



The Gems of

Pike County Arkansas

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The GEMS

We apologize for this short issue of *The GEMS*. David Kelley is very ill and has found it necessary to resign as editor of *The GEMS*. Cindy Scott has agreed to be Acting Editor until an Editor can be found. If you are interested in contributing articles or information for *The GEMS*, or in Editing *The GEMS* (computer needed), please contact Dorothy Kennedy Partain for further information. Contributions of files on computer disk would be especially helpful.

JAMES WARD

James Ward was born on July 20, 1788. He was married in Jackson County, Tennessee to Mildred Gentry on December 14, 1809. He experienced military duty during the Indian wars in 1814. He was drafted in Jackson County, Tennessee and after a service of three and one half months was honorably discharged at Huntsville, Alabama. In 1817 he came to Arkansas and made his residence in Clark (now Pike) County. He lived on the public road between Antoine bayou and the Little Missouri river adjacent to William Gentry. The children of James Ward and Mildred Gentry were:

Naomi Ward born February 6, 1811 in Jackson County, Tennessee; married John Thornton; died February 18, 1868.

William M. Ward born October 2, 1812 in Jackson County, Tennessee; married Fanny Wood on June 6, 1830 in Clark County, Arkansas; died October 9, 1866.

Nathan Matthew Ward born March 4, 1815 in Jackson County, Tennessee; married Lucinda, maiden name undetermined; died in the Civil War.

Andrew Jackson Ward born July 13, 1818 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married Nancy Kelley about 1846 in Pike County, Arkansas; died March 10, 1867 in Jefferson County, Texas; buried in Magnolia Cemetery at Beaumont, Texas.

James Franklin Ward born November 8, 1820 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married Jane, maiden name undetermined; died in the Civil War.

Malinda Ward born February 26, 1823 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married Jester Clinton Cornelius on March 8, 1842 in Clark County, Arkansas; died July 26, 1904.

George Washington Ward born May 29, 1825 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married Elizabeth Richardson on December 30, 1847 in Clark County, Arkansas; died during the Civil War.

John Ward born December 4, 1827 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; died in the Civil War.

Samuel H. Ward born December 1, 1829 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married Rachel J., maiden name uncertain; died in the Civil War.

Green M. Ward born March 4, 1831 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; married first Isabella, maiden name undetermined; married second Julie Ann Simpson on April 24, 1853 in Clark County, Arkansas.

James Ward died on August 24, 1845 in then Antoine Township, Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas. Mildred Gentry Ward died on November 24, 1852.

Ward Genealogy courtesy of Loucille Newton Lindsay, Greenville, Texas. Clark County, Arkansas Marriage Records. Bounty Land Claim of Mildred Gentry, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

BOUNTY LAND CLAIM

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Clark,

On this the 23rd day of July A.D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty one, personally appeared before me, one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said county, Mildred Ward, aged fifty nine years, a resident of Clark County in Arkansas, who being duly sworn according to law, declares: that, she is the widow of James Ward, deceased, who was a soldier in the company commanded by Captain, not recollected, in the Regiment, not recollected, commanded by Colonel, not recollected, in the war

with the Indians under General Jackson, in the year 1814; that her said husband was drafted from Jackson County, Tennessee on or about the 25th day of January A.D. 1814 for the term of three months and continued in actual service in said war for the term of three and one half months, and was honorably discharged at Huntsville, as well as recollected, about the 10th or 15th of May in the same year.

She further states that she was married to the said James Ward in Jackson County, Tennessee on the 14th day of December 1809 by James Rolston, one of the Justices of the Peace, in and for the county of Jackson in the State of Tennessee, and that her name was Mildred Gentry, and that her said husband died at his residence in Clark County, Arkansas on the 24th day of August A.D. 1845, and that she is still a widow.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she may be entitled under the act passed September the 28th A.D. 1850.

She also requests the commissioner of pensions to deliver the warrant to William Hunt of Washington City, D.C. who she, the claimant, hereby appoints as her attorney to receive and take charge of the same.

MILDRED WARD

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written.

G.W. WIGINGTON, J.P.

State of Arkansas,

ss.

County of Clark,

I, Isaac W. Smith, Clerk of the Circuit Court & Exofficio Clerk of the County Court in & for said County, do hereby certify that G.W. Wigington, whose genuine signature appears to the above certificate, is & was at the time he signed the (same), a justice of the peace for the County, aforesaid, duly commissioned & sworn and that all his official acts as such are entitled to full faith and credit in said County Court of (record) having general jurisdiction.

Witness my hand, the seal of said Court at my office in Arkadelphia, this 24th day of July A.D. 1851.

I.W. SMITH, Clerk

James Ward and Milley Gentry was married on the 14th day of December A.D. 1809.

State of Arkansas, Clark County.

I, G.W. Wigington, a Justice of the Peace, within and for the Township of Antoine in said county, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, complete, and perfect transcript from the record in the family Bible of James Ward, dec.

Given under my hand this first day of September A.D. 1851.

G.W. WIGINGTON, J.P.

FAMILY GROUP RECORD

Husband.

Andrew Jackson Ward born July 13, 1818 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; died March 10, 1867 in Jefferson County, Texas; buried in the Magnolia Cemetery at Beaumont, Texas; father James Ward; mother Mildred Gentry.

Wife.

Nancy Kelley born February 26, 1829 in Clark, now Pike County, Arkansas; died October 11, 1870 in Jefferson County, Texas; buried in the Magnolia Cemetery at Beaumont, Texas; father Elijah Kelley; mother Elizabeth Fitzgerald.

Children.

James F. Ward born 1847 in Pike County, Arkansas; married Virginia C. Jones on December 1, 1870 in Jefferson County, Texas.

Elizabeth Ward born 1849 in Titus County, Texas; married James T. Dalton on November 19, 1869 in Jefferson County, Texas.

John Clark Ward born 1851 in Titus County, Texas; married first Pickey Mae Kyle; other marriage(s).

Mary Catherine (Katie) Ward born December 10, 1854 in Titus County, Texas; married John E. Jirou on February 20, 1877 in Jefferson County, Texas; died April 23, 1910.

Sam Houston Ward born 1857 in Titus County, Texas; died young; buried in the Magnolia Cemetery at Beaumont, Texas.

Andrew Jackson Ward born 1860 at Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas; married Clifford A. Stanford on August 10, 1885 in Jefferson County, Texas.

Texanna Ward, twin, born 1862 at Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas; married R.H. Talley on January 28, 1885 in Jefferson County, Texas.

Louisiana Ward, twin, born 1862 at Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas; married Thomas J. Weir.

Elijah Kelley Ward born 1865 at Beaumont, Jefferson County, Texas; never married; buried in the Magnolia Cemetery at Beaumont, Texas.

1850 Titus County, Texas Census, Family 205. 1860 Jefferson County, Texas Census, Family 413. 1870 Jefferson County, Texas Census, Beaumont, 211-189. A History of Texas and Texans, by Frank W. Johnson, 1914, Volume 3, pages 1517-1518.

MAGNOLIA CEMETERY

Est. August 1, 1887
Beaumont, Texas

Plot 76D

Andrew J. Ward
Born
July 13, 1818
Died
Mar. 10, 1867

Nancy K. Ward
Born
Feb. 26, 1829
Died
Oct. 11, 1870

Kelley

Sam

Katie Ward
Wife of J.E. Jirou
Dec. 10, 1854
April 23, 1910

JOHN C. WARD

President of the First National Bank of Beaumont, and otherwise conspicuously identified with business affairs of Beaumont and vicinity, John C. Ward got his start through the avenue of the lumber industry, in which his father before him had been one of the pioneers in southwest Texas. John C. Ward has had a career of self achievements, having had severe responsibilities imposed upon him

during his early youth, and having early demonstrated the temper of his character and business make-up.

John C. Ward was born in Titus county, Texas in 1851, a son of Andrew J. and Nancy (Kelley) Ward. Both parents were natives of Arkansas, but came of old Tennessee families. Andrew J. Ward moved to Texas in 1850, first locating in Titus county. In 1859 he brought his family to Beaumont in Jefferson county. He was attracted to Beaumont by the immediate prospects of two railroads building through that locality. With two such railroads he could foresee splendid opportunities in the lumber business. Andrew J. Ward was one of the first among the pioneer saw mill men at Beaumont establishing a small plant for sawing lumber early in 1860. For a time during the war he sawed great quantities of lumber used by the Confederate government. The senior Mr. Ward's ambitions in the lumber business were greatly interfered with. The war for one thing hindered all industry, the reconstruction period was also equally hard, and as a result of both, the railroads which had been building with so much promised prosperity just previous to the war, were completely halted, and in Texas the lines were actually dismantled so that operations were not resumed until some time after the war.

Andrew J. Ward died in 1867 before he was able to realize many of his hopes, and his large family of children were chiefly left to the care and responsibility of his son John C.

John C. Ward as a boy worked very hard in the lumber mills, and with his practical experience developed exceptional business ability. He became a mill owner himself, and for many years was and continues to be a prominent figure in the great lumber industry of east Texas and Louisiana. Mr. Ward is president of the First National Bank, the oldest bank in the city. He has taken thirty-two degrees of the Scottish Rite, and the York Rite, and is also affiliated with El Mina Temple of the Mystic Shrine.

A History of Texas and Texans, by Frank W. Johnson. The American Historical Society, Chicago & New York, 1914. Volume 3, pages 1517-1518.

ELI LANGFORD

Eli Langford settled in Clark County, Arkansas by 1817 from Illinois. Prior Illinois he lived in Edgefield and Pendleton districts in South Carolina. He once owned a boat landing and ferry on the Mississippi river opposite the mouth of the Missouri river and about thirty miles below the mouth of the Illinois river. In Arkansas he was appointed a magistrate of Clark County on February 25, 1820. Josiah Shinn in "Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas" says he had once been defeated by a margin of only six votes as a member of the Legislative Council by Sam C. Roane. In 1825 he moved to Texas between Nacogdoches and San Augustine on Attoyac Bayou then in a province of Mexico. About 1829 he separated from his wife and family and eventually moved to Red River County, Texas near Clarksville. In the mid 1840's he moved to Cass County, Texas on Big Cypress Bayou where he established a ferry and it appears he died near Jefferson, Texas about 1848. Eli Langford married Mary Edens in South Carolina and they had eight children:

Maxfield Langford born about 1801 in South Carolina; married Eleanor Carruthers about 1822 in Clark County, Arkansas; died about 1830.

Juriah Langford born about 1805 in Illinois; married Joseph Butler on July 23, 1821 in Clark County, Arkansas; married second John Vines in Louisiana.

Russell Langford died at two years of age.

Shelby Langford born about 1814; died in 1825 on the way to Texas from Arkansas, age eleven.

Charlotte Langford born about 1817 in Clark County, Arkansas; first married Allen Williams in Shelby County, Texas; second married John Lawson in California.

Asa Langford born September 9, 1820 in Clark County, Arkansas; married first Elizabeth Lee McDonald; married second Rebecca Ann Moriss or Mores on January 10, 1860; died December 5, 1906 at Center City, Texas.

Elizabeth Langford born about 1822 in Clark County, Arkansas; married W.J. Gillespie in Louisiana.

Mahulda Langford born about 1824 in Clark County, Arkansas; married William Vines in Louisiana.

Mary Langford and her children continued to live in East Texas between Nacogdoches and San Augustine. In the fall of 1835 she received from the government of Mexico a Spanish land grant for a league of land in what was known as Zavalla's

Colony. In 1836 she left East Texas and moved across the Sabine River into Louisiana. She remained there until about 1854, when with her son Asa Langford, came to Central Texas. She died at Langford's Cove, now Evant, Coryell County, Texas in 1862.

No. 17688

The State of Texas

vs.

Eliza Kempner, et. al.

Suit pending in the District Court
of Travis County, Texas.

Answers and depositions of Asa Langford, a resident of Mills County, Texas to the attached and accompanying direct and cross interrogatories, propounded to him in the above entitled cause, taken before me, E.B. Anderson, a Notary Public in and for Mills County, Texas in accordance with the accompanying waiver of a commission.

Answers of the witness Asa Langford.

1st direct. What is your age and residence?

Answer. I will be eighty two years old in September 1902, next, and reside in Mills County, Texas.

2nd direct. State who were your parents?

Answer. My father's name was Eli Langford and that of my mother, his wife, was Mary Langford.

3rd direct. When did your parents, if at all, move to Texas.

Answer. I don't know for certain, but I think in about 1826.

4th direct. In what county did they first settle?

Answer. I don't remember hearing the name of the county at the time, but it was on Horsepen creek, about twenty-two miles east of the town of Nacogdoches, Texas and what is San Augustine County as near as I can tell.

5th direct. What was the name of your father and mother?

Answer. I have stated in my answer to the 2nd direct interrogatory.

6th direct. Where did your father live in 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, and where did your mother live in those same years. Were they living together in those years or any of them?

Answer. I don't know of my own knowledge where my father lived in 1838, 1839, 1840, and 1841 as he and my mother were then separated, but from common report and family, the talk of the family, he was somewhere in Northeast Texas, at times on what was call Sulpher, some small stream, and part of the time at other places. My mother, then living in San Augustine County, in about 1836 after the report came that Sam Houston's army had been defeated, moved into Louisiana and remained

there until about 1854. They did not live together during any of those years.

7th direct. If you know, state whether your father and mother ever separated. Whether one abandoned the other? If yes, when did the abandonment take place and did they ever resume the marriage relation with one another?

Answer. I think the abandonment took place about 1828, he abandoning her. They never lived together after that.

8th direct. How many children were born to them? a) Names b) Sex c) Are they living? If yes, where? d) If any were girls? Are they living and married? If yes, where and who did they marry? If dead, did they leave children? If yes, who and where do they live? e) Were there any boys? If yes, give names and if living, where.

Answer. There were six children, to wit: Juriah Langford, a female, who died about three years ago, will be three years ago the 19th of this month, February, in Mills County, Texas. She first married Joe Butler, don't remember when, who afterwards was reported to have been killed, leaving some surviving children, but how many, their names, or present whereabouts, or whether they are living or dead, I don't know. After the death of Butler she married John Vines in Louisiana, don't know date, without issue. Charlotte Langford, another female, still living with me in Mills County, Texas (and) in very feeble health. She first married Allen Williams in Shelby County, Texas in about 1830 and (he) is now dead a good many years ago. He left one child by her who is already dead, having died about 15 years ago, without issue, and unmarried as far as I ever knew. After the death of Williams she married John Lawson in California in about 1866, who died about ten years ago in Arizona, without issue. Shelby Langford, male, who died on the road as we were coming to Texas in 1826, unmarried and without issue. Elizabeth Langford, a female, still living, and living in Arizona near Safford. She married W.J. Gallaspie (Gillespie) in Louisiana in about 1850 who died in Arizona about ten or twelve years ago leaving surviving him some children, but don't know how many or their names. Asa Langford, a male, being myself. Huldie Langford, a female, now dead, having died about ten or twelve years ago in Louisiana. She married William Vines in Louisiana about 1845, who afterwards died several years ago, I think before his wife. They left some children, but don't know how many or their names. I suppose the children are living in Louisiana.

9th direct. Look at the affidavit hereto attached and say if you signed to it. If yes, are the matters therein stated true? If not, wherein false or untrue?

Answer. Yes, I signed the affidavit and it is true.

10th direct. Did your father ever live in Red River County, Texas?

Answer. I heard that he did. That was the common report and family history.

11th direct. What, if anything, do you know about your father having held issued a certificate for 1 league and labor of land by

the District Court of Red River County in the fall of 1841? State all you know about it.

Answer. From my own personal knowledge I know nothing about it, but from common rumor and family history I understood there was one issued. In (or) about September 29th 1874, J.J. Erwin of Wren & Co., came to my house in Lampasses County, Texas and represented to me that I was entitled to a league and labor of land, as heir of my father Eli Langford, and wanted to know if I had the original certificate, and proposed to locate and perfect the title to same for one half of the land. We made (a) search and did not find the original certificate. I understood that he was to procure a duplicate certificate and locate and survey and perfect the title to the land, and to that effect I went into a written contract with him.

12th direct. Did you ever sell an interest in the land located by said certificate to J.J. Erwin?

Answer. I did in compliance with the above stated.

13th direct. Did you ever give J.J. Erwin a Power of Attorney to seek out a duplicate of said certificate?

Answer. I suppose I did as I understood at the time I had given full authority to do everything necessary to be done to procure title to the land.

14th direct. Do you know Mrs. Charlotte Lawson or Mrs. Elizabeth Gillespie? What relation are you to them?

Answer. They are my sisters and I know them.

15th direct. Do you know Eli and Levi Langford or Lankford? What relation are you to them and what relation are they to Charlotte and Elizabeth?

Answer. I know of them and they are third or fourth cousins to me and same relation to Elizabeth and Charlotte. I only know this from family history.

16th direct. If you claim to own an interest in said league and labor of land, what interest do you claim and have?

I claim one half of the league and labor, as I have been paying the taxes on same for years, and no one else has. I inherited one fifth interest in the one half of the League and Labor, and then I after acquired the one fifth interest of Elizabeth Gillespie, my sister, by deed of gift, which makes my claim by inheritance and purchase, an undivided two fifths in and to an undivided one half of the entire survey.

1st cross. Is it not a fact that your mother and father lived on the Attoyac in Nacogdoches County in 1826. When and where were they married?

Answer. I have stated as near as I can where they lived in 1826. They were married (in) Edgefield district in South Carolina about 1800.

2nd cross. Is it not a fact the your mother Mary Langford, wife of said Eli, obtained from the proper authorities a grant of a headright of a league of land in Texas as a colonist? Was she not at the time the wife of Eli Langford?

Answer. My understanding is that she did. She was at that time the wife of Eli Langford as I never heard of them being divorced.

3rd cross. Where was said league of land located? In what county does it now lie?

Answer. It was first located in what was then known as Liberty county. I don't know what county it lies in now, but it is south of Big Alabama creek.

4th cross. What became of the land granted to your mother? Is your mother the Mary Lankford who obtained a headright in 1835?

Answer. I can't say. They owned no land by virtue of that certificate except that in (?) county. She did not sell or dispose of it during her lifetime. And as far as I know, none of the heirs sold or disposed of it after her death. My mother's name was Mary Langford, and not Lankford.

5th cross (edited). Was an affidavit made of the loss of the original certificate?

Answer. Yes, I think so.

6th cross. Who made the affidavit of (the) loss of original certificate in procuring (a) duplicate?

Answer. I don't know who made the affidavit of loss to procure the duplicate certificate.

7th cross. Where and in what newspaper was the loss of said certificate published?

Answer. I don't know.

8th cross. Is it not a fact that such loss was published in Brenham, Washington Co., Texas?

Answer. I don't know.

9th cross. Did any heirs of Eli Langford live in Washington County in 1874.

Answer. I don't think any of them lived there about that time.

10th cross (edited). Have you had business with J.J. Erwin in connection with this land? What was his occupation and residence then and now, if known.

Answer. He was employed to procure the certificate and have the land located and patented. I think he was a lawyer and lived in or near Austin, Texas. I don't know where he lives now or in what business he is engaged.

11th cross. Upon what information and from whom of talked, did you first take steps to procure (a) duplicate certificate?

Answer. I have answered this in my answer to the 10th cross interrogatory.

12th cross. What considerations (were) paid by J.J. Erwin for 1/2 the land?

Answer. He was to procure the certificate, locate the land, have it surveyed, and procure patent and clear the title thereto.

13th cross. Is it not a fact that Erwin was to have 1/2 the land for procuring (the) certificate and other services connected therewith?

Answer. Yes.

14th cross. Did you give Erwin a deed or power of attorney in writing?

Answer. When we partitioned the land I made Erwin a deed to the west one half of the league and labor. It was in writing.

15th cross. When and where did your father Eli Langford die?

Answer. He died in about 1850 near Jefferson, Texas.

16th cross (edited). Is not the certificate therein referred to (in a suit by Eli Langford vs. W.C. of Red River County, Texas) the alleged last certificate?

Answer. I don't know.

17th cross. Are you acquainted with T.L. Wren? Have you ever had business with him? What?

Answer. My understanding was that he was a partner of J.J. Erwin, aforesaid. Personally I had nothing to do with him and it was only as a member of the copartnership, and in the business of procuring the certificate, locating same, and getting patent to the land and so forth.

18th cross. Are you acquainted with J.J. Erwin. Have you had business with him in connection with this land?

Answer. I have already stated.

19th cross (edited). Did you have correspondence with Erwin and Wren?

Answer. Yes, I had some correspondence with them in regard to the matter, but looking through my old letters I can find only a portion of some of them and not all of them. I can't give the substance of such letters now. If I can find any of the correspondence I will cheerfully give the benefit of same on the trial of this case.

20th cross. Is it not a fact that you never took any steps to procure (the) certificate until contacted by Erwin and Wren?

Answer. Yes.

21st cross (edited). State if you were misled or misinformed?

Answer. I have stated the facts as they are and if I am not entitled to the land under the law, I don't want it. I have never been aware of any fraud practiced on the State nor am I yet aware of it.

ASA LANGFORD

The State of Texas,
County of Mills,

I, E.B. Anderson, a Notary Public, in and for Mills County, Texas do hereby certify, that the foregoing answers of Asa Langford, the within named witness to the accompanying direct and cross interrogatories, were made before me in my official capacity, and were subscribed and sworn to before me by said witness on this the 18th day of February, 1902.

E.B. ANDERSON
Notary Public, Mills Co., Texas

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
RED RIVER COUNTY TEXAS

No. 9045

C.A. Langford, et. al.
vs.
Sallie F. Rainey, et. al.

On this, the 5th day of June A.D. 1903, personally appeared before me, District Clerk, in and for said County, and State of Texas, Asa Langford, the witness to whom I propounded the attached direct interrogatories, who being by me first duly sworn, deposes and answers, as follows:

Entry 1st. What is your name, age, residence and occupation.

Answer. My name is A. (Asa) Langford, my age is 83 years on the 9th Sept., next. My residence near Center City, Mills Co., Texas, and I am a farmer.

Entry 2nd. Please state whether or not you ever knew one Eli Langford who lived in Red River County some time between the years 1840 and 1850? If you answer yes, then please state when, and where you knew him and what relation, if any, was he to you. Where did the said Eli Langford go to from Red River County if he ever lived in Red River County? What became of him? Is he living or dead? If dead where and when did he die?

Answer. Yes, I knew Eli Langford, he was my father, and he lived in Red River Co., Texas about the time mentioned, and went to a place near Jefferson, Texas at which place he disappeared, and I know nothing of what became of him, though we believed then, and I now believe that he died there.

Entry 3rd. If in answer to Interrogatory 2nd you have stated that you know Eli Langford and that he is dead, then please state whether or not he left any heirs surviving him, and if so, who are they and where to they reside? What relation are they to said Eli Langford?

Answer. Yes, four sons, Maxfield, Russell, Shelby and myself Asa Langford, all of whom are dead except myself, sons of Eli Langford. He also left four daughters, Juriah, Charlotta, Elizabeth, and Huldah Langford, all of whom were sisters of mine, daughters of Eli Langford, and all married, but only two are now living, Elizabeth Gallaspie (Gillespie) the wife of W.J. Gal(l)aspie (Gillespie) who resides in Safford, Arizona, and Charlotta Lawson, a widow, who is residing at my house near Center City, Texas. My sister Juriah married first to Joseph Butler, now deceased, second John Vines, who is also deceased. My sister Huldah married William Vines, and he too, is dead.

Entry 4th. Do you know whether or not the Eli Langford whom you claim to know claimed any land in Red River County, Texas and if so, what land was it?

Answer. He did. He claimed to own a place some two miles out from Clarksville, though I was never at this place. I don't know.

Entry 5th. To be propounded to A. Langford and Charlotte Lawson. If you should state that Eli Langford was your father, then state where you last saw him, also state the name of your mother and when she and your father died, if dead.

Answer. I last saw Eli Langford on Big Cypress in what is now Marion Co., Texas and my mother's name (was) Mary Edens before she married my father, E. Langford. My mother Mary Langford died at my house in Coryell County, Texas in the year 1862. As stated I can not say positively as to the time and place my father died. I only know that he was never seen after his disappearance from near Jefferson on Big Cypress.

Entry 6th. Please state whether or not your father lived with your mother until her death, if she is dead. If you should state that your father did not live with your mother till she died, then state when, where, and under what circumstances he left, and with whom, if any one and with whom he lived after he left your mother, if he did leave her, and also state whether said party was in any way related to you, and if so, what relationship was it?

Answer. No, my father and mother separated in about 1828 to 1830 and never again lived together. For sometime before he left my mother entirely, he spent most of his time at a rent house on the home place, at the house occupied by Ellen Langford the widow of Maxfield Langford, the daughter-in-law of said Eli Langford and my sister-in-law, and he then took Ellen Langford and left San Augustine county and went up near Clarksville, Texas where he lived for a number of years and from there to where he is supposed to have died.

A. LANGFORD, Witness.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me by A. Langford on this, the 5th day of May A.D. 1903.

WHIT SMITH
District Clerk, Mills County, Texas

The State of Texas,
County of Mills,

I, Whit Smith, Clerk of the District Court in and for Mills County, in the State of Texas do hereby certify, that the above and foregoing answers to the attached interrogatories, were made by the said witness, A. Langford, before me, and were by me reduced to writing in the presence of the said witness, and the answers so made and signed by said witness, A. Langford, were by the said witness duly sworn to. To certify all which I hereunto sign my name at office in Goldthwaite, Texas and impress the seal of the said Court hereon, this the 5th day of June A.D. 1903.

WHIT SMITH
District Clerk, Mills County, Texas

No. 22

RECEIVER'S OFFICE,
Little Rock, 1st Sept. 1821

Received from Eli Langford the sum of One hundred dollars being in full for the W. half, S. East qr., section No. 5, township No. 8, range No. 22 West, containing eighty acres, at the rate of \$1.25 per acres. \$100.

HENRY W. CONWAY, Receiver.

No. 22

LAND OFFICE, Arkansas Land District,
Sepr. 1st 1821

It is hereby certified, That, in pursuance of Law, Eli Langford, of Clark County, A.T. on this day purchased of the Register of this Office, the lot or West half of (the) South East quarter of section number five of township number Eight, S. in range number twenty two W. containing Eighty acres, at the rate of \$1.25 per acre, amounting to \$100, for which the said Eli Langford, has made payment in full as required by law:

Now therefore be it known, That, on presentation of this certificate to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the said Eli Langford, shall be entitled to receive a patent for the lot above described.

B. SMITH, Register.

Cash Certificate 22, Arkansas Land Office, Little Rock, Arkansas. Records of the Washington National Records Center, Suitland, Maryland. This land, including his dwelling and improvements, was situated on the public or military road 2 1/2 miles northeast of present day Antoine, Pike County, Arkansas.

Last Will and Testament
of Giles Kelley

In the name of God, Amen. I, Giles Kelley, of the County of Clark and Territory of Arkansas, do make, ordain, and declare this my last Will and Testament, revoking all others.

To my son Elijah Kelley and his heirs, I give and bequeath a certain note I have on Eli Langford the amount of which is five hundred dollars given on the Twenty-first day of July, 1825. I also will that the said Elijah Kelley shall have an equal portion of the balance of my estate with the rest of my lawful heirs.

In witness of all and each of the things herein contained, I have

set my hand and seal this the 15th day of March, 1827.

Giles (his x mark) Kelley

Test: Wm. Gentry, Preston Mathews

Clark County, Arkansas Will Book A, page 2.

JOSEPH BUTLER

S.D. Callaway writing in "Early Reminiscences" about John Hemphill his grandfather one of the first settlers of Clark County, Arkansas in 1811, says "Jo (sp) Butler and family" were living in Clark County when his grandfather arrived along with the Adam Stroud family, Abner Hignight family, Abram Newton family, Hendrix White family, and Isaac Cates family. S.D. Callaway is mistaken, but would be correct if referring to the father of Joseph Butler, except for the time of their arrival in Clark County. His father "George Butler and family" arrived after 1816 from Lawrence County, Arkansas. Joseph Butler married Juriah Langford the daughter of Eli Langford and Mary Edens. Their marriage is the fourth recorded in the early Clark County marriage records in Book A page 4.

Territory of Arkansas,
and County of Clark.

I, Jacob Chandler, a Justice of the Peace within and for said county do certify that on the 23rd day of July A.D. 1821, I solemnized the rights of matrimony between Joseph Butler and Juriah Langford. Certified by me this 18th day of August, 1821.

JACOB CHANDLER, J.P.

I do certify that the above is a true copy of the original received and recorded this 20th of August, 1821.

HENRY L. BISCOE, Clk.

The known children of Joseph Butler and Juriah Langord, were: John B. Butler, Juriah E. Butler, Jane A. Butler, Jelina E. Butler, Juliet M. Butler, Josephine C. Butler, Elizabeth Butler, and Jonathan Butler.

Joseph Butler was born about 1800. His time of arrival in Arkansas is unknown. In Clark County he lived in the Antoine township and was appointed it's constable in 1824 while serving as road overseer of the public road from Abner Hignight's on the "Terre Noire" southwest to the Antoine bayou. The following year he was employed as a mail carrier and released as road overseer. He was appointed road overseer again in 1828. He was the Sheriff of Clark County, Arkansas in 1830. Thereafter he moved to Texas and is reported to have been killed, but where and when is not certain.

There is evidence Joseph Butler returned to Arkansas from Texas by 1842. There is the killing in Arkansas of a Joseph Butler by Hugh A. Patterson reported in the "Arkansas Banner" newspaper for October 29, 1845. This was in Scott County where family relations of Joseph Butler lived.

Juriah Langford Butler later became the wife of John Vines and resided in Sabine Parish, Louisiana.

JULY TERM 1824

Ordered that Joseph Butler be appointed constable of Antoine Township upon his entering into bond in the sum of six hundred dollars which he accordingly done, the said Butler was qualified, according to law.

Clark County Arkansas Circuit Court Minutes, July Term 1824, page 20.

JULY TERM 1825

On motion of Joseph Butler, he being employed as a mail carrier, it is ordered by the Court that he be released from being overseer of the public road from Abner Hignight's on the Ternoire (as spelled) to the Antoine, and that George G. Hays be appointed overseer of said road in his stead.

Clark County Arkansas Circuit Court Minutes, July Term 1825, page 55. Joseph Butler is reappointed a road overseer in 1828 for Antoine Township. Clark County Arkansas Circuit Court Minutes, July Term 1828, page 171.

Last Will and Testament of William B. Speer

Abstract made by an unknown abstractor about 1890 from original records of Pike County, Arkansas and recorded in Abstract of Title Book Prior to 1890

Will Book 1 page 171. Last Will of William B. Speer deceased of Pike County, Arkansas. Dated October 22, 1862. Recorded December 3, 1862. "I hereby appoint Jane S. Speer of Pike County, Arkansas, James B. Gray of County and State aforesaid and Joshua D. Stuart of Clark County, Arkansas to be my lawful agents, and they are hereby lawfully impound to do all things that I myself would or could do in my proper person as far as paying all my just debts and collecting all debts

that are due to me or may become due and that they are hereby empowered to sue or be sued, and to collect and discharge all debts due me and also to take receipts and discharges where money is paid so far as the settlement of my estate is concerned. I further desire and empower Jane S. Speer my wife, to keep all monies that may be on hand and all monies that may be collected and all property belonging to me for the purpose of being distributed among my ... heirs, viz: First to Jane S. Speer my wife, one third of my whole estate, the balance to be equally divided among my lawful heirs namely, Loucinda Jane Speer, John Franklin Webster Speer, William Berry Speer, Addie Speer and Lillie Davis Speer. In case of my death it is my desire that this shall be my last Will and Testament as I am now perfectly in my right mind." Witnesses, Frank Gentry, F.M. Park, B.T. Thomas. November 20th 1862. Came Frank Gentry and B.T. Thomas before James H. Howard clerk, and first being duly sworn depose and say: that said instrument was signed by William B. Speer in their presence, that we signed the same at his request and in his presence, that he declared said instrument to be his last Will &c. and that he was of sound and disposing memory, mind and memory, at the time of making said Will, that his last residence (was) in the County of Pike. Certificate and signature of clerk and seal of Court affixed. Will Book A page 35. August 29, 1866. The foregoing Will &c. of William B. Speer is again recorded and F.M. Park the remaining witness &c. on oath, verifies the same facts as sworn to by Frank Gentry and B.T. Thomas on November 20th 1862.

Abstract of Title Book Prior to 1890, page 310.

Last Will and Testament of Benjamin Start

Abstract made by an unknown abstractor about 1890 from original records of Pike County, Arkansas and recorded in Abstract of Title Book Prior to 1890

Will Book A page 97. Last Will and Testament of Benjamin Start. Dated July 30th 1877. "As to my worldly estate and all the property real or personal of which I shall be seized or possessed or to which I shall be entitled at the time of my decease, I devise and bequeath and dispose thereof in the manner following, viz: First, my will is that all my just debts and funeral expenses shall by my executor hereinafter named be paid out of my estate as soon after my decease as shall by them be found convenient. I devise and bequeath to each of my sons,

John Denney Start & Abner C. Start, their heirs and assigns the sum of One dollar as their part in full of my estate &c. I give, devise and bequeath to each of my daughters, Martha C. Bean, Janie Clinton, Elizabeth Wicker, Mary Perrin, and Susan E. White, to their heirs and assigns the sum of one dollar as their part in full of my estate &c. I give, devise and bequeath to my beloved wife Rebecca M. Start all my household furniture and appurtenances thereto belonging and personal property during her lifetime and to dispose of as she may deem expedient." Witnesses, J.C. Sevier (and) J.C. Fox. Proved by James C. Sevier and Jesse C. Fox before the clerk of the Circuit Court, September 26th 1877, although no signature of said Clerk appears.

Abstract of Title Book Prior to 1890, page 311.

The Heirs of Oliver Brewer, deceased.

PREEMPTION PROOF

Be it remembered, that on the 13th day of January, 1840, that John Brewer and James S. Brewer, heirs and legal distributees of the Estate of Oliver Brewer, personally came before me, the undersigned, an acting Justice of the Peace, within and for the County of Hempstead, in the state of Arkansas, and being duly sworn, deposed and says, that Oliver Brewer, now deceased, late of the County of Pike, in the State of Arkansas, about the year 1826, removed to and settled upon a portion of the Public Lands of the United States, upon a tract now known and designated as the South East fraction quarter of Section twelve in Township Eight, South of Range twenty-six, West, in the District of Lands subject to sale at Washington, Arkansas; and that in the year 1829, said Oliver Brewer cultivated upon said Tract about seven or eight acres, principally in corn, and that he resided upon said Tract with his family and had possession of the same, on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1830; from the first settlement thereon, until the time of his death as hereinafter mentioned; and they further say that the said Oliver Brewer departed this life in the month of October in the year 1834, leaving the following named, as heirs and legal distributees of his Estate, to wit: this affiant, John Brewer; (the heirs of Oliver Brewer, Junior, also deceased, to wit: David Brewer and John Brewer); & Henry Brewer; Rosanna Hughett, formerly Rosanna Brewer, now also deceased, leaving the following children, to wit: (James M.

Hughett, John Hughett, Emily Stallcup, the wife of John Stallcup, formerly Emily Hughett; Elvira Hughett, and Harrison Hughett); & Henderson Brewer; William L. Brewer; Lucinda Davis, the wife of Abijah Davis, formerly Lucinda Brewer; this affiant, James S. Brewer; Rebecca Griffin, the wife of James E. Griffin, formerly Rebecca Brewer; Polly Brewer; Matilda Brewer; Luvisa Brewer; the same being the twelve children of the said Oliver Brewer and the heirs of such of those of the twelve as have deceased, leaving children.

And, they further show, that administration of the Estate of the said Oliver Brewer, has been in due form of Law granted to John Brewer, this affiant, who is now the administrator of said Estate.

And, these affiants further say, that they believe that Gabriel Brown is also entitled to a Preemption to the same quarter section, as he resided thereon and cultivated a portion of the same in the year 1829 and 1830, and, further deposed, to say not.

John (his x mark) Brewer
James S. Brewer

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 13th January, 1840.

R.L. Phillips, J.P.

And at the same time and place, personally came, John Hughes, James Hughes, and Rice Stringer, and being duly sworn, depose and say, that they were well acquainted with the above named Oliver Brewer, deceased, in his lifetime and that they know that he cultivated about seven or eight acres upon the tract in the above affidavit described in the year 1829, and that he resided with his family thereon, on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1830, and indeed from the year 1826 until the time of his death in the year 1834, and generally, that they know the material matters and things stated and set forth in the above and foregoing affidavit, to be true in substance and fact, and further, say not.

John Hughes
James (his x mark) Hughes

Rice Stringer

Sworn to and subscribed, before me, this 13th January, 1840.

R.L. Phillips, J.P.

Land Office, Washington, Arks.
Feb. 19th, 1840.

We are personally acquainted with John Hughes, James Hughes & Rice Stringer who signed as witnesses to the foregoing deposition & know them to be respectable & entitled to credit.

D.T. Witter, Recr.
R.L. Phillips, J.P.

Certificate 4300, Washington, Arkansas Land Office, Record Group 49, National Arhives, Washington, D.C.

Madison E. Alford and Nancy Orrick

Marriage License No. 531

The State of Alabama,
Blount County,

To any of the Judges of said State, any Justice of the Peace of said County or other person legally authorized. These are to authorize you to solemnize the Rites of Matrimony between Madison E. Alford and Nancy Orrick of said County, agreeably to statutes in such case made and approved.

Given at the Office of the Clerk of the County Court of said County this first day of October 1833.

Mace H. Brindley, Clerk C.C.

One Consent

To the Clerk of the County Court. I do hereby grant leave to give Lisons (License) between Madison E. Alford and Nancy Orrick. September 30th 1833.

Wm. Orrick

Test:
William H. Alford

Affidavit Thereon

The State of Alabama,

ss.

Blount County,

Came personally before me Mace H. Brindley, Clerk of the County Court of said County, the said William H. Alford, who being duly sworn says, that he saw the said William Orrick by the name of Wm. Orrick, sign the within thereby giving his consent to said marriage.

William H. Alford

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1 Oct. 1833.

M. Brindley, Clk.

The Other Consent

To the Clerk of the County Court, I do grant leave, issue Lisons (License) between Madison E. Alford and Nancy Orrick, Sept. the 28, 1833.

D. Alford

Test:
William H. Alford

Affidavit Thereon Under

The State of Alabama, ss.

Came personally before me Mace H. Brindley, Clerk of the County Court of Blount County, the said William H. Alford who being sworn on oaths says, that he saw the above named David Alford by the name of D. Alford, sign the above thereby giving his consent to said marriage.

William H. Alford

Sworn to and subscribed before me October 1, 1833.

M. Brindley, Clk.

Bond For

Know All Men By These Presents:

That we, Madison E. Alford & James Clampett of Blount County, State of Alabama, are held & firmly bound unto the Governor of said State for the time being, & his successors at office, in the Sum of Two hundred Dollars for the use of the State, for the due payment whereof, we hereby Bind ourselves, our heirs, jointly & severally.

Witness our hands this 1st day of October 1833.

The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the said Madison E. Alford hath this day prayed a License from the Clerk of the County Court of Blount County to be married to Nancy Orrick. Now if there is no Lawful cause to obstruct said marriage, then the above to be void, otherwise to remain in full force.

Madison E. Alford (Seal)
James Clampett (Seal)

Witness: M. Brindley, Clk.

Certificate of Solemnization on License

October the 2nd 1833. Solemnized by me.

James French, J.P.

Blount County, Alabama Marriage Record Volume B (1830-1838) page 131.

William D. Alford

Dr. William D. Alford, physician and merchant, Murfreesboro, Arkansas. Among all classes and in every condition of life there are those who succeed in whatever they undertake, whether of a professional, agricultural or commercial nature, and prominent among them stands the name of Dr. W.D. Alford. He was born in Alabama in 1835, and was the eldest of twelve children born to Rev. Madison E. and Nancy (Orrick) Alford, the father a native of Alabama, and the mother of South Carolina. Rev. Madison E. Alford spent his youth on a farm, and after his marriage, which occurred in Alabama, he came to Arkansas in 1841 and settled near Murfreesboro. He had made the study of medicine his profession in Alabama, and was licensed to

preach at Greenville, Clark County, Ark., soon after he came to this State, by Rev. Andrew Hunter, presiding Elder of Washington District, Ouachita Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church. Soon after his arrival here he began his ministerial duties, and was one of the pioneer Methodist Episcopal preachers of Pike County. He became well known as an evangelist, organizing churches in this and adjoining counties, and organized the church at Murfreesboro, Pisgah, Brocktown and near Bingen, also many others throughout the county. He owned a farm, but devoted his whole time to the ministry, and after spending his entire life in this work ceased his labors in 1876. He was truly a good man, and his influence was perhaps as great as any one residing here since. The mother died in 1875. Dr. William D. Alford attained his growth on the farm, had practically no educational advantages, and continued to reside at home until he was twenty-one years of age. During the last few years at home, he had been studying with such instruction as his parents could give him, and upon leaving began teaching school. This he continued for some time, and he was just prepared to attend college when the war cloud burst upon the nation. He enlisted in Company G, Fourth Arkansas Infantry, August 10, 1861, and participated in the battle of Pea Ridge. Immediately after the battle he was appointed assistant surgeon, and accompanied the sick and wounded troops to Little Rock from Van Buren. He remained in the hospital at Little Rock until the fall of that city in September, 1863, when he was taken prisoner and sent to Camp Morton, at Indianapolis, where he was retained as assistant for the sick. He remained there until the surrender of Gen. Lee, and then returned to Pike County, Ark., where he at once engaged in agricultural pursuits. After farming for two years he again began the study of medicine, attended the American Medical College at St. Louis, Mo., graduated, and has since been in constant practice in the town and vicinity. He is the owner of a farm of ninety acres, fifty acres under cultivation in the river bottom, and 160 acres in another tract, and has also some town property. He has been engaged in selling drugs for some time, and in 1890 formed a partnership with Mr. Dean in his present business. Dr. Alford has been married twice; first, to Miss Mary E. Brewer, in 1859. She died in 1869, leaving three children: James A. (the only one living), William M. (died at the age of six years in 1872), and Henry M. (died in infancy). Dr. Alford was married the second time, in 1870, to Miss Rebecca

Ann Sharp, a native of Tennessee, and the daughter of John Sharp, an old settler here. Three children were the fruits of this union: John E., Thomas F. and Robert N. Mr. Alford is a local Elder, and has been actively engaged in church work in the Methodist Episcopal denomination for years. The family are members of the same. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and is Worshipful Master of Pike Lodge No. 91. He is an earnest advocate of education, has been school director of this district for years, and is one of the enterprising citizens of the county.

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas, 1890, Pike County, page 314.

Joseph W. Alford

Judge Joseph W. Alford, a representative of the Hot Springs bar, who since 1914 has engaged in practice in this city, was born on a plantation near Murfreesboro, Pike county, Arkansas, May 14, 1857, and is a son of Madison Alford, who was a native of Alabama and who was a veteran of the Mexican war. He became a Methodist minister and for many years resided in Texas, from which state he removed to Arkansas in pioneer times, settling in Pike county. He and four of his sons were in the Confederate army during the Civil war and following the close of hostilities he returned to the plantation, devoting his attention to the management thereof and in the active work of the ministry. He was a slave owner prior to the war and one of his slaves remained with him throughout the entire war period and continued with the family to the time of his death. Madison Alford died at the age of seventy years.

Judge Alford, of this review, was a lad of but fourteen years at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war and he worked in the fields while his older brothers were in the service, having the entire management of the plantation. He was educated in the public schools and he remained on the farm until 1881, when at the age of twenty four years he came to Hot Springs. Here he assisted in laying the first water and gas mains of the city. Soon afterward he was elected to the office of constable and while serving in that capacity he devoted his leisure hours to the study of law, being admitted to the bar in 1914. He at once entered upon the active practice of his profession and has since served as justice of the

peace and notary public. He is a lawyer of ability, carefully and systematically preparing his cases and presenting his cause with clearness and force in the courts.

When but eighteen years of age Judge Alford was married to Miss Nancy Higgins, who was born and reared in his home neighborhood, their acquaintance dating from early childhood. They have become parents of five children, three daughters and two sons. Judge Alford is a Mason and has attained the Knights Templar degree of the York Rite, exemplifying at all times in his life the beneficent spirit and high principles of the order.

Centennial History of Arkansas, 1933, Dallas T. Herndon, Volume 3, page 433.

Court Order Summons for Grand Jurors

April Term County Court A.D. 1866

Now on this day it is ordered by the court, that the following persons be and they are hereby appointed to serve as Grand Jurors at the ensuing Term of the Circuit Court, at a Court to be holden on the 4th Monday of August A.D. 1866 and that the Sheriff proceed to summon them as the law requires, to wit: George L. Wilson, William F. McLaughlin, John Davis, John Dean, Samuel McCullough, James C. Mansfield, Henry Brewer, Abijah Davis, W.H. Preston, Clifford D. Westerman, John Dickson, Henry Lynn, John Sharp, Blount Bullock, Davi(d) D. Jones and Benjamin Roberson, Sixteen good and lawful men of Pike County.

A true copy from the Record.

Wm. J. Kelley, Clerk

Court Order Summons for Petit Jurors

April Term Pike County Court 1866

Now on this day it is ordered by the Court, that the following persons be and they are hereby appointed to serve as a panel of Petit Jurors, at the ensuing term of the Circuit Court, at a Court to be holden on the 4th Monday of August A.D. 1866 and that the Sheriff proceed to summon them as the law requires,

to wit: George W. Cook, John Knox, Stephen D. Kelley, Moses Brock, William Gilmer, William Cooley, William W. Box, Samuel Kelley, David R. Campbell, William R. Jenkins, R.S. Sanford, Henry Haynes, Joel Kelley, Zachariah Sullivan, William T. Bacon, Ransom Cornish, Jesse McClure and John Hollen, 18 good and lawful men of Pike County.

Thomas Fish (Seal)

Witness:

George Butler
William Kelley

A true copy from the Record.

Wm. J. Kelley, Clerk

Court Order Summons for Grand and Petit Jurors, County Court, Pike County, Arkansas. Original documents courtesy of Rita Arnold, Nashville, Arkansas.

Territory of Arkansas,

Sct.

County of Clark,

I Daniel Ringo, Clerk of the Clark Circuit Court and exofficio Recorder for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing instrument of writing was this day produced to me in my office and ordered to be recorded, which is duly done in Record Book of Deeds &c. Page 28.

BOND

Thomas Fish to John Wilson

Know All Men By These Presents:

That I, Thomas Fish of the County of Clark and Territory of Arkansas are held and firmly bound unto John Wilson of the County of Hempstead and Territory aforesaid, in the sum of one hundred dollars, the payment which will and truly to be made for which I bind myself, my heirs and executors, administrators &c.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand as Clerk & Exofficio recorder as aforesaid this 12th day of July 1828 & of the Independence of the United State of America the Fifty-third.

(Seal)

Daniel Ringo

Clark County, Arkansas Deed Book B, 1824-1837, page 28.

The conditions of the above obligation is such that, whereas the said Thos. Fish for and in consideration of the sum of fifty dollars, the receipt of which he doth hereby acknowledged, hath this day sold unto the said John Wilson a certain tract or parcel of land, contains forty acres, it being one equal undivided half of the east half of the Southeast quarter of section twenty-eight of township seven South in range twenty one west, to tract or parcel of land the said Fish doth bind himself, his heirs, administrators &c. to make to the same John Wilson a good and lawful general Warranter deed so soon as he, the Thos. Fish shall obtain a patent from the United States for the same. Now if the said Fish shall, will and truly perform and execute the deed aforesaid in the manner aforesaid, then the above obligation to cease and become void, otherwise, to remain in full force and virtue.

**One Hundred and Fifteen Years
of Continous Service**

Three years before the state of Arkansas was born the church of Christ meeting at Delight, Arkansas came into existence. Andrew Jackson was president of the United States at that time, the beginning of the Civil War was twenty eight years in the future, the first steam locomotive had made its maiden run from Baltimore to Ellicott City, Maryland two years before. The friction match, the sewing machine and the telegraph were unknown, oxen still pulling the plow and the wagon, the old flint lock rifle was the constant companion of the settler, and Indians still roamed the hills and valleys of our state. The old Antioch church of Christ was established under the preaching of Elijah (Uncle 'Lige) Kelley in April 1833.

In witness whereof, he the said Thos. Fish hath hereunto set his hand and affixed his seal, this December the 1st one thousand eight hundred and Twenty-one.

This is one of the oldest, if not the very oldest, local congregations of primitive Christians with an unbroken record in the state, nation or world. Six years after the determination of the restoration movement to go back to New Testament ground in all things this church was born. It is extremely

doubtful that another congregation of this age can be found that has remained true to the principle of "speaking where the Bible speaks and remaining silent where the Bible is silent." For one hundred and fifteen years this church has earnestly contended for the faith which "was once delivered unto the saints." The descendants of the men and women who banded together in that day so long ago to keep house for the Lord are still keeping house for him with the help of others who have come to this beautiful little Arkansas village of the Delight-ful name. The same gospel is preached, the same worship is offered to God and the same Christ is honored that manifested the work and worship of this congregation in its beginning.

Elijah Kelley, the minister who first preached the Jerusalem gospel in the wilds of Arkansas, was born in Tennessee in 1800, moved with his parents to Illinois when a small lad and came with them to what is now the town of Delight in the year 1815. There were no schools and few neighbors in the section of the state to which the Kelleys had come. Lige was an ambitious young man, one who was not content to grow to manhood without an education, so he was sent to the state of Alabama to school. There he came in contact with those who preached the gospel in the same manner as it was proclaimed in the first century of the Christian era. He became obedient to its teaching in 1824 and was added to the New Testament church by the Lord of heaven. (Acts 2:47). He returned to his paternal home after his years of school in the east and began the proclamation of the Gospel of the Son of God. His labors were fruitful to the extent that in April of 1833 ... (there was) ... perfected the first organization of primitive Christians perhaps in the state.

The list of charter members as taken from the records of the secretary of the old Antioch church of Christ is as follows: Ann Brueer, Sarah Blocker, Elizabeth Blocker, Margaret Bagwell, Minnie Bolt, Serilda Brewer, A.B. Clingman, Ann Clingman, John Carpenter Jr., Elizabeth Carpenter, John Carpenter, Alexander Clingman, Jane Carpenter, Sarah Carpenter, Louisa Carpenter, William T. Dickson, Nancy Dickson, Polly S. Davis, Susan Davis, Leroy Dickson, Ann Davis, Nancy Dossey, Ashley Dickson, Nancy Dickson, Elizabeth Green, Jeremiah Green, Mahala Griffin, John Hoofman, Mary M. Hoofman, Phebie Johnston, Martha Johnson, Micajo Johnson, Bellinda Jordan, John Johnston, William Kelley, Elijah Kelley, Elizabeth

Kelley, Rebecca Kelley, Giles Kelley, Robert M. Kelley, Wesley Kelley, Sarah Kelley, Elijah Kelley Jr., Elizabeth Kelley, Margrett Kelley, Nancy Kelley, Catharine Kelley, Elizabeth Kelley, Thomas Love, Mary McLaughlin, Ulila Mansfield, Martha Mobley, Barbary Mobley, Margaret Jane Mobley, Harriet Samuels, Nancy Wilson, James Ward, Milly Ward, Jefferson T. Wood, Susannah Wood, Rebecca White, Jordan White, Elizabeth White, and Elizabeth Jane White.

The hand of Elijah Kelley penned the record of this church for more than half century. His preaching founded it. For two generations he watched the sons and daughters of his flock grow to manhood and womanhood, marry, rear children, obey the gospel, die. Finally his voice was stilled in death and the hand that kept so diligently the records of the church so dear to his heart laid down the pen to take up the harp. Elijah Kelley died in 1884. His work lives on. What a rich heritage these simple folk of the past has handed down to this commuity, state and nation! Eternity alone can evaluate their influence for good.

A building of logs was erected near the present meeting house of the church. This was late in 1833 or in the year 1834. For a time this housed a school. The second building of this congregation was a type known as a box building. It had no studdings, and was not ceiled either on the sides or overhead. This building was torn down to make room for the railroad. Another was erected on the small branch east of the present building. While this building was being erected a tornado destroyed the unfinished building. Undaunted the work was begun anew and pushed to a successful finish. This building was also damaged by storm and for a number of years had to be propped up with timbers. This building was replaced by the splendid meeting house that now housed the church of Christ in Delight.

Many faithful gospel preachers, a list too numerous to mention, have labored with this church. Many of them have crossed the great divide. Their labors live. May the work that has been of such long duration and of such splendid fruition continue to bear fruit as the years continue to unfold toward that day when our Lord shall return to gather his people unto him.

Geo. B. Curtiss

The Gospel Light, July 29, 1948, Delight, Arkansas, pages 2-3.

Pension Abstract War of 1812

Benjamin Start

Start, Benjamin, War of 1812 pension application S.O. 23216, S.C. 16868, W.O. 30724, W.C. 25935. Service in Captain Joseph Scott's Company of Tennessee Militia from 12 September 1814 to 3 May 1815. He was born either January or July 26, 1792 in Virginia. He was a carpenter by trade. Benjamin Start married Martha B. Cates 13 September 1813. She died 7 September 1867. He married Rebecca Bryant 10 April 1868 in Pike County, Arkansas. Soldier's pension application dated 12 August 1871, Star of the West, Pike County, Arkansas, Benjamin Start age 79. He died 14 August 1877 at White Township, and Rebecca Start died 3 October 1898.

Arkansas Pensioners 1818-1900, Dorothy E. Payne, page 133.

Pension Abstract War of 1812

William Huddleston

Huddleston, William, War of 1812 pension application S.O. 15762, W.O. 32071, W.C. 23429. B.L.W. 38909-80-50 and 28797-80-55. Service as musician in Captain Crane's Company of 2nd Tennessee Volunteers from 28 September 1814 to 28 March 1815. He volunteered at Springfield, Robertson County, Tennessee. In 1851, he was living in Pike County, Arkansas. In his bounty land application dated 16 June 1855 he states that he was 58 and a resident of Red River County, Arkansas. He married 25 November 1866, Mary Corbell, in Pike County. She applied for pension 17 September 1878 stating that her husband died in Pike County, 10 July 1871, and that his first wife _____ Lee had died in Memphis, Tennessee date not known.

Arkansas Pensioners 1818-1900, Dorothy E. Payne, page 68.

Pioneer Citizen Writes Letter

Tells of Leaving Delight in Ox Wagon
Thirty-Five Years Ago.

San Gabriel, California
Apr. 27th 1923

Mr. Grady Alexander
Editor, Pike County Tribune
Delight, Arkansas

Dear Sir:

I received a copy of your paper this week and I want to say that I have read every word of it with quite a good deal of interest.

I find only a few names of people who are familiar to me. It has been only thirty-five years the first of June (1888) since I drove two yoke of oxen and a covered wagon from Arkansas to what was known as Chickasaw Nation, I.T. We started from Delight, or Uncle Rollie Threlkeld's at Antioch, as it was called then, before Delight had ever been heard of. Our party was composed of a man by the name of Kemp who married a girl by the name of Emily Barrong, who was a daughter of Mrs. Lou Parr and a half sister to Mrs. M.C. Threlkeld. There are people in your community who would be able to remember back and possibly know something of this trip.

I see you have a man by the name S.R. Threlkeld hanging around your town, you might tell him to write to me please. I also notice there is a man there by the name of H.M. Gilliam of Los Angeles, will say that I know this man personally. I observed an add of a merchant by the name of C.E. Reid, ask him if he remembers trotting around with a boy by the name of Clarence Threlkeld will you? Perhaps he remembers my cousin Ollie Bell, she used to live there too but now lives in Colorado Springs. I had a nice visit with her last summer.

I notice your bank statement, it is quite interesting. I do not believe there was as much money in all of Pike County, when I drove the two yoke of oxen out of it, as you have in your bank now.

I note that Mrs. Holder Capehart of Hope spent the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Brock, wish you would give my regards to Ed. I remember him and I am sure he does me. It has been about thirty-five years since I have seen him, we used to go swimming in the Old Blue Hole on Sundays, when our parents were wondering where we were.

Ed thinks he is smart, a grown daughter and married, I too, have grown children, a boy by the name of J.A. who is cashier of the First National Bank of East San Gabriel, a suburb of the great city of Los

Angeles, and a girl, twenty-one, who is a graduate of the University of California, and is now teaching in the city schools.

Give my personal regards to all of my friends, tell them my address and that I would be glad to have a letter from any of them, and would be proud to have any of them visit me if they have occasion to drop over this way.

Anxiously awaiting each issue of your paper hoping to hear something more of my friends that are there. I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

C.C. Threlkeld

Pike County Tribune, Volume 8, Number 10, May 4, 1923, page 1, columns 4-5.

A Family of Seven Cremated

Gurdon, Ark., Feb. 26. - News has reached here of the burning of a farm house and its occupants 10 miles west of Murfreesboro in Pike county. John Wert, a farmer, his wife and five children occupied the house and all perished in the flames. The building was constructed of logs, with a large fireplace built at each end. It is generally conceded that, while the family were asleep, fire flew upon the floor and in that manner the dry timbers and other flammable material soon became ignited. When discovered the next day the entire building was reduced to ashes and only the charred bodies of the occupants remained.

The Pilot, Morrilton, Arkansas, March 2, 1894, Volume V, No. 26, page 6.

Bernard Hoover

Some time last November (1880) a mad dog came to the house of Mr. Jacob E. Hoover near this place (Murfreesboro) and commenced fighting with Mr. Hoover's dogs, whereupon Mr. Bernard Hoover, Jacob's brother, took hold of the mad dog in order to help his brother's dogs. He took his pocket knife and cut the dog's throat, but during the fight the mad dog bit him on the hand. The wound soon cured up and he perhaps apprehended no danger, but on last

Saturday, the 13th instant (Feb 13, 1881) he showed signs of hydrophobia. Doctors were called in and did all they could, but without avail. The writer was called in on Tuesday following, and I am ready to confess that I never witnessed such a scene. A young man, in good health, and yet raving mad, had to be confined in order to keep him on his bed. He continued thus until about 3 o'clock that night, when he was relieved by death. Mr. Bernard Hoover was the son of Col. Wesley Hoover who died at Little Rock in 1875 while a representative from this county to the Legislature.

Geo. W. Logan

Southern Standard, February 26, 1881, page 2, column 4.

Old Wooden Courthouse Burned 40 Years Ago Aug. 9

Many Valuable Pike County
Papers Have Been Lost.

August 9th 1935 commemorates the 40th anniversary of the burning of the Old Wooden Courthouse at Murfreesboro on the site where the present courthouse now stands. Deeds and Mortgages records thru Book "Q" and all court and other public records were totally destroyed at that time. Shortly after the Courthouse was burned in 1895 Hon. J.C. Pinnix was appointed as Commissioner to erect a new courthouse. Under his watchful care and management a new Brick courthouse was erected from brick made in a kiln just across Prairie Creek East of Murfreesboro near the old ford on the Murfreesboro-Arkadelphia road. This courthouse served the county until it was declared unsafe by architects and condemned. County Judge W.B. Horton in 1931 appointed A.P. Terrell of Murfreesboro, Ed Kirkham of Delight and Dr. J.N. Pate of Glenwood as Commissioners who contracted the building of a new Courthouse to May and Sharp of Little Rock, who constructed the present courthouse which cost the taxpayers of the county about \$48,000.00, for which bonds were issued after same had been voted at popular election. The first term of Circuit Court was held in the present Courthouse in March 1932.

Pike county records were also destroyed in 1859 when the first courthouse ever to be erected in Pike county was destroyed.

The editor of this paper was recently informed by Senator Alfred Featherston of Murfreesboro that since the public records were destroyed by fire that he experiences little trouble in abstract land titles in Pike county because of the burned records. We inspected his abstract plant which he has built by his own effort and which he keeps down to date by taking off the records onto his books all land transfers as they are made. So far as the present records cover he has a complete Abstract already made up on each tract of land in Pike county, bound into books containing all transfers on each section of lands and each block of towns. His books consist of over 40,000 separate sheets stored in steel filing cabinets which he keeps in the fireproof vault in the Owens building in north side of the square formerly occupied by the Farmers and Merchants Bank. His modern books are a valuable asset to those needing title information in the county.

Pike County Tribune, Volume 14, Number 25, August 2, 1935, page 1, column 3. The Pike County clerk's office and court records were first destroyed on February 13, 1855. The second courthouse fire and destruction of court records occurred in March 1895.

Brewer

In the year 1819 Oliver Brewer came to the Three Forks of the Little Missouri from the then Territory of Missouri, settled on what was known as the Island, and lived there many years. He had numerous children. One of them, Henry, married a Miss Hughitt, whose parents were among the very early settlers. Henry Brewer was several times sheriff of Pike county. He was a successful farmer and one of the very best of men. While he was not endowed with a great amount of school education, he possessed extraordinary good sense, and was generally well informed. His motto in life was to pay his debts

promptly and owe no man anything. At the beginning of the war he was one of the richest men in the county, his possession consisting largely of slaves. He died in 1876 being then about (75) years of age. Henry Brewer was eminently a good man and a useful citizen. He was honest as the days are long, charitable, kind hearted and always ready to aid the needy and distressed. Several of his descendants are still living in Pike county.

The Whites, the Kelleys and the Brewers were all connected by marriage, and exercised a controlling influence in the affairs of Pike county. Any public improvement they agreed upon was certain to be carried forward, and any man they supported for office was sure of his election and calling. They practically dominated the county, but their rule was a mild one, and redounded to the public good.

S.H. Williams

271 Franklin St., Chicago

Washington Press, 1887, Samuel H. Williams, Memorabilia, No. L., excerpt.

Query

TROUT. Who was Wilson Nesbit (or Nesbitt) TROUT named for? I have Wilson T. NESBITT, born about 1790-1800 in Spartanburg SC, died 13 May 1861 in Montgomery AL. Wilson T. NESBITT was the son of Samuel NESBITT, an Irish immigrant who served in the Revolutionary War. Wilson T. NESBITT was a congressman from NC, and married Susan Tyler DUVALL (or duVal) on 6 Jul 1819 in Washington DC. Is there a family connection between Wilson Nesbit TROUT and Wilson T. NESBITT or is this a coincidence? Contact Cindy Scott, 1801 Valdez Dr. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112 (e-mail address is shadowtwo@mindspring.com).

PCAHS PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

1870 Pike County Arkansas Printed U.S. Census by Andy Cooley & Dorothy Partain	\$15.00
1880 Pike County Arkansas Federal Census by Dorothy K. Partain & Linda W. Meek	\$20.00
1890 Census of Pike County Arkansas: A Reconstructon by Russell P. Baker	\$15.00
1900 Pike County Arkansas Federal Census by Shane Hill & Dorothy K. Partain	\$25.00
1910 Pike County Arkansas Federal Census by Shane Hill & Dorothy K. Partain	\$25.00
NEW! 1870 Sevier County Arkanas Federal Census by Shane Hill & Dorothy K. Partain	\$18.50
A Look At The Past: A Pike County History in Pictures by PCAHS	\$25.00
Crater of Diamonds: Jewel of Arkansas by Bobbie Hendrix	\$6.00
The Diary: Family History by Carleton Denny	\$3.00
The Early History of Pike County Arkansas: The First One Hundred Years	\$12.00
Pike County Arkansas Marriage Records: 1895-1910 by Linda W. Meek & Dorothy K. Partain	\$15.00
Pike County Arkansas Marriage Records: 1910-1925 by Linda W. Meek & Dorothy K. Partain	\$15.00
Pike County Arkansas Marriage Records: 1925-1948 by Shane Hill & Dorothy K. Partain	\$15.00
Pike County Arkansas Marriage Records: 1895-1925 combined by Linda Meek & Dorothy Partain	\$25.00
Back Issues of The Gems: Volumes 1-8 four issues each volume (as available)..... per issue \$2.00 per volume \$8.00	
Index of The Gems of Pike County Arkansas: Volumes 1-8	per volume \$3.00

1998 ANNUAL PCAHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Regular Annual membership rate is \$10.00 and Lifetime membership rate is a one time fee of \$100.00 Please make check or money order payable to Linda Wilson, Treasurer of PCAHS and mail along with the following information to: Linda Wilson, Treasurer of PCAHS, P.O. Box 276, Delight, AR 71940

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____ TELEPHONE (Area Code + Number) _____

Are you interested in HISTORY ___ GENEALOGY ___ BOTH ___ ? Please mark one or both of the above. If you are interested in genealogy please list the Surnames you are researching below or if you need more space, use a separate sheet of paper and mail along with your membership application. You are also encouraged to include a Pedigree Chart and Family Group Sheets with your Membership Application. All surnames submitted to PCAHS will be placed in our Surname File. Queries submitted to "THE GEMS" are FREE to members and will be published as space permits. Please be specific when writing your query regarding names, dates, places and the information you are seeking.

SURNAMES BEING RESEARCHED

PIKE COUNTY ARCHIVES & HISTORY SOCIETY

President	Harrison Gilmer, Rt. 1, Box 334, Murfreesboro, AR 71958
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Internet Page	Sponsored by Shane Hill at http://www.rootsweb.com/~arpike

PCAHS MEETING TIME

The Pike County Archives and History Society meets the first Thursday night of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Murfreesboro Municipal Building. The 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. time period is set aside for members and guests to discuss and exchange ideas on history, genealogy and effective ways to do research. Business meeting is held from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Annual membership dues are \$10.00. Lifetime membership dues are \$100.00. The Pike County Archives and History Society was founded in 1986 and is a non-profit organization. It is located on the third floor of the Pike County Courthouse in Murfreesboro, Arkansas and the Heritage Room at the Library in Murfreesboro. Library hours Tuesday-Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. The PCAHS courthouse hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If Court is not in session call first: Harrison Gilmer (870) 285-3187 or Linda Wilson (870) 379-2471 or Dorothy Partain (870) 285-3528. Helpful telephone numbers: Pike County Clerk's Office (870) 285-2231; County Judge Courthouse (870) 285-2414; Mayor's Office for Library (870) 285-3732.

" ... you must know the past - to determine the future."

Pike County Archives and History Society

P.O. Box 238

Murfreesboro, AR 71958