

The JOURNAL

From Past



To Present



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COVER: Cavanaugh School

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Public Education in Early Twentieth Century Arkansas:

A History of the Cavanaugh School District

By Phillip Russell

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Phillip W. Russell [MA 1981; EdD 1989] is an Associate Professor of Education and Director of Field Experience, University of Arkansas at Monticello. He is President of the UAM Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa as well as Associate Director, Southeast Arkansas Center for Educational Renewal)

The history of the Cavanaugh School District in Sebastian County is very much a part of the history of public education in Arkansas. The earliest Arkansas schools were Jesuit mission schools for the native Americans. Early settlers also established forest schools which were similar to the old field schools found in Alabama, Tennessee, and the Carolinas. These schools were chiefly primary and subscription in that they were financed by tuition from parents.¹

No system of publicly financed, common schools existed until 1843 when the Arkansas General Assembly provided for such schools by allowing townships to sell or lease the section of land granted by the federal government to support a school. The curriculum was to include spelling, reading, writing, English grammar, geography, mathematics, and good morals. The law provided for no state or local taxation to support the schools. Income from the sale of lands proved inadequate.²

Since Arkansas was largely inhabited by hunters and self-sufficient farmers, it was not surprising that there was little support for public education during the 1800's. Upper class farmers argued that tax money should not be spent for something that only a few used. In 1860, only one-half of school age children in Arkansas attended school. Those who did were divided evenly between public and private institutions.³ Only 25 publicly supported common schools were operating in Arkansas at that time.⁴

Arkansans were not unlike most southerners in their lack of support for public education before the Civil War. Throughout the south, the sparsity of the population, poverty of small farmers, and desire of the wealthy to avoid associating in the schools with the lower classes hindered the development of a system of publicly supported

common schools open to all. Many educated upper class southerners believed that it was their obligation, not that of publicly supported schools, to assist the less fortunate and preserve the class structure.⁵

The birth of a common school system supported by taxation came during Reconstruction. Republicans during that era believed that public education was needed to assist the blacks and to convince whites to abandon the Democratic Party. In 1867, the General Assembly passed a law levying a 20 cent tax on every \$100 of taxable property in the state. The money would go to the state for the support of common schools. In order to get funding, local schools had to be in session at least three months per year.⁶ Under the 1868 state constitution, the General Assembly was required to establish a system of free schools. A permanent fund was to finance these schools. Part of the money was to come from a \$1 poll tax paid by all adult white males. Provision was also made for state and local property taxation to support the schools in the 1874 state constitution.⁷

After Reconstruction, the newly created system of public education languished in Arkansas. Farmers still refused to support the schools and the tax base remained limited. A small elite attended private schools called academies which were financed through tuition. Often religious in background, these schools emphasized instruction in morality. Public schools in the period after Reconstruction were often supported both publicly and by subscription fees. Teachers were poorly paid and the quality of instruction was often substandard. School terms were usually split in that schools opened in July, dismissed for the fall harvest, began again in winter, and stopped once more for spring planting.⁸ No statewide compulsory attendance laws existed

prior to 1900.

It was under these conditions that Cavanaugh School District Number 81 was established in 1895. The first school building was a one-room wooden structure built by Greene Redwine, a local farmer and carpenter. The lumber was hauled by wagon from Talihina in the Indian Territory. The Methodist Church at Cavanaugh deeded a two acre site along with the building and a house for a teacher to the community with the understanding that the property was to always be used for a school.⁹

Since the church played such an important role in the establishment of Cavanaugh School, it is not surprising that, in the early days of the school, the school house was shared with the Methodist Church. L.M. Redwine, one of the first teachers, and J.J. Galloway, pastor of the church, had such an arrangement. Pastor Galloway used the building on Sundays and Professor Redwine often asked him to participate in daily opening exercises.¹⁰

All eight grades were taught in the one-room school. Pupils lined up at the front door at the beginning of the day and marched in when school began. Students sat on wooden benches without desks. Boys were seated on one side of the room and girls on the other.

The curriculum in this first Cavanaugh School included reading, writing, arithmetic, and spelling for the lower grades and geography, American history, algebra, physiology, English grammar, copybook writing, and Arkansas history for the older students. Instructional methods included lecture by the teacher, drill, memorization, and oral reading by students. Typically, the teacher called on particular students to recite. Students raised their hands to ask questions.¹¹

Disciplinary actions included spanking and staying in during morning and afternoon recesses. Infractions included speaking without permission, punching each other across the aisle, and failure to do schoolwork. Then as now, some parents were not supportive of the disciplinary techniques used by the teachers.¹²

As in many other Arkansas communities, the school was a source of great pride to the citizens of Cavanaugh and it was the center of many social activities. Teachers sponsored evening entertainment including spelling and ciphering matches and box suppers to benefit the school. The general public also often came to closing exercises celebrating the end of the six month school year. These exercises were sometimes

quite elaborate including singing and speeches. The stage was decorated with flowers and leaves for these occasions. Students actively participated in all aspects of these performances.

In 1916, a new era began in the history of the Cavanaugh School District with the replacement of the original frame school building with a two story, red brick structure consisting of two classrooms downstairs and a divided auditorium upstairs. Grades one through six were on the first floor with seventh and eighth grades taught on the upper floor. Coal provided heat for the building while a small well furnished water for the students and faculty.¹³

The new building may have been built in a popular style architecturally. In 1914, a two-story red brick school building was constructed in Palestine, Arkansas, with a curved arch at the front entrance. A central hallway led directly to the rear of the building. As at Cavanaugh, the lower grades were found on the lower level and the upper grades and an auditorium were above.¹⁴

When the new Cavanaugh School opened, an old English "Bran Barrel Ceremony" was held. Bran meal was poured over gaily wrapped gifts found in two barrels by the school door. As the children marched into the school for the first day, girls chose gifts from one barrel and boys from the other. Once everyone was seated, the children opened the gifts. This ceremony was apparently an old English custom suggested by an immigrant from England who had settled in Cavanaugh.¹⁵

In the years following the completion of the new Cavanaugh School building, several improvements were proposed and implemented. In 1925, plans were drawn up to expand the auditorium at the school. However, this addition was never completed, apparently due to lack of funds.¹⁶ In the early 1930's, a coal house outside the school building was enlarged to become the library. In 1936, the teacher's house became the lunchroom and an additional classroom.¹⁷ The fact that materials and labor for this project were furnished by the citizens of Cavanaugh was indicative of the community support of the school at that time.

The willingness of the citizens of Cavanaugh to support their school was well-known throughout Sebastian County. For example, in 1929 the school millage for Cavanaugh was 18 mills. This rate was exceeded in Sebastian County by only two districts, Hackett and Fort Smith. In addition, the assessed valuation per child was \$2081.00 in the Cavanaugh District, an amount exceeded

only by Fort Smith.¹⁸

In terms of the educational program, a great milestone for the Cavanaugh School District occurred in 1924 when a high school was added. Twelve grades were taught at Cavanaugh from 1928 through 1946 by five to six teachers. Margaret Combs Borgold and Lorene Pryor Stover became the first students to graduate from Cavanaugh High School in 1928. The largest class to graduate was 12. The last graduating class, the class of 1946, consisted of Dora Ellen Wayt, Everett O'Neal, Milton Moore, Dorothy Coleman White, Bertha Mae Bradshaw Cattaneo, Alice White Smith, and Pauline Hough Kesner.¹⁹

Students from the 1916-1950 era indicated that, although the curriculum at Cavanaugh School was limited in areas such as typing, art, industrial arts, home economics, physical education, and lab work, overall their preparation was very adequate. In the elementary grades subjects included reading, arithmetic, spelling, language, writing, geography, history, and physiology. The curriculum in the secondary grades included English, geography, science, algebra, American government, Latin, world and American history, biology, health, conservation, drama, and music.²⁰ This represents a course of study that was likely equal to or better than most rural Arkansas schools during the first half of the twentieth century. For such a small school district, it was admirable that such a variety of courses including Latin, biology, drama, and music were offered.

Teachers during this era used many of the same teaching methods utilized during the pre-1916 time period. Overall, teaching techniques appeared to be similar to those used in other parts of the state and region during the first half of the twentieth century, particularly in schools similar in size to Cavanaugh.

According to Mr. Everett O'Neal, a member of the last class to graduate from Cavanaugh High School, students were assigned permanent seats according to their grade level. Individuals in each grade had to sit in a particular row of wooden desks. Of course, as it had been from the very beginning of the school, multiple grade levels were in the same room. For example, grades 1, 2, and 3 met in one room and 4, 5, and 6 in the other. Grades 7, 8, and 9 met on one side of the divided upstairs auditorium while the remaining grades met on the other.²¹ According to Ms. Dorcie Pogue Caldwell, a former student and teacher at the school, students in two of the

grades had to be given assignments so that those in the remaining grade could be heard reciting.²² Along with reciting answers to questions or memorized material, other methods included lecture, class discussion, writing spelling words, reading aloud, writing papers, and oral reports. There was apparently a good deal of active participation by students. Most of the students' knowledge came from studying textbooks, working on notebooks or workbooks, and listening to the teacher.²³

At times, students learned from each other in pairs or small groups. Sometimes an older student would be asked to help a younger one.²⁴ With only one teacher in a room with students in three to six grade levels, it is certain that these methods were very important. It is interesting that often new teaching techniques were actually used many years ago. Cooperative group learning and peer tutoring are currently popular strategies.

As in the area of teaching methods, disciplinary techniques during the 1916-1950 era were similar to practices used elsewhere in Arkansas and the region. Paddling, staying in at recess, suspension from school, and counseling sessions with the teacher were used as disciplinary tools. Misbehaviors included not paying attention, talking out of turn, cursing, and flirting. One of the more amusing disciplinary actions dealt with the misbehavior of flirting or talking out of turn. Mrs. Charles Wilkins, an English teacher, made high school students sit in her lap if she caught them flirting or talking. Some of the boys were embarrassed, but others would put their arms around Mrs. Wilkin's neck and pretend to kiss her.²⁵

In general, there did not appear to be an overly large number of severe disciplinary problems at the Cavanaugh School. Disciplinary actions seemed appropriate to take care of the relatively minor problems that arose.

A key to the success of the school in the area of discipline might be found in the fact that teachers became friends to all of their students' families. Faculty knew the home environment of each child. In a small school like Cavanaugh, this was perhaps easier to do than in many schools today. However, the current idea that teachers and parents need to form partnerships designed to further the process of education is certainly supported by the lessons of history.

Another possible reason for the lack of severe discipline problems could be the influence of the church upon the school from its very beginning. Values possessed by good citizens were taught

not only through the influence of the church but also through activities such as character lectures and the singing of patriotic songs as well as simply the modeling provided by Christian teachers.

In terms of extracurricular opportunities, the Cavanaugh School District sponsored a variety of activities. Both boys and girls had basketball teams which played home games on the clay courts east of the school building. By the 1940's, the school also had a track team. This team ran its meets at the Fort Smith High School track.²⁶

As in the early days, community pie suppers were held at the school. Plays also provided entertainment for the community. Students acted and sang in these productions. Many were apparently quite elaborate. Mrs. Wilkins, who in addition to being the English teacher, also served as the drama instructor, was noted for being an excellent producer of plays. People came from Greenwood, Mansfield, Huntington, Fort Smith, and even Oklahoma to see her productions. She demanded perfection from her drama students, and if a cast member did not meet expectations, he or she was replaced.

Mrs. Wilkins also developed a girls' glee club which won many first place trophies in singing competitions in Sebastian County. In addition to sports, suppers, plays, and singing, the school sponsored 4-H Club activities.²⁷

Although the academic and extracurricular program at Cavanaugh was as thorough as that of most other small Arkansas districts of that era, the school began to have serious problems during the 1940's. World War II proved to be a trying time for the Cavanaugh District. It became difficult to find teachers as many were drafted or went to work in defense factories for higher salaries. In 1946, 100 Arkansas schools closed due to lack of teachers.²⁸ That same year, the General Assembly passed a law requiring a minimum number of students for a high school. This legislation was followed by Initiated Act I which consolidated many small schools.²⁹ Faced with a lack of money and teachers as well as low enrollment particularly at the high school level, the people of Cavanaugh voted to consolidate their school with the Fort Smith District. The consolidation became official in 1950.³⁰ Beginning in 1946, senior high school students from Cavanaugh went to Fort Smith. However, grades one through nine continued to be taught at Cavanaugh until 1950. After that time, only grades one through six continued at the school.

Thus, the history of Cavanaugh School District

Number 81 ended in 1950. However, the legacy of the school lives on in many ways. Although the old two-story red brick building was demolished in 1969, a new school was built in 1963 and an elementary school has operated on the original two-acre site continuously up to the present. The Cavanaugh Elementary School is one of many K-6 schools in the Fort Smith School District.

In addition to the fact that the school continues to operate, another part of the legacy of the Cavanaugh School District is the example that it provides for contemporary schools. Cavanaugh demonstrated the benefit of community involvement in public education. During the first half of the twentieth century, the people of Cavanaugh actively participated in and took great pride in their school. Public schools today have rediscovered the importance of involving parents and other community members in both curricular and extracurricular school activities.

Beyond the practice of involving the community, many schools today are also stressing the teaching of the values held by productive citizens. Cavanaugh School provided a good model of this practice in that the values of patriotism, honesty, and hard work held a central place in the educational program.

In addition, teaching methods utilized at Cavanaugh such as peer tutoring and cooperative group learning are again very popular. Teachers today have discovered what their colleagues at schools like Cavanaugh knew long ago; these tools can be effective in actively involving students in mixed ability classes.

Techniques such as peer tutoring and cooperative learning were often necessitated by the fact that Cavanaugh was a small school with children of many grade levels in the same room. This smallness in size is, in a sense, still another part of Cavanaugh School's legacy. Part of the success of the school in educating children during a very difficult time in our history may be attributed to its compact nature. Recent research results indicate that smallness may be beneficial for schools. It is sometimes much easier to nurture a sense of belonging and ownership among students, parents, teachers, and community members in smaller schools.

The final, and perhaps most important, part of the legacy of the Cavanaugh School District involves the people educated there during the past 100 years. These individuals have used the basic education gained at Cavanaugh School to improve their own lives as well as the lives of oth-

ers. They have gone on to help make our world a better place to live. No school could ask for a greater legacy.

NOTES

¹Dallas T. Herndon, *Annals of Arkansas* (Hopkinsville, KY: The Historical Record Association, 1947), 394.

²Ibid, 396-399.

³Michael Dougan, *Arkansas Odyssey: The Saga of Arkansas From Prehistoric Times to the Present* (Little Rock: Rose Publishing Company, 1994), 146.

⁴Boyd Johnson, *The Arkansas Frontier* (Perdue Printing Company, 1957), 81.

⁵Harry Good and James Teller, *A History of American Education, Third Edition* (New York: MacMillan Company, 1973), 249.

⁶Herndon, *Annals of Arkansas*, 401.

⁷Ibid, 402.

⁸Dougan, *Arkansas Odyssey*, 276.

⁹George Combs, *Early Cavanaugh School District Number 81*, Unpublished and undated paper. Mr. Combs was a former Cavanaugh student and President of the last CSD School Board. Also, June Haley, *Tale of 81 - The Cavanaugh Story*, Unpublished and undated paper. Ms. Haley was the author's sixth-grade teacher at Cavanaugh School. Both papers provide much information regarding the founding and development of the district. Sebastian County Court Records, Book C, p. 241 indicate a somewhat earlier date, 1890, for the formation of the district.

¹⁰William D. Redwine, *When the Old Bell Rang: A Visit to Yesteryear* (New York: Carlton Press, 1977), 89.

¹¹Ibid, 98.

¹²Ibid, 151. See Appendix III for an early twentieth century example of this.

¹³Combs, *Early* and Haley, *Tale*.

¹⁴Balys H. Kennedy, "Half a Century of School Consolidation in Arkansas," *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, 27(1), 1968, 63. See the last page of this paper for a picture of the Cavanaugh School.

¹⁵Haley, *Tale*, 2.

¹⁶Harold Griffin to author, April 13, 1995. Mr. Griffin, a Fort Smith architect and student at Cavanaugh from 1943-50, provided the author with the plans for this addition.

¹⁷Haley, *Tale*, 3.

¹⁸Division of Research & Surveys, *An Educational Survey of Sebastian County*

Arkansas (Little Rock: Arkansas Department of Education, June, 1930), 16-17, 41.

¹⁹Combs, *Early* and Haley, *Tale*, 2-3. See Appendix IV to see a copy of Mrs. Pauline Hough Kesner's diploma.

²⁰Dorcie Pogue Caldwell, Harold Griffin, Pauline Hough Kesner, Earlene Russell Roach, and Imogene Hough Turnipseed to author, October, 1994 - April, 1995. See Appendix V for a sample report card from the 1916-1950 era.

²¹Everett O'Neal, interview by author, March 22, 1995, Fort Smith, AR.

²²Caldwell to author, October 11, 1994.

²³Caldwell, Griffin, Kesner, Roach, and Turnipseed to author, October, 1994 - April, 1995.

²⁴Marie Combs, interview by author, March 23, 1995, Fort Smith, AR. Mrs. Combs provided the picture of the Cavanaugh School.

²⁵Imogene Turnipseed and Pauline Kesner to author, April 12 and April 6, 1995. Both of these CHS alumni described the same unique disciplinary technique.

²⁶Griffin to author, April 13, 1995.

²⁷Turnipseed to author, April 12, 1995.

²⁸Dougan, *Arkansas Odyssey*, 483.

²⁹Ibid, 483.

³⁰*Southwest Times Record*, January 12, 1964, "Education Here is Big Business," A-5.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This paper would not have been possible without the contributions of the following individuals.

Dorcie Pogue Caldwell - Cavanaugh School - Student and Teacher

Marie Combs - CHS - Class of 1935

R. Lynn Ellison - Fort Smith School District

Harold Griffin - Cavanaugh School - Student 1943-1950

Pauline Hough Kesner - CHS - Class of 1946

Jackie Wilson Mitchell - Cavanaugh School Student - 1941 -1946

Everett O'Neal - CHS - Class of 1946

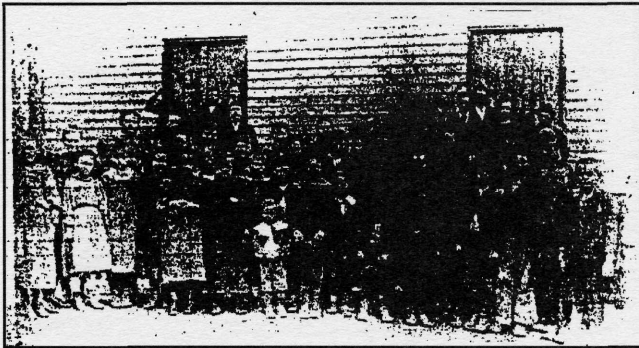
Earlene Russell Roach - Cavanaugh School Teacher - 1941 -1946

Norma Shaffer - Fort Smith School District

Imogene Hough Turnipseed - CHS - Class of 1941

Earl White - Sebastian County School Supervisor

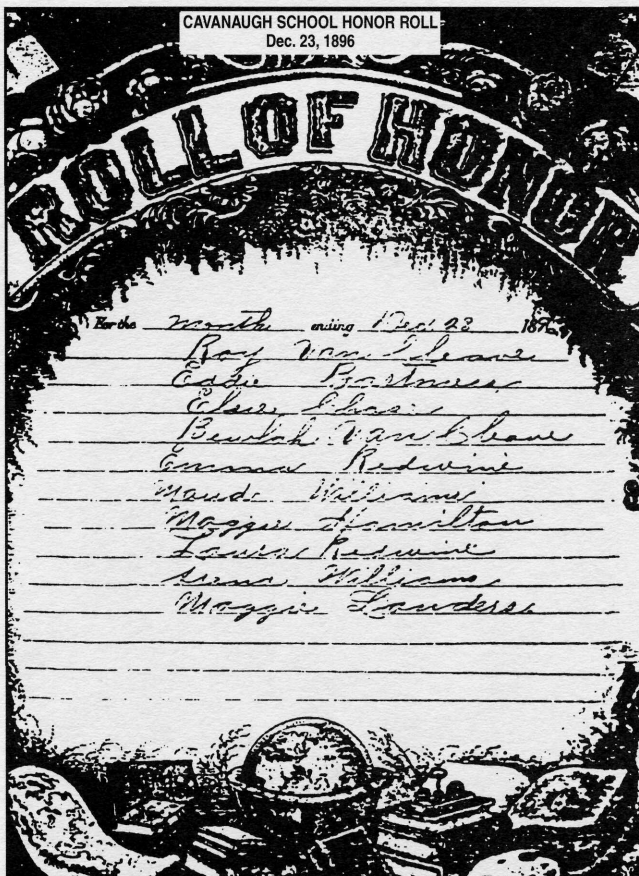
APPENDIX I EARLY PICTURE OF CAVANAUGH SCHOOL



Cavanaugh School, near the Border – 1896. Attending this school were children from the families of Jim Coleman, Sam Cromwell, Jim Johnson, Abner Landers, J.R. Leard, Robert S. Leard, Harmon Mickles, R.S. McCarthy, John Painter, B.A. Peck, Greene Redwine, T.A. Search, J.R. Smith, the Belts, Bradshaws, Browns, Chase, Falconers, Oscar Fentress, Gerens, Hamiltons, Hendersons, Hightowers, Jacksons, Pachals, Bartons, Pattersons, Pryors, Shepherds, Van Cleeves, Vincents, and Williams.

*From When the Old Bell Rang:
A Visit to Yesteryear, p. 93.*

APPENDIX II 1896 HONOR ROLL



*From When the Old Bell Rang:
A Visit to Yesteryear, p. 205.*

APPENDIX III EXCHANGE BETWEEN PARENT AND TEACHER, EARLY 1900'S IN A WESTERN ARKANSAS SCHOOL SIMILAR TO CAVANAUGH

Mrs. Redwine,

I am sending you this note and I want you to take this as if I was there myself. I don't want to hear once more that you shuke and throw my children around I have heard this enough and I want this to be first and last time.

Mrs. Tass

And here is the answer:

Dear Mrs. Tass:

I am quite sure you have never taught school. You do not know the responsibility of taking care of one hundred children at one time, the number in my room. This cannot be done whenever a child is allowed to do just as it pleases. These children must be taught to obey the regulations of the school by gentle means if possible, by harsher means if absolutely necessary

I am the mother of children and understand a mother's cares. I shall not abuse your children, but I intend that they shall obey the regulations of this school even though it may be necessary to spank them. What sort of a school would I have with a hundred children passing over the room at their own will?

In the next place, I am not supposed to take care of the babies of the town. If I must do so, I shall see they they obey the regulations and until they are old enough to know how to so, they should be kept at home under the watchful eye of their mother.

*Respectfully,
Mrs. Redwine*

From When the Old Bell Rang: A Visit to Yesteryear, p. 168-69.

APPENDIX IV THE LAST GRADUATING CLASS

Cavanaugh Senior High School

Cavanaugh  Arkansas

She is Entitled That

Pauline H. Hough

*has satisfactorily completed the Course of Study prescribed by the
Board of Education for the High School Department
and is therefore entitled to this*

Diploma

*Given at Cavanaugh, Arkansas, this third day of May,
nineteen hundred and forty-six.*

L. W. Camp
President of Board

W. B. Rainwater
Secretary of Board

Raymond S.
Superintendent

Class Roll

Dorothy L. Coleman

Dora Ellen Wayt

Everett T. O'Neal

Bertha M. Bradshaw

Pauline V. Hough

George M. Moore

Alice M. White

Class Colors: Purple and Gold

Class Flower: Violet

Class Motto: "The Ropes of the Past
Will Ring the Bells of the Future"

Class of 1946



APPENDIX V
REPORT CARD FROM THE 1916 - 1950 ERA

SUBJECTS	GRADE						Sem.	Final
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
Days Present								
Days Absent								
Days Belonging								
Times Tardy								
Deportment								
Reading								A-
Arithmetic								B+
Spelling								A
Language								A-
Writing								A-
Geography								C+
U. S. History								B
Physiology								B
State History								
Algebra								
Civics								

GRADING

A—Excellent
B—Above Average
C—Average

D—Below Average
F—Failure
E, I, or W—Incomplete

ELEMENTARY REPORT CARD

YEAR

Grade 5 Home Room _____

Name of Parent _____

Address _____ Tel. _____

TO THE PARENTS

This card is sent to you that you may know the teacher's estimate of the effort and accomplishments of your child in school.

You are invited to visit the school at your pleasure and convenience. Should you at any time know of unsatisfactory conditions, the principal of your school, or superintendent, will be grateful to you for the information.

PLEASE SIGN BELOW EACH TIME THIS CARD IS SHOWN

1st Report _____

2nd Report _____

3rd Report _____

4th Report _____

5th Report _____

6th Report _____

PROMOTED TO 6 GRADE
RETAINED IN

Annual Business Sponsors

- ✓ **Baldor Electric Company**
P.O. Box 2400
Fort Smith, AR 72902
- ✓ **Coca-Cola Bottling Co.**
3600 Phoenix
Fort Smith, AR 72903
- ✓ **Taliano's Restaurant**
201 North 14th Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901
- ✓ **Fort Smith Convention and Visitors Center**
2 North B Street • Fort Smith, AR 72901
- ✓ **City of Fort Smith**
623 Garrison Avenue
Fort Smith, AR 72901
- ✓ **Holt-Krock Clinic**
P.O. Box 2418
Fort Smith, AR 72902-2418
- ✓ **Edwards Fentress Funeral Homes, Inc.**
201 North 12th Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901
- ✓ **City National Bank**
1222 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, AR 72901
- ✓ **Spiro State Bank**
Spiro
Oklahoma, 74959
- ✓ **Treasure Cove**
3801 North O Street • Fort Smith, AR 72904

Tragedy Stops By¹

By Darrell M. Hull, July, 1995

While History does not extend invitations to her, Tragedy nevertheless "crashes" certain events. She did so at my family's breakfast that Saturday morning. There, Tragedy demanded her due of the innocent as well as the deserving—and claimed it, as she is want to do, with suddenness and violence.

It began when my great-uncle Joseph (Joe) Pearson and his wife Elizabeth were at a wood-cutting site across the Arkansas River and some three miles South of Fort Smith, Arkansas. Initially with them were—at least—Joe's sister Lucinda, her husband Leander Dixon, their two children Rachel (three years) and Matthew (nine months) and Betty, Leander's sister.² At some point in time, this group was joined by Dave Smith, Betty's husband and his friend, Will Towerly. Dave "Baldy" Smith³, the catalyst selected by the goddess Tragedy, was *persona non grata* to the group because of his life-long record of felonies. He was wanted at that very moment for horse stealing, whiskey selling in Indian Territory and involvement in the murder of U.S. Deputy Marshall Jack Richardson.⁴ But he wanted to see his wife.

It might have been Dave's sending a woodcutter to Fort Smith for whiskey that gave the U.S. Marshalls that critical lead to the family camp. However alerted, Deputy Marshalls Frank Dalton⁵ and James R. Cole, with two writs on Smith, crossed the River and turned South. This was about 8:00 A.M. Saturday morning, November 27, 1887, two days after Thanksgiving.

The woodcutting party was eating breakfast inside the low log-sided, canvas topped tent when the deputies arrived. Marshall Dalton called for Dave Smith who came out with his Winchester ready. Dalton said, "Don't shoot, we want no trouble here" or similar words.⁶ Smith promptly shot Dalton in the chest. Marshall Cole, coming around the other side of the tent, in turn shot Smith who died immediately. There are two significantly different accounts of what happened next. Either Will Towerly or Leander Dixon came out of the

tent and took a shot at Cole.⁷ Cole, stepping backwards tripped over the tent tie-down and fell, saving him from a probable mortal wound. He got up quickly, attempted to fire back but the women got in the way. Deputy Cole retreated to some trees and the firing got intense.

During this fusillade, Aunt Lucinda was killed, little Rachel was grazed, Leander received a serious wound in the left shoulder area. Cole, who was shot six times, incredibly, suffered no serious wound.⁸ He escaped and headed to Fort Smith for help. At his exit, Will Towerly came up to Dalton, who was prostrate but not dead, and pointed his Winchester at the Deputy's head. According to Rosa's account, Frank begged Will not to shoot him again saying, "I'm preparing to die". Towerly placed the muzzle of the rifle in Dalton's mouth and fired. That still didn't kill him. A final bullet in the brain did.⁹

Fort Smith's returning posse was shocked by the carnage. The writer for *The Indian Chieftain* reported: "Dalton and Smith lay side by side covered with blood, with both hands tightly grasping pistols, stone dead. A short distance off lay the woman with a bullet through her. ...Blood was everywhere."¹⁰ Leander was seriously wounded and taken to the U.S. Jail Hospital in Fort Smith. He was charged with murder (more likely complicity to murder) but before he was arraigned he died in jail of Typhoid Fever.¹¹ Apparently uncle Joe had retired somewhere nearby with the wounded Rachel and Matthew (and any other family members involved but never identified). He was subsequently charged with murder but cleared of that allegation. Will Towerly speedily left the scene but was captured and killed some ten days later in Atoka, Indian Territory.

Lucinda was taken "home" (probably, Prairie Grove, Arkansas) in a wagon driven, per family history, by her mother Nancy E. Howard Pearson. The latter took in her two orphaned grandchildren and raised them along with her youngest child, my grandmother, Esther Pearson Morrow.¹²

Now history just remembers this little event. But

the family was forever, though variously imprinted by it. For the participants, it was one of Fate's trespasses into a blissful reverie with a shrill, nerve-jarring scream. It left them shattered and spent and grieving. For me, removed by over three generations, the imprint is a sense of real and empathic connection with both the characters and the historical setting. It is also a serviceable reminder of the sometimes bizarre but ever transitory nature of life itself.

NOTES

¹This is the researched version of a family story I inherited from my mother. It is the "best fit" scenario derived from five news articles and three books with somewhat conflicting information concerning the event. The reader might find it interesting to contrast this reading with the word-of-mouth family version (in possession of this writer) as a study in the folklore development process. The comparison also illustrates the Pearson penchant for image management!

²James S. Pearson, *The Autobiography of James Stephen Pearson* (private publication), 19. The family oral history maintains that James talked to his brother Joe within weeks after the shooting. Presumably, he discussed the shooting with Joe a number of times over the next 66 years they shared. The **named** characters are probably, therefore, accurate. Additionally, James' oral history places Annie, the one-year-old daughter of Joe and Elizabeth, and the mother herself, at the scene.

³For more on Dave Smith's evolution in crime, see Pearson Op. Cit., 18-19.

⁴"Outlaws vs. Officers", *Fayetteville Weekly Democrat*, December 2, 1887, 2 and "Murdered Marshals", *The Indian Chieftain*, December 8, 1887, 3.

⁵At least two of the four Dalton brothers were ultimately hired as deputies to the federal courts' western district in Arkansas by Judge Isaac Charles Parker, the famous "Hanging Judge" of Fort Smith. Four years and eleven months after the "tragedy", all three of the remaining Dalton boys would be shot down in the Coffeyville, Kansas two-bank holdup attempt. Bob and Gratton died there with two associates while

Emmett, after his recovery, served 15 years in prison before being released. See Joseph G. Rosa, *AGE OF THE GUNFIGHTER Men and Weapons on the Frontier 1840-1900*, (Smithmark Pub., 1993) 47.

⁶"A Terrible Tragedy", *Fort Smith Elevator*, December 2, 1887, 514.

⁷Pearson, Ibid., 19 does not indict Leander Dixon and "A Triple Killing", *The Indian Chieftain*, December 1, 1887, 3, specifies Will Towerly as the shooter.

⁸Rosa, Ibid., 46.

⁹Op. Cit., 46

¹⁰"Murdered Marshalls", *The Indian Chieftain*, December 1, 1887, 1.

¹¹In S. W. Harmon's *Hell On The Border*, (Hell On The Border Pub., 1953), 168, he indicates that Dixon was arraigned on July 7, **1887** on an indictment of murder. That date is almost certainly **1888** since no indication was made anywhere in the literature about a murder charge against him prior to the shooting above described. Further, it is not reasonable that he would be running around freely, as apparently he was, if there was a murder charge on his head. Finally, the court record, per Harmon, says Dixon was never brought before a "final earthly tribunal" but died first, and since the U.S. Jail death log (Fort Smith) indicates that he died on 16 August, 1888, the assumption of a misdating is reasonable.

¹²Elizabeth, wife of Joe Pearson, would die in the next 24 months. Their young daughter Annie, around one year-old at the time of this action, would subsequently also be raised by her grandmother Nancy (Family record).

ISAAC PARKER, *The Life and Times of a Hanging Judge*

A Documentary Movie You Must See!
(Shown on the Discovery Channel)

Video tape available at:
Old Fort Museum
320 Rogers Avenue
Fort Smith, AR 72901

Price \$15.95 at museum
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Diary of Catherine DuVal Rector 1850 - 1853 – Part 3

(Used by permission of DuVal Johnston family. Transcribed and typed by Nancy Martin Heflin. Foreword published in Volume 19, Number 1 of The Journal was written by Dorothy Williams. Part 3 edited for publication by Amelia Martin.)

Part I of this diary, published in Volume 19, No.1 of *The Journal*, began on Monday, March 11, 1850, when Major Rector left Fort Smith to lead a company on an expedition to the Gold Rush in California leaving his wife and family behind. The diary was written by Rector's wife, Catherine, who was born in 1818 in Wellsburg, West Virginia, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William DuVal. She married Elias Rector in Fort Smith on November 25, 1835. In the first segment she described the hardships she and the children endured in his absence. He had planned to be gone for two years, but bad luck, some bad decisions and discouragement shortened the trip to thirteen months.

Part II of this diary began December 11, 1850 and was published in Volume 19, No. 2 issue of *The Journal*. It covered the time between December 11, 1850 to May 3, 1851. During this time Major Rector had returned home from California. For some unknown reason, Catherine made no entries in the diary between May 6 and September, 1851.

Part III, the conclusion, covers entries for May 4, 5, and 6, 1851 and September 1851 to May 1853 with gaps between dates when Catherine made no entries. It covers the 20 months following Major Rector's return. She describes his bitterness over losses in California and the state of their poverty. Life seemed to be one struggle after another as Catherine dealt with the everyday problems of raising a family and the many hardships of their lives in the early 1850's.

Most misspellings have been left as she wrote them and they were transcribed, i.e. staid for stayed. The diary is presented in abbreviated form leaving out many of the repetitious daily happenings.

For biography of Major Rector and the diary of Kate Rector, see Volume 1, No. 2, page 58 of *The Journal*.

MAY 1851

Sunday 4

The hail of last night has nearly destroyed our

garden, I am afraid it has injured the fruit. After dinner Mr. Grimes & Mag and Willy came out, gave them strawberries. Father came while they were here but would not come in. After they left we had the horses put in the carriage, just as we were going to start Major P. & Susan & Mary Walker and Sisy came. They had not been here long before Mrs. Grimes & Frank Rector came, gave them some strawberries. We all went riding and called at Mrs. Dillards. So ended the day.

Monday 5

Lizzy Trammel came over. I cut out Shingos dress. Major P. and Susan & Miss Chase came out, I let Shingo go in with them. Father & Lizzy Duval were out, I fixed some strawberries to preserve. Major R. went to town stayed all day.

Tuesday 6

Major Rector went to town again today, he had invited Capt. Rogers & family out to eat strawberries.

September, Monday 1

I make another commencement at my journal, I hope I may have industry enough to persevere. This morning commenced my little school, I hope and pray that I may persevere in that too. Shingo said very good lessons and Johnny done very well and little Jimmy said a lesson too. God grant that I may have firmness to go on with this undertaking. Major Rector went town in the evening. Shingo made herself a new black apron which she was very proud of. Cousin Marcellus called in the afternoon and staid until after supper.

Tuesday 2

Opened my little school with prayer this morning. I hope and trust I may be able to continue it is the only way I can have family prayer. Johnny did not like his lessons much this morning. Cut out two shirts for Major Rector. When Harvey returned from market he told me Brother Ben was sick at Susan. I proposed to Major R. to go in, he objected going himself although he had proposed to ride in the morning on horse back into town, but I did not feel very well. He said that Billy could drive me in the carriage, he would not go himself, he made me feel

very unhappy about it. I went and found my Brother better.

Wednesday 3

I had such a trial with John this morning, he shows such a stubborn disposition. I am afraid I shall not be able to govern him, what responsibility and trials a mother has, but Shingo is a great comfort to me now, she is so affectionate. Major Rector went to town. In the morning Cousin Marcellus & Mr. Oneel called. Mr. O. is said to be a beau of Mrs. Gibson, I never saw him before, he did not make a very favorable impression on me whatever he may have done on the widdow. Cousin M. is going north. Late in the afternoon Mrs. Clark & Miss Sibby called. Brother B. came out and staid all night, we set up nearly all night. Brother does not look well.

Thursday 4

Felt rather stupid from setting up so late last night. Major R. went to town this morning, returned after we were done dinner quite excited, he had met Judge Brown, who had received letters and remittances from California. Major R. had expected the same, also he thought Judge B. ought to have given him some of what he had received as he had given him money to bring him home from California. Major R. was curseing the world, I told him had no one to blame but himself. I thought that as he had gone so far from home underwent so many hardships and knowing the necessatitys of his family he would have been more careful of his money. In the afternoon we rode into town, went to see Susan, found Mrs. Grimes there, drove her home, got out and set a little while with her. So dusty that almost put my eyes out, I do not think I will go to town again until after it rains.

Friday 5

Very hot dusty and everything parched up from the want of rain. This morning Mrs. Rogers came out and brought her daughters, she left them to stay a few days with Shingo. Clinker Dillard was for tomatos for his sister. Mr. Trammel was here, staid until after dinner. Major R. gave him a piece of pork to take to his family, he forgot it so we went over there in the evening and took it too them, we had a very pleasant ride. Little Kate was so delighted, the children enjoyed the ride.

Saturday 6

Still very hot and dry. Major R. went to town, expected him back to dinner, did not return until late in the afternoon. Mag & Emma Rogers still here, both interesting children. Had a little difficulty with Johny, finished reading Home Influence, a very interesting book.

Sunday 7

A day of visitors, Susan & Major Page came out to breakfast. Directly after Mrs. Rogers came out for her little girls. Soon after she left Frank Rector & Mr. Williams came & staid until after dinner. In the afternoon Robert Rutherford called and stayed until after tea. So ended the day. Shingo and myself took a walk by moonlite.

Monday 8

No rain yet. Had the carpet taken up out of my room. The children said tolerable lessons this morning. Clinker Dillard, Mary, Liz Stevinson came over for peaches, they are nearly all gone. Major R. went to town. Harvey went with some ? and forgot to bring out somethings Major R. told him. He gave him a severe whipping for his carelessness. He deserved it although I felt bad to see him whiped. Received a letter from Elias.

Tuesday 9

I do not feel well today, have a pain in my breast. Major Rector did not go to town today. Had a fine rain this afternoon which will help the turnips patches very much, it has been so dry an hot that their will be but few raised.

Wednesday 10

Shingo said excellent lessons this morning and so did John. Dear little fellow had a slight chill this morning notwithstanding he went to town, his pa and sister and rode pony by self of which feat he was very proud of. He would buy me a neck ribbon which he selected himself, it is very pretty. I gave him twenty cents, I thought he would buy himself candy or cake but the dear child thought only of his Mother. Shingo purchased herself a dress. Susan, Major P & Sisy were out in the evening. From some remarks that were made I felt hurt, Oh God make me content with my situation. Oh poverty thou art hard to bear. Cut out 4 shirts for Major R, two night gowns, 1 night cap for Shingo.

Friday 12

Received a letter from Miss Chase saying they would take Shingo. Mr. A. could not accomodate but me, I feel very sorry to part with Shingo, she is so much company for me. I was completely unnerved when I received the letter.

Saturday 13th

Went to town shopping to get thing for Shingo. Went to see Mag & Mrs. Gaines. Mrs. G. was not at home, took dinner with Susan. Went into Mrs. Montgomery to hear Miss Fanny play on the Piano, came home soon in the afternoon. Old Mr. Phelps & his wife were here, staid all night. The old man fixed the clock. Shingo staid all night in town.

Monday 15

Commenced sewing in a hurry, cut out Shingo dresses and sewed away for dear life to get them ready by Wednesday. Mr. Fletcher came out and spent the day.

Tuesday 16

Finished 1 dress and nearly another. Late in the evening Susan came out to stay several days. I found I would not be ready to start tomorrow.

Wednesday 17

Major Page & John went hunting killed a few birds. Susan helped me finish another dress for Shingo. I have a very sore throat I feel very uneasy about. In the afternoon Major Rector took Major P. buggy and took me to the Doctor. We went first to Mrs. Dillard's. Dr. Bumford was not at home from thence to town to Dr. Springs, he was not at home either, saw Mrs. S. and left word for the Doctor to come out tomorrow.

Thursday 18

My throat very painful, Dr. Spring came out examine it, burnt it with caustic, pronounced it very sore but not immediate danger. I was afraid that it would prevent me from taking my expected visit with Shingo to her school to Mr Arbuckles. He said if it was a good day I might go. Mrs. Montgomery & sister Lizzy came out quite late, staid until after tea. They expected Capt. Montgomery to come for them but he did not. Major Rector went home with them Lizzy staid night. Was late before Major R. got home. Major P. was hunting all day but with no success.

Friday 19th

Poor Shingo feels very bad leaving her home. Susan took John and Jimmy home with her. Shingo & myself and the baby & Eliza, Billy driving made start for Mr. Arbuckles. Mr. R went on horseback. Before we got out of the horse lot Billy run against some poles come near breaking the wheels of the carriage, we had not gone more than 3 hundred feet farther when he ran against a stump and broke the singletree. Shingo said so much for starting on Friday. Major R. went back to the house to get a singletree from a plough, put it to the carriage so went on without any further accident. I thought we never would get to Mr. Arbuckles, it certainly is one of the most lonely out of the way places in the world. We arrived there about sundown, Miss Chase was very glad to see us, but I think she looks badly. She says she is very well satisfied but it is so lonely there, poor Shingo said she felt like she was going to the state prison but I think she will be contented.

Saturday 20

My throat was very painful night. Mr. Arbuckle was very polite & kind wished us to stay. Major R. could not conveniently, we left there about 10 o'clock. Oh how my heart ached when I bid my dear daughter good bye, she looked so distressed. We arrived at home 4 o'clock in the evening, the house looked so lonesome without the children. Soon after we got home Mr. Townsend called.

Sunday 21

I felt very much fatigued this morning. In the afternoon Susan, Major Page & Sisy came out & brought the children, I was so glad to see them.

Monday 22

Kates birthday, one year old. Oh what will be the fate of my child, will her life be short or long, happy or miserable, but I trust in the blessed Savior who has blessed little children & I pray that he may bless and guide her though life. I do not feel well today. Major Rector went to town after dinner. Fixed some shirts for Major R, cleaned up my closet. Oh what a beautiful sunset, I wish I were a poet.

Tuesday 23

Major Rector went to town, returned to dinner. Busy sewing on Major R. shirts. In the afternoon went down to Mrs. Ryans - feel better been taken Quinine all day.

Wednesday 24

Major Rector went to town returned early in the afternoon. The evening we took a walk, Major R carried his gun, he killed one partridge. Major P & Susan & ? came out. Sisy & Mrs. Montgomery and Miss Fanny came, Sisy was thrown from her poney, but not hurt.

Thursday 25

Mr. Trammel called, Major R went town with him. I wrote to Elias. Little Kate quite unwell, she had one of the largest Boils on her breast I ever saw. I did not feel very well myself and rather lowspirited.

Friday 26

Went town shopping, both Kate & John at home. I went to Mags to see Betsy Ann and from thence to the old home place to Brother & Ellen, the first time I have been there since Fathers death, what a crowd of recollection rushed upon me I thought of my dear Mother & Father. Went up to Garrison to see Susan.

Saturday 27th

Major Rector & Brother started to Fort Gibson this morning. Jimmy not very well. Major Page & Susan & Sisy came out to stay a few day, the Major went hunting killed a good many birds.

Sunday 28

Very cool morning, Major Page drove me in his buggy over to Mr. Trammel, thence to Mrs. Nowland. Mary N. is a very sweet interesting girl. I almost envy Mrs. N. in having her daughters with her. I have taken a very severe cold.

Monday 29th

Capt. Montgomery came out to breakfast. Him and Major Page went hunting, they were gone all day, killed a good many birds. Received an invitation to Henry Mayers wedding, I think I shall go to the church to see them married.

Tuesday 30

Major P. & Susan went home. I am going in this evening. Went to the church and seen the ceremony, when we returned round seen the ladies dress for the wedding. Laura Gaines looked very pretty. Mrs. Gatlin came in and set until late bed time was with us.

Wednesday October 1

Sue & myself went shopping. Laura Gaines & Mary Nowland called just as were starting, they sit a while. We were gone until dinner. I feel quite unwell today. Sue would not hear to my coming home unless I would promise to go back tomorrow to go with her to call on the bride. Major P. brought me home.

Thursday 2

Busy fixin all the morning to get ready to go in this evening to call on the Bride. Major Page came for me, we all went after tea. I wore my red crepe dress, Sue looked very well in her black, the Bride looked beautiful. After we returned we went into Mrs. Montgomery & had delightful music. Mrs. Nowland and & Mary were there.

Friday 3

After breakfast went into Mrs. Montgomery had some more good music, then we went over to Mrs. Gaines & set until dinnertime. In the afternoon Major P drove Sue & myself in the buggy. We went to Mrs. Rutherfords, Miss Mary Bell is very sick. From their to Ellens & then to Mrs. Bumfords & Mrs. Griffiths. Saw Mrs. Polk as interesting as ever, Mrs. Gibson was there.

St Louis

Sept 14th, 1866

Dear Auntie,

I send this shawl to you and hope you will like it. I made it all myself I would like to send one to each of my cousin's but I can not get the worsted. This shawl is not a very nice one it is'ent knit loose enough but I hope the next I knit will be nicer. It is the first I ever knit. Mama has a letter

from Pinkie who said she heard that her Father and Brother were dead. We are all very well excuse this short letter.

Your affectionate neice,
Lucy

Lucy was the daughter of Gen'l & Mrs. Page. Mrs. Page was Susan DuVal.

October Saturday 4th

Went into see Mrs. Latting, got some patterns from her for Jimmys clothes. Major P & Susan & myself and children went down to the Daguerrean room. Major P was very anxious for the children & myself to set for our likeness, we made several trials but could not succeed, the children would not set still. Major P. & Susan tried for theirs but did not do any better. Afternoon Major P brought me home. I had a very pleasant visit in town. Got a letter from Dear Shingo.

Monday 6

Very busy cutting out work all the morning. In the afternoon Major R. returned home, he appeared sick both mentally and phisacally.

Tuesday 7th

Work, work, I never will make another shirt for Major R. as long as I live, but I will make the two I cut out. Poor Little Kate had chill & fever.

January 1852

List of my work

First week in the new year made Kate a red dress & a flannel shirt for myself. I done some mending, made apron for Kate. This week made Kate a green calico dress, two flannel shirts, one for Jimmy, two night drawers for Kate, cut out two white aprons for her that Eliza made, done some mending. Went over to see Mrs. Weaver Wednesday. Thursday went to Mrs. Dillards Jan. 9th. Monday 13th very cold weather, I cut out 3 pairs of pillow slips which Eliza Made. Made Kate a pair of night drawers, Tuesday sewed on my quilt. Wednesday 21 John birthday, wrote a letter to Shingo & Miss Chase. Thursday 22 went to town. Friday 23 made Jimmy a shirt, he has a very bad cold. Saturday 24 Brother Ben came out. I finished my quilt. Sunday 25 Went down to hear Bishop Freeman preach, had dinner at Sues. Mr. Townsend will not preach any more in Fort Smith. Jimmy had a very bad cold & very unwell. Monday 26 cut out Jimmy a shirt, hemmed and marked Major Rectors two handkerchiefs made a pair of shemis sleeves. Mrs. Rutherford & Miss Mary Ball called in the afternoon. Tuesday 27 commenced sewing up seams in the shemmies Mrs. Dillard & Mrs. Quesenbery came & spent the day with me. Major

Rector went to town late in the evening, brought me a letter from Shingo. How often do I think of you my dear child. Wednesday 28 Major Page & Sue & Will Gaines came after dinner I set them a snack. I finished sewing up the seams & Susan cut out the shemis

Feb. Sunday 1st

I did not feel very well. Gen. Montgomery & Mr. Pullum were here to dinner in the evening Mr. Arbuckle came.

Tuesday 3

Still beautiful weather, fixed up my trunk, amuse myself with my darling children, they love to have stories told them after tea. Mrs. Griffith & Sallie Perkins called. Major Rector set the prairies on fire & it caught the fence.

Thursday 5

Cloudy this morning, looked some for Miss Chase & Shingo, they arrived about two o'clock looking very well. Brother & Ellen were out.

Friday 6

After dinner Miss Chase, Emily & Shingo went into town, Emily & Shingo to stay all night at Sue's, Miss Chase went to Miss Armores. Cousin Marcellus was here to dinner. Major R went in with him.

Saturday 7

After dinner I went over for Miss Chase from there we went into town, went into Sue, left the girls their all night again. Went down to Dr. Mains & Miss Lizzy A came home with us.

Sunday 8

We all went into Church to hear Mr. Cariton the Campbellite preach, I liked his sermon. I partook of the sacrament with them. After meeting Miss Chase & Miss A went to Dr. Mains, I went to Sue got the girls and came out home. Cousin Marcellus came out.

Monday 9th

Cousin Marcellus left this morning. The children went over to Mrs. Dillard to spend the day with Miss Chase & Miss Armorer. Miss Chase went from there to Mrs. Nowlands to stay all night. The children came home later. Rained a little.

Thursday 12

Miss C. & myself went over to Mrs. Dillard, took her in the carriage. Went down to Mrs. Nowlands, she is very much distressed at her Son being dismissed from West Point. We came home, Mrs. D. accompanied us, Mrs. Grimes & Mag & came out to dinner. We had a pleasant day Mrs. Capt. Montgomery & General Montgomery & Mrs. M & Miss Easton called. In the evening Major Page &

Susan, Sisy & Emily came out. Sue was very much hurt at Miss Chase, she though she treated her coolly. Miss C. & Shingo went into town returned late.

Friday 13th

Miss Chase left this morning, Shingo & Sisy looked rather distressed. I felt very unwell, went to bed as soon as they left.

Saturday 14

Still not feel very well. Major R. went to Van B, several gentlemen had called in the morning.

Sunday 15

What do you think? Brother & Ellen came out & took dinner, I was very glad to see them, I feel better today.

Monday 16

A beautiful day as warm & genial as Spring. Major Page & Sue & Mildred Gaines came out. Sue would make me go in with them to enjoy the beautiful day. Mary Gaines is very ill, I went to see her, poor Mrs. G. looks perfectly worn out. Major Page & Sue brought me home, cut out 4 aprons for John & two petticoats for myself.

Wednesday 18

Raining this morning. Havey went to town, he heard that Mary G was dicing.

Thursday 19

It has rained all day in torrents, the whole face of the earth is deluged with water. I have been anxious to hear from town, but it has rained so knowone could either come or go.

Friday 20th

Mr. Striker came out, Major Rector & him went to Van Buren. Heard Mary Gaines was dead & to be buried today. Poor Mrs. Gaines, I truly sympathize with you in your sad bereavement. Raining this evening.

Saturday 21

Rained hard all night, still raining this morning. Sue sent for me soon this morning, the time has come, I never saw any one suffer severer labor. I thought at one time her babe never would be born, but she is repaid for all her suffering, by having a very fine boy. She remembers her anguish no more that man is born into the the world. She suffered 13 hours, Mrs. Nowland & Mrs. Montgomery & the Dr. & myself were with her. Billy brought the Children in the evening & broke the carriage, it is among the unlucky they.

Sunday 22

Sue doing very well but a little nervous, I though I had better bring the children home so she could be perfectly quiet. Major Page drove

me out in the evening. Found Mr. Walker here, Mr. Pullum & Cousin Marcellus came out to stay all they are all going to the county seat tomorrow.

June 3

This day is Shingos 15th birthday, how many sad changes have taken place in shoes short years, it is meloncholy to think of, oh how short and uncertain life is. My reflections have been rather sad today, the questions would force itself upon me, have I mproved, am I any better, will I live to see another 15 years Lord have mercy upon me and enable me to improve the future. Shingo my darling, my first born, is not at home this birthday, she is at Mr. Arbuckle going to school. Poor Jimmy yesterday got into trouble, he pulled the only pear off our young tree, his pa was so anxious it should remain on until it ripened. I know that he will dislike it very much when he knows it. I have been trying to get Jimmy to confess it to him. I whiped him very severely myself not so much for the fruit but the spirit in which he did it. I think he done it to spite me because I would not let him ride with me, he has become rather disobedient lately. I must try and manage him better, is a sweet interesting child, but badly spoilt.

Friday 4

Major Rector started to Little Rock, he left in a very bad humor, took his saddlebag and started without bidding any of us goodbye but thought the better of it and came back and took leave of Kate & myself. Life is too uncertain for a man to leave his family in that way. How much trouble our unruly tempers occasion us. Jimmy & Kate very good today. I made some cherry preserves. Johny came home from school this evening he appeared very much pleased to get home. Exchanged some turkeys with Mrs. Walson, got some potato slips from her, old Aunt G. came today.

Saturday 5

Have not felt very well today, laying down reading the greater part of the day. John & Jimmy good and interesting today. Dear little Kate is so sweet. Kate are you sleepy? "Yes" she will say. Late this afternoon Mrs. Grimes, Major Page & Sue came out. Major Page looks better since his trip to Fort Gibson (my eyes are always shut)

Sunday 6th

I am almost sorry whenever Sunday comes being holy day with the servants the little negros runing wild I can not keep my children from them. It is a day of riot instead of peace & quiet. John has been unmanageble, Jimmy has had a cry to

sleep with me tonight. I had promised John he should sleep with me one night while his pa was away and he goes to school tomorrow.

Monday 7

Johny went into school this morning. I feel much better today than I have for sometime. This afternoon it blew very cold. Whilst we were at supper old Mr. Phelps came.

Tuesday 8

I had an uncomfortable dream last and could not divest myself of it all day. Old Mr. Phelps went away this morning without my seeing. I was sorry the old man looks so broken that I think it likely I shall never see him again. I wrote a letter to Elias this morning. Jimmy & Kate are my only companions now and sweet interesting ones they are. This evening we took a long walk.

Wednesday 9th

3 weeks from today Shingo school will be out, then I will have her at home for two months. The weather continues cool for the season of the year. This afternoon I was suprisd by Ben Field coming in, his Ma was over at Mrs. Rutherford she sent over for some strawberry plants. I didn't know that they had arrived. Bro. Ben, Ellen were out this evening. I curled Kate hair, she looked so sweet Jimmy says I do want to see Johny.

Thursday 10th

This afternoon I went over to Mrs. Rutherfords expected to see Mrs. Fields, but she had gone in to Ellens. I rode Mugen, took Kate in my lap & Jimmy behind and was attend on foot by Jack & Dick, Emily Leir, Watt & Cato. Had a very pleasant ride coming home. I never feel satisfied with myself.

Friday 11th

This afternoon after I had dressed and fixed Kates hair we went into the parlor. I was reading. Kate would have a book and set up in her chair & looked so sweet. Susan, Major Gatlin & Mr. Potter called, either they were very stupid or I was, I don t know witch. John was perfectly wild this evening getting home from school telling about a monkey. I never feel satisfied with myself at the end of the day.

Saturday 12th

Mrs. Grimes & children, Susan & Major Page came out and spent the day with me. Little Lucy Grimes was so troublesome, it reminded me of the times I used to have with Jimmy. Kate was so sweet. John & Will & Jimmy had a fine time playing. Ann cooked such a miserable dinner, I think she was drunk.

Sunday 13

Felt stupid today from not sleeping well last night. My eyes were so weak I could not read, so the day passed heavily. In the afternoon Major Page & Sue came out and took me riding, it was delightful. Major Page would have the children, they had gone down to the farm, he drove down that way and we met them then drove round the prairies.

Monday 14

Commenced a letter this morning to Miss Chase, done some sewing. This afternoon Mr. Walker and Mag came out. Mr. W. looks very well. Mr. W told me who the Democratic nominees for President were Franklin Pierce of Massachusetts for Vice P. William King of Alabama.

September 14th, 1852

Tuesday

This morning Major Page came out for me to go in, I did not expect him as he had been hunting the day before. I believe exercise is good for him for he looks much better. Jimmy & myself went in with him. Shingo staid at home with her pa & John & Kate. I went shopping some but for the want of money did not get much. Mrs. Nowland came in while I was there to bring Laura to the Ball. That evening I saw all the ladies of the Garrison, they were all going to Ball. Sue came out with me, Mag Johnson was here when we came. Sue, Major Rector & Mag had some loud talking about a note that had been written to Mrs. Gardener. Mr. Epler commenced work. I commenced reading the life of John Randolph.

Wednesday 15

Shingo went over to Col. Rutherfords and spent the day. Margrett Jane returned with her. Major Rector & John went to town, John got a new cap. In the evening I went down to see Mrs. Epler, Mr. E is sick. Finished a pair of drawers for Jimmy, cut John & Jimmy some aprons.

Thursday 16th

Major Rector John & myself went out to were Gane was at work, had a very pleasant ride. In the afternoon Col. Rutherford came over. Came for his sister. I am very much interested in the life of Randolph, not only gives an account of his own life but of the great men that were his contemporaries. I wish I had a better memory. Major R paid Allen, had gone as far as he could.

Friday 17th

I did not feel very well this morning went down to Eplers for a short time. Done some sewing, fixed Shingo dress for her. Mr. Arbuckles wagons

came up and brought the children trunks. Miss Chase passed here this morning, I suppose she does not intend honoring me with a call (I am willing) Dr. S. called.

Tuesday 15 June

This morning Mrs. Rutherford and daughter came over and stayed an hour or two, I thought Mrs. R. was going to spend the day with me. I had some chickens killed for dinner and some other additions. Jimmy, Kate & myself enjoyed it all to ourselves.

Wednesday 16th

Major Page came for me this morning, I did not take the children I was afraid of their taking the Hooping cough, as it is in Garrison. Sue had some very nice Ice cream for dinner which I enjoyed very much as it was the first I had eaten this summer. I called to see Mrs. Montgomery and her sister Miss Ellen Easton. I intended making some other calls, it rained in the afternoon. Mrs. Grimes was up in the evening.

Thursday 17th

Got up this morning with headache, but wore off but I have been lazy all day. Finished a letter to Miss Chase in the afternoon. I had Mugen saddled to go down to the farm, just as I was starting Bro. and Ellen came out, after they left I took Kate in my lap and Jimmy behind with usual escort and rode round the place.

Friday 18th June

Rained this morning but cleared off. In the evening I looked for Major Page & Susan & John to come out to stay all night. I dressed myself & Kate but about 5 o'clock it commenced raining, rained very hard until night.

Saturday 19th

Sent for John soon this morning. After dinner Burnton went to town, returned very drunk, I find that he keeps whiskey in his house, that accounts for Anns being some times. I got 5 gallons of Molasses, Michael broke the demijohn just as he put it in the closet. I saved some of it as it was in the closet I could dip it up. Mrs. Rutherford called at the gate this evening.

Sunday 20th

Major Rector returned last night, he is very well but very cross as usual. Bro. Ben and Ellen were here this morning. This afternoon Col. Rutherford called. I feel unhappy this evening I know I was for domestic happiness, but I have but little of it.

Sunday 19th

Quite cool and cloudy, Major Reynolds and Capt. Umber call, the Capt. tongue was rather

thick. After they left Capt. Montgomery called and staid until after dinner. In the afternoon Billy drove Shingo, myself and the children in to Major Pages. Found Elias up but looks very badly. Shingo got a letter from a young gentleman which she consigned to the flames. We saw all the good people of the Garrison. Aunty G.

Monday 20th

Drisild a little this morning, cut out coat for John, Jimmy says ma why don't you make mine, the jealous little fellow. Kate played with her playthings, so sweet, she is so interesting. Shingo & Jimmy went down to Mr. Eplers, their child is sick. Major Rector returned from town disapointed and out of spirits, he put in a bid for the corn contract and lost it by a quarter of a cent, it appears that he is unlucky in every thing that he undertakes, I think we might be called the unlucky family as far as pecuniary, but fortunate in the health of our family. I feel the disappointment of not being able to send Shingo to school beyond every thing.

Tuesday 21st

A beautiful day, Shingo & I read together a very interesting story call Piccolir. In the afternoon Shingo made some cake, I wrote note to Mrs. Dillard to come out tomorrow and take dinner with us, as it was Kate birthday. She excused herself as Miss Chase was there sick, poor Miss C. I feel sorry for her. Finished John coat.

Wednesday 22

This is Kates birthday, God grant that she may have many and as she grows in years that she may grow in goodness. I expected Major Page & Susan out to dinner, they did not come. Elias & Sisy came & Col. Rutherford came, we had a very fine roast pig for dinner. Late in the afternoon Mrs. Montgomery & Lizzy, Mrs. Gardener. Mrs. Tyler & Miss Easton & Capt. Little called.

Thursday 23

Rained a little this morning. After dinner Major Rector went to town, he went to see Charly Johnson, he thinks him dangerously ill. Elias came out and staid all night. I was busy all day sewing on Shingos dress.

Saturday 25th

I had pleasant dreams last night, I dreamp of traveling and stopping at house where every thing was nice and clean, the supper so delightful! the family appeared so pious. Their was two females before they eat they knelt and prayed. All appeared contentment & happiness, which is always the case where religion rules the household. Major Rector went to town with Burnton to

get his clouthes. Major Page & Susan, Sisy & Elias came out. Major P. & Elias went hunting dint kill many birds. Major R returned to dinner. Was quite cool in the evening, Jimmy had a slite chill. Sisy staid all night.

Sunday 26

I took the children and went into Susan. Susan, Shingo & myself went to Mrs. Dillards to see Miss Chase, she has been quite ill and looks very badly. From their we went to Mr. Johnson, he was better, Betsy Ann is there. Called at Mrs. Grimes, she very ill, too ill to see anyone. In the afternoon I went to hear Mr. Townsend preach his text was from Luke 22 and part of the 62 ver. I felt glad to hear the Episcopal cervise once more. The whole town appeared depopulated by the people going to camp meeting. Major Rector & John were riding about all day.

Monday 27th

Jimmy had a chill and fever. Leut. Tyler & wife called, Mrs T. was in a flaming red dress, they both were very agreeable. Just as we were going to set down to supper Mr. & Mrs. Townsend came, we all set up quite late, Mr. T. was very intertaining.

Tuesday 28

This is Major Rectors 50th birthday, when Kate is two years old, is 50th, Mr. Townsend remaind until sometime after breakfast, he certainly is demented. Major P. and Susan & Sisy, Shingo came out they staid until after supper. Elias was here to dinner, he leaves for Fayetteville tomorrow.

Wednesday 29

Major Rector burnt the grass on the front yard, I was afraid he would injure the fruit trees. I had what few apples their was on the trees gathered. In the afternoon Shingo & myself went down to Mrs. Eplers. Gan and 4 men came to work on the ice house.

Friday October 1 1852

The Steam Boat came up yesterday, she leaves today. Mr. Burnton left on her for New York, he appeared to feel more than I expected he would. He has lived with us 12 years, he says he will be back in December. His return to his Mother is like the prodigal, he has been gone from his home 21 years. Major Rector went to town with him and saw him off. In the afternoon Major Page, Susan, Mrs. Gardener & Sisy and the two little twins came out, they wanted Shingo to go in with them.

Saturday October 2

Major Page, Capt. & Gen. Montgomery were here to dinner. They had rode down to the farm with Major Rector to look at some wood. Brother

Ben & Ellen came out, they want Shingo to come and stay with them and go to school. We rather promised them she should, I believe Shingo would rather stay with her Aunt Susan, I would rather myself for some reasons, she would their have the benefit of more society, I feel badly about, I would like to do what is right. In the evening Major Rector, myself & the children drank a bottle of champaign, another week has passed without any improvement, how unprofitable I spend my time.

Sunday 3

Rained all the morning, cleared off in the afternoon. Shingo, the children & myself went into town, I carried some birds to Mrs. Grimes & Mr. Johnson. Susan & Mag Johnson were at Mrs. G. I went into the Garrison, Shingo staid all night with her Aunt Susan. Elias came out to bid us goodbye, he was going to start to Fayetteville tomorrow.

Monday 4th

I went into town to buy winter clouthing for the family. Major Rector made arraignment with Mr. Rodgers for me to get the things then as it was late I could go in the next day and get the things which suited me better as I was to spend the day with Mag. After dinner Mag and I went down to see Ellen, she was not at home, from their we went up to Mr. J store. Mag gave Shingo a Calico dress. Prom their we went up to Garrison to see Sue, Shingo stayed all night with her cousin Sisy. As I went in the morning I called at Mrs. Rutherfords, gave her a squab, took some to Mrs. Grimes & Mr. Johnson. Major Rector got out of the Post office a Daguerreotype likeness for Mr. Burnton.

Tuesday 5th

Went into town soon in the morning, called at Sues and Mrs. Grimes, took Mrs. G. my injection pipe and raspberry vinegar. Called at Mags gate, left Jimmy and Kate with Shingo, went down to Brother B, Ellen went with me shopping. Took dinner with Ellen, after dinner we went shopping again, called at Mr. Washbournes The river is quite high, the steam boat went down beautifully.

Wednesday 6th

I do not feel very well for I was so tired last night I could not sleep. Very busy puting away my things, cut out a dress for Shingo. Major Page called, he was out hunting. Shingo went over to Mrs. Rutherfords. Major Rector settled Mr. Rhyn. Old Mr. Phelps came to stay all night. Mrs. R. sent over for some vinegar & Parsely root.

Thursday 7

Warm as mild summer. Jimmy had a slite chill. Major Rector woring about his ice house, it is a great undertaken to have anything done in this county. In the afternoon I though of going over to Mrs. Wilsons. Judge Brown called. Major Page & Susan came, little Frank not very well. Gen. Montgomery, Mr. Pillow, Mrs. Montgomery, Miss Easton, Mr. & Mrs. Tyler called. I have done nothing today.

October Saturday 9th

Cleared off beautifully today, Major Page went hunting before dinner. After dinner Major Rector & John went hunting with him. Late in the evening Sue & I joined them. Just below the garden we saw a most singular meatier, it was scarcely sun-down and not a star to be seen in the heavens. Shingo & Sisy went down to Mr. Eplers I made Harvey a pair of pantiloons.

Sunday 10

Lovely day, Susan & myself went over to Mr. Wilsons, saw Mrs. Simpson & baby, had a very agreeable visit, returned home to dinner Major Reynolds called and stayed to dinner Shingo went in with Major Page & Susan to go to school, I shall miss her so much. John is quite sick, I feel very uneasy about him.

Monday 11th

Commenced pulling corn, John quite sick, fever all day and throat very sour. I gave him an imetic which relieved him some. Major Rector saw the Dr. He said him salts every hour until it operated. I set up until after 11 o'clock with him givin his medicine as directed. Jimmy had a slite chill and fever, I missed Shingo so much today. Judge Long and Sherif Baker staid all night, the Judge is one of your ? I cut out John a suit of clouthes, Jimmy aprons & John to. I did not feel well all day, had a pain in the region of my heart.

Tuesday 12

John better today, gave him 5 gr of Quinine. Mr. Aud called this morning. Busy sewing, I wonder if I will ever get though with my work.

"How mournfully sweet are the echoes that start

When Memory plays an old tune in the heart."

Wednesday 13th

Busy all day and accomplished nothing, I certainly am the poorest manager in the world. I had the children pickin grapes off the stems to preserve, the children were so much company for me. Rhoda was here. Late in the afternoon Major Page, Susan, Sisy & Shingo were out. Heard Mrs.

Grimes was very ill, I feel fearful she will not recover. I sent Ellen some turnip & demijohn of vinegar. Major R. went to town & returned early in the afternoon.

October Thursday 14th

Beautiful weather, I wish I had the means to travel, it is miserable to be poor. Busy all the morning cutting out clouthes for the children. Gen. Montgomery called, heard Mrs. Grimes was better. After dinner Mrs. Quesenberry called and spent the afternoon, rather agreeable woman. Little Kate so sweet, Jimmy behaved rather badly, John is a good boy. This morning before daylight, Major Rector went to the race track to see his filly brush, I am very much afraid his raising young fine colts will get him in way of raceing again.

Friday 15

Made some grape jelly, busy sewing about work. Mag Johnson sent out for me to go in and see Mrs. Grimes, she is still very ill when I saw Peter my heart was right in my mouth. I went in and all day, in the evening I went down to Ellens. Nanny Rector is quite sick. Finished reading the life of John Rundolph, I was more interested in than any book I ever read. I wish I had his inteligents without his excentricitys. Whenever I am in company I never feel satisfied with myself, I think I am a fool.

Saturday 16th October

Very warm, Col. Rutherford called. I rode in on horse back with Major Rector to see Mrs. Grimes. I went into Garrison Susan was not at home, called in to see Mrs. Montgomery. I walk down to Mrs. Grimes, I found her better. In the evening Major Page brought me out in the carriage. Mrs. Gardener & Sue came out, Dan rode my horse.

Sunday 17th

I woke up in the night about one o'clock and laid awake until nearly day light. About 3 o'clock we thought we smelt something burning. I sent up in Eliza stairs to see if their was any thing their burning; Eliza was not there and I believe she goes away from home very often at night. Shingo rode over to Col. Rutherford in the morning. Real summers weather. Late in the afternoon Major Page & Susan came out for Shingo & John.

Monday 18th October

Look for Major Page out soon this morning to go hunting with Major Rector, he did not come until late. Susan & Mrs. Gardener came with him. Frank Gardener was quite sick all day. I was very much mortified my ? was dirty. Eliza took a chill so I could not have it scoured. Major Enders & Capt. Montgomery called, a Mr. Gill came & staid all night.

Tuesday 19th

Summer weather, had a real fuss with Ann and Eliza this morning, turned over a new leaf with them, had the house scoured. Rhym called to trier Henery. Give Emily a sever whipping today and cut her hair off, nearly finished a pair of pants for Jimmy.

Wednesday 20

Every one was up a 5 o'clock this morning, eat breakfast at 6, the commencement of the reformation in our household. Major Rector went to town returned early in the afternoon. He had received a letter and a draft from California. Mrs. Grimes sent out for me to go in and stay all night & set up with her. I took Jimmy & Kate and went and left them with Susan for the night. I found Mrs. Grimes much better than I expected altho she was nervous and could not sleep.

Thursday 21 October

After breakfast I went down to Mag to see Mary Walker and her baby. He is quite a fine child. From their I went up to Sues found Kate & Jimmy both well and had been very good children. Mary We came up in Mag's carriage, we went round shopping. Mary W. gave Kate a dress and a set of little cups & saucers. I took dinner with Mag. After dinner I went to see Mrs. G. again, then went shopping again. Mr. G. drove me out home, Jimmy staid with his aunt Susan. Major Rector returned from town late, said Mary W was coming out next day to dinner, I received a letter from Elias.

Friday 22

Mrs. Walker & Mary came out to dinner, they left for Van Buren in the afternoon, Mary took Fanny Johnson home with her. I intended going in the carriage for Shingo & John, Mary told me Mag was coming out so I sent the horses for them, Mag didn't come. Major Page & Capt. Montgomery called & left me some birds. Major R. went to town.

October Saturday 23

Shingo & I busy sewing. Major P, Susan, Sisy & Jimmy came out, Jimmy had a chill. Shingo went in with her Aunt to attend a lecture that night on Psychology, Jimmy would go back them.

Sunday 24

A beautiful warm day. In the morning I went down to see Mrs. Epler. Major Rector and John went riding on horse back, Wm. Rodgers came back them, Tom R. was here, they staid until after dinner. I went in to Church in the afternoon, went to Sue. We started down to Ellens but heard Mr. Townsend had come we went back to the Church. I called to see Mrs. Grimes a few moments. I

brought Jimmy out home with me, he did not want to come.

Monday 25

Raining this morning, I was to have sent Shingo Books but the rain prevent. Wrote Miss Armour a note, we inteded going to the Lecture but it was to cloudy.

Tuesday 26 October

Still cloudy but warm, Major Rector went to town this morning and was to return to dinner but did not get back until late in the evening. Mr. Townsend called to bid us goodbye, he is going to loway, he is truly a rolling stone. I am not sorry on his own account that he is going away. (Busy sewing all day).

Wednesday 27th

Very foggy this morning, Major Rector & myself rode over on houseback to Col. Rutherfords. The Col. started to Little Rock in the stage. As we were returning, we met Mr. Trummel, he returned with us, he gave Major R. 60\$ part of the money that he sold Jaken for, he got 78 for him. We had a very nice piece of Beef for dinner. Gen. Montgomery & Capt. M & Major Page were here to dinner, the two later gentlemen were hunting. In the afternoon it rained very hard. Finished Kates sacque.

October Thursday 28th

Major Rector went to town after dinner. Major Page was here to dinner. Major R. did not return until late, we went in to attend the lecture. It commenced raining some after we left home and rained very hard until we got to Sues. After it quit raining Mrs. Gardener, Major Page & myself went in the carriage, Major Rector & Capt. Montgomery walked to the Church. The evening being so inclement their was no lecture, we returned to Sue's and had an Oyster supper, spent a very pleasant evening, returned home by 10 o'clock.

Friday 29th

Very cold and disagreeable, after dinner Major Rector drove the carriage & we went to town. As we went in we heard that Mr. Rhyn had been shown from his horse by the sulphur spring and killed, what a meloncholly thing, he has left a large & helpless family. I went shopping then went down to Ellens, from there up to Sues, little Frank sick. Brought the children out home.

Sunday 31 October

A very pleasant day, commenced reading a book Mrs. Rutherford lent me, Brother Ben & Ellen and Nanny Rector came out. Brother B and I had a religious discussion. Marget R. and Brother were over, Major Rector & Trammel went hog hunting. While we were at dinner Major Page,

Sue & Sisy came out, little Frank is quite sick. Shingo & John went in with them.

Tuesday 2 November

Election day for President, Major Rector went to town he returned home to dinner. Susan & Major Page came out, it was after one o'clock when they came. I had dinner set for them. Mr. Trammel was here. Little Frank is quite sick. Busy pickin over our sweet potatoes to put up for winter. A very warm pleasant day.

Wednesday 3

Put away our sweet potatoes in barrels and boxes & some on the ? Put the seed one in a hogshead in the patch and put dirt round them that was Harveys idea if they only keep well. Capt. Montgomery called and left some birds. Very warm for the season of the year.

Saturday April 16, 1853

This day will long be remembered, I parted with my beloved Sisters, brotherinlaw, and dear little nephew and my dear daughter Shingo, oh it is a sad thing part with shoes we love for life is short and uncertain, we may never meet again. God in his mercy grant that we may and may his Blessing rest upon them though life. When I returned home after parting with them on the Boat, how meloncholly and sad everything looked. I felt as if my heart would burst. The trees cast longer and darker shadows, everything looked gloomy. My dear Shingo how I miss you and wish you back in my selfishness, but you are gone for your own good, God grant that it may be so.

Sunday 17 1853

I did not sleep well last night, got to thinking of my beloved ones that I had parted from and shoes that I expected home, am sick and low spirited, laying down almost alday. In the afternoon Capt. Gardenep and wife and Franky came out, felt glad to see them, poor little Frank Gardener, what a trouble he is. A beautiful day. I hope our travelers are going on well, what would I give to hear from them.

Monday 18th

Another day of disapointment, no letter, news from Washington gloomy I fear, Major R has been disceived in his friends or there would not be this delay, my anxiety I am afraid will make me sick, I have had a severe nervous headacke all this day, how lonely I feel, my 3 children are my only comfort. I am glad that I let Shingo with her Aunt, the change will be of benefit to her. (Eliza cleaned the hen house)

Tuesday 19th 1853

I feel better today altho an old turkey hen came near being the death of me in flying off the roost

this morning as I went in the turkey house door she let upon my head, broke my comb and nearly knocked me down. Busy all day fixen up my old dresses into sacque rappirs. John returned from school early in consiquince of Miss A. sister going to leave on the Boat. John had a chill this afternoon. It is said that future events casts their shadows around. I have felt in so much better spirits this evening, probable I may hear some good news tomorrow, how I should like to hear from our travelers, oh for a majick glass.

Wednesday 20th

Another day has closed in disapointment and gloom. Heard this evening that Major Rector had arrived at Little Rock and uncessful at Washington, what are we to do, I do not know. Trust in Providence, he orders all things for the best, but what is my disapointment - to the breavement of poor Mother that has lost her only child, dear Mrs. Gardener, I truly sympathize with you and your husband, but the little fellow is far better off, I never was more shocked than when I heard of his death. Mr. & Mrs. Tyler & Mrs. Pullium & Larue came out and brought me the invitation to the funeral, I though I would go but I became so nervous that I though it would be better for me not to go. I wonder if Shingo saw her Pa? Whether he is bringing her back or what he has done? But a few days will deside. How I miss my sister now, I feel lonely and alone. Commenced painting the ice house.

Thursday 21

Another long and gloomy day past the more I reflect upon the way Major has been deceived I feel perfectly desperate, what underhand maneuvering and deception, I think Mr. Pikes chance for a frount seat in Heaven a poor one unless he repents. I fear he is one of the deceivers, Mr. W.R.J. one of the bribed. How I long for Major R. to come home to set my mind at rest upon the subject, Major Borland has tryumphed completely, I supose he has got Clark an appointment too. The weather is very hot and dry. John missed his chill today he would go to school he has become very ambitious, he is head of his class. I have so much work to do, I have not made any summer cothing for the family yet. Dear Shingo I miss thy merry voice.

Friday 22 1853

This day is gone & Major Rector not come, if he does not come in the stage tomorrow I shall fear that something is the matter with him, time appear long to me now, but still it is rapidly passing and to a person of my age how soon we arrive if premised to live to the allotted time of man. My children are growing up around me and I feel that I am so little qualified for the responsibility, my daily prayer is

that I may become so. John returned home from school, I had given him an errand he performed but did not take care of what he got which was a piece of white wax. I scoulded him for it, he was very much ashamed but rather disposed to pout about it but by making him set still for a short time he was very willing to go play in a perfect good humor. If it was not for the little negros I have I could manage my children better. I have done several little jobs today, fixed my pin cushen and a cushen for my chair had the house all scoured up today in expectation of Major R tomorrow. A beautiful night, the children in the yard playing happy little mortals take your pleasure while you can.

1853 Saturday 23

Another day of real disapointment, I fully expected Major Rector in the stage this morning, had the house all cleaned and put in order, myself and children dressed to receive him, but still he did not come. Why he should delay comeing when he is so near home I cannot account for it. I feel sometimes if I never should see him again, I have many foboding & oh what awful dreams I had last nigh I felt almost certain that I should be disapointed today, still I do not like to give away to superstieous fears. Ellen sent out to know whether I had heard from Major R. as she had not heard from Bro., it is strange what has become of them. I could do nothing today but cry and mope around. Dear Shingo how I miss you now and wish you were at home. Finished painting the ice house, paid the men 6 dollars. 3 men were at work at 4 days.

Sunday 24

I did not sleep well last night, woke up in the night feeling cold and pain in my shoulder, then the flies were intolerable and sleep impossible. Quite cool all day almost cold enough for frost to night. It must have rained very hard somewhere I wish we could have some rain here for everything is parched up, I don't believe we will have a mess of strawberrys, the vines look withered. Capt. & Mrs. Montgomery & Lizzy were out this afternoon, the Capt. really cheered me, he though it was a mistake about Major R being at Little Rock at the time that we heard he was, Mrs. M. was very agreeable. I wish I could control my temper in the management of my children, I slaped John today when I ought not to have done it, I do try to goven them right but I know I fail. Old Mr. Schultz was here this afternoon, he always worrys me. I received an invatation to Miss Lizzy Griffith wedding to take place at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. Little Kate looks so sweet tonight with John shirt on, my night cap and a clincher round her waist,

she looks as if dressed for a fancy ball and strutting around like a little Queen.

Monday 25th

This morning my dear husband & Brother returned both looking well and in better spirits than I expected to see. They met Major Page & Sue, Sisy & Shingo at the Rock, her pa was very well satisfied for her to go on, he gave her the things he got for her.

Tuesday 26th

Capt Montgomery & Mrs. M. & Lizzy & Cousin Marcellus came out, they staid all day. In the afternoon Brother & Ellen & Lizzy came out. Major R trunk came, he opened it and showed me all the pretty things he had got for me.

Wednesday 27

Major Rector went to town, I had toothache very badly all day, towards evening my face commenced swelling and I got relief. Peter came out for Frank pups, we had a long talk, poor negro, he finds the times different from when his old Master was alive and he had home and no cares. I received a letter from Shingo from the mouth of the river and one from Elias.

Thursday 28

Major Rector went to town directly after breakfast and did not return until late in the evening. I felt very lonely and sad, my face is still very much swollen.

Friday 29th

Major Rector, the children & myself went to town, I took dinner at Bro. Ben s, after dinner Ellen & myself went up town shopping. I bought a good many small things and things for the children. Going in again in the morning, Lizzy is coming out with me. Called to see Mrs. Spring.

Saturday 30

We went in town again this morning to finish shopping and make some visit we unfortunately went without some one to hold the horses & Major R got in one of his tantrum ways, that always makes me feel so unhappy. We went to see Mrs. Dillard, from there to Capt. Rogers store purchased negro clothing from there over to Garrison, went to Mrs. Montgomerys, Mrs. Gardiner. I had not seen them since the death of little Frank. The Capt. showed me a likeness he had taken of him, I think it will be a very good one when it is finished, from there to Mr. Tylers and then to see Mrs. Amory, saw Mrs. Nowland and family there, went to Capt. Rogers to dinner. In the afternoon to Mr. Bennetts store I purchased a piece of domestic, then to Dr. Myers and got some powder that will remove hair

from the face, from there to Col. Pulliums, the Col. was very agreeable, did not see Mrs. P., she was indisposed, then called on the Bride, Mrs. Hendrickson, she looke particularly well, Miss White was there, the Bridesmaids. Saw Mr. & Mrs. Sutton there, we then went down to Brothers to get Lizzy but she was not ready to come out with me so I don t think I will go for her again soon.

Sunday May 1

Felt irritable when I first awakened this morning an was ugly all day as the Yankys says. Early this morning Trammel sent a note to Major R. saying the report had came to town late yesterday evening that Gen. Montgomery had a the appointment of Creek agency. I can hardly believe it but it appears that every one has been more sucessful than Major R. I think and cannot help thinking he was make a victim of by his friends, whenever I think of it I cannot help but feel disapointed for I had fondly hoped that he would be fortunate and that we would be and feel independent once more. I have neither read my Bible or attended to my devotion this day, I may put this day down as a sad one. Soon after breakfast the children and myself went in the garden and gathered a large mess of strawberrys, enough for dinner, supper and breakfast and with ice and cream what a luxury. Poor old Watt I think is diing, it make me meloncholly to see him, so many associations connected with him.

Monday May 2

Poor old Watt Died last night, he was nearly 12 years oft, it is like losing an old & tired friend, he has gone where all the good dogs have gone for he was one of the good and faithful. Mrs. Sutton sent out for strawberries. Major Rector went to town after dinner.

Tuesday 3

Rained all day, had so many young chickens drowned. Wrote a long letter to Shingo.

Thursday 5

Rained nearly all day, cleared off in the afternoon. Bishop Byrne, Rev. Mr. Cercocan called, Mrs. Nowland, Eward & Mrs. Gardener came out on horse back, made a call, plenty of strawberries cream & ice for supper.

Saturday 7

Very cool, felt as if I had chill this morning and felt badly all day. Major Rector went to town today for the mail but it was a ? In the afternoon Capt. & Mrs. Gardener, Mrs. Pullian called. Capt. & Mrs. Montgomery and Lizzy and Mrs. Gibson came, they all went in the garden and sent away loadened with roses. Lizz M. staid all night. I feel very unwell and lowspirited.

Captain William DuVal

William DuVal, father of Catherine DuVal Rector, was born in 1784 in Fredericks County, Maryland, the son of Benjamin and Jemima (Taylor) DuVal. Benjamin, whose mother was Susannah Tyler, was the great grandson of Mareen DuVal, a Norman Huguenot who, emigrating from Laval, France, settled in Maryland in 1655, receiving, in 1659 and again in 1664, land patents from Lord Baltimore. Prospering, he became a prominent landholder and merchant, and a member of the Maryland Provincial Commission. His descendants spread through Maryland and Virginia, (where DuVal graves can be seen in the cemetery at Williamsburg), and in William's case, this led him to western Virginia, and a commission in the Militia. Here, in Charlestown and Wellsburg (both now in West Virginia) he alternated between business and campaigning in the frontier fighting against the Indians from Tecumseh's "conspiracy" in Ohio to the Cherokee and Creek wars south of the Ohio River.

After Andrew Jackson broke the Creek power and drove the Seminoles into Florida the Indians, in ensuing treaties, gave up their southern lands and were granted lands in Oklahoma. In their removal, known as the "Trail of Tears," William was assigned as escort to one of the groups.

Through carelessness, ignorance, or compassion he seems to have requisitioned supplies from the settlers along the way, on government behalf but without proper government authorization. This earned him enduring trust and friendship among the Indians, but, as the claims of the requisitioned citizens came in, a suit against him by the government was brought. He seems, in correspondence with Jackson, to have asked for the latter's support. Though Jackson himself had been fined for highhanded behavior to the citizens of New Orleans, he took a negative view in William's case, partly perhaps because William was a Whig and a member of a family which intermarried with the Tylers, Crawfords and Henry Clay, Jackson's political opponents. William lost the case and had to pay the government \$25,000.

In 1918 he married, at Wellsburg Virginia, Harriet, daughter of Dr. Joseph Doddridge, an Episcopal minister, as well as a physician and author of a book on frontier life and personalities, and the Indian fighting in that area during the French and Indian War.

William had a glass factory in Charlestown, and settled in Wellsburg as a merchant and trader. Here, on January 21, 1822, his son Benjamin Taylor was born. In 1825, when his factory in Charlestown burned, he returned to the west and settled near the fort at Fort Smith.

His family remained in Wellsburg, and he began to bring goods by keel boat down the Ohio and Mississippi and up the Arkansas as far as Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, establishing a thriving trade with the Indians. Fluent in the Cherokee tongue, and liked and respected by the Indians (for whom on several occasions he later traveled to Washington as their representative) he so prospered that in 1829 he established a trading post at Fort Smith and brought his family there to live.

In 1836, another son, Elias Rector, was born, the year after William's eldest daughter, Catherine Jemima, married Major Elias J. Rector. In addition to these three children, he had two others, a son, William and a daughter, Susan (married Major Francis Page).

In Fort Smith the family lived in a house near the Arkansas riverfront, from which William frequently departed at 3:00 a.m. for fox hunts before returning to his business at the trading post.

On January 15, 1841, Harriet died, and was buried in the Rector family burying grounds also near the river. William, who survived her for another ten years, died on June 30, 1851 from cholera and was buried beside her. In 1887, the encroachment of the river having doomed both house and burying grounds, their son Benjamin had them removed and reinterred in what is now Calvary Cemetery on Lexington Avenue, where a monument above their graves still stands.

Written by Marie DuVal (Mrs. Burley C., Sr.) Johnston, for publication in **Arkansas Pioneers and Allied Families**, Volume 1.

Harriet Amanda Rector "Shingo" Cabell

(From Johnston family records)

Among the greatly beloved women of the South during the war between the states was Mrs. Harriet Amanda Cabell, wife of Gen. W. L. Cabell of the Confederate Army. She declined all social engagements during the war period to minister to the wounded and dying soldiers. She was busy with her servants preparing lint bandages, knitting socks and helping in every way possible.

One time when Gen. Cabell was a prisoner of war, Gen. McGruder gave a street ball at Washington, Hempstead county, and sent a special invitation to Mrs. Cabell who declined with a very polite note, stating that he had better look after the comfort of nearly 200 wounded soldiers of Cabell's brigade and take the money that he was spending for the ball to buy comforts for the soldiers. She said that she intended to devote all of her time to the unfortunate soldiers until her husband's return, even if it was until her death.

So popular was she with the army that she was cheered whenever she made her appearance in public.

Mrs. Cabell was Harriet Amanda Rector, daughter of Major Elias and Catherine Rector. She was born June 8, 1837 while her parents were on a visit to Bardstown, KY. Major Rector was Indian agent and the family was prominently identified with the early history of Fort Smith. Harriet Amanda was named "Shingo", which means "singing bird" in the Indian language, by the head Indian chief and she was known by that name ever afterward.

Mrs. Cabell was educated in St. Anne's academy of this city and the Sacred Heart convent of St. Louis. The marriage of Miss Shingo Rector and Lieutenant W. L. Cabell of Seventh regiment United States Infantry was a social event of Fort Smith on June 22, 1856. The bridesmaids were Miss Mary Gibson (married Gen. Gatlin), Miss Mary Thurston (married Gen. Thos. Bowin) and Miss Belle Fleming. The young couple went to Fort Gibson to live in a different fort on the frontier.

In 1861, when the war began, she went to Virginia but later returned to Fort Smith. When Mrs. Cabell was in Fort Smith in 1863, the general became very ill in the Clarksville hospital. One day some women went to Mrs. Cabell and said, "Oh, Mrs. Cabell, we have heard some awful things and think we ought to tell you. Gen. Cabell

is very sick in a Clarksville hospital and some young ladies who were waiting on him have fallen in love with him." Mrs. Cabell replied, "Is that all ladies? Why I cannot see how the young ladies could have done otherwise. I did it myself."

The only time that Mrs. Cabell would consent to having her picture taken was the day after her marriage in Fort Smith. It was a daguerreotype. When the general was a prisoner on Johnson's island, a small picture was made from this and sent to him. It reached him safely and was the most cherished possession he had in his prison life.

Mrs. Cabell died in Fort Smith April 26, 1887 and was buried in Dallas, Texas, which had been her home since 1872. Elias Rector of Fort Smith was a brother of Mrs. Cabell.

Marie DuVal Johnston
in costume for
"Plantation Breakfast"
at Hardscrabble
Country Club given by
UDC when she was
president, for the
Convention of Women
of the Federated
Women's Club.



A PLEA

Don't give to the world a song of sadness,
Don't sing in a minor key,
But send out a strain that rings with gladness,
A promise of joys to be.

2

Sing to the child of a doll with blue dyes,
Sing to the maiden of love,
Sing to the youth of fame piercing the skies,
Sing to the wife of the dove.

3

Sing to the Grandame a sweet, tender song
Of the days that used to be:
Leading her gently once more though the throng

Of friends she longs to see.

4

But sing to the world a song of good cheer,
A rollicing, rippling lay,
That drives from a fellow all doubt and fear,
And makes him glad for each day.

July 26, 1910

Marie DuVal

(From the Johnston family records which are now
archived at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville)

In Loving Memory

DR. FRED G. ROEBUCK

By Jack Moseley, Times Record editor

Dr. Fred G. Roebuck, known to many as the pastor to the people of Fort Smith, not just the congregation of First United Methodist Church where Roebuck Chapel is named in his honor — died Friday, November 17, 1995. He was 102 years old and had continued pastoral work by calling on the sick in area hospitals past his 98th birthday.

After serving as chief minister of First Methodist for 21 years, he officially retired but continued to preach from the pulpits of various denominations throughout the area, including Hebrew, Catholic and Protestant. It was reported that Dr. Roebuck had baptized, married and buried more people in Sebastian County than any minister in this century.

A memorial service was held at 1:00 p.m. November 20 at First Methodist. A private burial service was conducted at Forest Park Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to either First Methodist Church or Hendrix College.

A native of the south central Arkansas town of New Edinburg in Cleveland County, Dr. Roebuck attended a one-room school and later walked 2 miles to and from high school classes. At 16, he entered Stuttgart Training School under sponsorship of the Methodist Church and began considering a career in the ministry.

After graduation from State Teachers College at Conway, he accepted the call from his first church at Humphrey. He went on to serve as pastor of Methodist churches in Bearden, Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Lakeside and Prescott, before coming to Fort Smith in 1944.

In paying tribute to Dr. Roebuck several years ago, the congregation cited him for these qualities: a polished speaker, a shepherd always available to the least of his flock, a great organizer, a builder, a social expert, a spiritual giant, a friend of youth, the tender comforter of the sick and sorrowing.

Well after his 90th birthday, Dr. Roebuck conducted as many as three weddings a week, conducted funerals, preached whenever and wherever invited, visited the sick and personally answered phone calls in the middle of the night to just talk to people who had questions about God.

Dr. Roebuck lived alone after the death of his wife in 1978. He awoke one night to find a burglar in his bedroom. Known for his politeness, he rose up and asked the thief, "May I help you?" The burglar fled.

A clergyman for more than three-quarters of this century, he is survived by five children, Doris Hansen of Sunset Beach, Texas, Fred G. Roebuck Jr. of New

York City, Virginia Guthrie of Camden, Lewis Roebuck of Phoenix, and Dan Roebuck of Fort Smith; 13 grandchildren from Alaska to Scotland and 29 great-grandchildren.

GAYLE KAUNDART

Gayle Kaundart, 72, of Fort Smith died Friday, November 17, 1995 in a Fort Smith hospital. He was a retired basketball coach for Westark Community College, and a member of First Baptist Church, Rotary Club, Sertoma Club, Arkansas High School Coaches Association, Retired Classroom Teachers Association and a veteran of World War II.

He was a graduate of University of the Ozarks and the University of Arkansas. He received the following honors: University of the Ozarks Alumni Hall of Fame, Westark Hall of Honor, 1981 National Junior College Coach of the Year seven times, Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame, and Curtis King Lifetime Achievement Award. He coached six state high school championship teams. The Gayle Kaundart fieldhouse at Northside High School is named in his honor.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth; two sons, Wes and Wyatt, both of Fort Smith; his mother, Robbie Kaundart of Alma; a sister, Velta Bertschy of Springdale; a brother, James Brown of Hot Springs; and five grandsons.

Memorial contributions may be made to Fort Smith Boys Club or the American Heart Association.

FRANKLIN WILDER

Franklin Wilder, 82, of Fort Smith died Monday, September 4, 1995, in a Fort Smith hospital. He was a Fort Smith attorney, former member of the board of the Fort Smith Historical Society and a contributing writer for The Journal, a member of First United Methodist Church, a former Arkansas chancery judge, a member of World Methodist Historical Society, former president of the Sebastian County Mental Health Association. He was a former special agent for the FBI, a member of the Arkansas and American bar associations, a member of the Supreme Court Historical Society and the author of six books.

He is survived by his wife, Bernice; a daughter, Sheila Phillips of Fort Smith; two sons, Franklin M. Wilder of Royal Oak, Michigan, and Robert Phillips of Fayetteville; a sister, Mary Frances Borengasser of Fort Smith; a brother, the Rev. William M. Wilder of Fort Smith; and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church or Westark Community College.

Minnie Juliet Sanders Armstrong, M.D.

By Amelia Whitaker Martin

Minnie Juliet Sanders Armstrong (Mrs. Henry Clay Armstrong), the first female physician in Sebastian County, and the first woman juror in the world, came to Fort Smith in 1892. Prior to this, she had practiced with her father, Dr. David Riley Sanders (b. 1845, d. 1907), in Jonesboro, Illinois.

She was born October 25, 1867 in Makanda, Illinois, the daughter of Dr. David Riley and Delphina (Gallegly) Sanders, and died in Fort Smith, March 18, 1956. She is buried in Oak Cemetery.

Dr. Sanders first came to Fort Smith on the invitation of her cousin, Mrs. W. P. Throgmorton. Mrs. Throgmorton's husband, the Reverend Throgmorton was pastor of the First Baptist Church, North 13th and D Streets, 1892-1895. Dr. Sanders had been in poor health and the Throgmortons felt she would be benefited by a milder climate. A letter from her dated January 22, 1902, said, "I am so well and stout, I can do more work without being tired, than for two years before I was married."

Dr. Sanders practiced in Fort Smith 1892-1895. Her office was at Garrison Avenue and North Eighth Street, residence was 522 North 16th Street, on the corner of North 16th and Pine Street (now F Street). The house was still standing in 1975, but has since been replaced by an apartment building.

In 1895 she retired from the practice of medicine to marry Henry Clay Armstrong. The following account of the wedding was printed in the Fort Smith newspaper:

"MARRIED IN ILLINOIS

"Mr. H.C. Armstrong and Miss Minnie Sanders were united in marriage at the home of the bride in Jonesboro, Ill., Thursday afternoon of last week. They arrived in the city Sunday morning, and are permanently located at the Rowland House, where they have been receiving the congratulations of their host of friends.

"Mr. Armstrong is one of the stockholders of the Speer Hardware Co., and has been a resident of Fort Smith for the

past twelve years. He enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him, and is truly one of nature's noblemen. The bride is a niece of Mrs. W. P. Throgmorton, and has resided here for two years past, where she has gained the love and admiration of all by her winsome and ladylike demeanor. The Elevator extends its heartiest congratulations to these splendid young people."

The Armstrongs had four children: Henry Clay Armstrong, Jr., Ft. Smith; Phillip Norris Armstrong, Danville, Kentucky, Fred Sanders Armstrong, and Minnie Ruth Armstrong, Fort Smith public school teacher.

After retiring from her medical practice, Dr. Armstrong continued to be active in community affairs and at one time served as head of the "Associate Funds", the precursor of the Community Chest and the United Fund.

Mr. Armstrong, a Virginian, born July 16, 1845 in Warrenton, Virginia, came to Fort Smith to take advantage of a growing pioneer town that had opportunities for young men. He died December 31, 1907 in Texarkana, Arkansas, in a hunting accident and is buried in Fort Smith.

Ruth Armstrong enjoyed telling some of the stories her mother told her about her medical practice and how many patients she saw with diphtheria, typhoid and other medical problems for which there was little or no treatment available. In her later years, it was her constant regret that she had not had the medications and treatments then that she saw develop in medical science during her lifetime. With them, she felt, so many of her patients who died, could have been saved.

Her first patients in Fort Smith were Miss Florence Price and Mr. Tom Price, the aunt and uncle of another Fort Smith physician, Dr. Thomas P. Foltz. They came to her for smallpox vaccinations.

Another patient was a drunk man, who was sleeping on hay thrown down on the ground for the horses in Shulte's Livery Stable, which was at the rear of her office. A horse had stepped on his chest and crushed it. She



Dr. Minnie Sanders
(Mrs. Henry Armstrong)



Left to right: Mrs. Ball,
Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Shaw,
Mrs. O'Kelley and Mrs. Ayers.

could not do anything to help him and he died, but in 1950 in telling about it, she felt some chest surgeon could have helped him to recover.

One day a doctor who had an office across the hall from Dr. Sanders, called her to his office to assist him with surgery on a patient with crossed eyes. He was going to clip the muscle and no anesthetic was used. When surgery was finished, the patient paid five dollars for the operation.

Before Dr. Sanders came to Fort Smith and in her first year at Jonesboro, Ill., a man came for her with a horse and buggy to take her to the Mississippi River Bottoms. There had been a dance and a man had been knifed. She went. The patient was badly slashed, many times. She dressed his wounds and the driver returned her safely to her home. When asked if she was uneasy, she said "I never had a thought about it being unsafe for me." She also said she was never once made to feel that other doctors or patients did not accept her because she was a woman. She said she did not have many male patients, but she did not feel it was because they did not have confidence in her because they let other members of their families come to her for treatment. At that time she knew of only one other woman physician in Arkansas and she lived in Little Rock.

Dr. Sanders often rode side-saddle and in Fort Smith rented vehicles from Shulte's Stables, but she walked and walked on board walks which hurt her feet and in mud and dust on Garrison Avenue to attend her patients. It was not unusual for someone to come for her in a buggy or wagon to take her into Indian Territory to attend the sick.

Fourteenth Street was one of the last streets at the edge of Fort Smith and they drove there on Sunday afternoon.

Dr. Sanders received her education at Union Academy at Anna, Illinois; Woman's Medical College at St. Louis, Missouri (it was to have been named Rachel College for the first woman mentioned in the Bible dying of childbirth, but when the name came out of the conference room, the women had ruled that a medical college for women should cover all fields of medicine); Woman's College at Chicago, Illinois, which later became Rush Medical College and is part of the University of Chicago; and received her medical degree from Keokuk, Iowa, Medical School in 1890. This school later joined with the University of Iowa. A newspaper clipping announcing her graduation from medical school stated, "We believe that she is the only lady graduate in Southern Illinois."

She served as demonstrator of anatomy and assistant to the chair of gynaecology in the Woman's Medical College of St. Louis. The announcement of her appointment, pointed out "What she does, she does with all her might, and her hungry mind seems always starved for more knowledge. She believes that life means something more than merely existing, and whether in the church, Sunday school, or her profession she is aggressive and pressing to the front...The college is to be congratulated upon the wisdom of its election..."

While practicing medicine in Jonesboro, Illinois, she was called on to serve on the Jury. It seems the jury had to include a physician, no male doctor could be reached, so Judge Crawford declared

Dr. Sanders a "person" and let her serve. As far as can be determined, she was the first woman juror in the world. The newspapers at the time, gave the matter considerable publicity, not only in Illinois, but throughout the United States, because of its being the first recorded case of a woman being allowed to serve as a physicianjurymen, and because it was necessary for the judge to declare her a "person" in the meaning of the law to make her eligible to serve (Woman's Lib in 1891). Finally, Mr. Nobel Campbell of the "London Lancet," a widely famed medical journal, solicited a recital of the facts from Dr. Sanders, and later sent her a clipping from the journal dated April 22, 1891, concerning her serving as a juror:

"According to an Illinois judge, a lady is really allowed to be called a 'person'! Is it not a surprising honour? I know a female of a somewhat lower class in life has long been spoken of as a 'young person,' and the term, in many novels, and in a few cases of real life, has been applied by ill-bred women to governesses and companions; but to

be verily admitted by the law to be a 'person' is indeed a dignity of which we had never dreamt in our wildest flights of imagination! Still it is true. At a trial at Anna, Illinois, the law required a jury of 'six persons,' of which at least one was to be a physician. Physicians seem scarce in that particular town...for no male doctor could be found. Dr. Minnie Sanders, however, came to the rescue, and under the circumstances (suppose otherwise the jury would have to be dismissed) Judge Crawford decided that Miss Sanders was a 'person'."

Mrs. Armstrong, as she preferred to be called, died in 1956 from cancer of the liver, at the age of eighty-eight. She was remembered by the people of Fort Smith as a kind, gentle, but strong, faithful, and wise friend, always available with wise advice and counsel when needed.

Biographical information courtesy of Miss Ruth Armstrong and friends who remembered her.

Physicians and Medicine, Crawford and Sebastian Counties, Arkansas 1817-1976 by Amelia W. Martin.

Miss McSweeney, Confederate Spy

By J.M. Lucey

When the Federal general, Blunt, occupied Fort Smith late in 1863-4 and General W. L. Cabell retired from the city to Devil's Backbone, 18 miles distant, the intermediate territory became the raiding ground of both armies. A family named McSweeney lived near the public road, about half way between the two places. It was composed of a widow, her two daughters, Mattie and Mollie, aged about 18 and 12, respectively, and a son, Peter, aged about 20. The last named was in Cabell's brigade. Miss Mattie visited Fort Smith twice a week at irregular intervals, according as her escort, a young Federal lieutenant, could arrange for an absence. She was under suspicion at Blunt's headquarters, but confidence was placed in the detective powers of the lieutenant.

One instance of her tact will be narrated out of several. On this occasion there seemed to be something on the lieutenant's mind which he was anxious to get off. There was two things on Miss Mattie's mind, tin cups and frying pans. News had been brought to her from Cabell's camp that tin cups and frying pans were badly needed. The gold that had been concealed for months in soldiers' belts was brought forth, so that there might be no delay on the score of money.

On this trip Miss Mattie stopped at the home of the writer's father, where his sisters and other ladies quickly arranged to make the purchases, as it would not do for Miss Mattie to buy the articles. In a few hours everything was secured and deftly fastened to her underclothing. Miss Mattie had made a special request that a negro driver would take her home, the lieutenant riding on horseback as an escort until the pickets were passed. What was the horror of all concerned when the buggy was driven up by the lieutenant!

Could it mean that a discovery was made? Captured as a spy would mean death to her and imprisonment to all concerned.

A hasty council of war was held by the ladies and they came to the conclusion that there was nothing to it. One of the ladies went to hold the horse and the other induced the officer to enter the house for a lemonade, while the others were transferring the tin cups and frying pans to the other side from where he would ride. How the young lady got well fixed in the buggy before the officer came out, how they passed the time so that there would be no jingling and how her little sister effected a ruse by which Miss Mattie was enabled to make a safe landing are all matters of local history.

Thyra Samter Winslow Woman Sets JS on its Ear

By Jane Ramos, SWTR Staff Writer

(Published in Southwest Times Record, August 7, 1988)

In New York Thyra Samter Winslow was part of the glamorous, sophisticated set other writers dubbed the "talk of the town."

In Fort Smith, the "talk" she inspired often began with phrases like "that horrible woman."

Thyra Samter was born in the 1880s in Fort Smith. She lived with her parents and grandmother in an imposing house at 410 North Seventh Street, and was liked well enough during those years to be included in social events hosted by fellow students at Belle Grove School and Fort Smith High School.

Her father owned a dry goods store on Garrison Avenue which supported the family comfortably until Thyra Samter had finished two years at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

After some serious losses in cotton futures speculation, Louis Samter moved his family from their large Victorian home to a small house on Eighth Street. Living with her parents there, Thyra Samter began to write and edit the society pages of the Southwest American.

As a working woman in 1907, Thyra Samter was breaking with tradition and moving away from her former women friends who had married into security and respectability. She was one of the first women in town to smoke and use makeup. She indulged her curiosity and visited such places as the town's riverfront red light district, an area no respectable woman would confess to having seen at the time.

As society editor, Thyra Samter was on the outside looking in at the parties, teas and dances where Fort Smith's old established families entertained each other. In her fiction she wrote again and again about a young girl who had been socially accepted during school years, but excluded in adult life. She bitterly blamed this rejection on prejudice against Jews (the Samters were part of Fort Smith's Jewish community), and on the narrow-minded people she felt wielded great social power in small towns.

When the Samters' money woes went from bad

to dire, Louis Samter moved to Sallisaw to open another dry goods store and Thyra Samter moved to Chicago, where she worked writing features for the Sunday Chicago Tribune, and met and married Tribune writer John Winslow. (The Winslows later divorced but she kept the Winslow name, even after she married Nelson Waldorf Hyde in 1927. That marriage also ended in divorce.)

After her marriage, Thyra Winslow began writing short stories and in 1911 began selling her stories regularly to the Smart Set, a magazine edited by H. L. Mencken and George Jean Nathan.

Relying on this success, she moved to New York and met most of the leading literary lights of the period, including members of the Round Table at the Algonquin Hotel. She gave parties for these people and attended theirs.

Her social success was matched by a growing reputation as one of the 1920s leading short story writers. A collection of her stories, "Picture Frames," was published in 1920, and followed by others; she was interviewed by and favorably reviewed in the New York Times and other newspapers from 1924 onward; she wrote and published her only novel, "Show Business," in 1925, and sold the film rights to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for \$30,000; she wrote a screenplay, "She Married Her Boss," which became a very successful movie starring Claudette Colbert.

But her social and professional success in New York apparently did not ease the pain of her Fort Smith memories. Many of her stories continued to feature rejected girls in small towns and in 1935, she wrote a collection of stories, "My Own, My Native Land," which was set entirely in her home town.

Several Fort Smith readers thought the stories were about them or their families and that Thyra Winslow had bared to the world secrets and scandals that were only whispered guardedly in "polite" circles.

If Thyra Winslow had been rejected by her home town before this book, she was reviled after it. Friends vowed never to receive her again.

Time did not heal the wounds. Years later, when a graduate student came to Fort Smith to research his doctoral thesis, he was refused interviews by several of Thyra Winslow's former friends, and one told him indignantly that he shouldn't "write a dissertation about that horrible woman."

Even as late as 1988, more than 50 years after the book was published, those who still remember her would not talk about her or "the book" unless their names were not used. One woman would only say Thyra Winslow was so bad "we had to take her picture down from the library." (One copy of "My Own, My Native Land" is still in the Fort Smith Public Library, locked in a case in the Arkansas Room.)

The offending book was the last book of fiction Thyra Winslow published for almost 20 years. In the 1950s she wrote a series of books about - weight loss and continued the sophisticated lifestyle she enjoyed in New York for as long as she could. But as the market for magazine fiction dried up, she was forced to write for pulp magazines to support herself, and her penthouse apartment and limousine days came to an end.

Even without money, Thyra continued to live independently. She was very active, proud of her youthful appearance, and devoted to her Pomeranian dogs until she died in 1961. Shortly before her death she converted to the Roman Catholic Church and was buried from St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

As far as is known, no one from Fort Smith attended her funeral.

Margaret (Rogers) Chollar

Mrs. Margaret (Rogers) Chollar was born in Sebastian County, Arkansas, in 1838, one of six children born to Capt. John and Mary ("Flag") Rogers. The six children were: Mrs. Chollar, Mrs. Emma Johnson, William, Hickory, Thomas and Buckner.

The sons lived in the Indian Territory. Mrs. Chollar was reared in Fort Smith and attended the St. Paul's Institute of Baltimore, Maryland.

Margaret Rogers' first husband, John Melvin, was born in Pennsylvania and was a steamboat pilot on the Arkansas. He was a member of the I.O.O.F., and died in 1878. Following his death, Margaret married John Chollar, a native of New York State.

To her first union two children were born: Jane, who worked in the patent office in Washington, D.C., and William, a machinist of Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Her father, John Rogers, is known as the founder of Fort Smith. He was born near Carlisle, Pennsylvania and moved with his father to near Pittsburgh where he was educated. When quite young he left Pittsburgh and went to Harper's Ferry, Virginia, where he lived until the beginning of the War of 1812. He supplied the army of General Harrison with provi-

sions until the close of the war.

He was appointed collector of the post of Detroit, Michigan, then was appointed deputy paymaster of the United States Army and in the winter of 1816 went south to New Orleans.

In 1818 he became sutler of the army. The following year he became military commissary keeper. He acted as purchasing agent for the army and also furnished provisions for General Jackson's Florida expedition.

In 1822 he came to Fort Smith and was the first postmaster of the town, a position he held for thirty years. He laid out the town, and the first two buildings were erected by him from materials brought from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on keel boats by Captain Rogers and George S. Birnie. Until 1842 his time was devoted to building up the town which he had founded.

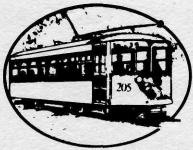
He was a man of unusual business ability and sagacity, and was noted for his honesty and liberality to the poor. Owing to his enterprise and push, he is justly entitled to rank among the representative men of Arkansas.

Goodspeed History of Northwest Arkansas, pgs. 1301-1302.

News and Opportunities

**Fort Smith Historical Society
Annual Meeting
Wednesday, April 24, 1996 - 7:00 p.m.
Masonic Temple Theater
Interesting Program
Public Invited
Come - Bring Friends**

The 1996 annual meeting of the Arkansas Historical Association will be at the Doubletree Hotel (formerly the Camelot Hotel), Little Rock, April 18-20. For more information contact the Arkansas Historical Association, Department of History, Old Main 416, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701. Telephone 501-575-5884.



Trolley Museum Receives "Summer Car"

Fort Smith Trolley Museum now has a classic open trolley similar to the twenty one summer cars that operated in Fort Smith early in this century. This car was built by the Brill Company in 1907 for Veracruz, Mexico. The car was bought in 1964 by a museum group in San Antonio and ran until the museum lost its track rights. The Trolley Museum bought the car from the Texas Transportation Museum.

Fort Smith had 21 of these cars beginning in 1905. The cars were fun since you could enter or exit any seat from the running board. The original City franchise provided that the cars be operated from May 1st to September 30 making them unsatisfactory to management. In 1911 Fort Smith Light and Traction began the modification of these to closed cars.

With this addition of the open car #6, the Trolley Museum will have one of each of the four types of trolleys that operated in Fort Smith. Car #224 represents the Birney type; car #50 the double truck cars that went to Van Buren; car #10 is an open platform car like the first electric car in Fort Smith.

HISTORICAL CHRONOLOGY

July 1995 - January 1996

(Prepared by Sarah McCullough from the Times Record except where noted otherwise)

JULY

6th – Ray Baker's first "Mayor's Fourth of July Celebration" was a huge success, drawing multitudes to the site on the Clayton Expressway in the big vacant field next to the Harry E Kelly Park on the Arkansas River.

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9th – The Old Fort Museum announced its executive board for the 1995-96 fiscal year. They are Ann Dawson, president; Bob Gilbert, vice-president; Kirk Dougherty, treasurer; Debbie Moulton, recording secretary; Eleanor McCann, corresponding secretary and Jim Spears, Historian.

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17th – Paula Riggs, a service coordinator for Western Arkansas Therapeutic Children's Homes, was named Foster Care Worker of the Year for a Private Agency and received an award from Governor Jim Guy Tucker.

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22nd – Jim Guy Tucker said Friday (yesterday) that he would likely include enabling legislation earmarking possible state funds for several proposed Fort Smith civic projects, including money for the proposed Civic Auditorium project.

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23rd – Fort Smith National Historic Site is among 13 battlefields, buildings and other sites depicting Arkansas' Civil War experience that have been selected to participate in the inaugural year of the Civil War Trust's National Discovery Trail, Cathy Slater, director of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, announced. The AHPP is an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

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23rd – Vicky Echols daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Echols of Fort Smith, won first place in her age division in the Miss Teen of America Program held recently in Hot Springs. She is eligible to compete for over \$40,000 in scholarships, awards and prizes in the nation to be held in August.

.....

26th – William Anderson Sessions, Grand Master of Ministry of First Christian Church for decades, celebrated his 90th birthday with family and friends. Fort Smithians of all denominations and creeds, and all who know him in any capacity, love and honor him.



SEPTEMBER

3rd – Three Copeland brothers, Nate, Jarrard and Greg, have been working the streets in Fort Smith for the local police department since 1991. They are the first threesome of brothers on the force since the 1980's when Mike, Rick and Ronnie Brooks all worked here.

.....

5th – Bradley Jesson of Fort Smith was sworn in as the 23rd chief justice in the history of the Arkansas Supreme Court. He is the first justice to serve on the court from Fort Smith in more than 30 years.

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7th – Completing the largest raid of its kind, U.S. Border Patrol agents and other law enforcement rounded up as many as 200 illegal aliens (yesterday) in Fort Smith and Van Buren.

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15th – Ken Turner, in a ceremony at Westark yesterday, was honored by state and federal authorities as the 1995 Aviation Flight Instructor of the Year for Arkansas. A 15-year resident of Arkansas, he has served as technology program coordinator for Westark Community College since August, 1994. But for two decades before that, he served as a full-time pilot, and as flight instructor since 1980.

.....

18th – Kathleen Cogbill, 21, of Fort Smith, was one of six stage management interns chosen from around the country to intern in theater work at the Julliard School. Included in her resume will also be the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. Her parents are Mike and Mary Cogbill, of Fort Smith.

.....

21st – About two dozen students gathered around the flagpole at Southside High School to participate in "See You at the Pole," prayer session. Students in Fort Smith and around the nation joined to pray for the nation.

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23rd – Westark Community College dedicated the Donald W. Reynolds Plaza, Tower and Campus Green at the college. The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation Inc., one of the 30 largest U.S. foundations funding building projects for charitable organizations, chose Fort Smith for its first campus project.

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25th – Weidman's Old Fort Brew Pub, located in one of Fort Smith's oldest buildings, the Joseph

Knoble Brewery, is only one of the state's three brew pubs in a building built as a brewery. Brewed here are six beers on tap at all times, including Danny Boy Stout, Rope Swing Red Ale and Fort Smith Light.

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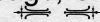
26th – John Daly, Arkansas native golfer, played in a charity event at Fianna Hills Country Club. Daly, who won the 1991 PGA Championship and the British Open, was the highlight of the first Mercy Celebrity Classic held at Fianna Hills.

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27th – Amelia Martin of Fort Smith has been appointed to the Board of the History of Medicine Associates at the University of Arkansas School of Medical Sciences in Little Rock. The board governs a support group for the history collection at the UAMS library. Martin is the editor of *THE JOURNAL*, a publication of the Fort Smith Historical Society.

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Oak Cemetery in Fort Smith, location of the Varina Jefferson Davis chapter's UDC lot, has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. (From the President's Message, UDC, September.)



OCTOBER

4th – Mayor Ray Baker introduced one of the new signs, denoting Fort Smith as a bird sanctuary with the slogan, "Where Life's Worth Living," at Creekmore Park. The new signs will also be placed at entrance points to the city.

Baker also asked for strong support for the 1-cent street tax soon to be voted on.

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5th – Mayor Ray Baker was absolutely stunned when he entered the auditorium at the Southside High School yesterday. It was then he found that he had won a 1995 Milken Family Foundation National Educator cash award for \$25,000 for his 35 years of teaching history at the High School. Numerous local and visiting dignitaries lined the stage where Baker was presented the award, including members of the Fort Smith School Board and the state Board of Education. His family was also in attendance.

.....

6th – Two Fort Smith men received the highest honors awarded by University of Arkansas alumni at the university's Awards Banquet. J. Fred Patton, a 1929 U of A graduate received the Community Service Award. His son-in-law, Fort Smith attorney Robert Dawson, received the Andrew J. Lucas Alumni Service Award.

.....

9th – David Eugene Reid has taken on the job of director at the Old Fort Museum. He will be bringing the more than 20,000 objects in the museum's collection to the public.

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21st – Roughly 6,000 acres of land in the northwest portion of Fort Chaffee will be open for non-military use when the base scales back in the next year, the Department of Defense officially announced last Friday.

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27th – Fort Smith's contracted construction crews built a one-mile extension of South Dallas Street in less time and with less money than was budgeted. The cost was \$2.4 million for the project. The question is whether it will relieve the traffic flow on Rogers Avenue as predicted.

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27th – The first phase to draft a schematic design plan for a new exhibition hall and convention facility began Thursday with a meeting of the Civic Center Project Committee and the design team.

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NOVEMBER

1st – Tanya Kopke, director of Ozark Regional Transit in Springdale, announced to the Fort Smith Board of Directors Tuesday that a five-bus transit system should be set up throughout Fort Smith by April 1st. "We're extremely happy to have you here," an exuberant Mayor Ray Baker told Kopke after the presentation in the civic center. "It's going to make a lot of difference here in Fort Smith."

The system, slated to cost less than \$400,000 a year when running at full speed will operate with only five buses the first year because of a highway department recommendation. City administrator Strib Boynton said the city may operate several additional trolley units in the downtown area.

.....

17th – Clint Fisher, one of Fort Smith's most popular musicians and band leaders in the 1940s and '50s, died Thursday. Clint Fisher and His Musical Buddies was a country swing band. The story of Clint Fisher and his band was featured in the Fort Smith Historical Society *JOURNAL*, April, 1984.

.....

22nd – Fort Smith Public Library gets \$1.4 million from Leah Cohn-Arendt's estate.

— — — — —

DECEMBER

14th – The *TIMES RECORD* Christmas card, accepting donations for the Community Rescue

Mission, which actually began 14 years ago when the man-and-wife team, Sam and Jon Grimm took in a needy family who had been staying at Creekmore Park. It was they who founded the Community Rescue Mission.

.....

15th – New and tougher safety training and equipment rules imposed on the nation's commuter airlines recently, and the carriers, will not affect the Fort Smith Regional Airport since Delta, American and Northwest Airlines all use airplanes that already meet the same standards as the larger planes.

.....

18th – Sister Carol Anne Corley, who transferred from Springfield, MO eight years ago, and director of community services for St. Edward Mercy Medical Center, is a flyfishing nun. She ties her own lures, having learned the craft from her recently-deceased brother, who left her his best fly-tying items.

.....

29th – One of Fort Smith's best services is that of disposing of the green Christmas trees left over from the holidays. The Fort Smith Sanitation Department will pick them up for shredding into mulch by the Super Rent company on the three Wednesdays following Christmas. Residents may come by the sanitation department to collect mulch if they choose.

.....

30th – The first radio station in Fort Smith ever completely owned by a woman, Star 92.3 FM, went on the air yesterday. Polly Crews, local radio and television personality, is the proud owner—and no less proud than all of us who have known her and loved her! The station will play popular tunes, primarily from the 1970s and 1980s, but also some songs from the 1960s and 1990s.

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1996

JANUARY

10th – The unmarked grave of Union Army Capt. James Mershon, who served as a deputy U.S. marshal, received a tombstone yesterday at Oak Cemetery after nearly a century with no marker.

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11th – In a surprising landslide vote, Northside High School was named the host site for the 1996 Class MM State Basketball Tournament to be played on February 29 through March 2. It received 14 of the 18 votes cast by the Arkansas Activities Association Executive Committee.

13th – A new manufacturing plant will begin operation on March 1, as announced by Jack White, chairman of the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce. American Radionic Company, Inc., a Palm Coast, Florida - based manufacturer, will start up with about 25 employees from Florida. The company makes AC oil-filled, motor-run capacitors, used primarily in the auto and air conditioning industries.

13th - Fort Smith began considering the purchase of Miss Laura's, now operating as the tourist center.

21st – Greg and Carol Hall run Corporate Chaplaincy Ministries, the first pastoral counseling service for the employers in the Fort Smith area. Part of a growing industry, industrial chaplains are usually found in larger cities, and there is a National Institute of Business and Industrial Chaplains. Offering counseling to employees in marriage problems, financial problems and parenting skills, these non-denominational chaplains are ordained ministers and may perform anything from weddings to funerals. Ed and Betsy Hedinger have also joined them in their ministry. They do not counsel in the workplace, but offer their counseling in the chaplains' homes.

Inquiries and Genealogy

Inquiries and letters are printed free as space allows, but must have some connection to Fort Smith or be submitted by a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society. Effective inquiries must contain full names, dates, places and submitter's name and mailing address. Don't laugh!!!! Some people do fail to give an address where they hope to receive an answer to their communication.

GLOBE HOTEL, MATHIS – Seeking information about the Globe Hotel operated by Lucinda Mathis – Nancy Misenheimer, 102 Bowers Rd., Jacksonville, AR 72076.

FORREST, SNOW – Seeking information on the Snow family of Marion County, Arkansas, especially Philander Snow, the son of Feelove Forrest and the stepson of James Forrest of Ozark City, Missouri. Would like census records for 1850 - 1900 and a list of places to write for Arkansas records – Beverly Anderson, 10100 Quince St. N.W., Coon Rapids, MN 55433.

(Editor's Note: Census records for those years [except for 1890 which burned] can be found on microfilm in most libraries with genealogical collections. The major repository of Arkansas records is the Arkansas History Commission, 1 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201. However, they do not do extensive research.)

ROARK – Looking for information about Page Roark who was killed in Sebastian County about

February 1870 when a tree fell on him during a storm. Where is he buried? – Pat Fochs, W3174 Faro Springs Rd., Hilbert, WI 54129.

ROGERS – Seeking information about Captain John Rogers – Dee Gotchell, P.O. Box 77411, Alief, TX 77411.

FLETCHER, GRIMES, MAPLES, PENDERGRASS, SIMMONS – Searching for these surnames in the Logan County areas of Chimsville, Six Mile Valley, Short Mountain, Booneville, Paris, Fletcher, Branch and Landmark Cemetery, Franklin County, and Van Buren County - Kathleen Fletcher-Olund, 2305 Lafayette Dr., Antioch, CA 94509.

BOUTWELL – Need information about two Boutwell men who may have served as officers of the law in Indian Territory. Alexander Boutwell (1824-1879) issued a work permit January 9, 1871 to be employed in the Chickasaw Nation; attacked and killed by bandits for the gold he was carrying after the sale of cattle to the Army in February 1879. William Frances "Billy" Boutwell, born Cooke Co., TX, October 4, 1846 was possibly a deputy marshal. He was the eldest son of Alexander and Permelia (Brown) Boutwell. He died August 28, 1887, in Ardmore, OK, and is buried in Howard Cemetery, Love Co., OK – Irene A. Sharpe, 15956 Colfax Hwy., Grass Valley, CA 95945-9681; Phone: (916) 273-0782.

KENDRICK, WOOLCUT – Would like to correspond

with descendants of Margaret Jane (Kendrick), born 1840 in MS, and William Henry Woolcut or their relatives. Margaret Jane had a nephew named Newt (William Newton). William Henry had two younger sisters, Martha Woolcut who married Thomas Sims Kendrick, born 1849 in Stone Co., AR, and Malvinia who married James Kendrick, Thomas' twin brother. These families lived in Fort Smith ca. 1900 and in Jenny Lind in 1900. – Nancy Misenheimer, 102 Bowers Rd., Jacksonville, AR 72076.

LANCASTER – Need information about my great-grandfather, Thomas H. "Toby/Tobie" Lancaster who was a U.S. marshal for Judge Parker. – Mrs. Joyce M. Brewer, P.O. Box 244, Oak Hurst, TX 77359.

LEWELLEN – Would like to correspond with descendants or relatives of George Lewellen. He was a school teacher in the Sallisaw area, a member of the O.K. S. and died in 1923. He had two children; a son, Bill, and a daughter, Mary. – Betty Smith, Fort Smith, Phone: (501) 646-2422.

BRAY – Searching for information on the Bray family who lived in Sebastian County, Arkansas from 1879 on. Need death records for Joab H. Bray and Emily J. Bray, both of whom died between 1900 and 1910. Also need marriage and/or death records for their children, Adelaide S., Decimus, Lousena A., John B., Joab L., Charles, Edwin Wesley, Mary E., Walter R. and Ursula H. Bray. – Elaine M. Johnston, 1509 Deason Drive, Edmond, OK 73013.

BUFORD – Researching the life of Major General John Buford. On March 10, 1849, then Lieutenant Buford with 30 men of F Company, 1st Dragoons left Fort Scott, K.T, en route to Fort Smith. There is no record of him in the monthly reports as to his location until September 1849, when he turns up in Albuquerque commanding H Company of the 2nd Dragoons. When did he arrive in Fort Smith, what were his duties, how long did he remain there and when did he depart and to where? – Howard M. Wiley, 400 11th St., Apt. 202, New Kensington, PA 15068.

FRIDDLE, GILSTRAP, STINEBAUGH - Looking for federal marshal's records for Lorenzo Dow Gilstrap cat 1868. According to family tradition asked to leave Arkansas because he was involved in a murder ca. 1880-1890. married (1) Mary Elizabeth Stinebaugh, August 4, 1869; (2) Saphronia Angelique Stinebaugh, July 18, 1877; (3) Sarah Friddle, June 19, 1909. Had at least four chil-

dren: John Franklin (b. January 15, 1871), Susan E. (b. Jan. 1873), Mary (b. April 18, 1875) and Isabel (b. ca. 1876) Gilstrap. – Patricia W. Gilstrap, 340 W. Spruce Street, Rising City, NE 68658.

THRONE, WALLACE – Trying to trace my grand. parents Alta Throne and Charles/Edward(?) Wallace who lived and died near either Fort Smith or Mena, AR, near the turn of the century. – Larry D. Wallace, 3535 Clearwater Dr., Lake Hovaser City, AZ 86406, Phone: (520) 453-6749.

PATTERSON, SWEENEY, TUGGLE – Trying to locate cemetery records for Charles M. Tuggle and Cora Tuggle who lived in Fort Smith in 1920. Also for Ethel May Patterson, Luther Sweeney and Margaret J. Sweeney who lived in Marion Township, Sebastian County at the same time. – John R. Rohde II, 7121 Brentwood Dr., Boise, ID 83709.

FREENEY/FREENY, MASONER – Attempting family history research on the Masoner and Freeney/Freeny families who resided in the Erin Springs/Purdy areas of Indian Territory, now Garvin County. Reportedly, through family stories, there was a shooting of A.G. Freeny in April of 1894 or 1895 possibly involving brother Benjamin; possibly A.G. Freeny's son John; possibly the Masoner brothers. John and A.G. died. – Mary Goshor, P.O. Box 331, Cyril, OK 73029-0331.

DURHAM, GOODWIN, JENNINGS, THOMPSON, WESTPHAL, WILLIAMS – Researching John Durham, William White Williams, Marion Goodwin, William A. Thompson and Jennings in the Fort Smith area. Need the address of the Fort Smith Museum which I have been told had some information about some outlaw relatives named Durham. Also looking for proof of relationship of Al Jennings to my great grandmother Josephine (Jennings) Durham. Need obituary for Ludwig (Louis) Christoph F. H. Westphal who died near Fort Smith on August 19, 1911 and was buried at Lutherville, Arkansas. – Evelyn Westphal, 4221 Pressley Lane, Shingle Springs, CA 95682.

(Editor's Note: The Old Fort Museum is located at 320 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901; the Fort Smith National Historical Site is located at South 2nd and Rogers, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901. However, please realize that neither of these sites have the staff to do extensive research.)

ALLEN – Would like to share information about the family of C. (Charles?) Allen, a veteran of the Battle of Pea Ridge in the Civil War who lost a leg in that battle.

He was a farmer in the Mena area, born ca. 1846/47 in Arkansas and died after 1912. He was married to Mary A. (?), born 1854 in Arkansas and died after 1912, and they had the following children: John S. Allen (b. 1870, AR), Elizabeth D. Allen (b. Feb. 1871, AR; d. ca. 1950, Fort Smith, AR), Ben Hase S. Allen (b. 1873, AR) and George P. Allen (b. 1879, AR). – Ruth L. Jenkins, 1209 Dillion Drive, Napa, CA 94558; email - VAJU54a@Prodigy.COM.

FEDERAL CENSUS RECORDS – I would like to get the federal census for 1881, Fort Smith, Arkansas. Need federal census books for 1860 for Boone, Marion and Carroll counties; 1870 federal books for Boone and Marion counties and the 1890-1900 federal census for Jasper, Newton County, Arkansas. – Gwen Lundry, P.O. Box 494, Mt. Hope, KS 67188.

(Editor's Note: There is no federal census for 1881. The federal census is taken every ten years to establish the districts for the U.S. House of Representatives. The 1890 census for Arkansas and most other states burned. Other census records are available through most libraries.

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 1996 CONFERENCE IN THE STATES

This year's annual conference of the National Genealogical Society entitled "Traveling Historic Trails: Families on the Move" will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, May 8-11, 1996. The program appears to be full of excellent speakers and good workshops/lectures. For more information and a program booklet contact 1996 NGS Conference, 4527 17th Street, North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

KENTUCKY VITAL RECORDS AVAILABLE ONLINE

According to the most recent issue of Arkansas Historical and Genealogical Magazine, all that you need to do to search for a Kentucky marriage, birth or death record is to log onto the Internet. Deaths are registered from January 1, 1911, to December 31, 1992; marriages from January 1, 1973 to December 1993 except for 1984 and 1985 are in the marriage index and divorce records are available for the same time period. The Universal Record Locator (URL) address on the Internet is:
gopher://UKCC.uky.ed.:70/1menu%20VITAL-REC%21191VITAL.INFO.

There are no spaces in the text string and upper and lower case letters must be entered as shown. If you don't have Internet access, you may access this file at the local library.

NORTH ARKANSAS ANCESTOR FAIR

The seventh annual North Arkansas Ancestor Fair will be held in Leslie, Arkansas, on May 30-June 1, 1996. Workshops on the Civil War, church records, frontier communities, regional archives and Native American research are planned for Thursday afternoon, May 30 and Friday, May 31. On June 1, the traditional ancestor "swap meet" will be held. For further information, contact James J. Johnston, 2333 East Oaks Drive, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72703 (Phone: 501-442-3691).

ARKANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING

The 1966 annual meeting of the Arkansas Historical Association will be held at the Doubletree Hotel (formerly the Camelot Hotel), Little Rock, Arkansas, April 18-20. For more information contact the Arkansas Historical Association, Old Main 416, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701 (Phone: L 501-575-5884).

CHEROKEE NATION PAPERS ON MICROFILM

The University of Oklahoma Libraries' Western History Collection has announced the availability of the Cherokee Nation Papers on microfilm. The inclusive dates of the materials are 1830-1907. Roll One is a detailed finding aid including an index. The complete set or individual rolls are available for purchase. Individual rolls may be borrowed through interlibrary loan. For purchasing information, contact the Curator, Western History Collections, University of Oklahoma Libraries, Rm 452, Monnet Hall, Norman, Oklahoma 73019.

HISTORICAL BOOKS CATALOGS

If you are a collector of books about history or genealogy, you might wish to order catalogs from these two companies:

1. Guild Press of Indiana, Inc., 6000 Sunset Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46208. (Has booklets about Indiana, of course, and the Civil War)
2. EPM Publications, P.O. Box 490, McLean, VA 22101-0490. (Has booklets about Washington D.C. area, Civil War, quilting, early cookbooks, etc.)

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS EXHIBIT

"The Civilian Conservation Corps in Arkansas," an exhibit examining the New Deal program in Arkansas is on display at the Old State House in Little Rock through May 5, 1996. This exhibit features furniture and other artifacts from Arkansas' CCC camps.

4 CORNERS ANCESTOR FAIR

The 4 Corners Ancestor Fair will be held July 25-27, 1996, at the Northwest Arkansas Holiday Inn and Convention Center in Springdale, Arkansas. The fair features two days of workshops on such genealogical research topics as Native American research beginning genealogy, archival research, Civil War, National Archives and LDS and two days of exhibits. For more information contact 4 Corners Ancestor Fair, 509 West Spring Street, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

BOOKS AVAILABLE:

ANSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA has completed compilation of a heritage book which contains family, church, business histories, biographies, etc. For more information write Anson County Heritage Book Committee, P O. Box 417, Wadesboro, N. C. 28170

REYNOLDS COUNTY, MISSOURI book commemorating the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the county, filled with about 424 pages of family biographies and community histories is now available (limited number available) Order from the Reynolds County Genealogy & Historical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 281, Ellington, MO 63638-0281

OUT OF PRINT BOOKS

A limited supply of the following out of print books are for sale:

OLD FORT SMITH, CULTURAL CENTER ON THE SOUTHWESTERN FRONTIER by Ruth B. Mapes. Hardback, indexed. Price \$10.00 postpaid. Order from Mrs. Theodore Francis, 5323 Southwood Road, Little Rock AR 72205-1841.

From extensive research of newspapers; Territorial Papers of the United States, The Territory of Arkansas, Vol. XXI 1954; histories of Arkansas, interviews, family records, etc. Mrs. Mapes developed the cultural history of Fort Smith from a raucous border town to the cultural center of the frontier. Contains many biographies of Fort Smith residents involved in this development and descriptions of pioneers, schools, court, families, National Cemetery, factories, transportation, etc. Interesting reading for the general public as well as genealogists and historians

THE ARKANSAS WATERWAY, PEOPLE, PLACES, EVENTS IN THE VALLEY. This is another book by Ruth B. Mapes. Hardback, indexed, price \$7.50 postpaid. Order from Mrs. Theodore Francis, 5323 Southwood Road, Little Rock, AR 72205-1841.

This book of authentic information about the region supplements her previous book, Old Fort Smith and

is about people, places and events along the Arkansas River Valley. It tells the story of the conversion of the Arkansas River into a navigable waterway for barge shipping of heavy cargo and for pleasure cruising; of immigrants who settled in the area and their contribution to the "new world" - knowledge of horticulture, business, music, medicine and other sciences. Also others who settled in the area, army men, lawyers, educators, engineers, merchants, etc.

Of particular interest is her focus on two ports, Little Rock and Fort Smith showing activities in education, religion, public health, hospitals and cultural organizations. Anecdotes related throughout combine history with portrayal of human nature enliven the story of the river. Biographical information will be of particular interest to genealogists.

From her research of newspapers, her collection of personal mementoes and her first hand knowledge of many of the persons and events, she has constructed a concise readable account.

REPRINT OF GOODSPEED HISTORY OF SEBASTIAN COUNTY. Indexed. Price \$14.50 postpaid. Order from Frontier Researchers, P.O. Box 2123, Fort Smith, AR 72902.

PHYSICIANS AND MEDICINE, CRAWFORD AND SEBASTIAN COUNTIES, ARKANSAS 1817-1976 by Amelia Martin, published by the Sebastian County Medical Society. 688 pages, hard cover, indexed and documented. Price \$24.95 postpaid. Proceeds from sale of this book are used for medical and paramedical scholarships. Order from Sebastian Medical Publications, 2121 Wolfe Lane, Fort Smith, AR 72901-6243. For more information call 501-783-1237.

Physicians and Medicine is written against a background history of the area, from materials collected by the historian, was three years in compilation and writing and contains documented biographical data on 1535 physicians who had some connection with medical practice in Crawford and Sebastian counties includes military physicians if records were available.

Text includes development of medical practice and organized medicine in Crawford and Sebastian counties from 1817, date of building of first frontier Fort Smith and the coming of the first military physician in 1817, to 1976. Also includes Medical Legislation, history of medical services (hospitals, clinics, public health, etc.), history of Crawford and Sebastian County Medical Societies and the auxiliary to the Sebastian County Medical Society.

1894-95 Newspapers

FORT SMITH ELEVATOR – January 3, 1896 - February 14, 1896

(Abstracted by Mary Lou Jacobsen from microfilm in the Fort Smith Public Library)

FOR CHIEF JUSTICE

Hon. Joseph M. Hill, one of the most popular citizens of Western Arkansas, is spoken of as a candidate for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Mr. Hill is an able lawyer and is excellently equipped for the position which his friends desire he shall fill. Sebastian County will keep his name before the public until the meeting of the State Convention next year and will send a strong and enthusiastic delegation to the convention to do battle for his cause. There are other counties in the state, too, who think pretty well of Mr. Hill.

— • —

FANNIE MILOR, Trained Nurse,
On North J St. between 11th and 12th St.
Fort Smith, Ark.

— • —

Miss Una Hall, who left last week for China, where she will engage in missionary work, spent several days in Fayetteville. After departure from Fort Smith, Miss Hall will go to China by way of San Francisco. She will remain in the Flowery Kingdom seven years. The prayers of a host of friends go with her on her perilous voyage and in the duty she has imposed on herself.

— • —

RUBY GLASSWARE ENGRAVED

At 804 Garrison Avenue you will find all styles and shapes of fine wares, and with each purchase the name desired will be artistically engraved by the renowned artist H. L. Stein. The articles make fine presents, are nobby, and useful as well as ornamental.

— • —

FINE SET OF TEETH \$8.00

Teeth extracted without pain 25 cts. Gold Filling \$1.00 and up. And all kinds of dental work such as Gold Crowns, Porcelain Crowns, Bridge work and teeth without plates, done in the most approved and skillful manner at greatly reduced prices. Terms Cash. Write for information to:

A. E. KIMMONS, DENTIST
Office Hightower Building
Fort Smith, Ark.

* * * * *

ISRAEL CARR

The trial of Israel Carr for the murder of Bill Conway in 1892 began Tuesday. Carr is a Creek Indian, Conway was white, and if witness for the defense are to be believed he was a pretty tough citizen. The trial resulted in an acquittal.

* * * * *

January 17J 1896

UNITED STATES COURT

Cherokee Bill sentenced to Hang on 17th of March. The Thornton and Carter cases reversed by Supreme Court.

CHEROKEE BILL

The mandate of the Supreme Court in the case of Cherokee Bill, sustained on appeal from the court, arrived Monday and Tuesday morning about 10 o'clock, Cherokee Bill arrived in the court to receive the third sentence which had been passed upon him. He was well guarded and heavily shackled. The courtroom was crowded when he arrived, the people of the city bearing out in large numbers to catch sight of the desperado and to hear the dreaded words from the lips of Judge Parker. After Cherokee Bill's shackles had been removed he was ordered to stand up. The cowardly outlaw, as he arose from his seat, was the center of all eyes. He was several degrees lighter in color than when he entered the jail, but he bore the same old defiant look.

During the time Judge Parker was passing sentence, Cherokee stood in a careless attitude, his eyes wandering here and there about the room, his body nervously twisting and his right hand carelessly snapping its fingers. His appearance and manner showed he did not care a tinkers connection whether he was hanged or not. His response to the question by the court why the sentence of the court should not be passed upon him elicited the response in a bold, clear, "No Sir." Tuesday the 17th of March is the day set for Cherokee's execution. Judge Parker passed sentence in solemn grave tone of voice. He said: Cherokee Bill alias Crawford Goldsby, you have been convicted of the crime of murder for having on the 18th day of November 1894 willfully and with malice aforethought taken the life of Ernest Melton. Once before I sentenced you for this crime. You took your case to the Supreme Court of the United States. That worked a stay of execution for the former sentence. The Supreme Court has affirmed the judgment of the court and has sent its mandate to this court. This makes it my imperative duty to again sentence you for the murder of Ernest Melton. Have you anything to say why the sentence should not be pronounced.

The Prisoner: "No, Sir."

The Court: I have twice before sentenced you to death once for the murder of Ernest Melton and once for the murder of Lawrence Kealean, on those occasions I gave you advice teaching you solutions and relating to your duty to yourself and your God. I hope you have not forgotten that advice and that you have profited and and will profit by it for it was given for your good. In view of the previous advice I deem it unnecessary to say anything to you on that line now. You will listen to the sentence of the law as pronounced by the court. That sentence is that you Crawford Goldsby alias Cherokee Bill for the crime of murder having willingly and with malice aforethought killed Ernest Melton in Indian Country and within the jurisdiction of the court of which crime you stand convicted by the verdict of the jury in your case be deemed and

taken and adjudged guilty of murder. That you be therefore for the said crime against the laws of the United States hanged by the neck until you are dead. That the Marshal of the Western District of Arkansas, by self or deputy or deputies, do, on peril of what may befall them at some convenient place in the Western District of Arkansas, cause execution to be done in the premises upon you on Tuesday, March 17, A.D. 1896, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day. And that you now be taken to the jail from whence you came there to be securely kept until the day of execution and from thence on the day of execution as aforesaid, there to be hanged by the neck as aforesaid until you are dead. May God whose laws you have broken, and before whose tribunal you must appear have mercy on your soul. Upon conclusion of the sentence Cherokee was again manacled and taken back to jail.

Marshall Crump will attend to William hereafter, and will give the people of this country an opportunity of witnessing his departure for the unexplored shore when the time arrives.

January 24, 1896 DISASTROUS FIRE

As we go to press the wholesale drug house of John Schaap is on fire. The fire originated in the cellar and when first discovered was shooting up the elevator. The loss on stock and building will reach \$50,000, partially covered by insurance. Lamar Humphry, one of the firemen was pretty badly hurt by a fall in the cellar.

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THE LEAP YEAR BALL

"The night shall be filled with music
And the cares that infest the day
Shall fold their tents like Arabs
And as silently steal away"

And that is what happened Wednesday night, the occasion being the Leap Year Ball tendered the beaux and benedicts by their sweethearts and wives.

The disgustingly horrid weather did not abate the attendance one whit for how could the sterner sex refuse to brave the elements when the fairer ones escorted them to the B and B Hall in closed carriages and saw that they were tenderly wrapped in furs and rugs to keep out the accumulated dampness of two day's rainfall. Fort Smith has witnessed many delightful entertainments in days that are gone, but none surpass that of Wednesday evening. The spacious hall afforded a most excellent opportunity for those who cared to dance, while large and brilliantly lit reception rooms were utilized by the more soberly inclined and a point of vantage to witness the merry dancers and in which the hours were passed in social converse.

Across the hall, tables with a seating capacity of more than one hundred were artistically arranged and on which cold turkey and sliced ham, sandwiches, chicken salad, celery etc., were arranged in appetizing order, to all of which due attention was given.

At a late hour the merry couples, the chaperons, and "old married folks" departed for their homes, pronouncing the Leap Year Ball given by the young ladies was an unqualified success.

January 31, 1896

Cash Paid for Split Posts at Dyke Bros

Mr. L. C. Davis of Paris Texas and Miss Emma Clark, daughter of M. J. Clark of this city, were married Tuesday evening in this city. Rev. Mr. Wylie of Cumberland Presbyterian Church officiating.

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A NEW FIRM

Last week articles of incorporation of the Fort Smith Wholesale Grocery Company were filed in the office of Secretary of State. The capital stock of the company is \$75,000 and the incorporators are R.S. Robertson, John Emrich, C. B. Eads, W. J. Johnson, T. F. Freeman and L. H. Ingraham.

Somebody who is a good judge of horse flesh stole a fine mare last Friday evening from Schulte and Kelly's stable on Texas Road.

February 7, 1896

In the lower house of congress last Tuesday, Mr. McRae secured the passage of a bill granting the Arkansas and Choctaw Railroad Company right of way through the Choctaw Nation.

The gold-bug Helena World and the silver-bug Fort Smith Democrat have gone to bed together and each is trying to see which can get nearest each other in abuse of Senator Jones.

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ARREST OF JACK DIXON

Jack Dixon a negro who dug his way out of the county jail last November was arrested at Wagoner, I.T. last week and brought to this city. He is now in jail.

Dixon is the man who assisted in holding up and robbing a Logan County farmer in this city last fall. Two others escaped at the same time.

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Miss Pearl Marshall who has been dangerously ill with pneumonia for some time is convalescing. Her condition was very serious for several days and her parents apprehended the most serious consequences.

February 14, 1896

HIS CURIOSITY

"I have no objection," said Mabel's father, "to your being an advanced woman. None whatever. In fact, I am rather interested in seeing the results."

"How do you mean?"

"I want to see whether the advanced woman is going to have sense enough to appreciate the young man who improves his mind and saves his money, or whether she'll just go ahead, as usual, and fall in love with the one who has curly hair and plays the guitar".

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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.
	(-)	- dash between page numbers indicates the name of the person, place, etc. is carried throughout the story.
	(gp)	- group picture
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Shephards	7	Turnipseed, Imogene Hough	6	woman physician	28
"Show Business"	31	Tyler, Leut.	19	Woman's College	29
Shulte's Livery Stable	29	Tyler, Mr.	20,23	Woman's Medical College	29
Sibly, Miss	13	Tyler, Mrs.	19,20,23,24	Wortz, Eddell	1
Simmons	36	Tyler, Susan	25	Wray, Thelma	1
Simpson, Mrs.	20	U.D.C.	26,34	Wyatt, Dora Ellen	4,8
Slater, Cathy	33	U.S. Border Patrol	34	Wylie, Rev. Mr.	41
"Smart Set"	31	U.S. Deputy Marshal	35		
Smith, Alice White	4	Umber, Capt.	18		
Smith, Betty	10,37				