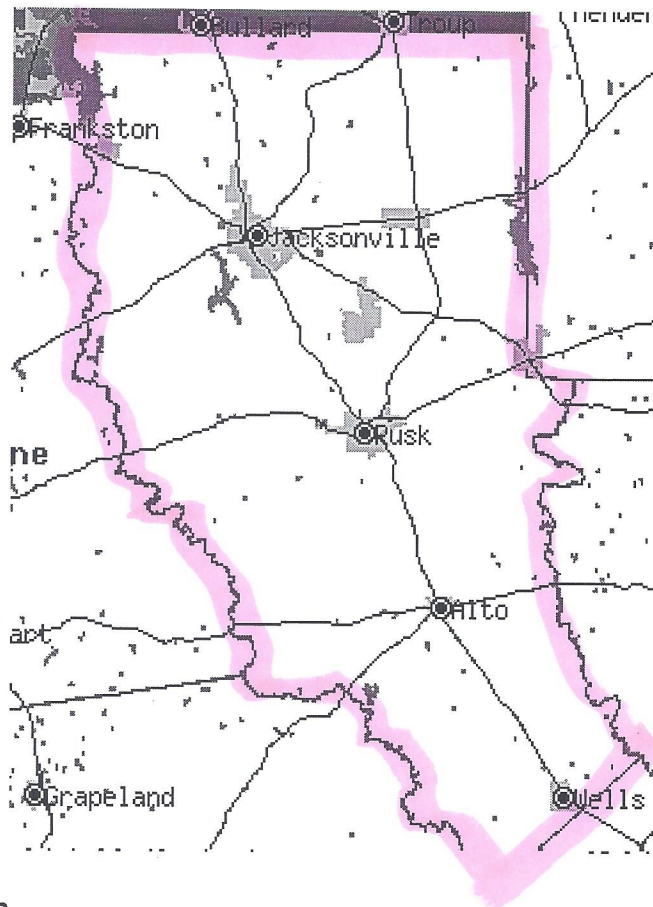


TREE TALK



CHEROKEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box 1332

Jacksonville, Texas 75766-1332

Email ccgs@tyler.net

<http://www.tyler.net/ccgs/default.html>

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txcherok/default.html>

A Non-Profit Organization

ISSN 0736-7678

Cherokee County Genealogical Society was organized in 1975. Its purpose is to promote interest in genealogical research and the preservation of family history. Annual membership dues are \$12.00 (single) and \$16.00 for a two-member household. The membership year begins in September and members will receive four issues of our Tree Talk publication per membership year. A single issue of Tree Talk is \$3.50.

When requesting information from our society, PLEASE INCLUDE A STAMPED SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

When a member has a change of address, it is important to submit the new address as soon as possible.

Queries are published free of charge for members or non-members, as space allows. Please limit your query to 50 to 75 words and include as many dates as possible. If the exact dates are not known, give approximate dates.

Material to be considered for publication in Tree Talk is welcome and we request it concern Cherokee County and/or surrounding counties, especially those that were formed from the original Nacogdoches County. Copyrighted material must be accompanied by written permission to reprint from the copyright holder. All material will be considered by the editor and published at his/her discretion when space permits. The preferred format for submission is on a floppy disk, CD-ROM or by e-mail in plain text Windows compatible without special formatting. Photos up to 8" by 10" can be submitted, but will not be returned. Photos and drawings may also be submitted on disk, CD-ROM or by e-mail in the GIF, TIF, BMP and JPEG formats. We recommend that information on living persons NOT be detailed to protect their privacy. Cherokee County Genealogical Society accepts no responsibility for the accuracy for material submitted.

A membership application will be in the back of each issue of Tree Talk.

OFFICERS 2002-2003

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Projects Chairman	Barbara Martin
Editor	Gordon Bennett
Circulation Manager	Melva Hermes
Web Page Editor	Gordon Bennett

◆ TREE TALK ◆

Volume 28 Issue 1

Fall, 2002

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Visit our Internet Sites at:

<http://www.tyler.net/ccgs/default.htm>

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txcherok/default.html>

Editor's Letter

Welcome New Members

Maloney Marion Member 5-12-02 3843 Sierra Way San Bernardino
CA 92405-2343 marionmaloney91@aol.com ALEXANDER, McKINLEY,
WATSON, ISAACKS, WOLF, GRIFFIN

Smith Billy Earl & JoAnne Wilson Couple 7/4/02 7203 CANONGATE DR Dallas
TX 75248-1677 Bsmith4563@aol.com SMITH, SANDERS, WILSON, REECE

Webster Mary Member 6/4/02 97 Willow Creek Huntsville
TX 77340-0812 bee-gard@lcc.net TERRY, RIDDLE, BASS, BYNUM, TAYLOR

Zonker Charles H. Member 6/19/02 HC 52 Box 876 Hemphill TX 75948-9313
czonker@hotmail.com HINES

Barrett Theo Perkins Member 9/14/02 813 East Paradise Lane Hobbs NM
88240 Ms. annat275@yahoo.com STONE, SWINFORD

Martin Maurine Member 10/3/02 RR 2, Box 444
Troup TX 75789

In case you missed it, The Cherokee County Historical Commission has reprinted their 1986 edition of **Cherokee County History**. This is reprint and has NOT been edited. The price is \$75 plus \$5 shipping and handling.

Their address is: Cherokee County Historical Commission, 222 S. Ragsdale, P.O. Box 1128, Jacksonville, Texas 75766, (903)586-4057 Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. I recommend calling to make sure the office is open before visiting.

I am pleased to announce a series of new features in "TREE TALK". Starting on page 19 and continuing in future issues, "TREE TALK" will publish short biographies of significant genealogists who have contributed to, written or edited works about Cherokee County, Texas. I want to credit to all the people who have so generously contributed to the works published by the Cherokee County Genealogical Society and other publications.

The first editor of "TREE TALK" Sandra Sue Vaughn Taylor is the first person featured. Sue compiled the **1880 CHEROKEE CO. FED. CENSUS**, the **1870 Cherokee County Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, Mortality Schedule and Tax Rolls**, (with Ira Gaylon White) and **SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH, CHEROKEE CO., TX (formerly CHURCH OF CHRIST AT SALEM, EDGEFIELD DISTRICT, S.C.)** (with Bobbie Dowling).

If you have a favorite author, contributor or editor, please let me know.

Gordon Bennett
Editor

Samuel Smith Family Documents

Subject: family documents
Date: Tue, 16 Jul 2002 10:04:16 -0400
From: "Leverty, Sally" <SLeverty@apa.org>
To: "ccgs@tyler.net" <ccgs@tyler.net>

Hello,

I recently bought a box of miscellaneous junk at a flea market and found inside several documents (the earliest is a voter registration dated 1867), concerning the Smith family of Rusk. There are a few letters, a deed, a will and other estate papers, and marriage and death announcements. I would be happy to send these to you give me an address.

Yours truly,

Sally Leverty

Subject: Re: family documents
Date: Tue, 16 Jul 2002 10:44:05 -0700
From: Gordon Bennett <gordonbe@tyler.net>
To: "Leverty, Sally" <SLeverty@apa.org>

Sally Leverty:

Thank you so much for thinking of us. This "Treasure" would be most welcome. Please send the material to:

Cherokee County Genealogical Society
PO Box 1332,
Jacksonville, TX, 75766-1332

Please give me permission to quote your e-mail when the material is published.

Thanks again,

Gordon Bennett
Editor

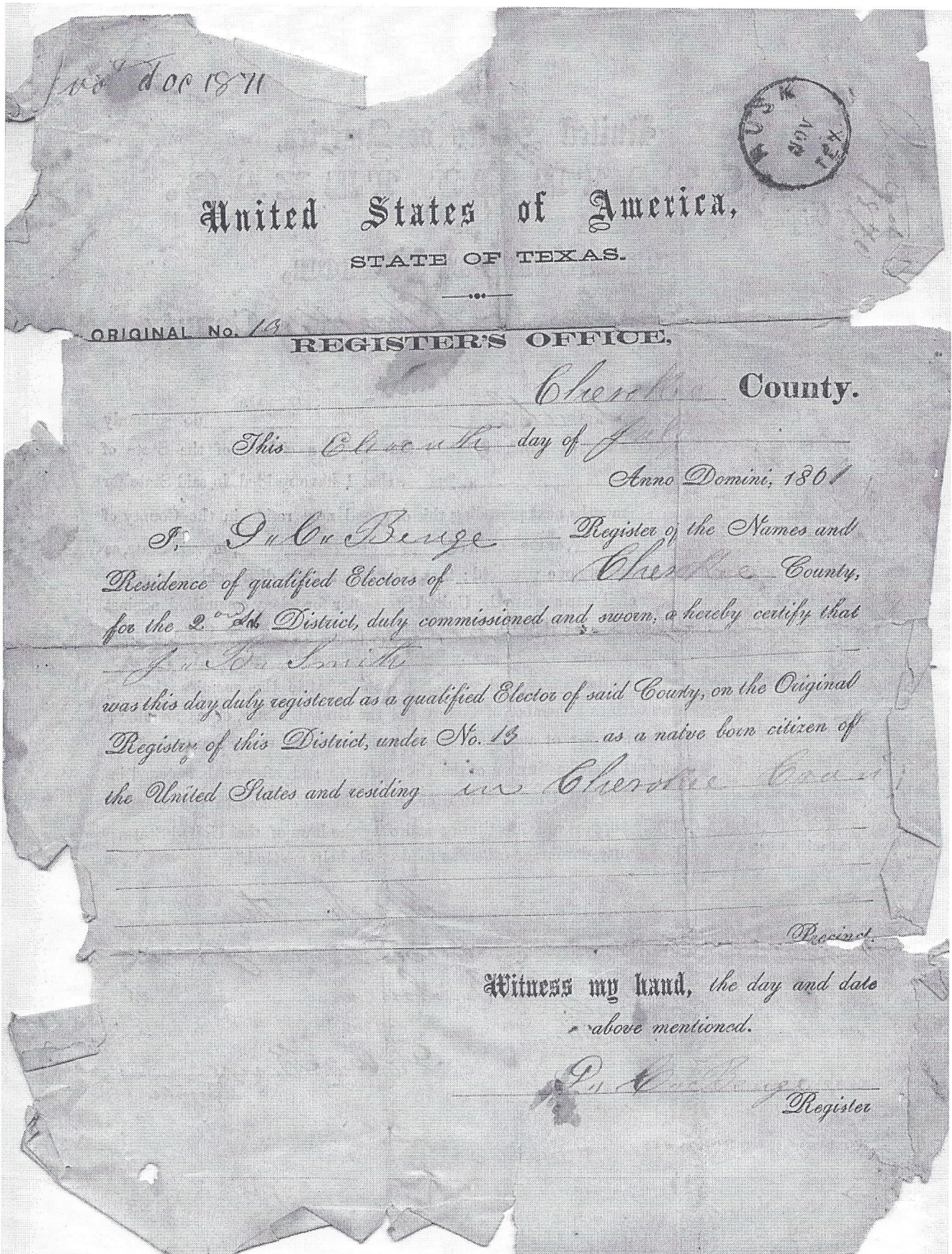
Subject: RE: Cherokee County items
Date: Wed, 24 Jul 2002 16:51:47 -0400
From: "Leverty, Sally" <SLeverty@apa.org>
To: 'Gordon Bennett' <gordonbe@tyler.net>

I have no idea how the documents ended up in Annandale, Virginia, but I'm glad they're back where they will be appreciated. I look forward to reading "Tree Talk." My home address is:

5602 Hershey Lane
Alexandria, VA 22312

Best wishes,
Sally Leverty

Samuel Smith Family Documents



Samuel Smith Family Documents

Cherokee Co.)
 State of Texas.
 June 13.th 1840.

To all Whom
 this may Concern.

I write this my last
 will & Testament while I am in my proper
 mind and common health - to wit -

1st It is my will & desire, that after my
 death as soon as practicable my Executors
 here after appointed shall convert in to Cash,
 so much of my personal Effects as may be
 necessary to pay all my just debts,

2^d. It is my will & desire, that after my just
 debts are paid. My faithful & beloved wife
 (Mary Smith,) have & own and enjoy and use
 all my Effects, real, personal or mixed
 whether consisting of Land, horses, or Cattel
 hogs sheep, or any other species of property
 that I may not have herein mentioned for
 and during her natural live, to sell convey
 or charge, barter & use, the same at her direction
 as fully as I should do the same, if living and
 this to embrace all Effects, and property in

Samuel Smith Family Documents

United States of America,
STATE OF TEXAS.

Original No. 14

REGISTER'S OFFICE,

Cherokee County

OATH.

"I, J. B. Smith do solemnly swear, or affirm, in the presence of Almighty God, that I am a citizen of the State of Texas, that I have resided in said State for Twelve months next preceding this day, and now reside in the County of Cherokee, or the parish of _____, in said State, as the case may be; that I am twenty-one years old; that I have not been disfranchised for participation in any rebelion or civil war against the United States, nor for felony committed against _____ of any of the United States; that I have never been a member of any State Legislature, nor held any exentive or judicial office in any State, and afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, and given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof; that I have never taken an oath as a member of Congress of the United States, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, and afterwards engaged in insurrection and rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof; that I will faithfully support the Constitution and obey the laws of the United States; and will, to the best of my ability, encourage others so to do. So help me God."

J. B. Smith

I do hereby certify that on this twentieth day of July 1867 appeared before me J. B. Smith who subscribed to the foregoing oath.

P. C. Benge
Register

ORIGINAL.

(Peter O'Donnell, Stationer, 14 Camp St., N. O.)

APR 11 1872

Samuel Smith Family Documents

in possession or in expectancy and all Claims for money, or property to ~~me~~ ^{me} from any source or person, or in any right what so ever

3; It is my will & desire that after the death of my wife, (Coney Smith) I want my Land and other property, not otherwise disposed of by her during her lifetime, to be sold at public Sale, twelve month Credit purchaser giving bond for the payment thereof. Land to stand good for the purchased money.

4th It is also my will & desire that my wife (Coney Smith) be my Administratrix and for her to choose any persons she pleases to assist her to execute this my will, and Testament; and that Said Executors or administrators be not required to give bond, and security to execute this my will, and Testament and without having any more to do with the probate Court than to have this will regularly probated and recorded, and the returns of an inventory and appraisement, of the property of my Estate as it is my desire to keep my Estate out of Court so far as it can be done legally.

Samuel Smith Family Documents

5th It is also my will & desire - that if my Estate should become void of an Executor by Death or other wise, then any two or three of my nearest relations (or those some person, to assist them to carry out my will as above stated.

In testimony whereof I here onto a flip my seal (using a screw for a seal) with my name, this 13th day of June A.D. 1870.

Witness my hand & seal Samuel Smith

W. G. Campbell,
J. R. Gilbert

Settlement of the Estate of Samuel & Oney Smith

State of Texas }
 Cherokee County }
 July 25th 1873 }
 Know all men by these presents that we the undersigned heirs at law of the estate of the deceased Samuel and Oney Smith, of the above named State

Samuel Smith Family Documents

and County do hereby agree to the following procedure Viz:-

1) To advertise and sell the perishable property on the farm, except those houses which are presently in use:-

2) To sell the same at public auction on said farm on the 20th day of August next; Commencing at 10. h A.M. and continuing the sale till the above named property is satisfactorily disposed of:-

3.) That the terms of said sale shall be that all purchases under \$500 shall be paid for at the time in gold, while all above that sum may be paid in gold or by bill on suitable bond and security. bills payable on the first of January 1874

4th) That a deduction of 12 per cent shall be made on all cash payments above the sum of \$500:

5th) That we do agree and appoint John Smith the oldest one of the heirs living, to act and transact business as an administrator for the estate as above mentioned

Witness our hands and Seal using a scrawl for a seal place and date above mentioned.

Witnesses

J. H. Smith

John Smith (seal)
J. H. Smith (seal)

Samuel Smith Family Documents

Witnesses

John C. Darby
 R. M. Breedlove
 John Joss Not.

John Smith Seal
 J. B. Smith Seal
 P. W. Jones Seal
 Rufus Smith
 Delana Collins
 Mary Hubbs Seal
 Seal
 Seal

In the State of Texas = Before me the
 County of Cherokee undersigned
 authority, this day personally appeared
 Prof. John Joss a Subscribing Witness to the
 above agreement who is well known
 to me who acknowledged that he saw
 John Smith J. B. Smith P. W. Jones Rufus Smith
 Delana Collins and Mary Hubbs Sign the
 above and foregoing agreement and that
 they signed the same for the purposes and
 considerations therein set forth and contained
 and To Certify which I have hereunto
 set my hand and Seal of office this
 the 26th day of July, A.D. 1873
 J. W. Gilbert J. P. Notary Public in
 and for the County of Cherokee
 and State of Texas

To be continued in following issues

Gifts to Jacksonville Public Library 2001-2002

The following books were given to the Jacksonville Public Library during our fiscal year 2001-2002 by the Cherokee County Genealogical Society.

A History of the Georgia Baptist Association, 1784-1984, given by Mary Taylor

The Vital Record Compendium, compiled by John & Diane Stemmons, given by Mary Taylor

Memorial and Genealogical Record of Texas (East), given by Mary Taylor

Confederate Research Sources, A Guide To Archive Collections, by James C. Neagles, given by Mary Taylor

Grave Marker Index for Cherokee County, Texas in memory of Champ Hartwell Marable

Abstract District Court Minutes, Smith County, Texas 1847-1857 in honor of Barbara Martin and The Cherokee County Cloggers, speaker in September 2001

Smith County, Texas U.S. Census Indexes for: 1900, 1910, 1920 in honor of Willie Harold Acker, Sr., Speaker in October 2001

Obituaries From Tyler Newspapers, Smith County, Texas 1905-1915 in honor of Jim Poepsel, Speaker in November 2001

Random Recollections by Hattie Nicholson Schultz, given by Gordon Bennett

Republic of Texas, Second Class Certificates 1836-1837 given by Lon Morris College through Gordon Bennett

1890 Tax Record Abstract, Smith County, Texas in honor of Gordon Bennett, Speaker in January 2002.

The Nacogdoches Story, An Informal History by Joe E. Ericson

Cherokee County Texas Marriage Records, 4 rolls of microfilm used in preparing the book **Marriage Records Cherokee County Texas 1905-1931**

Some Webster County, Kentucky, Families compiled by Minerva Bone Bassett, given by IdaLee Edmiston

1880 United States Census and National Index, set of compact discs containing the complete 1880 US Census

Obituaries Recorded in Panola County, Texas 1936-1949 in honor of John Garbutt III, February Speaker

Obituaries, Lindale News & Troup Banner, Smith County, Texas in honor of R.L. McGuire, March 2002 speaker

1890 Tax Record Abstract, Gregg County, Texas in honor of Robert J. Scott, April 2002 speaker

John Chandler Descendants Chart Books 1600 to Present, Vol I and 2 plus Index Volume given by Elizabeth Chandler Steelman.

Pioneer Families of Anderson County Prior to 1900 in honor of Willie Harold Acker, Sr., May, 2002 speaker

Supplement to Pioneer Families of Anderson County Prior to 1900 in memory of Edd L. Ivey

Cemetery Records of Smith County, Texas, Oakwood Cemetery and Rose Hill Cemetery, Vol. I in Memory of Helen Wooddell Frazier Crawford

Submitted by Sylvia B. Acker, Historian

On Cherokee County, Texas Research by Ogreta Huttash

Newspapers There are no early newspapers now available for research. An alphabetical listing was published in TREE TALK in Vol* 25, fall of 1999, from The Center for American History. UT Austin Web Central www@lib.utexas.edu

Obituaries Helen Crawford, has done 19 volumes 1889-2001 now sold by CCGS.

Social Security Information This is helpful when an older person can no longer recall the parents names. Send name, date and proof of death, social security number if known and \$7 to Freedom of Information Office, 4-H Annex Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore MD 21235.

Tax Rolls 1846 through 1910 are available on microfilm at our local library and Tyler Public Library, as well as on interlibrary loan.

Land Grants 1846 - 1941 Send a \$3 check to General Land Office, 1700 N. Congress Avenue Austin TX 78701-1495 and include name of grantee and date the person came to Texas.

Locating the Land get the name of the survey from tax rolls or deed records. Go to the Tobin maps in the Tax-assessor and Collector's office or to the Appraisal District. If all else fails, an abstract office will help for a fee.

Maps of roads are available from TxDot (Texas Department of Transportation) on the Loop 456, Jacksonville, TX.

Probate Records for early ones, before 1875, see my book! There is an Index to Completed Probate to around 1910, and an Index in the basement of County Clerk's office. After about 1880, records are fine.

Census Records available on Microfilm in our library, and CCGS sells the 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1910 census records in book form.

From the County Clerk Laverne Lusk, P 0 Box 420, Rusk TX 75785 will come most of the records we use, One NEW thing for us is that she can get birth certificates from anywhere in Texas for \$11 - except delayed ones (those filed years after birth date). The charges are

Death Records, \$9	Marriage Records, \$5
Deed Records, \$1 a page	Birth Certificates, \$11

Certification of deed records id \$5.

School records 1940-1969 are \$5. She needs name, date of birth and school attended. This can be helpful in obtaining a birth certificate.

She also has two books of Marks and Brands, perhaps 10 of military discharges, and Commissioners Court Minutes from the beginning to the present. On the north wall there are several books that are extremely helpful. List of original marriages on hand, list of probate cases 1925 - 1995, and others. This saves a trip down the basement steps.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Texas County Records A Guide to the Holdings of the Records Division of Texas State Library of County Records on Microfilm prepared by Michael Heskett. This gives the reel number to order Inter Library Loan by our library. Ours come from Nacogdoches, SFASU, our repository.

Addresses:

Bureau of Vital Statistics 1100 West 49th, Austin TX 78756, Texas State Library and Archives, P 0 Box 12927, Austin TX 78711

Cherokee County Historical Commission, P 0 Box 1128, Jacksonville TX 75766 is funded by county taxes.

Family History Centers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints have excellent records to be ordered.

Federal, State, and County Records about Cherokee County in Jacksonville Public Library by Ogreta Huttash

Film is numbered consecutively at time of cataloguing. See the Index Book. For example, MF- 5 would be the 1850 Federal Census.

Federal Records

1850 Population Schedule	MF- 5 and 20 (duplicate)
Slave Schedule	65
Mortality Schedule	50
1860 Population Schedule	4 and 31 (dup)
Slave Schedule	61
Mortality Schedule	51
Agricultural Census	Ordered August 27, 2002
1870 Population Schedule	3, 570
Mortality Schedule	52
Agricultural Census-End of 1860 and beginning of 1870	568
Agricultural Census, last part of 1870	569
1880 Population Schedule	2
Agricultural Schedule	?
Mortality Schedule	67
1890 Union Veterans and Union Widows	1 and 548 (dup)
1900 Population Schedule	9, 13, and 188 (triplicate)
1910 Population Schedule	14
1920 Population Schedule	383,383
1930 Population Schedule	

State Records

Index to Death Records 1903 - 1940	70 thru 76
Index to Death Records 1941 - 1945	194, 195, 196

County Records

Tax Rolls 1846 -1910	11, 12, 15, 16, 17
Marriage Records 1903 -1911	567
Marriage Records 1911 - 1917	566
Marriage Records 1917 - 1922 and Death Records 1931-1933	564
Marriage Records 1922 - 1931	565
Commissioners Court Minutes Vol. 1, 2,3	530, 531, 532
Probate Minutes 1839 - 1855	424
Probate Minutes 1851 - 1857	425
Index to Probate Minute Books A - J and Probate Minute Book A, 1867 - 1881	555

Online Maps of Texas

Subject: [TXGENWEB] Texas General Land Office Historic Maps
Resent-Date: Mon, 16 Sep 2002 11:16:54 -0600
Resent-From: TXGEN-L@rootsweb.com
Date: Mon, 16 Sep 2002 13:16:46 -0400
From: "Kent Brunette" <brunette@usablenews.com>
To: TXGEN-L@rootsweb.com

Fellow TXGenWeb County Coordinators:

I wish to bring a map issue to the attention of the list to see if anyone has suggestions on how we all might better utilize the ever-growing cache of historic maps that is being placed on-line at the Texas General Land Office (GLO) website at <http://www.glo.state.tx.us/archives/mapscol.html>.

Like many of you, I've started an historic map collection that currently features 64 historic Robertson County maps at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txrober2/INTERACTIVEHISTORICMAPS.htm>. As part of my map qwest, I've identified & blown up Texas maps in the David Rumsey Collection at <http://www.davidrumsey.com/>. I've been to the map room of the U.S. Library of Congress and created a list of its holdings (no Robertson County maps are on-line in the LOC Map Collection). I've reviewed the information compiled by the Texas State Library & Archives Commission (TSLAC) Map Collection at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/maps/index.html> (only 1 Robertson County map is on-line). I've also been tracking down Robertson County maps in local university and private collections.

These activities have led me to the conclusion that there are a number of maps in different collections relating to Robertson County that still need to be brought on-line. To this end, I've created a Map Sponsorship Opportunities page for the Robertson County Historical Commission where individuals and companies can sponsor maps to bring them on-line. This page is at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txrober2/MapSponsorships.htm>. In the absence of GLO, TSLAC, or local universities scanning/digitizing Robertson County maps and placing them on-line in a readable format, it may be left to the good graces of civic-minded individuals and others to accomplish this task in the near term.

That said, one huge find has been the GLO Map Collection (which today alone is adding 6,000 new on-line map images). If I do a search of the GLO Map Collection for Robertson County using the URL at the top of this e-mail, I get a listing of 15 maps with on-line images. If you haven't done this already, you should try it for your own county/counties. When my search is done, I can click on a small image for each of the 15 maps to reveal an even larger image. BUT, HERE'S THE PROBLEM. Once I click the small image and obtain the larger image, both images are UNREADABLE on-line. I've spoken with two different people at GLO (including the on-line map program's director) who tell me that the reason for this is that GLO's web server and budget don't allow them to provide access to the needed high resolution images (although these images have been created in a higher resolution format). This is tragic since some of the images for Robertson County (and other counties as well) include important land ownership information that's currently nothing more than a blur of smudged black ink. GLO's approach, which I can appreciate, is to give people a glimpse of what's there so they can then purchase a paper copy of the maps that they wish to view more closely.

While GLO is perfectly willing to allow you to purchase paper copies of the maps in its collection for \$20 or \$40 (depending on size), they are unwilling to sell map image files on computer disk for fear GLO will lose control over how they are used or out of concern that the images themselves might be altered. I can understand these concerns (although GLO loses control over the information once they've sold a paper map as well since paper maps can (for a price) easily be scanned/digitized and placed on-line). While GLO's long-range plan is to have all of its maps on-line in high resolution format, this may be a long time coming since the state is having budget problems and there's a Land Commissioner election this fall. In light of this, I'm interested in exploring creative solutions (which would serve us all well) to bringing these maps on-line in a readable format in the near term.

Online Maps of Texas

Here are some possible resolutions: (1) Perhaps the best solution would be for GLO to GIVE copies of these high resolution images to the US GenWeb's Texas Digital Map Library for on-line display. None of the counties I clicked on at the Texas Digital Map site had any maps. What a great way to share this valuable information; (2) Similarly, GLO could select regional library repositories in the same fashion that the State of Texas has sent county vital statistics and other microfilm/microfiche information reels to university libraries in close geographic proximity to local counties. (In my case, GLO could make its high resolution map files available to Texas A&M University's Digital Library (College Station, Brazos County) for on-line display. Assuming TAMU is willing and has the needed disk space, this could relieve pressure on GLO); & (3) GLO could make its high resolution map files available to local libraries (the Genealogy Collection of the Carnegie Center of Brazos Valley History in Bryan, Brazos County for me). This local library has been spending money trying to purchase every paper map in GLO's collection for Brazos and neighboring counties (including Robertson). Why not give or sell these local libraries computer image files instead and let them post them on their websites? All three of these solutions are designed to respond to GLO's concerns about losing control over the images and possibly having someone alter these images.

Are there other more immediate solutions that we, as county coordinators, might utilize? I guess you can always go to the GLO website, look at the blurred images, then, if you see something you like, purchase a paper copy of the image, then have it scanned/digitized, then place it on-line. But this will likely cost upwards of \$60 to \$75 per map to accomplish (as my Map Sponsorship Opportunities cost figures above reflect). One other possible solution is to copy the images from the GLO website and somehow manipulate them with your computer so they can be viewed and read at high resolution levels. I've experimented with this last approach several times and have been entirely unsuccessful in this endeavor. I just get bigger versions of even blurrier images. If this could be done, it should be entirely permissible since these GLO images were created at state expense and have been placed in the public domain. If anybody knows how to do this or has any other creative solutions to this problem, please let us know.

Thanks!

William Kent Brunette
2700 Q Street, N.W., Suite 241
Washington, D.C. 20007
202.342.5368 (phone), 202.342.9033 (fax)

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Permission to publish this e-mail was received by e-mail, Tuesday, September 17, 2002.

Record Density

by Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG

Many years ago, when I was just getting started in genealogy, several of us formed a genealogy study group. In our efforts to learn more, we each purchased tapes of lectures at national conferences on the topics we were researching. After we had listened to our tapes, we loaned them to the others in the group. Because of this, I found myself learning about localities and time periods into which my research had not yet taken me. As I listened, I also learned about research strategies from the experts.

In my own lecturing and writing today, I often advise researchers to use the terms "probably," "possibly," "likely," and "maybe" to express their confidence in their proposed conclusion. These are subjective terms. Thus, they are based on the researcher's experiences. If you haven't had a lot of experience, it can be difficult to be sure which term you should use. Fortunately for me, a concept I heard so many years ago in a taped lecture by Robert Charles Anderson has helped me immensely.

"Record density" is a concept related to the records you have searched. An analysis of record density can help you determine how confident you are that you have reached a valid conclusion. However, I find it most useful in looking at the flip side of that question --how likely is it that I am wrong?

Record density has several components, which are discussed below, along with the issue of bias:

- The records that were created.
- The records that survive.
- The records that you searched.
- How deeply you searched the records.

What Records Were Created? Record creation varies significantly in various localities -- and in different time periods for the same locality. Certain types of records may not have been created at all for the time period in which you are interested. For example, vital records, particularly birth records, were not recorded for most localities until relatively recent times.

What biases do the records that were created have? The information in church records varies considerably among denominations. Quaker records and Baptist records, even in the same locality and time period, certainly do not provide the same level of record keeping.

Land taxes have a 100 percent bias toward persons (usually adult white males) who owned land, whereas personal property or poll tax lists have a much broader coverage and occasionally even list slaves by name.

Deed books have biases that apply to your evaluation of the record density. They are records primarily of persons who owned land -- and who bothered to record their deeds. You will have to investigate just how common it was for deeds to be recorded in the time and place of interest.

What Records Survive? Do an extensive survey to determine what records survive for your time and place. Records maintained by political entities (towns, counties, states, federal government) are more likely to survive because there was an organized record-keeping structure in place.

If there has been a record-loss in public records, identify the bias of the loss. Exactly what records were lost and at which jurisdictional level? Were they of a type that there may have been an incentive to re-record them

Record Density

at a later date? This might be true, for example, of deeds (to secure title) and modern birth records (for social security and passports).

Nonpublic records such as church records have an uneven pattern of survival. You may have to do some creative searching to identify if they still exist.

What Records Have You Searched? Think about any bias in your search techniques. This is the level at which most genealogical errors occur. You must search all major record groups. Too many researchers base conclusions on too few records. The likelihood that an unsearched record group holds the key to the correct (but very different) solution is very, very high.

If you have searched, for example, only vital, census, and probate records, but not land and court records, then the best you can say about your conclusion is "maybe." This is true even if they were not searched because they do not survive.

How Deeply Have You Searched? This portion of the record-density concept is the other biggest pitfall for researchers. Sometimes all major record groups are searched, but only to a depth that merely elevates "maybe" to "possibly."

If the search of "probate records" included only the index to testator's names in the will index, then the search falls far short. Wills often contain names of individuals whose surname does not match that of the deceased. Additionally, there is substantial bias in wills, in that only a small portion of the population wrote wills.

You also need to investigate intestate and guardianship records. Again, be aware of bias. Often, if there was no property involved, no request for an intestate administration was made. Guardianships would be needed only if there were minor children, and then only if there was property, since the guardianship was for the property, not the child.

If you searched only the grantor-grantee indexes, which have a high level of bias, the danger that you missed an important record is fairly large. Landowners who did not record their deeds might be mentioned as adjoining landowners to those who did file deeds. The names of siblings and widows may appear in quitclaims, which are not necessarily indexed under the name of the deceased. Deeds often contain the names of non-landowners as the witnesses.

If you are fortunate, a dedicated genealogist has published thorough abstracts of the deeds for your time and place of interest. Through such publications, I have found a number of important entries that would have been hidden to me otherwise.

If there are no published abstracts, you can do quite a bit to compensate for their absence. Read all deeds for the surname of your ancestor, and for any collateral lines and neighbors that you have identified.

Analyzing Record Density Having analyzed what records were created, what records survived, what records you have researched, and how deeply, you are better prepared to evaluate to likelihood that your conclusion is correct. Or, as I said above, the likelihood that your conclusion is incorrect.

Record Density

This evaluation isn't limited to the times when you can't find a record that states the relationship. I think it is especially important to keep record density in mind when you HAVE found such a record. Too many of us stop at that point, thereby searching far too few records. We do not realize that several other persons of the same name were residing in the area, one of whom could be the one named in the record.

We cannot base our evaluation of possibilities solely on the records that we find. We must evaluate those individual records in the broader context of record density.

Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG is a technical writer, instructor, and professional genealogist. She has written, edited, and produced numerous publications and has written articles for "The American Genealogist," "The Maine Genealogist," the "New Hampshire Genealogical Record," "The Virginia Genealogist," and Ancestry Magazine. She is the author of Producing a Quality Family History.

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Queries

Patti Jo Overturf
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pjosfo@yahoo.com

I am researching my gggrandpa John Newton Hamil in my home state of Texas and found your index to "Tree Talk" Vol. 24 1998-99, page 129 which mentions a WM. H. HAMIL. Could I send the Society a donation to get a xerox of that reference? I have checked the Los Angeles Central Library and they do not carry it nor does the LDS Salt Lake Library. I would very much appreciate it if someone would take the time to send the reference to me. I am in Whittier, California which doesn't always make Texas references easy to get! Many thanks for your advice and consideration.

Evelyn Hopper Hunter
1355 Sycamore Street,
Casper, Wyoming 82604
BEandKHunter@aol.com

Hi Gordon,
Thank you for your email of June 14 in answer to my inquiry. I did find a web site through USGenWeb for Texas entitled Footsteps Jesse George by Doris Claiborne and in that there is a reference to William V Warren and Mariah J Hooper. I feel certain that the Hooper is my ancestor Hopper. It is interesting to me that the site is by Doris Claiborne because our records show that Lastly Claiborne married Cynthia Hopper; they had a daughter Clarissa Claiborne who married Neil S. Warren; Neil S. Warren was a brother of William V. Warren. So there seems to be quite a connection here. In that site it also said that Martha E. Warren died in 1870 and was buried in the Warren Cemetery. It said that the Warren Cemetery is at the place where William and Mariah lived, but there are no markers. Is there any record of other burials there? At the end of this site I notice that you revised it May 1, 2001. Would it be possible for me to get copies from you on what you have on this line? Or, can I get in touch with Doris Claiborne?
In your email to me you suggested I send you my U.S. Postal Address and that you would print my query in Tree Talk. That is a good idea. Maybe someone out there knows what happened to my gr.grandmother, Susannah Penn Hopper, who is the mother of Mariah J. Hopper. She seemed to have disappeared shortly after Mariah's brother, Archibald Hopper, was born 24 Mar 1823 in Bedford County, Tennessee to Charles Hopper and Susannah Penn Hopper. But Charles remarried in 1824, and we have not found any record of Susannah after Archibald was born. Some have said that she went to Texas, but why would she leave a new-born son? Perhaps the answer may lay with Mariah and the Warrens. Any information you may supply will be greatly appreciated.

The Life and Hobby of Sandra Sue Vaughn Taylor

I was born on a cold day in August 1940 in the small community of Elkhart, Anderson County, Texas the sixth and last offspring of William Amburs and Margurette Lavada Ursprung Vaughn. My siblings included: Charles William "Billy", Homer Ray, Henry Doyle, Harry Dorris, and Bonita Lavern "Bonnie". There is an eight year span between Bonnie and I and since she was the only little girl until I came along, you can imagine her resentment of my intrusion. In fact, from an early age she tried to convince me that I was adopted and being the nosy kid I was, I spent much of my time prowling through Daddy's files trying to see if she was fibbing. Dad was a veteran of WWI and among those papers was a paper from the government with my name on it and it referred to an act adopted way back there. To me that proved Bonnie was telling the truth ... about fifteen years ago she finally admitted that we had the same bloodline.

My first brush with my family tree came when I was about six years of age and my grandmother Massey Rachel Ursprung was living with us there in Elkhart and she would sit on the front porch and tell me, "My mother's name was Martha Jane Nelson, my daddy's name was George Washington Hall, I was born in Bayminette, Alabama and I married in Mobile Alabama and you are a descendant of Pocahantas. I've found one discrepancy. Grandma's marriage license says M.M. Hall. The census rolls mention a Mercy daughter that would fit her age at the time, and finally when I received a copy of the Hall family Bible records.. she is Massey Mercy. She gave herself the name Rachel. How I wish I could turn back time and ask her so many of the questions that I've not been able to learn through my research.

My next touch with family research came the summer of my Freshman year at Elkhart High School. We had summer activities and my home economics teacher, Mrs. Flora Mae Miller gave the class a project of a research paper on our family trees. At that time I only knew to interview the older members of my family so Daddy took me over to Rusk on the blue Cherokee Bus to my Uncle Austin's house so I could interview Granny, Nancy Ann Dean Vaughn. Uncle Austin had already been dabbling in genealogy and he was a boon to my research. He gave me

Sandra Sue Vaughn Taylor

photo courtesy of Sandra Sue Vaughn Taylor



The Life and Hobby of Sandra Sue Vaughn Taylor

lots of information which through the years and with our modern day technology I have been able to prove him correct on much of it but just recently a cousin out in Utah proved what I had suspected. There is another generation between James Vaughn the immigrant and Samuel Vaughn my great grandfather. I know that Nancy Ann Dean Vaughn was 1/8 Cherokee Indian. I'd like to prove that.

I never knew either of my grandfathers. Grandad Karl "Charly" Ursprung was a stowaway on a ship from Germany back in the 1850s He died in a vehicle accident down at Grapeland, TX and Grandad Austin McClelahan Vaughn died in Rusk, TX both were deceased long before I was born.

My next touch with genealogy came in 1965 when my son, Lance Vaughn Taylor was a patient at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. Because I was having to spend so much time there, my husband, Jerry, would go down to the Clayton Library and search and bring it to me to organize. Through this and a cousin who I learned was into genealogy, I was able to make some headway. Wendell graciously shared her data with me.

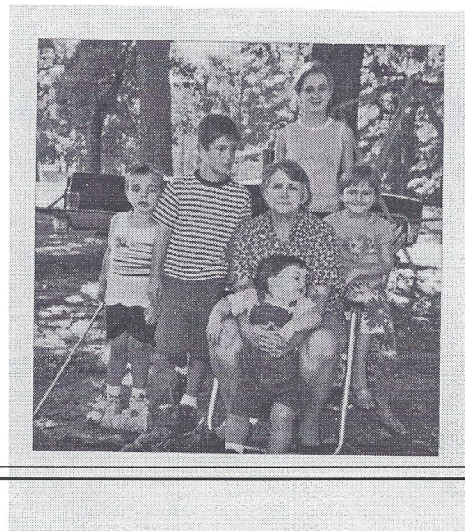
In 1975 I was contacted by Mary Marsh here in Jacksonville. She invited me to attend a meeting at the Jacksonville Building and Loan where a group was hoping to establish a genealogical society. I went to the meeting and this became my first solid step into the world of family research. Not only did I find people who could help me, but I made many friends. I have served at different times as editor of what was a monthly newsletter, which I named, "Tree Talk" and in this position I designed our C.C.G.S logo. As our membership began to grow we needed a way to acquire a copy machine and Helen Crawford, Theo Rasco and I hit upon the idea of transcribing the Cherokee County Federal Census into printed form for sale. Theo chose the 1860, Helen took the 1870, and I picked the 1880 and later the 1850. Theo was lucky, a Mildred Smith from Dallas donated a rough, handwritten copy of the 1860 and Helen and I read it and made corrections from our prospective of what we read from the census roll. I must say that Ogretta Huttash's marriage record books helped quite a lot when we couldn't decipher a name clearly. Later, Bobbie Dowling and I made a trip down to Sardis and borrowed the old Sardis Church Ledger which I took it upon myself to transcribe. It was very faded so I made a copy of it and hand traced each word by referring to the original to make it legible for reprint. I will confess though that the cover page is only half as was on the ledger. The original only mentioned Edgefield District, South Carolina. I added the Cherokee County, Texas info on the front cover..if you look closely you will see the difference.

With the coming of personal computers I have made contact with friends and my extended family all over the United States. I continue my research via e-mail and the many genealogy sites on the Internet. I enjoy helping others with their research and am notorious for furnishing family sheets and ancestor charts to get others involved in this hobby.

I have enjoyed 27 years of membership in CCGS and look forward to many more.

By Sandra Sue Vaughn Taylor

Back Row: Shayla Jaye Taylor,
Middle Row: Ethan Layne Taylor, Michael
Hayden Taylor, Sue Vaughn Taylor, Hannah
Cheyenne Cox Taylor,
Front row: Cayden Brock Taylor



CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN MINUTES
PART TEN
1846 to 1862

Submitted by Juanita Wardlow, typed by IdaLee D. Edmiston

FRIDAY 6 JULY 1855, 7 O'CLOCK P.M.
 (Cont'd from Previous Tree Talk Quarterly)

The Committee on the State of Religious Statistics of the Church reported that "Quite a bit of ____ (?) has been and is manifest in your bounds on the subject of religion. There have been several precious(?) revivals since last Session of Presbytery. The congregations of Rusk, Larissa, and Mt. Carmel have been greatly revived and strengthened since your last session. According to the statistical information come to hand, you have in your bounds nine(?) ordained ministers, one Licentiate, three candidates for the ministry and 12 organized church congregations. There have been two congregations organized since last Presbytery, one at Jacksonville and the other at Athens, which have not been received under care of Presbytery. There have been about 60(?) acceptions to the church, about _____ (?), about 15 adults and about 25 infant baptisms since last session. All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. N. Broughton, Chairman

Which report was received and concurred in.

On Motion, Resolved that the petition of Mt. Carmel congregation praying the ministerial services of **Bro. R. A. _____** (?) for the ensuing year be granted and **Bro. D. N. Broughton** supply said congregation as his partner, according to the arrangements entered into between Mt. Carmel congregation and said brethren.

On Motion, Presbytery adjourned until tomorrow morning at 7-1/2 o'clock and concluded with prayer.

SATURDAY 7-1/2 O'CLOCK A.M.

Presbytery met pursuant to adjournment. Members present as on yesterday except **Brethren McKee & Killough**. There being a quorum, constituted by prayer. The minutes were read and approved. **Bro. McKee** being present was called on for excuse for absence this morning; he declined giving any but was excused by a vote of Presbytery.

Bro. Killough was called on for his excuse for absence this morning, who rendered his excuse which was sustained.

The Special Committee on Temperance made the following report, viz:

"Whereas the cause of Temperance is one near the heart of every patriot, much like every Christian and Christian minister and whereas we view intemperance as one of the greatest evils and encroachments upon civil and religious liberty that ever existed amongst free people, And whereas in the Providence of God the time has come that the strong arm of the law should put forth its strength and moral suasion, direct its energies against the more refined evils of the day instead of one so gross in character, Resolved therefore that we will not only discountenance the use of alcoholic liquor as a beverage in our respective communities and to the

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN MINUTES

utmost extent of our influence pledge ourselves as a Presbytery to vote for no one for office, especially and particularly a candidate for the Legislature who will not pledge themselves for Prohibition."

J. B. Harris
W. H. Deckard
T. N. McKee

Which report was read and adopted and, On Motion, Ordered that the clerk copy and request the Editor of the Cherokee Sentinel to publish same.

Bro. R. D. Thompson being present was called on to render his excuse for absence until this morning, who did so and whose excuse was unanimously sustained.

Ministers were called on generally to report as to their ministerial labors since last Session. All of whom did so to the satisfaction of Presbytery.

The report of the Committee on Education and accompanying memorial were taken up and the report adopted.

The following resolutions were then offered, read and adopted, Viz:

"Resolved that a committee consisting of **Brethren N. Killough, T. N. McKee & G. Patton** be and they are hereby appointed to confer with and tender to the Brazos Synod through Synod's commission the supervision and entire control of Larissa College with a full statistical report of the said institution.

"Resolved that a committee consisting of **Brethren A. J. Coupland, H. A. Raines, R. P. Haney, Robert Hodge & George Patton** be and they hereby are appointed as a _____ (?) Committee to visit the institution and make to this Presbytery at its next Session a report of the prospects and success(?) of Larissa College."

On Motion, Resolved that when this Presbytery adjourns the present session, the adjournment shall be to meet at Jacksonville, Cherokee County, on the day before the 1st. Sabbath in December next at early candle lighting.

On final settlement with **Bro. McKee**, Presbytery is ordered to pay him the sum of eight dollars and fifty cents.

On Application, Resolved that the Jacksonville congregation and Alpine congregation, organized since last Session, be received under the care of this Presbytery and that **Bro. J. B. Harris** supply Jacksonville congregation with preaching agreeably to arrangement between the parties.

On Motion, **Bros. W. D. Broughton, Hodge, Mulligen(?), & Raines** were appointed a Committee to arrange fall meetings.

The Committee on Literature and Theology made the following report, viz:

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN MINUTES

"Your Committee appointed to examine candidates and licentiates on Literature and Theology beg here to report that they have discharged that duty and find that **Bro. A. N. Johnson** _____ (?) (a full line is missing here) has made considerable proficiency in the study of English grammar and some proficiency in theology and the other branches of Literature as required by our book of discipline. We find him sound on Theology and would recommend that he be allowed to preach. We have also examined **Bro. _____ (?) Thompson** who is a licentiate under your care and find him fully prepared according to the Book of Discipline for ordination and would recommend that he be set apart to the full work of the ministry at next session of Presbytery.

J. B. Harris, Chairman

Which was read and ordered to be on the table.

On Motion, Presbytery took interlocutory and the report of the Committee on Literature and Theology was taken from the table and considered. Whereupon it was ordered that the licensure of **Bro. Johnson** be postponed until next session and that he write another dissertation from a text selected by himself to be read ----so that much of the report as regards **Bro. Johnson** be adopted.

On Motion, Presbytery adjourned to meet at Alto this evening at Early Candle Lighting and concluded with prayer..

Saturday evening at early candle lighting Presbytery met pursuant to adjournment at Alto; a quorum, constituted with prayer. The Committee to arrange fall meetings made the following report, viz: At Athens commencing on Friday night before the 3rd Sabbath in July **Bros. Hodges, McKee, & Broughton** to attend. At Mt. Prairie commencing on Saturday before 2nd Sabbath in August. **Bros. Coupland, McKee & Bro. Priest** requested to attend. At Mt. Carmel commencing on Friday night before the 1st Sabbath in Sept. **Bros. Broughton, McKee, J. B. Harris & Bro. Zinn** requested to attend. At Liberty commencing on Friday before the 2nd Sabbath in Sept. **Bros. Henry, Coupland, & Thompson** to attend. At Piney Grove commencing on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in Sept. **Bros. J. B. Harris, Patton & Hodge** to attend and **Bro. Zinn** requested to attend also. At Tennessee Colony commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in October. **Bros. Hodge, Harris, & McKee** to attend. At Holly Springs commencing Friday before the 2nd Sabbath in Nov., **Bros. Patton, Coupland, & McKee** to attend. At Bethel commencing on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in Nov., **Bros. Patton, McKee, & Coupland** to attend. At Knoxville commencing on Friday before the 2nd Sabbath in October, **Bros. Broughton, Henry, & McKee** to attend. At Griffin on Friday before the 4th Sabbath in Sept., **Bros. Henry, Harris, & Broughton** to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

T. N. McKee, Chairman

Which report was read and concurred in

On Motion, Resolved that the thanks of this Presbytery be respectfully tendered to the Citizens in the neighborhood of Liberty Church for their kindness and hospitality during the present Session.

On Motion, Ordered that the Clerk furnish to the Editor of the Texas Presbyterian an abstract of the minutes for publication.

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN MINUTES

On Motion, Presbytery adjourned to meet at Jacksonville in Cherokee County, on Thursday before the 1st Sabbath in December next at early candle Lighting, and concluded with prayer.

George Patton, Moderator

B. B. Cannon, Clerk

MINUTES, NOVEMBER SESSION 1855

Presbytery met, same members present as on yesterday. Presbyterial business was suspended and Missionary business taken up.

Bro. T. N. McKee was called on to report business of the society, who reported that no funds had come into his hands during the past year that have not been disbursed by him for Missionary purposes, which report was received. Missionary business was suspended and Presbyterial business resumed. After a recess of 10 minutes, Presbytery met and the ordination sermon was preached by **Bro. J. N. Johnson(?)** from Proverbs 15 chapter _____, 17th verse. **Bro. Sam'l Harris** presiding and gave the charge. **Bro. Robert A. Thompson**, having answered the interrogatories presented to him affirmatively, he was set apart to the whole work of the ministry by the imposition of hands and prayer.

The Committee on church books gave the following report which was read, received, and concurred in Dec. 2nd, 1855:

Your Committee to which you referred the church books for examination beg leave to report that they have attended to the duty assigned them and find no departure from our Book of Discipline, all of which is respectfully submitted.

George Patton, Chairman

T. N. McKee

G. R. Bowers

Bro. LeRoy Brawley, Elder and Representative from Alpine Congregation, appeared and took a seat as a member of the present Session.

the petition of a majority of Holly Springs congregation asking the ministerial services of **Bro. A. J. Coupland** the ensuing year was granted and **Bro. Coupland** required to supply said congregation with preaching one-fourth of his time for the term specified in the terms agreed upon between the two parties.

The petition of Mt. Hope congregation asking the ministerial services of **Bro. George Patton** was granted and **Bro. Patton** ordered to supply said congregation with preaching one-fourth of his time for the term specified on the terms agreed upon by the two parties.

The petition of Bethel Congregation asking the ministerial services of **Bro. George Patton** the ensuing year was granted and **Bro. Patton** ordered to supply said congregation with preaching one-fourth of his time for the term specified on the terms agreed on between the two parties.

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN MINUTES

The Committee on Literature & Theology reported as follows. viz:

Your Committee on Literature & Theology report that there is but one of the Candidates present, to wit, **Bro. S. N. Johnson** who informs us that he has not made any progress in Literature since last examined by your body. As such, your Committee did not examine him on Literature and recommend that the examination on theology take place in open Presbytery and that **Bro. J. McKee** conduct the examination and that **Bro. W. H. Burrow**, a candidate from Tyeracany(?) Presbytery be requested to take part in said examination.

A. J. Coupland, Chairman

Which was read, received and concurred in.

Business of Presbytery was suspended and Missionary business resumed.

On motion, The following preamble and resolution was received and adopted. to wit: Whereas, the Missionary cause is one of vital interest to our infant church in Texas as there are many newly organized congregations and communities that cannot be supplied with the Word and ordinances of our church and, whereas, in order to meet the demand which presses upon us, some practical course must be devised or the church suffers greatly and many precious blood-bought souls die in their sins.

Resolved therefore that in harmony with the Gen'l Assembly's board and our domestic interest. we offer less subscriptions to the people for donations, one to secure the active labors of 6 or more missionaries in the bounds of this Presbytery, and one for _____? _____? _____? with the donors, whether they will donate to the one or the other or both.

The following resolution was offered, received, and adopted: Resolved that each member of the Board raise a subscription in his _____? of the resolution of the board of _____? and use his energy(?) to procure as great an amount as possible and report at next Session of Presbytery.

The Missionary Board suspended business and Presbyterial business was resumed.. The Committee to visit Larissa College made their report in the words figures following, to wit:

Your Committee appointed at last Session to visit Larissa College and report its condition and _____?. report that said institution is in a flourishing condition, having about 60 students in the male & 58 in the female departments of said institution.

A. J. Coupland, Chairman

Which report was received and committee discharged.

The Committee on Statistics and State of Religion made their report in the words and figures following, to wit:

So far as we can learn there is peace and harmony among us; partial success has allowed attended the labors of our ministers and members since the last Session of Presbytery.. The King of Zion has made ___? his mighty arm and revealed himself in love and mercy and verified his promise that he would be with his own _____? to the end of the world. Quite a number of interesting revivals have been reported and many acceptions to the church such as shall be saved. While we congratulate each other upon our partial

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN MINUTES

success, we lament so little comparatively has been effected. We have reason to hope for better things in the future. We are prepared to report the statistics of your Presbytery from the fact that the Clerks of the churches visited have failed to report, through their representative, as required by a resolution passed at your last Session

T. N. McKee, Ch. of Committee

Such report was received and the Committee dismissed.

Leave of absence was granted to **Bros. Renfro, Gowin, & Erwin** for the residue of the Session.

The petition of **Bro. R. R. Jowell** for the ministerial services of **Bro. John B. Renfro** for the Jacksonville congregation one fourth of his time as per agreement between them was granted and **Bro. Renfro** ordered to supply said congregation with preaching the ensuing year accordingly.

The Committee appointed at last Session to confer with Synod's Committee on the subject of the transfer of Larissa College to the Brazos Synod made a verbal report, in substance as follows: That they have discharged the duty assigned them and the Synod received the College under its care and general control and supervision.

On Motion, Presbytery adjourned until Monday morning 8-1/2 o'clock and concluded with prayer.

TO BE CONTINUED

Queries

CLIFFORD H. SHERROD, JR.
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November 24, 2001

Cherokee County Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 1332
Jacksonville, TX 75766

Dear Sirs:

My interest is in the Killough massacre and particularly in the Killough cemetery, where according to our family documents, my great, great grandfather, Isaac Byars, b. June 24, 1823, d. August 17, 1869, may be buried. According to these documents, Isaac Byars' parents were Jno. Byars Jr., b. September 14, 1802 and his wife, Martha Killough, b. September 26, 1800.

My distant cousin, Deborah Lee Ball Newman of Haines, Alaska, exchanged correspondence with your office in May, 1996 with regard to the same subject. Deborah has provided me with copies of your exchange of data, and in your letter of May 14, 1996, over the signature of IdaLee D. Edmiston, Editor of Tree Talk, there was

Queries

expressed interest in clippings, c. 1935, found in the bible of my grandfather, Samuel Isaac Byars. These clippings refer to "Rusk to Send Wood for Historic Table", and another to Larissa College and its successor institutions. It may be that Deborah has provided copies of these to you, but I am enclosing copies of the originals for your information. I have reason to believe that my grandfather, Samuel Isaac Byars attended one of these successor institutions, probably Trinity University. Other than the hand written date, "1935" on one of the clippings I have no other information on the original publication.

My immediate interest is in the Killough cemetery which the above referenced correspondence indicates is cared for and available to visit. I understand that there is a grave marker inscribed; ISAAC EVARS b. June 26, 1823, (no date of death). The date of birth corresponds to the birth date of my ancestor. I think it probable that with time and erosion by the elements, the original BYARS is now seen as EVARS. I am planning to order the book, Larissa by Ford and Brown. I hope it is still in print. Do you happen to know the publisher, or could I perhaps order it through your society?

Also, I would like to visit the Killough cemetery, locate the subject grave stone and take photographs for our family records. If there are particular procedures to follow, ie. permission to enter private land etc., I would appreciate receiving the particulars. I have detailed maps of the area and have located the Larissa site west of Mt. Selman on Highway 69. Specific directions to the cemetery would be most helpful.

Thank you for whatever information you can provide.

Yours very truly,

Clifford H. Herrod, Jr.

Isaac Byars hurried at this place
CHILDREN *1869*

Rusk to Send Wood For Historic Table
1935
 RUSK, April 12.—(Sp)—A piece of cedar from one of the trees at the site of the famous Killough massacre near here will be sent to H. B. Wright, woodworking instructor of the John H. Reagan High school in Houston, to be used in the construction of a Texas Centennial table from bits of wood taken from historic trees and buildings from each Texas county. It was announced Thursday.

The Killough massacre occurred in the northwest section of Cherokee county on October 5, 1838. The massacre was partly responsible for the change in the Indian policy of that day and resulted in the expulsion of the Cherokees.

The skeletons of seven of the 18 persons missing after the Indian raid were found and buried by the settlers.

THREE PRISONERS STRICKEN AFTER EATING CANDY IN JAIL
 MIDDLEBOURNE, W. Va., April 12.—(AP)—One prisoner is in condition and two others are after eating candy by mail by

These are the books

Q. Where was Larissa college, when was it established and what became of it? R. K., Roanoke.

A. It was established in Cherokee county in 1846, opening in a log cabin; was taken over by the Cumberland Presbyterian church in 1855, and from that time to the beginning of the Civil war was one of the leading schools of Texas, with splendid telescope, microscope, geological and botanical laboratories. The church combined Larissa and Chappell Hill colleges into Trinity university in 1869.

Queries

THEO PERKINS (WILLIAMS)
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HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88240
annat275@yahoo.com

I AM LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ON A GREAT GREAT-GREAT GRANDFATHER AND GRANDMOTHER - THIS GRANDFATHERS NAME IS GEORGE WASHINGTON STONE - BORN IN 1812 IN LINCOLN CO. TENNESSEE --- HE MARRIED KERREHAPPA SWINFORD (called Carrie Ann and when she remarried she used the name Cathrine) said to be half Cherokee Indian - HER FATHER WAS SETH SWINFORD AND MOTHER - ELIZABETH UNKNOWN - BORN IN NORTH CAROLINA?? GEORGE WASHINGTON STONE AND KERREHAPPA SWINFORD WERE MARRIED September 4, 1837 in Holly Springs, Mississippi (Marshall County). And believe moved to Cherokee County, Texas 1837 or 1838 - Believe he was a volunteer from Tennessee For Texas Independence.???? We are trying to find the birth date of their first born Minerva Stone -And place - if she was born before they moved to Texas ? or after they moved to Texas She married a JESSE J. JAMES (said to be a relative of Jesse James the outlaw) she married him in Trinity County abt 1857 - he was a widower with children - they had 6 children. All born in Trinity County Texas He died January 1871 in Texas. MINERVA STONE JAMES REMARRIED AN AUGUSTUS SKINNER AND MOVED TO LEESVILLE, LOUISIANA - They had two sons Who lived and died in Vernon Parish Louisiana..

THE CHILDREN OF GEORGE WASHINGTON STONE AND KERREHAPPA SWINFORD ARE

1. MINERVA STONE - born ?? 1835 or 1838 in Holly Spring, Mississippi or Cherokee Co., Texas
2. HIRAM MONROE STONE born September 1841 in Rusk, Cherokee Co, Texas
2. ADOLPHUS (DOC) WAKFIELD STONE born 1844 died 1910 in Falls, Co. Texas
2. WESLEY WILES ALEXANDER STONE born 1845 married Frances Gray
3. SARAH (SALLY) ANN STONE -born Feb. 14, 1847 Rusk, Texas M. Cadenhead (brother to Phoebe Cadenhead)

GEORGE WASHINGTON STONE - DIVORCED KERREHAPPA SWINFORD IN HENDERSON TEXAS (adultery) AND MARRIED A 15 YEAR OLD GIRL NAMED PHOEBE ELIZABETH CADENHEAD AND THEY HAD 16 more Children (3 sets of twins). IT WAS SAID THAT HE DIED JULY 23, 1883 IN TROUP, SMITH CO. TEXAS I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE INFORMATION ON KERREHAPPA SWINFORD AND WHO SHE REMARRIED (IF POSSIBLE) AND ANY CHILDREN OF THIS GRANDMOTHER BY OTHER HUSBAND. SHE COULD HAVE REMARRIED AS CATHRINE STONE - KERREHAPPA SWINFORD STONE OR MIGHT HAVE USED CARRIE ANN?????? DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH.

Bill Murphy
2425 7th Ave. No.
Texas City, TX. 77590
(409) 943-5275
(409)945-8903
bmurphy152@aol.com

Subject: HUGHES in Cherokee Co.

Looking for any information / contacts / researchers of the Jasper Coffee Hughes family that moved to Cherokee Co. from Calhoun County AL probably around 1855-1857.

Patsy R. O'Neal
2456 Lofton Terrace
Fort Worth, TX 76109-1123

I am descended from Lawrence Washington Dumas and Antoinette Dumas. Would be interested in corresponding with descendants of the Lawrence Washington Dumas, Jr. family. Lawrence Washington Dumas, Jr. was born in Anderson County, Texas, but his father also owned property in Rusk, Cherokee county in 1848. I appreciate you putting this query in you publication very much. Thank you, Patsy R. O'Neal.

Mrs Frances McKinney.
3821 Ruth St. #C,
Houston, Tx. 77004.
FrancesMckin@aol.com

I have been told for many years that I am a direct descendant of the original Ragsdale family in Jacksonville, Tx. Both my grandparents and all of my paternal family are buried in the Ragsdale Cemetery. My grandfathers name was Leonard Jones and my grandmother was Bama Ragsdale who lived in Churchill. Both were in some aspect affiliated with the only school that was in that area for blacks. I have no living relatives now and I feel compelled to know my history. Can you please help me so that I can pass this on to my children. Thank you so much.

Queries

Gerry Rollins
202 Rio Vista Cr
San Angelo, Texas 76904
Famtree43@aol.com

Subject: Rose

I am interested in Norris Ezekiel Rose who was married to Parilee Edwards. I don't know if they were ever in Cherokee Co She and Norris were named as heirs of James R Edwards in Milam Co in 1878/79 along with Susanna and Joseph Griffin, Mary Jane and Leroy Reveil, T.H. and J.M. Hawkins, Gracie and Abel H Denman (my ggrandparents), and Wm Story, who was married to Martha Edwards (deceased). I believe they were all sisters and half sisters to James R Edwards. Susanna, Mary Jane, T.H., and my ggrandmother, Gracie Edwards, are listed on the 1860 Cherokee census with Anne Pearson and 2 younger boys, John W and Joe E Pearson. So far this is the only documentation I have on Norris and Parilee Rose but I think they were both born in TN and lived in AL and AR. They were represented by Wm Story in the land document. Could you possibly be related to Norris E Rose or have you run across him in your search?.....gerry

Toni Steele
306 Austin Street
Center, TX 75935
jlsteele@ktsnet.com

Mary Elizabeth Jones McKinley

I am trying to locate the family of my gr-grandmother. Her name was Mary Elizabeth Jones. She was born in 1853 in Illinois and married Robert "Cass" McKinley in 1871 in Cherokee County, Texas. She had a brother named Henry, but I don't know if he was older or younger. Any help finding her parents' names would be appreciated. Thanks, Toni

Ann Runnels,
516 N. 9th,
Temple Texas 76501
runnels8@swbell.net

I am in the process of joining and proving my lineage to the DAR among others. My great grandparents were long time residents of Cherokee County. I drove from Temple Texas to your library and got some info from one of your genealogy sections. It was obituaries of Wm. W. Isaacks and is dated 2/7/1913 and that of his wife 3/19/1915. I failed to get a copy of the cover or front page of the book it was in which I need to prove where the obits were published. I am sure it was in a newspaper from that time in Jacksonville. If it is possible to get that, I would appreciate it and will gladly pay someone to get it. Also need to get copy of the 1900 census which would show R.L. Condray and Sallie Belle Isaacks as living in the same household. If you can help, please reply with amount to send and where to send it. Thanks in advance, Ann Runnels

Dena Bush
PO Box 634
Mt. Vernon, Or. 98765
lonefir@oregontrail.net

Re: Reeves line

Do you have any information on Charles Henry T. Reeves born Aug 24, 1854 Married Jan 20 1876 to Emeline Rebecca Evans and died Aug 7, 1909. Children: Clida Eugene, Minty Ann elizabeth, William Jody, Hiram Elicander, George Washington, Pherbalone, Emmee Estell, Susan Addie Bell, Mrtice Vivian, Charles burns, Laanie Purley, Jesse Madison?? Dena Bush

Linda Reeder
P.O. Box 314
Norphlet, Ar. 71759
reeder@sark.net

Subject: Love Family 1920's Jacksonville, Tx.

Looking for any information about this family. I am trying to discover how my Great-Grandmother Maud Hamilton fits in. Any information would be appreciated.

Penny Tallamon
5557 Live Oak Street, Apt. #8
Houston, TX 77004
Jcherokee77@aol.com

Hello, I am researching my ancestors of San Augustine County, Cherokee County and Smith County, Texas and possibly other neighboring counties such as Sabine. A cousin in Cherokee County, tells me of her grandmother, which is also my relative, when she was a small child crawling on the floor. Her grandmother's name is Bell Smith. Bell Smith's mother was a slave, name unknown at this time. Bell's mother was sold by her slave owner to another slave owner. However, her small child, Bell, was kept by her previous slave owner. The story goes that Bell's mother, somehow escaped, and would go back to her former mistress and master's place and hide out in the woods waiting for the perfect opportunity to take her small child, Bell, back.

One day or night she got that chance. While hiding out in the woods near her former mistress and master's house, she saw her small child, Bell, crawling on the kitchen floor with the mistress in the kitchen. Bell's mother, waited until her child Bell, got close enough to the kitchen door and then she made an attempt to go and get her child. She, I'm assuming, ran up to the kitchen door, and then snatched her child from her former mistress and ran back into the woods with her small child Bell. Nothing else is known about exactly where they went next, if they hid out in the woods or if they had help. However, Bell ended up in Cherokee County where she met and married Calvin Clayton, Sr. They had a large family, and Hattie Bell Clayton is the living granddaughter of Bell (Smith) Clayton. I am an descendant of Bell (Smith) Clayton.

I'm sharing this story in hopes to find out more details that perhaps someone else would know or remember. Thanks Penny

Queries

Kathy Barker
6052 NW 30 th,
Towanda Kansas, 67144
bosco@wheatstate.com

Looking for info on Hosea Jones living in Cherokee County 1880. Married Frances no last name available. Children: H B , Jason, WI son, Jane London daughter. Any info would help. Does anyone have census from 1880 Cherokee county ? Thanks Kathy Barker

Bill Murphy
2425 7th Ave. No.
Texas City, TX. 77590
(409) 943-5275
(409) 945-8903
bmurphy152@aol.com

Subject: HUGHES in Cherokee Co.
Looking for any contacts / researchers of the Hughes families that moved to Cherokee Co. from Calhoun and or Perry Co. Al. probably after 1855-1860.

Mrs. Jerry D. Bartos
1911 Inglewood Street
Henderson, TX 75654-2507
phone: 903-657-6744
Lrootdigger@aol.com

Subject: Hoover-Bowling-Henry-Starkey
Am working on the Hoover genealogy, and need to contact someone who is familiar with the family of Mary Ann Hoover who married Larkin Sanders Bowling. Specifically need the lineage of Elvada Starkey, who worked with me on much of this before her death. I know she was a descendant of Mary Ann and Larkin, but don't know how - somehow I just didn't get that recorded. Any help would be appreciated. I will be glad to share with anyone interested. Thank you. Lee Bartos

Delois Thompson
5229 South 20th Place
Phoenix, Az 85040
Lovelydame3650@aol.com

Subject: Walker, Anderson
Seeking information on WALKER family in Cherokee County, TX. My GG grandfather name was GRANDVUILLE WALKER and he married MALISSA ANDERSON. I have some information on the children they had, Elivra, Shed, Mattie (my grandmother), RL, Sallie, Malinda, Alice, and Elijah. I do not have any information on MALISSA ANDERSON from Larissa. Any information would be appreciated.

Delois Thompson
5229 South 20th Place
Phoenix, Az 85040
Lovelydame3650@aol.com

Subject: Thompkins, Massey
Hello, I am researching the history of the THOMPKINS and MASSEY family in Cherokee County, TX. My grandfather was named CLELL THOMPKINS. His father' was named JOHN THOMPKINS and he was married ANNIE MASSEY. Any information would be appreciated.

Charles E. Carroll
1490 An Co Rd. 174
Grapeland, Tx. 75844
dixie21@goquest.com

Subject: Jackson Posey, 1860 Cherokee Co., Tx.
Seeking information on Jackson Posey of Cherokee Co., Tx.

Charles E. Carroll
1490 An Co Rd. 174
Grapeland, Tx. 75844
dixie21@goquest.com

Subject: J.D. Delaney, 1900, Cherokee Co., Tx.
Searching for information on J.D. Delaney, married in 1895, Cherokee Co., Tx. to Martha E. Gilmore. Any information appreciated.

Charles E. Carroll
1490 An Co Rd. 174
Grapeland, Tx. 75844
dixie21@goquest.com

Subject: Mary E. Reid, 1865 Cherokee Co., Tx.
Searching for information on the parents of Mary E. Reid, born about 1866, married in Cherokee Co., Tx. in 1865 to Michael Gilmore. Mary apparently died about 1868 leaving one daughter Mary Gilmore. Mary was living in the household of Thomas Gilmore, her uncle, in 1880. Any information on mother or daughter appreciated.

Marion Maloney
3843 Sierra Way
San Bernardino, CA 92405-2343
MarionMaloney91@aol.com

I would like to know what grave yard my great greats are buried Robert McKinley and his wife Eunice Ann McKinley. Robert L. McKinley died Mar 28, 1878 in Jacksonville TX and Eunice Ann McKinley, (Robts wife) died in 1922. I applied for a death certificate for her but they said there wasn't any. Please someone help find the answer. Thanks

 Queries

Denise Damm
911 Bridge St.
Yuba City, CA 95991
bridges@otn.net

Subject: Pilcher

I am looking for information on the family of John B Pilcher found on the 1870 census Alto PO. Wife is Mary E age 38 b SC, children are: John D age 20 b GA, Sarah E age 18 b GA, Mary L age 16 b AL, William C age 13 b TX, Ransom age 10 b TX, Rebecca A age 8 b TX and James H age 7 b TX. This family was in Catahoula Parish Louisiana in 1860. John is listed as JB and is with them at that time. William and Ransom are on the Louisiana census with them so were not born in TX as the 1870 census states. I suspect he died in Cherokee County as he is not with them in this 1870 census. In 1880 they are found in Leon County and he is not listed with them there. I have information that may connect John B to his family in Louisiana and Georgia.
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~pilcher>

Christine Grimes Thacker
5637 Teresa Street
Columbus, Ga 31907
CGT714@aol.com

Subject: What Happen to these Grimes in Cherokee Co., TX.?

need help updating this family.they were in Cherokee Co., TX 1860 and later. thanks for any help.

In Reminiscences of Old Jacksonville by M.L. Earle, he writes that there was a pistol and shotgun fight between LUTHER GRIMES and his brother JOHN and G.K. GRIMES and his son MONROE. A horse was killed. G.K. suddenly locked up his business and left for good in the summer of 1871. In the 1870 census of Cherokee GEORGE K. and son MONROE is not listed, son Christopher is not listed either,but he is on the 1880 Cherokee Co., census. George R? Grimes divorce Mary C. Grimes 12/16/1851. Seems like this was found in Pike or Coffee Co., Al Papers. 1850 Census Coffee Co., Al.

Thomas GRIMES 57 NC (son of Hugh Grimes Duplin Co., NC)

Jane 57 (2nd wife)

Marshal GRIMES 37 s/o Thomas

Epsy 35

Luther 16m Ga

Georgia 15

Marshal 10m

William 9 AL

James 7?

George 6

Mary 4

John C 2

George R(K) GRIMES 29 Ga s/o Thomas

Elais Monroe 8m Al.

Christopher C. 6m

John CUNNINGHAM 48/18 Census looks like 18 but has a Farmer \$1,000.

P.S. All the Grimes in the 1850 Al census was in TX ca 1854.

Coleen Chambers
The Clark House
200 S. Sixth Street
Indiana, PA 15701
cchamber@microserve.net

Subject: Cherokee Texas (Amalgamated) Oil Company

Looking for information on The Texas Amalgamated Oil Company and/or The Cherokee Texas Oil Company, located in Cherokee County, Texas in 1920. Correspondence indicates return addresses in Fort Worth; Cherokee County, Texas; Pittsburgh, PA; and New York City. J. A. Colliton, President. Any information would be greatly appreciated.

Denna Marvel
924 SW 15th
Moore Ok, 73160
marvel924@msn.com

Subject: Williams,George,Davenport

I am looking for My grgrandfather, on his marriage record his name was J. Lafayette Williams married my gr grandmother Mary M George, nickname Lena. This was 1901. In 1909 he was on my grandfather's birth cert. as JL Williams. Living In Troup TX, My family Lived mainly in Rusk, and Cherokee Co. in general. It has been told to me that he was originally from MO. And that we have Cherokee Indian somewhere in one of the Surnames I'm interested in. If any one has any information, I would greatly appreciate it. Thank you,

Queries

Robert L Taylor
336 E Paseo Azul
Green Valley, AZ 85614
rltaylor47@juno.com

Need info - researching William S Taylor. Who were his ancestors. Descendants of William S. Taylor

1 William S. Taylor 1795 - 1858 b: 1795 in GA d: 1858 in Cherokee CO, TX
.. +Elizabeth
..... 2 George Taylor 1825 - b: cir 1825 in AL
..... 2 F. Marion Taylor 1828 - b: cir 1828 in AL
..... 2 Samuel P. Taylor 1829 - b: cir 1829 in AL
..... 2 Oliver C. Taylor 1831 - b: cir 1831 in AL
..... 2 Windfield L. Taylor 1832 - b: cir 1832 in AL
..... 2 Lutia P. Taylor 1835 - b: cir 1835 in AL
..... 2 Libby R. Taylor 1836 - b: cir 1836 in AL
..... 2 James R. Taylor 1837 - b: cir 1837 in AL
..... 2 Cinderella Taylor 1839 - b: cir 1839 in AL
..... 2 Abigail Taylor 1841 - b: cir 1841 in MS
..... 2 William S. Taylor

TAYLOR, WILLIAM S. (1795-1858). William S. Taylor, attorney, state legislator, and planter, was born in Georgia in 1795 and lived in Fayette County, Alabama, and Tippah County, Mississippi, before moving to Texas in May 1847. He fought in the Seminole Wars in Florida in 1817-19 and was a captain in 1836.

In 1841 he was appointed brigadier general of the Alabama State Militia. Taylor served in the state legislatures of Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas, where he became speaker of the House. He was first elected to the Texas legislature in 1855 as a representative of Cherokee and Anderson counties. He was reelected in 1857 and was chosen as speaker when the legislature convened on November 2, 1857. He served until December 26, when illness prevented his attending. He formally resigned because of illness on January 18, 1858. He died on July 22, 1858, and was buried in Larissa, Texas.

His portrait hangs in the speaker's committee room at the Capitol. Taylor and his wife, Elizabeth, had fifteen children, one of whom, William S. Taylor, Jr., fought in the battle of San Jacinto. -The Handbook of Texas

Donna Locklear Collier
209 Baughman Ln.
Trinity, TX 75862
sundawn262001@yahoo.com

Subject: Frances Cox/William Cheatwood

Hello, I have a Frances Margaret Cox b.? d.? married to William Averett Cheatwood b. 19 Nov. 1900 Panola Co. TX d. 12 Mar 1985 Angelina Co. William Averett Cheatwood is buried in Adams Cemetery in Panola Co. TX. TX. Their children's names were Joe Neal, Bernice Laverne and Aaron Douglas. I would like to find some info on her. I was told she was buried in Wells, TX (Cherokee) because that was where she was from. One of her granddaughters was also born in Cherokee Co. TX. Thank you, Donna Locklear Collier

Linda Moore
1460 County Road 3870
Mineola, Texas 75773
LMoore806@aol.com

Subject: Emmet Bengé Murder and Bland Family in Cherokee County, Texas

Looking for any help on this man. In late 1929 or 1930 he was murdered by his Uncle Jess Hudspeth in the front yard of my great grandparents (James "Matt" and Mamie Bland) home. I am trying to find out when this happened. Emmett Bengé was my Uncle. He married my aunt Gladys Marguerite Bland daughter of George and Georgia Bland on March 22, 1929 in Cherokee County, Texas. When his murder occurred they had been married less than a year. I went to the Court House in Cherokee County but I did not have enough info with me to locate the transcript on this case. Does anyone have access to the records of the newspaper or could someone possibly check for a death date the on Emmett Bengé. I am also researching the Bland Family in Cherokee County, Texas. James and Mamie were from Madison County, Mississippi.

Patsy Dunn
106 Lori Ln
Brownwood, TX 76801-1149
patdu@earthlink.net

Am still searching for more info on my g.g.grandfather, Granville Jackson Carter who arrived in Cherokee Co. about 1842, and is mentioned in one of the books about that co. His wife was Sarah Pinnell from Crawford Co. MO, and it is baffling to me that no one seems to have any connection with Granville J. before he moved on to Erath co. probably in the late 1850's or 1860's.

Publications available through CHEROKEE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1332, Jacksonville, Texas 75766-1332

___ 1850 CHEROKEE CO. FED. CENSUS & MORTALITY SCHEDULE, by Sue Taylor, 76 pgs, (1986) indexed ISBN 1-931167-05-2	\$10.00
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___ 1870 Cherokee County Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, Mortality Schedule and Tax Rolls, by Sue Vaughn Taylor and Ira Gaylon White, 150 pages (1999) indexed ISBN 1-931167-07-9	\$11.00
___ Federal Census of Cherokee County, 1870 by Helen Crawford, 154 pages (1983) plus surname index.	\$17.50
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