signed his report of death, called senility. At his death he was survived by all of his children except Melvina, who died May 31, 1883.

Six months and twenty-five days later, on January 29, 1891, Asa's life-long mate, Sarah, joined him in death after several years of bad health.

Asa and Sarah rest together in the Oak Cemetery in Fort Smith.



Asa Clark's headstone in Oak Cemetery in Fort Smith. Engraved on it are these words:

"Slowly fading lingering dying
Like the leaf he passed away
Heeding not our tears of anguish
Heaven has claimed its own today
And we weep."

Footnotes

1. (Editor) Larey Dane Clark, great-great-grandson of Asa Bruce and Sarah HAYT/HOYT/HIATT/WHOZT Clark, is descended from their son, John Baxter Clark. Larey Clark was born in Poteau, Oklahoma, in 1946, but has lived most of his life in southern California. He is a seventeen-year resident of Whittier, California, where he lives with his wife, the former Martha Burrow, and their son, D'Artagnon. He served three years as an army paratrooper, one year of this time in combat in Vietnam. Following in the footsteps of his great-great-grandfather, he is in the construction business.

Mr. Clark would like to hear from other Clark family researchers. His address is 15624 Fernview, Whittier, CA 90604. Telephone number is: (213) 943-4554.

2. Names of brothers and sisters are from family letters. Wilma June Eskridge Flocks, another Clark researcher, says Asa Bruce Clark also had a brother named Capt. George Roger Clark, but I have found no proof for this.
3. Various records give different spellings — no proof of which is correct. Asa Clark's obituary gives HOYT. Wilma June Eskridge Flocks' research notes say HIATT; Sarah Clark's death record says HAYT, and still another source gives the spelling as WHOZT.
4. The exact location of this brickyard is unknown. It was believed to have been on the location of the Acme Brick Company on Old Greenwood Road, but land records in the abstract office do not show that Asa Clark ever owned that property.
5. John Baxter Clark, named after Asa's older brother, married Celeste Rhyne in 1859.

Mary "Molly" Clark married Will Wren.

Melvina E. Clark m/l _____ Greenlee, M/2 Isaiah Bruce, who served as executor of Sarah Clark's will. Melvina died May 31, 1883, survived by her husband and five sons. One of these sons, Alvin Greenlee, was by her first husband. After Melvina's death, Isaiah Bruce, on September 11, 1884, married Miss Anna Dewees of New Hope, I.T.

Emma Frances married a Mr. Hetherington. Lived in Baxter Springs, Kansas, in 1890.

Katie Ophelia Clark, age 23, married Samuel Lawrence, 30, 23 November 1871.

Isaiah W. Bruce

Isaiah W. Bruce, builder and son-in-law of Asa Clark, was born in Port Gibson, Claiborne County, Mississippi, August 22, 1839. His father, Thomas Bruce, was born in Kentucky, and his grandfather, John Bruce, had emigrated to Kentucky from Scotland. Thomas Bruce was a builder by occupation, and John Bruce was a merchant.

After the death of Thomas Bruce, Isaiah's mother married Thomas Vernon, who was also a builder.

Isaiah W. accompanied his step-father to Arkansas when ten years old and was reared in Fort Smith. At the age of thirteen he began to learn the builder's trade.

During the War Between the States he served the entire time in the Confederate army. He participated in the battle of Oak Hill as a member of the Fort Smith Rifles, 3rd Arkansas Infantry.

He married the oldest daughter of Asa Clark, Melvina Clark Greenlee, who died May 30, 1883. On September 11, 1884, he married Miss Anna Dewees,

daughter of Judge William Dewees, of Culloden, Monroe County, Georgia, "a highly accomplished and most estimable lady."

By his first marriage he had four sons: Thomas, an architect and graduate of the Arkansas Industrial University; Wallace, a plumber; Hoyt and Henry, who in 1889 were still attending school.

In 1889 Mr. Bruce held the office of superintendent of school buildings in Fort Smith, and among the buildings he erected were the Hotel Main, the Merchants Bank, and H.H. Clayton's residence.

He and his wife, Anna Dewees, were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

At the time of her death, his first wife was also survived by a son from her first marriage, Alvin Greenlee.

Sources

Goodspeed Historical and Biographical Memoirs, Northwest Arkansas, pg 1296.

Fort Smith New Era, May 31, 1883.

William Wade Farrior

William Wade Farrior, a well known builder, who was Street Commissioner of Fort Smith, Arkansas, in 1903, was born at Jefferson, Marion County, Texas, in 1865.¹ His parents, William B. and Jennie (Speed) Farrior² died before he was five years old and he was under the care of an uncle until he was seventeen years old — then he "struck out" for himself. He came to Sebastian County in 1883.³

He was an active, industrious, thrifty, enterprising member of the community who was engaged in the stone business near Fort Smith. For twelve or thirteen years, during the most active period of building in Fort Smith, there were few buildings or improvements that he did not aid in constructing by furnishing material. For eleven years he was in partnership with George T. Rice, also well known in the stone business.⁴

Mr. Farrior soon became familiar with street building and won the attention of the city council, which chose him for street commissioner in 1899 and many years after that time.⁵

He was competent, steady and straightforward in his affairs, and a successful manager of men and methods. By close attention to his business he prospered, and was a good example of what steady, determined, faithful efforts will do for a self-made man.⁶

In 1888 he married Katherine Margaret Seibert,⁷ the daughter of Henry and Clara (Werner) Seibert, at Fort Smith. Their children in 1903 were: Clarence,

13; Jennie May, 9; Julia Lilla Fay, 7; Olive, 2; and Lillian, three months.⁸

When William died April 18, 1924, all of the above children were listed as survivors except Julia Lilla Fay. In addition to these, another daughter, Stella, was listed. Katherine died October 29, 1951¹⁰ and her obituary lists only Jennie May, Lillian, Olive and C.W. Margaret was also survived by one sister, Mrs. Anna Warner of Fort Smith. In 1951 Jennie May was listed as Mrs. J.E. Mauss of Danbury, Connecticut, and C.W. as a resident of Little Rock.

Both William and Katherine are buried in Oak Cemetery in Fort Smith.

According to the Sebastian County Atlas, 1903, William was a member of Tent No. 2 of the Maccabees.

Footnotes

1. *Atlas of Sebastian County, Arkansas, 1903*, page 47.
2. Fort Smith death records, Fort Smith Public Library.
3. *Atlas*, op. cit., page 47.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. Putman Funeral Home records, October 29, 1951.
8. Death Records, op. cit.
9. *Fort Smith Southwest American*, April 19, 1924.
10. Ibid, October 30, 1951.

Jesse Reed James Reed

Amelia Martin

Jesse and James H. Reed, father and son, were builders and brick masons.

J.F. Weaver called Jesse Reed and Asa Clark the most prominent bricklayers, contractors and builders in the formative days of Fort Smith.

Jesse Reed was of Irish descent. He was born in McNairy County, Tennessee, and came to Fort Smith to help build the garrison.

The Goodspeed History of Northwest Arkansas says that in 1833 he, in company with his older brothers, Hamilton and Stephen, left Memphis and traveled to Little Rock, Arkansas, on foot. Gradually moving west, they reached Fort Smith in 1839.

J.F. Weaver, newspaper editor and writer of Fort Smith history, also said one of Jesse Reed's large contracts was in 1852 for the construction of a brick block of business houses beginning at the corner of which are now North A and Second streets. This block belonged to Captain John Rogers, who is recognized as the founder of Fort Smith. The *Fort Smith Herald* newspaper is the authority for the building date. This building was destroyed by the great fire of November 14, 1872.

In 1836, a son, James H. Reed, was born to Jesse Reed and his wife Sara (Lloyd) Reed.

James learned his father's trade by serving a full apprenticeship under his father, completing the apprenticeship in 1854.

His apprenticeship completed, young Reed worked for awhile at his trade, then became chief clerk in the post office under William Porter. The post office at this time was located on Garrison Avenue about three doors down from Second Street. Following this, he rode for some time as a guard with one of the Butterfield overland stage coaches on the route that lay north of Fort Smith. One guard was sufficient on the line between the railroad terminus at Tipton,

Missouri, southward, until western Texas, Arizona and New Mexico were reached. From this point, stages were at times accompanied by guards on horseback to protect them from savage Indians and lawless white men.¹

During the Civil War he enlisted in the Confederate service, and for six months served as lieutenant in Reed's Battery, under Gen. Benjamin McCullough. He later joined the infantry and served until the end of the war. His first battle was at Elk Horn.

He saw Fort Smith grow from a small settlement into a thriving town. He lighted the first gas lamp in the place, opened the first mail received in the post office here, served in the town council, and was the assistant postmaster two years.²

Among the buildings James Reed erected were the Arkansas Industrial University at Fayetteville, the Commercial Bank, the Hotel Main Block, McKibben Hotel and residence, the Opera House and the Morrison Building. He superintended the building of the United States jail and courthouse, and by 1889 had probably erected more buildings than any other man in Fort Smith.³

He was united in marriage in Fort Smith to Miss Martha Talula Marshall, a native of Georgia, by whom he had one daughter, Elizabeth, who married George R. Cook.⁴

James and Martha Reed were members of the Presbyterian Church, and he was a member of the Blue Lodge in Masonry.⁵

Footnotes

1. J.F. Weaver
2. *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwest Arkansas*, pg. 358
3. Ibid
4. Ibid
5. Ibid

Helen Foristell Southard

Continues to Support Fort Smith Historical Society

The Fort Smith Historical Society has received \$1,000 from the estate of the late Helen Foristell Southard, widow of Dr. Jefferson S. Southard. Mrs. Southard was a charter member and supporter of our Society from its beginning. She gave not only financial support, but valuable help with historical resources, beginning with the diary of her mother-in-law, Corrine Sherlock Southard, which was published in Volume I, No. 1 of *The Journal*.

Through her bequest, she continues to support the Society's preservation and publication of Fort Smith history for present and future generations. Her thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Annabelle Pilgrim

Sarah Fitzjarrald



Annabelle Pilgrim

Annabelle Pilgrim has lived in Arkoma, Oklahoma, just across the State line, for 50 years. Her father, R.L. Pilgrim, began working for the Coffeyville Brick & Tile Company there several years before she was born, at least in 1910, as she recalls family records.

Bricks and brick making have always been a great part in her life. After the brick company went out of business in Arkoma she and her parents moved to Fort Smith and her father went to work for Acme Brick Company. They all became members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Annabelle still attends church there.

Her eyes light up as she recalls childhood memories with her parents and her brothers and sisters. One memory, still impressive, is of the flood of 1927 when the Missouri Pacific could not get to the brick plant for loading brick due to high water.

While quite young her mother bought her an eight-inch weaving loom. From the beginning, weaving just seemed to be her special talent.



R.L. Pilgrim

In 1946 her parents bought her a 2-harness weaving loom. It takes 24 spools of thread and two days' time to thread it.

What makes Annabelle special is that she is completely self-taught. She makes her own patterns by copying from pictures, and the expertise of her work shines forth in the beauty of her finished rugs and other items. Annabelle plans to attend weaving classes in Fort Smith. Fellow weavers will most assuredly welcome her.

Annabelle says there are only two more people who have lived in Arkoma longer than she has. As one newspaper story put it recently, "Arkoma is lucky to have her."

Local teachers have sought her out for historical facts since she started a diary in 1936 (and is still at it!).

Yes, Arkoma is lucky to have her — and so are the rest of us. With her talent for beauty and her love of people, she is one of the world's great, and gracious, contributors.

Joseph Gilbert Eberle, M.D.

Amelia Martin

Dr. Joseph Gilbert Eberle, prominent in Western Arkansas as a physician and surgeon, not only served the people of Fort Smith through his practice of medicine in Fort Smith for 49 years, but also served as physician for the Federal Prison during Judge Parker's term, was a member of the Fort Smith Board of Health, a faithful member of the Chamber of Commerce, a member of the city council and was instrumental in the paving of Garrison Avenue. One source says that at the time he became chairman of the paving commission, Garrison Avenue was "belly-deep in mud", and that he had the innovative idea of selling bonds to pay for the project.

Dr. Eberle was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas, on December 31, 1853, and died in Fort Smith on October 22, 1924. His funeral was held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

While Joseph Gilbert Eberle was growing up, his name was mentioned often in the Fort Smith newspapers as a member of various organizations and attending social functions. In 1880 he was First Lieutenant of the Frontier Guards, a military company based in Fort Smith.

Dr. Eberle was educated in Fort Smith schools; old St. John's College, Little Rock; Louisville, Kentucky, Medical College (graduated in 1873); and did post graduate work at Medical Colleges in New York. He was a charter member of the Arkansas Medical Society in 1875, served as the first secretary and two terms as president of that society. He also served in every office of the Sebastian County Medical Society; was president of the 10th Councilor District Medical Association; and was a member of the American Medical Association.

Dr. Eberle, in 1908, became chief-of-staff of the first hospital established in Fort Smith and continued in that capacity until his death. During that time, the name of the hospital was changed to Sparks, and the Sparks Memorial Hospital was built.

During the yellow fever epidemic in 1880, he was in charge of the quarantine district in southeast Arkansas. When he died, he was the oldest native-born physician in Fort Smith.

He was a large property owner in Sebastian County and was noted for his charitable activities, and quiet, unassuming solution of every difficulty that arose.

On December 30, 1878, he was married to Miss Jennie E. Pearson. They had four sons and two daughters: Commander William E. Eberle of the U.S. Navy; Dr. Walter G. Eberle who also practiced medicine in Fort Smith; Ethel (Mrs. E. Leslie Hunt), Fort Smith; Elizabeth (Mrs. Willis W. Johnson), Fort Smith; John P., Fort Smith; and Eugene G., Little Rock.

Jennie Pearson was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Pearson and the granddaughter of Samuel Colt, the inventor of the Colt pistol. The newspaper account of the death of Mr. Pearson on August 1, 1883, spelled his name PIERSON, but all other references spell it Pearson. He was a gunsmith also.

The Eberle family was prominent in the development of western Arkansas.

The parents of Dr. Eberle were Joseph and Mary (Stemmler) Eberle. Joseph Eberle, a native of Switzerland, came to Fort Smith some years before 1850. The town was then a military post and not much else. One of its pioneer merchants, he had a store, built of logs, on the northeast corner of Garrison Avenue and Sixth Street, and lived in a small residence to the rear of the store. It was in this residence building that Dr. Joseph Gilbert Eberle was born. Joseph and Mary Eberle had six sons, three of whom were still living in 1924 when Dr. Eberle died. They were Frank Eberle of Joplin, Missouri, C.H. Eberle of Muskogee, Oklahoma, and Admiral Walter Eberle, Chief of the U.S. Navy, of Washington, D.C.

The property where the Eberle store and residence were located had originally belonged to Mrs. Stemmler, Dr. Eberle's maternal grandmother, who had come to Fort Smith from Savannah, Georgia, where Dr. Eberle's mother was born.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books:

1. Martin, Amelia Whitaker, *Physicians and Medicine, Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas, 1817-1976*, page 319.
2. Hempstead, Fay, *Historical Review of Arkansas*, pages 888-889.

Newspapers:

1. *Fort Smith Elevator*.
2. *Fort Smith New Era*.
3. *Southwest American*, Fort Smith, October 23, 1924.

James Fagan Bourland

Mayor of Fort Smith Four Times

1907-1908, 1911-1913, 1921-1923, 1929-1933

Amelia Martin

James Fagan Bourland,¹ always called Fagan Bourland, was elected mayor of Fort Smith, Arkansas, four times and served a total of approximately ten years. The only mayor to exceed that tenure was Jack Freeze who served sixteen years.

Bourland was elected mayor of Fort Smith in 1907, again in 1911 and 1921, was impeached from office in 1923 and won a fourth election in 1929 to serve a full four-year term.

Mayor Bourland was described in his obituary² as "one of the most outstanding figures in city political and business history."

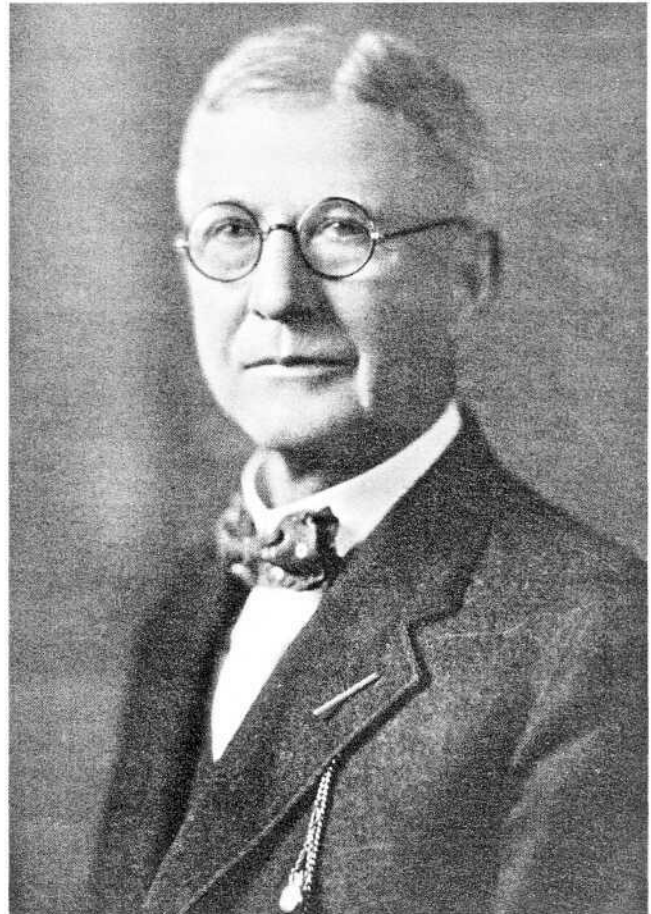
His father was in the freighting business and also operated a ferry on the Poteau river. Fagan helped his father for a while, then operated his own ferry for a few years. He began to acquire real estate holdings in Fort Smith and later ran a wholesale grocery, a saloon and a hotel on Garrison Avenue.³

Lora Pierce Mulkey in her autobiography said, "We had now come to the spring of 1905. We were still happy friends; and in this year we saw our first automobile. Fagan Bourland got it. He went down the avenue backfiring every minute. People came running to each side of the avenue from everywhere to see it."

"On the evening of February 23, 1917, as two streetcars approached Garrison and 13th street, bright lights blinded motorist Fagan Bourland, causing him to strike a street pole, extensively damaging his Marmon automobile."⁴

His address to the city council when he was administered the oath of office on April 8, 1907,⁵ set forth a long list of city needs and goals he planned to achieve. It included pushing city ownership of water system; expansion of sewer system; enactment of legislation that would give the two gas companies competition resulting in lower gas rates for residents; laying sidewalks; clean streets and alleys. He suggested walks be laid to all schools, strict enforcement of ordinances regarding cutting of grass and weeds and cleanliness of closets, vaults, etc., and putting entire city in first class sanitary condition as possible.

He promised to give all encouragement and aid to the Civic League in their work and urged creation of office of city physician, stating, "I regard this as very important and it will contribute to the best interests and general welfare of the city."



Fagan Bourland

Courtesy Mrs. George Shankle, granddaughter, Camden, AR, and Beverly Palmer Mitchell, great-granddaughter, Fort Smith.

Bourland quoted the law which gave city councils power to prevent or regulate the carrying on of any trade, business or vocation of a tendency dangerous to morals, and health or safety, or calculated to promote dishonesty or crime, and to provide ordinances for the punishment of dishonest practices of any kind. This law gives council power to enact such ordinances as will stop junk shops from purchasing brass, lead, copper, and other metals from minors, thieves and persons of bad character.

Having quoted the law, he added, "I earnestly recommend the passage of such ordinances."

He recommended the establishment of two more fire stations, one on the North side and one on the South side of Fort Smith, equipped as was Station No. 2; and that the chief of the fire department be paid a good salary and be required to devote his entire time to the fire department.

"It will be my aim to have as soon as possible an efficient police force, and I will see that this force lives up to the rules of that department."

He also recommended that the council make an appropriation to fit up an office in the room adjoining the mayor's office and city clerk's office as headquarters for the chief of police, so that when anyone needed an officer, they could call up headquarters. Also that the office of city detective be re-established, and a police matron appointed as soon as possible as required by law, at a salary of not less than \$25.00 per month.

He pledged maintenance of the public library which was built, and praised the ladies of the Fortnightly Library Association for their heroic efforts and untiring energy in securing the \$25,000 donation for the library. He also commended the Ladies Reading-room Association for their generosity in donating their books and rendering financial aid to make our Carnegie Public Library a glorious success.

He favored extending a welcome hand to all foreign money seeking legitimate investments, emphasizing "We cannot afford to antagonize capitalists who come to help us develop our natural resources."

He concluded with, "It should be our duty, gentlemen, at the earliest moment to see that these several interests are cared for, while the general good of the entire city should receive our attention throughout our term of office.

"I trust that in our deliberations that we will be so united in sentiment that our labors will be less arduous than if hampered by delays and vexations of unharmonious discussions.

"Now, let us get down to business."

And "get down to business" he did, by announcing appointment of the following committees: Finance, Ordinance, Streets and Alleys, Police, Fire Department, Claims, Sanitary, Public Buildings and Grounds, Gas, Electric Light and Water, Paving and Sewers, and Special Water Committee.

He also announced the appointment of Henry Suratt as chief of police and D.B. Trowbridge as chief of the fire department.

By the end of his four terms in office, most of the goals he had set had been accomplished, including the building of a bridge linking Arkansas and Oklahoma which was completed on December 19, 1910, and building sidewalks on Garrison avenue.

The petition to recall Mayor Bourland in 1923 charged him with general laxity in enforcement of laws against the manufacture and sale of liquor, gambling and other vices in the city.⁶ In a call meeting of the city council to set a date for the recall election, Mayor Bourland, anxious to have the election behind him as soon as possible, made the motion himself that the election be held May 17.⁷

Although Bourland denied the charges and stated he would resign immediately if any one of the charges could be proven true, he was impeached in a controversial election.

At a special city council meeting on May 18, 1923, he resigned as the chief executive of the city and vice mayor, M.J. Miller, became mayor *protem* pending an election of a successor to the office.⁸

This impeachment came about at a time when the Ku Klux Klan was influential in government and Charles C. Alexander stated in his article *White Robes in Politics, The Ku Klux Klan in Arkansas, 1922-1924*, "In Fort Smith the Klan and its sympathizers forced a recall election on Mayor Fagan Bourland... whom the order accused of misappropriation of funds and softness toward bootleggers and prostitutes. The night before the election, Fort Smith Klansmen met in their Klavern at Ninth and Garrison streets to make plans for the expulsion of Bourland, while in the street below a bugle corps sponsored by the local chapter paraded to advertise the Klan's fight on the mayor. The next day the Klan and its friends recalled Bourland, 1737 votes to 1079. The mayor, a Catholic, carried only one box in the city, that of the Catholic recreation hall.

"A week later the new mayor, M.J. Miller, inaugurated an ambitious vice 'cleanup' campaign by declaring war on gambling, lewd women, loafers, and bootleggers in the city limits of Fort Smith."⁹

Footnotes on the above statement say the source was *Fort Smith Southwest American*, May 16, 18 and 25, 1923. These articles do not indicate he was a Catholic or that the Klan planned the recall, except that the Klan did have a meeting and a rally on the night of the eve of the recall election, and directly below the newspaper article about the Klan meeting, were three small political advertisements against Mayor Bourland.

Mayor Bourland and his wife attended First Methodist Church, and at her death, Mayor Bourland gave a carillon to that church in her memory.

Fagan Bourland was born in November 1862 on a farm in Sebastian County, Arkansas, the son of James Cook Bourland and his first wife, Ann E. Spangler.¹⁰

On December 11, 1880 Fagan Bourland married Julia Bailey, the daughter of Lucinda and Wiley Bailey. Julia was born December 1861 in Georgia, just below Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Three children were born to this union, all in Fort Smith: Morton, b. 17 October 1880, d. 14 July 1932, never married; James, b. 1 January 1884; and Cap Fagan, b. 10 July 1887, d. 5 February 1932.¹¹

Julia died in Fort Smith August 2, 1941. In addition to her husband and son, she was survived by a brother, Thomas Bailey, PawPaw, Oklahoma, and four grandchildren: Mrs. Earl K. Ward, Fort Smith; Mrs. A.K. Palmer, Detroit, Michigan; Mrs. George Shankle, Camden, AR; and James F. Bourland, III, Bound Brook, N.J.

Fagan died September 7, 1952.¹² His funeral was held at Edwards Funeral Home chapel with Dr. Fred G. Roebuck, pastor of the First Methodist Church, officiating.

Survivors included one son, James Bourland, Fort Smith; one sister, Mrs. Will Ervin, Booneville, AR; four half-sisters: Mrs. Zoe O. Page and Mrs. Abbie Stanton, both of Fort Smith; Mrs. Bess Irwin and Mrs. Lura Cruce, both of Tulsa, OK; one half-brother, Grover Bourland, Tulsa, OK; three grandchildren, Dr. James F. Bourland, New York City, Mrs. George Shankle, Camden, AR, and Mrs. Fay Ward Burrell, Fort Smith; and four great-grandchildren, Beverly P. Palmer of Fort Smith, and Susan, Judy and Jimmy Shankle, Camden, AR.¹³

At Fagan's death, the Bourland family requested that instead of flowers, contributions be made in his memory to the Boys Club, County Home for Aged, Rosalie Tilles Home, Salvation Army and the Catholic Church charity funds.¹⁴

Footnotes

1. *The Bourlands In America*, page 276, by Carl and May Read.
2. *Southwest Times Record*, Fort Smith, September 7, 1952.
3. Ibid.
4. *The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society*, Volume IV, No. 2, page 36.
5. *Fort Smith Elevator*, April 12, 1907.
6. *Fort Smith Southwest American*, April 10, 1923.
7. Ibid, April 17, 1923.
8. Ibid, May 19, 1923.
9. *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XII, pages 206-207.
10. *Bourlands In America*, op. cit.
11. Ibid.
12. Fort Smith Death Records.
13. *Times Record*, op. cit. September 9, 1952.
14. Ibid.

Search for Photographs of Fort Smith Mayors

Photographs of 22 Fort Smith mayors have been located, but 28 more are needed to complete the collection. If you can supply a picture of any of the mayors on the following list, or furnish information where one can be found, please contact Joan Stratmann, Administrative Assistant, City of Fort Smith, P.O. Box 1908, Fort Smith, AR 72902, telephone (501) 784-2201; or Amelia Martin, Fort Smith Historical Society, (501) 783-1237.

If you wish your photograph returned, it will be copied and the original returned to you.

Daniel Baker	1889-1890	J.A. Hoffman	1893-1896
John Beckel	1857	C.M. Hudspeth	1841
Joseph Bennett	1861-1863	R.M. Johnson	1855-56, 1860, 1863-64, 1875
Charles A. Birnie	1841	J.K. McKenzie	1861
George S. Birnie	1846-1848	M.J. Miller (protem)	1923
E.J. Brooks	1874	R.P. Pulliam	1853
Bob Brooksher	1961-1964	Wm. H. Rogers	1855
W. Henry Carnall	1883-1885	W.K. Spangler	1865-66
Charles M. Cook	1891-1892	Dr. Nichols Spring	1850
Smith Elkins	1845	John Stryker	1866-68
I.W. Fuller	1872-1873	Joseph J. Walton	1858
Tom Ben Garrett	1897-1902	W.J. Weaver, Recorder	1849
Nathaniel Gookin	1841	S.A. Williams	1887-88
Mat Gray	1886	Francis S./H. Wolf	1859
Joseph H. Heard	1843-1845	James Yarbrough	1964-1967

In Loving Memory

Obituaries abstracted from Fort Smith *Southwest Times Record*

LEONNA BELLE COTNER

Leonna Belle Cotner, 71, corresponding secretary of the Fort Smith Historical Society, died November 7, 1989.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church, the Children's Service League, the Inter Faith Center, the Salvation Army, the Gateway House, Genealogical Society, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, the Embroiderers Guild, the Library Board and the Women's Society of Christian Service.

She is survived by her husband, Cleve; two sons, Lindy Cotner and Tommy Fowler, both of Fort Smith; two sisters, Evora James and Anna B. Stephens, both of Van Buren; and a granddaughter, Robyn Fowler of Fort Smith.

ROBERT McCANN

Robert McCann, 75, former member of the board of directors of the Fort Smith Historical Society, died September 27, 1989.

He was former owner of McCann Photo Company and a member of Christ the King Catholic Church. He was past chairman of the Fort Smith Planning Commission, and was active in many civic and historical preservation organizations.

He is survived by his wife, Eleanor; three daughters, Mary M. Collins of Worcester, Mass., Margaret Turco of Ridgewood, N.J., and Catherine Goins of Broken Arrow, OK; three sons, Robert Rogers and William Carter, both of Houston, TX, and Robert E. III, of Overland Park, KS; and 17 grandchildren.

ALICE M. DEW

Alice Dew, 79, of Fort Smith died Saturday, December 9, 1989, in a Fort Smith hospital. She and her husband, Jim Dew, have assisted in the work of the Fort Smith Historical Society since its beginning by generously sharing their knowledge of Fort Smith history and items from their collection of Fort Smith historical memorabilia.

She was an owner of Alice and Jim's Snack Shop at 2714 Kelley Highway and a member of Massard United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Jim; two sisters, Mrs. Lena Brooks and Mrs. Edna Branham, both of Fort Smith; a brother, James J. Bell of Winterpark, FL; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bost Human Development Services.

JEAN PRESSON GILES

Jean Presson Giles, 76, retired chemistry teacher in the Fort Smith and Van Buren school districts, died January 5, 1990.

She also taught at Westark Community College and Sparks School of Nursing. She received degrees from the University of Arkansas and the University of Missouri. She was a member of Starkville First United Methodist Church, Starkville, TN; and the United Methodist Women and Gamma Sigma Delta.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. William L. Giles; her daughter, Ginger Giles Jones of Starkville; two sons, Richard of Birmingham, AL, and John P. of Marietta, GA; her sister, Hazel Presson of Fort Smith; and four grandchildren.

LUCILLE ROBINETT SPEAKMAN

Lucille Robinett Speakman, 83, longtime member of the faculty and Board of Trustees at Westark Community College, died January 13, 1990. She received her BA degree from Southeastern State Teachers College in Durant, OK, and her MA degree from Oklahoma A&M College in Stillwater, OK. In 1945, Speakman became a faculty member of the social studies department at Fort Smith Junior College, now Westark Community College, where she taught until retirement in 1976. She was elected to the college Board of Trustees in 1982 and served as a member of the board until 1988.

She received many honors including Phi Kappa Phi, Honorary History Society; Kappa Delta Pi, Honorary Education Society; the 1966 Golden Apple Award from the Fort Smith Classroom Teachers Association; an honorary doctorate in human letters from Geneva Theological College in Maine; 1970 Woman Achiever of the Year from the *Southwest Times Record*; and was inducted in the Westark Hall of Honor in 1987.

Her community service affiliations included leadership roles in AAUW; Soroptomist Club; Board of Stewards at First Methodist Church; League of Women Voters; AD, PEO; YMCA; and leadership of an intermediate Girl Scouts troop.

She is survived by two brothers, Alton B. Speakman of Duncan, OK, and W.J. Speakman of Baton Rouge, LA; and by four sisters, Louise Sager, Ruthann Coleman and Roberta Pollard, all of Duncan, OK, and Billye Offenstien of Port St. Lucie, FL.

BRUCE H. SHAW

Bruce H. Shaw, 85, died January 19, 1990. He was a founder and senior partner in the law firm of Shaw, Ledbetter, Hornberger, Cogbill and Arnold; past president of the Fort Smith School Board, the Kiwanis Club and other civic and charitable organizations; a 32nd degree Mason; a Shriner; a graduate of the University of Arkansas; a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity; chairman of the Stanley Evans Charitable Foundation; chairman of the board of the Bank of Mansfield and Standard Federal Savings and Loan; past member of the board of trustees of Sparks Regional Medical Center; and a member of the First United Methodist Church where he taught Sunday School for many years.

He is survived by one daughter, Lucinda Sangree of Rochester, NY; one son, J. Michael of Fort Smith; one brother, Dr. Jerry of Louisville, KY; 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Stanley E. Evans Heart Institute at 1311 S. I St.; the First United Methodist Church or the American Cancer Society at P.O. Box 5438, Fort Smith.

CLARENCE MILFORD ROWE

Clarence Milford Rowe, 71, died January 22, 1990. He was a retired printer, having worked for Weldon, Williams and Lick for 37 years; a member of the Fort Smith First Baptist Church; the Masonic Lodge of Neosho, MO; and the Belle Point Good Sam's Club. He was a veteran of World War II and an assistant scout master from 1964 to 1967 for Troop No. 23 with the First Presbyterian Church in Fort Smith.

He is survived by his wife, Craig; two sons, Charles C. of Little Rock and C. Henry of Lincoln.

Memorials may be made to the Fulfill A Dream Foundation.

MRS. MONTEZ BIRD

Mrs. Montez H. Bird, 84, died January 23, 1990. She was a bookkeeper for Wilson Coffee Company, a member of First Baptist Church, and was a Gray Lady at Fort Chaffee during World War II.

She is survived by her son, James M. Bird, Sr.; her sister, Billie Hamm; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Central Christian Church Building Fund or to the First Baptist Church Building Fund.

HELEN O'NEAL

Helen Mae O'Neal, 72, of North Little Rock, formerly of Fort Smith, died January 25, 1990. She was a retired teacher from North Hills Exceptional Children's School of North Little Rock. She was an organist and choir director at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Fort Smith and the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in North Little Rock.

She is survived by her husband, Arthur B., Jr.; three daughters, Peggy Duncan and Patricia Steinmetz, both of North Little Rock; and Deborah Verdon of Grapevine, TX; her mother, Helen Harper of Fort Smith; her sister, Betty Griggs of Fort Smith; her brother, W.R. "Bud" Harper of Fort Smith; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Luke Lutheran Church in Fort Smith.

ROY GROBER

Roy C. Grober, 92, died January 25, 1990. He was a retired salesman for the Seven-Eleven Cleaners, an Army veteran of WWI, a member of the American Legion, the United Commercial Travelers, and a member and deacon of Calvary Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret; two daughters, Alice Riddle of Roland, OK, and Susie Francis of Dallas, TX; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

DR. FRANK BLAKEMORE

Dr. J. Frank Blakemore, 91, died January 25, 1990. He was a retired dentist, a member of and past treasurer of the First Christian Church, a veteran of World War I, a charter member of the American Legion, a member of the Arkansas Dental Association, the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners for 15 years, the Van Buren Blue Lodge No. 6, Arkansas Scottish Rite and was past president

of the Noon Civic Club. He was a graduate of the St. Louis University School of Dentistry and was a Fellow of the American College of Dentists.

He is survived by his son, Dr. Jim F. Blakemore of Fort Smith; two grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the First Christian Church or the Fort Smith Public Library.

BILL J. CAUTHRON

Bill J. Cauthron, 62, the longest-serving sheriff in the Sebastian County's history, died September 11, 1989, in his Little Rock apartment. He had served as county sheriff for 15 years. He had directed the Arkansas State Crime Lab since August, 1988.

He was a member of Eastside Baptist Church and a member of Sebastian County Masonic Lodge No. 706. He was a veteran of World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Norma; a daughter, Kathy Rayburn of Little Rock; two sons, Jim Bill of Little Rock and Brad of Ashdown; four sisters, Lou Ella Walker of Little Rock, Maudie DeLodge of Santa Ana, CA, Bobbie Jean Boatright of Austin, TX, and Charlene Jones of Barstow, CA; a brother, R.L. of Apple Valley, CA; and four grandchildren.

ROSE COOPER GREGORY

Rose Cooper Gregory, 78, retired teacher of the Fort Smith school system, died October 11, 1989. She taught at Darby, Ramsey, Northside and Southside schools. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Beta Eta Chapter; AEA, NEA, American Legion Nos. 31, 8 and 40. She was past president of the Retired Teachers Association and the Omicron Conclave of Kappa Kappa Iota. She was a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church.

She is survived by her husband, Anson; and four nephews.

GLENN MUSTIN

Glenn Ewistzer Mustin, 52, of Alma died October 17, 1989. He was a counselor at Kimmons Junior High School, and member of Concord Baptist Church in Alma.

He is survived by his wife, Peggy; a daughter, Laurie Whitworth of Kibler; two sons, Bill of Fort Smith and Kevin of Fayetteville; his parents, Glenn and Millie Mustin of Houma, LA; a brother, Corky of Houma; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

NADINE JEFFERY

Nadine E. Jeffery, 73, retired teacher of the Fort Smith school system, died October 26, 1989. She was a member of First United Methodist Church, Harmony Chapter No. 455 Order of the Eastern Star, Work Area of Education at First United Methodist and the Retired Teachers Association, and past director of Y-Teens.

She is survived by her husband, Robert; a daughter, Jane Jeffery Oliver of Bentonville; a son, Robert, Jr., of Mulberry; and four grandchildren.

ARTHUR CURTIS GOLDTRAP, SR.

Arthur Curtis Goldtrap, Sr., a community leader and businessman who, with his father, founded the Acee Pure Milk Co. in Fort Smith 52 years ago, died in his Fort Smith home Monday, July 3, 1989, at the age of 77.

Goldtrap was born on March 21, 1912, in Regent, N.D., earned a bachelor of science degree in dairy science at Iowa State University and went to work in Louisville, Ky., with the company that was the forerunner of Kraft Foods.

He and his father, Arthur Clark Goldtrap, who was president of Jesson Goldtrap Dairy of Casper, Wyo., moved to Fort Smith in 1937 where they opened Acee Pure Milk Co. Eventually, the dairy joined the ownership and management of Plains Creamery of Amarillo, Texas, and Sinton Dairy of Denver and Colorado Springs.

Goldtrap was active in education, with the young and in Fort Smith civic organizations. He was chairman and member of the Westark Community College Board of Directors and the college's Foundation. He also served on the Arkansas Tech University Board of Directors, with the Fort Smith Boys Club, on the boys club's Endowment Fund, the Sebastian County 4H Foundation and was a strong supporter of St. Jude's Children's Hospital in Memphis. He served 20 years as a director of Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company and was a director of Merchants National Bank. He was involved in the Fort Smith United Way, the Arkansas-Oklahoma State Fair Board and was past member of the Fort Smith Downtown Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Foundation and the Arkansas Angus Association.

Funeral was held at the First Lutheran Church in Fort Smith with burial in Roselawn Cemetery under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Katherine Marie; one daughter, Katherine Ann Myles of Denver; one son, A. Curtis, Jr. of Fort Smith; two sisters, Winniford Haliburton of Fort Smith and Sally Jourgensen of Sun City, Arizona; six grandchildren and four step-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Fort Smith Boys Club, St. Edward Mercy Medical Center, Westark Community College or the First Lutheran Church.

MAYS ENGLAND

Mays England, 87, of Fort Smith died Saturday, December 23, 1989, in a Fort Smith hospital. He was retired owner of England Motor Co. and a member of Evangel Temple Assembly of God Church.

Funeral was in Evangel Temple Assembly of God Church and burial at Forest Park Cemetery under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home.

He is survived by his wife, Reva Nell; two daughters, Evelyn Pendleton of Fort Smith and Doris Jean Nimmo of Fort Smith; a son, Edward of Fort Smith; a sister, Ruth Caulk of Ozark; a brother, Raymond of Fort Smith; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Evangel Temple Assembly of God Church or Fort Smith rescue mission.

WADE HAMPTON COOLEY

Wade Hampton Cooley, who created "the place" for two generations of Fort Smith teens and adults, died Thursday, September 28, 1989, after a long illness.

Throughout the 1930s, '40s and '50s, Cooley Drugstore on Rogers Avenue was "the place" for Sunday lunch, after-school gatherings of young people around the soda fountain or in cars for curb service, and delivery boys on bikes with felt beanie caps. The pharmacy closed in 1969.

A memorial service was held in Edwards Funeral Home Chapel with private burial at Oak Cemetery.

Cooley, as president and member of the State Board of Pharmacy, led a reform movement in his profession that resulted in enactment of Arkansas laws requiring pharmacists to have college degrees. Previously, pharmacists were allowed to serve as apprentices and earn licenses. He helped write and administer Arkansas' first state examinations for pharmacy students to become certified.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Frances Drake Cooley; two daughters, Susie Pender of Barrington, IL, and Jayne Henline of Edmond, OK; a son, Tom of Fort Smith; two sisters, Mrs. Charles Lacy of El Paso, TX, and Mrs. Helen Parker of Jonesboro, LA; and 10 grandchildren.

Memorials have been established with First Presbyterian Church Guest House and the Fort Smith Public Library.

He was a past member of Rotary Club, Masonic Lodge of Muskogee, Hardscrabble Country Club and a member of First Presbyterian Church.

VIRGINIA L. DYKE

Virginia L. Dyke, 87, of Fort Smith died Tuesday, October 17, 1989, in her home. She was the widow of Francis W. Dyke. (See Volume V, Number 1, April 1981 issue of *The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society* for the history of the Dyke family and the Dyke Brothers Lumber Company.) She was a member of First United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women, a member and past President of Chapter F of P.E.O., a former member of the Fort Smith Public Library Board, a former member of the Y.W.C.A. Board and a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority at the University of Arkansas. Burial was in Forest Park Cemetery under the direction of Putman Funeral Home.

She is survived by three sons, John of Little Rock, Frank of Huntington Beach, CA, and James of Palm Beach, FL; a brother, Edward Benton of Little Rock; 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of choice.

LENA RUTH BRYAN CORNELIUS

Lena Ruth Bryan Cornelius, retired Fort Smith teacher, died Thursday, January 4, 1990, in Knoxville, Tennessee. Burial was in Roselawn Cemetery in Fort Smith. She was a member of the Goddard United Methodist Church, Delta Kappa Gamma, American Association of University Women, Fort Smith Education Association, Arkansas Education Association, National Education Association, Hendrix College Half Century Club, Fort Nightly Club,

United Methodist Women, Gladys Hasler Guild, Goddard United Methodist Church Circle Seven and Harvesters Sunday School class of which she was once a teacher, and a supporter of the Fort Smith Trolley Museum.

The widow of Philip Cornelius, she is survived by her daughter, Virginia Cornelius Waggoner of Knoxville; two sisters, Grace Bryan Milum and Faye Bryan Tilley, both of Harrison, AR; a brother, J.W. Bryan of Harrison; and three grandchildren.

JOSIE JACKSON

Josie Jackson, one of Fort Smith's oldest residents, died Friday, August 25, 1989, in a Fort Smith hospital at the age of 103. She was a homemaker and a member of the King Solomon Baptist Church where she was also a member of the Women's Missionary Society and Esther Circle. Funeral was in the King Solomon Baptist Church and burial at the Washington Cemetery under the direction of Rowell-Parish Mortuary.

She is survived by two daughters, Pearl Brewer and Rosie Cravens, both of Fort Smith; a son, Louis of Fort Smith; 30 grandchildren, 76 great-grandchildren, 65 great-great-grandchildren and two great-great-great-grandchildren.

REV. JOE JONES

The Rev. Joe E. Jones, 63, of Fort Smith died Friday, January 5, 1990, in a Fort Smith hospital. He was pastor of the First Church of God and served the Arkansas-Oklahoma Eldership Conference and the Administrative Council as president, vice president and treasurer. He was an Army veteran, a lifetime member of the disabled American Veterans and the American Legion and was retired from the municipal airport. Funeral was in the First Church of God with burial at Latimore Cemetery under the direction of Rowell-Parish Mortuary.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Faye; his daughter, Teresa of Fort Smith; five sons, Billy Joe of Phoenix, Ariz., James of Muskogee and Willie, Marvin and Michael, all of Fort Smith; three sisters, Pauline McDonald of Flint, Mich., Ruthy L. Bradford of Las Vegas, and Peggy Jones of Stockton, Calif.; two brothers, Lee and Henry, both of Fort Smith; and 12 grandchildren.

ELZO ELKINS

Elzo Elkins, 83, of Fort Smith died November 1, 1989, in a Fort Smith hospital. He was a retired vice-president and trust officer with Merchant's National Bank. Also a member and elder of Wood Memorial Christian Church. Funeral was in Edwards Funeral Home Chapel and burial at Oak Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Naomi; a sister, Mrs. Cletus Schrotz of Fort Smith; a niece and two nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wood Memorial Christian Church in Van Buren or St. Edward Mercy Medical Center.

ROBERT PAINE

Robert L. Paine, 90, died January 25, 1990. He was the retired owner of the Town House Restaurant. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, past president of the Uplifters Sunday School class,

a member of the Sebastian Masonic Lodge No. 706, the Western Arkansas Scottish Rite-KCCH, Amrita Grotto, A.A.R.P., R.S.V.P. and the Scimitar Shrine. He was also a member of the Bricklayers Union-BMPIU No. Six, in which he held the oldest bricklayers union card in Fort Smith. He was a past board member of the Bricklayers Union Stewards.

He is survived by his son, Robert Dry of Dallas; his brother, Gerald, of Fort Smith; three grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church.

ALENE ANGELETTI

Alene Angeletti, 70, died January 24, 1990. She was a homemaker and a member of the First Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Victor; her daughter, Barbara Bell of Fort Smith; two sons, Floyd of North Little Rock and Dewain of Denver; two sisters, Betty Sadler and Helen McCorkle, both of Greenwood; three brothers, Alfred Caperton of Tulsa; and Bob and Floyd Caperton, both of Fort Smith; 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Edward Hospice Program, 7301 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72903.

MARY WEWERS

Mary C. Wewers, 89, died January 24, 1990. She was a retired salesperson at Patrick's Shoe Store and a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church.

She is survived by two sisters, Cecilia Geels of Scranton; and Lona Wall of Earleton, FL; three brothers, Joe H. and William J. Wewers, both of Fort Smith and A.J. Wewers of Edwardsville, KS.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Boniface or to the Catholic Education Endowment Fund.

DOROTHY MILLER

Dorothy "Cissie" Miller, 52, a former special education teacher at Sutton Elementary School, died August 19, 1989.

She was a computer assistant for Radiologist Services P.A., a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church, and a member of the Choctaw Indian Nation.

She is survived by her husband, Prince; a daughter, Jayne Ann Spahn of Greenwood; a son, John Prince of Fort Smith; two sisters, Carolyn Sue Parks and Marcia Ann Pogue, both of Fort Smith; and three grandchildren.

GRACE KINGSBURY

Mrs. Grace Kingsbury, 74, retired teacher of the Fort Smith school system and member of Goddard United Methodist Church, died September 29, 1989. She was also a member of the Fort Smith and Arkansas Retired Teachers Associations, Lambda Conclave Teachers Sorority and the National Retired Teachers Association. She was a graduate of the Arkansas State Teachers College in Conway.

She is survived by her sister-in-law, Lucy Maye Phillips of Bartlesville, OK; and her niece, Frances Lancaster of Shawnee, OK.

HORTENSE BASS ADAMS

Hortense Bass Adams, registrar of Fort Smith Senior High School and Junior College from 1931 to 1939, died January 15, 1990.

She was a graduate of the University of Arkansas, a Chi Omega, member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Fort Smith and Grace Episcopal Church in Kirkwood, Missouri.

She is survived by three sons, the Rev. Dr. William S. Adams of Austin, TX; Jerry B. Adams of Conway and John A. of Littleton, CO; her sister, Marjorie B. Gray of Fort Smith; seven grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

DAISY CASON

Daisy Cason, 84, died January 27, 1990, in Houston, TX. She was a retired librarian at Fort Chaffee and a member of the Central Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. June Fox of Houston; her son, Fred of Little Rock; her sister, Mrs. Nora Coppic of Fort Smith; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Gideons.

VADENE BRILEY WYATT

Mrs. Vadene Briley Wyatt, 83, retired teacher of the Fort Smith School District, died December 25, 1989.

She was a graduate of Arkansas State Teachers College and the University of Arkansas. She was a member of Wyatt Memorial Methodist Church, United Methodist Women's Organization, the Fort Smith Retired Teachers Association and the Arkansas Association of University Women. She was also a member of the AEA, NEA and Delta Kappa Gamma. She was the widow of the Rev. Charles B. Wyatt.

She is survived by two daughters, Nancy Charlene Kyes of Seattle, WA, and Janet Wilson of Fort Smith; her sister, Beatrice Briley of Pine Bluff; two grandsons and a great-grandson.

MARTHA MITCHELL GOSSETT

Martha Mitchell Gossett, 72, research contributor to the Fort Smith Historical Society, died December 29, 1989. She was a member of the First Christian Church.

She is survived by her sister, Mary Smith of Los Gatos, CA; and several nieces and nephews.

STELLA MCGREW DEAN

Stella McGrew Dean, 84, died January 26, 1990. She was a Baptist and a homemaker.

She is survived by one daughter, Elsie Wise of Rudy; four sons, Miles E., Jr. and Preston "Buddy", both of Fort Smith, Wade and Carthol "Cork", both of Van Buren; one sister, Jewel Dyer of Henderson, TX; one brother, Boyd Holifield of Liberal, KS; 28 grandchildren and 44 great-grandchildren.

ONITA MILLER

Onita B. Miller, 80, died January 26, 1990. She was a bookkeeper for Wisener Electric Company and a member of Grand Avenue Baptist Church.

She is survived by her son, James, of Calhoun, GA; her sister, Emilee Brown of Dallas; her brother, Neal Blair, of Colgate, OK; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

LAURA GEREN

Laura Geren, 89, of Fort Smith died January 28, 1990. She was a retired business woman, a member of First Lutheran Church and a past national president of Credit Women.

She is survived by her niece, Betty Kistler of Fort Smith.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Lutheran Church or the Gregory Kistler Treatment Center for Handicapped Children.

DON VANDERBUSH

Don L. Vanderbush, 68, died January 29, 1990. He was a veteran of World War II and a member of DAV.

He is survived by two daughters, Donna Reynolds of Neptune City, N.J., and Jenny Haden of Murry, Utah; one son, Mike Vanderbush of Fort Smith; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

MARIE NELSON MOODY

Marie Nelson Moody, 87, died January 20, 1990. She was a homemaker and a member of Massard Methodist Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Marcella Arnold of Fort Smith; a son, Walter of Alma; three brothers, Joe Nelson of Fort Smith; Carl Nelson of California and Arthur Nelson of Van Buren; 17 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Massard Methodist Church.

EARL WOFFORD

Earl Wofford, Sr., 78, died January 30, 1990. He was a retired truck driver for the Fort Smith street department and attended the Assembly of God Faith in Oklahoma.

He is survived by his wife, Lois; two daughters, Shirley Jenkins of Fort Smith and Madalyn M. McConnell of Baton Rouge, LA; his son, Earl, Jr., of Fort Smith; three sisters, Ethel Sweet of Talala, OK; Helen Wofford of Claremore, OK; and Vick Foster of Braggs, OK; two brothers, Odie of Talala, OK; and James of Claremore, OK; and five grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to cancer research.

THELMA MANGRUM

Thelma Palmer Mangrum, 82, died January 28, 1990. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by three sons, Earl of Hannibal, MO; Melvin of St. Louis and Bert of Rome, NY; two sisters, Margaret Howard of Fort Smith and Monie Connaughton of Poteau; and five grandchildren.

SISTER CLARINE ROCKENHAUS

Sister Clarine Rockenhaus, 77, died January 30, 1990. She was a resident of St. Scholastica Convent and choir director and music teacher there. She was also the formation director at St. Scholastica, and music teacher at St. Boniface School. She translated and authored the Divine Office prayer from Latin to English in 1950.

She is survived by three sisters, Johanna Zeiler of Dallas; Teresa Horner of Fort Myers, FL; and Rosemary Barreto of Lebanon, OK; two brothers, Aloys J. Rockenhaus of Paris and Jerome Rockenhaus of Fort Myers.

DONALD BILLINGSLEY

Donald C. Billingsley, 75, died January 31, 1990. He was a retired production planning manager at Dixie Cup. He was a member of First United Methodist Church and a teacher of the Church's Gleaners Class, a past board member and president of the Fort Smith Girls Shelter, a member and past president of the Fort Smith Noon Exchange Club and was a retired Lt. Commander in the Navy.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline; his daughter, Judy Newton of Fort Smith; his son, Donald Calvin, Jr., of Rapid City, SD; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church Building Fund.

JEWEL FIELDS

Jewel M. Fields, 82, died January 31, 1990. He was a retired glass blower from Radiant Glass Plant where he was employed for over 50 years. He was a member of the Glass Workers Union and the American Legion.

He is survived by his wife, Levenia; three daughters, Dolores Vernon of San Bernardino, CA, and Nancy Williams and Marilyn Becraft, both of Fort Smith; his son, Gene of Fort Smith; his sister, Mary Frances Goodwin of Fort Smith; seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Calvary Baptist Church.

BESSIE TRUSKEY

Bessie Truskey, 82, died January 28, 1990. She was a homemaker and a Baptist.

She is survived by her daughter, Peggy Evans of Fort Smith; four sisters, Grace Bishop of Meza, AZ, Becky Copeland and Lena Bray, both of Visalia, CA, and Meta Gross of Tahlequah, OK; one brother, Noah Orr of Tahlequah, OK; and one granddaughter.

HUBERT BASS

Hubert L. Bass, 88, died January 27, 1990. He was a retired auto mechanic and member of Van Buren First Baptist Church and Belle Point Masonic Lodge.

He is survived by his daughter, Betty Wilkerson of Fort Smith; his sister, Francis Barry of Forrest City; a granddaughter, and two great-grandchildren.

BENNIE GRAHAM

Bennie F. Graham, 76, died January 27, 1990. He was a retired self-employed upholsterer and member of the Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife, Donna; two daughters, Lavern Craig of Dallas and Barbara Carter of Fort Smith; two sons, Loyd of Dallas and Dr. Calvin Graham of Fort Smith; a brother, Clyde of Fort Smith; 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

LOMA DICKSON

Loma Dickson, 86, a retired music teacher who taught at schools in Hartford, Midland, Huntington and Mansfield, died January 27, 1990. She was a church pianist for 40 years and a charter member of Clarks Chapel Baptist Church. She was also a member of the Piano Teachers Guild and Homemakers Extension Club.

She is survived by her daughter, Clara Dickson Jones of Fort Smith; a sister, Cora Gragson of Quitaque, TX; four brothers, Aaron Elmore of Dayton, Melvin Elmore of Hamilton, TX, Glenn Elmore of Allison, TX, and Paul Elmore of Carlsbad, NM; and one grandson.

MYRA PAYNE ARMSTRONG

Myra Payne Armstrong, a life long resident of Fort Smith, died in Fort Smith September 29, 1989. She was the widow of both James Mitchell Sparks, Jr.¹ and Henry Clay Armstrong, Jr.,² Fort Smith business men. The latter also served as U.S. Marshal from April 26, 1940 to June 30, 1945.

She was the granddaughter of Dr. Samuel Houston Payne and his wife, Martha Ann Moffett. The town of Moffett, Oklahoma, was named for her family.

Mrs. Armstrong was a member of First Presbyterian Church and a founding member of the Fort Smith Junior League.

She is survived by her daughter, Myra Payne "Missy" Roebuck of Fort Smith; and two grandchildren, Cynthia Buono of Durango, CO, and James Daniel Roebuck, Jr. of Kansas City, MO.

Footnotes

1. See Volume 2, No. 2, September 1978, pages 60-66 of *The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society* for the story of the Sparks family.
2. See Volume 3, No. 1, April 1979, pages 13 and 14 of *The Journal of the Fort Smith Historical Society* for biography of Henry Clay Armstrong, Jr.

Samuel Houston Payne, M.D.

Dr. Samuel Houston Payne, who practiced medicine in Greenwood (Sebastian County), Arkansas and Moffett, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma), was born in 1828 in Tennessee, the son of Gabriel and Mary Payne, and died January 25, 1877, with burial in Oak Cemetery in Fort Smith.

Dr. Payne was a surgeon in the Confederate army, and came to Arkansas from Tennessee.

He was married to Martha Ann Moffett who was born in Tennessee (Moffett, Oklahoma, was named for her family). They had two sons: Houston Payne and Gabriel Payne, and three daughters: Okla Payne Morrow, Gunter Payne Turner and Llewellyn Payne Morgan. They also raised two brothers of his wife: A.F. Moffett, born circa 1841, and Eno Moffett, born circa 1850, both in Arkansas.

Dr. Payne went to Greenwood circa 1851, and was the first physician to locate there. The 1860 Sebastian County Census lists him as a resident of Greenwood, Center Twp.

He had river-bottom farms in Moffett, and owned the first cotton gin in Oklahoma. Dr. Payne died at the age of 49, and with the help of her children and two brothers they had raised, Martha Payne continued to operate the farms.

Dr. Payne was a member of the Masonic Lodge.

Source

Martin, Amelia Whitaker, *Physicians and Medicine, Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas, 1817-1976*, pages 511-512.

Biography written from information given by Martha (Morrow) Rice, granddaughter, in 1975.

News and Opportunities

FORT SMITH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 1990, 7:00 PM
RAILROAD CHAIR CAR AT THE
FORT SMITH TROLLEY MUSEUM
100 SOUTH 4th STREET
VISITORS WELCOME

Arkansas Historical Association 1990 Annual Meeting, Hot Springs, Arkansas, April 26, 27, 28. For information contact Walter Brown, Dept. of History, 12 Ozark Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

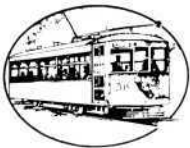
The Arkansas Historical Association 1991 Annual Meeting in Little Rock, April 4, 5 and 6, 1991, will be the fiftieth anniversary meeting of the AHA.

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE UPDATE

The first floor of the Commissary building at the Fort Smith Historic Site will soon be open to the public, as a salute to the 80th anniversary of the Old Fort Museum and as a direct result of money donated by individuals through the years in the park's donation box. A video camera will be installed in the Commissary and will be monitored by rangers at the information desk.

Nine acres of riverfront property, acquired through condemnation proceedings last summer, are being cleared to return the area to the historic scene of the days of the first and second Fort Smiths. Boy Scouts made the initial clearing during a Saturday work session. Many more hours of work are left to clear the brush and trash from the area so it can be maintained by park staff.

The National Park Service has approved a right-of-way for the Fort Smith Trolley Museum to place an electric pole behind the park maintenance building — the last pole location approval necessary to complete the line to Rogers Avenue.



FORT SMITH TROLLEY MUSEUM

Date for TROLLEY MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE IS SUNDAY, JULY 15, 1990, 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M., 100 SOUTH 4TH STREET. Public invited. See museum and enjoy entertainment and refreshments.

All but two or three of the poles required to support the overhead wire for the trolley are in place. The trolley wire will be suspended eighteen feet above ground level and will carry 600 volt DC current to power the trolley. The return circuit will be thru the rails.

Car 224 restoration is nearing completion with new windows and doors. The car will soon be completely restored to its 1933 status and be ready for operation.

An operating streetcar will be of significant historical importance to tourism in Fort Smith. Continued community financial support is needed to complete the restoration.

CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

For information regarding Civil War Roundtable being organized in Fort Smith, contact Danny Sessums, Director, Old Fort Museum, 320 Rogers, Fort Smith, AR 72901. Phone 501-783-7841.

NEW ARMY RESERVE CENTER

A new \$3 million Army Reserve Center east of Barling on Arkansas 22 was dedicated on Saturday, February 10, 1990, and named in honor of Fort Smith native and military hero William O. Darby.

During the public dedication ceremony, retired Fort Smith portrait photographer Ethel Mitchell unveiled an 18x24, black and white photographic portrait of Darby, who organized the first Army Ranger battalions in World War II. The portrait was made from a negative Mrs. Mitchell made in her studio in 1944 during Darby's last leave home. He was killed in action in northern Italy on April 30, 1945, the same day Hitler ended his own life and two days before enemy troops in Italy surrendered.

The portrait and a plaque listing the highly decorated Brigadier General's many military awards and decorations will be prominently displayed in the new reserve center headquarters. General George Patton once called Darby "the bravest officer I ever knew."

FORT SMITH SYMPHONY HAS NEW DIRECTOR

Clifton Justice, a native of Tulsa, Oklahoma, moved to Fort Smith in January, 1990, to fill the position of Fort Smith Symphony director. Justice graduated from Tulsa's McClain High School and earned a bachelor's degree in speech and theater from Oklahoma Baptist University. Before accepting the Symphony director's position, Justice worked extensively in theater.

FORT SMITH HARPIST FEATURED

Angela Kwan Lu-Fox, principal harpist with the Fort Smith Symphony, has been signed to perform as featured artist at the World Harp Congress set for Sevres, France, in July, 1990, according to Susann McDonald, artistic director of the World Harp Congress.

Ms. Lu-Fox is a native of Sutzoh, China. An international artist, she has performed in Australia, New Zealand, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and China. She has been principal harpist and soloist with the Shanghai, Singapore, Memphis, Indiana University, Arkansas, Fort Smith and North Arkansas symphonies. She has performed as guest artist with the Metropolitan Opera in Singapore and taught at Shanghai Conservatory for 15 years.

Ms. Lu-Fox will lecture and perform several of her own works at the festival.

MOST INFLUENTIAL POLL

In a poll conducted by the *Southwest Times Record*, readers nominated more than 250 individuals they felt had been the most influential in making life better for residents of western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma during the decade of the 1980s. Beginning Tuesday, December 25, the *Southwest Times Record* published individual profiles of the ten people who received the largest number of votes. The ten were:

1. C. Ray Baker, Jr., one of Fort Smith's most popular teachers for 29 years, and one of the city's most outspoken city directors for eight years, received, by a wide margin, the majority of votes cast for the person who made the most positive impact on Fort Smith during the 1980s. Baker was chosen Arkansas Teacher of the Year in 1984, and was one of the four runners-up for the National Teacher of the Year Award. He was also chosen by the Daughters of the American Revolution as the National Teacher of American History Award in 1984.
2. Charles Shuffield, president of Sparks Regional Medical Center.
3. Jack Moseley, editor of *Southwest Times Record*.
4. Joel Stubblefield, president of Westark Community College.
5. Jack Freeze, four term mayor of Fort Smith, who in 1979 was also voted one of the most influential people in Fort Smith in a citizens poll conducted by the *Southwest Times Record*.
6. Polly Crews, director of the Fort Smith Art Center who for twenty years has been one of the most recognizable and accessible media personalities. Her "People, Places and Polly" interviews on radio, television and in publications in Fort Smith have informed and entertained thousands.
7. Fred Patton, 83, has been teaching Sunday School classes for 60 years, was vice-principal and dean of boys at Fort Smith High School (now Northside), taught at Westark Community College, and wrote a history of Fort Smith. He was the first president of the economic development district, served on the Fort Smith School Board and the board of the Chamber of Commerce. He presently serves on Fort Smith Heritage Foundation Board and the Black Community Development Board. He started the annual mayor's prayer breakfast in Fort Smith, a Bible study at First Methodist Church for the men's club and is a recipient of the Fort Smith Exchange Club Golden Deeds Award.
8. Strib Boynton, Fort Smith City Administrator.
9. Euba Winton, executive director of the Institute of Community Affairs, which operates Mallalieu United Methodist Church's community development center, who for more than 19 years has gone about helping the people of Fort Smith who "fall through the cracks" of social service programs. In 1989 she retired after four years as conference president of United Methodist Church. She is one of only four African-American women in the United States to have been chosen for this office.

10. U.S. Marshal J.C. "Jake" Patterson who also served 1969-1979 as a member of the Arkansas Highway Commission. Patterson was on the commission when several area improvements were made: the highway bypasses in Greenwood and Waldron, the Clarksville bridge, projects on Wheeler Avenue, the widening of Towson Avenue to four lanes and the completion of the Clayton Expressway.

SEVEN HONORED BY JAYCEES

On January 27, 1990, seven persons were honored by the Fort Smith Jaycees: five for their community service and two special honorees for an act of humanity. They are:

Steve Stoudt, 28, Fort Smith, Outstanding Young Firefighter.

Ronald Lockhart, 27, of Sallisaw was named the Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer. He is a corporal in the patrol division of the Fort Smith Police Department.

Becky Shopfner, 38, of Fort Smith was selected by the Jaycees board of directors as the Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

The Distinguished Service Award went to Habitat For Humanity's local chapter for its community service. Mark Moll and Charlotte Flanders were specifically honored for their role in founding the local chapter.

Philip Merry, president/owner of Merry Insurance Co., was selected Boss of the Year for his willingness to support and encourage employees involved in community activities.

SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM

On September 1, 1989, Fort Smith Southside High School's football team played the first game to be played in Southside's new stadium. Greenwood High School had the distinction of being the first visiting football team to play in the stadium.

INGRAM COTTON BOWL QUEEN

Amber Ingram, a 1986 graduate of Northside High School, was crowned 1990 Cotton Bowl Queen New Year's Day in Dallas. Ingram, 1989 University of Arkansas homecoming queen, was a member of the Razorback pom pom squad in 1987-89 and is now serving as a Razorback Belle. Ingram is a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Ingram of Fort Smith.

STATE CREDIT UNION ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Joan Taylor, an employee of the Arkansas Best Federal Credit Union, was installed as state president of the International Credit Association of Arkansas at the Annual State Credit Conference in North Little Rock September 22 thru September 24, 1989.

CHUCK BETTIS

Chuck Bettis of Fort Smith has been elected president of the Arkansas Retired Municipal Police Officers Association. Bettis, who served on the Fort Smith Police Department from 1961 to 1982, retiring on April 8, 1982, also served as president of the 302-member organization in 1986 and 1987.

ROBERT E. MILLER RECEIVES GOLDEN DEEDS

Robert E. Miller, founder of the Community Rescue Mission in Fort Smith, is the recipient of the Fort Smith Noon Exchange Club's 48th Annual Book of Golden Deeds Award. He received the award at the club's annual awards banquet on Friday, January 26, 1990. Saturday, January 27, was proclaimed Robert E. Miller Day by both Sebastian County Judge W.R. "Bud" Harper and Fort Smith Mayor Bill Vines.

The yearly award honors a local citizen who has served his or her fellow man in an exemplary way.

Miller founded the Community Rescue Mission in 1981, served on its board as president until 1989, and still serves as vice president. Last year the mission provided thousands with meals and shelter, and found jobs for hundreds of people who were out of work.

Miller serves as finance chairman, chairman of the Evangelism Committee and sings in the Chancel Choir of the First Methodist Church. He also serves as a missionary with the World Christian Foundation, using his experience in the oil drilling business to help provide uncontaminated drinking water for vast numbers of people in Haiti by aiding with drilling much needed water wells.

He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas, the Fort Smith Methodist Nursing Home, the Fort Smith Boys Club and Sparks Regional Medical Center. He is a member of the Fort Smith Christian Business Men's committee, the Fort Smith and Van Buren Chamber of Commerce and a member of Westark Community College Hall of Honor.

He and his wife have two children, Michael Vinson, who is married to the former Kathy Crow, and a daughter, Marcia, who is married to James "Duke" Clement. They also have six grandchildren.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMEN

The *Southwest Times Record* on August 19, 1989, announced that several area women were selected for inclusion in the 1988 edition of Outstanding Young Women of America.

The program is designed to honor and encourage exceptional young women between the ages of 21 and 36 who have distinguished themselves in many fields, such as service to community, professional leadership, academic achievement, business advancement, cultural accomplishments, and civic and political participation.

The women listed along with other Outstanding Young Women throughout America were selected after 115,000 nominations were received from political leaders, university and college officials, clergymen, business leaders, as well as from various civic groups and community organizations.

The young women selected in Fort Smith are: Shannon Lee Hicks, Teresa Cheryl Hobbs, Cathy Peterson Bell, Honey Gay Huckelbury, Jeanne Witt, Deborah Kay Jones, Patti L. Leonard, Dianna Marie Boyd, Charmaine Jeannel Austin, Janet E. Dodson, Melanie Ann Mayner, Eva Marie Reed, Melissa Ann Funai, Julie Anne Reno, Susan Irene Yates, Marcia Henson, and Jennifer Lo Jesson.

Other recipients are Mitzi Kaye Peronia, Van Buren; Terrell Patrice Mills, Alma; Geneva Marie Craig, Greenwood; Donna Sue Martin, Booneville; and Cynthia Lee Davis of Mansfield.

ROBERT FREEMAN ELECTED

Robert Freeman, certified public accountant, has been elected president of the Northwest Arkansas Chapter National Association of Accountants for 1989-90. Freeman is a 1969 graduate of the University of Arkansas and is tax manager for Donrey Media Group. He is also past director of National Association of Accountants, four-time vice president of communications and vice president of finance and administration.

WILLIAM J. ECHOLS JR. HONORED

The late William J. Echols Jr., a native of Fort Smith, was recognized October 18, 1989, by the National Skeet Shooting Association with the naming of the "Bill Echols Memorial Field" at the National Gun Club in San Antonio, Texas. The dedication honor was accepted by Echols' wife, Jan, and son, William J. "Beau" Echols III, both of Fort Smith. Ceremonies were held as part of the opening of the 1989 World Skeet Shooting Championship matches.

Echols Jr., who died in 1988, was president of the Arkansas Skeet Shooting Association, president of the Pajaro Gun Club of Fort Smith and the Arkansas delegate to the National Skeet Shooting Association from 1980 to 1988. He was also a representative on the NSSA rules committee.

In 1984, Echols and his son, Beau, won the state and national father-son championship title in 12-gauge competition. Beau Echols currently shares the Arkansas Two-Man Team 12-gauge title with teammate John Smith of Fort Smith.

POLLAN HONORED

State Representative Carolyn Pollan was among the 12 women honored December 4, 1989, as an outstanding leader in Arkansas politics. The honor was bestowed by the George C. Douthit Scholarship Trust, which holds a banquet annually to recognize leaders and raise funds for scholarships. Douthit was a longtime reporter for the *Arkansas Democrat*.

Pollan is the only woman legislator to be selected and the only woman from the Fort Smith area to be honored.

The first Arkansas Republican woman to ever be elected as a state representative, Pollan has been in the state house for sixteen years. Among her other accomplishments, she helped found the program in the Sebastian County Jail where inmates can study for their high school equivalency degree, and uses her position to help children by supporting laws pertaining to child abuse, therapeutic child care and foster care. She is chairman of the Standing Joint Committee for Children and Youth which she helped establish in 1987.

The women honored with Pollan were:

Betsey Wright, Gov. Bill Clinton's chief of staff.

Vada Sheid, former state senator from Mountain Home.

Lottie Shackelford, former mayor of Little Rock.

Elsijane Trimble Roy, U.S. District Judge.

Judith Rogers, Appellate Judge for the Arkansas Court of Appeals.

Martha Perry, administrative assistant to U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers.

Shirley McFarlin, who is active in League of Women Voters.

State Auditor Julia Hughes Jones.

Virginia Johnson, 1968 candidate for governor.

State Treasurer Jimmie Lou Fisher

Leona Troxell Dodds, a leader in the Republican Party.

CHRIS STUART

Chris Stuart, a sophomore at Northside High School, recently won the Arkansas Youth Art Month flag designing competition. The red, white and blue design was made into a fabric flag and flown in the 1990 National Youth Art event in March in Washington, D.C., and will be shown at the National Art Education Association's national convention in April. The competition was sponsored by Arkansas Art Educators.

MACY'S THANKSGIVING PARADE

Drill team officers from Northside and Southside high schools danced side by side to open the 63rd Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York. This was the first time officers from both schools attended the event together.

The girls were among 500 girls from 188 schools representing 28 states to perform in the opening production number in the parade as part of the National Cheerleading Association's Superstar Dance Team. Southside participated in the first dance team four years ago and, since then, Northside and Southside have both been invited to participate, but one or the other, for various reasons had to decline the invitation.

Participating in the parade were Carrie Tole, Kelly Glidewell, Jennifer Mumme, Jennifer Pope, Tammy Formica, Katherine Anne Patrick, Beth Grosze, Patriece Gray and Melissa Stevenson.

DANE WATSON HONORED

Dane Watson, son of Mable Watson of Fort Smith, has been named to the 1990 Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Watson is a senior social studies major at the University of Central Arkansas.

DOUG BRADT HONORED

Doug Bradt, a senior at Northside High School, has been named to Who's Who Among American High School Students. He is the son of Nancy Bradt of Fort Smith and James Bradt of Dallas.

MURAL DEDICATED

Wilma Mankiller, chief of the Cherokee Nation, spoke at the dedication of the Trail of Tears mural at Second Street and Garrison Avenue. The mural,

sponsored by the Western Arkansas Employment Development Agency, was painted by Art Downtown artists under the direction of John Bell. The mural took two summers to complete. The artists were volunteers and students participating in the agency's Summer Youth Job Training Partnership Program.

NEW LAUNCH SITE

The 13th annual Great United Way Raft Race was launched from a new launch site on the Arkansas side of the Garrison Avenue bridge. In the past the boats launched from the Oklahoma side.

ART EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Northside High School art teacher Lynn Smith was named 1989 Arkansas Art Educator of the Year by the Arkansas Art Educators Association.

JOHNNY OWEN ADMINISTRATOR OF YEAR

Johnny Owen, deputy superintendent of Fort Smith public schools, received the distinction of being named Arkansas Administrator of the Year October 19, 1989. Winning the award puts Owen in the running for National Education Administrator of the Year, an honor that will be awarded this July in Denver, Colorado.

FOUR FORT SMITH TEACHERS HONORED

Four Fort Smith public school instructors who won national awards were honored at an Arkansas State Council on Economic Education in Little Rock on November 16, 1989.

The Fort Smith honorees are Blanche Hill and Jean Humphrey, Euper Lane Elementary School, national first-place winners, primary division; June Haley, Trusty Elementary, second place, intermediate division; and Opal Robinson, Darby Junior High School, honorable mention, junior high division.

The Economic Education Awards Program, sponsored by the International Paper Company Foundation, is a highly competitive national program designed to recognize innovative teachers who integrate economics within their class instruction. The program is coordinated by the Joint Council on Economic Education.

Only 60 awards are given each year, 12 in each division. Teachers must submit a narrative of the teaching unit and detailed documentation.

The Fort Smith School District has won more of the national economic awards than any other school system in the nation.

EDITH YEAKLEY ENDOWMENT

Edith Yeakley, a native of this area, has established the "Edith Yeakley Scholarship Endowment Fund" at Westark Community College with a generous gift of \$10,000. Mrs. Yeakley retired in 1971 after being an elementary school teacher for 35 years. Two of her most memorable years were spent teaching on an Apache reservation in Arizona.

Genealogy

ADDRESSES OFTEN REQUESTED

Arkansas Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 908, Hot Springs, AR 71902-0908. This Society is compiling a surname directory to unite researchers working on Arkansas family lines and to promote AGS membership (\$15.00 per year). Registration is free (no obligation to join the AGS). Contact AGS for registration forms.

Fort Smith Public Library, 61 South 8th Street, Fort Smith, AR 72901. Hours: Monday-Thursday (9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday (9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.). Closed Sunday. Phone 501-783-0229.

Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives, Old Washington Historic State Park, Washington, AR 71862. Phone 501-983-2633. Hours: Monday, Wednesday-Saturday (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Sunday (1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

Arkansas History Commission, One Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201. Phone 501-682-6900. Hours: Monday-Saturday (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

Little Rock Branch Genealogical Library (Latter-day Saints), 13901 Quail Run Drive, Little Rock, AR 72209. Phone 501-455-0335. Hours: Tuesday and Thursday (9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.), Saturday (9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.).

Fort Smith Branch Genealogical Library (Latter-day Saints), 8712 Horan Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72903. Phone 484-9907. Hours: Tuesday and Thursday (9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.), Wednesday (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) and Saturday (10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.).

Contact for the Fort Smith Scottish Heritage Society is Harry C. Smith, Jr., 1412 Southridge Drive, Fort Smith, AR 72903.

Four major Fort Smith Historic Site references, *Hell On The Border*, *The Law West of Fort Smith*, and two of Ed Bearss' unpublished manuscripts have been indexed by Jim Sims, a volunteer at the Site.

WHERE TO WRITE FOR VITAL RECORDS

Send \$2.00 to: United States Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402 and request the booklet *Where to Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages, Divorce*. This booklet will give the names and rates for ordering birth and death certificates for all states, as well as marriage and divorce information (Via: Kin Hunters, Vol. 3, No. 4).

The Benton County, Arkansas, Historical Society has indexed its quarterly publication *The Benton*

County Pioneer for the years 1954 through 1988. It is published in six volumes, \$7.00 per volume or by complete sets. Address is: The Benton County Historical Society, P.O. Box 1034, Bentonville, AR 72712.

The International Society of Charlemagne is again taking applications for consideration of admission into the Society. Applicants must be proven descent from the Emperor Charlemagne, either male or female line. For proper forms, etc. write The Society of Descendants of Charlemagne, Office of the Governor General, P.O. Box 76, Sylvester, West Virginia 25193.

The PARKE SOCIETY serves as a clearing house for those researching their Park/e/s/ genealogy. Addresses for the PARKE SOCIETY are: David L. Parke, Newsletter Editor, 805 Evergreen Drive, Reading, PA 19610, and Theodore E. Parks, Registrar, P.O. Box 590, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 73086, Washington, D.C. 20056-3086, is holding its thirteenth annual conference May 3-5, 1990, Holiday Inn-Capitol, 550 C Street SW, Washington, D.C.

Address for LOGAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS, HISTORICAL SOCIETY is P.O. Box B, Paris, AR 72855. The Society helped purchase a microfilm reader/printer for the Gattis Library in Paris. The library has on microfilm back issues of the *Paris Express-Progress* dating from 1907 and articles from the microfilmed copy can be printed on paper.

THE DALTON GANG FAMILY

The Society has received a 20 page booklet entitled *The Dalton Gang Family, A Genealogical Study of the Dalton Outlaws and Their Family Connections* by Nancy B. Samuelson. This booklet contains many new facts about the outlaw Daltons and their families. It is thoroughly annotated to show the source of all information. There are four pages of pictures in the booklet and several of these pictures have not been published before.

The Dalton Gang Family is available from the author, Nancy B. Samuelson, 139 Chaplin Road, Eastford, CT 06242. Price \$5.00 postpaid for individual copies; the wholesale price (orders of 10 copies or more) is \$3.00 postpaid per copy.

LOGAN COUNTY, ARK.
COURTHOUSE RECORDS

All Logan County Courthouse records, dating from 1878, are available for research in the county offices. The County was formed as Sarber County; the name (not boundaries) was changed in 1875 to Logan County. Records, including Sarber County, from 1871 to 1878, are missing due to a courthouse fire. All Logan County records prior to 1901 are stored at the Paris courthouse. After 1901, all records of the Northern District are stored at the Paris courthouse; all records of the Southern District are stored at the Booneville courthouse.

THE SCOTT COUNTY, ARKANSAS, HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY has compiled, published or reprinted the following books:

Reconstructed 1890 Census of Scott County, Arkansas, over 140 pages and indexed. \$12.00.

Marriage Book 'A' 1882-1900 of Scott County, Arkansas, over 90 pages, indexed. \$8.50.

Reprint of Henry Grady McCutchen's 1922 book, *History of Scott County, Arkansas*. \$6.00.

Reprint of My Livesay's *History of Blansett Township*, indexed. \$2.50.

P.M. Claunt's *History of SW 1/4 of Scott County*, indexed. \$6.00.

All prices included shipping. Anyone interested in obtaining copies of these publications should send order and payment to: SCOTT COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, P.O. Box 1560, Waldron, Arkansas 72958.

DOUTHIT ANCESTRY

Editor for *Douthit Ancestry*, published semi-annually, is Jan Douthit Weir, 3900 Bogey Court, Lake Valley, Longmont, CO 80501. Associate editor is Phyllis Fulk, 1321 Riverview Drive, Horseshoe Bend, AR 72512. Subscriptions are \$6.00 annually in the United States and \$7.50 annually in Canada.

P & C Research, Inc., P.O. Box 262, Seminole, OK 74868, announces the publication of *TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS OF BUTLER COUNTY, KANSAS*. Price \$49.95 plus \$5.00 shipping and handling.

OWENBY FAMILY REUNION

Owenby Family Reunion, June 23-24, 1990, Park Inn International, Fayetteville, Arkansas. Registration \$10.00 per person (children under 12 free). Make checks payable to: Owenby Reunion, c/o Gilbert C. Gibson, 3607 Arlington, Lawton, OK 73505.

The Society has received several sheets from a new product that is being introduced to the genealogy market by Moog Associates Genealogical Publications. This product consists of a series of dated sheets, one for each year beginning 1500 and ending 1988. Each sheet reflects various events that occurred during that particular year: political, military, historical, statistical and other. Use of these sheets is a unique way to place family events in perspective timewise to world events. Sold in 50 year packets, \$7.50 per 50 year packet (postpaid). Arizona residents add 6% sales tax. State whether plain or punched. Moog Associates, P.O. Box 1582, Sun City, AZ 85372.

Inquiries

Need location of grave of NAPOLEON BONAPARTE MOORE, a physician who was born 22 Dec 1834, married his second wife, Lavena, in 1899 or 1900 and died about 1928. In 1910 Sebastian County Census was resident of Five Fork Twp. At one time lived in Midland, Ark. — Mrs. Eldon Karber, 1509 East Ave., Baxter Springs, KS 66713.

Seeking information on parents and family of MAHALA BECKETT who married DAVID MILLARD in Taney Co., MO and lived by the railroad at Omaha, AR 1900-1915. — Floretta L. Leatherman, Route 1, Box 359B, Muskogee, OK 74401.

Want to contact descendants of WILLIAM H. WHITE, born 1860 in Boone County, Arkansas,

supposed to have died in Arkoma, OK. Wife's name believed to have been Martha. Known children: Roy, Claude, Carl, Sarah who married FRANK CARLTON, Mary (?), and Allie. Sarah Carlton lived in Arkoma in 1966 and Claude's son and family lived in Fort Smith. — Roy A. White, Route 2, Box 67, Berryville, AR 72616.

Would like to hear from persons researching YOES, REED and POPE families in Sebastian County, Arkansas. — William E. Yoes, 9 East Sonoma Street, San Rafael, CA 94901.

Seeking information on JOHN W. REECE, born in Searcy Co., Ark. Supposed to have moved to Fort Smith, or Sebastian County circa 1900-1910. 1900

Searcy Co. Cu lists no wife, but children: Alice, Artie, William Jr., John, Leander, and Brice. Married JULIA PATTERSON on 15 Dec 1901. — Woodrow J. Reece, Hc. 74, Box 428, Mountain View, AR 72560.

Need parents of JOHN COWAN who was born circa 1855. Was at Paris, Logan Co., Ark. in 1910; married Susan Reynolds in 1878 in Newton County, Ark. — Virginia A. Doonan, 1137 Elaine St., Pamona, CA 91767.

Need verification of following information: JAMES HUITT/HEWITT was born in Fort Smith, AR 15

March 1830. Father was ELIJAH HUITT. James' sister, born circa 1826 was in Crawford Co., AR 1850 census as SUSANNA PRICE with four children, all born in Arkansas. Would also like to contact other HUITT/HEWITT family researchers. — Harvey E. Huitt, 8541 Carlyle Dr., Theodore, AL 36582.

Can anyone help me locate a copy of the book *History of the Harwoods and Dotsons* by J.B. Harwood, which was published in 1902 in Fort Smith? — Patricia Garetson, 7454 East 46th St., Tulsa, OK 74145.

GEORGIA D. HELDERLEIN
22118 Trotter Road
Grass Valley, CA 95949
requests information on the following:

DOUGLASS

Thos. Brown DOUGLASS & mother, Mary (BROWN) DOUGLASS res. Marian Twp. Seb. Co. AR ca 1864. She d. 1875 and he d. 1884. Believe bur. Douglass Cem. No tombstones. He was father of Mary Jane WATKINS, Cynthia Juda STOCKTON, 2) FELLNER; James Robt. DOUGLASS; Thos. Hartman DOUGLASS, b. 1874 Seb. Co. Des. proof of deaths.

DOUGLASS

James Robt DOUGLASS, Seb. Co. m. Susan Catherine WAGGONER, of Howard Co. AR ca 1881. Had 11 children from 1882-1900 So. Seb. Co. Desire marriage record. Lived Marian, Jenny Lind, Bonanza Twps. Not listed on 1890 Tax list. Family moved to Indian Territory ca July 1900.

PRICE / CAMPBELL

James Washington PRICE, of Logan or Yell Co. m. Sophronia CAMPBELL ca 1872 (believed to have lived near Van Buren). Desire record of their marriage, and also ANY further info on Sophronia CAMPBELL'S parents or siblings. Family moved Indian Terr. ca 1874.

* PRICE

Sarah Serena (GILL) PRICE, b. MS, to Logan Co. AR ca 1869, d. Havana, AR ca 1885. Children all b. MS were James Washington PRICE b. 1846, Julia Ann PRICE, b. 1847, m. Travish W. "DOCK" BOWDOIN; Wade Franklin PRICE, b. 1854 m. Margaret Effie JOHNSON; Liza PRICE, b. 1856 m. Elbert GORE; Martha Jane PRICE, b. 1860, MS, m. WALKER, KEATS; Olivia PRICE, b. 1862 m. Arch F. BURTON; William C. PRICE m. Florence MEDLEN.

Father, Moses PRICE returned to MS in 1871. Am trying to locate early pictures of family.

McCRAVEN

Benjamin F. McCRAVEN, b. ca 1812 KY or IL, m. Anna ? Sevier Co. AR in Polk Co. 1844, Howard Co. AR 1873. Anna d. Aug 1859. Parents of 9 known children. He m. 2nd, Hannah and they had 8 more children. After Ben's death in 1881/2 Howard Co. Hannah m. Jesse Tisdal. Desire to know where family moved after 1882. Desire info on descendants.

McCRAVEN / STUART

Benjamin F. McCRAVEN, son of Joseph & Rebecca McCRAVEN, Sevier Co. m. Anna ???, b. MO ca 1818. Could she be a dau. of Cornelius STUART of Sevier Co. and sister to Sarah, w/James WAKLEY, Adeline, w/ Nathaniel MORE, and Jeremiah STUART/STEWART of Polk Co. Names persons all b. MO within 10 year span. Desire contact researcher of the Cornelius STUART family.

WAGGONER / McCRAVEN

Emily B. McCRAVEN, dau. of Ben McCRAVEN m. James WAGGONER ca 1848 in Polk Co. Had children, Wm. B.E. b. 1849; N.J. (f), b. 1851; James H. (1853-1874); Mary A. b. 1855 m. John WARD; Sarah E. b. 1857; Susan Catherine, b. 1859 m. Robt. DOUGLASS; Robert Hilliard b. 1860 m. Fanny C. HUNTER; Lucy V. b. 1863; and Martha I. b. ca 1865 m. Asa DAVIS 17 July 1884. Desire to hear from researchers working on the WAGGONER children named above. James WAGGONER d. near Kirby, AR ca 1865 and Emily WAGGONER d. Oct. 1894 near Mineola.

1890 Newspapers

FORT SMITH ELEVATOR

January 3, 1890 - June 13, 1890

Excerpted from microfilm at the Fort Smith Public Library by Mary Lou Jacobsen and Don Marquette. Typed by Carolyn Miles and Juanita Dyrhood.

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January 3, 1890

FATAL AFFRAY

Walter Witcher, son of Mr. W.J. Witcher, of Witcherville, this county, was killed on Christmas evening by John Gilstrap. The latter is a young man who has been reared near Witcherville. Both were young men of good repute and both had been friends until within a short time of this fatal encounter.

The wound which killed young Witcher was made with a knife. The fracas took place about dark, and a number were concerned in it. The differences that led to the tragedy seem to have been of very recent origin.

At present all we know of that matter is what has come to us at random and by means of a letter from Col. Witcher, the father of Walter, which is published in another column.

— • —

NEW CHURCH BUILDING

We understand that a movement is on foot among the Catholics of this city to erect a magnificent church building at the head of the avenue on the site of the present church of St. Mary. Bishop Fitzgerald and Rev L. Smythe have been for some time conferring on this matter, and it will not be long before first steps are taken.

In addition to this work the establishment here of a branch of Christian Brothers College is also contemplated.

— • —

RECEIVED ON NEW YEARS DAY

New Year's receptions were not very general this year. Among those who kept "open house" were Miss Bertha Fishback, assisted by her visiting lady friends, the Jolly Club, at the residence of Mr. George Tilles and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Y.M.C.A. Quite a number of others received informally, and Miss Kate Little had a "New Year's happy crowd" in her parlors in the evening.

— • —

The cornice on the Hightower Wegman building is up and presents a splendid appearance. This building when completed will be the showiest structure on Garrison Avenue. (Now houses "Mandy's". Wegman name on the building — look up.)

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January 10, 1890

UNITED STATES JAIL NOTES

Monadon James, one of the condemned Indians, was baptized by a Choctaw minister on Monday last.

Many of the prisoners are complaining of bad colds or influenza, the symptoms being something like La Grippe.

J.C. Berryhill, who has been in prison for several months is quite sick; acute bronchitis being his complaint.

Oscar Coulter was on Sunday last turned over to officers from Logan County, who took him to Paris to answer for the killing of Charley Massy. His confinement in jail here has affected his general health and he is said to be a little off in his mind.

— • —

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT

Henry Golding, at the St. Charles Hotel, came near losing his life Tuesday evening by the accidental discharge of a pistol which a friend was handling, not knowing that it was loaded. The ball entered Golding's head and inflicted a dangerous wound. It is not thought, however, that fatal results will follow.

— • —

K.T. BALL

The *Elevator* is in receipt of invitations to a grand ball to be given under the auspices of Jacques DeMolay Commandery No. 3, K.T., at Masonic Hall on the evening of January 23rd. It will doubtless be the affair of the season.

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January 17, 1890

THE HORSE SHOE SALOON

Ryan & Morris, Prop's.

Fine Whiskies, Wines, Brandies, and Cigars, ETC
No. 710 Garrison Avenue

Fort Smith Arkansas

— Open Day and Night —

— • —

During the month of December, 1889, the following number of engines and cars crossed the Frisco bridge at Van Buren: Engines, 687; passenger coaches, 976; loaded freight cars, 3,606; empty freight cars, 1,443. — V.B. Aurgus

— • —

SIX HUNG

HARRIS AUSTIN, JOHN BILLY, THOMAS WILLIS, JEFFERSON JONES, SAM GOIN, AND JIMMON BURRIS GET THE TRAP SPRUNG UNDER THEM WHILE MATTISON JAMES RECEIVES A COMMUTATION TO FIFTEEN YEARS AND CHARLEY BULLARD AND GEORGE TOBLER ARE GRANTED A RESPITE TO THE 30TH OF JANUARY.

— • —

GOT A DOSE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE

A party from the Territory informs us that a few days ago a deputy marshal named Dugger, of the Paris district, boarded a train at Denton for the Territory, and after getting over the line began the operation of going through the "grips" of the

passengers in search of whisky. He had a supply in his own grip and Indian Policeman Henry Sixkiller being on the train his attention was called to the fact.

Sixkiller took the grip of the officer, broke the whisky, and stopped further searching of the passengers baggage by arresting the deputy, who got off the train at Caddo, a wiser and perhaps a more law abiding man.

— • —

FIXTURES OF A FIRST CLASS BOARDING HOUSE FOR SALE

Fixtures complete for sale at a bargain, long established business, first class boarders, prompt pay, 15 rooms in all, 11 bed rooms, furniture modern style and nearly new, location central, house two story brick, with all the modern improvements, including two water closets, two bath tubs with hot and cold water on both floors. Reason for selling, ill health of the undersigned.

James Wickersham, Prop., 1010 Mulberry St.

Note — (Now North "B" Street)

— • —

C. TILLES & CO.

Have Moved to No. 806 Garrison Avenue

The Old Stand of the Speere Hardware Co.

Call and See Our Immense Stock and Low Prices

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

January 21, 1890

Mrs. Eloise Bushyhead, wife of ex-Chief Bushyhead, of the Cherokee Nation, is in the City visiting her relatives, the family of Judge and Mrs. E.B. Rutherford.

— • —

A GOVERNMENT PENITENTIARY

The fact that a bill has been introduced into Congress appropriating \$800,000 to build two government penitentiaries east of the Rocky Mountains has aroused the interest of our citizens in a matter which has been before them at different times and which the *Elevator* has expressed itself on more than one occasion.

Monday night at the regular meeting of the Chamber of Commerce a motion prevailed to memorialize Congress to locate one of the two penitentiaries at this point, and a committee consisting of R.E. Kelly and J.G. Eberle was appointed to prepare the memorial.

We shall have more to say on this subject hereafter.

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January 31, 1890

NUMBER SEVENTY

Execution of George Tobler for Murder of Irwin Richardson. Charley Bullard Commuted to Life Imprisonment.

— • —

AGAIN IN THE TOILS

The "Rev." George A. Marvin whose name has appeared in print on several occasions during the past year in connection not creditable to himself or to the cloth he wears, is again in durance vile. A short time ago the county court passed an order upon him from which he took an appeal. After the appeal he skipped. Officer Cox was placed on his track and last Friday he was brought to this place and lodged in jail. The way of the transgressor is certainly hard.

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February 7, 1890

AN ELOPEMENT

The elopement and marriage of two of the young people of this city Sunday was the cause of no little comment for the time being. The eloping parties were Mr. Jerry McKenna, the son of Capt. Ed McKenna, one of our leading citizens, and Miss Minnie L. Lotz, the daughter of Rev. R.L. Lotz, pastor of the Christian Church.

The parents objected to the intimacy of the young people on account of their extreme youth, so, taking advantage of an hour when most people were at church they procured a hack and started in the direction of Pacola where a minister was found who made them happy. They were attended, we learn, by a couple of friends whose names we did not learn.

After the ceremony the couple returned to the city. The parents on both sides were at first indignant at the proceeding, but after reasoning the matter over in their own minds concluded that the best plan was to acquiesce, which they did.

— • —

DONATIONS TO ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL

St. John's Hospital makes acknowledgment of the following donations during the past month:

Mrs. Burke, two boxes of crackers; Mrs. Edmondson, oranges; Mrs. Maidlow, roast beef; anonymous, four loaves of bread; Branch of Women's Auxiliary of New Orleans, per Mrs. L.P. Reese, No. 309 Josephine Street, New Orleans, one package containing mens underclothing and other useful articles; Hotel Main, quantity of meat platters, soup plates, cups; Mrs. Thos. Johnson, half gallon of milk daily; Masonic Hall, coffee, sugar, and chicken left over.

Respectfully,
F. Wilson

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

February 14, 1890

THE FIREMANS BALL

There has been great preparation for the ball tonight, and a large crowd will be present. If you have not bought your ticket, buy it now. You will never have a better time in which to enjoy yourself and aside from your enjoyment, you have a chance to show the fire boys that you appreciate them and the labors they undergo in their defense of your property against the fire fiend.

A large line of costumes have been received for use on the occasion, many of which have been secured by the merry makers and the scene of the grand march will be an entrancing one. So turn out and enjoy it.

— • —

ANOTHER OLD TIMER JOINS THE MAJORITY

Last Friday evening the 7th inst. Mr. Willard Ayers died in this city at the residence of his son Cornelius Ayers, at the age of 76.

Mr. Ayers was born at St. Johnsbury, Vermont, and came to Fort Smith in 40. A stone cutter by trade, he worked on the building of the old fort. In the year of 46 he married Catherine Forrester, of Crawford County, who died in 1879. He worked as an apprentice boy on the Bunker Hill Monument. He was a volunteer in the Mexican War, enlisting in Ft. Smith in Capt. Feich's Company in 1847 serving through that war and carrying the regimental flag. In

1861 he went to Washington and served twelve years as a guard in the treasury department. For three years he lived in the Soldiers Home in that city. He was buried in the National Cemetery Sunday evening with the honors of Free Masonry.

— • —
This is St. Valentines Day — the occasion on which love stricken mortals express through the medium of Uncle Sam's mails that which they have not the courage to speak. It is also the time when individuals with a grudge get in their work by means of highly colored caricatures.

— • —
INSANE

Mr. Martin Sietzel, a resident of Spring Hill, Sebastian County, last week became insane and was brought to this City for treatment. At present he is confined in the county jail, where he will be kept until he recovers or better quarters can be secured for him. His affliction is said to be the result of domestic troubles.

— • —
NEW POST OFFICE

A post office has been established at Spring Hill, Sebastian County. It will be called Barling, from the proximity to the old Barling place. Jacob Maledon is postmaster.

— • —
FOR SALE

\$2000 will buy a very desirable 5 room house on Lexington avenue. Lot 80 x 140.

\$1200 will buy one lot and four room house on same avenue.

\$1000 will buy a nice cottage on Byrne Street.

For further particulars see Carnall Bros.

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February 21, 1890

In the Senate, Saturday, Senator Jones introduced a bill, authorizing the Fort Smith, McAlister, and Western Railway to build a railroad through Indian Country.

— • —
"THE DARK CONTINENT"

Rev. Graham C. Campbell will deliver the first of a course of lectures elsewhere noticed; on next Tuesday evening of the Christian Church. Rev. Campbell spent five years in Africa as a missionary, and has many relics he will explain to the audience. Admission 25 cents. The young ladies of the church are offering tickets for sale, both course and single.

— • —
LOST

Sunday night, while on way to church, a pair of gold-frame spectacles in a red plush case. A suitable reward will be given. Leave at this office.

— • —
PARLOR RESTAURANT

W.H. Burke, proprietor

Corner 6th Street and Garrison Avenue in rear of Freer's Saloon, side entrance on 6th Street extension. Oysters, Fish, Game, Etc. Most popular restaurant in the City. Meals at all hours.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

February 28, 1890

A large panther was seen near Clarksville one day last week.

The women crusaders who recently raided a saloon, demolished its fixtures and spilled its liquors at Trenton, Mo. were arrested last week and fined \$5. each.

— • —
John Jacob Astor one of the millionaires of the great Astor family died in New York on the 22nd.

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March 7, 1890

RUNAWAY BOY

William Shire, a sixteen year old boy, ran away from his home at Muldrow on the 23rd of last month, and his father will pay a liberal reward for information as to his whereabouts. He left on a sorrel mare, three years old, branded half Circle E on left shoulder, muley saddle. Address all communications to E. Shire, Muldrow, I.T.

— • —
Cards are out for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Clendening. The 17th of the present month is set as the date of the pleasurable event.

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March 14, 1890

NOTICE!

We have only a few thousand feet of 90 cent lumber left, but we have an overstock of windows that we are offering at the alarming low prices of 60 cents, 75 cents, and \$1.00 each, and doors in proportion. We also have the only strictly Pure Lead and Oil Ready Mixed Paint on the market. Our stock of lumber, ceiling, flooring and siding is all first class and thoroughly seasoned.

Come see us when in need of any kind of building material, we can save you money, Remember the place — 216 South Sixth Street near the new Court House.

CAZORT BROS.

— • —
WORKINGMEN'S MASS MEETING

The carpenter's union of this city have made arrangements for a workingmen's union meeting to be held this evening at the Circuit Court rooms at half past seven o'clock. A.H. Boles, E.E. Bryant, and J.L. Hendrick will address the meeting. A cordial invitation to attend is extended to all.

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March 21, 1890

THE VACHE GRAS BRIDGE

The Vache Gras bridge for which the county made an appropriation several months ago, is at last completed and ready for use. This is good news for those people who live in the eastern part of the county and most of whom have more or less business in Fort Smith all the year through. Vache Gras is an ugly stream at all times and at certain seasons of the year is unpassable.

— • —
MARRIED

At the Catholic church on Monday afternoon by Rev. I. Smith, Capt. J.B. Minehart, of Sculleyville, Choctaw Nation, and Mrs. M. Hook of this city.

The ceremony was witnessed by a few select friends and relatives of the bride. After the ceremony the bridal party repaired to the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Melchior Euper, where a sumptuous dinner was served to a large number of guests, after which Mr. and Mrs. Minehart entered a

carriage in waiting and were conveyed to their new home fourteen miles from this city, the best wishes of many friends going with them.

— • —

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Our Irish friends celebrated St. Patrick's Day in good shape. Every native of the "Ould Sod" wore upon his breast either a green ribbon or a spray of shamrock, and many business houses were tastefully decorated with evergreens or draped with green fabric. In the evening Rev. Patrick O'Reilly of Little Rock delivered an eloquent lecture in Catholic Hall. This was followed by a hop which lasted until late hours.

— • —

There is a mud hole at the intersection of Byrnes Street and Grand Avenue that is worth a little attention from the board of public affairs.

— • —

Mr. August Harder and Messrs. Kuper and Son are preparing to build a brick business on 6th Street. It will be two stories high, with iron front.

— • —

"In my extensive practice among women" writes an eminent physician, who has made the study of female disease a specialty, "never have I found a female tonic and regulator so happily as is Dr. Dromgoole's English Female Bitters."

— • —

The contract for putting the county court house sewerage was awarded Wednesday to the Fort Smith Plumbing and Water Works Co. The contract price is \$580.

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March 28, 1890

It is said that the plant of the Van Buren Times will shortly be moved to Muldrow.

— • —

The citizens of Camden are jubilant over the fact that their city is now illuminated with electric lights.

— • —

A reunion of the Eleventh and Seventeenth Consolidated Arkansas Infantry, C.S.A., will be held at Benton July 30 and 31st.

— • —

Conway captured Hendrix College. Her bid was \$55,000. The contest was decided Saturday morning. Conway, Searcy, and Arkadelphia made the strongest fight.

— • —

The little town of Austin, about 26 miles from Little Rock on the Little Rock Railroad, was burned Monday afternoon. The fire destroyed a store belonging to the Austin Luther Company together with \$8,000 worth of shingles, and Mr. Austin's residence. Loss about \$15,000. No insurance.

— • —

The final location of the Kansas City, Nevada and Fort Smith Railroad will be completed between Monett and Nevada today. The instruments of Engineer Otis arrived here yesterday and it is expected that he will supervise the construction of the road from Monett to Nevada.

— • —

The candidacy of R.R. Morrow, of Sebastian, for State Treasurer, is attracting much attention. The

man who would tackle Little Billy must necessarily be possessed of nerve, and Mr. Morrow's reception by the people shows they appreciate that fact, as well as his prospects for winning.

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April 4, 1890

Col's. John G. Fletcher, R.A. Little and J.W. Rouse, Location Committee of the Ex-confederate House Association, are inspecting sites for the proposed home. They will probably decide upon a plot of ground on the Heights West of Little Rock.

— • —

John Hayes, of Van Buren, 12 years old, died last week from the effects of a nail run into his foot a couple of weeks ago.

— • —

A bill has been introduced in Congress for the erection of a Public Building at Van Buren.

— • —

THE INDIAN TERRITORY

Hegshooter, a somewhat noted Indian Doctor, died last week at his home near Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation.

C.A. Shane was arrested near Tishomingo, Cherokee Nation, last Monday on a charge of outraging two of his own daughters.

A Deputy Marshal is authority for the statement that the corpse of a man, apparently 22 or 23 years of age, was found hanging from a projection of a bluff on Red River near Bloomfield Academy this week. His hands were tied behind him and he doubtlessly suffered death at the hands of robbers or a mob. No clue to the PERPETRATORS.

— • —

Deputy Marshal Pemberton will arrive this evening with Charles Shepherd, William Williams, and Lee Bounds, charged with assault. These three men got on a whiz last Sunday and painted the town of Webber's Falls, shooting into residences and business houses promiscuously.

— • —

John F. Ratiaree, who had a leg broken by a wreck on the Frisco Railroad last summer, has brought suit for \$20,000.

— • —

Ed Bowman came in from Talahina on Monday night. He has been out looking for the parties who robbed Judge Taylor, but reports no trace of them discovered.

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April 11, 1890

Mr. Martin of Conway, gave \$12,500 to secure the location of Hendrix College. This is about one eighth of his entire wealth.

— • —

There are six million acres of land in this state which can be purchased at a very low figure. It is land forfeited for taxes, and embraces swamp, seminary, and Little Rock lands.

— • —

Monday night the Gin House of Senator J.P. Clark, of Phillips County, was burned at the Pillow Mound Place. One of the occupants who had taken refuge from the flood upset a lamp which started the conflagration. Loss about \$2500. No insurance.

— • —

Sam Hackett, an employee of the Iron Mountain Railroad, was dangerously shot Monday night by P.G. Gallagher, night watchman for the same company. The shooting seems to have been entirely without cause.

— • —

In addition to its calamities by water, Arkansas City was visited by a severe wind storm on the night of the 2nd. Several buildings were blown from their foundations. The terrors of a storm in a town covered by water to a depth of from 8 to 10 feet can readily be imagined.

— • —

Now that all the joints in the Oklahoma country have been closed, every drug store carrying a stock of \$1,000 can obtain a druggists permit to sell liquor for medical purposes. We suppose that there will be lots of sickness there now.

— • —

Capt. Crouch, the Oklahoma Boomer, was shot on his claim last Friday while building a fence, by J.O. Adams. Couch was contestant for a valuable claim on which Adams claims to have the filing. Couch's left leg, below the knee, was hit by a bullet which passed on through the leg. He will probably be crippled for life.

— • —

No ex-Confederate soldier can vote in congress unless his disabilities are removed by legislative act, and this can only be done by a two thirds vote. In this connection we have only to remark that any ex-Confederate soldier who will live in such a state deserves disfranchisement.

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April 18, 1890

This morning W.H.H. Clayton of Fort Smith, Ark. arrived in the city. Col. Clayton called upon Col. J.O. Churchill, and spent some time at his office. He states that the probabilities are that the Republicans in the next Congress will have three or four members of Congress from Arkansas.

— • —

Sam Dawsen, son of a rich citizen of St. Paul, Minn. was robbed of \$1600 at the union depot at Little Rock last Saturday.

— • —

Robert Phillips, a brakeman on the Cotton Belt Railroad, died at Pine Bluff on the 10th from the effects of an injury received while coupling cars.

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April 25, 1890

The Purcell Register says that one day last week a man living about five miles from Lexington, Oklahoma, dug up and killed 43 snakes. Twenty-three were rattlesnakes and the remainder black snakes.

— • —

Harrodsburg, Ky, was almost entirely destroyed by fire Sunday night. Loss, \$150,000.

— • —

The World's Fair bill, amended so as to provide for a naval review in the harbor of New York, has passed the Senate.

— • —

STATE NEWS

The Sentinel estimates the population of Hot Springs at 14,300.

John Daly, of St. Louis, defeated Al Burke, of Pittsburg, in a battle at Hot Springs last Saturday. The fight was witnessed by 400 people.

On the night of the 11th the Roller Mills, owned by Williams & Feedback, at Francis, Boone County, was destroyed by fire. Loss about \$10,000.

Lia Bryant, a colored strumpet, broke into the store of Southmayd, Miller & Co., at Van Buren one night last week, and robbed it of a large amount of goods. She has been arrested.

Ben Sneed, a convict, was shot and killed at Palarm last Friday, while trying to escape from the prison camp. Geo. Oxford, another convict, was killed on the previous day at Bryant's Switch while attempting to escape.

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May 2, 1890

Our esteemed contemporary, the Arkansas Democrat, expresses a belief that John M. Clayton's assassin is still in Conway County. We do not believe as much. We believe he has taken himself to other points. Farther, we have always believed that the assassin of John M. Clayton was moved to the commission of this horrible deed by a morbid desire for revenge for some injury inflicted upon himself or some immediate relative during the days of reconstruction deviltry.

— • —

STATE NEWS

Batesville has shipped nearly 16,000 bales of cotton this season.

J. Heron, a brakeman on the Iron Mountain Railroad, was killed at Mariana on the 24th while in the performance of his duties.

A cyclone swept over a portion of Ouachita County on the 23rd. Considerable damage was done to property, but no lives were lost.

A \$10,000 damage suit has been brought against the Little Rock and Memphis Railroad Company by William Morrison, whose leg was broken by his being crowded from a platform while passing into the dining car.

— • —

Fritz Lander, of Salt Lake City, last Friday sold his wife to Henry Strauss for \$100. Lander says that the money more than compensates him for the loss of his wife.

— • —

The heavy rains of last Friday night washed away Charley LeFlore's toll bridge at Limestone Gap, Choctaw Nation.

— • —

It looks as if Hon. Bill Torrey has inherited Hon. Bill Worthen's rabbit foot. The Fort Smith papers are so badly hoodooed that they are actually boasting about what a fine congressman Hon. Bill will make.

— • —

Sunday morning about 1 o'clock the north-bound Frisco passenger killed a man just beyond the city limits in the direction of Van Buren. He was not discovered until it was too late to stop the train. Examination of the body proved his name to be John Gray. He was a miner, and lived in Huntington.

— ● —

Deputy U.S. Marshal B. Connelly and S. White have received from the Wells Fargo Express Company the reward of one thousand dollars offered for the outlaw John Barber, who was killed by them near Tahlequah in December last.

— ● —

Mr. E.W. Harper and Miss Josie Thomas, of Hackett were married Sunday evening by Rev. Mr. Damon. The Elevator extends wishes for good luck.

— ● —

J.I. McCollum, an engineer, was badly burned at Jenny Lind Saturday. He had been cleaning his flue and was just on the point of leaving when the flames from the furnace burst out, burning him frightfully about the face and hands. It is feared his eyesight will be destroyed.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
May 9, 1890

The Sanitary News says that the universal habit among women of biting off the thread with which they are sewing is prolific of sore throat and blood poisoning. Every woman should have a butcher knife lying handy on her lap when she sews.

— ● —

A train on the Bald Knob Branch of the Iron Mountain Road was derailed near Bethel on the 1st by running into a bull. All the cars but the sleeper were thrown from the track, and the engine was totally demolished. The engineer and fireman were both badly hurt.

— ● —

An ordinance was introduced by Alderman Huffman, repealing the ordinance requiring a flagman at the crossing of Garrison Avenue and the Little Rock Railroad was passed.

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May 16, 1890

Last Wednesday the Senate confirmed the nomination of W.H.H. Clayton as United States Attorney.

— ● —

In the Paris court last week U.S. Northup was acquitted on two charges of stealing horses from Kiowa and Comanche Indians, and yet has a third against him. George Blair was sent up for four years for burglary, and Charlie Morris three years for an assault to murder.

— ● —

Hot Springs has raised the \$50,000 expected of her for the Little Rock, Hot Springs and Dardanelle Railroad.

— ● —

Arrangements are being made for the reunion of the Eleventh and Seventeenth Consolidation and First Arkansas Regiments, C.S.A., at Benton on the 30th and 31st of July.

— ● —

A blue bird's nest in the cab of a railway locomotive is a curiosity seldom seen. Engineer Moody of the Dardanelle & Russellville railroad points with pride to a rarity of this nature. The nest building was done while the engine stood on the side track near the factory between trips. The mother-bird has become quite gentle and doubtless will succeed in raising in this unique place quite an interesting family.

— ● —

At Richmond, Virginia, on the 7th, the trucks containing the Lee statue were moved to the place of unveiling with men, women and children tugging at the ropes. The line of March was literally packed with people from starting point to finish, while the waving of flags was continuous. There were 500 grown ladies and girls whose fair hands held the rope. Little tots were carried out into the streets in their mother's arms and their small hands tied upon the ropes. All the trucks were handsomely decorated with pictures of Gen. R.E. Lee and flags of the southern states, while here and there Confederate battle flags floated in the breeze.

— ● —

Mrs. Barney, of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, lectured to the prisoners in jail here on Sunday afternoon, making a most impressive talk. She was accompanied to the jail by Mrs. W.M. Cravens and Mrs. Bennett.

— ● —

W.L. Reeves, whose large experience in the shoe business is well known in this section, is now in charge of the shoe department of the Holmes Dry Goods Co. establishment. Mr. Holmes is certainly fortunate in acquiring his services.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
May 23, 1890

The citizens of Stuttgart, Arkansas, have subscribed \$50,000 to insure the location of the Stuttgart, Arkansas and Texas Railway shops at that place.

— ● —

It is announced in London that Henry M. Stanley, the African explorer, will shortly be married to Miss Dorothy Tennant, an artist and author of some note.

— ● —

Mr. John Ayars of this city, was elected president of the Y.M.C.A. in session at Little Rock last week. A good selection.

— ● —

Joan Davis, a resident of this city for the past three years, met his death near Tuskahoma, I.T., Tuesday morning by falling through a bridge. He was a brakeman on this Frisco, and was making his first through trip. The engine, upon which he was standing, stopped on a bridge, and Davis stepped from the pilot to change a switch. In stepping he fell through, cutting his chin and bruising the left side of his face. It is thought the blow stunned him, and that he drowned after falling into the stream.

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May 30, 1890

STATE NEWS

The Monitor reports a slight shock of earthquake at Coal Hill on the night of the 19th.

Gov. Eagle will be one of the speakers at the decoration of two Federal graves at Fayetteville.

The Patton Place containing fifty-six acres, near Little Rock, has been selected by the committee chosen to locate the home for disabled ex-Confederates, the price paid was \$3,000.

J.S. McDonald, a brakeman on the Iron Mountain Railroad, was run over by a train near Newport, last Monday. When taken from under the wheels he begged to be killed, so great was his agony.

— • —

The Iowa Indians have formerly accepted the offer of the government, made through the Cherokee Commission, to sell their lands to the United States for \$1.25 an acre.

— • —

We learn that Col. Fishback, now at Hot Springs, Arkansas, is rapidly improving under the influence of the thermal waters, and bids fair to regain his health. His hearing, however yet remains impaired.

— • —

Mr. Wm. Stromberg, the veteran nurseryman, last week sent to the Elevator office two boxes of his magnificent strawberries. Mr. Stromberg has this season marketed an immense amount of this delicious fruit, being, we believe, the first to bring it into the city.

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June 6, 1890

STATE NEWS

A directory just completed by the press company shows the population of Little Rock to 46,235.

The engineering corps of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company has for the past week been in Van Buren surveying and locating the belt road, which is to connect the Little Rock road with the Frisco.

— • —

GENERAL NEWS

George Marks, a census taker of New York City, went into a liquor store to take the census of the inmates and was met with a volley of rotten eggs. He left in a hurry.

It is said the London Contract Company controls 77 breweries in this country, which represent a capital of \$88,190,000.

— • —

YOUR WIFE

Can't get along this summer without one of those "New Process" gasoline stoves for sale only at Atkinson & Triesch. The advantages of this stove over all patterns are numerous. Go and see them.

— • —

The German Bank of this city was incorporated Wednesday. Capital stock, \$250,000. The officers are Gus A. Gill, president; H.T. Jackman, vice-president; Charles W. Copeland, cashier; John H. Gill, J.B. Forrester, H.T. Jackman, A.T. Booth and Gus A. Gill were elected directors.

— • —

DECORATION DAY

There were more people in attendance at the ceremonies on Memorial Day than usual. The day

was bright and clear, and the rain that had fell the previous evening had laid the dust.

The ceremonies took place under the auspices of Thos. Williams Post, G.A.R. At 9:35 the procession marched to the cemetery, led by a military band. Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Ledford. Local music was rendered by a select choir which was under charge of Prof W.D.C. Botefuhr. The oration was delivered by Judge I.C. Parker. This was an able exposition of the principles embodied in the Union cause, the ablest, we believe ever delivered in this city on a like occasion. While the speaker, by his words and actions, showed his faith in the sacredness of the cause of the stars and stripes, he said nothing to taunt or wound the feelings of those who differed with him in all matters pertaining to the great struggle between the states. His moderation and fairness was the subject of comment by many of those who had worn the gray. His oration presented a vivid contrast to the harangue of a year ago which outraged our people.

The ex-Confederates took no organized part in the ceremonies of the day, but a number of ladies and gentlemen joined hands at the cemetery and decorated the monuments of Generals McIntosh and Stein tastefully and beautifully.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

June 13, 1890

Under the present tariff the rate of taxation is 47 percent. Under the McKinley abomination, if it passes, it will be 57 percent.

— • —

L.D. McDonald returned on Saturday last from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. While there he secured the agency of the celebrated FLEBLITZ beer. He has fitted up a splendid vault in the Delorvin building on second street, and proposes to sell as much beer to the trade as anybody.

— • —

CIRCUIT COURT

In the circuit court, J.M. Hill was elected special judge owing to the disqualification of Judge Humphrey in certain cases. Much of the time this week has been put in hearing motions.

Wednesday the case of D.J. Young vs. J.F. Suratt, J.W. Quinley inter-pleader, was decided by jury deciding for the plaintiff.

Last Saturday Mose Jones & Louis Bolin pleaded guilty to charges of larceny. Each received a sentence of 1 year in the penitentiary. Jones is Taylor and Powell's till tapper.

The case of State vs. Wm. Jackson, murder, was called yesterday. As we go to press, the attorneys for the defendant are arguing a motion for a change of venue. R.B. McDonough is prosecuting the case. S.H. Cady and Jo Johnson represent the defendant.

— • —

PICNIC & BARBECUE

Messrs. Zerboni and Barber are making arrangements to give a grand picnic and barbecue at the Schutzen Park on Monday, June 23. Everything will be done in the best of style. The following gentlemen have consented to deliver addresses: J.F. Weaver, E.F. Bryant, Jno. F. Williams, J.B. McDonough, W.F. Blythe, T.P. Winchester, J.L. Hendrick; other speakers will be granted a proper division of time.

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NOTES: il - some sort of graphic is used, other than a portrait.
 por - a portrait of the person(s) named is on page indicated.
 (----) - for such as title, marital status, degree, etc.
 "-----" - for nickname or special emphasis.
 (-) - hyphen denotes main character(s) whose name(s) appear throughout story.
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