

The Founding of Sebastian County County Boundary Changes



Hangin' Times in Fort Smith



*Arkansas River Queen
Comes to Fort Smith*

Vol. 25, No. 2, September 2001

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Journal Back Issues Each Copy	7.50
(For mail orders, add \$2.00 mailing charge per copy.)	
Composite Index	
for Volumes I thru IX	20.00
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The JOURNAL

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SEPTEMBER, 2001

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COVER: Map – Sebastian County as created in 1851; Sebastian County in 2001. (Boundary adjusted in 1861). Eaton Tatum, Arkansas River Queen, Logo Hangin' Times in Fort Smith.

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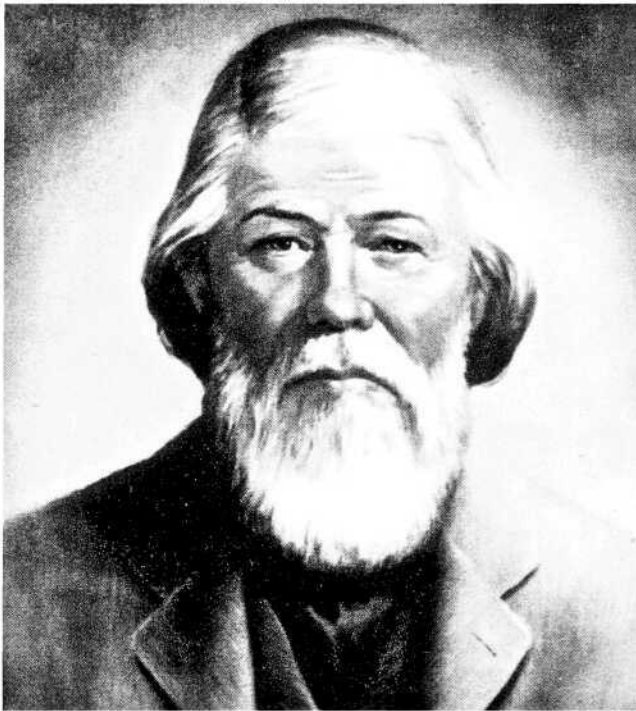
Sebastian County

150 Years Old

Founding of the County

and the Story of the Eaton Tatum Family

By Freed Little, great-great grandson of Eaton Tatum



Eaton Tatum, Chairman of the Board of Land Commissioners charged with defining borders of Sebastian County, created in 1851.

The year 2001 marks the 150th anniversary of two events that had an impact upon Western Arkansas. On March 10, 1851 Sebastian County was founded, an event in which Eaton Tatum played a major role, and on March 15, 1851 the birth of John Sebastian Little the first child born in the newly founded county, occurred. There is also a family linkage between these two events.

Eaton Tatum and other state land commissioners were involved in the founding of Sebastian County on March 10, 1851. John Sebastian Little, a grandson of Eaton Tatum, grew up to become a lawyer, longtime U.S. Congressman from western Arkansas and Governor of the State.

Eaton Tatum, in his day popularly referred to as the "Founder of Sebastian County" was actually the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners whose task it was to redefine the borders of Crawford, Scott and Polk counties. As a result of their deliberations, they carved out a portion of all three counties to create a new county, called Sebastian County.¹

Selection of County Seat, Officers, etc.

It was not until January 10, 1851 that Governor John Seldon Roane signed the Act of the General Assembly creating a Board of Land Commissioners and the procedure for election of its officers who were charged with submitting a study of Crawford and several surrounding counties which were to be carved up to create the county of Sebastian. This study to be submitted to the Governor and Legislature for approval. The first election of county officers was held 17 days later.

James Clark was elected County Judge, Samuel Brooke Stephens, Sheriff, and John Carnall, a former Crawford County Sheriff, Clerk. John D. Arbuckle and Reuben Coker were elected commissioners-at-large. Samuel Edmondson was elected commissioner from Upper Township, John Jones from Big Creek Township and William Stafford from Sugar Loaf Township. The commissioners first met at the Eaton Tatum home which had been designated the temporary county seat. The official date of the founding of the newly formed Sebastian County was March 15, 1851.

The commissioners met in May, 1851, at Eaton Tatum's house to select a county seat. The commissioners selected a 40-acre tract donated by Ruben Coker. This small town was apparently a collection of several very small villages, one of which was named Actus. But the name of these villages was changed in 1851 when they com-

bined to form the town of Jenny Lind. The post office was officially located at Jenny Lind and operated from 1851 to 1879 although postal service wasn't continuous during that period.¹

Speculation as to Origin of the town's name "Jenny Lind"

There are many stories as to how that name came about. However, it is most likely that Jenny Lind appeared in Fort Smith's Opera House or perhaps in a Little Rock concert about that time and some of the South Sebastian citizens who attended were so impressed with her vocal talents that one of them, Charles A. Hinkley, a member of the bar, suggested the name change.

Miss Lind, known as "the Swedish Nightingale", toured the U.S. under a contract with P.T. Barnum. She sang 93 nights in various cities and received the then unheard sum of \$1,000 for each performance.¹

A Perspective on the Small and Sparsely Settled Population of Sebastian County in the early days.

In order to place in perspective the closeness of his fellow citizens, Colonel Benjamin T. DuVal, prominent member of the Fort Smith community, during a Fourth of July address in 1876 referring to the early settlers of Sebastian county, said:

"In those days there was a close sympathy and brotherhood among the people. Persons living fifty miles apart were neighbors in all the term implies. A camp meeting, a funeral or a dance would bring them together. The ladies, young and old, would often travel over a great distance, on a visit or to a dance.

"They had to travel on horseback, for even in my day a buggy or carriage was unknown. The young ladies would pack their party finery in a satchel or saddlebags, mount their steeds and joyfully ride fifty miles to a dance. There are some here today of both sexes who have attended parties under these circumstances, and they will tell you, with the sparkle of other days in their eyes, that those dances, often prolonged till broad daylight, and repeated for several nights, on the rude puncheons, by the light of a tallow dip or pine knot, to the music of the fiddle and tambourine, were merrier and afforded more genuine pleasure than you can enjoy with the luxurious surroundings of a full band of music in a splendid hall."

Since Sebastian County was part of Crawford, Scott and Polk counties until 1851, no exact census figures are available for Fort Smith and Greenwood at the time of the founding of the

county. However, the census figures for 1860 show Sebastian County's population to be 12,940. At that time, it is estimated Fort Smith to have a population of 2,500 and Greenwood and the rest of south Sebastian County having the remainder - certainly an indication that at that time the principal business within the county was agriculture.

This also gives one a better perspective as to the right for the location of the county seat that went on for over twenty years.

In those very early days before Sebastian County was formed, outside of Fort Smith there were settlements at Greenwood, Hodge's Prairie, Mazzard Prairie and in the Sugar Loaf Valley. James J. Baker (later Sebastian County's second Sheriff), settled at what is now Jenny Lind in 1845. His nearest neighbors were then Eaton Tatum of that place, John G. Little, who lived less than a mile east thereof, the widow Welty and her sons, John and Henry, who lived on Vache Grass, two and a half miles northeast, W. O. Hunter, who lived one mile east; Donaldson, who lived two and a half miles east, Judge James Clark, who lived the same distance northeast; Henry Ross who lived two miles north. All this according to Goodspeed's "History of Arkansas."

The Battle for the County Seat of Sebastian County

The following is from an editorial in the daily Southwest American Newspaper, Fort Smith, Ark., Dec. 22, 1929 termed "Old Folks and Facts" which tells this story very well:

"At one time Jenny Lind narrowly escaped being made the County Seat of Sebastian County. So certain were the people of Jenny Lind, that they persuaded the Government to give them a post office, and to which the government complied. It would likely have been selected for a permanent county seat but the commissioners thought that the county court house should be located in the geographical center of the county.

"At that time Eaton Tatum platted the town into lots and thought that the place had a bright future. There was only one business house in the community and it was kept by John Barrow. The store was built of oak poles and the roof, or top, was covered with clapboards. Its stock consisted of a barrel of whiskey and a barrel of molasses and the store was known throughout the surrounding country as "Lick Skillet.

"Among the several houses hastily built was that of John Carnall, County Clerk. It was constructed of logs and consisted of only one room

in which he lived and transacted the business of the clerk's office. But the dreams of Mr. Tatum and others to get rich by the sale of lots was not realized for in May, 1851, only a few months after the enabling act, the commissioners met for the last time in Jenny Lind and decided to locate the County Seat at Greenwood."

A contest immediately arose between those preferring the respective places named, as to where the public buildings should be constructed. This contest resulted, the following year, in the removal of the county seat to Fort Smith, where it remained until 1854, when it was taken back, by a majority vote of the people, to Greenwood.

The contest over, the argument for the location of the county seat increased in bitterness and the town and county were arrayed in open hostility to the great detriment to the public interests for the next few years. In 1861 a State Legislative act dividing the county into two judicial districts, one in Fort Smith and the other in Greenwood, was proposed and passed which seemed to settle the issue. However, Greenwood was to remain the county seat.

In 1864 President Lincoln proclaimed the circuit court was to be held in Greenwood for the whole county. But, after the restoration of peace in 1865, the courts were to be held again in both Greenwood and Fort Smith, as provided for under the act of 1861.

After more heated arguments over this issue, the General Assembly of 1871 enacted legislation dividing the county into two districts, with separate revenue, and, in fact, making two distinct counties in one. This was declared unconstitutional by the state Supreme Court and the county returned to the 1861 act.

The Constitutional Convention of 1874 rectified this question by allowing two separate districts within the county, with separate revenue, etc. As divided into districts, Upper Township, including the city of Fort Smith, comprises the Fort Smith District, and the Greenwood District includes all the balance of the county.

This is one of the few counties in the United States to have a dual county seat system.

More on Eaton Tatum & His Family — The Early Years

There is some disagreement as to where Eaton Tatum was born. Some records indicate that he was born in North Carolina in 1791, to Howell and Henrica Orgon Tatum and was of Scotch-Welsh ancestry. The Goodspeed Biography and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas, Sebastian County, gives the location as South

Carolina and the birth date as 1792, however, the Federal Census of 1850 and 1870 both agree that his birthplace was North Carolina and his ages listed correlate to a birth date of 1792.

Family oral history says the ancestor who migrated to the Carolina Colony in America during the middle 1700's, was of Scotch descent, but had resided in Wales in his early years and married a Welsh lady. That confirms the Tatum ancestry is both Scottish and Welch.

Tradition has it that his parents died when he was quite young and that he went to live with an uncle. When Eaton was only 15 years old his uncle made him overseer of 300 slaves. This was too much responsibility for one so young, so at the age of 18 he ran way to West Tennessee with his brother Wilkins. (1)

Marriage & Move to Missouri

"On September 27, 1826, Eaton Tatum married Charlotte Bruer Reynolds at Bells, Tennessee. She was born in Georgia in 1811.

"Their first two daughters, Mary Elizabeth and Nancy Jane, were born in Tennessee.

"In 1832 they moved to Dallas County, Missouri, where more of their first six children were born. They were: Ghaskey Dianna, Marchal "Mark" Thaddeus, Serena Matilda and Charlotte Tennessee.

"While living in Missouri, Eaton Tatum served in the Missouri Volunteers, enlisted in 1837 'to defend the frontier... from Indian depredations and attacks' in the area around Bolivar and Sarcoxe. He served only a few months, but it was enough to entitle him to bounty lands later on." (1)

Move to Arkansas

"In 1843 the family moved to Arkansas where he claimed his bounty lands and purchased additional acreage a few miles south of Fort Smith in a community called Actus (later renamed Jenny Lind). The area was sparsely settled at that time, but there were high hopes that it would soon become a prosperous community.

"Three more daughters were born to Eaton and Charlotte Tatum in Arkansas: Sarah Louise, Donna Isabell and Martha Margaret Matilda.

"Six months after the birth of her last baby, Charlotte died, and was buried at the foot of a hill on the Tatum farm. Her grave was enclosed with massive stone slabs and completely covered with a single smooth stone on which was carved, 'Sacred to the Memory of Charlotte B. Tatum, wife of Eaton Tatum,' with the dates of her birth and death." (1)

Today, a historical marker erected in memory of

Eaton Tatum, stands on the southbound shoulder of U.S. Highway 71 near that gravesite and approximately two miles east of Jenny Lind.

Second Marriage, sold land holdings in Jenny Lind and Moved

"In September 1857 Eaton Tatum married Josia Ann Little Brown, and they had two children: Julia Clementia and John Eaton Tatum.

"In 1861 he sold his original land holdings, moving to a house two miles to the east of his first residence, where he lived until his death on March 28, 1872 at the age of 80 years.

"With his property located on a main north-south road (now U.S. Highway 71), the family had a ringside seat as the Civil War battles ebbed and flowed in northwest Arkansas. Sympathies in the area were divided and suffering was intensified as first one side and then the other assumed control.

"Once the war ended and life settled back to a more normal routine, Eaton Tatum resumed the trading and real estate dealings that had occupied his time prior to the war. He owned about 500 acres at the time of his death." (2)

Josia Ann Tatum died March 7, 1914 in Fort Smith and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

To show the importance of Eaton Tatum in his day to his fellow man and to the importance of his role in the development of Sebastian County, we quote from a long ago article in *The Citizen of Mansfield* titled "Round These Hills" by Horace Bryan:

"The small cemetery containing the remains of Eaton Tatum and Charlotte Bruer Reynolds was once well tended but is now in disrepair. And in those early days when lonely riders passed on the old Fort Smith-Waldron road, they were seen removing their hats as their steeds quietly cantered by this spot. Wagons, carrying families, rolled slowly and quietly past this shrine. Fathers commanded their children to be quiet saying, 'The least we can do is show a little respect.'

"Sebastian County is a very important place. The area which became Sebastian County in 1851 was greatly blessed, both in Natural resources and natural beauty. And no place, west of the Mississippi, played a more important role in early western development than Fort Smith and environs. Giants walked on this land.

"Eaton Tatum was a catalyst and progenitor. Catalyst of a frontier society and progenitor of a remarkable family. With the support of his family and their in-laws, the relatives of his in-laws, and many friends, he became the leader. He excelled only in inspiring confidence, trust and dedication

to a cause - the establishment of an orderly and just society on the wild Southwest frontier."

Growth of Fort Smith and Lower Sebastian County

A trend started around 1920 in both Greenwood and the rest of lower Sebastian County that was sparked by economic and political factors whereby many families of both these areas moved to Fort Smith. This trend started reversing about twenty-five years ago due to a marked improvement in highways and secondary roads within the county. Many close in areas to Fort Smith became "bedroom communities" of that city. This, plus a number of existing industries expanded and new industries also came to Fort Smith, creating dynamic growth. Greenwood, to a lesser extent, was affected in this same manner, yet they did not have some healthy internal growth.

Today, Sebastian County is enjoying a financially healthy climate with more future growth to come.

Outstanding Record of Achievement of Tatum Descendants

There are a remarkable number of descendants of Eaton Tatum who have made prominent contributions to both the private and public sectors in Sebastian County and/or throughout America. They include the following through the fourth generation only:

A highly decorated Lieutenant Colonel in the Confederate States of America, three who served as both Prosecuting Attorney and Circuit Judge of the Twelfth Judicial District of Arkansas, a State Treasurer of Arkansas, a U. S. Congressman for the Western District of Arkansas who later became Governor, a District Judge in Oklahoma City who later was named by President Harry Truman as Chairman of the Federal Mediation Board, two who authored books published by Simon & Schuster and Little Brown & Co. respectively, a Lieutenant General in the United States Airforce who served as head of the Eastern Air Defense Command after World War II during the "cold war era", "and a scientist on the Manhattan Project during World War II.

Footnotes:

1. The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas, pages 692 - 705.
2. Articles by Mrs. Jean Padilla published in The Key, publication of the South Sebastian County Historical Society.

Sebastian County Created County Boundary Lines Change

By John Northrip

During the formation of counties in Arkansas, county boundaries were constantly changing. The 1838, 1839, 1854 and 1863 Maps of western central Arkansas, are a good example of this. Portions of the counties shown in the following maps are:

Crawford which was formed in 1820 from Pulaski county;

Scott, created in 1833 from Pulaski, Crawford and Pope counties;

Polk, formed in 1844 from Sevier county;

Franklin, formed in 1837 from Crawford county;

Sebastian, formed in 1851 from Scott, Polk and Crawford counties.

The following five maps show:

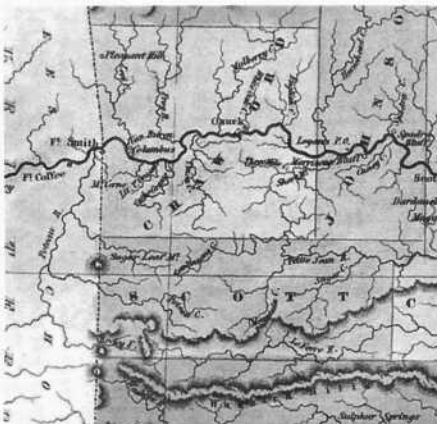
1838 — Crawford, Johnson, Scott and the top edge of Polk counties before Sebastian county was created.

1839 — Also shows Franklin county that was carved from Crawford county before creation of Sebastian county.

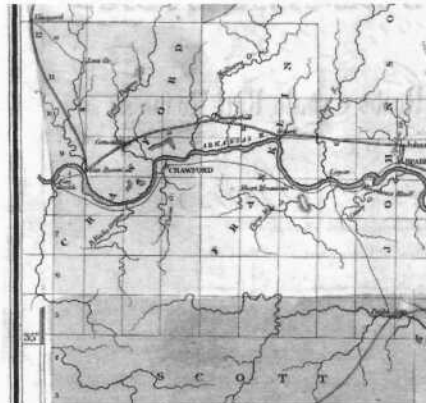
1854 — Sebastian county as first created from portions of Crawford, Scott and Polk counties.

1863 — An adjustment in boundary line between Sebastian and Franklin counties.

1895 — Adjustment of Sebastian county boundaries after all of the portions of Scott and Polk counties were restored in 1861. Sebastian county boundaries have not been changed since 1861.



Detail, T.G. Bradford, An Illustrated Atlas, Geographical, Statistical, And Historical, Of The United States And The Adjacent Countries. Boston: Weeks, Jordan, And Company, 1838.



Detail, Map of Mississippi, Louisiana & Arkansas exhibiting the post offices, post roads, canals, rail roads, &c/ by David H. Burr (late topographer to the Post Office, Geographer to the House of Representatives of the U.S. London : J. Arrowsmith, 1839



Detail, Colton's railroad & township map of Arkansas compiled from the U.S. Surveys and other authentic sources. D.F. Shall, New York: 1854.



Detail, Lloyd's New County Map of the United States, H.H. Lloyd Company, New York: 1863.



Detail, Cram's Township and Rail Road Map of Arkansas. George Franklin Cram, Chicago: 1895.

Hangin' Times in Fort Smith



By Jerry Akins
(Part 1)

Because of a number of requests for information related to hangings in Fort Smith Jerry Akins is preparing a series of articles on the subject. The following article, which is the first of this series, includes all of the seven hangings which occurred prior to May 1875 when Judge Parker's term began. They are;

John Childers August 15, 1873
George Tuni October 10, 1873
Young Wolf October 10, 1873
John Pointer April 3, 1874
Isaac Filmore April 3, 1874
John Billy April 3, 1874
McClish Impson January 15, 1875

Most of the information in these articles is from the newspapers of the day written by the reporters who saw and interviewed the condemned men, attended their trials and sentencing and witnessed their executions. They wrote their articles immediately after the events before they had time to be flavored with folklore and faulty memories.

Jerry says, "Many of the spellings, punctuations, hyphenations and capitalizations are just as they appeared in the old newspapers and may not agree with current practices of grammar, but, that's the way they were and that's the way you get 'em."

Editor

THE BLACK CAP

A falling trapdoor, violent winds, lightning, crashing thunder and pouring rain. No, it's not a scene from a 1930's Vincent Price or Boris Karloff horror movie, it's the first execution in Fort Smith by the U. S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas. The date is August 15, 1873 and John Childers has just gone to his death for the crime of murder.

The Court

First, an explanation of the U. S. District Court.

The court was established by the Intercourse Act of 1834, "An Act to Regulate Trade and Intercourse with the Indian Tribes and Preserve Peace on the Frontiers" In 1837 Congress created the Court of the United States for the District of Arkansas and in 1851 divided the court into two districts. The Western District included the Northwestern counties of Arkansas and 74,000 square miles of what was then Indian Territory. No court ever existed with jurisdiction over so great an expanse of territory. The seat in 1851 was at Van Buren and in 1871 the seat was moved to a building at what is now Second and A streets in Fort Smith.

The court had jurisdiction over white people committing crimes in Indian Territory and over Indians of one tribe committing crimes in another tribe's territory, with capital crimes being rape and murder. For those crimes 167 people were convicted and 86 actually hung, 7 during Judge Story's administration, and 79 during Judge Parker's 21 years. There was no right of appeal until May 1, 1889 except directly to the president of the United States. The court had no jurisdiction over local matters unless the crimes fell under federal statutes. Then, as now, local crimes were administered by state and local law. In other words, Parker didn't clean up Fort Smith.

The Man

John Childers was born in the Cherokee Nation May 3, 1848 and, like his father and many boys his age, fought for the Confederacy. And like Frank and Jesse James and others he turned to outlawry after the war.

The following is a condensation of John Childers statement as taken down by Capt. C. E. Berry and published in *The New Era* August 20, 1873:

John returned to the Indian Nation in August 1865 and from that time until the incident for which he was arrested he roamed through Kansas, the Nation, Texas and Missouri. His

Logo design used by permission of Fort Smith Social Studies Educators.

companions "were of the worst class and character". Their purpose was "to get our own back from those that took it away from us during the war". They took horses from the Osages, their enemy, as often as possible. They did not look upon it as a crime to take anything and everything from the Osages. But, he claimed to have never taken anything from white people. They would trade and sell their plunder wherever in the states that they felt safest. There were eight in the band, three whites and five Indians of whom two whites and one Indian (himself) were living at the time of the statement.

In their travels, John said that they always paid their way honorably; their war was upon the Osages. He then claims that he looked on their acts as wrong but was urged on by his associates. He then cited his wrongs and averred to God that he wanted to repair as much as he could. He went on to say that no one in his family knew of his activities with his associates and that he was the only one to dishonor the family name.

Whenever the band was in the Nation it was led by Childers and when in the states by first one then another. Murder was committed more than once but, according to John, never by him and never when he was present.

The group disbanded about four years prior to the time of his execution and he went to Fort Gibson where he worked for about a year driving a government team. He married Miss Mary Colby, a white woman. The couple separated after about two months for which separation he took the blame.

Childers then went to Kansas with a companion to, again, raid the Osages and stole about 30 or 40 head of cattle. This was done while they were being pursued by marshals for crimes that he claimed were committed by his companion. He felt that they were also after him although he did not know why. John went on to berate the other man for cowardice and to say that the man had walked the streets of Ft. Smith within the last thirty days but said that he would never reveal his name.

After he came back home from the Kansas raid he got into some "difficulty", which he does not describe, with his cousin and his wife. Whatever the difficulty was, it resulted in the separation of the cousin and wife in the Spring of 1869.

Childers then hired on with Dorsey and Allison of Texas for a legitimate job of driving a herd to Aberdeen, Kansas. When they reached the edge

of Kansas they were stopped by a vigilance committee headed by one Joseph Vannoy. Vannoy stopped them from entering Kansas and he and Dorsey had "high words". Dorsey called on his drovers and asked them if they wanted to come out and fight their way through. Childers, by his account, was the only one to come forward. He wanted to kill Vannoy then and there for his abuse of old man Dorsey but Dorsey prevented him. The citizens of Kansas and some Osages kept them surrounded for three or four days but they eventually made their way to Aberdeen and returned without further incident. On his way home to Broken Arrow he came to Big Cane near the edge of Kansas and then to Little Cane (this was near the place and time where the murder was committed) where he stayed all night. He then made his way to his home about 75 miles from there.

That was the end of the written statement taken by Capt. Berry but Childers then made a full confession of the murder which was not written down. A similar statement was given to R. J. Topping, a guard. However, Childers publicly professed his innocence until minutes before he was hung.

The Crime

On October 4, 1870, near Caney Creek in the northern part of the Cherokee territory, John Childers murdered Reyburn Wedding. Wedding was a young white man from Dexter, Kansas on his way to Texas in a wagon loaded with his provisions. Childers had traveled some distance with his victim that day in order to determine what valuables he possessed. The two separated and Childers came back that night and hit Wedding in the back of the head with an axe while he sat at his campfire. The force of the blow knocked Wedding's body into the fire. He then dragged the body to the creek and dumped it and several blankets and sacks of flour into the creek.

The next morning the body was found by Joseph W. Vannoy, Childers old enemy, now a Deputy U. S. Marshal. Wedding's hat with the dent from the axe and the brains still inside was found near the, still smoldering, campfire along with his empty pocket book. The victim's wagon and one horse had previously been found about four miles away.

On December 26, 1870 Vannoy found and captured Childers who was still in possession of Wedding's other horse. The lawmen started toward Kansas with their prisoner but due to his

past experiences with Vannoy and the citizens of Kansas and fearing that he would not be taken to Van Buren Childers escaped the next day. On January 26, 1871 Childers was recaptured in the same area and taken to Van Buren where the Western District Court was then held. He was brought before U. S. Court Commissioner Col. Churchill and remanded to stand trial at the next session of the court.

On May 3, 1871, his birthday, Childers again escaped and remained free until September when he was again captured by Deputies Vannoy and Peavey. He was brought to Fort Smith, where the Western District Court now resided, and released on bond. He reported to the court for the May 1872 session but was jailed and the trial continued for want of witnesses. At the November 1872 term of the court Childers was convicted of murder and on Monday, April 19, 1873 was sentenced to be hung on August 15, 1873.

After the sentence was pronounced the prisoner had one request; that he be permitted to wear his long hair and not have it cut off. At that time it was the ruling of the jailor that all prisoners were required to have their hair "shingled". Judge Story stated that he had no control over that matter but hoped that the request would be granted. Capt. Berry, the jailor assured him that his wish would be granted and "the prisoner seemed much pleased".

The evidence presented at the trial had all been circumstantial since there were no witnesses. However, the fact that Childers was found in possession of Wedding's horse and given his reputation and association with outlaws he was convicted. Apparently, judging from the opinions expressed in the newspapers, there was a contingent of Kansas citizens at the trial who did not want Childers to return to their area. *The Weekly Herald* stated that he would probably have been acquitted due to lack of witnesses had it not been for Deputy Vannoy and the Kansas people. The same paper was also convinced that Childers was guilty and received his just reward.

Interview

Both local newspapers of the day, *The Weekly Herald* and *The New Era*, interviewed the condemned man and gave reports of his appearance and demeanor. *The New Era* visited the prisoner about 11 o'clock on Thursday, the day before the execution and reported that, "We found him in good spirits, apparently showing neither bravado

nor fear. He was cool, courteous and collected throughout." John S. Childers was described as being about 5 feet 11 inches tall, well built with dark hair and heavy mustaches and with lively gray eyes, "his whole appearance, however, somewhat sinister and reckless." *The Weekly Herald* reported, "Up to 11-1/2 o'clock a. m., an hour and a half previous to his execution, when we last interviewed him, he positively refused to confess his guilt...."

To *The New Era* Childers gave most of the biographical information that is contained in the first part of this article. He also spoke of the kindnesses received, while a prisoner, from Capt. Berry and his wife and his spiritual advisor, Rev. J. M. Harrell.

Shortly before his execution date Childers had been removed from the jail with the other prisoners and housed in the fort guard house near Washington St. His old cellmates had sent him a letter which he allowed the reporters to read. In the letter they let him know that they were thinking about him and admonished him that it was not too late to seek salvation. It was signed, "To Mr. John Childers, from his Old Associates in the Garrison Jail".

The Execution

At 1 o'clock, August 15, 1873, John Childers exited the guard house opposite Washington St. escorted by six guards, U. S. Marshal Col. Sarber, Col. Main, Capt. Berry and attended by Rev. J. M. Harrell and Dr. C. W. Pierce. The prisoner had been given the customary "hearty breakfast" and cigar. He smoked his cigar and his demeanor was of "cool indifference and courage" as if the event concerned someone else as the group walked the 200 yards to the south end of the fort to the gallows.

The gallows was enclosed by a board fence and on the front a screen was hung so that the victim was not seen after the drop fell. Outside the scaffold and fence a large area was enclosed by a stout rope. The roped off area was guarded by two fire companies, Alert and Excelsior. Outside the roped area the crowd was estimated to be about 2000.

The prisoner, Capt. Berry, Deputy Messler and Rev. Harrell mounted the scaffold and Capt. Berry read the sentence after which the condemned man made a statement. He rambled on for sixteen minutes during which time he denied any guilt and occasionally turned to Berry and Messler to ask about the pain the act of hanging

would cause. "But he did not at any time show any fear or trepidation." Finally at the end of his monologue he did admit that he had killed Reyburn Wedding for his money and because he was a Kansas man.

Following Childers' speech Rev. Harrell made a statement of hope for the condition of the condemned man's soul followed by a prayer. Childers shook hands with everyone on the scaffold and was visited by Mrs. Emma Foreman, "a comely looking Cherokee woman" who was jailed for selling whiskey. The black cap was placed over his face and Deputy Messler released the drop. At this point there are two slight conflicts in the reports of the two newspapers; one states that the drop fell at 1:40 p. m. and the body hung for 18 minutes, the other says "at 2 o'clock precisely" and that "he lived and breathed for 14-1/2 minutes". However, both agree that all went smoothly and other than a few slight initial twitches the body never moved. The body was cut down and put in a coffin that had been placed at the scaffold for that purpose and taken to the city cemetery.

In the time leading up to the falling of the drop the skies had been darkening and the wind rising to a gale, evidence that a storm was at hand. Immediately after the drop fell the sky unleashed a furious rainstorm and scattered the multitude of spectators.

The last paragraph of the report by *The New Era* expresses that, "His death doubtless freed the region of one of the most dangerous characters, and the only regret of peaceable, law-abiding people is, that a hundred or two of characters like him who now infest the Indian Territory and adjoining border states are not served like Childers."

All information contained herein was obtained from *The Weekly Herald* and *The New Era* both Fort Smith newspapers of the time and Harman's Hell on the Border with help from Eric Leonard, U. S. Park Ranger.

Two men hung

Both Cherokees, for Murder
Young Wolf and Tu-na-yee
1500 People Present

On Friday at 1 o'clock P. M., the two prisoners were led from the old guardhouse, halting at the old jail to bid farewell to their old chums; to the gallows, under a strong guard.

So read the headline and first paragraph in *The Weekly Herald* in Fort Smith on October 11, 1873. The column describes the second hanging in Fort Smith by the Court for the Western District on Friday, October 10, 1873.

Because there are variations of both men's names in available documents I am going to list the various names and then the names most commonly used on government documents. The one called Tu-na-yee in the *Herald* article will be found as Tu-na-gee, Tu-na-ha, Tu-na-hi and Tuni. In court files he is identified as Tuni. In His confession he says, "My name is George Tuni". Young Wolf's Indian name was Wha-na-nee-tah, English name; George Young Wolf Sixkiller. The variety of names is probably what led at least one author to say that three people were hanged on Oct. 10, 1873. Records of court proceedings in *The Weekly Herald* and records in Fort Worth Archives identify them as Tuni and Young Wolf.

These two Cherokee men were in their late thirties and like John Childers were veterans of the Civil War. Unlike Childers they had fought with the Loyal Cherokee for the Union. Both lived near Horse Creek in the Cherokee Nation, neither could understand English. Tuni believed that he was 38 years old although he was not sure and Young Wolf thought that he was 36. Tuni had a wife and no children but they had a boy given them to raise. Young Wolf had a wife and one child about a year old.

The confessions of the two men were taken down word for word by jailor Capt. Charles E. Berry as translated by "an intelligent old Negro interpreter, Edmond Ross". The full text was printed in *The New Era* September 3, 1873. The following information is from that publication.

At the time of publication both men professed Christianity having been baptised on the previous Thursday, 8-28-73, by a Cherokee minister of the Methodist faith. But they denied that they made a fuss because they were not allowed to be hung with John Childers "as a paper in this town stated at the time, with more regard for the sensational than the truth". (*New Era* 9-3-73)

George Tuni believed that he was about 38 years of age but that he didn't know exactly, that he lived at the mouth of Horse Creek in the Nation and that he didn't understand English. He immediately stated that he was charged, tried and convicted of the murder of two white men and that he was guilty. He desired to confess to all and make his peace with God and began to tell in detail of the murders.

In the winter of 1873 Wha-na-nee-ta had come to his house and told him of two white men with a lot of traps camped on the Grand River and that they should go and kill them. He had seen the men himself and some women had told him about them. Tuni agreed and after considerable discussion about how they should kill the men, the two set off, both armed with government muskets. They started between daylight and moonlight and when they reached the camp they could still see "tolerably well – some thirty yards". They found their victims asleep on some coffee sacks about 50 or 60 feet from the river. Young Wolf shot first the man on the right who raised up on his hands and knees and uttered, "Oh, Lord". Young Wolf then told Tuni twice to shoot before he shot the man on the left who died instantly. Young Wolf then ran in and beat his victim with his musket killing him and breaking the gun in the process.

They then collected their loot which consisted of 50 cents, 13 steel traps, 2 pair of boots, a pistol that was no good, a shotgun, 2 axes, cooking utensils and 2 canoes one of which was "of no account". The bodies were taken to a deep spot in the river and disposed of, then the murderers took the traps to Tuni's house and hid them. The women, Tuni's wife and Lydia Martin who would later be a witness, were in bed. Next morning they went back to the site of the murders and then moved the traps, which they never used, to a new hiding place.

The murderers had never seen the men before and it appears that no one ever knew their names. One body was found the following spring farther down the river and the other was never found.

Young Wolf then told of another time that he had killed a man accidentally, a friend who served in the Union Army with him. He had started to clean his gun which was loaded with buckshot when it discharged. The charge hit his friend in the leg and he died the next day. His penalty was to do the duty of the man that he had killed.

The two confessions are almost identical or at least in total agreement. Both men showed remorse and recognized that theirs was a senseless act. From their words it appears that their deed started to weigh upon their minds immediately. Tuni stated that he felt that every white man that he saw he thought was a lawman coming for him and Young Wolf said that when the Marshal came for him that he gave up and never tried to

get away. They both asked God to forgive them and said that they were ready to die for their crime.

I found no mention of the capture of Tuni and Wha-na-nee-ta in the papers of the time but that was not unusual. When the deputies brought in prisoners the deputies names and sometimes the number of prisoners was mentioned. However, prisoners names seemed to be mentioned only if they and their crimes were particularly noteworthy.

The first mention on Tuni and Young Wolf is in the listing of court proceedings of the spring session of the Federal Court. On June 20, 1873 there is a listing of U. S. vs. Tuni and Young Wolf, murder – pending. June 21st; U. S. vs. Tuni and Young Wolf jury trial; pending. June 23rd ; U. S. vs. Tuni and Young Wolf, murder – jury trial, verdict guilty.

New Era June 28, 1873; "Young Wolf and Tuni, the two Cherokees who so cruelly murdered, last spring, two white men on the Neosho River were found guilty last Monday in the U. S. court, the jury not being out over five minutes. Sentence has not been pronounced." Actually, according to their confessions, the crime took place on the Grand River.

New Era August 6, 1873; "To Be Hung. – Tunee-ha and Young Wolf, two Cherokees, convicted at the present session of the U. S. District Court of the murder of two white men near the Neosho river last Spring, were sentenced on Monday by Judge Story to suffer death by hanging on October 10th next."

In the October 10, 1873 edition *The New Era* announced that "Tu-ni-ha" and Young Wolf would be hung on Friday October 10th and that a large crowd was expected when they learned that the execution would be public.

In the October 8th edition *The New Era* made an announcement that Young Wolf had been baptised on the previous Sunday by a Cherokee minister. He must have been making double sure since the same paper said on 9-3-73 that both men had been baptised on the previous Thursday, 8-28-73, by a Cherokee minister of the Methodist faith.

The Saturday, Oct. 11, 1873 *Weekly Herald*, after describing the prisoner's stop at the old jail on the way to the gallows, went on to say that they "manifested neither fear, care or concern; and ascended the steps with as much nonchalance as if going to a ball-play."

Their escort included two preachers, Young Pig and Walking Stick, Marshals Mesler, Sheldon and Maledon. Jailer Berry read the sentence and Jackson King was the interpreter.

The men gave long talks in Cherokee, the text of which was to be published only in the *Cherokee Advocate* and at about 2:30 the black caps were drawn, the ropes were adjusted and "two more souls were launched into eternity".

All preparations had been made and actions carried out and the execution went in a quiet and orderly manner.

Interestingly, during the time that Tuni and Young Wolf were being tried and about the time that they were sentenced, Judge William Story was being investigated for taking bribes. Specifically Story and Attorney J. H. Huckleberry, at that time, Judge of the 3rd Judicial District of the state were accused of taking heavy bribes from one Frank J. Nash, a merchant at Fort Gibson, I.T.. Nash was charged with introducing and selling liquor in Indian country. It was charges such as this and outrageous spending and little results from the court that led to Story's resignation in 1874 to avoid impeachment. In March, 1875 he was replaced by Isaac C. Parker.

Sources: Fort Smith Weekly Herald, Fort Smith New Era, Hell On The Border- Harman, National Archives .

THE AWFUL DOOM

(*New Era*, 4-8-1874)

The "Three Human Beings In a Moment Launched Into Eternity!" on April 3, 1874 were, although all Indian, a diverse group. Two were Choctaw, one Seminole, but one of the Choctaw lived in the Creek Nation. The men ranged in age from sixteen to fifty-five. They varied from ordinary Indian citizen to "too indolent and worthless to work for a living" to one of the most "dreaded through the Territory"

The following is from an interview granted the *New Era* April 1, 1874;

The reporter had gone to the U. S. Marshal's office and made the request to see the condemned men and was taken to the guard house where condemned men were kept until their execution. On the way they had stopped at the general prison and taken along two interpreters, "a Choctaw, nearly white and a Seminole negro." They found the men securely ironed and guarded sitting by a fire in a little room to the left of the

entrance, a favor granted them by Marshal Sarber. At night they were locked in their cells.

John Pointer

John Pointer, Seminole, was 18 years old, "of middle size and good countenance". He very possibly was innocent of the physical act of killing the white man for whose murder he was executed. However, he was present at the killing and if not guilty of the act, did share in the proceeds, his share being some of the effects of the victim and \$11.50.

Pointer's story was that he was with his brother and one Sam McGee in the Choctaw Nation near the Canadian River when McGee "declared that he was bound to kill somebody". Upon meeting a drover McGee declared that he would kill him while Pointer and his brother tried to discourage him from his intent. When the drover was killed the Pointer brothers ran away. Pointer protested with great emotion, both at the interview and on the gallows, that he was innocent. He said that Sam McGee had money to buy witnesses while he, Pointer, was poor. And being poor and unable to speak English that his defense, through an interpreter, had been grossly neglected. But now he was resigned to die for something of which he was innocent. From his demeanor the reporter was inclined to believe that Pointer was telling the truth.

Isaac Filmore

Isaac Filmore, a full blood Choctaw, 16 years of age, with a wife and one child and a countenance "dull and apathetic, yet cunning", spoke English. Filmore seemed to be utterly unconcerned about his fate and laughed and joked as though he were a free man "among boon companions". He seemed to the reporter to be very low on the scale of humanity and hardly conscious of any distinction between right and wrong.

The previous June, Filmore had gone out to kill and rob someone when he met a traveler who had come all the way from California on foot. After passing the man he had turned back and passed him again by a few steps and wheeled and shot him. His entire take was a dollar and a half and a pair of shoes. When asked if he knew the name of the man he had killed he scowled and replied, "Doggone if I know." He would not confess to the murder and was not disposed to be interrogated.

John Billy

John Billy was a full blood Choctaw, 55 years old and with a "cunning and forbidding counte-

nance." At the time of the interview Billy still wore a bandage on his head from a wound that he had received when he had tried to escape the arresting Marshals. Billy denied his guilt and refused to make any confession and did not care to be interviewed. After a "lively jabber" with the interpreter he said that he would make some statements on the gallows but not before.

From other articles in *The New Era*, it appears that John Billy had a long history as a bad character in his area. He had originally been arrested and was being brought in for the murder of a negro but on the way to Fort Smith he had committed the crime for which he was hung.

On the night of the second of November 1873 U. S. Marshals Willard Ayers, Perry Duval, J. C. Wilkinson and Ed Grayson were bringing in four prisoners; John Billy, Peter and Dave Eufowler and Jim Blacksmith. They had stopped to sleep at the home of a Mr. Douglas at the Creek agency. Ayers was chained to three prisoners and Duval was sleeping at his side. During the night Billy slipped his handcuffs and reached over Ayers and took Duval's gun from his belt and shot Duval in the head, killing him instantly. He then shot Ayers through the left hand and breast cutting off his left nipple. Jumping to his feet he then shot Wilkinson, who was at the opposite end of the room, the bullet passing through the kidneys. Ayers, being only wounded, had risen and grabbed Billy's weapon when Ed Grayson raised and attempted to shoot. Grayson's weapon failed to fire and he grabbed another and fired twice, one ball striking Billy in the waist and the other entering above his left eye and exiting through the top of his head. Billy fired three more shots after being shot in the waist. His wounds were first thought to be fatal, however, as you see, it would take more to put him away.

Ayers had suspected that there would be trouble that night from expressions made by Billy before retiring. He had said that he did not want to go to Fort Smith because they hung Choctaws there and begged the Marshals to kill him. Because of that Billy had been handcuffed and chained differently from the rest of the prisoners. But, obviously, he overcame that and in so doing sealed his fate.

The court proceedings of John Pointer and Isaac Filmore appear to have taken some time according to the court proceedings published in the newspapers. On June 26, 1872 there

appears U. S. vs. One Pointer, murder motion for continuance overruled; application for witnesses for defense at U. S. expense granted. Similar notices appear on Dec. 6, 1872 and Tuesday Nov. 18, 1873. Then on Wednesday Nov. 19, 1873; U. S. vs. One Pointer, murder, jury trial, verdict guilty. The following week on Tuesday Nov. 25, 1873 Isaac Filmore applied for witnesses and was granted and on Dec. 17, 1873 Filmore was found guilty.

John Billy appears to have taken less time than the others. Only two notices appeared with his name. On Dec. 18, 1873; U. S. Vs. John Billy-murder; jury trial, pending and Dec. 19, 1873; U. S. vs. John Billy-murder; jury trial, guilty.

The next article from January 7, 1874 in *The New Era* mentions all three names in saying that they have been sentenced by Judge Story to be hung April 3, 1874.

On Friday, April 3, 1874 the condemned men were allowed to visit the general prison where they were hugged and cried over by their former jail mates, so much so that John Pointer "became quite unmanned." The men were then taken back to their cells at the guardhouse where they were attended by Reverends McManus of the Episcopal Church, J. W. Bushong of the M. E. Church, J. L. Hobbs, M. D. & D. D. missionary and prison physician, Ab. Mansfield and F. A. Foster of the Colored Baptist Church. At 11 a. m. the condemned took their last meal which they seemed to relish.

At 1 o'clock the three men were led from the guardhouse with the ministers in the lead singing hymns. Members of the press and of the Medical Fraternity and other privileged people followed. The whole procession was surrounded by an armed guard who had difficulty keeping back the immense crowd which pressed in from all sides as they crossed the parade ground.

At the scaffold the thousands of spectators were kept back by a stout rope and the U. S. Deputy Marshals. After the prisoners, guards, officers and clergymen had taken their positions on the gallows Mr. Alnut, a clerk in the U. S. Marshal's office, read the death warrant of each of the condemned. George Munday translated in Seminole for John Pointer and Turner Graham in Choctaw for John Billy. Isaac Filmore understood English.

After the readings of the sentences Marshal Sarber told the men that they could make any remarks they desired. At that time John Pointer,

Isaac Filmore next declared, in English, his innocence but in his case it was reported that the proof was overwhelming and he had confessed the murder to Commissioner Churchill. The only redeeming feature in his case was his age, about 16 or 17.

Dr. Hobbs then read in English the portion of the scriptures giving the narrative of the penitent thief on the cross. He read same in Choctaw and then led in singing a hymn joined by the condemned men who held hymn books in their hands. After the singing Rev. I. A. Foster offered a prayer for the souls of the deceased followed by Rev. Gilbert Hampson, a Choctaw, who at the request of John Billy, offered a prayer in Choctaw.

The officers then quickly pinioned the arms and legs of the men and pulled on the black caps. The three men stood in a row on one trap and at a signal the rope was cut, the trap fell with a thud and all was over.

All information about Billy, Pointer and Filmore and the foregoing events is from editions of *The New Era* of Fort Smith.

McClish Impson I-15-75

"The crime for which I have been tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged today, viz: the murder of a white man, name unknown, in the Indian country during February 1873. I am guilty. I have made my peace with God and look to him alone for mercy.

Attest: McClish X Impson
his
mark

The preceding paragraphs are the confession given by McClish Impson, 1-15-75, to Major Pierce, U. S. Deputy Marshal, through interpreter J. A. Graham in the presence of the reporter for *The New Era* about one hour before his execution.

McClish Impson had committed a murder when he was but seventeen years of age. In the vicinity of Boggy Depot he had killed a white man with whom he had been riding and whose name he did not know and whose name was never determined. His entire gain in the murder/robbery had been the man's horse and \$22.50.

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February 1873. The notice of his capture appeared in the Oct. 1, 1873 issue of that paper saying that he had been brought in the previous Tuesday which would have been Sept. 30, 1873. So, it appears that he must have evaded the law for some length of time.

Impson's first appearance in court was Nov. 17, 1873 when it was noted; U. S. vs. McClish Impson, murder, application for witnesses granted. He was convicted and sentenced to hang in Nov. 1874 by Judge Caldwell.

On January 15, 1875 the reporter was admitted to Impson's cell in the old guardhouse as noted before. There he heard the prisoner's confession and observed him take his last meal. Immediately after the confession the head guard, Charles Burns, removed the prisoner's shackles. In the tedious operation of removing the shackles Impson assisted "with great readiness, as though he was again to be permitted to walk forth a free man." The attendant then brought the last meal, which consisted of broiled quail, biscuit and good, strong coffee. Impson ate his meal and as soon as he was finished reached for his Chickasaw hymn book and read a hymn and sang it "in a pleasant and steady voice." He then knelt and offered a prayer "in a clear, steady and fervent voice."

The Reverend Dr. Hobbs, Choctaw missionary, who had been working with the prisoner preparing him for eternity, came in after the meal and prayer and the condemned's eyes lighted with pleasure and they greeted with a smile and warm handshake. The next half hour was spent in religious exercises and then the final moment had come. Major Banks then entered and the prisoner removed his coat and put on the black robe.

At 12:30 McClish Impson exited his cell accompanied by Deputy Marshals Lauderback, Cox, Twyman and Somerhill as advance guard, followed by Deputy Alnut and Rev. Dr. Hobbs. Next was the prisoner with Maj. Ed Blanks and Maj. George S. Pierce as his supporters followed by the rear guard; Deputies Rector, Oppenhiemer, Winters and Wallace. The group proceeded to the scaffold where Impson ascended the steps without hesitation and "stood there with that cool, calm indifference as to his fate, that none but a brave Indian could assume."

The death warrant was read by Maj. Blanks, prayers and singing in Choctaw by Rev. Hobbs and singing of the farewell by the condemned. At about 1 o'clock the drop fell and McClish Impson

was dead almost instantly of a broken neck. He was officially pronounced dead in 16 minutes by Doctors Main, Johnson and Chaney and was cut down after 20 minutes. The body was placed in a coffin and "conveyed to the Cemetery and decently interred."

McClish Impson was the last man executed by the court that was originally presided over by Judge Story. Impson made his first court appearance before Judge Story on Nov. 17, 1873 but he was convicted by Judge Caldwell in November 1874 because Story had resigned in June of 1874 to avoid impeachment.

The Western District Court in general and Judge Story in particular had been under scrutiny almost since the court was moved to Fort Smith. There seemed to always be a shortage of funds, that owing to insufficient funding by the federal government and, some said, a mishandling of money by Story and the court. Before the November 1873 session of the court there was speculation as to whether there would be a fall session due to lack of money.

An article in *The New Era*, 8-6-73, describes charges of accepting bribes against Judge William Story and Ex-District Attorney J. H. Huckleberry. They were alleged to have accepted bribes from Frank J. Nash, a merchant of Ft. Gibson, charged with illegal sale of alcohol.

Charges and accusations such as those just described persisted until in early 1874 a formal investigation took place. There was no May or spring session of The Western District Court due to the fact that Judge Story and the court records were in Washington D. C. where the judge was defending himself.

All during the tenure of the court and its investigation there were numerous and long articles in the newspapers of the day regarding the goings on but on June 17, 1874 *The New Era* ran one line, "It is reported that Judge Story of the U. S. District Court has resigned."

On May 8, 1875 *The Weekly Herald* announced. "Judge I. C. Parker, the newly appointed judge for the Western District of Arkansas, arrived here on Tuesday; and will enter upon his duties on the 10th inst." On May 10, 1875 Parker presided over the court for the first time and made his famous charge to the Grand Jury.

All the information on McClish Impson and all the events described are from issues of *The New Era* and *The Weekly Herald*.

The Chinese and Historic Oak Cemetery Connection

By Charles Raney, Assistant Director of Community Services, City of Fort Smith

Before the arrival of the steam laundry, the Chinese man was a very important person and did all of the skilled work of this kind, especially the men's shirts. This was in the days of the stiff bosom shirt, that was highly polished and stiff as a board. The children in Fort Smith took a great delight in watching the Chinese man sprinkle the clothes. He would take the water in his mouth, then spray the washing with water from his mouth. A long strip of paper with Chinese letters was given as a receipt and had to be returned to redeem the clothes. There was a laundry on North A Street, between Eight and Ninth Street, kept by a Chinese man who then called "Raw Hen". His actual name has not been positively identified. Some say his name was Ran Hen while others say it was Lee Ham. Oak Cemetery records show a Lee Hue buried there who died July 21, 1908. His connection to Oak Cemetery will become clearer later.

Another Chinese man in Fort Smith was "Doc" and he peddled oriental china. He carried his wares in two large baskets that balanced across his shoulders. His china was of the best grade and was readily purchased by the women of the town. Doc also claimed to be a doctor, and his favorite prescription that was a sure cure for everything was to take a red rooster, cook it feathers and all, add ginger, and make into soup. Give the soup to the patient, but the sick person was not to be told of the contents of the soup, or it would lose its charm. No cures were ever heard from this remedy, for if anyone took the dose, they did not make it known.

Sam Sing had a laundry on North Fourth Street, just back of the stores. He was one of the first Chinese men to sacrifice his traditional clothes and adopt American dress.

There was another laundry in a little cabin near the location of Hunt Dry Goods Company. This Chinese man's life was made miserable by the teasing of the small boys in town.

Now "Lee Hue, a.k.a. Lee Ham" and how he became connected to Oak Cemetery.

One of the largest and most novel funerals ever held in Fort Smith was held in Oak Cemetery. It was the first Chinese funeral, and long to be remembered by those present. Lee Ham had been murdered a few nights before at his laundry on A Street. His body was placed in a handsome casket in the

ordinary style, but at the grave the curious scene took place. During the time the sexton (caretaker for those not acquainted with cemetery terminology) was covering the casket with earth, every eye watched the three Chinese men, who took part in making preparations. A large paper, bearing curiously formed religious beliefs, was first lighted. About two dozen small sticks of incense were ignited and stuck in the ground at the head of the grave, and heavy smoke arose from the burning sticks. On the grass, in picnic style, were spread articles of food, which consisted of fruits, three boiled chickens, a quantity of roast beef, roast pork, a large cake, rice, box of cigars, and a pint bottle filled with gin. The small cups holding perhaps two tablespoons full of liquor each, were set in a row. The three Chinese men took the position of prayer, and bowed their heads low to the ground. They then sprinkled the food with the gin as a blessing, continuing to bow to the earth. They then announced that it was time to eat and be merry. The food was cut with a large short-handled axe, and distributed among the assembly, and nearly everybody except the women and children partook of the offering.

Cigars were then distributed and the Chinese and Americans appeared to be in a pleasant mood. All were greatly pleased with the manner the visitors assisted in carrying on the ceremonies, and at the conclusion, made short speeches in which they thanked the people for their presence. All the food that was not eaten, was placed on the grave. The regular chopsticks were laid in the center of the offering and once more gin was sprinkled on the grave. The large knife was also left behind.

The Chinese believed that by leaving the food, the spirits will visit the grave and eat the food, instead of the body. In those days they had been taught to believe that three days after interment, the body will enter into another being and return to China as a spirit.

The murder of Lee Ham so frightened the Chinese, that they took it as a warning and left Fort Smith, except one lone laundry man, John, who lived in a little cabin on North Fourth and C Street. He could not compete with the bigger laundries so soon departed for parts unknown.

Acknowledgement: Phoebe Parke, "Old Folk and Facts"

News & Opportunities

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RIVERBOAT

The Arkansas River Queen, a 146 passenger dinner boat, will go into service as an excursion boat in early August in Fort Smith. The paddlewheel river boat, owned by George C. and Trinity Silzer of Fort Smith, will be moored at 4501 Clayton Expressway, just west of Mid-South Dredging and adjacent to the Silzers' riverside home, after a parking lot is constructed and the 110-foot-by-26-foot dock and galley are installed. In the interim, the boat will operate out of Fort Smith Park on Clayton Expressway.

The boat boasts a hull length of 63 feet at the waterline, with a beam of 20 feet and a draft of 2 feet. A true split paddlewheel, the Arkansas River Queen is powered with hydraulic drive and twin GM 453 diesel engines. Electric power is provided by generators. The enclosed, air conditioned first deck can seat 88 people for meals, and if necessary, more can be seated on the canopy-covered sundeck.

Originally commissioned in 1984, the boat was brought to Fort Smith from Clarksville, Tennessee, where it has been operated by the Ritchie family since 1989 as the Clarksville Queen.

For reservations and information, call 501-784-0020.
Southwest Times Record, July 3, 2001

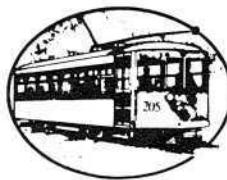
Fort Smith Air Museum

The new Fort Smith Air Museum is located in Phoenix Village Mall, next to Furr's Cafeteria and is open:

Tuesday-Thursday
 11:00-2:00
 5:00-8:00
 Friday-Saturday
 2:00-8:00
 Sunday
 2:00-5:00

Admission is free, but contributions are welcome. Help preserve Fort Smith's Aviation Heritage!!

Fort Smith Trolley Museum



Restoration of the second trolley car is progressing. This is the 1907 Hot Springs #50 car that is a wooden double truck car identical to six of the Fort Smith cars that primarily

went to Van Buren. There is no trace of the Fort Smith cars. One went to Paris, Arkansas as a diner, one went to Ashdown with #224 to become a diner and a third was used as a shop behind the Greenwood, Arkansas, high school, that sold school supplies and refreshments. The fate of the others is unknown.

The main wood frame of the car is completed. About half of the frame had to be built from new lumber and part of the frame was restored by splicing new wood to the original parts. The heavy end pieces were formed from timbers that were over 100 years old. The beautiful timber had been salvaged from a building in Illinois that was built in the 1850's. Part of the ends are made from chestnut lumber that was cut before disease destroyed all of the chestnut groves. The wood seat parts are completed and will be covered with rattan that was purchased years ago.

The wheels and motors were found in Seashore Trolley Museum in Branford, Connecticut. The double truck wheels came with four motors that appear to be in good condition. The motors are to go to an electric shop for

examination and rebuilding if necessary.

Additional track at the carbarn will have to be completed connecting the track to the second rail switch that comes into the carbarn. This will allow the storing of two cars on track, and the use of the pit for under car work.

Also, the museum now has two "railroad" cats — Katy has been joined by Frisco — who just wandered in and decided he had found a good home where he gets an abundance of food and love.

Arkansas Humanities Council Award

Wesley Methodist Church received an Arkansas Humanities Council grant of \$7,272 for "Wesley/Historical Archives." This Grant will be used in Oral History and Photographic Recopying Projects. This will also include researching trips and workshops for the purpose of building an archival facility, which will be an example for other local church archives and community researchers. "The grant is made possible, in part by the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities."

NEWS CHRONOLOGY

January 16 - May 30, 2001

**(Abstracted from Fort Smith Times Record,
and the City of Fort Smith
Citizen Newsletter)**

by Becky and J. P. Chancey

JANUARY

17th – Sales tax vote set for March 20. Fort Smith residents will have their day at the polls to vote on a sales tax that could help fund three capital improvement projects proposed by the city. The projects include Lake Fort Smith Water Supply expansion, Wet-weather improvements to waste water treatment plants and a city hall project. Fort Smith's tax rate would increase to 8.125 percent until 2008 if the tax is approved.

17th – Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee is flying to Washington on Thursday to attend George W. Bush's swearing-in as President on Saturday. After the inauguration, Huckabee will go from spectator to participant in one of the many inaugural balls. He and his band, Capitol Offense, will provide entertainment. Huckabee plays bass guitar.

18th – Development space is becoming scarce

along Phoenix and Rogers. On Phoenix Avenue a new restaurant, Market Place Grill, is scheduled for construction. Ryan's Steakhouse may be built in the area. Construction continues on Kohl's Department Store at 79th and Rogers. Also planned for the site is an International House of Pancakes.

18th – Fort Smith Symphony concert January 27th will feature Czech Republic pianist Martin Kasik.

21st – Bikeway path proposed. An ordinance approved by city directors at a Tuesday meeting expressed the city's willingness to use federal grant money for the bike paths. It also set the ball in motion for the striping and sizing of 70.3 miles of city streets to begin this year. Charles Raney, director of parks and recreation, said the streets involved in the project are wide enough to support a bike lane and new lane construction will not be needed.

22nd – Fort Smith residents were honored December 19th with the Spirit of the Frontier Award, given to individuals who have been examples of the frontier spirit that has helped make Fort Smith one of the outstanding cities in the United States. Those honored were: Dr. Larry Bone, Margaret Grady, B. G. Hendrix, Chuck Holcombe, Dr. Peter Irwin, Yvonne Keaton-Martin, Sister Judith Marie Keith, The Reverend Dois Kennedy, Barry Lunney, Sr., Patricia Shaw, Bob Shelby, Nancy Squire, Faye Marie Taylor, Claudia Vaughn and Ed Dell Wortz.

28th – Music Fort Smith is seeking old photographs taken from 1922 to 1940 of the 10th Street entrance of the New Theatre. The organization is in the process of renovating the theatre.

29th – A gift of \$48 million from Little Rock financier Jack Stephens will pay for a new spinal research center at the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences Campus in Little Rock.

31st – Garrison Avenue, one of the widest main streets in the United States, may have a new look. Those who travel the downtown Fort Smith thoroughfare will soon notice the start of streetscape improvements between 6th and 8th Streets. Improvements will include pedestrian

lighting, trees and other landscaping, and new sidewalks using concrete and brick pavers.



FEBRUARY

4th – Community wide Health Fair is scheduled for February 10th. Area residents wishing to update their shots and tend to other medical needs can attend the free fair.

4th – Belle Chasse, city's newest subdivision, sits directly west of the corporate headquarters of Beverly Enterprises in South Fort Smith. The 45-acre subdivision is divided into 75 lots. Lot prices range from \$65,000 to \$125,000.00. Minimum price for homes will be no lower than \$300,000.00.

6th – Hints of a sales growth slowdown in the fourth quarter of 2000 did little to slow record annual sales and earnings for Fort Smith based Baldor Electric Co. The company reported record sales of \$621.2 million for 2000, up 6 percent over 1999 sales. Earnings for 2000 reached a record \$46.3 million up 6 percent over 1999.

7th – City Hall taken off ballot. City directors voted to remove a city hall issue from an upcoming special election ballot. Fort Smith directors voted 6-0 to amend an ordinance passed January 16 that allowed for a 12 million city hall project to be included on a special tax election ballot.

8th – Classic Musical "Oklahoma!" will be staged at Southside High School February 8-10.

8th – Project Compassion honored one of its own February 7, when Val McKinney of Fort Smith received the fifth annual Marion Stephens Key Person Award.

8th – The American Chamber of Commerce Executives has recognized three key publications and the web site of the Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce as among the best in the Nation. You may see the chambers web site at WWW:fschamber.com.

9th – As Fort Smith puts finishing touches on a new downtown convention center and a redeveloped riverfront, bike cops should put visitors at

ease. Easily recognizable in their bright blue jackets and white helmets, three Fort Smith bicycle officers zip along downtown's main thoroughfares and narrow side streets, past parks, restaurants and other attractions. From their storefront substation at 905 Garrison Avenue, the two-wheeled police officers are just a short pedal away from the Convention Center and the riverfront. Gerald Hamel donated the storefront space.

9th – Mayor Ray Baker placed a single rose on the grave of Gen. William O. Darby February 8th, the anniversary of his birth in Fort Smith in 1911.

13th – Lake Fort Smith State Park will be relocated when the city begins construction of a proposed water supply expansion project at Lake Fort Smith. The city owns the park land and leases it to the state parks department.

18th – Grand opening of the new Fort Smith Public Library is scheduled for Friday, February 23. With its new home at the junction of Free Ferry and Rogers Avenue, the 67,000 square-foot facility will have rooms in which to settle, spread out and grow. A pre-grand opening event will be a 24 hour Read-A-Thon, scheduled from 5PM Thursday to 5 PM Friday.

18th – Fort Smith City officials and state park officials have agreed to disagree until a new proposal regarding the location of overnight facilities at Lake Fort Smith State Park can be developed.

23rd – Eddie York, Fort Smith restaurateur, has announced plans for a food court on Phoenix Avenue & 66th St. Tommy's Seafood and Steak House and Art's Barbecue will be moved to the new location. Also included will be Miss Laura's Social Club and a gourmet meat and fresh seafood market, called Prime Cut.

26th – The City of Fort Smith received \$120,000.00 grant from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program to renovate First Christian Church on North Seventh Street in the Belle Grove Historic District. Renovation began in 1998 when the city provided \$111,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant funds. The building is believed to have been built in 1871.

27th – Area Youth Ranch planned — At a news conference in the Sebastian County Sheriff's office February 26, Thomas M. Cumnock, CEO of the Arkansas Sheriff's Youth Ranches discussed plans for a new campus to be built near the Graphic community, North of Alma. Arkansas Sheriffs are asking the public to support their plan to build a \$7,000,000.00 ranch in Crawford County for abused, neglected, and abandoned children.



MARCH

2nd – American Airlines proposed acquisition of Trans World Airlines would benefit area travelers because St. Louis would become a "hub" for Fort Smith, says Robert Johnson, director of the Fort Smith Regional Airport.

3rd – Hundreds of local students and many adults took part in celebrating National Read Across America Day on March 2nd, paying tribute to famous children's author Theodor Geisel, aka, Dr. Seuss.

5th – Historic Courtroom to Welcome New Citizens-----March 7th more than 50 foreign nationals will take the oath of citizenship in the room where Judge Isaac C. Parker held court. Rod Reyes, supervisory agent with INS in Fort Smith said, "Never in the history of that building has anyone become a Naturalized Citizen".

9th – Tentative plans for the 100th birthday of the King Opera House in Van Buren include a gala celebration to kick off activities during the weekend of October 19.

14th – The famous portrait of George Washington that Gilbert Stuart painted in 1796 has been called as significant as The Star Spangled Banner. Thanks to a \$30,000,000.00 donation by the estate of former newspaper publisher Donald W. Reynolds, the painting will remain at the Smithsonian Institution's National Portrait Gallery. Money was needed by April 1 to purchase the painting from Lord Harry Dalmey of London, whose family has owned the portrait for more than a century.

17th – The city's annual St. Patrick's Day parade will begin at 6:30 PM at Immaculate Conception

Church at 22 N. 13th Street and will travel west on Garrison Avenue and end at Fifth Street.

21st – Fort Smith Approves Both Taxes — City officials watching election returns at the Sebastian County Courthouse Tuesday night were "overwhelmed" with the 2 to 1 margin of voters who approved a new half-cent sales tax and continuation of a half-cent sales tax. The tax revenue will be used to pay for bonds issued for 30 million of Environmental Protection-Mandated Waste-Water-treatment facility improvements and 50 million toward expanding the city's water supply at Lake Fort Smith.

30th – John Brown University—Fort Smith Center, will move from Phoenix Village Mall to it's new home at 1401 S. Waldron Road. The Fort Smith Center averages about 110 advance students from all across Western Arkansas and Eastern Oklahoma. John Brown University is based in Siloam springs.



APRIL

2nd – The memory of a Fort Smith teen, John Paul Spradlin, will be honored by the Arkansas Game and fish Foundation with an educational facility at Cooks Lake near Cascoe.

The John Paul Spradlin Education Building will be a hands-on facility where young people can study the natural inhabitants of the Cooks Lake area.

Spradlin, an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting and fishing, was killed in a four-wheeler accident last summer at age 18.

3rd – The River Valley Master Gardeners will present a series of mini lectures during April at Bryant Greenhouses in Van Buren.

The Master Gardner's, who have undergone an intensive 40 hours training program in horticulture through the Sebastian and Crawford Counties' Cooperative Extension Service, volunteer to work on community beautification and education projects.

3rd – Fort Smith Regional Airport's new terminal opening targeted for July 2002. The new 44,000 square-foot terminal will be east of the present facility.

5th – Tourism gives boost to area economy.

Officials report nearly one million visitors in the past five years.

11th – Little Rock---Sebastian County Voters will be able to decide if Westark College in Fort Smith should join the University of Arkansas system, the House voted April 10th .

Senate Bill 863 would allow voters to decide whether to substitute sales tax for a property tax that is used to pay off two bond issues for capital improvements at the two-year school.

12th – The newly completed Fort Smith River Park will be the site of a grand opening celebration April 14th from 10 AM to 3 PM.

Ceremonies will include a 188th fly-by, cannon firing, entertainment and free hot dogs, chips and drinks. Five thousand-plus are expected to attend.

13th – The government is prepared to pay \$850,000.00 to buy an old train depot on the Arkansas River and add it to the Fort Smith National Historic site

The owner of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad Depot, otherwise known as the Frisco Station, is willing to sell but said the property is worth more than the government is offering.

The National Park Service included the Fort Smith parcel in its land acquisition budget for the fiscal year that begins in October. Congress must approve the project and its funding between now and then.

Bill Black, superintendent of the Fort Smith National Historic Site, said the government could end up negotiating the price with owner Michael Morton, but only after Congress weighs in.

16th – Principal Takes Top Honor: Sheila Ford, principal of Euper Lane Elementary School, recently was named Arkansas Administrator of the Year by the Arkansas State Parent Teacher Association. This recognition comes on the heels of the prestigious Arkansas Blue Ribbon distinction, which the school received earlier this month for the third time.

17th – The Fort Smith National Historic Site will travel back in time this weekend as it hosts Civil War Weekend Saturday and Sunday in observance of the 140th anniversary of the Confederate occupation of Fort Smith and the

beginning of the Civil War.

21st – Carl Riggins, Wayne Haver, Chuck Raney, Larry Cochran, Larry Loux, Ronnie Bramlett and Ralph Freeman were honored by the Fort Smith Public Schools Secondary Social Studies Teachers with the organizations Frontier Achievement Awards. Since 1981 this awards program has recognized more than 90 business and individuals who have made lasting contributions to the historical development of Fort Smith and surrounding area.

22nd – When there's a need, the busy bodies of the Downtown Volunteers of Fort Smith find a way.

Composed of seven board members and about 100 area volunteers, the group ensures that holidays and special events stay on course in the city's downtown area and parks.

And the non-profit organization does it without ever receiving a paycheck on benefits package, said Bert Wright, group chairman. "Our group's goal is to keep downtown clean and beautiful", he said.

The unit's projects include hanging seasonal banners along Garrison Avenue and hosting the Labor Day "cruise night", the St. Patrick's Day Parade and Pub Crawl, the Mayors New Year's Eve events on Garrison Avenue and the Mayor's Fourth of July celebration in Harry E. Kelley Park.

25th – Contributors to Visual and Performing Arts in Fort Smith were recognized tonight at the 10th Annual civic Center Honors Reception and Program.

Honored were: Mary Ellen Jesson of Art Quest, Paula Sharum, recognized for her participation in area performing arts, and Henry Rinne, of Westark College, for his contributions to the Fort Smith Symphony and the instrumental musical program at Westark. Arvest Bank received the honor for its generous contributions to the arts in the area.

29th – Little Rock---A teacher shortage in Arkansas is reaching the critical stage, education officials say.

Arkansas schools have about 2,000 teacher openings for the fall semester that begins in August. Math, Science and language specialists are in demand.

30th – End of The Trail. After more than 40 years in the saddle, Allen "Coop" Cooper, 87, of Fort Smith has stepped down from the stirrup, retiring from the Sebastian County Sheriff's Mounted Patrol.



MAY

2nd – Lost 6 year old, Haley Zega, was rescued by men riding mules along Buffalo National river, ending a massive 3 day rescue effort.

Haley disappeared from a group of hikers that included her grandparents, in the Upper Buffalo wilderness area.

4th – Parker School will close later this month after 79 years.

Parker Elementary is inviting the public to attend a farewell reception at 6 PM, May 7.

The school board voted earlier this year to close the Parker campus because of declining enrollment and increased facility needs. Parker students and faculty are being transferred to Sutton, Sunnymede, Trusty and Howard elementary schools.

5th – Texas Raiders, a B17 World War II airplane, will be on display during this weekend's air show. The Texas Raiders is one of only 13 working B17's in the world.

8th – Deputy Marshal Weekend Planned. Before Judge Isaac C. Parker could hang them, somebody had to arrest them.

The Fort Smith National Historic Site will host a deputy marshal weekend. Programs detailing the deputy marshals duties and challenges will be presented throughout the weekend.

A candlelight vigil on Sunday, May 13, will honor about 90 deputy marshals killed while tracking down borderland desperados from 1872 through 1896.

9th – Bridges to Opportunity will provide Fort Smith with interested transportation by late summer.

The Fort Smith Transit project will be able to expand its service through local funding from the Crawford/Sebastian TEA coalition, otherwise known as Bridges to Opportunities.

The project is estimated to begin in July with routes to begin in August.

9th – Tourists stopping by the Dora Tourist Information Center off Interstate 40 were surprised with treats and baskets of Fort Smith/Van Buren area goodies presented by Fort Smith Mayor Ray Baker and Van Buren Mayor John Riggs, during a celebration of National Tourism Week.

10th – The B.C. and Fran Brock Activity Center will be a reality for Trinity Junior High as groundbreaking took place today at the centers construction site.

Named for its benefactors, B.C. and Fran Brock of Clarksville, the new multi-use facility will be next to the Albert Pike entrance to the school, and will help to provide many school functions. This includes basketball, volleyball, band concerts, graduations, and fund raising events.

13th – Mothers Day was meant for sharing, and that's exactly what some area students from both Orr Elementary and J.J. Izard Elementary decided to do Friday.

Students filed into Rose Care Center nursing home in fort Smith with flowers in their hands and a song in their hearts to entertain and visit with residents at the home.

17th – Two students from Fort Smith Southside High School are among 141 high school seniors recognized May 16 as 2001 Presidential Scholars.

A student from Conway is also on the list announced by Education Secretary Rod Paige.

Since 1983, each Presidential Scholar has been able to invite the teacher who has had the greatest impact on his or her academic success to also travel to Washington to participate in the ceremony.

The Arkansas winners:

Fort Smith, Thomas A Moll, Southside High School. Most influential teacher: Lillian Kropp, Fort Smith.

Fort Smith, Lauren A Weigand, Southside High School. Most influential teacher: Wesley Hogue, Greenwood.

Conway, Paulomi Mehta, Conway High School-West. Most influential teacher: Melinda Wright, Greenbrier.

18th – Former Fort Smith resident, Phil Karber,

will be signing copies of his book, "Yak Pizza To Go: Travels in an Age of Vanishing Cultures and Extinction", today at Chestnut Books

Karber, who lives in Hanoi, Vietnam, with his wife, Joellen Lambiotte, also of Fort Smith, chronicled his travels for the past four years through Third World Countries to create the colorful accounts in the book.

20th – Harold Parker displayed Alf, a 13 year old golden eagle, May 19, during the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Western Arkansas Nature Center "kickoff picnic" at Fort Chaffee.

The event focused on the educational opportunities at the nature center. The five million dollar nature center will be built on land at Wells Lake on Fort Chaffee.

21st – Oak Cemetery Commission is sponsoring a guided tour to see and hear 10 of the people buried in the historic cemetery. Actors and actresses from the Fort Smith Little Theatre will portray their life and time on the frontier and in Fort Smith.

Tales of The Crypt will be held Monday, May 28 from 3:00 to 5:30 PM. This is the fourth annual Tales of the Crypt celebration.

26th – Fort Smith's patrol officers have a new skill to master -- operating a laptop computer from behind the wheel of their patrol car.

Earlier this year, the Fort Smith Police Department acquired 23 laptops, or mobile data computers, and installed one in each patrol car.

26th – Non practicing nurses pondering a return to active practice can get the financial, confidence and skills sharpening boost they need through a refresher course scholarship program offered by St. Edward Mercy Medical Center. The program aims at ending the nursing shortage.

26th – In addition to shipping coal out to the world, Port Chaffee, the newly announced development at Fort Chaffee has the potential to ship cash into the coffers of the Fort Chaffee Public Trust.

Revealed to the public May 17, Port Chaffee will be developed by Midwest Terminals of Toledo, Ohio, with a construction expected to take two years at a minimum cost of \$8.8 million.

Alex Johnson, President of Midwest, said his primary reason for developing the port is to ship coal from his mine in Hartford to domestic and global customers.

The port will be east of Lock and Dam 13 and on the southern bank of the Arkansas River near Barling.

When announcing the port project, Phil Reeves, Executive Director of the Trust, said it would "kick off" economic development efforts at Fort Chaffee.

27th – Two cemeteries at Lake Fort Smith State Park contain graves that must be relocated soon because of the pending water supply expansion project.

The cemeteries, housed on land acquired by Fort Smith in the 1930's, contain 30 to 40 graves dating back to the 1890's, according to Steve Parks, director of utilities for Fort Smith.

30th – Butterfield Trail Newstand to close.

Garrison Avenue was a different place when Chuck Conner opened his newsstand in the lobby of the Ward Hotel on April 1, 1970. When the hotel underwent remodeling the next year, the Conners took their business down the street to 10th Street and Garrison, where they have been since.

The area was still the center of Fort Smith commercial life. It was a time when people still read magazines, newspapers and books.

Changes in those circumstances, and a desire for some respite from three decades of nearly constant work, have prompted Conner's wife, Anna, and son, Donald, to close the family business that has been a downtown land mark for three decades.

30th – Northside Brings Home Title: The Northside High School quiz bowl team achieved its ultimate goal May 28 as it capped a near-perfect Cinderella season by winning the 15th Annual American Scholastic Tournament of Champions in Chicago.

Bringing the national quiz bowl title home to Northside has been a year long quest for team captain Shawn Standefer and senior members Colin Drolshagen and Seth Hutchinson; junior members, Ryan Marsh, Willie Reyenga and Jill Hoang.

In Loving Memory

A. CLAYTON RUSSELL

A. Clayton Russell, 84, of Fort Smith died June 17, 2001. He was retired from Wortz Company of Fort Smith, was a Protestant and a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society.

He is survived by his wife, Jewell; two sons, Dr. Phillip Russell of Arkadelphia and James C. Russell of Fort Smith; two sisters, Hazel Rainwater of Fort Smith and Evelyn Langston of Cecil; a brother, Paul Russell of Fort Smith; two grandsons and two great-grandchildren.

Burial was in Woodlawn Memorial Cemetery in Fort Smith under direction of Smith Mortuary of Charleston.

MAJOR CONLEY, JR.

Major Hosea Conley Jr., 80, of Kansas City, Mo., formerly of Fort Smith, died June 20, 2001. He was a Lincoln High School graduate, an army veteran of World War II, and a hotel owner-operator in Kansas City.

Burial was in Washington Cemetery in Fort Smith under the direction of Rowell-Parish Mortuary.

Survivors include two daughters, Patricia A. Roberson-Maggitt of Kansas City, Kan., and Madgeline Conley of Kansas City, Mo.; two sons, Major Hosea Conley III of Fort Smith and Steven A. Conley of Tampa, Fla.; a foster son, Cleophus Mobley of Kansas City, Mo.; 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

BERENICE WALKER

Berenice Walker, 85, of Fort Smith died June 22, 2001, in Cameron, Mo. She was a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, a homemaker, member of Calvary Baptist Church and a graduate of Fort Smith High School.

Graveside service and burial were at Forest Park Cemetery under the direction of Lewis Funeral Chapel of Fort Smith.

She is survived by her husband, Henry; a daughter, Becky Walker of Fort Worth, Texas; three sons, Steve Walker of Cameron, Ed Walker of Fayetteville and Randy Walker of Newtown, Conn.; a sister, Beatrice Young of Fort Smith; ten grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Lottie Moon Mission in Oregon, or Gideons International, P.O.Box 971, Fort Smith, AR 72902.

BERNICE FISHBACK

Bernice Krone Fishback, 89, died June 19, 2001. She was a member of the Fort Smith Historical Society, United Daughters of the Confederacy, St. Boniface Catholic Church, Telephone Pioneers, and Pilot Club. Mass was in St. Boniface Church with burial at Holy Cross Cemetery in Fort Smith under direction of Fentress Mortuary.

She is survived by two nieces, Linda Krone Raff of Helena and Jana Krone Carter of Fort Smith; three great-nieces, a great-nephew and eight great-great-nieces and nephews.

CHARLES DAWES

Charles Edward Dawes, 78, Quapaw, Okla., died April 15, 2001, in Miami. He was an Army Air Corp veteran of World War II, a graduate of the University of Arkansas with a degree in engineering, president of Duplex Manufacturing in Fort Smith for 25 years, chief of the Ottawa Tribe, a Christian and Traditional Spiritual leader for his tribe.

Services were held April 17, in the Ottawa Tribal Building, southeast of Miami, Okla., with burial at Ottawa Indian Cemetery under the direction of Paul Thomas Funeral Home of Picher, Okla.

He is survived by his wife, Lorraine; a daughter, Dr. Charla Dawes of the home; a son, Dr. Kevin Dawes, Baxter Springs, Kan; seven sisters; and two grandchildren, Kari and J. C. Dawes.

RUSTY HARRIS

Rusty Harris, 88, of Fort Smith died June 11, 2001. He was the grandson of Cherokee Chief C. J. Harris, an active member of First United Methodist Church, past president and district Governor of Lions Club and a member and officer in a number of other charity and civic organizations.

He had his own dance band in the 1930s and 1940s and played the trumpet, harmonica and piano.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth; a daughter, Lynda McDaniel of Fort Smith; a son, Phil Harris of Oklahoma City; three sisters, Sue Conway of Kennewick, Wash., Nan Jones of Las Vegas and Caroline Dekker of Seattle; a brother, Bill Harris of Cullman, Ala.; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Western Arkansas Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders, 70 E. Lake, Chicago, IL 60411, or First United Methodist Church, 200 No. 15th St., Fort Smith, AR 72901.

MELISSA "MISSY" SMITH SICARD

Melissa "Missy" Smith Sicard, 51, died May 18, 2001, in Fort Smith. She was a member of First Baptist Church, the Board for the Fort Smith Public School Endowment Trust, the Old Fort Museum and Community Clearing House, a graduate of the University of Arkansas and Leadership Fort Smith.

She is survived by her husband, Samuel M. Sicard; a daughter, Melissa Caroline Sicard of the home; a son, Samuel T. and wife Jennifer Sicard of Fort Smith; her father, Ralph "Buddy" Smith of Fort Smith; a brother, Timothy Ross Smith of Fort Smith; and two nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Children's Emergency Shelter, Fort Smith Boys and Girls Club, and In His Name Inc., P.O. Box 1443, Ft. Smith, AR 72902.

JEWELL G. BENNETT

Jewell G. Bennett, 95, of Fort Smith died March 27, 2001, in Alexandria, La. She graduated from St. Edwards School of Nursing in 1928, was an instructor at St. Edwards Hospital and retired as director of personnel.

She was one of the founders of the Frontier Researchers Genealogy Society and was award-

ed the Martha Washington medal by the Sons of the American Revolution for establishing a chapter in Fort Smith. Funeral Mass was held in Immaculate Conception Catholic Church with burial at Holy Cross Cemetery in Fort Smith.

She is survived by a daughter, Michaelae Wilkinson of Alexandria; a son, Cullen Bennett of Tempe, Ariz.; a brother, Michael M. Cullen of Fort Smith; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

THOMAS J. BARR

Thomas "Tom" J. Barr, 63, died April 25, 2001. He was a graduate of First Lutheran School, Fort Smith Senior High School and Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Ind. He joined Harry G. Barr Company in 1959 and was chairman of the board at the time of his death.

He was a member of Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Bancorp South board of directors, Westark College Foundation Board, member and past president of Manufacturers Executive Association, member and past president of Commissary Kiwanis Club, active member of First Lutheran Church, past chairman of the board of Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce, and member and officer in a number of other charity and civic organizations.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Lutheran Congregational Fund or First Lutheran School Endowment Fund, 419 N. 12th St., Fort Smith, AR 72901 or Westark Community College, 5210 Grand Ave., Fort Smith, AR 72913.

Annual Business Sponsors

Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce

612 Garrison • Fort Smith, AR 72901

Belle Point Beverages, Inc.

1 Belle Point Place • Fort Smith, AR 72901

Spiro State Bank

Spiro, Oklahoma 74959

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P.O. Box 10630 • Fort Smith, AR 71917-0630

City of Fort Smith

623 Garrison • Fort Smith, AR 72901

Fort Smith Trolley Museum

100 South 4th Street • Fort Smith, AR 72901

Phone: 501-783-0205 or 501-783-1237

Fort Smith Convention and Visitor's Center

2 North B Street • Fort Smith, AR 72901

Genealogy News

by Janice Bufford Eddleman

ARKANSAS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY'S FALL SEMINAR 2001

The annual Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Seminar and Book Fair will be held on Friday, November 2, and Saturday, November 3, 2001 at the Holiday Inn Airport-East at Exit 3 (Airport Exit) of 1-40 in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Registration and the Book Fair will open at 5:00 p.m. on Friday and classes, presented by knowledgeable local speakers, will begin at 6:30 and repeat at 7:45. Registrants may choose two classes from the following:

1. "Finding Genealogical Sites on the Internet" and "Using Genealogical Sites" on the Internet presented by David Burdick, Director of the Pine Bluff/Jefferson County Library System
2. "Freedman's Bureau Records: A Resource for Black and White Alike" by Carolyn Hervey, a library technical assistant at the Arkansas History Commission and State Archives
3. "Dating, Preserving and Storage of Family Photographs" by Lynn Ewbanks, the Photo Archivist at the Arkansas History Commission and State Archives
4. "Joining Lineage Societies: DAR, SCV and UDC," a panel discussion by Wensil Clark, Troy Massey and Marilyn Sickel, three genealogists who have experience with multiple lineage societies.

Saturday's session will begin with registration and the Book Fair at 8:30 a.m. Introductions and the seminar opening will be at 9:15, with the lectures starting at 9:30. This year's seminar will feature Marie Varrelman Melchiori, a Certified Genealogical Record Specialist and Lecturer. An award winning genealogist and lecturer, Marie will present four lectures: "Using Records in the National Archives: A Researcher's View," "If Grandpa Wore Gray: Confederate Records at the National Archives," "But Grandma Never Carried a Gun: Locating Women Using Records Created by the Military" and "Overlooked Revolutionary War Records at the National Archives."

You may register for Friday only, Saturday only or both days. Saturday's registration includes a buffet deli lunch. The registration form is on the AGS web site at www.rootsweb.com/~args or

you may write to AGS, P.O. Box 908, Hot Springs, Arkansas 71902-0908.

ELLIS ISLAND WEBSITE ON LINE

The long awaited website listing the immigrants who came to the United States through Ellis Island is up and running, but be prepared for a long wait to get to the site. There were over two million "hits" in the first week of its operation. At the site you may view and download the information collected when the immigrant came through Ellis Island and even get pictures of the ship they came on in some instances. The web address is (<http://www.ellisland.org>)

ON-LINE SOURCES FOR CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS

The National Park Service has a website for those searching for veterans of the Civil War, both Union and Confederate, at (<http://216.88.32.142/cwss/soldiers.htm>) The site allows you to search for soldiers, sailors, prisoners, regiments or battles. I found, in using the site, that you were often better to just list a last name because it only reports on exactly the entry as you typed it and that not all soldiers are listed where and as you expect them to be. Currently, there are only two prison camps listed—the Union one at Fort Henry and the Confederate Andersonville. However, there are other sites which list Confederate prisoners. Those who died at Alton, Illinois prison can be found at (<http://www.altonweb.com/history/civilwar/confed/index.html>) and the Confederate soldiers taken prisoner at Vicksburg are listed at (<http://pigpen.itd.nps.gov/vick/home.htm>)

FORT SMITH NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE DEPUTY MARSHAL DATABASE

The Fort Smith National Historic Site has added a Federal Court Employee Database to its website at (<http://www.nps.gov/fosm/ctdbase/>) The database includes the names and positions of those individuals who can be properly documented through historical records as having served the Federal District Court for the Western District of Arkansas from 1872 to 1896. The

majority of these were employed by the court as deputy U.S. marshals. A glossary is provided for explanation of court job titles and duties and the site also provides information on additional research sources.

FINDING CHURCH RECORDS

by Jan Eddleman

All sorts of information appear in church records; everything from marriages, christenings, deaths and baptisms to former places of residence. However, church records, while very useful to the genealogist, are often an under used source because they tend to be elusive and hard to find. For example, some denominations consider each church as a separate entity and many records never find their way to a central repository. Other denominations are very good record keepers and have at least copies of the individual church records on deposit.

The place to start to find church records is with the local church in the area you are researching, particularly if the church that you think your ancestors may have attended is still in existence. Many of the early churches in an area may have been nondenominational and may now be a denomination to which you would not have expected your ancestors to belong. For example, my great great grandparents were Methodist and belonged to the Mt. Zion Church in Independence County. At that time, it was what was known as a community church where everyone in the neighborhood went. As the population grew, Mt. Zion became and remained a Baptist church. That Baptist church still has many of the old records from the earlier period, including my family's gift to the church of land for a cemetery.

Sometimes, a church secretary, deacon or other official kept the church records at home and they sometimes came to be considered as family property, especially if the church ceased to exist. If you are really lucky, you may find someone in the area who knows who has the missing records and hopefully, that person will be willing to let you see those records.

Often, church sponsored colleges or universities fall heir to some church records. For example, both Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia and Hendrix University (Methodist) at Conway have some church records for Arkansas, as does Lyon College (Church of Christ) in Batesville.

There are also national religious archives as listed below.

Assemblies of God

Assemblies of God Archives
1445 Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802
(417) 862-2781

Baptist

American Baptist Association Archives
Missionary Baptist Seminary
5300 Stagecoach Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72204
(501) 455-4588

American Baptist Historical Society
1106 South Goodman St.
Rochester, NY 14620-2532
(716) 473-1740
abhs@crds.edu

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives
910 Commerce St., Suite 400
Nashville, TN 37203-3260
(615) 244-0344
Bsummers@edge.net

Disciples of Christ/Christian Church

Disciples of Christ Historical Society
1101 19th Ave., S.
Nashville, TN 37212-2196
(615) 327-1444
dishistsoc@alo.com

Episcopal Church

Episcopal Church Archives
Box 2247
Austin, TX 78768
(512) 472-6816

Lutheran

Concordia Historical Institute/Seminary
Fuerbringer Library
801 Demun Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63105-3199
(314) 505-7038
cslbergerdo@crf.cuis.edu

Mennonite

Mennonite Historical Library
1700 S. Main St.
Goshen, IN 46526
(219) 535-7418
joeas@goshen.edu

Methodist

Commission of Archives and History
United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 127
Madison, NJ 07940
(973) 408-3590
k.rowe@drew.edu

Presbyterian

Presbyterian Church (USA) Department
of History Library
425 Lombard St.
Philadelphia, PA 19147-1516
(215) 627-1852
dept-of-history-phil@pcusa.org

Presbyterian Church (USA) Department
of History (Montreat)
P.O. Box 849
Montreat, NC 28757
(828) 669-7061

Historical Foundation of the Cumberland
Presbyterian Church
1978 Union Ave.
Memphis, TN 38104
(901) 276-8602

Quaker/Society of Friends

Friends Historical Library of Swartmore College
500 College Ave.
Swartmore, PA 19081-1905
(610) 328-8496

PREPARING FOR A RESEARCH TRIP
by Janice Bufford Eddleman

Whenever you set out to do research at any institution, you can save yourself time and accomplish more by following the old Boy Scout motto: "Be prepared." I like to compare this process to the old directions that we all used for childhood races "ready," "set" and "go."

The "ready" section means first finding out about the research facility. What are the facility's hours of operation and what days is it closed? What materials do they have? What are their rules and regulations? Most institutions, such as libraries and archives, have pamphlets, available through the mail, that give you this information and many of them have web sites as well. If you are going to a courthouse, check some resource guide such as *The Handy Book for Genealogist*, *The Source* or *Arkansas Links* to find out what records are available and in what office they are

housed. It pays to remember that the busiest time of year for most research facilities is summer and to go at another time of year if you can. If you are going to a courthouse, try to make sure that you are not going near an election as the offices tend to get busier then. If you are traveling to another location to research, it also a good idea to check to make sure that you are not going to research items that may be available at a institution in your own area. Check your local library, LDS family history facility, etc., to make sure what is near at hand and do not spend your valuable time checking references on your trip that you could do at home.

The second part of the "get ready" phase is to determine what you want to know or learn at the facility. What information are you seeking and what records available at the institution are most likely to help you? Make a list of the items and surnames to be researched and prioritize your list.

Now that you are ready, it is time to "get set." Remember that some offices and research rooms are crowded and there often is not much space to "spread out" so take only what you need and pack it in a small briefcase that can sit on the floor. My suggested packing list is:

- 1) your list of items to be researched. (In some instances, it is a good idea to put each item on a separate sheet of paper leaving space on the paper to write your research notes.)

- 2) a small notebook

- 3) money (dollar bills and change for those places that have self-serve copy machines)

- 4) pens and pencils (Many facilities do not allow the use of pens, so be sure you have sharpened pencils.)

Once you are ready to go, remember to dress comfortably, but appropriately. Forget the high heels and remember that if you are going to be stretching up or down or bending over items on the floor, skirts and dresses can "hike up."

When you arrive at your goal, be systematic. Do not skip from one set of records to another and back. Record accurately and note each source that you search whether or not you find anything in the source. If you have a note that you have searched the source and not found the information you sought, you won't waste time searching it again. Either get or order copies of the records you wish to have. I find that it helps to have my nongenealogist husband along on research trips. He is a terrific operator of copy machines which allows me more time to do research.

Inquiries

COOKSEY, ROGERS

Looking for descendants of Peter and Sarah Cooksey. Their children were Nancy, Hannah Alice and John, my great-grandfather. John married Nancy Rogers and their children were Neas E. and James William Lafayette. Any information appreciated. Linda Cooksey McAninch, 515 W. Washington, Marshfield, MO 65706 or email bandgmetal@aol.com.

LAWRENCE

Looking for information on U.S. Deputy Samuel Lawrence in the 1880 period. Glenn Kennedy at bobhil@home.com.

BAKER, BEAN, WEAVER

Seeking information about the father and brothers of Marvin Franklin Baker, b. June 8, 1908., Fort Smith. His mother Lizzie Bean was the daughter of John W. Bean and Melvina Weaver. She married Mr. Baker and had Marvin, Hollis and Chester. Mr. Baker died and Lizzie remarried in 1918 and moved to Oklahoma. Deborah Brookshier, 4635 S. Park Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98408 or e-mail guma@tacomalick.net.

HESTERLY, PUCKETT

Looking for the obituary, funeral home record, cemetery and headstone location of Lula Mae Puckett or Hesterly who died about 1923. Hal Hesterly at NHHS48@aol.com.

DUNCAN, WEBB

Seeking information about my grandparents, Ardes Steven and Rosa Ellen Duncan Webb, lived in Fort Smith in the 1920's and 1930's. Ardes was a chiropractic doctor and had an office between North 4th and 5th Streets on Garrison Avenue. During this time period, they had two small sons, Monroe and George Webb, who died within hours of each other. Rosa Ellen was born in Mulberry. Lula Faye Webb Scott, 135 Waggoner Street, Norman, AR 71960 or e-mail ladyhobo@alltel.net.

LOVE

Seeking information about the parents of James Uriah Love, b. 1890, Dyer, Crawford County; d. 1972, Hackett, Sebastian County. Believe his father was James E. Love. Calvin Driver, P.O. Box 1026, Magalia, CA 95954 or e-mail cldpapa@aol.com.

SMITH

Searching for the burial site of Jesse Smith, b. 1814, and Alice Smith, b. 1817, along with their eldest son, Theophilus, b. 1835. Also interested in the family of Jesse Smith's brother Henry and his wife Sophia and their descendants. All are listed in the 1860 Sebastian County census. Betty Davis, 3137 North 68th Street, Kansas city, KS 66109 or e-mail bmdavis@planetkc.com.

COOPER, DEHART

In need of information concerning the John William DeHart family. Was there a Charley C. DeHart in the household of John and his wife Elizabeth in the 1910 census? They adopted my grandfather Charley C. Cooper in 1892 in McAlester, Oklahoma and from 1892 to 1949 moved back and forth from Sebastian County to Wister, Oklahoma. Any information is welcome. Sandra DeHart, 806 1/2 South Pottenger, Shawnee, OK 74801 or e-mail Xx2sjd@aol.com.

SCOTT

Wanted researcher to find and photograph the exact location in Excelsior where Spencer Mason Scott and his family lived for 13 years beginning about 1871. Ralph Scott, Sr., Apt. 204, Meadowlake Road, Conway, AR 72032 or e-mail downingiii@conwaycorp.net.

HARNESS

Looking for the decendents of Thomas and Rebecca Harness, their son John or any of his siblings. Wish to contact lost cousins. Linda Cooksey McAninch, 515 W Washington, Marchfield, MO 65706 or e-mail BANDGMET-AL@aol.com.

AMERSON, PILES

In the 1900 census, Mary E. Amerson and husband Benjamin are living in Sugarloaf Township, Sebastian County. Living in the household is a step-son Jessie J. Piles. Who was this Piles? Was it his or her child and what happened to him? Robert Olsen, 2290 SE 134th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98683 or e-mail reol9@home.com.

WHITE

I am trying to locate Henry Lee White (b. 1908, Pleasanton, KS) and Pansy White (b. 1913, Hartford, AR). They had two living children in 1932. The second child, H.L. White, was born June 26, 1932 in Fort Smith. His birth certificate, signed by Dr. J. E. Johnson, lists the residence of the father as unknown and the residence of Pansy White as Mill Creek, AR. Supposedly, Pansy later remarried and had two more children. She died in Sebastian County during the 1990's. Any information of this family would be greatly appreciated. Ruth Floyd, 18882 Wilson

Rd., Garfield, AR 72732 or email RCR-FLOYD@aol.com.

GUTHRIE/GIPSON

I am seeking information on the family of Augustus and Mary Winford Guthrie Gipson who were listed on the 1900 Sebastian County census. In 1800 some members of this family were in Cullman County, Alabama. Any information will be appreciated. — Edwin D. Guthrie, 1382 County Road 825, Logan, AL 35098.

BEEN, MARTIN, OSBORN

Need information about Amanda Osborn, b. 1850, Greenwood, AR to Nathaniel Osborn and Jane Been. Amanda married William Martin in 1870 in Greenwood. Their children were: William C. (1872, AR), Mary Parmelia (1875, AR), Mattie L. (1876, AR), James (1880, AR), Minnie (1882, AR) and Harvey (1887, AR). Please contact me if you have any information about this family. Kathy Howe, 1177 Trailwood Ave., Manteca, CA 95336-3041 or emailkathy2468@usa.net.

Book Notes . . .

Books on Arkansas History or Genealogy will be reviewed in *The Journal* when a review copy is submitted to the Fort Smith Historical Society for review. Review copy of book is placed in the Genealogy Room of the Fort Smith Public Library designated as gift of the author and the Fort Smith Historical Society.

SKIRMISHES AROUND BENTONVILLE AND LITTLE SUGAR CREEK PRECEDING THE BATTLE OF PEA RIDGE, the new publication of the Benton County Historical Society has been

released. 32 pages, 8-1/2 by 11, soft cover, price \$5.00 plus \$1.50 P&H. Available from Benton County Historical Society, P.O. Box 1034, Bentonville, AR 72712. (Sample pages can be viewed at <http://www.uark.edu/gmss/bchsark/skirmishes.html>)

An informative well researched publication filled with maps, official reports and personal letters from soldiers.

Proceeds from sales are used to support additional projects to preserve Benton County history.

Civil War In Arkansas – January 1863

Jan. 1, 1863Affair, Helena (near)
Jan. 2, 1863Skirmish, Cane Hill
Jan. 2, 1863Skirmish, White Springs
Jan. 10, 1863Skirmish, Carrolton
Jan 10-11, 1863Engagement, Fort Hindman
(Arkansas Post), and Capture
Jan. 12, 1863Skirmish, Lick Creek (near Helena)
Jan 12, 1863Skirmish, Frog Bayou

Jan. ?, 1863Skirmish, Maysville (near)
Jan. 15, 1863 ..Skirmish, Claredon Rd. (near Helena)
Jan. 15, 1863Skirmish, *Mound City*
(Confederates capture Federal gunboat)
Jan. 16, 1863Skirmish, Devall's Bluff, Des Arc
Jan. 18, 1863Federals occupy Des Arc
Jan. 25, 1863Skirmish, Pope County
Jan. 26, 1863Skirmish, Mulberry Springs

1900-1901 Newspapers

FORT SMITH ELEVATOR

April 27, 1900 - May 3, 1901

*(Abstracted from microfilm at the
Fort Smith Public Library*

*by Dorothy Doville, Mary Lou Jacobsen, Michael
Richardson, Clara Jane Rubarth and Joanne
Swafford)*

April 27, 1900

Notes on Butter and Milk Production

Dairying is the highest of all the agricultural branches because it requires the practice of all of the agricultural senses. A numskull can grow corn and cotton, but he cannot run a successful dairy.

The two new cars ordered some time ago by Col. McCloud for the electric line arrived Friday. They are made on the pattern of those already in use, and will be used as extras to accomodate the demand that sometimes arises from picnic parties, etc.

At the weekly practice of the Fort Smith Gun Club last Saturday afternoon, Miss Agnes Oglesby took part in the shooting and won from her brother, Ira Oglesby, a fine shot gun was a wager that she could not break for the fifty percent of the targets she shot at. Her score was eighteen out of twenty, far more than would have given her the prize.

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May 4, 1900

First White House Flunky: What's all that noise in the next room?

Second White House Flunky: Why that's the president changing his mind.

OFF FOR THE PENITENTIARY

Wednesday afternoon Sheriff Harrell left for Little Rock with the following prisoners in care: F. W. Bridge, involuntary manslaughter, four months; G. A. Buchanon, grand larceny, five years; A. Johnson, grand larceny, one year; Tom Majors and Tom Collins, robbery, four years; Birdie Cox ' grand larceny, one year. The parting between Buchanon and his wife was very effecting. Bridge feels hopeful he will get out in a short time.

Mrs. California Arrington, a well known colored resident of this city died April 25th, age 59 years. Her funeral took place on the 26th. Aunt Callie was a good old woman and had many friends among the older residents of the city.

GOLD ROPE

RISE & SHINE

FIVE CENT JIM

THRASHER

JOLLY JACK

MERRY WAR

BY JINGO TWIST

The above brands of tobacco are made by AntiTrust, Union Labor Factory, the Wilson and McCallary Tobacco Co., Middletown Ohio, are the best goods on the market. Try them and help keep down the trust.

Arthur E. Edie

General Agent

Fort Smith, Arkansas

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May 11, 1900

Dr. J. C. Eberle declined to accept the call to run for school director. Mr. August Reichart will heed the petition and stand for election.

The police are on the lookout for John McIntosh who induced Pat Reilly to cash a bogus check. John got the money on the check, and then pulled out on the Woodmen's excursion. He hasn't been heard from since.

Professor M. W. Parker, principal of Belle Grove School of this city, and Miss Alverta Monroe were married last week at the residence of the bride in Lonoke, and are at present making their home with Miss Nance on Sixth Street.

The Elevator extends them its congratulations and good wishes.

The jury in the case of Mrs. Mary Beck vs the Fort Smith Street Car Company, which occupied considerable of the time of the circuit court last week returned a verdict of acquital. This grew out of the death of Ernest Beck several months ago from injuries received by being knocked from the back of the company by a car.

STRAYED

From J. E. Marlen, at the water works pumping station, one flea bitten gray horse, branded E R on left hip, K B on left shoulder. A liberal reward will be paid for information leading to its recovery. Horse had bell on neck and small chain around left foot.

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May 18, 1900

EUREKA SPRINGS \$1.00

Grand excursion to Eureka Springs and return on Sunday May 20th, \$1.00 for the round trip. Special train will leave the Frisco Depot at 7.00 a.m., leave there at 8 p.m., take advantage of this low rate and see Eureka Springs. There will be room for all, we will see that everybody has seats. This train runs on time, no delays. For information call on the Frisco Depot, A. R. Peyinghous, Agent.

Mr. W. D. Young, the baker has bought 25 feet of ground on Garrison Avenue between Twelfth and Thirteenth Street, upon which he will erect a new building for his business.

Election of School Directors

An election will be held tomorrow the 19th, in each of the five wards of Fort Smith for two school directors to succeed J. W. Morton and F. A. Youmans whose terms of office will expire in a short time. The rate of taxation for the coming year will also be voted on. The election will be held at the following places:

First Ward, at Opera House

Second Ward, at City Hall

Third Ward, at Peabody School

Fourth Ward, at Scheutzen Park

Voters residing in any part of the city not embraced in any ward may vote at any place he may deem most convenient.

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May 25, 1900

Charley McLaughlin, a young man who formerly acted as a Motorman on the Fifth Street line, came to grief Saturday evening in the southern part of the city as a result of reckless driving. He drove up and down Garrison and through several of the side streets a number of times and finally wound up near Dr. Bailey's residence in the suburbs, where his horse ran away, throwing him out. Becoming entangled in the lines and harness, he was dragged a short distance and severely bruised. He is said to have been under the

influence of the ardent (ed. liquor) at the time of the accident.

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June 1, 1900

The largest rolling stock contract that has been recorded in the west during the present year was awarded in the city yesterday at the general offices of the Missouri Pacific-Iron Mountain Railroads Equitable building by the Vice President and General Manager Russell Harding. It calls for an outlay of \$150,000 and the entire order cannot be filled before the close of this year. Some of the specification details, it may be announced that the Missouri Pacific management has given a contract to the Brookes locomotive of Dunkirk, N.Y. to build eight new ten wheel passenger locomotives for fast service on the main lines of the Missouri Pacific and the Iron Mountain and twenty-two ten wheel heavy freight locomotives for service on the main lines of the system. The first delivery will be made in November and the second in December. These new engines will place the management in good shape to handle the heavy business of the winter and with the improved conditions of the road bed and track the Gould lines will be fully equal to the demands of the fast service.

MARRIAGE OF MR. DAWSON AND MISS MIVELAZ Mr. William Dawson and Miss Lena Mivelaz were married Monday morning in this city at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Rev. L. Smythe conducted the ceremony. The attendants were Capt. Charles Coffey and Miss Maggie Mivelaz. At the conclusion of the ceremony the newly married couple were given an informal reception at the residence of Mrs. Lawrence Mivelaz, the bride's mother, and later they took the Little Rock train for a visit to friends and relatives in Kentucky. The Elevator's best wishes go with them.

GOING TO THE GOLD FIELDS

Col. B. T. Duval, of this city, is organizing a company to go to the Cape Nome to search for the shiny metal. The company will be made up of well known men of the state and will start for the scene of their operations some time next month. Cape Nome is a long way from Fort Smith, but there is doubtless plenty of gold there for those who have pluck enough to dig for it. We hope Col. DuVal and his party may be successful in their search for nuggets and dust.

We feel sorry for a girl who is struck on a fellow who will spend a dollar for ice cream and three dollars for a buggy ride on a salary of six dollars per week. Somehow we always see a vision of barefooted children, a frowsy-headed woman over a washtub, tin pans for dishes on the table, and a combination of dogs and cats in the corner. The young man who saves his money while single, usually has something to go on when he is married.

TOOK IT AWAY FROM THE JURY

There are any number of stories to be printed about Judge Caldwell, but there is one that is said to be typical. He was hearing an argument whereby an attorney for an insurance company was attempting to evade payment of insurance on a purely technical ground. Judge Caldwell interrupted him. "Let me understand you, Brother Todd." He said to the attorney, "The policy was issued?" "Yes," "And it was not on fire?" "No" Brother Todd said. Judge Caldwell, "You can sit down. The jury will return a verdict for the plaintiff."

Hon. J. S. Little of Arkansas, has introduced in Congress a bill providing for the registration of all pharmacists in the Indian Territory, and providing for a board of pharmacy for the Territory similar in its functions to boards in the States. The law contemplated in this bill would prove a blessing to the people of the Indian country.

Last Saturday J. Foster & Company consummated a deal by which their stock was sold to W. J. Echols & Company and their building to the Berry-Wright Dry Goods Company. This is one of the largest deals that has taken place in Fort Smith for a long time.

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June 8, 1900

Dave Mayo, Lee Warner, Robert Meek, H. A. Durden and Ben Cravens returned Monday from Galveston where they spent a few days in fishing and sloshing around in the water.

Tuesday morning Deputy Marshall Carlton lodged Earl Warren and Joe Patton in the federal jail on a charge of selling whiskey. Both live in Newton County.

Quinn Bros. have packed up their stock and

shipped it back to Little Rock.

The main office of the Grand Central Hotel is being paved with Tennessee marble of two colors and in blocks 12 inches square. Mine host, Walton, is running a fine house, and its crowded tables and full rooms show that the public appreciates the advantages he is offering them.

Last week the Elevator received two bottles of wine from Mrs. William Allen, one red, the other white. It was made by Mrs. Allen from grapes grown in her own yard. It was of a splendid quality, sweet and pleasant, warm and invigorating, and as pure and harmless as milk. Mrs. Allen has the Elevator's thanks for the present.

Henry Herring accidentally broke his leg Monday. A couple were scuffling in Brogan's Saloon in a friendly way, and he joined in the scuffle. Presently he slipped and fell to the floor. In attempting to rise, he discovered that his left leg was injured, and upon examination it was found to be broken just above the ankle. He is at home at present, and will not be able to resume business for some time.

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June 15, 1900

Deputy Holman brought Saturday to the United States jail a moonshiner by the name of George Vincent. Vincent has been operating in Sevier County, and when arrested there was found a goodly quantity of liquor at his still, with beer and mash for plenty more.

A runaway team Saturday morning broke down the lamp-post at the corner of Garrison Avenue and Sixth Streets, and came near running into the Merchants' Bank.

Cards have been issued announcing the approaching marriage in Chicago of Miss Jesse Bunch and Mr. Paul McKain. The wedding will take place on the 20th inst. at the residence of Mrs. B. H. Taylor, the bride's aunt. The bride-elect is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Bunch of Spiro, IT. She was reared in Fort Smith and has many friends here.

The Forty-seventh annual exercises of St. Anne's Academy will be held Wednesday, June 20. A rare program has been selected and

arrangements made for the most entertaining exhibit yet made. We trust there will be a large attendance on this occasion, for the Commencement exercises of this institution are always of a most interesting nature.

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June 22, 1900

A LIVE WIRE George Maledon, an employee of Frank J. Kerr, fell from a telegraph pole Tuesday afternoon in front of J. J. Little & Company's Clothing store and sustained severe injuries. Maledon had mounted the pole and was preparing to paint it when one of his hands came in contact with a live wire. This caused him to lose his hold and he fell to the ground, a distance of thirty feet. He alighted on his feet, but the jar threw him back and in his fall the back of his head struck the iron covering on the gutter. When carried to the Palace Drug store and examined, it was discovered that a severe gash had been cut in the back part of his head and that one of his legs was badly sprained. He was taken home after his injuries had been attended to, and will recover. His escape from death was miraculous.

Last Monday Mrs. Zimmerschied, who lives on North Eighth street, had the misfortune to fall down a stairway and break one of her limbs.

Last Friday morning Judge Freer placed a fine of \$25.00 upon James O'Mara, a young tough not known to the officers, and gave him hours to leave town. O'Mara in a fit of passion had struck his mother. The Judge accompanied the imposition of a fine with a lecture that had the bark on it.

A surplice choir will assist in the services at the Episcopal church next Sunday at the ordination of Rev. Mr. Robertson. The members of the choir are young boys whose parents are members of the congregation. This will be the first time, we believe, a surpliced choir has appeared in a Protestant Church in this city.

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June 29, 1900

Our local baseball team went to Van Buren last Saturday and came back with their tail feathers missing.

There was a workingman's picnic near Jenny Lind Saturday under the auspices of the A.O.U.W. Those who attended say good order prevailed and that everybody present had a good time.

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July 6, 1900

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK

Fort Smith, Arkansas

Capital, \$100,000

Surplus and Undivided Profits \$95,000

Directors

W. M. Bear, T. W. M. Boone, L. Apple, E. P. Seeley, Dr. E. H. Stevenson, T.J. Smith, R.P.Harris, Wm.M. Cravens, P.A. Hall.

The Annual meeting of the Arkansas State Sportmen's Association will be held in this city July 10, 11, 12 and 13 and will be an outstanding event.

McCloud's Park is a favorite resort these hot evenings. The ride is exhilarating and the performances at the pavilion worth more than the money expended to witness them.

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July 13, 1900

Last Friday night somebody entered the grocery store of W. E. Bennett at 912 Garrison Avenue and stole about \$10 worth of groceries. The entrance to the building was effected through a rear window.

Chief of Police Fuller went to Springdale Sunday after W. H. Graham, who the police were holding on a telegram from this place for obtaining money with false pretense. Graham is the slick duck who induced Capt. W. W. Early to endorse a \$25 check for him on the First National Bank. He stands a good chance of paying a visit to Bud McConnell.

Bishop Montgomery, of Los Angeles, Cal., delivered a discourse Sunday at the Church of the Immaculate Conception. He is a man of marked ability, and his sermon was of unusual interest. The Bishop has been visiting his brother, Mr. John Montgomery for the past 2 weeks and will shortly return to his home on the Pacific coast.

Phonograph for Sale

Very cheap. Price \$12. You drop a nickel in the slot and the machine plays a piece. Apply at R. C. Bollinger, Music Store

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July 20, 1900

The Dawes Commission will be at Muldrow from August 13 to 17 for the purpose of making a final roll of the Cherokee people.

WANTED

Teams to haul lumber to Ola, Danville and Bellville, Ark. Apply to Fort Smith Lumber Company, Abbott, Arkansas.

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July 27, 1900

James J. Overton and Miss Viney Reams were married at the County Clerk's office Monday by Esq. Dan Baker.

So far, Col. B. T. DuVal and Mr. Jno. H. Gill are the only gentlemen who have manifested an intention to run for Mayor next spring, though several others are said to be grooming and may enter the lists when the contest opens next spring.

Law Department, Vanderbilt University. Two year course. Thorough instruction. Eight Professors. Library 8,000 volumes. Modern lecture rooms. New Dormitory, cost \$125,000. Expenses moderate. Board \$12.00 per month. For new catalogue address John Bell Keeble, Secretary Nashville, Tennessee

The water works company at Van Buren is building a dam across Lee's Creek for the purpose of increasing its water supply.

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August 3, 1900

Cottonwood cord-wood wanted. For prices and particulars write to Ballman-Cummings Furniture Co., Fort Smith, Ark.

Our friends the Populists passed over several of the most able men in their party to give the nomination for governor to poor old played out Files. Perhaps Files was the only one who would accept the worthless gift.

The weather bureau has been removed from Tilles' Opera House to the government building.

Richard Bulgrin and Will Cohn, two of the brightest young men of the city, were admitted Saturday to practice at the bar.

Mathis Churchill, who was before Commissioner Armistead this week on a charge of illicit distilling, was bound over in the sum of \$300.

Tuesday the Elevator received a basket of fine apples from the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shuford, in Benton county. The fruit was very fine.

D. T. Odum came in last Monday and gave himself up to the county officers to serve out a fine and costs in a case in which he was convicted some time ago for selling whiskey without a license.

Rev. O.E. Goddard, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of this city, is to deliver three lectures on China in Checotah some time during the present month. We assure the people of Checotah they will have a rare treat in Mr. Goddard's efforts.

Last week Mr. E. Ballman and several other gentlemen of this city purchased the furniture stocks which Mr. C. J. Murta had in his stores in Fort Smith and Van Buren. The terms of the deal have not been made known, being matters with which the public is not concerned. Mr. Murta still retains control of his hardware interests in this city.

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August 10, 1900

DAWES' COMMISSIONS' PLAN

The United States Commission to the five civilized tribes has made the following announcements of its plans for enrolling Cherokees. It will be at —

Muldrow from Monday, August 13 to Friday, August 17 inclusive

Fort Gibson from Monday, August 13, to Friday, August 31 inclusive

Prior Creek from Monday, September 3, to Friday, September 7 inclusive

Vinita from Monday, September 17, to Friday September 28 inclusive

Welch from Monday, October 1, to Friday, October 5, inclusive

Bartlesville from Monday, October 8, to Friday, October 12 inclusive

Nowata from Monday, October 15, to Friday, October 19

Oologah, from Monday, October 22, to Friday, October 26 inclusive

Claremore from Monday, October 29 to November 9 inclusive

Catoosa from Monday, November 12 to Friday,

November 16 inclusive

Chelsea from Monday, November 19 to Friday,
November 23 inclusive

Tahlequah from Monday, December 1 to
December 23, 1900

Turnip Seed

All kinds at Robt. Reiehardt's, 723 Garrison
Avenue. 1900 crop just received. Mail orders
have prompt attention.

Arkansas has 2199 square miles of marble, of
thirteen varieties, besides onyx, copper, lead,
phosphates, tripoli and manganese, and white
sand for plate glass.

The Van Buren Venture says Louis Wade and
Fred Skeleton were drowned in White River near
Fayetteville last week. They were playing in the
water and got beyond their depth.

Hon. Robert L. Rogers, Democratic candidate
for Prosecuting Attorney for the Fifteenth circuit,
had the misfortune to fracture his left leg above
the ankle in jumping from a buggy.

The people of Van Buren have been notified
that their telephone rates are to be raised and are
hot in the collar like unto their brethren on this
side of the river.

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August 17, 1900

Early Tuesday morning, fire was discovered
breaking through the roof of one of Fagan
Bourland's houses on South Sixth street. The fire
department was notified and the hose carts
responded in time to keep the fire where it origi-
nated. The damage was slight. The building was
occupied by Mr. R.H. LaFerry and family, who
have no idea how the fire broke out.

The Grand Central Hotel has closed its dining
room, and in the future will be run as a rooming
house. It presents special facilities for this kind of
a business, for its rooms are large, clean, and
airy and well furnished, and equipped with clean
beds, and all the most modern conveniences. Mr.
L. W. Walton retains charge of the Grand Central,
which is a guarantee that it will retain the reputa-
tion for which it has been noted.

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August 24, 1900

The board of public affairs at its meeting last

Monday morning awarded the contract for fur-
nishing the city with two hose wagons to P. J.
Cooney & Company, of St. Louis.

John Lowe, a colored boy, who stole Ed
Ballman's bicycle and sold it for fifty cents was
bound over in the sum of \$500 to answer for his
offense before the court.

Last Saturday was pay-day at Bonanza. As the
payroll of the Western Coal and Mining Company
carries about 600 names, it will be seen that a
goodly quantity of Uncle Sam's currency found its
way into the neighborhood that day.

Somebody got into Walter Mulraney's saloon
early last Friday morning and tapped his till for
\$15. From the looks of things it is thought the
thief was inside of the house when it was closed
up, for there was no damage done to the locks,
and the bars with which the doors are secured
were lying a few feet back in the alley.

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August 31, 1900

A citizen of Joplin, Mo. has eloped with his
mother-in-law. He is 35, and she is 50 and has
eight children, the oldest of whom is the man's
wife.

A single burr oak tree, cut near Eureka Springs,
made 11 railroad ties and 40 fence posts, worth
\$18. An ordinary tree yields from 3 to 8 ties.

A severe thunderstorm, accompanied by con-
siderable wind and a heavy rainfall, passed over
this city Sunday night. It came from the north and
northwest. Rain began falling about 11 o'clock
and continued at intervals until daylight. The
downfall was steady and at times copious.
During the night 2.59 inches fell in the city. It was
the first rain of any consequence that had fallen
in more than a month, and was a blessing to veg-
etation, as well as parched humanity. During the
storm lightning struck the higher steeple of the
Church of the Immaculate Conception, tearing off
the slate covering of the east side a distance of
ten or twelve feet from the top.

Deputy Marshal Holman arrived from Howard
County last week with two prisoners who will
have to answer to Uncle Sam for their misdeeds.
H. S. Sanders who is accused of sending an
obscene letter through the mail, and Monroe

Stewart who is charged with selling liquor contrary to law. It is said Sanders, who is a married man, became jealous of his brother, to whom he addressed a letter in terms that fractured Uncle Sam's post laws.

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September 7, 1900

WOMEN THINK ABOUT THIS

In addressing Mrs. Pinkham you are communicating with

A WOMAN

A woman whose experience in treating female ills is greater than that of any living person, male or female.

She has fifty thousand such testimonial letters as we are constantly publishing showing that Lydia A. Pinkham's vegetable compound is daily relieving hundreds of suffering women.

Every woman knows some women Mrs. Pinkham has restored to health.

Mrs. Pinkham makes no statement she cannot prove. Her advice is free.

Harlack's store on North Eleventh street was burglarized on the night of the 30th ult.... and a quantity of goods stolen.

C. B. Harriman and Mrs. M.J. Hodge were married on the 30th of August at the county clerk's office by Justice Dan Parker.

On Friday the 14th of September there will be a barbeque at the Cedar Station eight miles from Fort Smith. There will be refreshments of all kinds on the grounds. Music and swings.

LABOR DAY

The Labor Day parade was not as extensive as that of last year, but the attendance was larger and the exercises more interesting. The procession moved up Garrison Avenue shortly before 11 o'clock, escorted by the High School Cadets and preceded by the consolidated band. A "hayseed" band brought up the rear and occasioned much merriment. Mr. Otto Brauning was grand marshal. Mr. W. J. Mallett was master of ceremonies. Judge J. C. Byers made the address of welcome which was an unusually strong effort. Mr. Boston of Illinois also spoke. The principal speaker of the day was Mr. W. W. Stewart of Iowa who delivered quite an exhaustive address along the lines of socialism.

The band furnished choice music during the intermission between speakers and the day's exercises closed with a grand ball.

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September 14, 1900

California wine \$1.00 a gallon or 25 cents a quart at Harper and Wilson's corner of Garrison Avenue and Fourth street, Fort Smith, Ark.

Articles of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State last week by the Wylie Coal Mining and Rock Machine Company of Fort Smith. Its capital stock is \$30,000, all of which is subscribed. The officers are M. B. Wylie, president; J. C. Finney, vice-president; T. T. Winchester, secretary-treasurer.

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September 21, 1900

After a long wait, Mr. McKinley, like the animal known in history as the property of one Baalam, has opened his mouth and spoken. He smoothes over the rough spots of his administration and for it claims all the prosperity of the county. Upon this he lays special stress.

The public schools began their 1900-1901 season last Monday, with an attendance of about 2000, which number has been considerably increased since that time. This is a far greater enrollment than that which greeted opening day last year, and speaks volumes for the conduct of schools and the satisfaction felt by our people in their management.

Mrs. L. E. Whybark met with a severe accident Monday. She was driving in Barnes and Sweet additions when she struck her horse with a switch. This caused the horse to kick vicously, his feet striking her in the breast and breaking her breast bone and one of her shoulders.

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September 28, 1900

Frank Pearson convicted of perjury in Sebastian county last November and sentenced to one year in the penitentiary, has been pardoned.

Mr. Hugh Simpson has purchased the cottage built by W. R. Martin on South Thirteenth Street and is occupying it with his family.

Mr. Michael Donahoe and Miss Mary Teague were married Thursday morning at the Church of the Immaculate Conception by Father Brady.

Mr. Wharton Carnall is placing a concrete floor in his building at 813 Garrison Avenue. He will also place a concrete pavement in front of the building.

Monday, a Jewish New Year was generally observed by our citizens of that faith. Their places of business were closed and interesting services were held at their Temple on Eleventh street. Rabbi Currick conducted the exercises, to which an excellent choir added interest, with some of the choicest music ever rendered in this city.

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October 5, 1900

Catis Wilson, a young son of Mr. C.P. Wilson had a rib broken last Friday. He was riding a pony which stumbled and fell upon him.

Ed Stable has sold the effects of the Perfection Bedding Company to Ed and Emile Ballman, who will continue business and probably increase the plant and its production capacity.

The United Daughters of the Confederacy will have a booth at the street fair in which will be sold articles of various kinds for the benefit of the monument fund. A subscription circulated Tuesday for the purpose of raising money to build the booth met with a very flattering response. The object of the ladies is a laudable one, and we trust will meet with unbounded success.

A scrap between Marion Moore and B. Hartley near Texas Corner last Friday resulted in the latter being slashed with a knife. The wound was across the arm and was quite an ugly cut. Moore was taken before Esq. A.A. McDonald Saturday but upon examination was released, the testimony showing he acted in self defence. Moore and Hartley live on Capt. J. F. Reynolds plantation in the Choctaw Nation near this city. Recently Capt. Reynolds attached some cotton that Hartley had raised and Hartley accused Moore of asking Reynolds to seize it. That led to the row.

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October 12, 1900

C. A. & H. C. Birnie — Undertakers and Embalmers Burial Cases and Caskets — All

sizes and prices. Telegraph orders a specialty. 605 Garrison Ave., Fort Smith, Ark.

Don't fail to call and inspect our magnificent line of Buggies, Phaetons, Surreys, Carriages, Road and Spring Wagons, Carts and Springfield and Weber Farm Wagons. We are headquarters and our prices are always right — Speer Hardward Co., Fort Smith, Ark.

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October 19, 1900

The Greenwood Democrat says that while working at Scott Stroud's gin at witcherville on the 3rd, Joe Britton got his arm caught in the jaws and badly mangled. He was also badly cut in the breast.

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October 26, 1900

Waldon Reporter: A very difficult operation was performed last week by Drs. Bevell, Robertson and Duncan in extracting a cockle burr from the wind pipe of the 13 year old son of Mr. Herren of Cedar Creek. The child had not eaten anything for six days.

Dr. & Mrs. J. W. Breedlove, who have been residents of this city for the past fifteen years left last Saturday for St. Louis, where they will reside in the future. Dr. Breedlove's health we are glad to state has greatly improved of late.

Fred Boyer, a Fort Smith boy who has been serving with the Thirty-Third Regiment in the Phillipines, returned last week. He thinks there is a good prospect for fighting there for a long time to come.

Stella Patterson was accidentally shot in Jenny Lind by her little playmate, Barton Coleman, and died a short time afterward. This is a truly lamentable accident, and one we regret to record.

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November 2, 1901

The Globe Democrat mentions a family in Southern Illinois which has forty-six voting members, all of whom will cast their votes for McKinley. That family deserves pity.

Henry Sorghunfry, one of the boys arrested for burglarizing Atkinsonson's hardware store is missing. He was permitted to pass last Friday night at the residence of Mr. Lide Rector, and after breakfast the next morning he skipped out.

The night school opened up monday evening with an attendance of forty-seven pupils. The gentlemen who have charge of the school are greatly encouraged at the outlook and hope the number on the rolls will be augmented.

John O'Brien, charged with larceny and tried in the circuit court, was convicted and sentenced to 1 year's confinement in the penitentiary.

FOR SALE

40 acres of fine river bottom land. All in cultivation, 3 miles from city. Price \$45 per acre. Wharton Carnall

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November 9, 1900

DEATH FROM OLD INJURY

Mr. G. L. Johnson died yesterday morning at his home on Mazzard Prairie, at the age of 65 years. His death resulted from injuries received the first day the electric street cars began operation. He was in the city that day and his team became frightened at the cars and ran away. At the corner of Garrison Avenue and Ninth street the wagon overturned and fell on him and he never recovered from the effects of his injuries. He leaves a widow and five children, the latter being Mrs. Ben Howell of Bokoshe IT, Mrs. J. L. Holey of Bonanza, and Mrs. D. D. Carson, Mrs. Callie Williams and Mr. Jim Johnson of Fort Smith.

Every year on June 30th the pensioners of the Civil War are counted. In June 1898 the number on the 1st was 903,914. Last year there were about 2000 less and this year there are fewer than 1898.

The Far Famous Cleanliness of a Dutch Kitchen Cannot Compare With the American Kitchen Cleaned with

GOLD DUST WASHING POWDER

Robert McCarty of I.T. fell from the window of a room on the second story of a building at the corner of Garrison Avenue and Ninth streets last Saturday morning and was so badly bruised that he had to be taken to Belle Point Hospital.

At the City Council Monday evening Alderman Dooley introduced his much talked about curfew

ordinance. The ordinance is intended to keep children from gallivanting around the city after a certain hour in the evening unless accompanied by parent or guardian or with their written permission. There is a possibility the ordinance will pass.

The announcement is made that Mr. E. C. Groover and Miss Mamie Sandefer will be married in this city on the evening of the 28th of November. Both parties are well known in the city and are popular and highly esteemed by the large circle of acquaintances among whom they move. The ceremony will take place at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John Gannaway on Lexington Avenue.

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November 16, 1900

TWO CHURCHES DEDICATED

Last Sunday two Methodist churches were dedicated in Fort Smith, the Central and the First Methodist. Bishop Hendrick conducted the dedicatory services in both instances and preached the sermons of dedication.

Both these buildings have already been in use. The First Methodist church was built more than ten years ago but at completion there rested a debt upon it and according to a rule of the church could not be dedicated until the debt had been lifted. That has at last been done.

The original Central Methodist church building was wiped from the face of the earth by the cyclone of 1898, but in its stead arose a much handsomer and more substantial structure than the original. There remained a slight incumbrance upon it when the congregation met for the dedicatory service, but upon a statement from the bishop it was wiped out in a few moments.

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November 23, 1900

Mrs. Hannah P. Boyd died in Fort Smith last Monday morning at half past 10 o'clock. Her remains were laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery Wednesday. Funeral services being conducted at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Alex Walker, with whom she had made her home for a long time and afterward at the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

Mrs. Boyd was the mother of Mr. N. P. Boyd, Mrs. Alex Walker and Miss Lillie Boyd. She was a native of England, but most of her life had been passed in the United States. She was a lady of noble traits of character, sincere and earnest in all walks of life, and a Christian in all that the term

implies. The many friends, of her bereaved family extend sympathies to them in this, their great hour of sorrow.

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November 30, 1900

Mr. George Tilles has purchased the property recently occupied by the Sengel Hardware Company and will fit it up and put it in good shape for a new tenant.

Last Saturday Judge Freer gave Arthur Tabler a thirty-five day jail sentence for vagrancy and sentenced John Slyman to two months imprisonment for carrying a pistol. Both had been arrested for trying to get away with a watch that did not belong to them, but the charge could not be made to stick.

Census Director Merryman informs Secretary Williams of the Commercial League, that Fort Smith will not be granted another enumeration and appears very indignant that such a request should be made. So that ends the matter.

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December 7, 1900

Sam Edmondson says Little Rock is one of the hottest towns he ever jammed up against. Sam knows a good town when he sees it, and never fails to speak a good word for the place that treats him well.

John Muskrat, the Cherokee who recently stole a team of mules and sold them to a man near Uniontown, was convicted Monday in Crawford county court and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary.

William D. Cash and Mary Mitchell were married at the county clerk's office by Justice Sam Edmondson. Both from the Indian Territory.

Last Saturday Deputy Lunsford reported at the federal jail with J. A. McFarland, B. L. Newman and L.M. Willis, who are charged with selling whiskey at and near Magazine without the consent of Uncle Sam. Willis was released on bond, but McFarland and Newman languish.

J. E. Barnes and Ed Murphy, two of the men arrested for burglarizing the overall factory, went before the circuit court Monday and entered a plea of guilty. Each received a sentence of four years in the penitentiary. Barnes is known in the history of this section as "Bosco" the snake-eater,

and during the street fair made exhibits of his proficiency in this line to the everlasting disgust of a great many people.

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December 14, 1900

Little's Bills

Hon. J. S. Little has introduced the following bills looking to Indian Territory: Levy taxes for education of children in Indian Territory; to create a board of health to regulate practice of medicine in Indian Territory; for protection of cities and towns in Indian Territory; to authorize Chickasaw freedmen to bring suit in court of claims against Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations and the United States.

The Van Buren Argus says that vandals are engaged in desecrating the handsome Confederate Monument in Fairview cemetery. Besides defacing the seal on the northside of the monument, the lead in a number of the joints has been picked out by men or boys whose only object can be to destroy. The members of the U.D.C. have offered a reward for the arrest and conviction of any party found loitering about the grounds, or defacing the monument in any manner. Application of a short rope without any shrift at all would be too light punishment for the misbegotten wretches who perpetrate such outrages.

Ladies' fine kid shoes, all solid leather, this sale \$1.19. Brown-Bollosson Co.

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December 21, 1900

He Might Need All of That Saturday Evening Post. Uncle Sam is about the only man in the world who can go Christmas Shopping without fear. His income is about two million a day.

The Elevator is in receipt of a copy of the Bonanza Herald, published by Sam P. Jones. It is well printed and brim full of news. Bonanza occupies quite an important position in the business world and needs a live paper to increase her standing. We hope the Herald will be a successful venture.

After Mr. Towne had been sworn in he took his seat on the Democratic side of the senate chamber. We are willing to admit him to the ranks of the Democratic party, but he must sing low, very low, for awhile.

The Conway Sickle for December is unusually spicy.

John Guler and Len O'Neal showed the generosity of their nature this week by sending a large Christmas box to the home for the Children of Odd Fellows at Batesville. The box was well packed with candies, nuts, dolls, and such toys as delight the hearts of little ones about Christmas time.

Samuel W. Rippy and Ethel Baker were married Friday morning by Esq. R. M. Fry. The ceremony took place in a wagon on North Sixth street, in front of Ott Brunning's paint shop. Ott dignified the occasion by his presence. The happy couple have been living near Checotah, but were on their way to Danville, Ark.

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December 28, 1900

Van Buren Argus. Several crates of persimmons are being shipped from Van Buren daily, and if the returns are satisfactory there will be several hundred crates shipped from here daily before the close of the season. They are packed for shipment the same as strawberries and are said to carry well.

We have learned that the item published last week in the Elevator in which it was stated that a man had been dragged to death by Bud Stacy, near Colington, I.T. was erroneous to some extent. There was a little squabble between several parties at the time and place mentioned, in which whisky and cards played a part, but nobody was seriously hurt. Wellington Sherfield and Bud Stacy had a disagreement over the game on account of money which the former claimed, and Sherfield was roped by Stacy and shook around a little, but not injured to any extent.

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January 4, 1901

JANUARY WEATHER

The following data, covering a period of 18 years, have been compiled from the Weather Bureau records of Fort Smith for the month of January for 18 years.

TEMPERATURE

Mean or normal temperature 37°

The warmest month was that of 1891, with an average of 45°

The coldest month was that of 1886 with an average of 27°

The highest temperature was 80° on January 26, 1890

The lowest temperature was 7° on January 8, 1886 and 24, 1894 Average date on which the first "killing" frost occurred in Autumn, November 2

Average date on which last "Killing" frost occurred in Spring, March 23.

PRECIPITATION (RAIN & MELTED SNOW)

Average for month, 2.48 inches

Average number of days with .01 of an inch or more, 9

The greatest monthly precipitation was 5.33 inches in 1889

The least monthly precipitation was .79 inches in 1837

The greatest amount of precipitation recorded in any 24 consecutive hours was 3.01 inches on January 1 and 2, 1897

CLOUDS AND WEATHER

Average number of clear days 12

Partly Cloudy 8; Cloudy 11

WIND

The prevailing winds have been from the east. The highest velocity of the wind was 48 miles from the southwest on January 11, 1898

John R. Weeks

Observer Weather Bureau

December 31, 1900

Full many a bard has praised those feasts
Where the mantling wine flows red, But never a
one of the rhyming beasts Says a word of the
next day's head.

AN ERROR

Please announce through your column that Miss Emily Caton of Jones County Texas is now enjoying fine health and not dead as reported in your issue of the 28 instant. Report grew out of some letters that were written here by parties that had heard the report. Miss Ora Caton, sister of Miss Emily is, we are sorry to learn, in very poor health and has been for quite a while, but Miss Emily is well.

There are now three full fledged candidates for Mayor in the field; Mr. John H. Gill, Tom Ben Garrett, the present incumbent, and Col. B. T. DuVal, who announced his candidacy last Monday. The candidacy of such men is embarrassing to the average voter. All are first-

class citizens, live, progressive men and good Democrats, and it is difficult to make a choice between them. But it is a good sign when such men aspire to public position.

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January 11, 1901

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The stockholders of the American National Bank held their annual election Tuesday and chose the following officers for the ensuing year: William Blair, T.W.M. Boone, S. P. Seeley, Dr. E. H. Stevenson, R. P. Harris, T. J. Smith, W. O. Caldwell, R. Apple, and P. A. Ball. At a supplement meeting of the directors the old officers were elected to serve during the coming year.

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January 28, 1901

Mrs. Geo. Tilles made a flying trip to Dallas, Texas, the first of the week.

Miss Estelle Williams left Tuesday evening for Pueblo, Colorado, where she will be the guest of Miss Corine Busey, one of her old schoolmates, for several weeks.

Circuit Clerk Rutherford left Monday for El Paso, Texas, where he will remain for several weeks. He goes at the suggestion of his physician. The ELEVATOR trusts that he will be greatly benefitted by the trip, and wishes him a pleasant trip and safe return.

WOOD BAILY

Is the man to see if you want to buy a horse or mule or sell yours. Sale stable No. 117 Towson Avenue.

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January 25, 1901

QUEEN VICTORIA IS DEAD

Passed away peacefully at Osborne House, 6:30 o'clock Tuesday night.*

Edward VII is now King of Great Britain and Ireland. The whole world mourns.

*(Tuesday was January 22 — Article too long to extract)

A PLEASANT SURPRISE

When Mr. John Ayers of the Ayers Hardware Company, went home Monday evening, to his surprise he found his house in possession of about a dozen of his Baptist brethren who had taken charge and were running things to suit themselves. After he had reasoned with himself for sometime, Mr. Ayers came to the conclusion that the whole thing was a scheme concocted by the visitors and Mrs. Ayers, and also happened to

remind himself that Monday was his fortyfifth birthday anniversary. He accordingly decided that unconditional surrender on his part was the proper thing.

The spread prepared by Mrs. Ayers was greatly enjoyed by all. Before the guests departed, they presented Mr. Ayers with a handsome ring as an evidence of the high esteem in which he is held. Those present were: Rev. N. R. Pittman, P. A. Ball, Dr. J. W. O'Kelley, T. C. Price, F. E. Carr, T. N. Sloat, R.A. Clarkson.

The Oklahoma Vinegar Co., will let contracts for the growing of cucumbers from now until the 15th of February. Farmers with bottom land preferred. Contracts will be let at their offices, Fort Smith, Arkansas, anytime after this date.

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February 1, 1901

Mrs. T. D. Silverman representing the "American Israelite" of Cincinnati and the "Chicago Israelite" of Chicago, has been in the city during the past week. She has charge of the circulation of the two publications.

I. H. Nakdiman, the new proprietor of the overall factory, is making preparation to resume work at an early day. The factory will run to its fullest capacity and will give employment to a large force of hands.

Henry Ellis and Steve Blauckman have embarked in the saloon business at 918 Garrison Avenue. A license was issued Wednesday. Both parties are well known colored men.

Crazy Snake has been captured. Now, if Marshal Bennett can succeed in lassoing a few crazy newspaper correspondents now running at large, we think the uprising in the Territory may be said to be squelched.

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February 8, 1901

Judge Spradling is considering the advisability of building a bridge across Mill Creek south of the city.

At a meeting of the council Monday night \$150 was appropriated for distribution among the volunteer members of the fire department.

Ben Cravens Jr. is stopping with Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson out on the Craven's farm between here and Van Buren. The young man is

about a week old and lively as a cricket.

If Col. DuVal and Ben T. DuVal, Jr. do not sue the REPUBLIC for damages, a good many people will think they made a mistake. The pictures of these gentlemen appearing in the Sunday issue of the REPUBLIC would make an Egyptian mummy to grin.

NATURAL GAS

The city council has before it two ordinances, one for natural gas and one for artificial gas, the former for fifty year franchise at \$1.00 per 1000 cubic feet, the latter for twenty five years at \$1.00 for fuel gas and \$1.00 for lighting purposes. We hope the council will grant the ordinances as they are reasonable and if the parties can get the natural gas yield reopened it will be of great benefit to Fort Smith.

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FEBRUARY 22, 1901

CLOSED THE DEAL

The transfer of the Rogers-Wade Furniture Company to the Messrs. Eads has been consummated. The old management has been engaged during the past few days in invoicing and had practically finished that preliminary detail Wednesday. The Messrs. Eads have not only purchased the business but the property also and will no doubt succeed in increasing the commercial prestige and standard of business they are about to control.

C. J. Murta, as a result of the present deal, will retain his business interest in the house he formerly managed.

Orders have gone forth to police members to enforce the ordinance providing a punishment for anyone throwing waste paper on the streets. Since the garbage boxes were placed in position, there has been no excuse for such action, but the ordinance has been disregarded.

Death of Mrs. DeBaum

Mrs. Caroline F. DeBaum, an old and greatly respected resident of Fort Smith died at her home Wednesday morning. Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon from the Presbyterian Church, the pastor Rev. McKay officiating. Mrs. DeBaum was seriously injured several weeks ago, and this, coupled with her advanced Age, was the cause of death. She was a lady of many virtues and numbered her friends by the score, all of whom will mourn her loss.

GUS BOEHMEN

Bicycle
Gun and

Machine Repairing

All classes of machines are handled in the best possible manner by expert machinists.

823 Garrison Fort Smith, Arkansas

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March 1, 1901

WORKING 24 HOURS A DAY There's no rest for these tireless little workers. Dr. King's New Life Pills. Millions are always busy, curing Torpid Liver, Jaundice, Biliousness, Fever and Ague. They banish sick headaches, drive out malaria, never gripe or weaken, small, taste nice, work wonders. Try them. 25cents at all druggists.

What a glorious old lot of fun Mrs. Nation could have if she were turned loose with her hatchet in the halls of the Arkansas legislature.

The Fort Smith Carpenter's Union has issued an ultimatum to the contractors to become operative April 1. The union demands that eight hours shall constitute a day's work and that the scale of wages shall be the same for eight as for nine hours, the old scale. The contractors declare they will not grant the demands.

DIVORCES GRANTED

On Monday, Judge Rowe granted a divorce to Mrs. Jennie J. Johnson, thus effecting a legal separation from her husband, whose conduct has been fully exploited by the press. Col. DuVal appeared for the plaintiff while Col. Sam Edmondson looked after the interests of A. C. Johnson, the defendant. After hearing the facts to the court, Judge Rowe quickly granted the prayer of the defendant.

Mrs. Florence Davies was also granted a legal separation from her husband, Chas. W. Davies, on the grounds of nonsupport and cruel treatment. Mrs. Davies is the stenographer in the office of Col. Ben T. DuVal.

Mrs. P. J. Sloan was also granted a divorce from her husband A. E. Sloan, on grounds of cruel treatment.

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March 8, 1901

THE INAUGURATION

McKinley and Roosevelt inducted into office

with elaborate Military Display

A BRILLIANT SPECTACLE

A throng of forty thousand people gathered before the capitol to witness the inauguration. (March 4, 1901)

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March 15, 1901

After three months of the finest winter weather ever known in this section, the cyclone, tornado, hurricane, and old Jupiter Plavious joined hands the latter part of last week and proceeded to have an inning. In eastern and southern Arkansas and portions of Texas the loss of life and damage to property was widespread. It is estimated that sixteen lives were lost in this state as a result of the storm, while Texas also suffered severely in this respect.

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March 22, 1901

At the council meeting Monday night, Alderman Dooley's "anti spitting" ordinance was passed. Alderman Grober was the only member to cast his vote against the measure. The ordinance as passed does not bear much resemblance to the original measure as introduced but it is a good thing just the same.

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March 29, 1901

It is highly probable that the grand jury will give these saloon keepers who make a practice of selling on Sunday a general shaking up. The bill recently passed by the legislature provided for a minimum of \$500, one half of which goes to the informant, and the saloon men will naturally be a little wary about selling with the danger of "peaching" staring them in the face.

Our best informed fruit growers pronounce the fruit uninjured by the recent freeze. The prospect of an unusually heavy crop of peaches, apples and berries will never be better.

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April 5, 1901

To break hens from setting, all that is necessary to be done is to place them in clean, large coops containing a hard floor — no nesting material. Inveterate cases may be cured by putting a rooster also in the coop to bother them. From three to six days are required to bring about the reformation.

Horses Wanted

I want six dapple gray horses for tally-ho purposes. Must weigh from 1050 to 1800 pounds,

sound, in good flesh, and be good active horses. Will pay a good price. Will Schultee, Fort Smith, Ark.

Account Confederate reunion May 28 to 30th inclusive. Tickets on sale May 25, 26, 27. Final limit for return June 4. By depositing tickets with joint agent at Memphis on or before June 2nd and payment of 50 cents fee at the time of deposit, final limit will be extended till June 19th. For further information call or address H.N. Hall, Depot agent So. 7th and B St. or T. O. Smith, City Pass, A & T Agent, 6th and Garrison Ave.

Maple Leaf Camp No. 9 Woodmen of the World, will unveil the Monument of a deceased sovereign at Oak Cemetery on Sunday afternoon, April 28. All neighboring Camps and visiting Woodmen are cordially invited to be present and participate in the ceremonies, which will be unusually interesting.

— • —

April 12, 1901

The Elevator office can furnish you anything in the job printing line at the lowest possible price for first class work. Write us.

Will Build a Temple

For some time past the Scottish Rite Masons have been contemplating the building of a temple at South McAlester. The necessary steps have been taken to incorporate the body, to be known as the Scottish Rite Temple Association of the Indian Territory. A three-story stone structure will be built in the near future upon the completion of which a consistory of the order will be instituted and the thirtysecond degree will be conferred.

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April 19, 1901

The Arkansas senate has passed a bill providing that every person who desires to drink intoxicating liquors in that State must be provided with a license. On the payment of the small sum of \$5 the thirsty man is to be supplied with a document setting forth the fact that the possessor is to be permitted to pose as a "dram drinker" for the period of one year. It is not stated whether he will be required to wear his license tag attached to the lapel of his coat, or whether he will be allowed to carry it in the inside pocket. It is pleasing to think of the stern barkeeper thundering "Show your license please, gentlemen," to the thirsty crowd lined up before him, and of the consternation of the stranger who has not secured his tag. Will

inspectors be stationed on the State line to board incoming trains and see that all the passengers are properly tagged? Or will railway companies simply add \$5 to all tickets purchased to or through Arkansas? The legislature ought not to stop with dram drinkers' licenses. Why not prescribe a smokers fee? Why let the mince pie eater off without a license? But the legislature must be given time. Possibly by next year the Arkansas school children may be asked to purchase chewing gum permits.

Tried for Seduction

Claude McBroom, charged with seduction, was tried in the circuit court this week, the trial commencing Monday evening and lasting nearly all of Tuesday. The prosecuting witness was Miss Ellie Ray, who testified that McBroom under promise of marriage, had accomplished her ruin. At the time McBroom succeeded in his evil design, Miss Ray was under age of consent, thus bringing the crime within the preview of the law. An attempt was made to show that the character of Miss Ray was bad, but this was an ignominious failure. Judge Bryant and Col. Brizzolara appeared for the defendant and Prosecuting Attorney Cravens and J. B. Rutherford for the State. The case was given to the jury Tuesday afternoon, but at the time we go to press, the jury is still-out.

Stop at the Hotel Main — Everything new and first-class. Rates \$2 and \$2.50 a day. E. H. Hudson, Mgr.

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April 26, 1901

Four Full Quarts Mill Wood 8 year old whiskey delivered to the nearest Express Office for only \$3.25. This is the Best Goods on Earth for the money. Send us in your orders at once. Harper-Reynolds Liquor Co., Distributors for Mill Wood Distilling Co., 500 and 502 Garrison Ave.

The art glass windows for the auditorium of the First Baptist Church arrived the first of the week from St. Louis, and will soon be placed in position. The majority of them are memorial windows subscribed for by members of the congregation who desire to perpetuate in a living way the memory of departed loved ones. The windows will add greatly to the appearance of the building in every way.

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May 3, 1901

STRAYED OR STOLEN One St. Bernard and Newfoundland cross dog, color black, long curly hair, brown feet and forepart of head, answers to name of Polo. Very large, weighed when left home 150 to 175 pounds. Disappeared from home on January 10. I will give \$10.00 to anyone returning dog or giving clue as to his whereabouts. S. E. Poeher, 415 S. 17th Street or Brown-Rolleson Co.

Scampton Cavalier Jr.

The celebrated Cleveland Bay Stallion, will stand for mares during the season of 1901 at Bruder's Stable, No. 18 north Eighth Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

The art glass windows for the First Baptist Church arrived from St. Louis last week and are nearly all in position. They add greatly to the appearance of the large auditorium.

The home of Harry E. Kelley at 822 North Thirteenth street has been purchased by Mrs. R. G. Hunt for \$3,500. The property has been the residence of John Gardner.

Twenty one dogs were slaughtered the first day the dog-killer started out on his mission of exterminating unlicensed canines.

CHEW

Wetmore's Best

But Pay For It Only If You Like It

Wetmore's Best is a navy tobacco. If you like navy tobacco and don't like Wetmore's Best, the dealer will return your money if he knows you bought it of him.

M. C. Wetmore Tobacco Co.

St. Louis, Mo.

Success

Success is speaking words of praise,
In cheering other people's ways,
In doing just the best you can,
With every task and every plan,
It's silence when your speech would hurt,
Politeness when your neighbor's curt,
It's deafness when the scandal flows,
And sympathy with others' woes,
It's loyalty when duty calls,
It's courage when disaster falls,
It's patience when the hours are long,
It's found in laughter and in song,
It's in the silent time of prayer,
In happiness and in despair,
In all of life and nothing less,
We find the thing we call success.

ANONYMOUS

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- NOTES: # - some sort of graphic is used, other than a portrait.
 * - 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.
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