

A History of Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi

By
Betty Lawrence

*Expanded Edition By
Thomas U. Lawrence*

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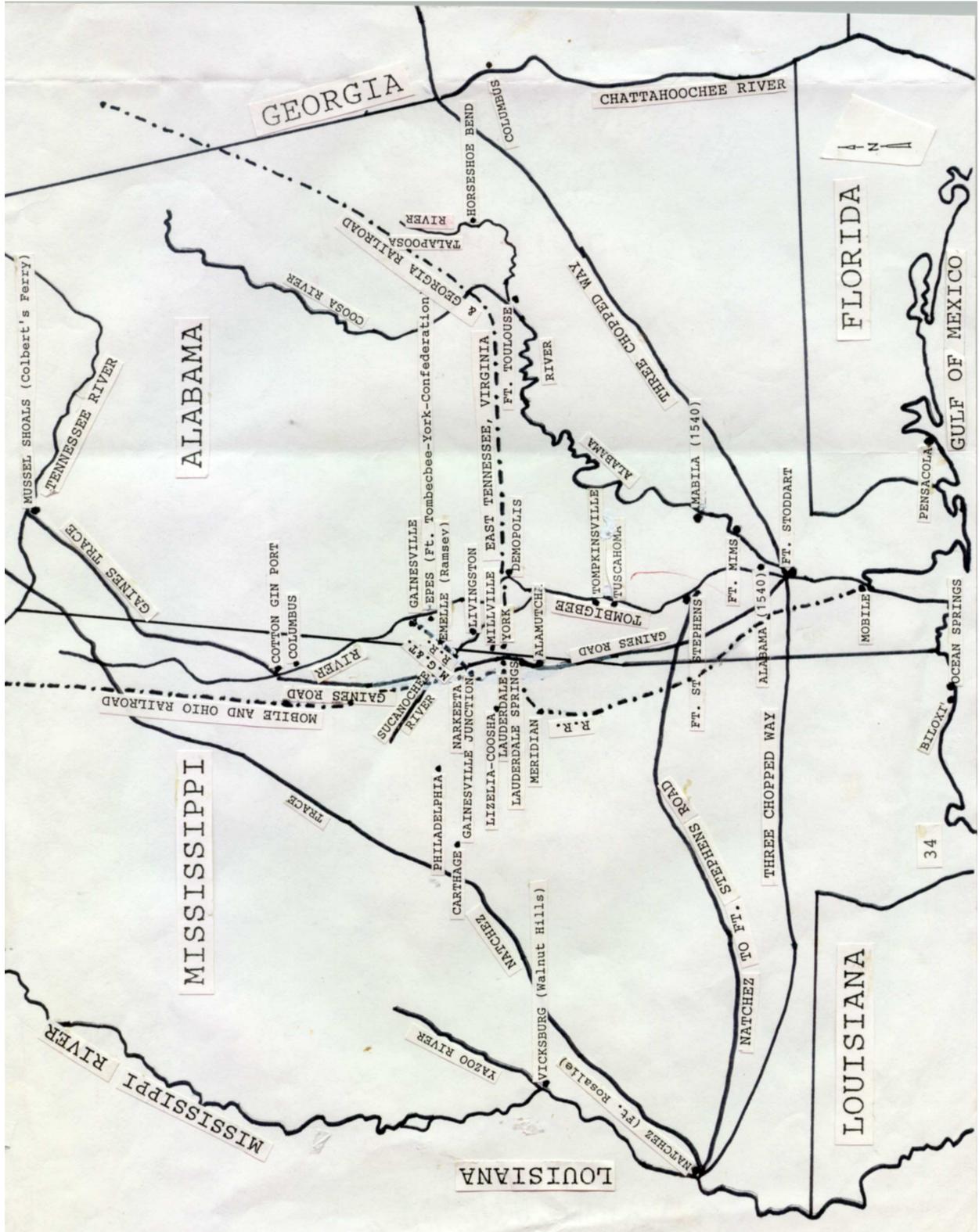
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GEORGIA

ALABAMA

MISSISSIPPI

LOUISIANA

FLORIDA

LOUISIANA

GULF OF MEXICO

MUSSEL SHOALS (Colbert's Ferry)

TENNESSEE RIVER

GAINES TRACE

MOBILE AND OHIO RAILROAD

MISSISSIPPI RIVER

COTTON GIN PORT

COLUMBUS

RIVER

COOSA RIVER

TALAPOOSA RIVER

GEORGIA RAILROAD & CONFEDERATION

GAINESVILLE

EPES (Ft. Tombebee-York-Confederation)

EMELLE (Ramsey)

LIVINGSTON

MILLVILLE

EAST TENNESSEE, VIRGINIA

YORK

DEMOPOLIS

ALAMUTCHE

ALABAMA

TOMBIGBE

TUSCAHOOMA

TOMPKINSVILLE

MAHALLA (1540)

FT. MIMS

FT. STODDART

MOBILE

OCEAN SPRINGS

BILOXYI

PENSACOLA

CHATTAAHOOCHEE RIVER

HORSESHOE BEND

COLUMBUS

THREE CHOPPED WAY

ALABAMA

FT. ST. STEPHENS

FT. STODDART

ALABAMA (1540)

FT. MIMS

FT. STODDART

ALABAMA (1540)

PHILADELPHIA

CARTHAGE

GAINESVILLE JUNCTION

MARKETA

R.F.C.

EMELLE

LAUREL

YAZOO RIVER

WICKSBURG (Walnut Hills)

NATCHEZ

ST. STEPHENS ROAD

THREE CHOPPED WAY

ALABAMA

FT. ST. STEPHENS

FT. STODDART

ALABAMA (1540)

FT. MIMS

FT. STODDART

ST. STEPHENS ROAD

THREE CHOPPED WAY

ALABAMA

FT. ST. STEPHENS

FT. STODDART

ALABAMA (1540)

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ALABAMA (1540)

FT. MIMS

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ALABAMA (1540)

FT. MIMS

FT. STODDART

ALABAMA (1540)

Dedicated to the memory of my beloved mother.



Ina Beattie Gilliam Peel
September 21, 1889 - July 16, 1984



Memoriam

The Walter Leake Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; The Marmaduke Coate Chapter, National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century; and the Winnie Davis Chapter No. 24, United Daughters of the Confederacy conducted a memorial service for Mrs. Tom "Betty" Lawrence, Thursday, March 31, 1994.

These chapters conducted the service at Magnolia Cemetery in Meridian, Mississippi to commemorate Mrs. Lawrence's devotion to the causes and the programs of these patriotic organizations.

Mrs. Lawrence, who died August 18, 1993, was an accomplished student of history and a tireless and meticulous genealogist. She was a member of the Mississippi Historical Society and she served for many years on the Genealogy Committee at the Meridian Public Library. She compiled and wrote: *A History of Winnie Davis Chapter No. 24, United*

Daughters of the Confederacy; A History of Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi; A History of Sumter County, Alabama; and Unrevised History of the War for Southern Independence. She also compiled and published genealogical records and histories of a number of families.

Mrs. Lawrence had an abiding interest in the maintenance and preservation of the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery, which is owned by the Winnie Davis Chapter, UDC. A portion of the land occupied by this cemetery was her great-grandparents' farm at their home in Lauderdale Springs, where her grandmother and mother were born.

While Mrs. Lawrence was President of the Winnie Davis Chapter, UDC, that organization established a Perpetual Care Fund for the cemetery. At that time, she expressed her pleasure for that accomplishment, "We are now assured that the 1,100 valiant men who are buried here will rest forever at a place of beauty and dignity."

Dr. William Apperson, pastor of the First Christian Church of Meridian, delivered the commemorative address at the ceremony.

Other Publications By Betty Lawrence

UNREVISED HISTORY OF THE
WAR FOR SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE

HISTORY OF WINNIE DAVIS CHAPTER NO. 24
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY

HISTORY OF SUMTER COUNTY, ALABAMA

RICHARD BRACEWELL, GENTLEMAN

and

ROBERT AND MARY PEELE
AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

And Related Families

Brasswell, Bryant, Burgess, Carver, Cotton, Dearman, Deloach, Dew,
Gilbert, Gilliam, Guinn, Hill, McDaniel, McKinley, Mercer, Peel,
Permenter, Pigford, Pinson, Poythress, Loyd, Robbins, Sampson,
Snow, Stiles, Taylor, Wedgworth, West and Wood

THE ROBERT AND SUSANNAH McDANIEL GILBERT, SR. FAMILY

And Related Families

Bennett, Lavender, McDaniel, McKinley, Peel, Pinson and Poythress

THE ROBERT AND ELIZABETH McKINLEY FAMILY

And Related Families

Bishop, Dearman, Gilliam, Lunsford, Lyon and McElroy

JOHN AND POLLY LAWRENCE

AND DESCENDANTS

And Related Families

Burchfield, Crider, Gray, Kizziah, Murry, Newell,
Oswalt, Pearson, Ray, Rogers, Shamblin and Williams

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Introduction
by Thomas U. Lawrence

My Dear Betty enjoyed searching for the information she compiled into this *HISTORY OF LAUDERDLE SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI*. She reveled in a lifetime of memories she had gathered from that place, where three generations of her family had made their homes. She and her mother had countless conversations about life in and around the old home place, and they made many expeditions to explore the neighborhood and to talk with people who might answer some questions and contribute a little information.

Much of the new material included here was in Betty's possession when the first edition went to the printers, however, some of it had not been verified and authenticated, so she tucked it away instead of including it in the book.

Betty's conception of history preservation was, "All history, even the seemingly insignificant items, should be recorded and saved for posterity." In accord with her wish, all available information is included in this History.

Herein, tales are told of the leaders who made waves as history flowed through and around Lauderdale Springs, but there also is an accounting for the many, many persons who only made ripples. These many listings will bring pleasure and excitement to the genealogy researchers when they find the footprints their ancestors left on sands of time.

This volume is called an expanded edition rather than a revision, because most all of the original text is unchanged. There is no simple method of delineating the new material from the original text in this publication, therefore, it is woven in wherever it seems to fit.

Preface

I had difficulty getting started writing this paper because I have no qualifications as a professional writer, then I finally realized that I wanted to do it as a memorial to my mother, who died July 16, 1984 at the age of 94, and the task became a pleasure. It has been a joy to record my memories and compile the information I have accumulated through the years, with no other purpose than to write a History of Lauderdale Springs that would be pleasing to my mother.

My great-grandparents, William and Sarah Nancy Ellen McKinley Dearman, Jr., were married at Lauderdale Springs and made their home there. My grandmother, Clara Elizabeth Dearman, was born there, and she and my grandfather, Albert Gilliam, were married and lived out their lives there. My mother, Ina Beattie Gilliam, was born and grew up there. My father, John William Peel, had his first job at the Tarrt Lumber Company in Lauderdale. My mother and father were married in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Plummer in Lauderdale. The house is still there and well preserved.

Some of the fondest memories of my early childhood are of the happy times I spent at my grandparents' home in Lauderdale Springs. My mother, in response to my pleading, would allow me to stay with them for days at a time. They petted me and spoiled me, and I adored them. Grandpa was a great teller of tales and let me tag along with him for whatever he was doing. He took me to the springs to sample the waters. He told me that each spring would taste better than the last one, and then laughed at me when I was not pleased with the taste of some of them. He showed me the Confederate Cemetery on the hill behind the house, and I went with him to funerals at the Lauderdale Springs Cemetery on the hill across the road.

I cherish the memory of the aroma and the taste of my grandmother's hot ginger bread on a cold afternoon. I wonder if the Lauderdale Springs water was the secret ingredient of her recipe. I remember Malinda Hubbard, the black lady who worked for my grandmother, as a kind and caring person. She was my good friend and cooked special treats for me.

My uncle, John William Gilliam, and Malinda's brother, Dave Hubbard, were good friends. Uncle Will was a railway mail clerk and was studying law at home. He would lend his books to Dave, and they would spend hours in the most boring conversation, while I was waiting for Uncle Will to talk to me, and tell me about all the places he had been and the things he had seen.

It is my desire that this recording of some of the history of Lauderdale Springs will help others to know and understand and appreciate their heritage.

Acknowledgments

My mother had three outstanding characteristics - an abundant love for her family, an extensive interest in what was going on in the world around her and a phenomenal memory. I now can appreciate the many anecdotes she told me about our family and her lifetime experiences. From her I learned of my heritage.

I practically have been confined to my home by health problems while preparing this study, but I have had the good fortune to receive encouragement and assistance from a host of friends, who have given me material and information to help me get the job done. Some of these friends I have never met, but through their gracious assistance and kindnesses to me they have won my friendship.

I should like to thank Ann Clayton, my friend of many years, who got me started on the never ending journey of genealogical research. She has granted me permission to use materials from the book CEMETERY RECORDS OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, compiled by herself and Cecelia Nabors Hobgood.

I am indebted to John Harvey, a serious and meticulous student of history, who has sent me dozens of valuable newspaper clippings and historical items, and to Charles Riley, who has been my tireless volunteer researcher, combing the shelves and files at libraries and Archives for any bit of information that might be helpful.

I have debts of gratitude to Elbert Hilliard, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and to James Dawson, Director of the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History, and to their staffs for supplying much important information in response to my inquiries.

I am very grateful for the valuable information and counsel I received from: Professor Charles L. Sullivan, Chairman of the History Department at the Perkinston Branch of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, and who, also, is Graves Registration Officer for the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans; Roger Hansen, member of The Stanford Battery of Mississippi; Tom Goldman, an attorney and authority on Indian culture and history; Sylvia Tarrt Gilder, Tarrt Family history researcher; Jerry Strader, publisher of THE MERIDIAN STAR, who granted permission to use material from the paper; T.K. Griffis, Grand Secretary of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Mississippi; Edwina Hubert, a descendant of the Porter Family; William Ready, an attorney who is informed on the Lauderdale Springs resort property; Jack Shank, a distinguished historian who has written a three volume history of Meridian; Louis Parmer, a notable historian who has written two volumes of history of Kemper County; Sarah Virginia Walker who taught my secretary to use the word processor; and a sincere thank you to Mark Covington and the staff at Luke Printing Company.

Oh! and, by the way, I give my heartfelt appreciation to my husband, Tom, who is also my secretary, editor, cajoler, and omniservant.

Additional Acknowledgements by Thomas U. Lawrence

It is difficult to bring together the memories of all of the kindnesses that have made this expanded edition possible. Expressions of appreciation are extended to:

Paul and Pam Tarver and Tina Pope of Tarver Consultants for their counsel and tutoring that helped me overcome the many problems caused by my recalcitrant computer during the processing of this document.

Ward Calhoun, and the staff at the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History, and a special thank you to Leslie M. Joyner, the Archives Desktop Publisher, for her kindness during our trying times of getting this book into production.

Elbert Hilliard and the staff at the Mississippi Department of Archives and History Rachael A. Pyron, Director of the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, for countless hours searching the Baptist Convention Archives for information about the Lauderdale Springs Home for Confederate Orphans. And we must add an additional "thank you" to her for copying it and mailing it and for her continuing words of encouragement and for her valuable time spent leading me around and answering my questions when I visited her office.

Carole James of the Meridian Public Library for her tireless help in locating information and for securing valuable research material in books acquired through the Interlibrary Loan procedure.

Imogene Baumgardner, the owner of the Lauderdale Springs resort property, for giving us permission to explore the property.

Henry Wedgworth for accompanying us onto the property and guiding us to the various springs and sites of historic interest.

Ralph Morgan for clearing away a beaver dam and draining a lake so that pictures could be taken of the mineral water bathing pool at the Lauderdale Springs resort.

James Copeland, Forester at the Meridian Naval Air Station, for obtaining a report about the U.S. military post that was located north of Lauderdale after the War for Southern Independence. This report provided information about a second and a third Confederate hospital at Lauderdale, both located north of Ponta Creek, and about the site of the relocation of the Home for Confederate Orphans, when it was removed from Lauderdale Springs. We thank him for organizing several expeditions for us to search the area for information of historical significance.

Harold Noe for platting the property on the north side of Ponta Creek above Lauderdale, which at various times was the location of two Confederate Hospitals, the Howard Orphanage for Negro Children, a United States Military post, the Freedmans' Orphanage for Negro Children and the Mississippi Home for Confederate Orphans.

George A. Smith for permission to use a chapter from the memoirs of his Great-grandfather Sgt. George Powell Clarke, wherein the old veteran relates his recollection of his hospitalization at the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Hospital.

Fred Bean, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge for providing information from the records of the Masonic order.

Rodney Walker for the loan of a group picture, which included some young ladies who were students in a school at Lauderdale Springs.

Margaret Remy of Quick Prints of Meridian for the restoration and digital enhancement of some ancient pictures that are displayed in this book.

George Chatham for photographs of bottles with "Lauderdale Springs" embossed into the glass. These bottles were used for the sale and shipment of the mineral waters from the Springs.

Fred Edmiston for locating a copy of the autobiography of Dr. Thomas C. Teasdale, a faithful servant in the Kingdom of God, whose dedicated service as a fundraiser provided a large amount of the funds with which the Lauderdale Springs Home for Children was founded and kept functioning.

Lytle Stewart for his company on many field expeditions and his valuable service as photographer and recorder of interviews.

Tax Assessor Jimmy Slay and the staff in his office for providing maps and information regarding the chain of ownership of the Lauderdale Springs Resort property.

The late Jarvis Welch and his brothers, Richard, Edward, and Charles Welch of Toomsuba, MS for their information about the Patton family.

Greg Hatcher for valuable help with research.

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James G. Hadley of Austin, Texas for information about his Great-grandmother Lydia Priscilla Reynolds and her sister Jane Reynolds, who were residents at the Lauderdale Springs Home for Orphan Children.

Mary Frances Cockrell, now deceased, for providing information about her Great-grandmother Jackie Pearson and her sisters, Rebecca and Johnnie, who were residents at the Home, and for the loan of a picture of her grandmother and a group picture of the children's chorale.

Jack Redice Knight and his Aunt Ethyl Knight, historians and authors of great acclaim, who provided information about Jack's Great-great-grandmother Judith Welch Knight, who was a resident at the Home, along with her five children.

Mr. Joseph Henry "Dora" Hatcher for information about her ancestor, Benjamin B. Smith, who owned and operated the Lauderdale Springs Resort - circa the late 1840's and early 1850's.

Granberry Ward for information about his Grandmother Semele Moore, who was a resident at the Lauderdale Springs Home for Confederate Orphans and later married Horace Reid Ward.

Mrs. W. L. "Sidney" Wedgeworth, a school teacher who is beloved by all her students. Miss Sid provided a bounty of remembrances from her 95 years in Lauderdale and clarified some fuzzy information I had collected.

Prologue

The information presented here is copied from Betty Lawrence's genealogy writings.

William Dearman, Jr. and Sarah Nancy Ellen McKinley were married September 17, 1851 in Lauderdale Springs. The ceremony was preformed by her brother, Robert McKinley, who was Justice of the Peace and at a later time owned and operated the Lauderdale Springs Hotel.

The Dearmans bought property just east of the front gate of the Lauderdale Springs resort, and established their home there. William and Sarah Nancy Ellen McKinley Dearman, Jr. were my great-grandparents. They had three children: Clara Elizabeth, Willie Ellen and Malloy Beatty

William Dearman, Jr. was a son of Rev. William Dearman, Sr., who was pastor of the First Methodist Church in Meridian, which was between 8th Avenue and 10th Avenue, just south of the railroad. In his later life Rev. Dearman deeded the church and an adjoining cemetery to the Methodist Conference. At some later time the church building was razed and the cemetery, with more than 1,000 graves, many of them Confederate soldiers, was destroyed. William Dearman, Jr. engaged in the general merchandise business, selling men's clothes, saddles and hardware. When he was 25 years old he was elected constable in District 1 of Lauderdale County. He served in the Confederate army and died in 1862. He was a brother of John Dearman, who owned the 160 acre Dearman Survey in Meridian.

William Dearman, Jr.'s widow, Sarah Nancy Ellen, later married William Parker, who died a few years later. She maintained her home at Lauderdale Springs until she died in 1906.

Clara Elizabeth Dearman married Albert Gilliam January 14, 1883 in Lauderdale Springs. They were my grandparents. They bought land adjoining her mother's home and made their home with her and later purchased the home from her and lived out their lives there.

Albert and Clara Elizabeth Gilliam had two children: John William and Ina Beattie. Ina Beattie Gilliam and John William Peel were married December 14, 1910 in Lauderdale. They were my parents.

My mother, Ina Gilliam Peel, said the house in Lauderdale Springs, where Grandpa Gilliam and Grandma Gilliam lived and where she was born, was built out of big logs covered with clapboards and ceiled inside. There was a chimney on each side of the house. The house was roofed with hand hewn boards about six inches wide and 12 or 14 inches long. These were called shakes. The outside of the house was white-washed instead of being painted.

The house originally consisted of only two rooms with an open hall, known as a dogtrot, from front to back. The room on the right was the one used by Sarah Nancy McKinley Dearman. Mother nursed her while she was ill, and she died in that room. The room on the left was Grandpa and Grandma's room. When I was a little girl I stayed with them for long periods of time. Grandpa had closed up the wide hall and it served as a large room. He also added a shed room and a kitchen adjoining Grandpa and

Grandma's room. The shed room connected to the bedroom and was used as a storage room for trunks and clothes.

In Grandma's room, the window by the fireplace had glass panes, but the window opening onto the porch and the windows in the other room had a wooden shutters. Out back there was a smokehouse built of logs. It was small, only about 8 feet by 10 feet. Farther back from the house Grandpa had a crib where he kept the feed for the horse and cows. In the front of the house there were two big paradise trees.

Mother has told me of Old Aunt Easter, a Negro slave who came with the McKinleys to Lauderdale County, Mississippi from Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Aunt Easter had her bedroom by the kitchen, which was built separate from the house. She would allow no one in her kitchen while she was cooking. The family had a dog that played a trick on Aunt Easter. Once when she cooked cornbread on the hearth of the fireplace the dog seemed to know when the bread was done and went to the front of the house and started scratching at the door. When she went around the house to see what was going on, the dog tore out to the kitchen and stole the bread.

Sarah N. E. McKinley Dearman always kept money hidden in or around the house, some of it being gold. Mother said she knew where the money was hidden and sneaked and looked at it sometimes, but after the death of Great Grandmother McKinley Dearman it was never found.

I recall one night when I was about five years old, I was standing on a stool looking out the window by the fireplace and I saw a man standing by the side of the chimney looking in the window and listening. It scared me half to death. He saw me looking at him and ran. Grandpa said it happened often, that people believed the money was still in the house and they would sneak around hoping to get a clue to where the money was hidden. Another story concerns a trunk that had a round hole cut in the bottom. Someone had gone under the house and cut a hole through the floor and the trunk looking for the money. A piece of tin had been nailed to the bottom of the trunk to cover the hole.

I can remember Aunt Malinda, that wonderful, kind Negro woman, who always helped Grandma when she was sick. It seems she was sick a lot as I remember her being in bed much of the time when I was four, five and six years old. I was only six and a half years old when she died. She died in Rush Hospital in Meridian.

The old East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroad ran alongside the house. Mother says that in about 1899, after the Spanish American War, many soldiers were brought by rail to Lauderdale Springs and encamped there for several weeks. Mother said they were all over the place, even in their yard and at first she was afraid of them, but they gave her rings and beads they had made and made her feel like she was someone special and she loved them. They stayed around there until the officials decided to send them on to Chickamauga to be mustered out. That was the last time the railroad was used. It was then abandoned and the rails were taken up.

THE NEED TO KNOW HISTORY

There is a scenic drive from Alabama into Lauderdale County, Mississippi that follows a path beaten through the woodlands by generations of native Americans. This was the Choctaw Trail, the principal line of communication, transportation and travel through the heartland of the Choctaw Indian Nation. It, also, was the route taken by the white pioneers, when they moved in to settle these "new" lands.

One of the first settlements in the vast territory from which the states of Mississippi and Alabama were formed was established at Panti, an Indian village on the Choctaw Trail. This settlement evolved through many names: Panti, Possumville, Possumville Springs, Mingo Houma, White Sulphur Springs, and Patton's Springs - to become Lauderdale Springs.

A study of the history of Lauderdale Springs, to be comprehensive and meaningful, must present more than a chronology matching dates with events. History is primarily a narrative of what happened in the life of a people, however, the study should give consideration to the manner in which the people were affected and influenced by geography, economics, and their relation with other people. History should strive for the earliest possible beginning time and should tell more than the stories of the people who made waves and changed the world. It, also, should tell the stories of the people who changed with the world. A pebble tossed into a pond will shift the many grains of sand when the ripples reach the shore. In like manner, every individual has some effect upon the world around him.

INDIAN TRAILS AND EARLY ROADS

Panti was the site where two ancient travel routes, the Tennessee Trail and the Choctaw Trail, crossed.

The Tennessee Trail, later called the Gaines Road, ran from St. Stephens, on the Tombigbee River about 60 miles north of Mobile, to Colbert's Ferry, a few miles below the Mussel Shoals (present-day Muscle Shoals) on the Tennessee River. The United States government had established a large trading house at St. Stephens to promote trade with the Choctaws and other Indians. George Strother Gaines, the factor of the trading house, experienced constant difficulties with the revenue agents in Mobile, who exacted high duties and delayed his shipments. In 1810, Major Gaines was instructed by the Secretary of War to negotiate with the Chickasaw Indians for permission to open a wagon road, along a route that had been surveyed seven years earlier, from Colbert's Ferry to Cotton Gin Port on the Tombigbee. The Chickasaws objected to opening a wagon road, but did agree to allow goods to be transported on pack horses. This extension of the Gaines Road provided a route for the transportation of goods and travelers down the Ohio River, up the Tennessee, overland on the Gaines Trace to the Tombigbee, then down the Tombigbee to St. Stephens. The route of the Gaines Road through Lauderdale County is displayed in the Book of Township Plats in the Chancery Clerk's office.

The Choctaw Trail began at Tuscahoma, six miles east of present-day Butler, Alabama, and ran north along the Tombigbee River to Jones Bluff, now Epes, Alabama, then west through Panti, an Indian village at the present site of Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi, and on westward through Coosha, the principal seat of power of the Choctaw Indian Nation.

There were 70 towns in the Choctaw Nation. Coosha, with a population of 1500, was the largest. This was the home of Chief Pushmataha, Mingo of the Six Town Division of the Nation. Coosha was situated on Issuba Kannia bok (Lost Horse Creek). The site of the town is in Section 25, Township 8 North, Range 16 East, Lauderdale County, Mississippi, two miles northwest of present-day Lockhart and eight miles west of Lauderdale Springs.

According to records in the Alabama Department of Archives, the first white men to move into present-day Lauderdale County were Pierre and Charles Juzan, sons of Pierre Juzan of Mobile. The Juzan family had close relations with the Choctaws. Pierre Juzan, Sr. was commissary to the Indians under the British and remained as interpreter under the Spanish. Charles married a native girl named Phebe, who was a niece of Chief Pushmataha and a sister of Chief Oklahoma. The Juzan brothers became trusted friends of Pushmataha and over the years they were given honored positions of leadership in the Choctaw Nation. Charles established his home and a trading house at Coosha, and Pierre set up a trading house at Chunky Chitto, near present-day Chunky, Mississippi. They built trading houses at other locations and developed a thriving business for miles around. The Juzans were colorful figures and many legends survive them. It was rumored that Charles had buried \$30,000 in gold along the Choctaw Trail. Searchers dug many holes seeking that fabulous treasure, but no gold has been found.

A modern highway now follows the route of the old Choctaw Trail past Lauderdale Springs. The road passes two old cemeteries on adjoining hills. One is the Lauderdale Springs Cemetery, established in 1835 with the graves of many of the early settlers of this area of the Mississippi Territory.

Across the road, the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery is the last resting place of 1200 valiant young men who gave their lives during the War Between the States.

Both cemeteries are maintained through perpetual care funds, which give assurance that those noble ancestors will be given respect forever.

When the first settlers came to Lauderdale Springs, they had very few white neighbors living within 150 miles in any direction, however, they were followed by a steady stream of resolute immigrants searching for a new life and good fortune in the new territory. Here the dreams of many of those pioneers were fulfilled. Historical records pay tribute to their sacrifices and accomplishments. They were great patriots, who made significant contributions toward the founding of the state of Mississippi. They built churches and schools and developed a thriving community, with cultural, social and recreational advantages seldom found in a frontier town.

Through the years, stage lines were established connecting the town with Demopolis, Livingston and Gainesville, Alabama, and with Columbus, Carthage, Union, Jackson and Quitman, Mississippi, and this crossroad settlement developed into a major transportation and trading center in the territory. But, alas, in later years a railroad and a new highway bypassed the town, and, caught up in the ripples of change, it faded away. The countryside at Lauderdale Springs looks today much as it must have looked when it was in the heartland of the Choctaw Nation.

A probe into the history of Lauderdale Springs is typical of all historical studies, a question is asked, an answer is found only to pose another question. In this study, a logical first question is, "Why was Lauderdale Springs and the vast area around it unsettled more than three centuries after America was discovered and almost a quarter century after the eastern seaboard was populated and forged into a vibrant new nation?"

DISCOVERY OF THE NEW WORLD

The answer begins in 1492 when Christopher Columbus departed Palos, Spain and sailed westward across the unknown waters of the Ocean Sea in search of a new route to the Indies and Asia. When he touched land at San Salvador in the Bahamas, he mistakenly assumed he had reached India and the spice islands. He returned home and proclaimed, "The gate to the pearls and gold is open. Asia can now be reached by sailing west." Columbus made three additional voyages to explore the lands he thought to be a part of Asia and died without ever realizing that the lands he called the Other World were actually a New World. It was almost thirty years before the truth dawned that Columbus had, in fact, discovered the new world to be called America.

European kings and merchants were annoyed to learn that this troublesome land mass blocked them from finding a new route to Asia. Then it was discovered that the "New World" was a land of riches far greater than trade with Asia. Gold was the magic word. Driven by greed, the Spaniards swept over South and Central America like a storm, and ruthlessly pillaged and looted the continent.

THE NATIVE AMERICANS

When the white man came in 1492, Indians had lived on this continent for more than 20,000 years. Indians are of Mongoloid racial stock. They came from Asia, across the Bering Strait, to America. 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 lived in present day Latin America and about 1,000,000 lived north of the Rio Grande. 25,000 to 30,000 lived in what is now Mississippi and a greater number in Alabama.

For thousand of years during the stone age, Indians were nomadic hunters who supplemented their diet of game and fish with fruit, berries, roots, seeds, nuts and whatever else nature provided.

Around 3,000 years ago Indians began to make pottery and learned some simple methods of storing food. Rudimentary agriculture began to evolve and they grew corn, beans and squash. This enabled them to spend less time hunting for food. This era is referred to as the Woodland tradition.

Around 1300 years ago, the Mississippian tradition began to supplant the Woodland culture. Progressive methods of farming were developed and farm production increased. They built more permanent homes and towns. They held religious ceremonies and organized governments. Settlements became larger and were made remarkable by their flat topped, pyramidal earthen mounds. Levels of culture and ways of living varied greatly over the enormous lands of the two continents. The Maya, Inca, and Aztec empires developed the highest Indian civilizations, with many cultural advancements and some remarkable achievements in the arts and sciences. The Mississippian Indians reached their highest development around 1200 A.D.

Great Indian nations, unable to defend against modern methods of warfare, were overwhelmed by the conquests of the European invaders, and their honorable civilizations were destroyed. Ships, loaded with gold and the fortunes of conquest, returned to Spain in triumph.

With visions of great wealth and power, the monarchs and nobility of Europe thrust their countries into a frenetic struggle for the vast land and resources of the New World. European explorers made obscure claims to undefined lands, which overlapped claims made by other countries.

The native Indians resented and resisted the incursions of aliens into their homelands and hunting grounds. Disputes arose and wars erupted. The conflicts for territorial sovereignty lasted for centuries, with the Indians, caught in the middle, always involved, siding with whichever army was the lesser of the evils.

HERNANDO DESOTO

Hernando DeSoto was the first European to make a thorough and systematic exploration of what is now the southeastern part of the United States. DeSoto was born in Spain. When he was 19 years old, he went to South America and became wealthy in the conquest of Peru. When he was named governor of Cuba, he decided to explore Florida, which had been described as a land of gold.

In May of 1539, he departed from Tampa Bay with six hundred soldiers and traveled north to the Blue Ridge Mountains, then south into the Choctaw Indian Nation. Somewhere between the Tombigbee and Alabama Rivers, he engaged in battle with Chief Tualoosa and the Maubila tribe of Choctaws. This was the bloodiest Indian battle in North American history. It lasted for nine hours and between six and eleven thousand were killed.

In an article published on June 30, 1976 in *THE SUMTER COUNTY ALABAMA JOURNAL*, the writer, Jack Sanders, postulates that some of the Indians escaped from that battle and fled to Millville, Alabama, which is seven miles east of Lauderdale Springs. The theory, based on some relics and artifacts that have been unearthed, contends that the Spaniards pursued the Indians and annihilated them at that site. In 1891, evidence was found to indicate that, hundreds of years ago, a causeway had been built there. It was three quarters of a mile long and could have been used to get DeSoto's horses and large cannons across a boggy marsh at the locale. A number of articles, which have been excavated at the

site, support the contention. Among the items were: steel and brass rifle barrels; steel and brass pistol barrels, all of the flintlock type; and a steel currying knife. Also found were arrow heads, spear points, stone axes, and other equipment made by Indians.

The explorers continued west into what is now Texas. DeSoto died on the trip. The survivors brought back a wealth of information about a beautiful, rich land, but no gold. The Indians of this interior area saw very few white visitors again for the next 250 years.

COLONIZATION

Spain, in 1519, established the first permanent European settlement on the North American mainland at Vera Cruz, Mexico. In 1565, Spaniards settled St. Augustine, the oldest city in what is now the United States. By 1600 Latin America was under European control and most of the Indians were vanquished into servitude and slavery under the new masters.

The first English settlement in what is now the United States was founded at Jamestown, Virginia in 1607. Within 25 years 40,000 persons lived in Virginia.

In 1620, the Mayflower carried 102 Pilgrims to Massachusetts. Their settlement was practically an independent republic, until it became a colony in 1691. Rhode Island and Connecticut were established as independent republics. The Dutch settled New Netherlands on Manhattan island in 1624. The Swedish settled along the Delaware River in 1638, but Dutch forces seized Sweden's settlements in 1650. The English colonized Pennsylvania in 1681, and Delaware was claimed by Pennsylvania until the Revolutionary War.

In 1629, King Charles I of England granted the region south of Virginia to Sir Robert Heath. The new colony named Carolana, extended from Virginia to Florida and from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River, but it was not until 1700 that the first permanent white settlers came into the colony. At that time its name was changed to Carolina. In 1729, the region was divided into two royal provinces, North Carolina and South Carolina. In 1732, the southern part of the region was divided from South Carolina to become the colony of Georgia, which encompassed the present states of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. At that time virtually no European settlers had ventured into that vast area.

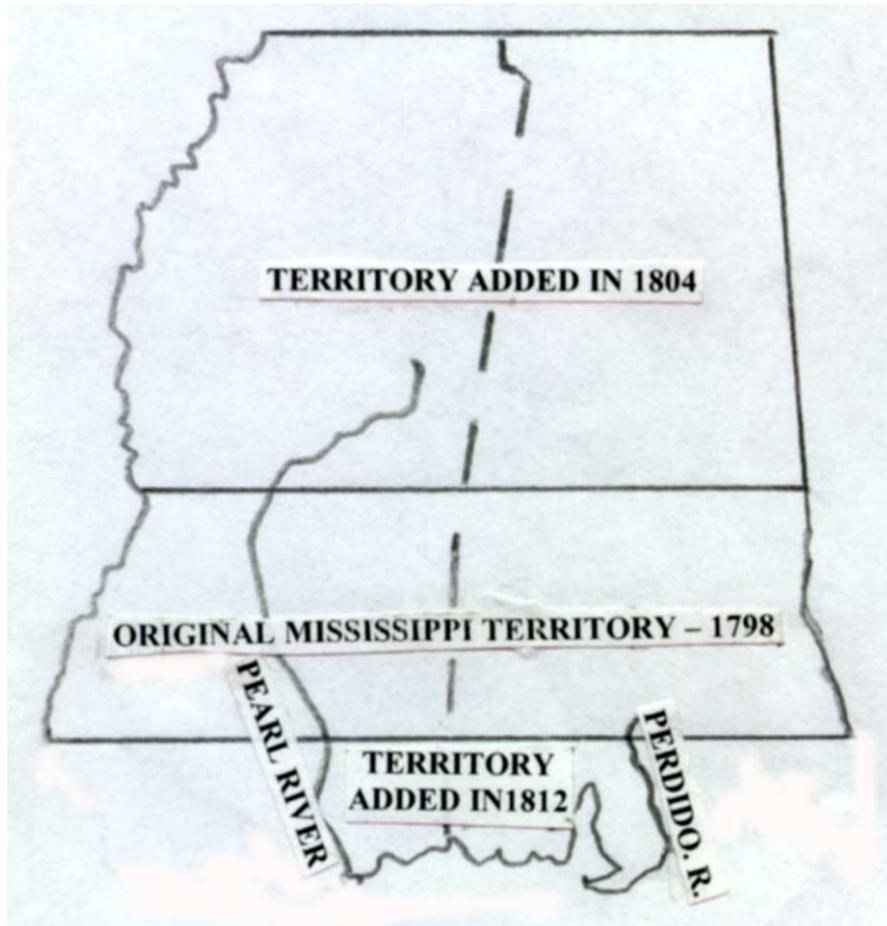
Since the English had claimed the entire continent of North America, the colonists considered their lands to extend westward to undefined limits, or at least to the Mississippi River, however, a primary problem with this assumption was that these lands were owned and occupied by Indians. These were their homelands. The problem was compounded by the fact that Robert Cavalier De LaSalle had, on April 9, 1682, claimed for France the Mississippi River and all the land it drained. This province, called Louisiana, extended from the Allegheny Mountains to the Rocky Mountains. Complicating the problem even further was the fact that the Spanish claimed much of the land in the colony of Georgia and most of the western part of the continent.

Pierre Sieur d'Iberville and his brother, Jean d'Bienville, established the first French settlement at present-day Ocean Springs, Mississippi in 1699; another at Mobile in 1702; Fort Toulouse on the Alabama River near the present location of Wetumpka, Alabama in 1714; and Fort Rosalie, now Natchez, in 1716. The first capitol of the French province was at Biloxi, but later it was moved to Mobile and, in 1723, to New Orleans.

By 1760, 1,500,000 people lived in the 13 British colonies. In 1762, France ceded to Spain New Orleans and all of Louisiana west of the Mississippi River. In 1763, France surrendered the territory east of the Mississippi River to Great Britain. This cession included a strip of land between the Gulf of Mexico and the 31st Parallel, extending across the southern coasts of present-day Alabama and Mississippi. This province was known as British West Florida. Between 1775 and 1783, the 13 English colonies revolted and established the United States of America as a sovereign nation. This was a time for rejoicing for a new nation had been born, but it was a time for concern for many hardy pioneers who were attracted to the frontier in search of the American dream. At that time settlements had been confined to the Atlantic seaboard, because of the hostility of the French, Spanish and Indians who resisted all efforts toward expansion. Only 100,000 bold pioneers had ventured west of the Allegheny Mountains. Great Britain ceded West Florida back to Spain at the end of the Revolutionary War. By 1790 the population of the United States was 4,000,000 with a continuing stream of immigrants arriving from Europe.

In 1795, Georgia sold much of its western lands, in what is now Alabama and Mississippi, to land companies who proposed to resell them at a profit. The deal came to be known as the Yazoo Fraud, because of the dishonesty of the developers. Repercussions from the Fraud caused the state to sell the land to the federal government.

THE MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY



In 1798, the U. S. Congress organized the Mississippi Territory with Natchez as the capitol. The territory was bounded on the south by the 31st parallel, on the west by the Mississippi River, on the north by a line extending from the mouth of the Yazoo River (at present-day Vicksburg) east to the Chattahoochee River (near present-day Columbus, Georgia), and on the east by the Chattahoochee River. In 1804, Congress extended the Mississippi Territory north to the Tennessee border and, in 1812, south to the Gulf Of Mexico.

In 1817, the State of Mississippi was formed from the western half of the Territory and the eastern half was then named the Alabama Territory. In 1819, the Alabama Territory was organized as a state and accepted into the Union as the State of Alabama.

EARLY SETTLERS

Among the first settlers coming to the new Mississippi Territory were James Lauderdale, Ambrose Knox Ramsey and Richard Smith, who came in 1800. They traveled down the Indian trails and arrived at Panti, an Indian village on Shukhutolbi bok (Opossum Killing Creek), known today as Possum Creek. They had to widen the trails to provide passage for their wagons and it took them a year to make the trip.

SAM DALE

A guide and scout named Samuel Dale, whose life story has become a legend, accompanied them. Dale was an outstanding figure in the history of the Mississippi Territory and one of Mississippi's most zealous patriots. He was born in 1772 in Rockbridge, Virginia.

When he was three years old his parents moved to Washington County, Virginia and built a stockade for protection against the Indians.

It was a precarious life, with constant fear of massacre. Dale's father narrowly escaped an ambush near the fort, where four men were killed and scalped.

After several encounters with hostile Indians, Dale's father moved the family to what is now Greensborough, Georgia. Within a few months the Creeks and Cherokees started an uprising, and life became intolerable. The Dales then moved to Carmichael's Station where Indians again attacked them. During this battle a rifle ball struck Dale in the face, leaving him with a bent "hawk" nose, which was an outstanding feature remembered by all who knew him.

When Dale was 17 years old, his parents died and he found himself with a mortgaged farm and the responsibility for eight younger brothers and sisters. When he was 21 years old and six feet two inches tall, "Big Sam" engaged a reliable neighbor to care for the family and joined a militia company to fight Indians. In his first campaign with the company Dale was acclaimed for his courage and wily maneuvers. He was promoted to commander of the militia's scout company and soon was known throughout the land as a fierce Indian fighter and a bad enemy to have.

In 1799, Dale's militia company was disbanded. He bought a four-horse wagon and became a freighter in Savannah, working through the winter and returning to the farm in the spring to put his horses to the plow to help his brothers make a crop, after which he became a trader and went among the Creek Indians bartering merchandise for cattle, hogs, poultry, hides and tallow, which he transported to the seaboard and sold.

This was the year when immigration began from Georgia and the Carolinas, through Creek and Choctaw country, into the new Mississippi Territory. Dale acquired teams and three wagons and offered his services for the transport of families to their new homes. He established his base of operations at Milledgeville, Georgia, at the head of the Three Chopped Way, which was the mainline for travelers into the new Territory. The trail was marked by three chops of an ax on the trunks of trees along the route. It ran to Fort Stoddard, about 40 miles north of Mobile, and in 1807 was extended to Natchez on the Mississippi River and was used as a post road, with service every three weeks.

Through his years of dealing with Indians, as a friend and as an enemy, Dale had acquired a vast knowledge of the nature and cultural composition of the several nations in the territory. Most likely, he was familiar with the locality when he guided James Lauderdale, Ambrose Ramsey and Richard Smith to Panti and advised them to locate in the vicinity.

Dale continued his business of guiding settlers into the Mississippi Territory. He later engaged in the mercantile business and farming. He served as a colonel in the militia of the Mississippi

Territory and later in the U. S. army in the war against the Creek Indians. The accounts of his victories in hand-to-hand combat have become legend. The most famous of his exploits was called "the canoe fight," which occurred on November 13, 1813, when he was leading 60 men up the Alabama River in pursuit of a band of Indians.

They caught up with the Indians at Burnt Corn Creek near what is today Claiborne, Alabama, and Dale single-handedly killed 11 of the enemy while standing in a canoe. He participated in the destruction of the Creek's "Holy City" in which Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston, Davy Crockett, and General J. F. H. Claiborne took an active part. After the war Dale served as Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, and as Census Commissioner in Monroe County, Alabama; as a delegate to the convention to divide the Mississippi Territory when Mississippi attained statehood; as a delegate to the first Alabama General Assembly and served two terms in the Alabama legislature.. He was appointed a Commissioner to remove the Choctaw Indians to their new homes in the West. He was sumptuously entertained by President Andrew Jackson in Washington in 1832. The legislature conferred on him the rank of Brigadier General, with the pay of a Colonel for life. He later purchased two sections of land near Coosha, eight miles west of Lauderdale Springs, and founded the town of Daleville, Mississippi. He served in the Mississippi legislature and was a successful merchant and farmer.

Dale had one other claim to fame. He was a talented fiddler, and always was welcomed by the people on the frontier, who wanted a little music in their lives.



Samuel Dale died May 24, 1841 at the age of 70 years. Today, a stone monument towering over an idyllic park at Daleville displays a figure of a man, with rifle in hand staring at the horizon. This statue commemorates the memory of the fabulous General Samuel Dale, frontiersman, Indian-fighter and politician.

PANTI

When Dale, Lauderdale, Ramsey and Smith arrived at Panti village, the Indians received their guests with hospitality, and proudly escorted them to the springs and told them, "Here Great Father of Indians brings forth water for his children." They explained that for uncounted moons Indians, from as far away as the Smoky Mountains and the far West, had been coming to the springs to bathe and drink the "wonder waters" as a cure for skin diseases and other ailments. Medicine men would instruct wounded warriors to travel to the springs for a cure. The hosts showed them the "black medicine water" spring, which was known to cure wounds and skin ailments. West of the black spring were four springs, each with a different colored water and each acclaimed to have a different healing power.

The visitors, intrigued by the springs and delighted by the friendly attitude of the natives and impressed by the beautiful forests and rich soils they had observed throughout the region, decided they wanted to make their new homes in this locality.

James Lauderdale purchased the area around the springs, paying a handsome price by the standards of the day. For the property the Indians received a fine rifle, some ammunition, a pony, a hatchet, a knife, a skillet, beads and about \$25 in gold. The deal was closed with the understanding that the Indians would have free use of the springs.

The pioneers returned to their homes and set about the monumental task of moving their families and all their possessions several hundred miles into the wilderness. The procession of wagons and livestock was an impressive caravan. The Allen Smith family traveled in a phaeton carriage drawn by a matched team of white stallions.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS

James Lauderdale, who was originally from Tennessee, made his home and operated a mercantile business at the springs he had purchased at Panti village, and the town of Lauderdale Springs developed at this site. Ambrose Ramsey and his family settled fifteen miles north of Lauderdale Springs and named the settlement Ramsey. It is now the town of Emelle, Alabama. The Allen Smith family established their home eight miles south of Lauderdale Springs at Alamutcha, an Indian winter camp where the men hunted and the women made baskets. Chief Pushmataha had a winter home at this village. This locale was known as Smith's Pass. It is near Kewanee, Mississippi.

The three men joined with Sam Dale in a venture to provide the first stagecoach service from the Carolinas to the Springs, and are credited with bringing many of the first white settlers into the area. Signs of the stage road can still be seen near the Springs.

JAMES LAUDERDALE

The history of the Lauderdale family is recorded in the book HISTORIC SUMTER COUNTY, TENNESSEE, published by Jay G. Cisco in 1909. From Cisco's writings we learn that the original name of the Lauderdale family was "Maitland," but many generations back the "Laird of Maitland" was made Earl or Lord of Lauderdale. James Maitland was the grandfather of Isabella Marr, who married Robert Bruce, King of Scotland.

In 1714 one member of the family came to America and located in Southeastern Pennsylvania, but soon afterwards removed to Botetourt County, Virginia. He had seven sons and three daughters. Three of the sons served in the Revolutionary War. One of the sons, James Lauderdale, married a Miss Mills and moved to Tennessee about 1794.

He had six sons and one daughter. Five of his sons served as commissioned officers under Andrew Jackson in the Indian wars and the War of 1812.

One son was the James Lauderdale who came to Mississippi and settled at Panti on Possum Creek and founded the town of Lauderdale Springs. James was commissioned a Major, and later was commissioned a Lieutenant Colonel of a regiment of mounted infantry in Coffee's brigade. James Lauderdale was severely wounded in the battle against the Creek Indians at Talladega, Alabama. He returned to duty before he was fully recovered and was in command of Dyer's regiment in General Coffee's brigade at the Battle of New Orleans. In an historical manuscript recounting that battle, M.W. Trimble related:

...In the heat of the engagement a company of our regulars ... encountered a company of Tennessee riflemen, and it being too dark for recognition ... they opened fire upon each other ... The brave Col. Lauderdale, recognizing the familiar yell from both sides, stepped between them and began knocking down their guns with his sword, but lost his life in the fray - the saddest incident of this night attack...

The official records of the war state:

The Mississippi Territory suffered a loss in Col. Lauderdale of General Coffee's brigade who fell while heroically repulsing the enemy.

When the news of Lauderdale's death reached Tennessee, he was eulogized in *THE NASHVILLE WHIG*:

DIED - on the battle ground below New Orleans, on the night of the 23rd of December, JAMES LAUDERDALE, colonel in the corps of mounted volunteers from this state. At an early period after the declaration of war, Col. Lauderdale engaged in the service of his country, and was employed in the campaign against the Creek Indians, until the battle of Talladega, in which he fought with distinguished gallantry and was severely wounded.

So soon as apprehensions were entertained for the safety of New Orleans and West Florida, Col. Lauderdale, not yet recovered from his wounds, again offered his services to his country ... On the evening of the 23rd he exposed himself as was his custom when in battle to every danger, and soon fell, leaving his brave soldiers to take encouragement from his noble example, and a grateful country to admire his valor and deplore his loss.

Col. Lauderdale was respected in private life and beloved by the men whom he commanded. In every situation in which he was placed his first object was to know and to do his duty. No dangers however great, no seducements however alluring, could divert him for an instant from this object. With that integrity and fortitude of character, for which he was so eminently distinguished, was combined an enthusiasm and glow of feeling which every one who knew him both perceived and admired ... When graver matters pressed upon him, he was vigilant and thoughtful in battle - it was there that he shined with superior lustre - it was in the "battle broil" that all the energies of his mind were put forth ... it was in the defence of the rights of his country, and in the liberty of the citizens that he was most firm and determined...

Such examples as that of Col. Lauderdale, by their splendor and their number will soon constitute for us a national character capable of the sublimest efforts of steady fortitude and masculine courage, tho' the enemy may land an hundred thousand men on our shores we need not tremble - they would but serve to illustrate the invincible rigor of our free constitution, and irresistible energy of our spirit!

Records show that James Lauderdale was never married.

Lauderdale Counties in Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee and the towns of Lauderdale and Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi were named in his honor.

James Lauderdale's brother, William, was a Quartermaster with the rank of Major in the War of 1812. In 1830 Major William Lauderdale carried his country's flag farther into the Indian country than anyone else had done up to that time, and established Fort Lauderdale in Southeastern Florida. Gallant Sam Lauderdale, who fell at Cerro Gordo in the Mexican War, was a son of Major William Lauderdale.

Another brother, Sam D., served in the War of 1812, and had the esteem and confidence of his commander and his men. In 1836, James Selby Lauderdale, son of Colonel Sam D., served under General Jessep on the Texas frontier to protect the United States borders against the Mexicans in case of the defeat of General Sam Houston.

When the War Between the States broke out, the Lauderdalees rallied to the defense of their land, and several died in service of the Confederate States Army. James Selby Lauderdale raised the first Company in Texas for Confederate service. He gave his company its first drill on Christmas day, 1860. His company formed a part of the Tenth Texas Infantry and did gallant service.

THE CHOCTAW INDIANS

The Choctaw, Creek, Cherokee, and Chickasaw Indians migrated into the southeastern part of the continent at about 1200 A. D. The Choctaw Nation occupied much of present-day Mississippi and Alabama, and developed into the largest and most advanced Indian nation in the southeast. In the early days they were divided into eight clans with membership in a clan being

inherited from their mothers. Their language and customs were similar to the Chickasaws, their close relatives and neighbors to the north.

The Choctaw Nation was divided into three divisions, each with a mingo or chief elected by the people. Captains and sub-captains were elected to rule villages, and were responsible to the mingos' orders. Issues of the nation were decided at council meetings. Through a system of elected officials, unlimited debate, civilian rule and local self rule, the Choctaw Nation achieved an efficient and democratic government. Of the three mingos of the three tribal divisions of the Nation, Pushmataha was the most respected and held the greatest influence.

These Indians loved their homelands and resented any incursions upon them. Through the years, European military forces had made several futile attempts to establish forts in the area. In 1735, the French built Fort Tombebee on the Tombigbee River twenty miles northeast of Lauderdale Springs, but the hostile Chickasaws forced them to evacuate within a year. British forces occupied the same fort, November 22, 1763, and renamed it Fort York, however, they never gained the confidence of the Indians and soon had to leave.

In 1781, a Spanish garrison moved into the fort and named it Fort Confederation. They were unable to overcome the unfriendly attitude of the Indians and soon evacuated the premises. A trading house was maintained at the site for years, and eventually it grew into a town, now known as Epes, Alabama.

The Choctaw Nation extended from the Tombebee (Tombigbee) to the Mississippi, as far north as present-day Columbus, Mississippi, and from the Gulf of Mexico regions. The Choctaws were excellent traders and farmers, capable of producing 250 bushels of produce from one acre. They cultivated corn, beans, pumpkins and melons and raised large herds of cattle. They supplied corn to French settlers as far away as Mobile. They built log and stucco homes, grouped into villages toward the edge of the district to form a protective barrier, but toward the center the homes were isolated and resembled plantations.

The religion of the Choctaws was mingled with magic and superstition. The mingo kept a box of medicine to vouchsafe the tribe from harm, and each warrior wore a bag of medicine for his own protection. Certain men and women were believed to possess occult powers for good and evil, and had to be considered in times of crisis. They believed in a life after death and had elaborate burial ceremonies. There were numerous ceremonies throughout the year, the most important being the green corn dance, which was a time of thanksgiving and renewal.

The Choctaws were peaceful by nature and were slow to anger, but when enraged they fought with fury that seemed supernatural. They were not aggressive about invading other territory but they were relentless in defense of their own land and their women. They could field fifteen thousand warriors which was the largest force of all the Indian nations. Their bitterest enemies were the Creeks, who started a war with the Choctaws in 1765 that lasted six years.

The Choctaw men helped the women with necessary work which was beneath the dignity of men of other tribes. Visitors were

impressed with their hospitality and agreeable attitude, and found them to be witty and intelligent. They were great orators, using their beautiful language in a manner that was concise, strong, beautiful and flowing. Choctaw Indian were slender and very agile. No tribe could run faster. None excelled them at chunky, a ball game that was a favorite sport of the Indians.

Artifacts excavated in the region have been dated by archaeologists as being 10,000 years old, indicating that stone age Indians had lived here. There are many mounds along the Sucarnochee River, eight miles east of Lauderdale Springs. The mounds were built by women bringing dirt in baskets on their heads. One of the largest Indian mounds in existence is near where this river enters the Tombigbee. There is evidence that canals connected the mound to the river. It probably was used as a fortress.

PUSHMATAHA



Chief Pushmataha was born near present-day Causeyville, Mississippi.

He was six feet two inches tall, and by the age of twenty he was a chieftain. He led a group of warriors to the Spanish border, now Texas, and met defeat at the hand of the Collegeheahs. He escaped from the engagement and found refuge in a Spanish settlement for five years. He returned to the Red River four times for revenge against the Collegeheahs, bringing back to his people the scalps of his victims.

In the Creek War, he led a band of 500 Choctaw warriors against the British and their Indian allies. General F.L. Claiborne presented him a handsome regimental uniform and he was brevetted a brigadier general in the United States Army.

Pushmataha knew Spanish and some French and used fluent English. One man who heard him said he had "never heard one who had such sweet music in his tones, such energy in his manner, and such power over his audience as this renown warrior. Of all Indians of pure blood who have a place in American history, he blended more admirable traits than any other. He was truly a friend of the white man."

In 1824, Chief Pushmataha went to Washington to negotiate for closer relations between the Choctaw Nation and the United States Government. He was received by President James Monroe and Secretary of War John C. Calhoun and met General Lafayette and became the toast of the town. While there he made a speech so eloquent that excerpts are worthy of quoting here, "...I am in trouble. I will tell you my distresses ... I can boast and say, and tell the truth, that none of my father's grandfathers, or any Choctaw, ever drew blows against the United States ... My nation has always listened

to the applications of the white people. They have given of their land until it is very small ... I came here when a young man to see my Father Jefferson. He told me if ever we got in trouble, we must run and tell him. I am come..."

A few days later, Pushmataha became ill with croup and quinsy. His old friend, Senator Andrew Jackson, rushed to his bedside and asked, "Warrior, what is your wish?" Pushmataha replied, "When I am dead, fire the big guns over me." He died December 24, 1824, at age 60 and was buried in the Congressional Cemetery with a full military funeral, and the big guns were fired over him. More than 2,000 persons were in the mile long funeral procession.

THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE

In 1800, Napoleon forced Spain to return New Orleans and all of the colony of Louisiana to France, then in 1803, Napoleon sold Louisiana and the rest of the Mississippi valley region to the United States for \$15,000,000. This transaction, known as the Louisiana Purchase, comprised 825,000 square miles of land between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains, stretching from the Gulf of Mexico to the Canadian border. This might be the best bargain in the annals of real estate dealings.

THE CREEK WARS AND THE WAR OF 1812

Up until the creation of the Mississippi Territory, in 1798, very few white settlers had ventured into that vast region, which includes the entire states of Mississippi and Alabama. The big problem was that the lands were owned by the Creek, Cherokee, Choctaw and Chickasaw Indian Nations. The logical route into the Mississippi Territory was across the land of the Creeks, who occupied most of Georgia and much of Alabama. Unfortunately, their resistance to trespassers was the fiercest of all the tribes. Access into the territory from the Gulf of Mexico was blocked, since Spain controlled Florida and the Gulf Coast as well as the Mississippi River and most of the land west of the Mississippi. Indian raids from Spanish Florida into Georgia were abetted by the Spanish.

Other problems involved the British. There was disagreement over the location of the western reaches of the Canadian-United States border. This dispute became intensified when the British incited the Indians into war against the United States, and supplied them with weapons and provisions. United States-British relations deteriorated further when British ships began a continuing practice of stopping United States ships on the high seas, and searching them for seamen who were British by birth. All who were found were considered to be deserters, and were taken aboard the British ships and impressed into the British navy.

For years, the people of the western and southern states were indignant because of the hardships caused by Great Britain's antagonistic policies along the frontier. The economy of

antagonistic policies along the frontier. The economy of these states was based primarily upon agriculture. Great Britain was preventing westward movement into the frontier and the people resented it. They were in favor of going to war with Great Britain.

The people of New England generally were opposed to going to war. The economy of New England was based primarily upon manufacturing and the shipping trade which would suffer disastrous losses from a war.

A group of congressmen from the western and southern states, known as the War Hawks, advocated a declaration of war. Many of them were motivated by their desires to remove the obstacles that were preventing the expansion of the country. Expansion was opposed by many New England politicians, who perceived it as a dilution of New England's power in Congress. War was declared on June 18, 1812. A large majority of Americans opposed the war.

They believed it was forced on the nation to satisfy the expansionists of the South and West. New England, the center of wealth, interposed their disapproval by withholding both money and troops.

Indians were used by the British as allies, and played a big role in several battles, continuing until the Battle of Moroviantown.

This battle, on October 1, 1813, was after the British had abandoned Detroit and had withdrawn into Canada accompanied by 600 Indians under Chief Tecumseh. The U. S. forces pursued them and defeated them and Tecumseh was killed on the battle field.

Tecumseh was a Shawnee chief from Ohio, who had traveled to almost every tribe east of the Rocky Mountains with a crusade urging Indians to join a confederation to keep Indian land for the Indians. His mission was to incite the Indians against the United States. In 1811, he visited the Choctaws and Chickasaws.

Chief Pushmataha rejected the appeal by Tecumseh and kept nearly all of his warriors on the side of the United States.

Tecumseh then attended the annual tribal council of the Creek Indians where 5,000 people, including many Choctaws and Cherokees, were in attendance. Sam Dale was the only white man to hear the speech of Tecumseh. Dale described the speech:

Tecumseh spoke first slowly and in sonorous tones, but soon he became impassioned and the words flew in avalanches from his lips. I have heard many great orators, but I never saw one with the vocal powers of Tecumseh. The effect on that wild, superstitious, untutored assemblage may be conceived. Not a word was said, but stern warriors the "stoics of the woods" shook with emotion, and a thousand tomahawks were brandished in the air.

Within a few months, whites were being massacred by the dozens throughout Georgia and the Mississippi Territory. The Creeks fought with savage fury to drive the white man from their land. The most alarming atrocity occurred at Fort Mims, just north of Mobile, where 250 white settlers were killed. Thus began the Creek War of 1813-1814. Andrew Jackson entered into the

United States Military Service at the start of the War of 1812, and led a force of 2,000 volunteers into the Mississippi Territory in the campaign against the Creek Indians. Chief Pushmataha, with four companies of Choctaws, joined in with the United States in this bloody war and he became a General in the army of the United States.

Andrew Jackson had won renown as a great soldier long before the War of 1812. He enlisted in the militia of South Carolina during the Revolutionary War, when he was 13 years old, and he became a Major General in the Tennessee militia in 1801. The decisive battle of the Creek War was at Horseshoe Bend on the Talapoosa River, near the present-day city of Alexander City, Alabama. Almost all of the force of 800 Creek warriors was wiped out. Jackson dictated the peace terms which forced the Creeks to give up 23,000,000 acres of land in Georgia and Alabama.

Jackson was assigned to command the U. S. force along the Southern coast. He promptly captured Pensacola in Spanish Florida and moved on to fortify New Orleans against an attack by the British. The British army of more than 8,000 troops marched straight toward the entrenchments and was soundly defeated. In this battle the Choctaw warriors were under the command of Pierre Juzan of Chunky Chitto.

It is ironic that this most famous battle of the War of 1812 was fought after the war had ended. Sam Dale made a record ride of 700 miles, from Georgia to New Orleans, to deliver a dispatch to inform General Jackson that the war had ended, but he arrived after the Battle of New Orleans was over. When Jackson read the dispatch he said, "Too late. Too late. They are always too late in Washington." Andrew Jackson said of Dale, "There isn't a man this side of hell can stop Big Sam."

This victory over the troops that had just licked Napoleon brought even greater fame to General Jackson. He returned to Tennessee, but remained in command of the army's southern division.

After Tecumseh's death the alliance between the confederation of Indian tribes with the British crumbled, and Indian troubles in the Northwest practically ended.

The Treaty of Ghent, signed December 24, 1814, ended the War of 1812. The war settled none of the issues over which it was fought, however, most of the issues were resolved during the next few years.

THE ACQUISITION OF FLORIDA

In 1817, James Monroe became president. His goals were to avoid any new international crises and mend the divided national spirit. John Quincy Adams was Secretary of State. He and Andrew Jackson were two powerful men who did not share Monroe's prediction that this would be an "era of good feelings." They shared a compelling concern for the nation's security. The border and trade disputes which had caused the War of 1812 were still unresolved. They adjudged the United States to be as vulnerable as it was before the war. The dispute with Great Britain over the northwestern border of the United States had not been settled and remained a

a matter of contention. The primary anxiety concerned the Spanish provinces of East and West Florida. West Florida was a narrow strip of land slicing under The Mississippi Territory and blocking access to the Territory from the Gulf of Mexico.

These provinces were filled with hostile Indians, foreign adventurers, runaway slaves and duplicitous Spanish officials.

Jackson and Adams contended that without control of these provinces there could be no territorial security, or any westward expansion.

Another grievance, which Adams and Jackson felt was of utmost importance, was Spain's consistent refusal to recognize the United States' purchase of the Louisiana Territory, and denial of all American claims to land west of the Mississippi River.

In the spring of 1817, the War Department received a message from Georgia, that the Red Stick Creeks, so called because of their big red war clubs, had murdered a white woman named Mrs. Garrett and her two children, and had commenced their Red Stick dancing again.

On November 30th, a party of women, children and ill soldiers was being transported by boat up the Apalachicola River to a fort. The boat was ambushed and thirty-four soldiers, six women and four children were killed.

Several days later, another boat was ambushed, but got away after a fierce fight, whereupon, John Calhoun, the Secretary of War, sent a dispatch to the military commander in Georgia stating:

...it is the wish of the President that you consider yourself at liberty to march across the Florida line and attack them ... unless they should shelter themselves under a Spanish fort. In the last event, you will immediately notify this department.

Two weeks later the President placed General Jackson in charge of the operation. John Quincy Adams opened negotiations with the Spanish, but they eventually stalemated. Jackson sent a secret communication on January 6, 1818, asserting:

... the whole of East Florida ought to be seized ... let it be signified to me through any channel ... that the possession of Florida is desirable to the United States, and in 60 days it will be accomplished.

Months later, this remarkable missive would stir hot debate in Congress over the question, "Did Jackson have presidential approval when he invaded Florida?"

On March 25th, General Jackson took Fort St. Marks, where some Seminoles had taken refuge. He then moved east to subdue a group of Indians and runaway slaves operating in the Suwannee River area. In this expedition an Englishman named Armbruster, a trader named Arbuthnot and two Seminole chiefs were arrested and convicted at a military court and put to death.

Jackson moved west and occupied Fort of St. Michael's at Pensacola. He appointed one of his colonels as Governor of West Florida and returned home to Tennessee.

When reports of Jackson's actions reached Washington, most officials were shocked. Spanish Minister DeOuis was outraged. Questions about the affair and conjecture about its consequences rocked Washington for months. The Spanish government demanded that Jackson be punished, a demand which echoed through the chambers of Congress. The furor finally quieted on February 22, 1819, when, through calm and skilled negotiation, Secretary of State Adams secured an agreement whereby, in exchange for five million dollars King Ferdinand transferred all of his territories in Florida to the United States. The treaty also established the legality of the Louisiana Purchase. Andrew Jackson was vindicated. Once again he was hailed as a hero and soon would become president.

The movement from the Carolinas and Georgia into the new land of opportunity in the Mississippi Territory pressured the native Indians into an intolerable circumstance. In 1817, the western half of the Mississippi Territory was established as the State of Mississippi. In 1819, the remaining half became the state of Alabama. The land of the Territory was divided so that each state has 44,500 square miles within its borders. The population of Mississippi nearly doubled from 1820 to 1830.

THE EXODUS

This had been the homeland of Indians for thousands of years.

They loved the land and were proud of the legends of great battles their forefathers had fought to protect it, but now they were in a hopeless position. In a series of treaties, beginning with the Hopewell Treaty in 1768 and evolving through the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, signed September 27, 1830, the Choctaw Indians were forced to give up their homelands to the United States government. Altogether, they relinquished nearly 25 million acres of land in Mississippi and Alabama for only five million acres in Arkansas and Oklahoma. George Strother Gaines and Sam Dale were appointed Commissioners to supervise the removal of the Choctaw Nation to the new lands provided to them by the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, however, Dale suffered an injury when his horse fell on him and was unable to make the trip. Except for a few families that remained on a reservation at Philadelphia, Mississippi and at other isolated locations, these proud people made the exodus from the land of their fathers, and set out on that sorrowful journey to be remembered as The Trail of Tears. This is a sad epic of history. Tribute should be given to this noble race for their efforts, through the years, to maintain their pride in their tribal culture and traditions. Pierre Juzan became Chief of the Pushmataha District of the Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma.

There was a small tribe of about 300 Indians called the Okchais in Sumter County, Alabama, who were distinct from the Choctaws, and were not included in the Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek. John Charles Juzon, son of Charles and Phebe Juzan, was chief of the Okchais and was called Chief Jusong. The United States paid \$30,000

in gold to Chief Jusong for the tribe's lands, and he set out from Tompkinsville on the Tombigbee River, bound for Oklahoma. He was waylaid on the Choctaw Trail and severely beaten by a gang of outlaws and arrived at Lauderdale Springs in a dying condition.

Before he died he said he had buried the gold by the trail. For years people searched for the gold. If it ever was found the finders kept their good fortune to themselves.

THE IMMIGRANTS

By the end of 1833, the exodus of Indians was completed, and the settlers flocked across the frontier in ever increasing numbers.

Prior to that, the stream of newcomers into Alabama and Mississippi had been steady but slow. In 1812, there were only three distinct white settlements in the area of the Mississippi Territory from which the State of Alabama was later formed. They were Mobile, 1702; Fort Tombecbee, 1785; and Huntsville, 1805.

The citizens of the state of Mississippi readily demonstrated their pride in their new state and their nation. They were prepared for the hardships of frontier life, and set out about the task of carving their farms from the wilderness. Villages were built and grew into towns and roads were constructed to join them. By the Act of December 23, 1833, Lauderdale County was one of seventeen Mississippi counties created entirely from the lands ceded at Dancing Rabbit Creek. In 1841, Lauderdale County had 340 taxpaying citizens. The advent of railroads brought more immigrants, an increase in agricultural production, better business opportunities and improved living conditions. Lauderdale County population was: 1840 - 5,358; 1850 - 8,717; 1860 - 13,313; 1870 - 13,462; 1880 - 21,501; 1890 - 28,661.

Despite the progressive spirit that reigned in the early days, all was not comfort and gentility. All newcomers were not honest hard working citizens. Many were undesirable and some were hardened criminals. The most notorious of these outlaws was James Copeland, who, in 1839, gathered a gang of cutthroats around him and launched a reign of terror over several states, that lasted more than four decades. Their base of operations was Narkeeta, five miles north of Lauderdale Springs, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. They were specialists at horse stealing, cattle rustling, and passing counterfeit money, but no crime was too heinous for them. They seemed to be attracted to do any act that was legally or morally wrong. The farmer traveling home after he had sold his crop had better beware, for the Copeland gang might be waiting to waylay him. Stage coaches were easy pickings for these bandits. Stolen money was often buried. Legend has it that a Negro plowed up \$16,000 near Sanders Branch.

One of their slickest tricks was stealing cotton from a moving train. When the train on the M & O Railroad was chugging slowly up a long incline into Porterville, Mississippi the outlaws of the Copeland Clan would come out of the woods along the right-of-way and stick a grab-hook into a bale of cotton on a flat car. A rope tied to the hook and to a tree would jerk the bale off the car. In a few minutes the bale was on a wagon and on the way to market. That must have been the most cost effective way of raising a bale of cotton ever contrived.

James Copeland was convicted of murder in New Augusta, Mississippi and hanged in October of 1857. Prior to his execution, he made a full confession and named many of his accomplices, including some leaders of the business community in Narkeeta. Nevertheless, the members of the clan continued their nefarious activities until 1873.

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS

After the death of James Lauderdale, in 1815, the Lauderdale Springs property, through a succession of owners, was developed into a fashionable and very popular health and vacation resort.

Residences were built, businesses were established and there were farms throughout the country around Lauderdale Springs. The first official court house in this area of the Mississippi Territory was a log cabin on the stagecoach road, just north of Lauderdale Springs. Several sessions of justice court were held at that site known today as Courthouse Hill, at the fork of Biscuit and Rooster Creeks on the Lauderdale to Oxford, Alabama road.

In the very early 1800s a home was built by Vincent Delk for Joseph P. Warren, four miles northeast of Lauderdale Springs. Delk later purchased the homestead and brought his bride there in 1831, and operated an inn at the site for many years. It was on the stage road that ran from Gainesville, Alabama to Decatur, Mississippi. During the War Between the States, the Federal troops torched the house, but it was saved by women and servants living on the property and only the attic was burned. Dr. William Silliman purchased the house in 1869 and practiced medicine there until his death in the late 1800s. The W. A. Hatchers purchased the house and lived there for many years until they moved to Meridian, after which the house was vacant and neglected for about 20 years, until it was purchased and beautifully restored by Commander E. C. McGonagill and his family in 1974. They named their home Brikalo, derived from the first syllables of the names of the three McGonagill children. The home is on the Lauderdale to Oxford, Alabama road.

A post office was established at Lauderdale Springs on April 13, 1837. The post office was named Mingo Houma as an honor to a respected Choctaw chief of the vicinity. Thomas H. Davis was the first postmaster. He was succeeded by Hugh G. Britton, William M. Drinkwater and Harry Forbes. The name of the post office was changed to Lauderdale Springs, January 26, 1848. Serving as postmaster through the years were: Hiram W. Roberts, William S. Patton, John M. Silliman, William P. Hobbs, James F. Paton, Thomas S. Roberts, James W. Maury and Benjamin Smith. The post office was discontinued June 28, 1859.

W.N. Plummer's combined store and shop, where he sold wares and built stage coaches, was located on the stage line near the Springs.

Very little is known about schools in the early days of Lauderdale Springs. James T. Dawson in his compilation of *HISTORY OF THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL SYSTEM*, states:

...According to the information on hand, the actual first school in this area was a school established at Coosa Indian

Presbyterian Missionaries in 1824 ... As white settlers came into the area ... it was about 1835 that the people began to think of schools ... These schools were known as patron schools ... Some of these schools were known as Academies ... for example ... White Sulphur Springs Academy at present Lauderdale...

A news item in *THE SUMTER COUNTY WHIG*, January 7, 1845, announced the opening of this Academy:

School at the White Sulphur Springs - We understand that the Rev. Mr. Thornton, late President of the Centenary College in Mississippi, and one of the other professors of that Institution, intend about the first of March next, to open a male Academy at the White Sulphur Springs, in Lauderdale County, Mississippi, in which all the branches of a thorough education will be taught. Professor Thornton is said to be a fine scholar and an able divine. We trust his school may flourish.

The following advertisement, dated March 2, 1861, was published in *THE PAULDING EASTERN CLARION*:

McCORMICK SYSTEM OF EDUCATION
TAUGHT AT
LAUDERDALE SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI
By THE AUTHOR, L. J. McCORMICK
N.B. All Southern Schools using Northern books are Abolition Nurseries and are a curse to the Southern Confederacy. Let the people beware of them.
L. J. McCormick

Copied below is an item extracted from the book *RICHARD BRACEWELL*, and *ROBERT AND MARY PEELE AND THEIR DESCENDANTS* by Betty Lawrence:

In 1891 or 1892, Mr. and Mrs. John Freemon Peel of Porterville, Mississippi sent their fifteen year old daughter, Josephine, to an Academy at Lauderdale Springs, where she was studying music and majoring in piano. While in school, Josephine contracted typhoid fever and died.

In the files of the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History there is an undated and unsigned paper written by an unidentified person, giving some historical information about Lauderdale Springs. The writer stated:

Lauderdale Springs has been a popular resort up to the time of the burning of the Hotel and Normal School building ... Owner was in California at time of the burning. The management had allowed the fire insurance to lapse ... Many teachers in Miss. and nearby states attended the Normal Training School here...

The 1869 Constitution of the State of Mississippi authorized taxation to provide for the establishment of free public schools in the state. The first list of Lauderdale County schools in 1877 includes Lauderdale Station. In 1877, the number of educable children in the Lauderdale School District was determined to be 378 white and 488 colored. The 1880 roster of county schools lists Lauderdale Station as a four month, Grade 1 school, with E.W. Cullen and Miss Cornelia Dirkin as teachers, and R.D. Arden, W.R. McKinley, and D.J. Cohen as Trustees. The 1880 roster includes Lauderdale Springs as a four month, Grade 1 school, with A.C. Lightfoot as teacher and Robert Hurd, Mack Darden, and Dave Carroll as trustees.

In 1922, the Lauderdale Consolidated School with an enrollment of 207 in ten grades, listed as teachers: W.L. Clayton, Miss Maud Rogers, Miss Florence Walker, Miss Ruby Latimer, Miss Erva Moore, and Miss Nellie Barnett, (Miss Nellie Barnett was a sister of Governor Ross Barnett. She married a Mr. Brown. Her teaching career spanned fifty one years, much of it at Poplar Springs School in Meridian.). Trustees were: T.C. Lyle, Jr., R.L. Brown, and J.D. Rhaly.

Included below are extracts from an article in *THE MERIDIAN STAR*, May 14, 1908:

SIXTY YEARS AGO

By L. A. Duncan

In 1848, I had occasion to visit East Mississippi attending a session of the Choctaw Baptist Association held at Salem Church, then described as being near "Alamutchie, Old Town, Lauderdale county." We may now say "near Kewanee." The leading Baptist in the county, then, was Rev. W.P. Carter, later sent to the senate, in the legislature. My assigned home was the Wiggins place, later the hospitable home of Dr. J.P. Welch.

Lauderdale Springs was not far distant. It was then a watering resort of some celebrity, wealthy people coming many miles in carriages and buggies, mostly the former, with their families and servants. There were no railroads then this side of Brandon, nor north of Mobile. Supplies were brought from the latter city, chiefly in ox wagons. One of the oldest citizens in the vicinity was W. R. Walker, with whom I spent a day or two ... The Mobile and Ohio Railroad was not, at that time, even in progress ... Meridian was then a blank; its lower grounds in part exhibiting fields of corn or cotton. All this in October, 1848, now nearly sixty years ago.

ARTHUR PATTON

Arthur Patton was a very early settler in the Mississippi Territory. He and his family made significant contributions to the founding and development of Wayne County where they settled, and also of Lauderdale County, where some members of the family later moved. Since the Pattons were so active and influential in the business, political and social life of Lauderdale Springs, some of the Patton family history is included in these writings.

Arthur Patton and his two brothers, James and Samuel, emigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania, at some time prior to the Revolutionary War. They later moved to South Carolina. Where the three brothers joined the American (or Rebel) army at the onset of the Revolutionary War. Samuel was killed during the third year of the war, while Arthur and James served with distinction throughout the war. Arthur was promoted for bravery and daring deeds. He was twice taken prisoner of war by the British soldiers, often called the Tories or Red Coats, but he succeeded in making his escape. After his second capture, he was condemned to be shot as a spy as he had important papers from General Green on his person. While on the way to the British headquarters, he took advantage of the Red Coats' having to select a sure footing for their horses in crossing a difficult boggy swamp or morass, where it was necessary to travel "Indian File" (single file). Even though his hands were bound behind his back, he turned suddenly, put the spurs to his horse and escaped under a shower of bullets.

James Patton married a Miss Lawson and moved to Tennessee. At the close of the war, Arthur Patton settled in what was called Calhoun Neighborhood of South Carolina; there were no counties or districts at that time. He married Margaret Lockridge and they had three sons: Arthur, Jr., James and William Samuel. At some time prior to 1803, Arthur Patton, Sr. and his family moved west into what is now Wayne County, Mississippi. They traveled on the trail that ran from Milledgeville, Georgia through Fort Stephen, Alabama to Natchez. This trail, referred to today as the Three Chopped Way, was at that early time the only route from the eastern states into this part of the new world. The north-south trading road of these early times was the Choctaw Road, also known as the Tennessee Trail and later as Gaines Road, extending from Mobile along the west side of the Tombigbee River to Tennessee.

Most of the southern part of present-day Mississippi, at that time, was a part of the Choctaw Indian Nation. In 1805, the United States Government secured through the Treaty of Mount Dexter the right for settlers to enter a part of this territory. The Choctaw Nation relinquished 4,000,000 acres for which they received \$500,500 in cash and a \$3,000 perpetual annuity.

Arthur Patton's family made their home on the east side of the Chickasawhay River in what today is Wayne County, Mississippi. Not much of the history of the life of Arthur and Margaret Patton is available. It is known that both are buried in the family cemetery at their home place.

Arthur Patton, Jr., son of Arthur and Margaret (Lockridge) Patton, Sr., was born in South Carolina. He served in the army under Andrew Jackson during the War of 1812.

JAMES PATTON

James Patton, the second son of Arthur and Margaret (Lockridge) Patton, established his home on the east side of the Chickasawhay River, nine miles north of his parents home. His home was on that main transportation route from the Carolinas and Georgia to Natchez. The Pattons and six other families who settled at the site were the nucleus of a settlement that would be called Winchester.

In 1808, Winchester became Wayne County's first county seat and it was incorporated as a town in 1818. At one time the town had 30 business houses and enjoyed a large trade, having no competing trading points near, however, when the M&O Railroad was completed to that point in 1854, it bypassed Winchester by a mile. This resulted in the shifting of the businesses and the residents to new locations along the rail line. In 1867, the county seat was moved to a new railroad community, Waynesboro. A visitor to the site of old Winchester today would be impressed by the peaceful atmosphere and natural beauty of the area, but he would find no sign of the vibrant town that once stood there.

James Patton was a prominent leader in the early life of Wayne County. In November of 1803, his name and that of Joseph Patton appear on a petition to Congress asking that settlers of public lands be granted the land after five years of cultivation. We know from records preserved in the Waynesboro Library that in 1812 he received Land Patents for two Quarter Sections of land, a total of 320 acres. It is not known what other lands he owned, except for the land where his home was located in Winchester.

In 1808, he was the primary sponsor and the first signer of a petition to the legislature of the Mississippi Territory for the formation of that section of the Territory as a separate county. The petition was granted and Wayne County was formed on December 21, 1809, with Winchester as the county seat. At later times, ten other counties were carved out of the original Wayne County.

The War of 1812 brought with it the Indian Wars, in which many Mississippians were directly involved. The Creek Indians joined the British in the war against the United States. Raids and massacre by the Indians sent shocks of terror through the territory. Militia units were organized and 20 forts were built in the settlements along the Tombigbee and Chickasawhay Rivers. A fort named Fort Patton with James Patton as commander was built on James Patton's land at Winchester. These forts were built to give the people a place for refuge and protection from war parties, however, they were seldom used because the Creeks apparently did not choose to invade the land of the Choctaws. Signs of the protective ditches around Fort Patton can still be found. James Patton with the rank of General commanded the 9th Regiment from Wayne County under General F.L. Claiborne and was with him at the Battle of the Holy Ground.

In 1817, the Mississippi Territory was divided into two parts.

The eastern part became the Territory of Alabama while the western part was admitted to the Union as the State of Mississippi. In that year a convention was held in Adams County to form a government and frame a constitution. James Patton and Clinch Gray were the two delegates appointed to represent Wayne County.

James Patton, Thomas Hinds and William Lattimore were commissioned to locate a suitable site within 20 miles of the center of the state and on a navigable stream for the permanent capital of the state. The committee selected LeFleur's Bluff on the Pearl River, present day Jackson, as the site for the capital.

James Patton was the second Lieutenant Governor of the state, serving with Governor George Poindexter. He also served as Chief

Justice of the Court of Quorum, as Associate Justice of County Court and as the Judge of the Probate Court.

Patton was a good man in all relations of life. He was an old time Methodist. It was said that the Methodist services were held in his home for many years before a church building was erected.

He was highly esteemed. The Choctaws regarded him with great favor and called often to see him. They called him "Jim Pat."

Historian J.F.H. Claiborne had this to say regarding Patton, "General Patton was one of the leading men of his day. He resided at Winchester, which he made a center of political influence. Judge Powhatan Ellis and Judge John Black, both of whom became United States Senators, commenced public life under his auspices."

Powhatan Ellis served as a Judge of the Supreme Court, and as Minister to Mexico. In one of his most noted decisions from the bench he ruled: "A man may chastise an obstreperous wife, provided he use a rod no larger than the thumb." It must be added here that Ellis never was married.

James Patton died May 2, 1834, at age 54, and is buried in the Patton family cemetery at his home in Winchester. A historical marker alongside U.S. Highway 45 south of Waynesboro memorializes his patriotism:

GENERAL JAMES PATTON
BORN 1870 IN S.C. FIRST SIGNER
OF PETITION IN 1808 TO FORM
WAYNE COUNTY
SERVED IN SEVERAL
WAYNE COUNTY COURTS
STATE'S 2nd LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR 1820-22
DIED MAY 3, 1830 AT WINCHESTER
BURIED 6/10 MI. SW
IN S 33 - T 8 N - R 6 W

WILLIAM SAMUEL PATTON



William Samuel Patton, the youngest son of Arthur and Margaret (Lockridge) Patton, Sr., was born in South Carolina. He married Edna George in 1809. He was a physician, whose practice served a wide area of Wayne County, and he served under General Andrew Jackson as a surgeon for the City of New Orleans in the War of 1812. Edna (George) Patton died at age 63 and William Samuel Patton, Sr. died two years later. They were living in Sumter County, Alabama at the time. Both are buried at Patton's Hill, now known as Sumterville, Alabama.

William Samuel and Edna (George) Patton had two children: Margaret Cynthia Patton and William Samuel Patton, Jr.

William Samuel Patton, Jr. was born in 1813. He married Frances Ann Webb, daughter of Capt. Samuel Smith Webb and Ann Moore Dickens Webb in 1834 and they made their

home near his parents' home at Patton's Hill. They had 11 children. Two died in infancy. Frances Ann Webb Patton was born April 15, 1818 and died January 10, 1865 and is buried in the cemetery at Old Marion, Lauderdale County, Mississippi.

William Samuel Patton, III, son of William Samuel and Frances Ann (Webb) Patton, Jr., was born in Sumter County, Alabama January 13, 1838. He graduated from Baltimore Dental College and practiced dentistry in Homer, Louisiana. He volunteered for service in the 2nd Louisiana Regiment, CSA and died on July 2, 1862 at the Battle of Malvern Hill in Virginia.

Sarah Francis Patton, daughter of William Samuel and Frances Ann (Webb) Patton, married Mackerness Hudson Whitaker, and they had seven children. After the death of Sarah Francis, Mackerness Hudson Whitaker married her sister, Valinia, and they had two children, one of whom was Martha Susan Whitaker, who married Dr. Jacob Perry Welch, and they had twelve children. The Welch home was at Alamucha in Lauderdale County, Mississippi, and many of their descendants are living today in that vicinity. Dr. Welch conducted a large and successful farming operation. He was past the age for military service during the War, however, he gave full support to the war effort. His farm was devastated by the foraging troops of both the Union and Confederate forces when they were in the area.

In 1842, William S. Patton acquired the Lauderdale Springs property, known then as White Sulfur Springs, with a purpose of developing it into a fashionable health and vacation resort.

In 1843, Major David Gavin traveled by horseback from his home in St. George Parish, South Carolina to visit his cousin, John W. Clayton, at his home on Lost Horse Creek, near Coosha, in Lauderdale County. Major Gavin kept a diary in which he recorded some remarkable observations about the country he passed through and the people he met:

. . .went with Mr. Griffith to the Possumville white sulphur springs about 7 miles S. E. (referring to Lauderdale Springs on Possum Creek) owned by Gen. Patton are strongly impregnated with sulphur and what appears to me more remarkable, in the center of a large reed brake ... Gen Patton appears quite gentlemanly and pleasant in his manners ... He is putting up buildings for the accommodation of visitors, a number of whom are here now but mostly transient for as this is the first season any accommodation has been here its reputation is not well establishedThere are some huts built for private families ... There is also one or two droggeries and unfortunately some visit the springs more from the love of strong drink and frolicking than the benefit of the mineral waters. There are considerable hills on each side of the reed brake ... We went to a barbecue at Daleville ... Miss Delk and two Misses Crane ranked among the beauties ... This is but a poor village having only a store or two and perhaps a shop or grogery, with a few private houses or residences ... We had some quarreling in the evening but fortunately not more fighting than a blow. I feared the Bowie knives & pistols for I knew there were some, but none were drawn ...

During the time William S. Patton operated the Patton Springs Resort, he had an associate who was involved in the business with him. On documents that are available for study, that associate's name is listed with varied spellings, i.e., Dr. James F. Patton, Peyton and Payton. His wife's name was Mary H. Deed records show that he bought several pieces of property in the vicinity of the Springs. There is documentation that a residence at the gate to the resort was occupied by Dr. Patton. It is not known how James F. and William S. Patton were related, however, there are some unsubstantiated indications that James F. might have been a son of William S. Patton's brother, James. The 1850 Mississippi Census lists Wm. S. Patton, Jr. and his family living at Lauderdale Springs in Lauderdale County, Mississippi: Wm. S. Patton, age 39, Farmer, Property Value \$1,000, born in Miss; Francis A., 32, born in NC; William S., 13, born in Ala; Sarah F., 9, born in Ala; Virginia A.?, 7, born in Ala; Velmia J., 5, born in Ala; Jane V., 3, born in Ala.

The 1860 Census lists the W.L. Patton family living at Lauderdale Springs. It is evident that the "L" listing as the middle initial is an error, because the names and ages match up to show that it is the same family as in the 1850 Census: W.L. Patton, 47, Innkeeper, Property Value 2500/5000, born Miss; Frances A., 42, Domestic Business, born NC; William L., 22, Dentist, born Ala; Sally F., 19, Domestic Business, born Ala; Jinnie, 17, Domestic Business, born Ala; Lennie, 15, born Ala; Onie, 12, born Ala; Junie, 6, born Miss; Jack, 4, born Miss; Olie, 3, born Miss; Bob, 1, born Miss.

At sometime before 1851, William S. Patton discontinued his operation of the Patton Springs Resort. In 1861, he bought property in Marion, 12 miles south of Patton Springs, and established himself in the hotel business at that new location.

On February 8, 1862, he volunteered for service in the War. He was elected Colonel of the 37th Regiment of Mississippi Volunteers, however, his superior officer declared his rank to be that of Captain, and refused to authorize the higher rank. At a later time, he was given the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was captured at Vicksburg on July 4, 1863. While at the Parole Camp at Enterprise, Mississippi, he wrote the following letter:

I would respectfully ask for a furlough for thirty days, commencing on Wednesday the 28th inst. I am a member of the State Senate from the district composed of the Counties of Lauderdale and Newton is the cause of my asking for furlough.
To Col T.B. Roy, A. A. S.
Respectfully, Wm. S. Patton, Lt. Col. Co., 37 Mif. Regt.

On January 13, 1864, he wrote the following letter from Enterprise:

Colonel,

I have the honour respectfully to tender my immediate and unconditional resignation as Lieutenant Colonel of this Thirty Seventh Regiment Mif. Infantry.

I am a member of the State Senate of Mississippi for the

next four years. During my absence in Dec. last in attendance on the Legislature, had the misfortune to have my entire premises, together with the greater portion of my furniture, all my supply and meat and bread stuffs on hand consumed by fire. It is highly necessary that I resign to attend the wants of my family.

Respectfully, Wm. S. Patton
Forwarded to St. Genl. Polk
January 16, 1864

In March of 1867, William S. Patton was operating a hotel in Meridian called the Patton House. By May of 1867, he had moved and was receiving guests at the Rush House.

The 1870 Lauderdale County Census lists the Patton family living in Meridian: William S. Patton, 56; Velma, 22; Ione, 20; Junata, 15; Viola, 11; Jack, 13; Robert, 9.

In July of 1870 William S. Patton was appointed City Marshall.

Mayor William Sturges, a carpetbagger who was detested by the citizens of Meridian, tried to have Patton removed from that office but Governor Adelbert Ames, another carpetbagger, refused.

This was a time when the white people of the South were frustrated from the oppression they had endured through the years of the vindictive Reconstruction Acts of the Republican Congress. The blacks were angry because that Republican government had made them big promises of land, wealth and freedom from want and worry, and then had broken those promises.

On Saturday, March 4, a large crowd of black men gathered in the courtroom at Con Sheehan Hall on 5th street and 25th Avenue. One of the speakers at that meeting was a black teacher named Warren Tyler. He addressed the group with a rabbleroising speech, which ended, "I expect to see this place in ashes before the week is over. A war is coming. A war between blacks and whites. Get your guns and be ready."

After the meeting, Captain Billy Clopton, a black officer commanding the militia stationed at Meridian, marched his troops, to the cadence of his fife and drum, through the streets of Meridian, shaking his pistol at white men standing on the sidewalks along the way.

On Monday, Sheriff Mosley arrested Warren Tyler for his threatening speech on Saturday, and ordered him to be at the courtroom at Con Sheehan Hall for trial at two o'clock that afternoon. When the questioning of the first witness began at that trial, Tyler pulled a gun from beneath his coat and fired toward the witness. The bullet missed the witness but struck the judge in the temple causing instant death.

Tyler leaped through the window and dropped 15 feet to the sidewalk and escaped around the corner. He was soon found, hiding under a bed in the back room of a shoe shop. He was killed on the spot.

This event triggered a series of violent actions including other killings and the burning of properties. While the people were aroused into action, 150 men marched to the home of Mayor William Sturges, and escorted him to the railroad station, where they obtained from him a pledge that he would leave Meridian and never

return. He boarded the northbound M&O passenger train in the company of two men, who guaranteed his safety and accompanied him until he changed trains at Corinth.

William Samuel Patton is buried in Rosehill Cemetery in Meridian. The Patton plot is to the right of the drive, when you enter the cemetery. He has a large monument, engraved:

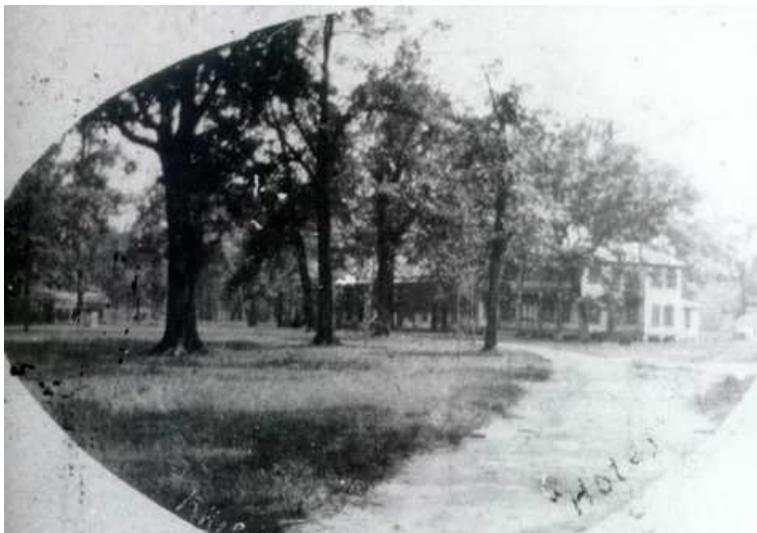
WM. S. PATTON
P. G. M. A. F. & A. M.
JUNE 20, 1813
JULY 5, 1889
ERECTED BY HIS MASONIC BRETHREN

Three of his daughters, Virginia P. Hopper; Ione Vivian Patton White and Viola Jessie Patton, are buried alongside him.

William S. Patton, Jr. held positions of leadership in many organizations. He arranged for General Nathan Bedford Forrest to come to Meridian to serve as judge for a competitive event. He served in both houses of the legislature and was once a candidate for Governor. He served in responsible positions in Masonic bodies for more than 20 years. He was twice Grand Master of Masons, twice Grand Priest, twice Grand Master of the Grand Council, Grand Commander of Knights Templar and Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Encampment of the United States. The Masonic Lodge in Lauderdale Springs was named Patton Lodge 129. On January 24, 1880, the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons chartered a new Council at Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi and named it the W.S. Patton Council, No 24.

The business of the resort continued through a succession of proprietors: 1851 - T.H. Jenks; 1852 - Jenks and McGrew; 1852-1854 - Patton and McGrew; 1854 - B.B. Smith;

By the early 1850s, the Springs, called at that time Lauderdale Springs under the ownership of J. F. Patton, had acquired a refined atmosphere, and it grew into a favorite resort for the genteel society of the day. It was patronized by guests who came from a wide area by stage lines or private conveyances.



Lauderdale Springs Hotel



Pavilion on grounds at Lauderdale Springs.

In 1856, the Mobile and Ohio Railroad was completed from Mobile to a site one mile west of Lauderdale Springs. A railroad station named Springs Depot was established there, and a spur was built to Lauderdale Springs to provide rail service to the front gate of the resort and business was booming.

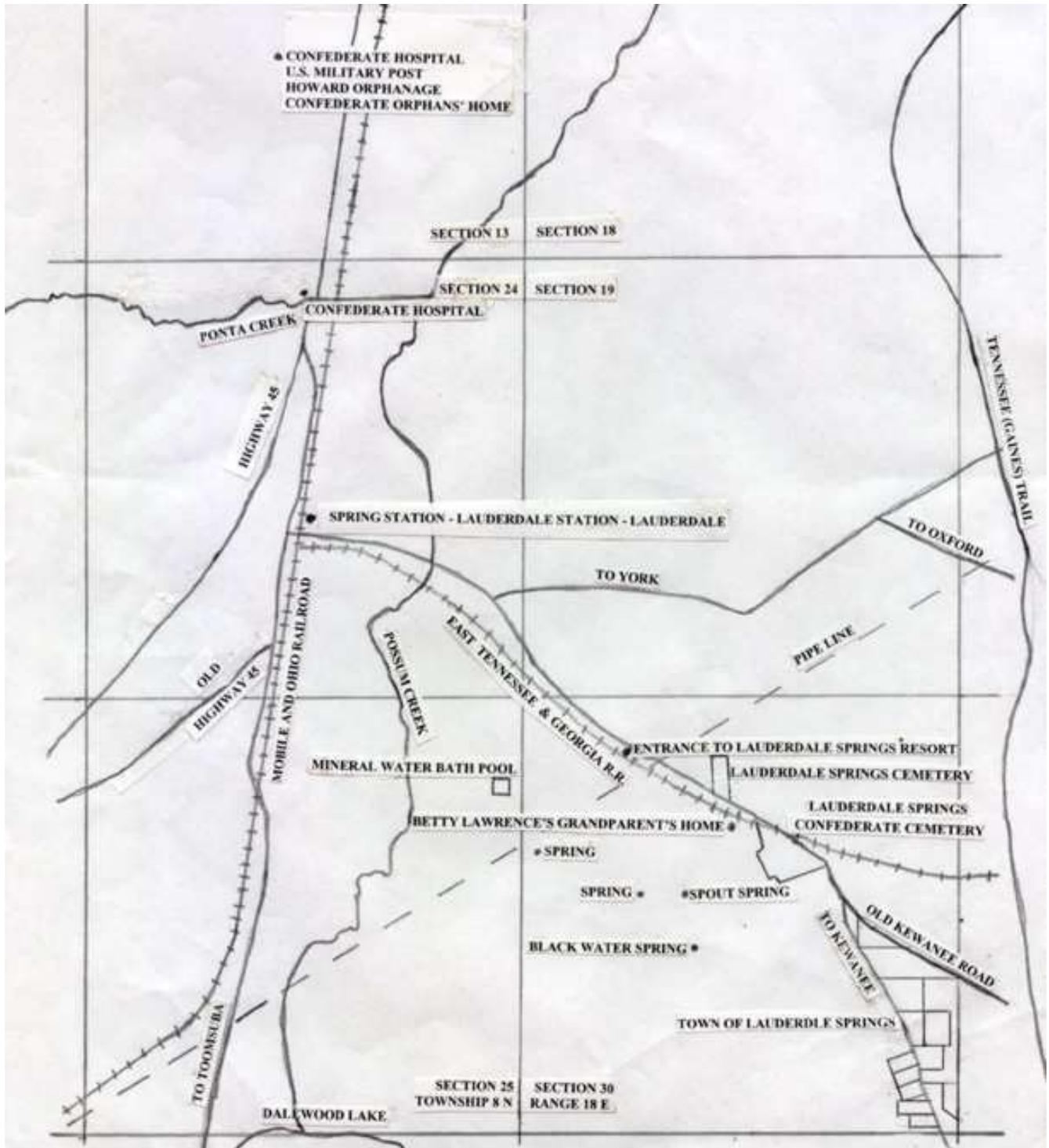
The Lauderdale Springs resort offered the waters from twelve springs on the grounds, each with a different mineral composition and medicinal qualities which were believed to cure a wide variety of ailments. One spring, called the Spout Spring, gushed an ample supply of good quality table water, which made the locale even more attractive for the location of a resort. The two story hotel building, which was 300 feet long, was surrounded by a number of cottages, which brought to the resort the title "Honeymoon Paradise."

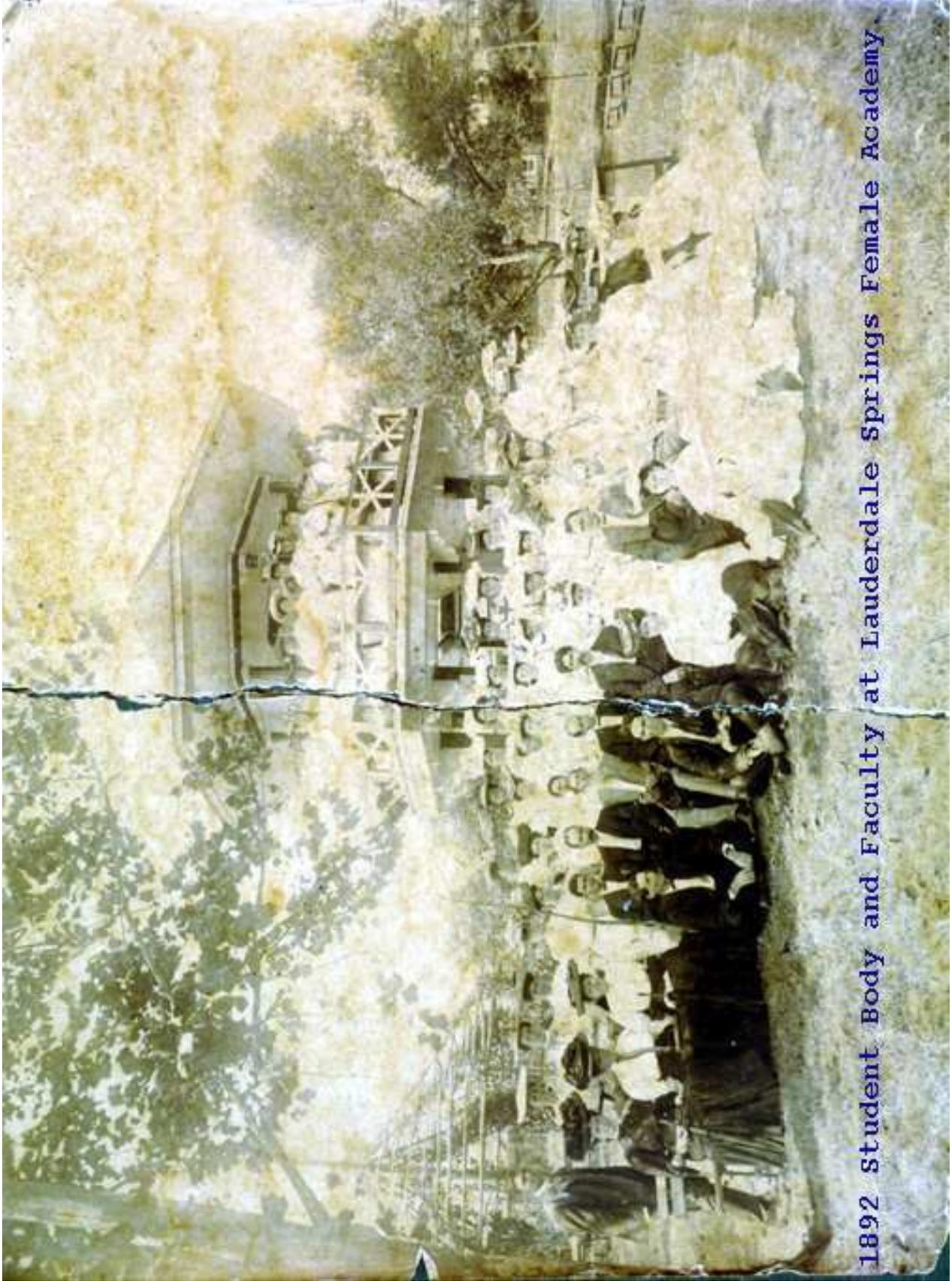
Two homes on either side of the entrance were occupied by Dr. R. M. Harris and Dr. Patton.

There were walks through the landscaped grounds to benches and pavilions at the springs, which were enclosed in concrete vats. There were bowling greens, a bathing pool with bath houses for men and women, a picnic pavilion and a large dance pavilion. For the pleasure of the guests, an orchestra entertained during the meals and played for brilliant balls which were held weekly.

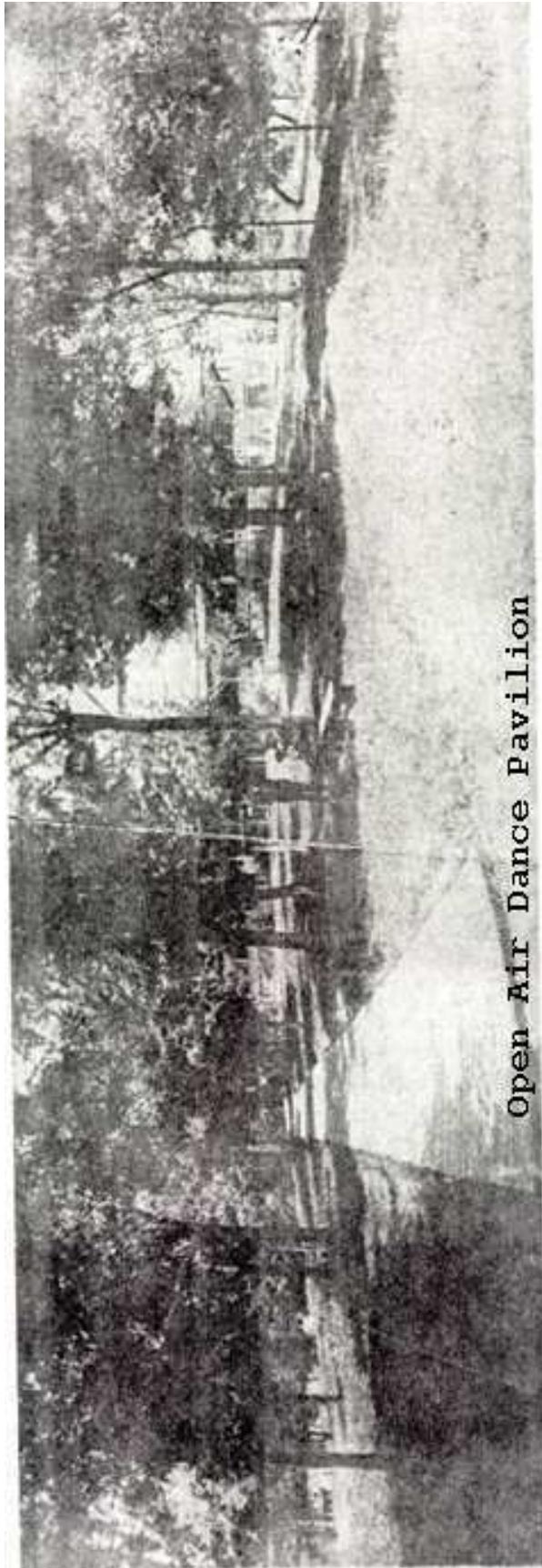
A nearby horse racing track attracted great crowds to bet on the harness races. Many visitors came to take the waters, and other vacationers enjoyed the resort for its advantages for recreation and relaxation. The hotel and cottages were booked throughout the summer. Many guests were so enchanted with the "magic waters" that they stayed year round. Eventually, the water was bottled and sold throughout Mississippi and other states.

Through the years, picnics and political rallies at Lauderdale Springs became very important in state politics and drew tremendous crowds to hear the political oratory of Jefferson Davis, James K. Vardaman, Theodore G. Bilbo, Paul B. Johnson, Sr., and many others. It became customary for gubernatorial candidates to start their campaigns with a rally at the Springs.





1892 Student Body and Faculty at Lauderdale Springs Female Academy.



Open Air Dance Pavilion



Lane from Hotel to the Mineral Waters bathing pool.



Mineral Waters bathing pool, with waters piped in from springs, each with different mineral contents.



The following news item is from *THE JACKSON DAILY NEWS*, July 18, 1947:

LAUDERDALE EVENT ATTRACTS ALL FIVE MAJOR CANDIDATES

Mississippi's five candidates for governor have accepted invitations to speak at an all-day rally at Lauderdale Springs on Saturday July 26.

Since 1840, Lauderdale Springs has been a favorite battleground of the state's political gladiators and this year's event will be no exception. Candidates for all minor state offices will attend and all candidates for district and county offices are being issued a blanket invitation. A crowd of 10,000 is being prepared for.

The gubernatorial candidates will follow this schedule: William Lycurgus Spinks, 11 a.m.; Fielding L. Wright, 11:30 a.m.; Frank L. Jacobs, 12 noon; Paul B. Johnson, 1 p.m. and Jesse Byrd at 1:30 p.m.

A Lauderdale Springs lottery was promoted, but the holders of tickets were reimbursed when the lottery was called off on January 24, 1854.

The following advertisement appeared in *THE SUMTER COUNTY WHIG*, June 28, 1854:

FOR SALE ON GOOD TERMS
a splendidly situated
STORE HOUSE, GROCERY HOUSE, BILLIARD SALOON
also a TEN PIN ALLEY
at the Lauderdale Springs, Miss.
one mile from the Mobile and Ohio Railroad
Any person wishing to purchase said property
will do well to apply soon to
J. M. MATHIS

The advertisement reproduced below was published in *THE SUMTER COUNTY DEMOCRAT*, Livingston, Alabama, August 9, 1851:

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS WHITE SULFUR AND CHALYEBEATE WATERS
The undersigned has leased these Springs, which are situated in Lauderdale County, Mississippi. During the whole of the summer he has been diligently employed in fitting them up for the reception of visitors, and he flatters himself that they are now in a condition which is not excelled by any watering place in this section of the South. He has entirely refurnished the place, and provided everything in the richest and most costly style. Of the merits of the waters, description will be unnecessary to those who have tried them. Let it suffice that they furnish an abundant supply of the very finest WHITE SULFUR WATER which on analyzation, has been found composed of almost precisely the same ingredients as the famous White Sulfur Water of Virginia. Numerous testimonials, if it were necessary, could be obtained in behalf of its medicinal virtues.

There are also abundant Springs of the most delightful Chalybeate Water, which comes gushing from the earth as cool, almost as ice water, and as clear and pure as crystal.

The vicinity of the Springs is a very interesting and salubrious country; and the mutton of Lauderdale is celebrated everywhere in that section. There are also Game and Milk and domestic Fowls in abundance-and it only requires a watchful purveyor, to furnish a table as rich as the most fastidious appetite can desire.

The undersigned has had a long experience in the business he has undertaken, in many parts of the South, and last year was the lessee and manager of that fashionable watering place, the East Pascagoula House. He guarantees to his visitors that no means will be omitted to give them the fullest satisfaction.

N.B. There is a four horse Post Coach running regularly from Demopolis to the Springs. His charges will be on the following moderate scale:

Boarding and Lodging	per day -	\$1.50
	per week -	8.00
	per month -	30.00

July 5, 1851 T. H. Jenks & Co.

The following is from a letter addressed to one of his friends in Mobile, by the president of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, while on a visit to Lauderdale Springs. It was copied in *THE SUMTER COUNTY DEMOCRAT*, April 20, 1851:

I am surprised and delighted with this spot (Lauderdale Springs). It is most attractive in the character of the waters and comforts of the arrangements. Its "retiracy," salubrity and cleanliness are superior. The rooms and arrangements for some 200 visitors are as ample as any watering place. The table is excellent and the attention from host and servants is so constant that no one except a professed grumbler would complain. There is neither dirt, mosquitoes nor bed bugs - plenty to eat, and of the best - plenty of cool water that don't want ice - sulphur water, chalybeate water, freestone water and liquor thrown in if you wish. I cannot help recommending it for the pleasantest chance for an excursion of three or four weeks a Mobile family can take. The roads are good and the wayside accommodations are generally comfortable. Four days would bring them here. Yours, &c. S. S.

The following article appeared in *THE MERIDIAN STAR*, February 7, 1937:

FAMOUS WOMAN WRITER VISITED LAUDERDALE SPRINGS

Octavia Walton, a brilliant and distinguished woman writer of the 40s and 50s, is known as Madam LeVert. Madam LeVert came into Lauderdale County as a frequent visitor to Lauderdale Springs, once a famous health resort in the northern part of the county.

Col. James Lauderdale, coming west with his teams, household goods and Negro slaves, located at the springs because the

Indians said it was a healthy place. Later, Colonel Lauderdale developed the springs as a health resort, and distinguished people from many far places came to spend a part of their time at the resort, among them Octavia Walton. Miss Walton was a granddaughter of George Walton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, soldier, jurist and statesman. He was the first governor of Georgia. Her father, George Walton, Jr., was the first governor of Florida. When LaFayette came to visit the land he helped make free, he turned aside a cavalcade to visit Dorothy Walton, the aged widow of his old friend...

In 1841, Madam LeVert was named a commissioner to the Paris exposition. she dined with Queen Victoria, Napoleon III, King Humbert and was received in private audience by the Pope ... Madam LeVert's writings are classics found in libraries in this country and Europe ... and Europe rates her as the most brilliant writer America has produced.

LeVert makes frequent references in her journal to Col. Sam Dale, pioneer in both Lauderdale county and Pensacola, where Dale often visited in her home. During her stays at Lauderdale Springs, Madam LeVert frequently drove over to Daleville to spend the day with the old friend of her father whom he met for the first time on the bloody battlefield of Horseshoe Bend.

The ad which follows was published in *THE SUMTER COUNTY WHIG*:

PARTY

THERE will be a COTILLION PARTY given at the Lauderdale Springs, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, the 25th, inst. At which time and place the ladies are most respectfully invited.
JENKS & MCGREW, Proprietors
Aug. 16, 1852

The ad copied below was dated June 21, 1853. The name of the newspaper in which it was published is not available:

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS

The proprietors, having taken charge of the above named pleasant and desirable watering place, are now ready to accommodate all travelers who may favor them with a visit.

They will be prepared for the reception of visitors by the first of May, and hope their old friends and customers, and the public generally, will pay them a visit during the season.

A livery stable is connected and hacks, buggys and horses can be had at all times.

June 21, 1853

PATTON AND MCGREW

The ad copied below appeared in *THE SUMTER COUNTY WHIG*, April 5, 1854:

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS

This well known and fashionable Watering place will be open for the reception of boarders on the first of MAY. Every preparation is being made to make this one of the pleasantest

Resorts in the South. Mr. Robert Johnson will run a line of first rate Stages to Moscow Landing, to meet the Steamboats, and convey persons to and from the Springs.
April 1, 1854 B.B. Smith, Proprietor

Moscow Landing is near the old Rooster Bridge where U. S. Highway 80 crosses the Tombigbee River.

The ad included below is from the June 28, 1854 *SUMTER COUNTY WHIG*:

ANNIVERSARY BALL

July 4th, 1854

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS

Managers:

R.E. Thomas	Dr. W.S. Kennedy
W.M. Burton	J. T. Payne
E. McLendon	W.M. Kennedy
J.A. Trott	E.B. Miller
T.B. Wetmore	G.B. Maynadier
W.J. Gilmore	T.C. Brewer
N. Wood	H.H. Carver
W.B. Williams	W.F. Herrick

The advertisement copied below appeared on the front page of *THE SUMTER COUNTY WHIG*, Livingston, Alabama, July 25, 1855:

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS
Lauderdale County, Miss.

FIRST OF MAY NEXT

New commodious and elegant buildings have been erected, and new furniture has been procured. The entire premises, since the past season, have undergone a thorough renovation. The new houses have large and airy rooms, constructed and furnished with a view to the luxurious comfort of guests. The proprietor assures the public in general and old patrons of this favorite watering place, that no pains will be spared to make their sojourn at the Springs at once, delightful and conducive to the health. The Rail-road to Mobile gives the extraordinary advantage, the present season, of all the luxuries of the MOBILE MARKETS

First rate hacks will regularly run from the Springs to the terminus of the Rail-road, for the accommodation of visitors from the city, and from points along the line. By May next, it is believed that the cars will be running within twenty or twenty-five miles of the Springs. In short, the Proprietor intends presenting to the patronage of invalids and pleasure-seekers a

COMPLETE ESTABLISHMENT

Grateful for your past patronage, the Proprietor will avail himself of every facility for contributing to the comfort of the guests the approaching season.

The following is an analysis of the water by Prof. F.E. Rogers,
of the University of Pennsylvania:

One part of Sulfurated Hydrogen;

" " " Sulfuratic Acid;

Sulphate of Magnesia;

" of Iron;

" of Alumina;

Earthly Phosphates;

Silica

B.B. SMITH

Lauderdale Springs, April 2nd, 1855 Messrs Jemison,
Ficklin & Co. are running a regular line of first rate Stages
from the terminus of the Road to the Springs, and connecting,
at this place, with the line now running from Jackson,
Mississippi.

The news item below was published in *THE SUMTER COUNTY WHIG*:

Lauderdale Springs, June 25th, 1855

This pleasant place is now ready for the reception of the
sick and the gay, who may find health and pleasure at this
salubrious resort.

The rooms are neat and commodious, the table is abundant
and luxurious, the proprietor is accommodating and gentlemanly.

Here one can drink a sparkling beverage without breaking
his temperance pledge, can take medicine without nauseating
his stomach, and can get well without seeing or paying a
doctor.

The ad copied below appeared in *THE SUMTER WHIG*, June 20,
1855:

JEMISON, FICKLIN & CO.

Are now running a line of Four Horse Post Coaches from
Aberdeen and Columbus, via Clinton, Gainesville, Livingston,
Lauderdale Springs, Marion, Miss, and Enterprise to Quitman,
connecting with the trains of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad.

Leaving Livingston on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at
12 n. Arrive in Mobile next day to dinner.

Returning, leave Mobile Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at
8 A.M. Arrive at Livingston next day at 12 M. connecting with
the line to Columbus and Aberdeen, also, the line in Greensboro
to Tuscaloosa.

April 14, 1855

Mr. Con Rea, editor of *THE MARION REPUBLICAN* in the 1850s,
published the following two news items in that paper. (Captain Con
Rea served as the commanding officer of the Lauderdale Invincibles
during the War Between the States):

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS - A few days ago we enjoyed the pleasure
of a visit to this notable and delightful watering place.

The village has improved handsomely since last year and
is now remarkable for the steadiness and sobriety of the

people who frequent it; though there are two grogeries in the place, we are informed that a drunken man is rarely ever seen; this argues well for the cause of temperance and should induce invalids to visit the place more frequently.

The medical qualities of the water are said to be unsurpassed in point of efficacy. They cure many diseases and exert a benign influence on the system generally. They have lately passed into the hands of Mesers Ulrick & Adams of Mobile, gentlemen of undoubted merit, under whose hands these springs are destined to become the most noted resort of the South.

Mr. B.B. Smith, the present gentlemanly superintendent, is every way qualified to discharge his manifold duties.

There are now five dry good stores, two grogeries, two hotels, Bowling and Billiard saloon and two Blacksmith and wood shops in this place.

Mr. W. P. Hobbs of Lauderdale Springs has the largest and most extensive black smith and wood shop in the county. Persons wanting wagon or carriage work done would do well to call on him. His prices are low and his work is neatly executed.

The following advertisement, dated October 2, 1858, appeared in *THE PAULDING EASTERN CLARION*:

NEW GOODS

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS

The subscriber is now providing
Direct from New York and Philadelphia
the best selected stock of

FALL AND WINTER GOODS

Particular attention is called to the large assortment of
MEN'S AND BOY'S READY-MADE CLOTHING

SHOES, HATS AND CAPS, ETC.

Family Groceries Always on Hand

J. W. MAURY

James A. Adams of Mobile, Alabama, became owner of the Lauderdale Springs property in the late 1850s. When Mr. Adams died, the guardian of his children petitioned the Probate Court in Lauderdale County for permission to sell the property:

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Lauderdale County,

In Probate Court of said County,

January Term, 1860

Upon opening and examination of the petition of Collier H. Minge: It is ordered that publication be made in the "*Marion Observer*," a newspaper printed in said county, and town of Marion, notifying all non-resident persons interested in the estate of Thomas A. Adams, dec'd. to be, and personally appear at the February term of this court, to be holden at the court house of said county, and show cause, if any they can, why the prayer of the petition to sell certain perishable

property therein named, should not then and there be allowed, and a decree made thereon accordingly. Witness the Hon. J. W. Brooke, Judge of Probate Court of said county, the 4th Monday of January A. D. 1860.

Given unto my hand and seal of office, Jan. 26, 1860.
W. L. Mayfield, Clerk

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Lauderdale County

In Probate Court of said County,

January Term, A. D. 1860

To Martha B. Adams, Kate Adams, Gilmer Speede Adams and Jesse St. John Adams, heirs at law of Thomas Adams, dec'd, and all others interested in said estate.

You, and each of you, are hereby cited to be, and personally appear before the Probate Court of County at the February term thereof, to be held at the Court House of said county, the 4th Monday of February next A.D. 1860, to show cause if any you can, why the petition of Collier H. Minge, Guardian of the heirs of Thomas Adams dec'd, for the sale of the real estate of said decedent situated in said County, should not be granted, and a decree made thereon accordingly. Witness the Hon. J. W. Brooke, Judge of Probate, the 4th Monday of January, 1860.

Given unto my hand and seal of office, this the 25th day of January 1860.

W. L. Mayfield, Cl'k.

FOR SALE

This fashionable and popular watering place, the valuable medicinal qualities of whose waters are now universally recognized by the scientific and medical faculty and the public, will be sold at Public Auction by the undersigned as Guardian of the minor heirs of Thos, Adams, de'cd, on the first day of May 1860, on the premises in Lauderdale County, Miss., and in pursuance of a decree of the Probate Court of said county made at the February term of said court 1860, for the purpose of equal distribution amongst said minor heirs. The Springs tract contains about one hundred and fifty acres of valuable land, and embracing a large portion of the n w 1/4 of section 30 in Township 8 of Range 18 east, and the e 1/2 of the n e 1/4 of section 25 township 8 of Range 17 east. The improvements are spacious and airy with accommodations to accommodate 450 persons comfortably.

The springs are now accessible by Railroad from Mobile, Columbus, Aberdeen and Oakalona, and by 1st of January next will be so from Columbus, Kentucky, and by Post coaches from Uniontown, Perry County, Ala., and from Jackson, Miss., daily each way, and these routes will be opened by railway. Thus offering facilities of approach to the delightful summer resort from all parts of the Southern and Western country, where the invalid and the pleasure seeker may retire and in their own Southern clime enjoy comfort without disturbance.

Also, at the same time and place and by the same authority will be sold all the springs furniture and personal property, which is ample and in good condition for immediate use. Terms: The real estate will be sold on a credit of one, two and three years with notes and approved security bearing interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from date. The personal property will be sold for cash or sixty day bills.

The sale will be continued from day to day till all property is sold.

C. H. MINGE, Guardian March 16, 1860

Lauderdale Springs for Sale

In pursuance of a decree of the Probate Court of Lauderdale County, made at the February term of said Court, 1860, this property then advertised for sale on the first day of May last, was postponed to the FIRST DAY OF AUGUST NEXT for want of bidders. The Springs are now open and the sale will be made on that day without reserve. Possession 1st day of January next, or sooner if present tenant desires it.

Terms - 1, 2 and 3 years with interest at 8 per cent. G. H. Minge, Guardian

The Mobile Mercury and Tribune, Columbus Democrat and Montgomery Advertiser will copy till day.

Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi

... and publications and advertisements for the time required by law and the decree of your honorable court, giving notice of the time and place of this postponed sale on which said day being the first day of August 1860, he again exposed the said Real Estate for sale at Lauderdale Springs in said county and did then and there make sale of the same at public auction to the highest bidders as follows to wit: To Joshua F. Speed the Lauderdale Springs proper with all the buildings and improvements thereto belonging including one hundred & fifty acres of same more or less and particularly described without reservation in a deed of Conveyance of Jno. S. Ulrick and wife to Thomas Adams which deed is recorded in the office of probate of said County, in Deed Book "I" pages 168, 169 & 170 and in a deed of Conveyance made by J. R. Bridges(?) to Thomas Adams & John G. Ulrick and Recorded in the office of probate for said County in Book H of Deeds pages 309 & 310 and same was struck of him for the sum of eight thousand dollars he being the highest and best bidder therefore.

Sales of other lots in the Lauderdale Springs property are listed below:

Recapitulation

The Springs proper to J. F. Speed	\$8000.
The D ? lot to J. G. Ulrick	\$725.
The Walker lot to Jno. Greenlees	\$310.

The Roberts home & lot to W. H. Plummer \$230.
The VanCants(?) lots to W. Murphy \$240.
All of which is respectfully submitted asked to be confirmed
and recorded.

Sworn to and subscribed Oct. 23, 1860
J. W. Brooke, Judge
C. H. Minge, Guardian

The account of the sale of the chattel property fills many pages in the Lauderdale County Court Records. Several of those sale items are selected and presented below. Please note the use of the ligature "f" for "ss", i.e. "glaf" for "glass" This was a common usage of spelling in the writings of that day and time.

1 bed stead, 2 matrefes, 1 bolster, 2 pillows and cases, 2 sheets, 1 spread, 1 wash stand, 1 basin & pitcher, 4 chairs, 1 looking glaf, 1 chamber, 2 tables - O.F. Jarman - \$6.00.
1 bed stead, 2 matrefes, 1 bolster, 2 pillows & cases, 1 spread, 2 blankets, 1 wash stand, 1 bowl & pitcher, 1 table, 1 chamber, 1 foot tub - John M. Jemison - \$14.00.
1 center table, chair - C. Twilly - \$3.25
7 chairs, 2 tables - A.C. Curry - \$4.00.
1 trundle bedstead, 2 matrefes, 2 pillows & cases, 2 sheets, 1 spread, 1 wash stand, 1 foot tub - Jno. Greenlees - \$7.12.
1 bed stead, 2 matrefes, 2 pillows & cases, 2 sheets, 1 spread, 1 wash stand, 1 basin & pitcher, 1 foot tub, 1 table, 1 cot, 2 matrefes, 2 pillows & cases, 2 sheets, 1 blanket, 1 spread, 1 chamber, 1 L. Glass - I.M. Simmons - \$14.50.
1 Iron Safe - G. Twilly - \$12.75.
2 Rocking Chairs - Jno. Greenlees - \$3.00.
1 bedstead, 3 matrefes, 1 bolster, 2 pillow & cases, 1 spread, 1 wash stand, 1 bowl and pitcher, 1 table, 1 L. Glass, 1 chair - D.I. Greenlees - \$15.50
1 Iron Safe - J.P. Walker - \$12.75.
5 bottles curiso(?), 10 bot. claret, 7 bottles bocese(?) bitters, 15 bot. white wine, 8 bot. vermouth wine, 2 bot. pepermint - J.R. Walker, Jr. - \$8.50.
Part Bar. Vinnegar - Elias Moore - \$2.10.
1 keg remnant gin - Elias Moore - \$2.25.
1 keg maderia wine - John Jemison - 2.00.
1 keg port wine, 5 gals - Jace(?) P. Walker - \$2.75.
1 bar. whisky - W.F. Jarman - \$10.75.
1 bar. whisky - Wm. B. Wilkinson - \$20.50.
1 bbl. ale - S.M. Smitherman - \$6.25.
1. bbl. remnant rye whisky, 15 gals. - John Greenlees - \$5.75.
1 whole bbl. rye whisky - W.A. Kenady - \$14.50.
30 gals. port wine - J.F. & L.P. Kenady - \$25.00.
1 remnant keg cooking wine - W.W. Wordan - \$0.25.
12 gals. part keg wine, sherry & maderia - J.R. Walker - \$8.00.
12 gals. sherry brandy - Elias Moore - \$9.50.
10 gals. remnant wine - Elias Moore - \$6.25.
8 gals. common whisky - G.W. Null - \$2.50.
1 bed stead, 1 matref, 2 pillows & cases, 2 sheets, 1 spread, 1 wash stand, 1 bowl & pitcher, 1 table, 5 chairs, 1 looking

glaf - G.E. Priddy - \$11.25.
John horse - W.W. Wordan - \$25.00
Claybrook horse - J.G. Ulrick - \$57.00.
Old Jim horse - B.B. Smith - \$50.00.
Bullet horse - G.W. Roberts - \$49.50.

Thomas A. Adams owned the property in 1859. A Confederate hospital occupied the property during the War for Southern Independence. Sturges, Hurlbutt & Company bought the property in 1864 and sold it to the Baptist State Convention in 1865, and The Mississippi Home for Confederate Orphans was domiciled there from 1865 until 1869.

In 1869, Joshua F. Speed acquired the property after it had been taken from the Baptist Convention in a law suit. The property was owned by Captain R.M. Bordeaux in 1898. He sold it to Mr. R.E. Crooker, and it was passed on to Harold Baumgardner and to Imogene Baumgardner.

Lauderdale Springs is in Section 30, Township 8 North, range 18 East, Lauderdale County. In the early 1840s much of the land in that section and adjoining sections was subdivided and sold as lots. Listed below are the names of some persons who bought or sold land in Section 30 and Section 19, the adjoining section to the north, during the years 1844 through 1884:

T. Adams; Thomas Adams, minor; H.E. Bancroft; H. Baumgardner; H.D. Baumgardner; J. Bond; G. Brinson; W. & M.J. Bustin; M.P. Calhoun; J. & L. Canterberry; J. Curtis; F.E. Daniels; R.A. Daniels, R.C. Daniels; R. Darden; G.J. Dare; J. Dearman; W. Dearman; W.R. & S.S. Dennis; J. Dove, J. & D. Eakins; S. Evans, A.T. Farror; J.W. Fewell; A. & C. Furness; A.M. Gaines; W.M. Gaines; L. Gibbs; H.L. Gibson; G.W. Grant; J. Greenlees; S.M. Grigsby; E.S. Gully; J.R. Gunn; J.M. Hart; J.N. Hart; Capt. A.M. & E.J. Hill; T.J. & W.P. Hobbs, W.P. & C. Hobbs; A.J. & M.L. Hodges; J. Hollingsworth; E.C. Hopson; J. & C. Horne; H. Hurlbett; W.H. Jamerson (Jemison); W.A. Kennedy, B. King; J. Lauda; J.A. Lewis; P.R. Lewis; A.L. & A. Lightfoot; D. Locke; H.D. Mahon; J.W. Maury; J.P. May; R.A. McDaniel; W.L. & J. McDow, R. & M.E. McKinley; L. McLean; D. McMillan; J.A. & G.Y. McMillan; N.M. McMillan; E.B. McRoy; Methodist Episcopal Church South; T.P. & E.E. Miller; E.B. Murphy; J.C. & M.E. Murphy; J.W. Murphy; J.C. Nelson; W.M. Nichols; M.W. Nichols; J.W. O'Neal; Patton Lodge # 129 F. & A. M.; Dr. Payton; J.F. & S. Paton; J.F. Peyton; W.H. & L.P. Plummer; W.S. & M.A. Ragland; H.W. Roberts; L.L. Roberts; T.L. Roberts; G. & M.A.B. Scott, J.M. Silliman; B.B. and E.M. Smith; J.F. & F. Speed; K.G. Speed; W.M. Stone; Strange & Ulrick; W. Strait; G. & M. Stutts; J. & M.A. Tucker; G. Twilley; G.A.H. Twilley; J.G. & J.C. Ulrick; S.P. & S.P. Walker; E. Watkins; H.B. Whitfield; W.J. & S.A. Wright; J. & M. Yarrell and S. Yates.

RAILROADS

The following ad was published in the June 20, 1855 issue of *THE SUMTER COUNTY WHIG*:

WANTED

On the MOBILE and OHIO Rail Road a large number of hands for which highest wages are to be paid. The hands will be under supervision and contract of the undersigned and will be attended to in case of sickness. Apply at Clerk's Office, Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi. THOS. J. CLAY, Agent

Probably, these men were being hired as construction workers as the railroad was being built northward through Lauderdale Springs at that time.

An extract from a report, dated July 7, 1855, and published in *THE WHIG* is included below:

Lauderdale Springs - People from Livingston, Tuscaloosa, Aberdeen, Columbus, and the surrounding country, daily pass through this place, on their way to Mobile, or on their return home. The railroad is already changing the line of travel, and extending the business of the city through the summer months. It is rapidly approaching this place, and, will, in about ten days, reach Sageville, which is only twenty-five miles from the Springs.

It touches the Mississippi river where the Ohio, from Pennsylvania and the Missouri from the rocky mountains, flow into it, and reaches from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes, gathering upon one great highway the travel and commerce of a country, twice as large as the French Empire.

In 1856, the Mobile and Ohio Railroad was completed from Mobile to a site one mile west of Lauderdale Springs. A railroad station named Springs Depot was established there, and a spur was built to Lauderdale Springs to provide rail service to the front gate of the resort.

There was a large mansion on the spur line, but it is not known who built it. There was a tobacco factory on this spur, owned by some Tennessee tobacco growers. Apparently the factory did not continue in operation for a long period of time, however, two men who came from Puryear, Tennessee to work in the factory, settled there and became respected citizens of the community. One was Robert Taylor, who married and raised his family and lived out his life in Lauderdale. The other was Albert Gilliam, who went to work for the railroad after the tobacco factory closed. He married and bought 80 acres of land east of the resort property and next door to the home of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Sarah Nancy Ellen McKinley Dearman Parker. The Albert Gilliam family lived in their home overlooking the Lauderdale Springs resort until their deaths in the 1920s.

When the Mobile and Ohio Railroad bypassed Lauderdale Springs by one mile, the business community gradually migrated to the vicinity of the depot at the new Springs Station, however, the popularity of the Springs was greatly enhanced by the faster and more comfortable mode of railroad travel, and the resort hotel maintained a flourishing business for many decades except for the chaotic years of the War Between the States and the Reconstruction

period.. The Mobile & Ohio Railroad was completed April 22, 1861 to Columbus, Kentucky on the banks of the Mississippi River.

During the 1850s, the Southern Railroad Company began construction of a railroad proposed to run from Vicksburg, Mississippi to Montgomery, Alabama. The line from Vicksburg to Meridian was completed and began service on May 29, 1861.

During the War Between the States, a branch of the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroad was built from Lauderdale Springs through York to Demopolis, Alabama. This railroad line completed rail connections from Shreveport, Louisiana through Meridian and Lauderdale Springs to Richmond, Virginia. The E.T.V. & G. Railroad continued in service until 1898. Its last use was to transport 2000 soldiers to Lauderdale Springs after the Spanish American War ended, to be encamped there until they could be mustered out of service.

During the War Between the States, the Mississippi, Gainesville and Tuscaloosa Railroad was built from Gainesville, Alabama through Ramsey Station (present-day Emelle), Alabama to connect with the Mobile and Ohio Railroad five miles north of Lauderdale Station at Narkeeta, Mississippi. Narkeeta was renamed Gainesville Junction so that the 22 mile long railroad extended from Gainesville Junction to Gainesville.

The M. G. & T. Railroad was well engineered and constructed with the best methods of that developing age of the railroad industry. The railway was built with hand-hewn post oak crossties.

The rails were called iron rails, however, they were not like the "I-beam" type rails now used on railroads. The rails were cut from longleaf pine and cypress trees along the right-of-way. The rails were covered with lengths of steel four inches wide and three-fourths of an inch thick.

This railroad was called the "Beeline" because there was not a curve on the entire 22 mile roadbed. Another oddity is that it was not necessary to construct a bridge anywhere along the route.

Some residents and businesses in Narkeeta moved a few miles north and reestablished the town of Narkeeta at its present location.

The roadbed for the railroad was completed to Clinton, Alabama on the route to Tuscaloosa, but the track was never laid past Gainesville. *THE GAINESVILLE INDEPENDENT*, June 2, 1862, printed the following notice:

Mississippi, Gainesville, Tuscaloosa R.R. Office In Gainesville,
Alabama

27 May 1862

On Monday next, 2 June 1862

Leave Gainesville - 5:00 P.M.

Arrive at Gainesville Junction - 7:00 P.M.

Leave Gainesville Junction - 4:30 A.M.

Arrive at Gainesville - 6:30 A.M.

When the M G & T Railroad began operations, it was hailed as a most progressive development for the area it served. It was estimated that 40,000 bales of cotton would be shipped over this line from the 430 square miles it served. During the War Between

the States, the railroad was kept active moving troops and military supplies. There were warehouses along the line for farmers to bring one seventh of their produce for storage and distribution to the Confederate army.

Gainesville was a major port on the Tombigbee River and had become the commercial center for the area. An interesting item from Gainesville's history is related to the founding of Swift & Company. When that company was founded, Gainesville and Chicago were under consideration for the location of the packing plant. Both towns were nearly equal in size and qualifications, making the decision difficult. The choice was made by the flip of a coin, and Chicago won the toss.

The M G & T Railroad enhanced the close business and social relations that had always existed between Gainesville and Lauderdale.

After the War, the Reconstruction period brought problems to all businesses. The M G & T had a major financial crisis and discontinued operations on April 14, 1879. The engine was sold and the steel rails were taken up. The line was converted to use mule drawn cars on wooden rails.

T. D. Bell, on Tuesday morning, commenced work of laying the wooden rails on our Tram Road, at the Gainesville Terminus. He began at Narkeeta and comes toward Gainesville.
Gainesville Reporter - February 26, 1880

The Tram-Way is slowly advancing this way, It is now within three miles from town. Look out for the locomotive when you hear the mule bray.
Gainesville Reporter- July 29, 1880

One of the most famous mules was named Morgan and he was said to be gray. Mr. Evander Bartlett, a longtime resident of Southeast Kemper County, stated that his father was a driver for the tram-way and that he himself made several trips with him when he was a small child.

PIONEERS FAMILIES OF SUMTER COUNTY, Vol. 1, p. 193 - Mrs. Nell M. Jenkins

The "Tram Road" began operations on September 30, 1880 and continued in service until 1886. The Tram Road was a rather primitive method of transportation when railroads were lacing the nation, but it served its purpose well for the people who needed its service.

Lumber, cotton, and other produce were moved on the Tram Road to Gainesville, Alabama and then shipped down the Tombigbee River to Mobile. It was also the supply line for freight to Sumter County, Alabama and Kemper County, Mississippi and through the connection with the M & O Railroad to the rest of the world.

A facetious story published in *The Gainesville Reporter*, September 28, 1880, is copied below:

FRIGHTFUL CONDITION
Special to the Lauderdale Bee

Narkeeta, Miss., Sept 17, 1880

The M & G Tramway passenger train, going east, collided with the west bound freight near Ramsey Station, on the night of the 14th, both engines were more or less damaged, one was thrown from the track and completely turnover. The passenger engine had both back drivers skinned up badly, and if it had not been for the cool headed engineer, John Wilson, there is no doubt that the engine would have blown up. In this case it would have been a total wreck. The direct cause of the accident was on account of the passenger being several hours late and the freight pulled out without orders. Both engines are undergoing repairs and will be out soon, the cost of repairs will be comparatively light, as there is plenty of corn and fodder in the shops. The wreckage has been cleared, and trains now make close connections with the M. & O. trains. ALFA

Cotton can be shipped via the tram to Mobile at *the rate of \$1.50 per bale.*

Gainesville Reporter - October 7, 1880

The freight train on the Tram brought in a big load Monday night.

Gainesville Reporter - October 17, 1880

The Tram Road Track is said to be in a fearful condition, and the train now comes in one day and goes out the next, thus giving us mail only every other day.

Gainesville Reporter - January 20, 1881

Since the boats stopped running (probably because the water was low in the rivers) the Tram-Road has done a lively business. The cars go down loaded with cotton, and return full of freight - mostly groceries. An extra train has been put on and at present two trains are at the depot loaded with cotton and groceries.

Gainesville Reporter - July 14, 1881

The Tram leaves Gainesville a half hour earlier. The change was made so as to make connection with the fast mail train going north on the M & O Railroad.

Gainesville Reporter - May 10, 1884

Binnsville, June 3, 1886

Gainesville is about dead. The Tram Road has stopped and the Steam Boat they bought is lying up having failed to get the mail contract. The mail will be uncertain from now on till July when they will have weekly mail to Epes. From the papers of Dr. Hamet Pinson

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

The War completely disrupted life in Lauderdale Springs, as it did everywhere in the South. 80,000 Mississippi men went off to war and the women assumed the greater part of the labor and

responsibility behind the lines.

On the day after Christmas, 1862, President Jefferson Davis, in a speech at Jackson, Mississippi, expressed some forebodings of the ordeal Mississippians might have to face up to, "...I saw it stated by the enemy that they have handled other states with gloves, but Mississippi will be handled without gloves."

Because Meridian and Springs Station (Lauderdale) were located at railroad junctions, the towns were thrust into the frenzy of war-time activity.

The Journal of William Pitt Chambers, of Co. B, 46th Miss. Inf., is preserved in *PUBLICATIONS OF THE MISSISSIPPI HISTORICAL SOCIETY*, Volume V (1925). Excerpts from that journal are included below:

March 30, 1862...we arrived at our destination - Meridian, Miss. We found the platform and the vicinity thronged with soldiers, while on every side, barrels of molasses and other Government Stores were piled in great confusion. I expected to find a "town" at Meridian, but was sadly disappointed. In fact, there is not a fine building in the place, no stores and no streets.

April 8th - Reports of a great battle are coming in ... reports of the operations of the armies are heard. It is certain, however, that a desperate battle was fought Sunday and Monday somewhere between Corinth and the Tennessee River.

Gen Albert Sydney Johnston is killed.

April 10th ... Nearly every train brings ... wounded men.

April 11th ... I learned that a Schoolmate, Wm. M. Reddock, was killed early in the engagement of "Shiloh," Sunday.

April 12th ... A large detachment - said to be 2300 Federal prisoners passed here today from Jackson...Every train from the North carries wounded men.

After the surrender of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863, U. S. Major General William Tecumseh Sherman had his wife and four children come to visit him at this site of victory. During this visit Sherman's favorite son, Willie, became ill with malaria and died.

Sherman was sadly depressed by the loss of his son, yet at this time he also was burdened with preparations for his next campaign.

It was at this time that he adopted his concept of "total warfare." This conception was expressed in his letters and statements of that period:

... I would banish all minor questions ... the United States has the right and the physical power to penetrate to every part of our national domain ... if need be take every life, every acre of land, every particle of property ... all who do not aid us are our enemies, and we will not account to them for our acts ... I would not coax or even meet them halfway, but make them sick of war ...the only government needed or deserved by the states of Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi now exists in Grant's army ... I would make this war as severe as possible, and show no symptoms of tiring until the South begs for mercy ... now is the time for us

to pile on our blows thick and not propose to waste our energies ... but to destroy the economy, the society even if need be, that afforded them subsistence ... to wreck their production and transportation facilities so thoroughly that they would have nothing left to defend and nothing left to live on ... I am willing to bear in patience that political nonsense of slave rights, States rights, freedom of conscience, freedom of the press, and such other trash as have deluded the Southern people into war ... but only for a season ... in another year they will beg in vain for their lives ... to the petulant and persistent secessionists, why, death is mercy, and the quicker he or she is disposed of the better...

SHERMAN'S MERIDIAN MARCH

On February 4, 1864, General Sherman set out with 23,500 men on his march eastward across Mississippi. He had his sights set on the cannon foundry and other manufacturing installations at Selma, Alabama. As a part of the campaign, General William Sooy Smith was ordered to advance from Memphis with 7500 Cavalry troopers and join Sherman at Meridian and lead the attack on Polk's forces and the advance to Selma. With this order Smith was given the incidental instruction to occupy and defeat General Nathan Bedford Forrest on the way from Memphis to Meridian, however, Forrest was not willing to submit, in any way, to Smith's desire to comply with this incidental instruction. When Smith moved into North Mississippi, Forrest tracked him on a parallel route until he reached Sakatonchee Creek, three miles south of West Point, where Forrest, with 2500 inexperienced troops, attacked the Yankee force of 7607 well equipped cavalry. Smith and his troops were routed and beat a very hasty retreat back to Tennessee.

On this campaign, known as the Meridian Expedition, Sherman applied his concept of "total warfare" with a wide swath of total devastation across the state of Mississippi. He destroyed most all of the property in his path. Three fourths of it was private property. *THE GAINESVILLE INDEPENDENT*, April 30, 1864 printed this item:

Gen. Sherman put up at the house of E. H. Lockard, Esq. during his stay in Brandon and embraced every occasion to insult the ladies of the house. He told one of the young ladies of the house that he expected to see the day when she might marry an American gentleman of African descent. The young ladies refused to go to the table with him and his staff, when he peremptorily ordered them to be brought in and seated beside him. He also compelled them to play and sing for him.

Sherman's introduction of total warfare against civilians sent a shockwave of revulsion through the Confederacy, and was viewed with trepidation by military leaders of other nations. Nevertheless, Sherman was proud of his accomplishments, and since his barbarous tactics were not disapproved by his superior officers of the Union army, including the Commander-in Chief, he considered this a practice

operation for his march through Georgia and the Carolinas. It must be noted, however, that he did not exhibit again the absolute brutality as was showered on the people of Mississippi.

General Leonidas Polk, in command of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and Eastern Louisiana with 22,000 men, established his headquarters at Meridian, but as the Union forces advanced, he pulled back to Demopolis, Alabama, taking with him 12 million dollars worth of military property and all railroad rolling stock and equipment. Also saved were 2,000 bales of cotton and the railroad equipment at Enterprise, which was moved to Mobile.

Meridian was a small town chartered in 1860, with a population of less than 400, but it was an important transportation center.

The Confederate government had built several warehouses and other buildings, and a number of dwellings were under construction. There was also a railroad repair shop, a machine shop and foundry, an armory, and an arsenal where small arms were being manufactured.

On February 14th, the Union army marched into Meridian without a shot being fired. History records only one minor skirmish in Meridian. This occurred on the hill overlooking Highland Park, where the Confederate rear guard cavalry fired on the invaders. There were no casualties.

Demolition teams were sent out all over town with orders to BURN! DESTROY! and the orders were carried out with hearty obedience. Railroads were demolished 20 miles in all directions from Meridian. The trestles were burned and the rails were piled on stacks of burning crossties, and then bent around trees to make them into "Sherman neckties." The Confederate military hospital was evacuated and the building was burned. Included below are some remarks written by an unidentified Meridian woman in a letter to her mother in Mobile. The letter was published in Mobile and reprinted in *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, March 27, 1864:

Meridian, Sunday, Feb. 28, 1864

My Dear Mother: As one of our neighbors goes down to Mobile tomorrow, I will send you a few lines to let you know how we came out in this "terrible raid"...the mob ran around, going into the houses, breaking open doors, trunks locks, etc., tearing up and destroying everything they could. Caught all the chickens in the place in half an hour ... I sent mother (in-law) off to look for some Generals, and try to get a guard ... Gen Hurlburt gave us a guard ... Gen. Leggett and Staff came and asked for all the house room I could give them. I knew it was a demand, and granted it ... I said, "I hear all Meridian is to be burned down; will my house be burned too?" "I hope not madam." Our store was burned to the ground ... My two milch cows were killed, and every one in the town; and for eight or ten miles around, all cattle and horses...

In his official report on his sojourn in Meridian Sherman reported:

For five days 10,000 men worked hard and with a will in the work of destruction, with axes, crowbars, sledges,

clawbars, and with fire and I have no hesitation in pronouncing the work as well done. Meridian, with its depots, storehouses, arsenal, hospitals, offices, hotel and cantonments no longer exists.

Major General S. A. Hurlbut, under Sherman's command, ordered Brigadier General James Veatch to:

...send a brigade or two strong regiments of your command up the road to Lauderdale Springs destroying the town thoroughly. Returning the command will destroy as much railroad, bridges, and culverts as may be possible...

Colonel Edward A. Winslow was to send a regiment of cavalry to cover this expedition. The column moved slowly and with caution because it was thought that General Forrest might be near. After reaching Lauderdale Springs at dusk, Col. Winslow, taking all precautions, sent out scouts in all directions. They reported that a Confederate regiment was camped three miles north of Lauderdale Springs. Winslow countermarched his column two miles and established a defensive position on a ridge projecting across the road. During the night a brief attack was made on the pickets at this encampment, this being the only semblance of a battle in the vicinity of Lauderdale Springs.

A dispatch copied from the official Confederate war records states:

York Station, February 22, 1864, 8 A.M. - Lieut. Gen. L. Polk:

Capt. Battle Fort, of my regiment, staid at Lauderdale Station last night. The whole town burned and the army gone to Daleville. No damage done to the railroad above that point. I have heard nothing from my scouting parties in the vicinity of Meridian. Will hear very soon and report at once.

I am, General, very truly,
R.O. Perrin, Col.

From a paper entitled *EARLY SETTLERS*, author unknown, we quote the following:

Mr. Warner Lewis had the first house and store built here (Lauderdale). During the Civil War all houses were burned by soldiers except the Glasscock home now owned by the Lieutenant Lyle Estate. This house, being used as officers headquarters, was saved.

Sherman's Meridian Expedition might well have been called the Lauderdale Springs Expedition, since this was the final point of penetration by the Union army. Because of General Sooy Smith's failure to supply reinforcements for an engagement with Polk and the march on Selma, General Sherman broke camp, on February 20th, and headed out of Marion on the Louisville road, and continued his

mission of ruination of the state of Mississippi, along an alternate route back to Vicksburg.

Lauderdale County was devastated, but somehow the people found the resolution to do what had to be done and set about the task of rebuilding the countryside and restoring order to their lives. The railroads were repaired and back in operation in less than four weeks.

THE LAUDERDALE SPRINGS CONFEDERATE HOSPITAL

The Lauderdale Springs resort property was converted into a Confederate General Hospital. The hotel was used as the main hospital building, and all other facilities were adapted to the care of the large number of patients, who always overflowed the facility. The healing waters of the springs and the railroad station at the front gate made this an ideal location for a hospital. Sick and wounded soldiers were brought to the hospital from a wide area, from as far away as Tennessee.

A report related to the ordering and placement of grave markers at the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery included this statement:

It was in 1932 that the law went into effect to furnish headstones or markers for Confederate soldiers. The necessary application was sent to the War Department. 940 Confederate markers were ordered for Lauderdale Springs and 80 Union markers were ordered and placed there as we found any number of trenches about 3 miles north west of this location (Lauderdale Springs) where the Union soldiers were camped and were buried in this section and for that reason these markers were placed among the C.S.V.

It is apparent that the writer of that report made an incorrect assumption. The Lauderdale Springs General Hospital complex consisted of three hospitals, each under the administration of its own chief surgeon. One of the hospitals was located one mile north of Lauderdale Springs at a site north of Ponta Creek. A third Confederate hospital was one-half mile north of that. This second hospital was later occupied as a military post by the Union army. Eighty burials in that vicinity, almost certainly, would have been Confederate soldiers who died in those two hospitals.

The medical Staff of the Confederate Army deserves praise for their sacrifices and accomplishments. Even though they always were plagued with a shortage of supplies of medicines and surgical instruments, they treated 3,000,000 cases of wounds and diseases. They cared for 600,000 Confederate soldiers and 270,000 Federal prisoners, and the death rate in the crowded prisons in the South was 8.3% compared to 12% in Federal prisons.

Mrs. Ella Palmer of Cleveland, Tennessee, rendered much valuable service to the Army of Tennessee during the war. She was chief matron at a hospital at Corinth, Mississippi after the battle of Shiloh. When the Confederate army evacuated that area, she was ordered to escort a trainload of patients to the Lauderdale Springs General Hospital, where there were over 2,000 sick men,

eighteen hundred of whom had typhoid fever. Mrs. Palmer soon put everything in order, and, with special attention to the cooks and the diet kitchen, the lives of many of the men were saved. An account of Mrs. Palmer's experiences at Lauderdale Springs was published in *THE CONFEDERATE VETERAN*, Volume XXVI-1918, Page 45. Excerpts from that article are included below:

The surgeon in charge of this hospital was a cruel and arbitrary man, a martinet. Besides the sick, there were many convalescents ... The doctor's favorite punishment was to make them mark time in a barrel. This barrel had a hole cut in one end large enough to pass over a man's head and rest on his shoulders. The other end was open. When a man had the barrel on, his hands were useless, for the barrel extended below his hands; only his hands and feet were out. The man was helpless and had to mark time an hour or two. No one dared to say a word, or he would get similar punishment.

Mrs. Palmer went to the surgeon in charge and protested. He said that it was not her affair and that she should not meddle. She went again and again. He told her to "mind her own business." The post surgeon was away at the time, and she had no one to appeal to. At last the barrel was put on a poor fellow who was just out of bed after a hard fight for life. Mrs. Palmer saw this poor fellow marking time in front of the hospital. She picked up an ax and cut the hoops off of the barrel and it fell to pieces. The man was crying from weakness, shame, and humiliation. She sent him to his ward to bed. The surgeon in charge saw it from his office across the square. He came over and was furious. He threatened to send her away; but she told him that the post surgeon and surgeon general would have something to say about that. He began to be abusive, but on looking around he saw other doctors, ward masters, nurses and others coming up in a threatening manner, and he returned to his office.

When the post surgeon returned and investigated, he found ten of fifteen men in the guardhouse for refusing to fix another barrel. Mrs. Palmer was commended for the part she had taken, and this wicked surgeon was sent to the front.

When the winter came on, the terrible typhoid fever abated. Mrs. Palmer went through the country telling of the conditions at Lauderdale Springs. As soon as the ladies found it out they came in droves to care for the sick. Some were very efficient and others did not know whether eggs were to be fried in water or grease. They soon learned. Mrs. Palmer remained in Lauderdale Springs until the latter part of January, 1863, when she received orders to go to Ft. Morgan, forty miles below Mobile, to take charge of the hospital there.

Another nurse, who was a loved and respected "angel of mercy" at the Lauderdale Springs Hospital was Miss Mollie Temple, whose home was near Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

THE CONFEDERATE VETERAN, in Volume XXII-1918, page 45, published a recollection of an incident that occurred at the

Lauderdale Springs Hospital while Rev. James H. M'Neilly of Nashville Tennessee was a patient there:

My memory becomes a kind of omnium gatherin of witty sayings, humorous expressions, and ridiculous doings of my comrades. This on Meridian, Miss., expressed the opinion of many soldiers on that little wooden town at the railroad crossing, with its hotels of exorbitant charges and poor fare. Lauderdale Springs, a few miles north of Meridian, had a very large and well-equipped hospital, where I spent three months under treatment for blindness. In the hospital a Captain Sankowitz was being treated for typhoid fever. He was a foreigner, a soldier of fortune. For a time he was delirious. After a while, free from delirium, he was very weak. Calling his attendant, he said in a thin, feeble voice, "I want you to take me to Meridian." "Why do you want to go to Meridian?" "Because I am bound to die." "But," said the attendant, "What has Meridian got to do with your dying?" "My dear sir, I have traveled all over the world and served in many countries, and I think I could leave this earth with less regret from Meridian than from any other place on the face of the planet." The Captain began to improve and did not leave the planet just then.

An interesting segment of history involving Lauderdale Springs, also written by Rev. M'Neilly, was published in the Spring, 1894, Volume II issue of *THE CONFEDERATE VETERAN* on pages 71-72:

During the civil war it was my fortune to be rather intimately associated with the Hon. Joseph E. Davis, the elder brother of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States...

...In the fall of 1863 I was nearly blind from exposure in the campaign around Vicksburg. I was sent to the hospital at Lauderdale Springs, Mississippi, under the care of my friend, Dr. Robert Anderson, who had been for several years before the war, Mr. Davis' family physician. Mr. Davis and his family, finding that he could not live at his plantation on the Mississippi River, had moved to Lauderdale Springs...

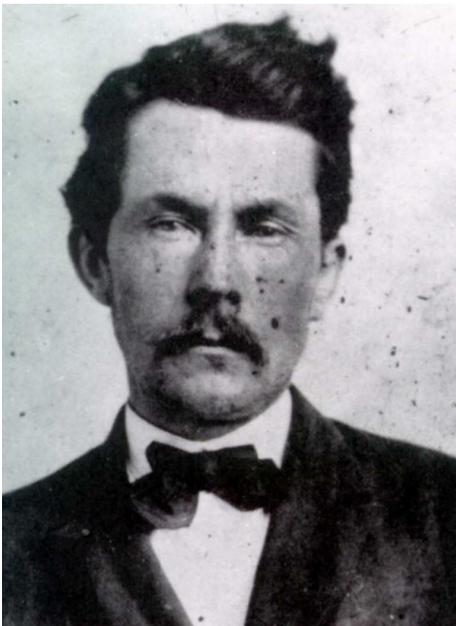
During my stay at the hospital Mrs. Davis died. She was a lovely woman of devout piety, and a member of the Episcopal Church ... Mr. Davis asked me to conduct the funeral services ... he always afterward expressed for me the kindest feelings and admitted me to a confidence...

As soon as I was well enough I returned to my regiment...in the campaigns of north Georgia and Tennessee...I found that the terrible exposure had rendered me nearly blind again. I was sent again to Dr. Anderson, who was in charge of the hospital at Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Mr. Davis and his family were boarding with Dr. Anderson, and so I was thrown into daily intercourse with him for a period of nearly three months ... I was constantly impressed with his information and his breadth of view on the political history and principals of our Government...

His affection for his brother, the President, was intense and seemed to deepen with years ... Mr. Davis often and freely spoke of the situation of the country, and of the difficulties with which the Confederate President had to contend...One of the most lovable traits in the character of Jefferson Davis was his tender love and deep respect for this old man. I think that nearly every week, in spite of the huge cares that oppressed him, he wrote to him... discussing the condition of our country. Mr. Davis often permitted me to read these letters, and I was deeply impressed with the President's sincerity and his consuming love for his country ... In one the President spoke of the harsh criticisms upon him and his administration. He said that numbers of his countrymen would think of him as a dictator, who substituted his personal judgment and will for the action of the Congress ... He said the difficulty was too often that Congress had no policy of its own - members could not agree among themselves ... He said that often ... immediate action of some kind was imperative ... and he was forced to carry out some plan, and of course he acted on his own ideas in the absence of any action by Congress. Then he was charged with being a dictator ... these letters impressed me with the President's unselfish and conscientious devotion of himself and all his powers to the cause which with all his soul he believed to be righteous.

THE *SELMA DAILY REPORTER* published the following news item on October 20, 1863:

MERIDIAN, October 19 - President Davis arrived here on Saturday night and took a special train to Lauderdale Springs yesterday, on a visit to his brother, Col. Joe Davis. He returned here this evening.



The Lauderdale Springs Confederate Hospital continued in service until April of 1865.

George Powell Clarke, Sgt, Company C - 36th Mississippi Infantry - Harper Reserves of Decatur, Mississippi - compiled his memoirs of his service in the Confederate army. Those writings were published in a local newspaper during 1895 through 1898. Sgt. Clarke's writings have been transcribed from those newspaper clippings and published in book form.

That magnificent 324 page publication *REMINISCENCE AND ANECDOTES OF THE WAR FOR SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE* was produced and published by Sgt. Clarke's great grandson, George A. Smith - 841 Decatur Stratton Road - Decatur, MS 39327. George A. Smith, Past-Commander of W.D. Cameron Camp 1221,

Sons of Confederate Veterans, has graciously granted permission to include that Old Confederate Veteran's reminiscence of his hospitalization at the Lauderdale Springs Confederate General Hospital. into this revised edition of A History of Lauderdale Springs.

Sgt. George Powell Clarke
Remembers Lauderdale Springs

The writer was sent from Rienzi to Lauderdale Springs and consigned to the hospital at that place about the first of June, 1862. I remember very little of the trip to Lauderdale Springs, being very sick, half delirious most of the time. I was very sick for a long time, but my sickness was cheered by occasional visits from my father (Rev. Nathan L. Clarke) who brought acceptable delicacies from home. Ah! how sweet is thought of home to a sick soldier. Although his messmates and nurses may do all they can for him, yet it is not like the loving attention of friends and relatives at home. But enough of this. I will not weary the patience of the reader with a full description of all the ups and downs of a long spell of sickness. But I want to detail some facts for the benefit of those who may in the future have imposed upon them the duty of taking charge of a hospital. There are many poor soldiers sleeping in the dust near Lauderdale Springs, who might today have been adorning the walks of life had some things been different. In the first place, when the writer was consigned to the hospital, the ward to which it was my unfortunate lot to go, was presided over by a beardless young fellow, claiming to be a doctor; and who did not know the difference between copperas and quinine. He was killing up the soldiers as fast as his drugs could do it, when fortunately, he was ordered away, and an old surgeon of some knowledge was placed in charge of the ward. Speaking of soldiers dying, it was no unusual sight to see eight or ten borne by my window on the way to the dead house in one day. It is said that about seventeen hundred died there. But the change came to be noticed after the advent of the old doctor spoken of, for the death rate began to decrease as soon as his method of treatment had time to take effect. I remember yet the substance of the first conversation he had with me. He was very choleric when he came into the room, and in a brusque kind of way said "well what's the matter with you"? "I don't know", I replied. He went through the usual ceremony of examining tongue and pulse, and said more kindly, "well you are pretty sick, ain't you"? I told him I thought I was. "What are you taking", said he. I replied I did not know, but the top was off one on the table so he could examine it to see. He took up a bottle, applied it to his nose and threw it out of the window, saying that was the first time he had ever known cod liver oil given for typhoid fever. He threw away all the balance except some quinine. After venting his wrath a little, he prescribed for me and under his treatment I began to improve at once. Thousands of soldiers were murdered during the War by incompetent medical treatment. I will have something more to say on this subject later.

Convalescence was very slow and tedious, the hospital diet unpalatable, even to one in good health, and of course much more so to one who is sick. Finding that I was gaining very slowly, I made application to the commander of the post to be allowed to go out to the camp of the Provost Guard, where I had acquaintances. Feeling that I would regain my health much quicker there than in the hospital. After some parley, and the use of a little red tape, the request was granted. Much of this was due to the intervention of an officer of our company, who was in command of the Provost Guard, and whose memory I love. On or about the 8th of August, 1862, I bid farewell to the hospital, emaciated to the extent that I was only a shadow of my former self, and with my mind laden with sad memories, I went out to the camp, which was about two miles from the hospital. Before describing life at the Provost Guard Camp, I must go back to the hospital for a time. I have stated that my mind was laden with sad memories, and even after this long lapse of time unbidden tears spring up when I call to mind some scenes that I witnessed during my long confinement there. I would fain pass them over, but in order to make my narrative complete I must bring them in. Far back in the recess of my boyhood's memory I can dimly trace the figure of a rollicking boy. We were boon companions; went to school together; went in swimming together; rambled over the woods together; in fact were inseparable when not at work. We grew up to young manhood together, and when the War cloud burst over the country, we agreed that when it came time for us to enlist would go together. We did so, and of course were messmates, sharing each other's blankets, each other's burdens, each other's joys and everything else. Time passed on and we were both sent to the hospital at Lauderdale Springs, he only a little puny, I very sick. For a few days he was at my bedside often. After some time I missed his cheering presence. Making inquiries, I ascertained that he was very sick. Some days after that I became able to go to his room, which was only a few steps distant. I was greatly shocked at the change in his appearance, and inexperienced as I was I could see that he must soon cross over the river. He seemed cheerful and resigned, and was much cheered at seeing me again. He realized his condition, and seemed willing to leave the results in the hands of an all wise Providence. On the next day I called again at his room, and before I left, his mother and I stood by his bedside and saw him bid farewell to earth. With what seemed to be a smile n his face, his genial spirit took its flight, as I believe, to the climes of everlasting bliss. To the land with orange blossoms shaded, where summer ever lingers on the air. It is within a few days of thirty years since then, but I can yet see his genial face and hear his rollicking laugh.

Dear old comrade farewell. On this morning of the 8th of May, 1896, my memory salutes you.

The reader can now see why I was sad when I left the hospital, for it was only a short time after the death of my comrade. I may before I close my narrative, return to this epoch of my

life and refer to some other things connected with my story at Lauderdale Springs, But will leave it for the present. I have now nearly done with hospital life at Lauderdale Springs. But before I leave this part of my subject, I must make a few criticisms on the conduct of hospitals - I mean, of course, military hospitals in time of war. It is not likely that these lines will ever fall under the eye of any who had authority in the hospitals during the late war. But some of the present generation may be called upon to undergo these things and then they will see that I am writing the truth. I will defer these criticisms for my next paper.

I closed my last paper by serving notice on the public that I would utter a few criticisms on the conduct of hospitals during the late war. Now, as I have already stated, it is not at all probable that these lines will fall under the eye of any one who had charge of hospitals, but if they should, study them well and if the cap fits you, then you are the man they are intended for; if not, they do not apply to you. In the first place, a great many of those who did hospital service were men who would not face the music at the front. Men who did not love to hear cannon roar. Had no affection for a shrieking shell nor a whistling bullet. Now I know from experience that this class of men had very little sympathy for a sick soldier and in consequence gave them just as little attention as the holding of their bomb proof positions would allow. Another characteristic of many of these men was, that they would purloin, or other words, steal what few delicacies the government was able to furnish for the sick soldiers and appropriate them for their own use. This was more especially the case as regarded alcoholic spirits furnished for the hospitals. Before I close this part of the subject I will relate a tragic episode that occurred at the hospital at Lauderdale Springs, which will prove what I say. After I became strong enough to walk about the place a little, and just before I left, I took several meals at the general mess house. Rather I attempted to take meals there, but did not do it. They had for one of the principal dishes what they called rice, but it rather resembled squirrel shot floating, if you will allow the idea of shot floating, in an indigo colored water. It was just about as digestible as squirrel shot would be, for I never saw any of it cooked done. I think they just put it into some cold water, let it get lukewarm and then dumped it into a large vessel of some sort. If you wanted to eat it you could do so, and if you did not, you could let it alone. The bread, oh! yes, that bread. Imagine a piece of sole leather about three inches square, I believe rawhide will express the idea better, baked in water until it gets rather gummy, then split open and loaded with a sheet of lead, and you will have a fair idea of that bread. It just simply took a man with the appetite of a rhinoceros to eat it and he had to have a cast iron stomach to digest it. Other sanitary features were just as bad, all of which rendered hospital life, to the sick I mean, almost a veritable

purgatory while it lasted. But it was not alone in this department of hospital work that this criminal abortion of duty was manifest. Now I am aware that it is not popular to invade the sacred precincts of medical jurisprudence with a view to criticize, and that some of the profession may say I do not know that's their will, that they have no business volunteering any criticisms on subject they know nothing about, but I am going to venture into the forbidden ground. Of all the unblushing frauds that were imposed upon the Armies of the South during the late War, the most glaring was known as Regimental and Hospital Surgeons. Now, of course, this will not be construed to apply to the worthy men who filled those positions, for there were many of that class. With that qualification, I repeat the above assertion, and many old soldiers will bear me out in it; and I suppose many ex-army surgeons also. Many of them were cruel and indifferent, many more of them were incompetent, and when it comes to being considered, as to the sacred character of the duties they were expected to discharge, that is taking care of the health and lives of the soldiers, it will at once be seen how glaring was the imposition foisted upon the army. Now it may seem that the criticisms in this paper are overdrawn, but not so, for the writer was an eye witness and does not write from hearsay. He can, if any one desires him to do so, give instances to prove his assertions. In my next paper will give the circumstance alluded to in the first part of this.

In my last paper I alluded to a tragic episode that occurred at Lauderdale Springs. I also alluded to the proneness of some men to steal alcoholic spirits furnished for the use of sick soldiers. There was a man there who had charge of supplies of that kind, and whose duty it was to distribute as needed by the sick. Only a small portion of the spirits ever found its way to those for whom it was intended. I never saw a drop of it while I was sick there. In course of time this man was attacked with delirium tremens, or as it is sometimes called "mania a potu," and as it is also sometimes called "snakes in his boots." It required several men to hold him on his bed, and though his room was perhaps more than two hundred yards distant from the one occupied by the writer, I could distinctly hear his horrible screams. Intermingled with curses and imprecations of such a character as would almost curdle the blood in a demon's veins. This lasted several days, when death closed the horrible scene. The pitying angels must have wept, if they ever weep, over the last few hours of this wretched man's life, for it seemed to me that his yells and screams could have been heard for half a mile. What a death! And from such a cause. Could it be possible that his criminal conduct in withholding the supplies from the sick caused the death of some of them? For many had died. Is it possible that he saw their disembodied spirits around him, reproaching him for the evil he had done them? Those who attended him said that he saw horrible forms hovering over and around him during his last hours.

I have thus given a full account of this fare, the cookery, my appetite, and In my last paper I alluded to a tragic episode that occurred at Lauderdale Springs. I also alluded to the proneness of some men to steal alcoholic spirits furnished for the use of sick soldiers. There was a man there who had charge of supplies of that kind, and whose duty it was to distribute as need by the sick. Only a small portion of the spirits ever found its way to those for whom it was intended. I never saw a drop of it while I was sick there. In course of time this man was attacked with delirium tremens, or as it is sometimes called "mania a potu," and as it is also sometimes called "snakes in his boots." It required several men to hold him on his bed, and though his room was perhaps more than two hundred yards distant from the one occupied by the writer, I could distinctly hear his horrible screams. Intermingled with curses and imprecations of such a character as would almost curdle the blood in a demon's veins. This lasted several days, when death closed the horrible scene. The pitying angels must have wept, if they ever weep, over the last few hours of this wretched man's life, for it seemed to me that his yells and screams could have been heard for half a mile. What a death! And from such a cause. Could it be possible that his criminal conduct in withholding the supplies from the sick caused the death of some of them? For many had died. Is it possible that he saw their disembodied spirits around him, reproaching him for the evil he had done them? Those who attended him said that he saw horrible forms hovering over and around him during his last hours. I have thus given a full account of this episode in order to illustrate the subject treated on in last paper.

Some of the Hospital and Army Surgeons were also adept in the art of purloining the "O be joyful." But I suppose enough has been said on this subject. There was in the hospital at the Springs a young man who belonged to a Tennessee Regiment, of whom I have often thought . It is said, with how much truth I do not know, that about 1700 soldiers died at that hospital. The young man alluded to was in the same room with the writer and was consigned to the hospital a few days before the old doctor spoken of in a former paper came to ward. During that time it was no strange thing to see dead men hauled by our window, being carried to the "dead house" to be prepared for burial, or to be claimed by friends and relations. The young man was very sick, both as regarded his body and mind. In other words, he was "homesick" and had conceived the idea that he would never see home again, that he would die there. It was sad to see the effect the sight of those dead men had upon him. I told him he ought not to watch for them, but he said he could not help it, and there did indeed seem to be a fascination about it that he could not resist; ever and on rolling his restless eyes to the spot where we could see them pass. When he would see one he would say, "there goes another; it will be my time next." Two men had died in our own room, which had very much the same effect on him. I do not know

how the case terminated, whether he ever left the hospital or not. He was very sick when I left. when I bid him goodbye he wept and told me that he did not know what he would do when I was gone, for he had become very much attached to me, from the fact that I had nursed him a good deal. As much as my own weak condition would allow. I have often thought of him and wondered if he ever got well. He was a good boy and I hope he lived through the War and got home. I am now done with the hospital at the Springs for the present. Perhaps some may think I have devoted too much space to this part of my subject, but if they should, let them remember that I am detailing the experience of a private soldier in the War. Writing things that histories do not give. These things need ventilations so that people may see and know what the soldiers of the late War had to endure. In my next paper I will take you to the camp of the Provost Guard.

It will be seen, or rather has already been seen, that pathos, humor, tragedy and comedy succeed each other, in my narrative, like the drifting scenes in a panorama. No doubt a great many will conclude that some of the scenes depicted are not worth committing to paper, but as I have said before, I am writing this series of papers myself, and am giving my own personal experience; not that of some one else, writing just as those scenes recur to my mind. of course, as I travel again over the incidents of those stormy days, many things long forgotten rise up before me and demand attention. I have become much interested in the work. Feeling at the same time that I have taken on myself a bigger job than I thought for at first, but if I live I expect to carry it through on the plan thus far pursued. I hope the Index will not become alarmed at this assertion, for it is out of the question for me to abbreviate, and at the same time make my story complete.

Just a few reflections now on leaving the sad scenes which I have been describing in my last two or three papers. I am glad, yes I rejoice, that the young men and also middle aged, do not have to undergo what those of my generation did in the late war. When they become sick they have a loving wife, or an affectionate sister or mother to smooth their aching brow and to anticipate every want. Oh! how different this is from being subjected to the tender mercies of a brooded nurse, who would be glad to see you die at any time, in order that you might get out of his way. Reader, do you think the picture drawn in the last few papers is an exaggerated one? If you do, just try war once and see.

Unless I conclude to return to it at the close of my narrative, we will now bid farewell forever to Lauderdale Springs, and if you will now go with me, we will go out to the camp of the Provost Guard. I had the good fortune to strike a passing wagon just as I went out of the gate of the hospital grounds. The occupant, who was a farmer of the vicinity, old one, of course, for no other were at home. He kindly offered me a seat which of course I was glad to accept, as he could carry me to the railroad station, more than half

the distance to the camp. I remember yet how he sympathized with me in my debilitated appearance. He stoutly asserted that I was not able for duty, and that I had better go back to the hospital and stay till I got well. I told him that was just the reason I was leaving, so I could get well. He told me on parting with me to be sure and be careful with myself, especially about eating. I never saw him again, and I suppose he has long since passed to his regard, as he was an old man then.

There was in those days at Lauderdale Station what was known as an "eating house," where for \$2 one could get what was called a "square meal." This was not far from where I left the old man and was right on my way to the camp. I halted at the door, thought at first that I would not go in, hesitated a moment, and then yielded to the temptation, and went in. Ascertaining the bill of fare, which was very good for those times, I called for 50 cents worth, and went to work on it. O, ye epicures, get out of my way now, for I am going to describe one of the most delightful periods of my life. Visions of delight seemed to float before my enthralled imagination. I was oblivious to all surrounding objects, even to the amused glances of the host. The first 50 cents worth disappeared all too quick. A glance at the smoking pile on the carving table was sufficient. I ordered another 50 cents worth. Enter again the entrancing visions. The bill of fare, the cookery, my appetite, and everything was so different from what I had been accustomed for the last two months, that I lost all control of myself and ate the third 50 cents worth before I stopped. The host then suggested that I had better hold up, judging from my appearance. This called me back to sublunary things again and I agreed with him, paid him and left at once.

It was, as well as I remember, about the middle of the afternoon when I reached the camp. The boys had just bought a nice lot of fruit, peaches, apples, etc, and of course, I was asked to join them in eating, which I did with some misgivings as to the consequences. I would not like to tell how much I ate that evening and that night for supper, which consisted of boiled roasting ears and other wild nourishments of that kind. After resting that night I began to meditate on my imprudence, and fully expected to be sent back to the hospital next morning, but on recurring after a good nights sleep, felt refreshed and more like a man than I had since leaving Rienzi. A flerovus narrative you will say, dear reader, but I do not think so, for I consider this and important epoch in my life. A turning point from which I began to feel like a soldier again. Suffice it to say that I felt no ill results from my inordinate eating.

Beneath the umbrageous foliage of majestic oaks and wide spreading bush; on the banks of the beautiful Ponta, was located the camp of the Provost Guard. Here I saw again the brave faces, and heard the cheerful laugh of comrades, from whom I had long been separated. This was a much more potent factor in effecting my recovery than all the medicine in

material medica could have been.

I needed all this, after the selfish and indifferent treatment of the past two months. I remember however, that the pleasure of the change was somewhat modified by the loss of my mate, my special comrade. One last tribute to his memory, and then I will not tax the reader's patience further on this part of my subject. I have already chronicled his heath. He sleeps his last long sleep in the Decatur Cemetery, whence I hope that when the trumpet shall sound the last reveille in the morning of the resurrection, he will rise to everlasting glory, and that we will meet where there will be no more such abrupt separations.

I entered on duty at once, light at first of course. The first duty I performed was to guard a man who had been sentenced to mark time for two hours each day for several days. Reader, do you know what that means? If you had to guard a fellow soldier and force him to mark time for two hours your sympathies would be aroused in his behalf, and at the same time you would be tempted to laugh. As I may have occasion to mention this penalty several times during the course of my story I will explain the meaning of the term for the benefit of those who do not know. The offender was marched to a designated spot, generally a public one, so that all could see that wished to. Having arrived at the place he was cause to stand erect, in the position of a soldier, toes on a line, slightly pointed outward, head thrown back and arms hanging naturally by his sides. Then the guard would give the command, "Mark Time March". The culprit would then raise one foot, slightly throwing it forward as if to step off; but would place it back immediately where it was, the same action with the other foot and so to the end of the time designated in the sentence, which was generally from one to two hours. According to the nature of the offense. Thus you see he was continually walking, for the time, but never moving out of his tracks. This was a very common mode of punishing refractory soldiers. If the offense was somewhat aggravated, the culprit was often cause to mark time two hours a day for ten days. If rather trifling, one hour per day for two or three days. The appearance of a man marking time, especially if you watched him for some time, was ludicrous in the extreme, and sometimes a fellow could get a fight on his hands by laughing at one under such circumstances. As I am on the subject of penalties, I will, in my next paper, say something of the different modes of punishment in the army.

There were various modes of punishment used as penalties for the violation of the army regulations and disobedience of orders I have already described that of marking time. Imposing "double duty" was very common. This consisted in causing the offender to go on fatigue or guard duty every day for a number of days. Sometimes he would be compelled to dig up large stumps about the camp. I have often seen the poor fellows sweating at this kind of work. One mode, which I only saw executed once during the War was to carry a heavy pole of wood on the shoulder, marching to and fro for a certain

length of time each day, for a few days. There was what was called the "barrel shirt". One head of a barrel was knocked out and a hole cut in the other head large enough for the head of the offender to go through. Then it was put on, allowing the barrel to rest on his shoulders and enveloping the body.

The offense of which he had been guilty was generally marked on the barrel in large letters, and he was then required to parade before the quarters for a specified time. "Bucking and Gagging" was sometimes used though not often. It was a severe punishment and was only inflicted on the worst offenders. It is said that men were sometimes tied up by the thumbs, suspended so that their feet would just touch the ground, but I never saw this done. The foregoing were the most common modes of punishment in the Army. I will ever have pleasant recollections of the few days spent at the camp of the Provost Guard on the shady banks of the beautiful Ponta. We had abundance of the best the surrounding county could afford, vegetables, fruit, fowls, and fresh meats; and the forest was loaded and perfumed with the delicious paw paw, which grew in wild profusion there.

The fruit is somewhat similar in taste and appearance to the banana, and is quite wholesome. This experience was almost like escaping from the Shades of Erebus and taking refuge in the Elysian Fields. Yes, pleasant, beautiful banks of the Ponta. I yet roam in fancy through your lovely shades and bathe in your limpid waters. But goodbye; we are going to leave you now. It was about the 16th of August, I obtained leave of absence for a few days to visit home, about forty miles distant. Ah! home, sweet home. No one will ever appreciate the pleasures, the joys and the comforts of home until he undergoes the toils, privations and hardships of a soldier's life in camp, field and hospital.

THE LAUDERDALE SPRINGS CONFEDERATE CEMETERY

A hill overlooking the hospital grounds was designated as a cemetery for the unfortunate, war weary soldiers, who died in the hospital. Many were taken home to be buried by their loved ones, but about twelve hundred of them rest in peace atop that sun kissed hill in the serene woodlands at Lauderdale Springs.

When the Winnie Davis Chapter No. 24, United Daughters of the Confederacy was organized in Meridian, in 1896, the members were concerned immediately with the neglected condition of the "graveyard of Confederate soldiers at Lauderdale Springs." On March 13, 1897, when Mrs. E.L. McGinnis was president of the Winnie Davis chapter, the chapter purchased the 1.8 acre cemetery from three black men, George Hubbard, Frank Hubbard and William Payton, who owned the land at that time. On that same date, the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors purchased from Dave Hubbard an additional 5.46 acres adjoining the cemetery. This extended the property to provide access to the cemetery from the Lauderdale-Kewanee highway.

Acquisition of the property enabled the members to move forward with plans for the improvement and preservation of the cemetery. During World War I, the interests of Winnie Davis Chapter members

were diverted to war time activities and the chapter disbanded and was not rechartered until 1957, however, even during those years of the chapter's inactivity, many people maintained their interests in the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery.

In the early part of 1924, Mr. H.R. Court of Meridian and Mr. J.L. Blackledge went to the cemetery seeking information about the burial site of Mr. Blackledge's father-in-law, B.D. Walters, who was buried there. They walked over the cemetery with Mr. Dave Hubbard, a black man, who owned the adjoining land. They found only two grave markers. One was for Corp. J.N.B. Williamson, CO.

E - 1st Mo. Cavalry, CSA, from Cabool, Missouri. The other marker was for J.T. Morgan, CO. C - 45th Ala, CSA.

In a report Mr. Court wrote about his experiences, he stated, "Finding many trenches over the Plot and the need of attention I went to the Board of Supervisors to correct the situation, which has been done."

Through the years the cemetery was cleaned by residents of Lauderdale, by boys from the Masonic Home, and members of various Boy Scout troops. In recent times, for a number of years, the cemetery was cleaned and cared for regularly by the Four H Club, under the leadership of Mrs. Parker Gray of Lauderdale.

In November of 1957, an historical marker designating the site of the cemetery was erected in Lauderdale.

In December of 1983, the 5.46 acres at the cemetery owned by the county was deeded by the Board of Supervisors to the Winnie Davis Chapter.

In 1987, the members of The Winnie Davis Chapter No. 24, United Daughters of the Confederacy established a Perpetual Care Fund to assure that the beauty and dignity of this cemetery shall be maintained forever. The by-laws controlling this trust fund stipulate that "the assets of the fund may never be withdrawn, except that the interest may be withdrawn and used only for the benefit of the cemetery." A long-range plan for maintenance and improvements at the cemetery is being implemented.

In 1987, a marble monument with the following inscription was erected at the cemetery:

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS CSA CEMETERY

Hospital site and burial spot for 1020 CSA and 80 Union men wounded at Shiloh, Corinth, Iuka, Jackson, Fisher's Creek, Vicksburg, and Forrest's North Mississippi battles.

Also in 1987, signs were erected on Highway 45 at Lauderdale designating the Location of the Lauderdale Springs Cemetery, and directional signs were placed along the route from the highway to the cemetery.

On June 29, 1988, 25 vandalized grave markers were replaced.

In 1989, all of the 1100 grave markers were cleaned, many dead trees were cut and disposed of and all debris was cleared from the wooded area of the property.

In August of 1990, the drive through the cemetery was resurfaced.

Each year Winnie Davis Chapter No. 24, United Daughters of the Confederacy, joins with W. D. Cameron Camp No. 1221,

Sons of Confederate Veterans in presenting the Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony at the cemetery.

There has been some uncertainty about the number of soldiers buried in the cemetery. We know that, in 1932, when Congress authorized the U.S. Government to furnish grave markers for Confederate soldiers, 940 Confederate markers were ordered for the Lauderdale Springs cemetery, yet 1020 Confederate *UNKNOWN SOLDIER* grave markers were placed there. There also are 80 Union *UNKNOWN SOLDIER* stones in place there. A report related to the ordering and placement of grave markers at the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery stated that 80 Union markers were ordered for placement at a burial ground north of Lauderdale on Ponta Creek. For some unexplained reason, the markers were placed in the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery and not at the site on Ponta Creek. There is no record of any burials of Union soldiers in the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery

Mr. Roger Hansen, of Pascagoula, Mississippi, has provided the Winnie Davis Chapter a wealth of information about those noble men who lie in Unknown Soldier's Graves. Mr. Hansen is a member of The Stanford Reenactors Battery of Mississippi. This is a patriotic organization, whose members are dedicated to the mission of locating and marking the graves of soldiers who died during the War Between the States.

Mr. Hansen is leading a massive project of research of military and hospital records for the purpose of collecting information about the men who died in hospitals. He estimates that about 1200 men died in the three Lauderdale Springs Hospitals. He now has the names of 900 of those men along with the rank, unit, date of death and, in many instances, the cause of death.

That roster of 900 names with all available information is included on the final chapter of this book.

In 2001, a display stand was erected at the cemetery, where a history of the cemetery is presented, along with information about 900 of those soldiers who are buried there. When contact with a descendant of a soldier is developed, a replacement stone, engraved with the name and pertinent information about the soldier, is ordered and installed and a memorial service is arranged.

The information presented on the display panel is included below:

THE LAUDERDALE SPRINGS CONFEDERATE CEMETERY



The Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery is owned by the Winnie Davis Chapter #24, United Daughters of the Confederacy. The members of this UDC Chapter have provided this display of the names, units, dates of death and in many instances, the cause of death of 871 of the soldiers who are buried in this cemetery. (*Editor: Research has revealed 29 additional names. The list now has 900 names.*)

This information was compiled through years of tedious research into the files of the National Archives by Roger Hansen of Moss Point, Mississippi. Mr. Hansen is a member of The Stanford Battery, an organization that has developed a commendable record of service from its efforts through the years to locate and mark the graves of Confederate soldiers and restore and provide maintenance for cemeteries in Mississippi. Only 14 of the 1100 gravestones at the Lauderdale Springs Cemetery have the names of the soldiers buried here. The others are marked UNKNOWN SOLDIER. It is hoped that the display of this information will be a great help to the large number of persons who contact the Winnie Davis Chapter and the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History or who come to the cemetery seeking genealogical information about their ancestors.

As additional information is made available from Mr. Hansen's research this roster will be edited and updated.

Assistance in genealogical and historical research related to Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery is available from:

Lauderdale County
Department of Archives and History
410 Consitutiion Ave.
2nd Floor Raymond P. Davis Annex Building
Meridian, MS 39301
or
P.O. Box 5511
Meridian, Mississippi 39302
Telephone: (601)482-9752 & (601)482-9858
email: swcscott@email.com
archives@lauderdalecounty.org

Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery is at the site where two ancient routes, the Tennessee Trail and the Choctaw Trail crossed. The old Choctaw Indian village named Panti was situated around a number of mineral springs at the foot of the hill behind the cemetery.

The first white settlers coming to this area were James Lauderdale, Ambrose Ramsey and Richard Smith. These pioneers arrived at Panti in 1800. The Indians received their guests with hospitality and escorted them to the springs and explained that for uncounted moons, Indians had been coming to the springs to drink and bathe in the wonder waters as a cure for skin diseases, wounds and other ailments.

The visitors, intrigued by the springs and delighted by the friendly attitude of the natives and impressed by the beautiful forests and rich soils they had observed throughout the region,

decided they wanted to make their new homes in this locality. Ambrose Ramsey settled at the locale of present-day Emelle, Alabama. The Allen Smith family established their home at Alamutcha, near Kewanee, Mississippi. James Lauderdale purchased the area around the springs, paying the Indians a handsome price by the standards of the day. He made his home and operated a mercantile business at the springs, and the town of Lauderdale Springs developed at this site.

In the 1850s, the springs property was developed into a fashionable health resort and spa with several residences and guest cottages and a hotel that was two stories in height and three hundred feet long. The Mobile & Ohio Railroad discharged guests at Springs Station, which was located conveniently at the gate to the resort.

During the War for Southern Independence, the resort property was converted for use as a Confederate General Hospital, and sick and wounded soldiers were brought here by rail from Shiloh, Corinth, luka, Jackson, Fisher's Creek, Vicksburg and Forrest's North Mississippi battles. The men who died in that hospital are buried in this cemetery.

One of the worst problems of the Reconstruction era was the momentous mission of providing for the thousands of fatherless children left in the wake of the war. As a means of dealing with this problem, the Springs property was purchased by the Mississippi Baptist Convention and converted into a Home for Confederate Orphans. The record of service rendered by this home is an admirable chapter in the history of the state. The people of Mississippi showed that they cared and proved that they could take care of the dependents of those heroes who died for their cause.

By 1878, most of the orphans were able to care for themselves and left the home to take jobs or enter into other endeavors and the Home was closed.

When the Winnie Davis Chapter No. 24, United Daughters of the Confederacy was organized in 1896, the members were concerned immediately with the neglected condition of this Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery. On March 13, 1897, the chapter purchased the 1.8 acre cemetery and the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors purchased an additional 5.46 acres adjoining the cemetery to provide access from the highway to the cemetery.

The Chapter moved forward with plans for the improvement and preservation of the cemetery, however, during World War I, the interests of the Winnie Davis Chapter members were diverted to wartime activities and the chapter disbanded.

Through the next several years, the cemetery was cleaned by residents of Lauderdale, by boys from the Masonic Home, and members of various Boy Scout troops. For a number of years, the cemetery was cleaned and cared for regularly by the Four H Club under the leadership of Mrs. Parker Gray of Lauderdale, and through the years the Board of Supervisors has helped in many ways to preserve and care for the cemetery.

The Winnie Davis Chapter was reactivated in 1957, and in 1987, the members of the Chapter established a Perpetual Care Fund to assure that the beauty and dignity of the cemetery shall be maintained forever. The by-laws controlling this trust

fund stipulate that "the assets of the fund may never be withdrawn, except that the interest may be withdrawn and used only for the benefit of the cemetery."

The list with the Names, Units, Dates of Death and Causes of Death of 900 of the soldiers buried at the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Cemetery is published in the final section of this volume.

RECONSTRUCTION

Historians have demonstrated widespread interest in the War Between the States, however, the infamous Reconstruction era has received surprisingly little attention, despite the fact that deprivations, sorrows and turmoil continued in the South throughout those tragic years after the war had ended. The horrible scars of warfare were everywhere, with many homes, factories and public buildings, even entire towns, destroyed. Transportation systems were in shambles. Farm lands had been neglected and were out of production. Business throughout the Southland was practically at a standstill. There was massive unemployment. Many people were penniless and desperate to find ways to provide food, clothing, and shelter for their families, yet they could earn no money because there were no jobs to be had. These were urgent problems, but there were no immediate solutions. There was no hope of governmental aid since the Federal government was controlled by vindictive politicians from the northern section of the country, and state and local governments were in the hands of scalawags and carpetbaggers.

The 4 million Negroes, who had been liberated were not prepared for the responsibility of providing food and shelter for their families. Many Negroes thought they did not have to work any more. They were led to believe that the property of their former owners would be divided among them, and each of them would receive a mule and forty acres. They wandered from place to place, flocking into towns everywhere or clustering around army posts. Frederick R. Douglas said, "The negro was freed from the individual master but was a slave to society. He had neither money, property, nor friends."

In March of 1865, Congress created the Freedmens' Bureau to provide relief and aid for Negroes, act as guardians for Negroes and help them adjust themselves to freedom. The Bureau became a political machine, rife with graft and failed to fulfill its original purposes, and was dissolved in 1869. Governor Humphries of Mississippi expressed the opinion that, "four years of cruel war were scarcely more blighting and destructive...than has resulted from the administration of this black incubus."

The Radical Republicans favored a "hard peace" for the South. They wanted to maintain their power by creating a Republican party in the South, sustained by the Negro vote. The Loyal League, a secret order with lodges all over the country, was organized. Nearly all Negro males and a few white men were initiated into the mysteries of the League, with the solemn oath, under the penalty of death... "that I will never knowingly vote for any Democrat for office ... that I will not disclose the name of any member of the League...that I will never testify against any member concerning anything by the League...."

The Reconstruction Act of 1867 divided the 10 unreconstructed states into five military districts. Elections and supervision of state and local governments were under Federal control, often times under martial law. Many of the Federal troops were Negroes.

THE JACKSON DAILY, on February 28, 1866, published a letter relating some of the problems the people had to contend with during the Reconstruction years:

We copy below some portions of that letter from a respectable citizen residing near Lauderdale Springs, calling attention to the conditions of things existing at that place. The robberies he complains of are all committed within a circuit of five miles from the post. In another part of his letter he instances Cuba Station, where there are no guards, as a place that is entirely free from such disorders...both our citizens and our civil authorities are powerless in this matter. On the night of January 16th there were six houses broken open and robbery committed...I can not hear of any depredations committed anywhere except where the negro guards are stationed ... Nearly every gentleman in the country believes, furthermore, that this negro guard are the cause of all our troubles and also encourage the freedmen in their misconduct and frequently, take part in it themselves.

THE MERIDIAN DAILY GAZETTE, July 29, 1869, published a news item, which illustrates the harsh treatment the people endured under military rule:

THE MILITARY RULE AT LAUDERDALE

We have information from Lauderdale that the young men arrested in Kemper county charged with the murder of certain negroes are still in the custody of the military. They have no information of specific charges having been made against them. One of the prisoners, Mr. John Terry, at the time of the arrest, was told he was arrested for the murder of a negro by the name of Bill McDonald ... Finally it was ascertained that Bill McDonald was alive. That information was communicated to the commanding officer. That officer told Mr. Terry's friends that if they would produce the boy, Bill, Mr. Terry should be discharged.

This was done, but for some unaccountable reason that officer has failed to comply with his promise. That commanding officer, Capt. Kelly ... by his seeming arbitrary management of the Kemper prisoners forces us to conclude he is no better than some others that delight to exercise their tyrannical rule over a helpless people.

The parties have a right to be informed of the charges against them upon which they are held; and then to a speedy and impartial trial. This they are entitled to even by military law...

THE CONFEDERATE ORPHANS' HOME OF MISSISSIPPI

The greatest tragedy of the war was the loss of the lives of so many men. The North lost 360,000 men, who died in battle and due to diseases, and the loss to the South was 258,000 men.

Almost every home in the South was in mourning for the loss of a husband, a son, a sweetheart, or, perhaps the most tragic of all, for the loss of a father. One of the worst problems of the Reconstruction era was the momentous mission of providing care for the thousands of fatherless children left in the wake of the war, for even though many of the mothers were still living they were unable to support their children. Mississippi handled the problem with great success, even though it was one of the hardest hit states. A part of that solution was effected at Lauderdale Springs.

In the fall of 1865, the Mississippi State Baptist Convention resolved "to found an institution where the unfortunate orphans could be cared for, educated and trained."

Miss Mary J. Welsh, a gifted and experienced teacher from Wahalak, who taught at the Home throughout its existence, compiled a history of the Home, filled with valuable information not available from any other source, Her reminiscences are presented here:

THE CONFEDERATE ORPHANS' HOME OF MISSISSIPPI By MISS MARY J. WELSH

The Confederate Orphans' Home of Mississippi was established, as its name indicates, expressly to take care of the destitute orphans of Confederate soldiers. At the end of the War between the States the number of helpless and destitute children in the South was appalling. It was felt that something must be promptly done for their relief, but how to help them most effectively was perhaps the hardest and most serious problem that confronted the Southern people in the impoverished condition of the country. Different sections attempted to solve it in different ways.

This paper will contain a history of the most noteworthy effort of the people of Mississippi to meet the situation. It will be borne in mind that owing to the existing condition of the South this institution differed in many ways from every other home of the kind in Mississippi either before or since the war. It therefore stands alone in the history of orphanages in the State in respect both to its constitution and to its methods of operation. The Mississippi Baptist State Convention in the fall of 1865, directed its attention to the needs of the orphans of the State. After earnest, prayerful deliberation it decided upon founding an institution where these unfortunate children could be gathered, cared for comfortably and educated properly, in order that they might become useful, honorable, self-reliant citizens.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

To forward this work the first step was to select a board of trustees. These were gentlemen of known ability and high moral character, drawn from different sections of the State.

This board was to contain a certain number of Baptists, the remainder were to be of different denominations or no denomination. In their long and intimate association with the inmates of the home they proved themselves to be true, manly men, considerately courteous, strictly, but kindly just and keenly alive to the best interests of their helpless charges. "Our children," as they called them, were objects of their warmest solicitude, and all employees, by virtue of their relation to the children, received an interest.

The board met at the Home regularly about every six months to discuss matters pertaining to the interest of the institution. They spent the day examining affairs, taking account of all needs and deliberating upon the best methods of supplying them. They met the inmates at table, three times, and at family worship once during each of their sessions. On these occasions one or more of them would give an encouraging, sympathetic talk. Of course the employees as well as the children kept at their usual work and were naturally "on their best behavior" for the day. I presume they felt something like a company of soldiers passing under review of their commanding general. Yet these trustees were so genial that their visit was a pleasant memory and soon became a pleasant anticipation.

They reported annually to the Convention through their secretary, Rev. W.S. Webb, who arose from a consciousness of having obeyed the Master's injunction to "do good to the poor" according to "opportunity." The first duty that presented itself to this board was to find and secure a locality for the projected institution. A veritable one was in sight and available. The Rev. T. C. Teasdale, of Columbus, Miss., was appointed an agent to raise the necessary funds for carrying out the plans of the Convention. He soon collected, principally in the Northern and Western States, sufficient funds to purchase Lauderdale Springs, a noted watering place in antebellum days. He also secured donations of supplies, furniture, etc., sufficient to fit it up for a beginning. It required much deliberation for the trustees to decide upon an appropriate name for the proposed institution. "Asylum" was too cold, too formal; "Refuge" was suggestive of crime; "Retreat" was pleasing, very, but it savored too much of leisure, if not of idleness, and this was intended to be a busy place. But "Home," that dear word that thrills every human heart, fully met their conception of what this place should be to its inmates. Hence the institution was named "The Confederate Orphans' Home of Mississippi," and its affairs were always administered in accordance with this idea.

The locality was a very desirable one. The large enclosed campus was covered with a thick carpet of grass and surrounded on three sides by hills with a heavy growth of trees, many of them evergreen. The swampy ground on the south and southwest abounded in mineral springs, red and white sulphur and Chalybeate. It had been a popular summer resort, but in time it proved to be unhealthful for constant residence.

The buildings were sufficient in number and were conveniently arranged around three sides of the campus, with two large ones in the center. But, as was the case generally throughout the South at that period, they were somewhat out of repair; and having been intended only for summer use they were not ceiled. It is well to add they never were ceiled.

SUPERINTENDENTS

Pending the election of a permanent superintendent, Rev. W. C. Buck was given the temporary charge of the property and of the small advance guard of children who arrived soon after the purchase of the property. He was pastor of a country church (Sharon) in Noxubee county, and on each visit carried supplies contributed by his warm hearted congregation. He was an able divine and a guileless Christian.

In the meantime Professor Simeon Sebastian Granberry, formerly of Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., was elected first Superintendent to organize and carry on the work of the Home. He was an experienced educator, a man of sound, practical wisdom, of fine administrative ability, a refined Christian gentleman, admirably fitted for the work of caring for and directing the efforts of women and helpless children. Dr. T. J. Deupree, now of Jackson, Tenn., who as Treasurer of the Board of Trustees was closely associated with him for five years, thus writes of him: 'He was one of the noblest, purest, best man I ever knew.' Professor Granberry also possessed that which is requisite for a man's highest success in any vocation - a wife in full sympathy with his work. She was a safe counselor when perplexities arose, a mother to the children and a sympathetic friend to all employees. These statements may be considered irrelevant, but justice demands that I pay this small tribute to the memory of the two persons with whose lives I was closely associated for six years, sharing their work, their cares and responsibilities.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS

Early in the first year, a young man, Mr. Sam Goodwins, of Hinds County, directed and assisted the little boys in their outdoor work. He remained only a few months, however. Late in the next year Professor Williams, of Hinds county, was elected to this position. As he was in delicate health he lived only a few months. Perhaps a year after his death, Mr. Judson Thigpen was chosen to succeed him, and remained nearly throughout the existence of the Home. These were all well educated gentlemen, and efficient in their positions.

PHYSICIAN

A physician was employed by the year. This position was held by Dr. Sidney Kennedy, of Lauderdale Station. He was skilled in his profession, sympathetic in his ministrations, and responded promptly to all calls. A part of his duty was to examine all applicants on arrival at the station to ascertain if they had any contagious disease. In spite of this precaution we had, at different periods, epidemics of whooping cough and sore eyes.

OPENING OF THE ORPHANAGE

On the arrival of the Superintendent, Prof. S.S. Granberry, late in the summer of 1866, Dr. Buck retired. Though the movement had been on foot only a short time the country was in a state of expectancy and it was not necessary to announce that the Home was ready for the reception of children. They came and continued to come in such large numbers and, in a majority of cases, in such a forlorn plight as to prove beyond question the crying need of such an institution. None were turned away.

The institution was established, fostered and controlled by the Mississippi Baptist State Convention, but applicants were received irrespective of religious creed, or no creed, of the parents. They came without warning. Their application was made at the gate or at Lauderdale Station at the farthest. Before Christmas there were at least fifty on the roll; and in less than two years two hundred. The number of children in the Home varied from time to time, as mothers or relatives became able to provide for their children. Once it was sadly depleted by sickness. The vacancies were soon filled, however, by new arrivals. The age limit was from six years to about sixteen, subject to the discretion of the management. Children under six were debarred because the home was not able to meet the requirements of infancy. Girls and boys of sixteen, or thereabouts, were not only destitute but helpless, since in the impoverished condition of the country they could get no employment.

In truth they had received but little education or training and were not therefore qualified for employment. But they were a great help to the home. With a little direction and help in each department they did all the work, thus obviating the necessity of employing servants.

THE CHILDREN

The question was sometimes asked then and has been since, "What kind of children were these for whom all this provision was made?" It is a natural question and this is a good place to answer it. Briefly, they were children in every respect. Compared with the same number of children elsewhere, they averaged pretty well. Their educational advantages had been very limited during the preceding four years. In natural endowments they ranged from the fairly bright to the very ordinary, and from a natural refinement of feeling and manner down to rudeness and stolid indifference. They proved to be tractable and in disposition affectionate. Having previously known no will but their own, they were pretty fair specimens of "Young Americans." All of them needed training in every respect.

The first year was an especially trying time on the faculty. The children came in so rapidly that before one consignment had been reduced to order another was on hand; then another, and another following in such quick succession that it required wise judgement and a firm hand to hold the situation but our Superintendent was equal to the demand. He was a man of versatile talents, an excellent disciplinarian for children and grown persons as well. His kindly nature inspired a corresponding kindness in others; while his reasonable methods

and firm will quelled all thoughts of rebellion. In time, earliest arrivals, having been partly trained, served somewhat as a police force, and materially assisted the management. After the children had learned the first lesson, obedience to authority (of which many of them had no conception at first) the other lessons became easier for them. Gradually things began to run smoothly, but just as it is in the outer world, the vigilance of the "law and order party" could never be relaxed. They had all of a child's instinct for mischief, and delighted in successfully perpetrating it. This was usually harmless and passed over, but sometimes a case demanded an investigation. Then the combined vigilance of the faculty and other employees would be requisite to detect the culprit; for every child examined was as innocent as a dove and as ignorant as the average citizen before the grand jury. When at last detected the offender was so submissively penitent and so profuse in promises never to "do so again" that no one had the heart for any severer punishment than a reprimand and a private lecture. If the culprit was a girl, this last duty usually fell to me, and in justice let me say that in every instance the girl thanked me for the interest taken in her welfare and promised to heed the advice given. This was pay in good coin and it is still paying a large dividend in genuine satisfaction.

EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES

School was conducted five days in the week the year round; vacations of only a day or two were granted in extreme weather and once for several weeks in a time of severe sickness. Occasionally there were three, but generally only two, teachers in the school. All of these were ladies with the exception of Mr. A. T. Farrar, who taught a short time. To equalize the labor and the school advantages the beneficiaries who were eight years old and over were separated into divisions, each of which worked and went to school on alternate days. All children under eight went to school every day. The large ballroom of the Springs was converted into the principal schoolroom and called "The Chapel," because all religious services were conducted in it. The textbooks used were such as were presented, both new and second hand. Other necessary equipments, such as desks, paper, pens and ink were also liberally given. By having only half the children in school each day the demand for equipments lessened.

WORK

The work was done almost entirely by the beneficiaries arranged in details. In case of the girls, at first four afterwards six, of different ages were detailed from each division for the different departments of housework, under the direction and with the assistance of an employee. These employees were in almost every instance mothers of children who gladly worked for a support and the privilege of being with their children. All children of working age in a division, who were not in a work section for the day went to the sewing room for that day, the divisions alternating day after day. Eight girls were drawn from the school room each day to wait on the tables. After these details had been arranged and put

into regular working order there was very little trouble. Each girl soon learned her place and went to it every morning without admonition. Sometimes a vacancy would occur. If it was in a work detail, one from the sewing room would be substituted; if in the table service, one from the school room. These details were always arranged and managed by the same teacher, thus preventing confusion. As the boys worked in garden and field, the only detail necessary for them was by the week or month to furnish wood for the various departments, and in winter for the fireplaces. This was managed by the Assistant Superintendent if there was one in office, if not, by the Superintendent. Each employee also had his or her own work and was responsible for it, but that did not give him or her the privilege of refusing any other work that needed to be done. No one interfered with another, but if one was sick or absent, one or two others assumed extra duty, "closed ranks" and moved on harmoniously, uncomplainingly though a little wearily. Once, in a great strait, the most scholarly teacher in the institution, Mrs. Mollie Williams, worked in the kitchen for several weeks, at another time under a similar strait another teacher worked in the sewing room; and once, when a vacancy occurred in the school room, the Superintendent taught until it could be filled. All the work of the place was done by hand. Very few labor saving machines ever reached the Home. A washing machine or two were tried but they were of such a crude kind they failed to serve the purpose. Washing and ironing went on from Monday morning until Saturday noon. A few sewing machines were also presented but the girls were taught hand sewing almost entirely. Some of them became very neat seamstresses. Besides the regular daily work, the buildings needed repairing, and the long dining room of the Springs had to be widened to accommodate our large and increasing family. For this job a citizen of the neighborhood was employed in the earliest years of the institution. The lack of freestone water was in time provided for by conveying it from a spring outside the campus by means of underground wooden pipes. In these jobs the boys of the Home rendered all the needed assistance. The sawmills along the line of the Mobile and Ohio railroad presented the lumber. The only negro employed did the work that was too rough and heavy for the little boys

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The institution was largely supported by contributions procured by traveling agents. The citizens of the neighborhood and of different parts of the State not visited by agents also kindly sent generous and often very timely contributions. Several agents were appointed at different times in the life of the Home. Ail of them were successful, but none traveled so extensively as did Dr. T. C. Teasdale, previously mentioned, and Mrs. Laura Reed, of Kentucky. Mrs. Reed visited us oftener than any other of the agents, mingled with us in our daily life and always had some pleasant incident to relate to the children. She thus acquainted herself with the needs of the place; and her appeal stirred the hearts of the people to their very depths as was shown by the donations she procured.

Some beautiful incidents of Mrs. Reed's agency deserve to be recorded both for the spirit manifested by them and the results to the institution. Just previous to the War between the States, "Memory Strings" composed of buttons, each the gift of a friend and each different from all the others was a popular fad with young girls.

Miss Jennie Moxley, of Louisville, Ky., had one of these strings, very precious to her; for each button had its own history connected with the giver. Her heart was so stirred by one of Mrs. Reed's appeals that she voluntarily offered her precious string for the pleasure of the orphans. But He who understood the sacrifice decreed better results. The incident so excited the sympathy of the audience that quite a liberal sum was immediately raised. Nor did it stop there. Wherever Mrs. Reed addressed an audience, she exhibited the string and repeated the story followed by the same substantial result. Thus the self-denying act of one little girl became a source of considerable revenue. Again, in one audience an old lady anxious to give something, brought to Mrs. Reed a water gourd, raised and prepared by herself, modestly saying, "It is but a poor gift but it will hold a drink of water for the little ones." But He who sat over against the treasury noted the deed, knew the motive and blessed the gift many fold. Whenever the agent passed it through an audience accompanied by a few remarks it came back to her full of offerings to the cause for which she so earnestly plead. One more donation deserves special mention. A baker in New Orleans, Mrs. Margaret Haughery, familiarly called "Margaret," noted for her charitable deeds, sent without solicitation, from time to time during the life of the institution, generous donations of fresh crackers, very acceptable at all times, especially so during seasons of sickness.

THE ORPHANS' HOME BANNER

A semi-monthly paper, consisting of a single sheet, 16X22, and containing 24 columns, was established in 1868. It was published at the Home, the work being done entirely by the employees and beneficiaries. It was a source of considerable revenue throughout the existence of the institution, not only through subscriptions and advertisements but by keeping up a communication with the outside world. The office also did a good deal of job work. The first few issues of The Banner were printed at Scooba, on the Mobile and Ohio railroad, where two of the largest boys were sent to learn the art of printing. A hand press was soon procured and an office was opened at the Home with one of those boys as foreman. The work being done entirely by the employees and beneficiaries there was no outlay except for paper and ink. Several of the boys became expert compositors, by which, in after years, they earned a comfortable livelihood.

About 1870 a concert band was formed of the best singers, girls and boys, of intermediate ages. It was trained and sent out under charge of Rev. A. D. Trimble, of Tennessee, and a matron, Miss Mattie Wharton, of Noxubee County, Miss., at first and afterwards Mrs. Mollie Williams, of the Home.

This band travelled principally in Tennessee and Kentucky. It was kindly received everywhere and through its efforts the circulation of The Banner was increased and supplies were sent to the Home. The children sang hymns principally and without an instrument, but large audiences always greeted them. Besides these sources of support, the boys cultivated a part of the land, made a garden, raised some corn, hogs and cattle. In all these ways we lived comfortably by strict economy. All supplies ran alarmingly low at times, but thanks to Him who "cares for the sparrows," "the barrel of meal wasted not," neither did the "meat fail."

RELIGIOUS PRIVILEGES

We had no regular preaching services. Occasionally a preacher made an appointment, but that was a very rare occurrence. Sunday school was held every Sunday morning, Prof. Cranberry officiating as superintendent and the employees teaching. The literature was plentifully given. Several copies of Kind Words came regularly. A large supply of Bibles and Testaments with catechisms, question books, song books, both new and second hand, were contributed, and these we used as best we could. I was astounded to meet here a literary acquaintance of pioneer days which I thought had been crowded out of existence by the modern works. Among the contributions was a number of the same unlearnable question books that had been "Greek" to me in childhood. They were given to a class of the most advanced girls and boys, and the class most suavely assigned to me. I had not been connected with a Sunday school since those pioneer days, and, shame on me, my knowledge of Scripture had not kept pace with the passing of the years. I was, therefore, conscious of the fact that I was not nearly so well qualified for the position as was supposed or as the position itself coupled with that particular question book demanded; but to decline was out of the question. Embarrassing situation! However, the class knew much less; so by diligent study I managed to keep in the lead through my time of service, in the meantime cracking many hard theological nuts. Family worship, conducted by the Superintendent, was held every night in the chapel at which all were required to be present. The part of this service and of the Sunday school, which delighted the children most was the singing. All sang, from the largest boy down to the smallest. I do not think a single one was "tone deaf;" certainly not one was dumb.

An opportunity presented itself. Knowing that whatever is called "a show" has especial attractions for children and grown persons as well, they prevailed upon the proprietors of sleight of hand performances, etc., to give the Home a benefit whenever it was possible to do so. If it was an outdoor performance, the Home was invited and accorded the best position for observing it. If the young people of the town got up a home entertainment, they were sure to give the children one evening's performance in their own Home. Doubtless they were repaid by witnessing the children's hearty demonstrations of pleasure. So we were treated to many "shows," but never to a "circus."

As to the employees, each one was permitted a vacation of a month each year (one at a time). We could take it all at once or in two divisions, at our option. Some of us usually found time only for the first division of two weeks; others took a vacation only every two or three years.

EPIDEMICS

Besides whooping cough and sore eyes, already mentioned, the Home suffered from an epidemic of malarial fever in the summer and fall of 1869. Comparatively few of the beneficiaries escaped an attack; a score or more were sick at the same time and many of them died, mostly girls. But to dwell upon this period would unnecessarily harrow the feelings. The reader can imagine all the anxiety, weariness, care and suffering incident to such a time. I should not mention it, but for the fact that it was a true, though very sad, episode in the life of the Home.

FINANCIAL TROUBLE

In the fall or early winter of 1869 the managers were notified that the property of "The Springs" had reverted to the heirs of the former owner by virtue of the sale's having been effected during their minority. So the orphans were again homeless. The hearts of their guardians and friends trembled with anxiety, but not for a long time, Jehovah-jirch! During the last years of the war, the Federal Government had established a military post, a mile or more from Lauderdale station, on the west side of the railroad. After the surrender, many superannuated negroes and colored children were carried there and given a temporary asylum, much to the relief of their former masters. When the soldiers were withdrawn, the Quakers took possession of the post, with the intention of supporting and training the negro children still on hand.

The managers of this school were in full sympathy with the work of the Confederate Orphans' Home, and the Superintendent of that institution sometimes visited us. But just as this seeming disaster fell upon our Home, the Quakers for reasons to themselves, decided to abandon the work, and the place was for sale. Our officers bought it and a small adjoining farm. Forthwith the Home was moved by installments. There were over two hundred of us with our personal and family belongings to be moved a distance of three miles, more or less. We had at our disposal for this purpose, two yoke of oxen, one pair of mules and two wagons, a horse and buggy, and one pony, owned conjointly by the Home and the Superintendent. This was a month of rollicking fun to the little ones. To the employees and the older children the fatigue was mitigated by the satisfaction of knowing it would never have to be repeated.

THE NEW HOME

The post occupied two adjacent hills, connected by a foot-bridge spanning the intervening hollow. The boys under charge of the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Jud. Thigpen, a teacher, and necessary domestic employees were domiciled on one hill, "the boys' hill." The Superintendent, with the remainder of the inmates, occupied the other, "the girls' hill."

There was a comfortable settlement on the farm near by, and two trusted employees with their children occupied the dwelling. Although we were somewhat scattered, all met in the chapel on the "girls" hill" for family prayers, Sunday school and Sunday afternoon recreation in social intercourse. The locality had no beauty, but it was high and had a dry, pure atmosphere and plenty of good freestone water. The buildings, roughly constructed, were sufficient in number, but not so well arranged as those at the Springs; none were ceiled except a few rooms in the Federal officers' quarters. But the title was secure and the situation healthful. The farm was also more productive than the one we had left. So that what seemed to be an irreparable loss proved a desirable gain. The old Federal guardhouse, situated in the one side of the yard on the "girls' hill," was turned into a printing office. How shy, for a time, the little ones were of this building! They had known something of soldiers with guns arresting men and taking them to prison. They learned in some way that this house, with the sentry's box near by, was a prison; to their minds a prison was a jail, and a jail was a horror to be avoided. It was long before they learned there was nothing in it to be dreaded by them.

LAST DAYS OF THE HOME

On January 13, 1871, our Superintendent, Prof. S.S. Granberry, died. His health had been seriously declining for several years, but he never gave up and when the summons came, he "fell at his post." This was a grievous bereavement; a personal loss to every inmate of the Home. The Board of Trustees missed thereafter the helpful counsel of a practical mind, and the whole community lost the silent influence of a correct life. Dr. T. J. Deupree, then of Noxubee county, Miss., was chosen to succeed him. As he did not reside in the Home, Dr. Sid Kennedy, of Lauderdale County, was appointed to act in his absence. The former made us frequent and extended visits; the latter came out almost daily and besides caring for the sick he took charge of contributions, correspondence, etc. During the incumbency of Dr. Deupree a large brick building of three stories was erected at very small cost. The bricks were all made by the boys of the Home, and enough of them were sold to almost, if not entirely, pay the bills of the brick masons. Much of the timber used was generously contributed by the mills on the Mobile and Ohio railroad, below Lauderdale station.

In January, 1873, Rev. A. D. Trimble, of Tennessee, who had conducted the concerts, was put in charge of the Home. After him came Captain Tower, for a short time. He was succeeded by Rev. R. N. Hall, of Raymond, Miss. The established routine of work, including the publication of the Orphans' Home Banner, was kept up during the incumbency of all the Superintendents. Rev. R. N. Hall also built and operated a grist mill, which added materially to the support of the institution, besides training some of the boys in a profitable industry. In addition to the usual religious services he preached regularly in the chapel, and in the course of time organized a Baptist church there. He was the last Superintendent, his administration

to the close of the Home which resulted from natural causes in the course of a few years. The purpose for which the Home had been projected (that of caring for and training helpless orphans of Confederate soldiers) had been achieved. For several years there had been but few applicants. There were few, if any really helpless Confederate orphans left. In fact, after a few years had passed and the condition of the country had improved, mothers and friends of the children became able to provide for them either in their own homes or to procure positions where they could make a comfortable support, preserve a spirit of independence and contribute something to the public weal.

A few of the girls, about four or six, by consent of the trustees married and thereby secured comfortable homes. Thus they left from time to time, till about 1878 the remaining ones were easily provided for in the outside world. As the Home had done its special work and there was no opening then for a change in its purpose, the property was sold to a private party. Several years afterwards the large brick building was burned.

For some facts and dates mentioned in this sketch the writer is pleased to acknowledge her indebtedness to Dr. T. J. Deupree, now of Jackson, Tenn., the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of The Home; and to Prof. J. A. Granberry, of Oklahoma, a son of the first Superintendent. Prof. Granberry was a boy at the home, and like any wide awake boy became cognizant of many things that would not be noticed by an employe with whose work they were not especially connected.

THE CONFEDERATE ORPHANS' HOME OF MISSISSIPPI by Miss Mary J. Welsh is recorded in Volume VIII of Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society.

A biographical sketch of Mary J. Welsh is found in the Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society, IV. 343.

One issue of the *Orphans' Home Banner* is preserved at the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History. Excerpts from that copy are presented below:

THE ORPHANS' HOME BANNER

Edition Number 3

February 15, 1871

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR

PRODIGALS: How many prodigals there are in this world! Many who have had temporal blessings without stint showered upon them, but they have taken their portion, and without one grateful feeling towards Him who bestowed all these rich gifts, are squandering them in pursuit of the pleasures and pomps and vanities of earth... All of their wealth however vast it may be, cannot purchase for them one crumb of the bread of life, one drop of living water, to appease the hungering and thirsting of their soulsWhy will they continue to refuse to return to their Father, who giveth to all liberally and upbraideth not?... He is more willing to give the holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than an earthly father is to give good things to his children.



CHILDREN'S CHORUS

with about thirty members traveled throughout the south presenting musical programs. Number 1 in the picture is Susan Pearson. Number 2 is Johnnie Pearson.

Fight Hard against a hasty Temper. Anger will come, but resist it stoutly. A spark may set a house on fire. A fit of passion may give you cause to mourn all the days of your life.

MOURNING: Among the Turks violet is the color for mourning dress; among the Persians, blue; among the Chinese, white; and among the Europeans, black.

The population of the U.S. is 38,307,300 - an increase since 1860 of 6,864,078.

ORPHANS' HOME Notwithstanding that the weather, during a part of the winter, has been very severe, and our houses are rather indifferent, yet we are passing the season more comfortably than heretofore. The contrast between the two localities is quite as apparent in winter as in summer and the advantage is more sensibly felt. At the Springs, the situation was low, flat, surrounded partly by a swamp, and the ground within the campus being all winter completely saturated with moisture, constantly exhaled a dampness that kept the air chilly at all times, and during the night excessively so. To make the matter worse, all the available firewood was the most execrable stuff that ever mortals were condemned to burn; it required about twice or three times its bulk in kindlings to coax it to burn; it often brought to mind the anecdote of the man who contributed a half-dollar to missions, and then gave a dollar to defray the expenses of the half to its destination. Not unfrequently the occupants of a room would shiver through the whole of an evening with the fireplace full of wood that obstinately resisted the action of fire. It was a perfect tantalization. The present situation is high, rolling, and so exposed to the heat of the sun's rays, and the action of the wind, that all moisture soon dries off and leaves it pleasant underfoot; then the firewood is quite convenient and excellent. We have the enviable luxury of good, warm fires, and the gratification of knowing that wood is not hard to get. The boys do not have such a task to provide it as they did at the Springs. Good firewood is a luxury that the home is now enjoying for the first time ... The whooping cough which was brought here in the early fall, had but little effect upon the...taken generally, they are a large family of robust children. We have sickness occasionally, it is true, for there is no place or people exempt from it, but upon the whole, the children are healthy, and agreeably so.

THE OLD NEGRO'S LOGIC. A clergyman asked an old servant his reasons for believing in existence of God: "Sir," says he, "I see one man get sick - The doctor comes, gives him medicine; the next day he is better; he gives him another dose, it does him good; he keeps on til he gets about his business. Another man gets sick; the doctor comes, gives him some sort of medicine; it does him no good; he gets worse; he dies. Now. that man's time to die has come, and all the doctors in the world can't cure him.

One year I work in the corn field, plow deep, dig up the grass and make nothing but nubbins. Next year, I work the same way, the rain and dew comes and make a good crop.

I have been here going hard upon 50 years. Every day since I have been in the world, I see the sun rise in the East and set in the West; the North Star stands where it did the first time I

ever saw it; the seven stars & Job's coffin keep in the same path in the sky & never turn out. It ain't so with man's works. He makes clocks & watches; they run well for a while, but they stand stock still. But the sun, moon stars keep on the same way all the while. There is a power which makes one man die, and another get well; that sends the rain and keeps everything in motion ..."

DISCOURSE ON THE DEATH OF

SUPT. S.S. ORANBERRY.

Delivered in the Chapel of the Orphans home January 15, 1871, by Elder J.B. Hamberlin:

...Supt, S.S. Granberry, a philanthropist and a Christian sitting in his own home conversing with family friends... no unusual indication otherwise than that he would be living for months or years to come, giving all necessary directions for the management & well being of this vast institute ... up to within 4 days, next preceding 5 o'clock last Friday morning, he was though feeble, still at his post...He was a Baptist...his father died when he was 14 years old...was a Professor in Mississippi College...left a lucrative situation in Sept. 1866 to become Superintendent of this Orphans' Home...The result has been that hundreds of destitute orphans, first of Confederate Soldiers and then of all others, have been fed, clothed and sheltered here ...Assistant M.J. Thigpen cooperated earnestly with him & contributed largely to the success of this Home...As much may be said of Miss Mary Welch, the principal contributor to the Orphans Home Banner and as much also of other teachers & employees in due proportion.

From a report on a meeting held on the Monroe County Courthouse at Aberdeen:

The sweet little children from the Orphans' Home were greeted by a very large audience on Tuesday evening at the Court House Hall.

The managers complimented Aberdeen, by giving her credit for the largest attendance they have had in the State. Of course the singing was not remarkable for its excellence, nor could excellence have been expected where 30 infantile voices were called into requisition...Dr. Carter of Huntsville, Ala., was present and delivered a touching address, in which he bestowed well merited commendation upon Gen. Crawford and other gallant Federal soldiers for the interest they have manifested in the orphans of their fallen foemen. Frank Saunders Silver Band tendered its services ... Aberdeen Examiner

SUMMERVILLE INSTITUTE - a boarding school for boys and young men - 11 miles from Shuqualak, M&O Railroad - 18th Annual Term Monday, Sept. 12, 1870. Board, tuition & washing for [unreadable] weeks - \$125.00. Thos. S. Gathright, Principal - Gholson, P.O., Miss.

LAUDERDALE ACADEMY, Lauderdale, Miss. W.P. & A.M. McBryde's School

Rates of Tuition from \$15 to \$20 per session of 5 months. Board can be obtained in best families \$15 to \$20 per month.

AGENTS WANTED - L.V. Deforest & Co.'s Aluminum Gold Jewelry - Broadway, N.Y.

T.J. KEETON - Bookseller & Stationer - dealers in all kinds of musical instruments - corner of Front and Rhodes Streets, Meridian, Miss.

THE LITTLE SOLDIER - Weekly Sunday School Paper - 8 pages beautifully illustrated sent to subscribers twice a month, 50¢ a year or every week \$1.00 a year - J.W. Burke, Macon, Ga.

THE FREEMASON for 1872 - largest Masonic magazine in the world Clubs 10 to 20 - \$1.50; 50 or more - \$1.25.
Frank Gouley, St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Young Friends:

We promised in the last issue of the Banner to finish telling you about our Christmas....We stopped at the Christmas Tree so we'll begin there again. Tuesday, we had nice dessert again of cakes & candy left from Christmas; next day more boxes came and on Thursday we had another nice dinner.... Saturday, the last day of the year, two of our teachers took us girls out for a walk ...all through Lauderdale one way and back another to let us see all the town. When we turned to come back, reckon the merchants must have got ready, for when we got to the stores, they came out with jars & boxes of candy to treat us. First Mr. Henry Chiles came out of his store, and when we got a little farther on, opposite Messrs. Eason & Ormond's Store, Mr. Wm. McBryde, who preaches for us, came out with their jars of candy; when we got to Messrs. Potter & Kennedy's, Capt. Potter came out with a box full of candy hearts with mottoes on them - said he wanted us to read as well as eat.

That was the last store but it wasn't the last candy we got. A gentleman who lives in the neighborhood, Mr. Wm. Moore, happened to be in town. He went into Messrs. Porter & Kennedy's & bought a great box of candy, telling us to take as much as we pleased, if it didn't go around, he'd go back & get more.

Guess you are wondering now, how did they know when they'd given each child a piece in all that crowd. Why very easy: you see we were in a long procession two by two and they helped the two front ones, then the next two, and so on till we all passed by without breaking our line. To be sure we had to move very slowly, but we didn't mind, we thought it fine times.

It was a long walk. Our teachers and some of the smallest girls got pretty tired. We stopped at two of the private houses to rest, one at each end of town. We couldn't get in cleverly, but it was a pretty warm day, and we sat on the gallery and rested. People seemed glad to see us. Some said we looked like a swarm of butterflies. Reckon we did look bright for we had on our nicest dresses of all sorts of pretty colors; then we had on the hats

just come from Jackson all trimmed in bright, fresh colors. When all these bright colors are stretched along in one long line, it is a right showy sight.

That ended the week. New Year's Day, you know was Sunday, and we couldn't have any fun - but we enjoyed it, for it was a pretty day and Mr. Wm. McBryde preached for us. Next morning we went to work again, so we are regularly at work and at school. Christmas time is a wonderful thing, at least it is to us for we have so many good friends to make it all pleasant to us.

Your grateful friends, The Orphans.

PROCEEDINGS OF
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF
THE BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI
MAY 31, 1866
REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ORPHANS' HOME

Brother L.A. Duncan, Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home, submitted the report of the Board of Trustees, accompanied by a digest report of Elder W.C. Buck, Local Superintendent and Chaplain of the Home. Seven meetings of the Board have been held during the past Conventional year.

It may be well to refer to the condition of affairs, when the present Board was organized: Elder W.W. Keep being chosen President; Elder D.P. Bestor, Vice-President; L.A. Duncan Secretary, and H.B. Whitfield, Treasurer.

There was much to discourage the Board. The property had not been one quarter paid for, while the Chaplain and Assistant Superintendent's salary was almost wholly in arrears. Funds had been collected, but considerable portions of the contributions failed to reach the Treasurer in time to be of any benefit.

The Treasurer showed the entire receipts to have been \$12,514.35; exclusive of \$5,800 interest bearing notes, and \$867.67 in assorted Confederate paper; the two latter items and \$1,161.25 Treasury notes being on hand at the surrender. The pledges and cash, obtained at Crawfordsville, October, 1864, amounted to \$12,833.00, besides three bales of cotton and \$250 in gold, \$5,000 was returned a dissatisfied contributor, and \$1,000 appropriated by the Board; while \$3,757.65 went into the Treasury, leaving an unpaid balance on the list of \$3,064.35, and the coin with Corresponding Secretary. All of the Agents appointed, did not labor, it seems. Elder T.C. Teasdale, however, gave his whole time to the work for several months: reporting informally \$1,850 collected in Treasury notes, \$1,850 in interest bearing notes and a note of hand for \$148.56, etc., besides pledges of 2,700 bushels of corn, 12 bales of cotton and some articles of minor importance; but he now herewith submits a detailed report.

The Treasurer received \$150 through Elder W.S. Webb, and \$100 through Elder J.B. Link. Some collections were made by Elder J.T. Freeman, who paid over \$500, but unaccompanied by any formal report. Elder T.P. Montgomery forwarded \$650, besides \$700 in certificates, when his labors were cut short by the surrender; while Elder F.L. Seaward devoted some weeks exclusively to the work, paying into the Treasury \$1,115.00 current notes, \$500 interest bearing and

\$50 certificate. The only detailed report placed on file is that of Elder J.B. Hamberlin: received too late for presentation at the May meeting, while the funds failed to reach the Treasury in season for the benefit, the amount, \$643, is, therefore, like some other Confederate funds, still on hand. Brother T.C. Teasdale's report has since been received.

At our first meeting, Elder Wm. C. Buck was appointed Chaplain and Local Superintendent of the Home for the conventional year, at a salary of \$1,000, house rent, etc. Some modifications were made at a subsequent meeting. He was allowed on the recommendation of auditing Committee \$462.34 ruling currency for arrears of salary.

It will be seen by his report, submitted herewith, that his position has been made a self-supporting one.

Elder T.C. Teasdale was appointed General Superintendent and Financial Agent; but for several months his attention was so diverted that he made no charge for one month's services. His salary was fixed at \$200 per month: he to furnish horse and buggy.

When able to devote his energies to the work, his services were marked and gratifying. From his full reports, submitted for your information, it will be seen that he had \$3,666 in Confederate funds left on hand. His services since September last have been truly encouraging: showing \$11,085.09 received in cash, goods, &c. [See report herewith]

Elders J.R. Graves, J.T. Freeman and F.L. Seward were reappointed General Agents, with same per centage as previously for services. No reports are in hand from them, so it is presumed they have done nothing.

It was agreed that all subscriptions made in Confederate times might be made in produce at the rates current when subscriptions were given. The military authorities in response to special committee, donated to the Home a wagon and team of two mules, and also an ambulance and a cart. Recommendations to apply for a donation of government cotton, the hospital buildings, and an unentered section of land adjoining the Springs, proved of no practicable benefit. Dr. E. Deupree resigned his membership in the Board, and Brother A.S. Lide was chosen to fill the vacancy.

Committees were appointed to examine title to the Springs and to have the property insured, to purchase land adjoining and the bowling alley; to make necessary arrangements and plant a garden.

Want of funds prevented insurance and purchases, but repairs were made and garden planted. The local Superintendent, by permission, planted the land not in use, for his private benefit, having prepared it at his own expense.

A resolution was passed to commence operations on the 1st Monday in April, but it was found impractical and the matter was finally referred to the convention. The choice of Principal, Teachers, Matrons, &c. were also laid over, and a large number of applications for positions referred.

In conclusion, the Secretary would respectfully suggest that the Board is without a charter, constitution, or rules and regulations, the Committee thereon having, in Confederate times expended their labors in vain, and no effort being made under the new order of things. It is important that these matters be attended

of the Board be definitely fixed by the Convention. The following is the digest report of Elder Wm. C. Buck, Chaplain, etc.:

May 27, '65.	Due by Board	\$462.34
Aug. 27, '65	Amt. Sundries	132.05
May 27, '66	Amt. Sundries	10.05
	Interest on first item	36.98
	Salary to date	1,000.00
	Total	\$1741.42
	CR. Am't various sources	\$72.00
	By storage on cotton	1,439.50
		1,511.50
	Balance due Chaplain	\$237.92

Elder T.C. Teasdale, General Superintendent and Financial Agent of the Home, of the State of Mississippi, submitted the following report:

In order to a complete view of his work in behalf of this noble charity, he deems it necessary to embrace in this report a condensed account of his operations in its behalf from the beginning. Having accepted an appointment as one of the General Agents of the Convention, in behalf of the Home, he devoted some three months to the collection of means to liquidate the indebtedness of the Board of Trustees, and obtained during that time \$17,793 in cash; subscriptions not yet paid, \$3,186.66; and 2,700 bushels of corn; and 12 bales of cotton; enough in all to have paid more than half the whole cost of the property. If the other three General agents had all of them together raised as much as he did, the property would have been entirely paid for, within three months from the time of the meeting of the Convention, which inaugurated this humane institution.

At the expiration of his first month's labor in behalf of the Home, it was deemed expedient by the Board of Trustees that an effort should be made to effect an exchange of cotton with merchants of the North for the furniture, fixtures, and goods of every description necessary to the accomplishment of the charitable purposes of the Institution. To do this the consent of both Governments was necessary, and he was sent on a mission to Richmond and Washington to secure that consent. This mission, full of danger and thrilling incident, was accomplished, and the approval of both Governments was obtained of the plan of exchange proposed. The importance of this measure, and the wisdom of the Board in attempting it, will appear in the simple statement of the facts, that at the time this mission was undertaken, any quantity of cotton could be bought at 60 cents per pound in Confederate money, and at the same time it was selling in New York for more than a dollar per pound in United States currency. With one dollar of United States currency, ten dollars, or more, of Confederate money could be obtained. Thus it may be seen that a few hundred bales of cotton carried to New York for our object, would have secured for the Institution all the furniture, apparatus, and goods of every description needed for two or three years, and afforded besides an endowment of at least one hundred thousand dollars. Unfortunately, however,

for our success, our armies surrendered before the change could be effected, and this splendid arrangement failed, only because it was undertaken a little too late.

This failure, and the severe depression in the monetary condition of the country, tended greatly to discourage the Board in the further prosecution of the enterprise. But amid the darkness and the despondency a voice from on high seemed to say - Speak to the people that they go forward.

Goods and cash in the hands of others for us, not included in the foregoing report amounts to \$2,783.00. To this may be added the aggregate of Subscriptions obtained in 1864-5, and yet unpaid \$3,186.66. Of this amount it is hoped that there will be paid \$1,000.00, making all \$3,783.00.

A summary of the assets of the Orphans' Home of the State of Mississippi, is submitted, making a total of \$27,038.74 to which, if there be added from old subscription \$1,900, the grand total will be \$28,038.74.

By an agreement with L. Hurlbutt, for himself and others, the indebtedness of the Board of Trustees on the property, after the surrender of our armies, was fixed at \$6,000. Of this sum \$2,500 were to have been paid on the 1st day of October last, \$2,500 on the 1st day of November, and \$1,000 on the 1st day of December. Owing to personal and family affliction and bereavement on the part of the General Superintendent and Financial Agent, a delay in these payments has been unavoidable. The sums paid on this contract, and omitted in these proceedings, leave a balance to be paid on the property of some \$3,000.

It is proper to state also that a building and lot of land, very necessary for the purposes of the Home, have been purchased of Mr. Twilly, at Lauderdale, for the sum of \$500. On this purchase \$350 have been paid, and the balance of \$150 will be paid in a few days, out of funds to be immediately remitted from Kentucky. Besides paying for this recent purchase, enough is known to be and in the hands of reliable already collected parties, to reduce the indebtedness to Hurlbutt & Co. to \$2,500. When this comparatively small amount is paid, we shall enter upon our mission with no indebtedness whatever on our valuable property, and with goods on hand consisting of hardware, cutlery, crockery, groceries, dry goods, hats, shoes, farming implements, corn, cotton, &c., &e., amounting to some six or seven thousand dollars. Letters in his possession, and information otherwise obtained, justify the hope on the part of the General Superintendent and Financial Agent that the future aid to be given to this Institution will be liberal and satisfactory. All of which is respectfully submitted.

T.C. TEASDALE, Gen'l. Supt. etc.

The President appointed Elder W.S. Webb, W.F. Cain, J.M. Lewis, R. Leachman and D.P. Bestor to constitute a Committee to obtain a Charter for the Orphans' Home from the Legislature.

The President appointed J.M. Lewis, L.A. Duncan, J.R. Phillips, J.H. Buck and T.C. Teasdale to constitute a committee to prepare a Constitution for the Orphans' Home.

CHOCTAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINUTES - 1866

The Committee would submit for your consideration, the reports made on this subject to the Baptist Convention, June last at Jackson, and published in the minutes.

Since those reports were made. Bro. Teasdale, agent and general superintendent of the Institution, has been laboring principally in Missouri, and with good results. The Treasurer has received from various Ladies Aid Societies in that State about \$4,300. Bro. Teasdale has received in addition about \$1,200. The balance due on the Lauderdale property over \$3,000 has been paid; also, \$2,000 or \$3,000 due for additional purchases of land, besides all other liabilities of the Board. \$1,200 of the above amount has been expended for provisions, &c., for the Home; besides this a considerable amount in supplies, was obtained in Missouri, and all shipped free of all expense as far as Columbus, Ky. You will discover from the reports made to the Convention that a large amount in the way of material for furnishing the Home has been obtained; all of which has been received and are at hand. These materials were subscribed and obtained in New York, Philadelphia, Louisville, Ky., Memphis, Tenn. and St. Louis, Mo. The Home hopes to obtain some twenty thousand dollars from the great Fair in St. Louis. The Governor in his late message has recommended, that material aid be given this Institution by the Legislature, which it is hoped will be done.

The Institution is now in operation, with Bro. S.S. Granberry as Principal. We hope and believe he is the right man and in the right place. This Institution will be capable of accommodating 500 of the children of our disabled and deceased soldiers, when those additions and improvements are made, which the Board of Trustees have in view, and hope soon to have made; an ample corps of teachers and assistants will be obtained as the means of the Board will allow, and the number of pupils from time to time will require. To do all that we ought and can do, to take care of and educate the needy children of our disabled and deceased soldiers, this institution will need all the aid it can get, from the Baptists and others in this State, and also all that can be obtained from other quarters. All of which is submitted.

JAS. B. McLELLAND, Chairman

DR. THOMAS COX TEASDALE



The following information regarding Dr. Thomas Cox Teasdale is composed of selected passages extracted from the two books listed below. An overview of the pursuits and achievements of this remarkable man is presented here, so that there might be an understanding of his role in the history of Lauderdale Springs through his contributions of his talents and his energies to the founding and the development of the Orphans' Home.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST PREACHERS
By L. S. FOSTER
National Baptist Publishing Company
St. Louis, Mo.
(Preserved at the
Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission)

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REMINISCENCES AND MEMORIES
OF A LONG LIFE

By REV. THOS. C. TEASDALE
National Baptist Publishing Co. St. Louis, Mo.
(Preserved at the Mississippi Department Of Archives And History)

Rev. Thomas Cox Teasdale, D. D., was born in the Township of Wantage, Sussex County, New Jersey, December 2, 1808.

In the spring of 1828, Thomas Cox Teasdale was called to the ministry. He entered the prescribed course of studies at the Literary and Theological Seminary in Hamilton, N.Y. and accepted a call to the pastorate of a church in East Bennington, Vermont.

On the 16th of November 1831, he was married to Miss Delia Lottridge, daughter of Capt. Robert Lottridge of Hoosick Falls, N.Y. They had five children. In the spring of 1832 he removed with his young bride to Philadelphia, Pa., where he devoted most of his time for four years to evangelical labors. In the spring of 1836 he accepted an invitation to take charge of the High School in Newton County, N.J. and to serve as pastor of two churches in that area. In 1840 he accepted an invitation to the care of the First Baptist Church in the city of New Haven, Conn. During his five years pastorate in New Haven, over five hundred rejoicing souls were added to the church by baptism. In 1845, he accepted a call to the pastorate of the Grant Street Church in Pittsburg, Pa.; during a pastorate of five years in this city, over four hundred persons were added to the church by baptism. In 1850, he became pastor of the First Baptist Church in Springfield, Ill. While he was pastor in Springfield, he established a Young Ladies Institute, which prospered for some years. In 1852 he was invited to supply the E Street Baptist Church in Washington City. He remained in Washington nearly seven years. During his pastorate in Washington, he did a vast amount of evangelical work. He traveled 65,000 miles and spoke on an average two hours a day for four years and a half; kept up the interest in his church at home, and was instrumental in adding to the churches, among which he labored, more than 8,000 souls.

In the winter of 1858, Dr. T. made a visit to Mobile, Ala., to assist in a series of meetings. The meetings continued a little over four weeks and resulted in an accession to the church of many converts. J. B. Hawthorne was induced to quit the bar and become a preacher, as one of the happy results of this meeting. Madam LeVert who always snuffed the breeze of popularity from afar, put in her presence in the meeting, again and again, together with her accomplished daughter.

From Mobile, Dr. T. went to Columbus, Miss., where he held a series of meetings in the First Baptist Church. This church had been destitute of a pastor for nearly a year and half, and was consequently in a cold state in religion. The meetings were a great success with some four hundred persons being converted. Dr. Teasdale accepted a call to take charge of the Church. The church in Columbus prospered under the labors of Dr. T. until the tocsin of internecine war sounded. Feeling it to be his duty to go and preach to the soldiers on the tented field, Dr. T. resigned his charge of the church in the summer of 1863, and immediately entered upon his work as an Evangelist among the Southern troops.

The labors of Dr. T. as Evangelist to the soldiers were preeminently successful. He usually preached to separate brigades; but on one occasion he preached to a whole Division. Probably not less than six thousand soldiers heard the gospel on that memorable occasion. At the close of the sermon, over eighty converted soldiers were buried with their Lord in baptism. in a clear and beautiful creek adjacent to the place of preaching. On the following Wednesday about sixty more soldiers were baptized at the same place. On the next Sunday afternoon, Sherman pushed his forces through one of the gaps in the ridge above Dalton; and the fighting began anew.

Finding it impossible to hold protracted meetings now with the soldiers, Dr. T. returned to his home in Mississippi. Soon after his return to Mississippi, he was chosen to canvass the State in the interest of "THE ORPHANS' HOME OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI." This institution had recently been inaugurated for the support and education of the dependent children of our deceased soldiers. Dr. Teasdale took a very active part in the organization of this humane institution, and he cherished the liveliest interest in its success.

In the brief period of three months, he raised in cash and reliable pledges in his district over \$25,000 for the institution. But a considerable amount of furniture, clothing, provision, etc., were necessary before the Home could be opened for the reception of the suffering children. These it seemed impossible to procure in sufficient quantities, without going north to obtain them.

Accordingly it was determined by the Board of Trustees, at once to make an effort to obtain the consent of both the Confederate and Federal governments, to allow them to exchange cotton for whatever they needed to furnish the HOME. The scheme was well conceived. Cotton was then offered to the agents of the Board, in any quantities, at sixty cents a pound, in Confederate money; and it was selling, at the same time, in New York, for a dollar and a quarter a pound, in green backs. Now, it was apparent, that if the proposed plan could be carried into execution, and they could effect an arrangement with the respective governments, by which they might be able to carry cotton North, and bring goods, furniture, and all that they needed, South, they could by a single shipment not only meet their immediate wants, but go very far also towards securing a liberal endowment for their cherished institution. Knowing that Dr. T. was well acquainted with President Davis, and Gen. Breckenridge, his Secretary of War; and, as a former resident of Springfield, Ill, and subsequently of Washington City,

he was also well acquainted with President Lincoln, and other dignitaries of the Federal Government, he was asked if he thought the proposed measure was practicable. With a full knowledge of all the difficulties to be encountered in the undertaking, he said he thought, by proper zeal and suitable diplomacy, it might be accomplished. The question was then propounded to him, "Will you undertake to consummate this measure?" And such was his sympathy for the suffering children that, notwithstanding all the difficulties and dangers incident to the undertaking, he was constrained to accept the appointment, and thus endeavor to make the institution a complete success.

He had to go by the way of Mobile, Montgomery and Macon, the railroads on other routes being broken up. At Macon he met Judge Irwin, who informed him that he could give him a seat on his rockaway from Milledgeville to Washington, Ga. On his arrival in the vicinity of the Columbia and Greenville Railroad, he learned tht Sherman had already destroyed Columbia and was then on his desolating march toward Virginia. He was compelled to go by the way of Greenville, S. C., and thence by private conveyance, sometimes with mule and buggy, sometimes by carriage, and sometimes on horse-back Three full weeks were occupied in making the trip from Mississippi to Richmond, and the journey was attended with great exposure and fatigue

On his arrival in Richmond, he lost no time in securing an interview with President Davis, and in explaining to him fully the nature of his mission. The President warmly approved the undertaking, and sent his private secretary to introduce Dr. T. to the heads of several departments of the government, with whom the business was to be transacted. The secretary was also instructed to request them to give special attention to Dr. T., as his personal friend, and as a citizen of his own state. This secured him an immediate interview with the secretaries of the different departments, without waiting for his turn, and greatly facilitated the transaction of his business in Richmond.

Matters having been satisfactorily arranged in Richmond, his next object was to get on to Washington as speedily as possible. The question was whether he should attempt to get a pass from Gen. Grant, or run the risk of getting through to Washington without a pass. It was finally concluded that an application to Gen. Grant for a pass would be attended with considerable delay, at best; and then, after all, it might possibly be denied; and, therefore it was thought best to make an effort to get along without a pass. Accordingly he set out from Richmond on Monday morning, and reached Washington the next Saturday night.

This trip was an eventful one. He went to a place on the Potomac River, opposite St. Mary's County, Maryland. The river at that point was seven miles wide. As they were making for the Maryland shore, it was found that a formidable gun-boat was lying directly in their course. The oarsmen were so alarmed that they insisted on an immediate retreat. The next night, unfortunately, the fog on the river was so dense that crossing was impossible. A delay of another twenty-four hours was therefore unavoidable. The next night they again set out for the Maryland shore. When they were

within about a mile of the Maryland shore, to their great annoyance again, a gunboat was heard steaming up the river. The ferrymen were again alarmed, and began to talk of another retreat, but Dr. T. assumed command of the boat, and all consented to obey his instructions. He then ordered all on board to lie down in the skiff and remain perfectly quiet until the gunboat had passed. This plan seemed to be working out admirably, but just as a sense of security began to be felt, it was observed that a large transport was steaming down the river directly on their track. Dr. T. ordered the ferrymen to ply the oars with might and main and they reached the Maryland shore in safety about 10 o'clock on that ever-memorable night.

But what was he to do now. There he was in the dark of night with no sign of habitation. He found a wagon track and followed it to a house and there he had the good fortune to be taken in by a southern sympathizer, who fed him, gave him a bed for a good night's rest and guided him seven miles to another friendly host who carried him, in a boat of his own across a three miles wide firth of the Potomac. He then walked several miles in the darkness to get to a village on the stage route. Alas, when he got there he was informed the stage was not running because the roads were impassable. He then arranged for the use of a horse to convey him 10 miles to Whitehall, where he would take the stage to Washington. The driver informed Dr. T. that they would encounter a sentinel at the bridge. It was now after 8 o'clock, and all passing and repassing would soon be prohibited for the night. He told the driver to leave it to him to manage the sentinel. On their arrival at the bridge, they were halted by the sentinel, who, on going up to the vehicle, inquired of Dr. T., very sternly, "Who are you?" He instantly replied, in rather a reproving tone, "Who am I? I expect to preach in Washington tomorrow, sir." The sentinel, looking up into his face by the glare of the lamp, and seeing his white locks, replied, "Well I presume the press of business with the President from all these parties was so great, that although Dr. T. went every day to the President's mansion, it is all right," and they rode into the city without further molestation.

Putting up at Willard's Hotel, it was soon ascertained, by some of his old friends, that Dr. T. was in the city; and he was pressed to accept the hospitalities of one of these excellent families. And during the rest of his stay in Washington, he was handsomely entertained by Mr. John C. Shafer and his estimable lady, at their own happy home. Dr. T. had baptized, Mr. and Mrs. Sharer during his pastorate in Washington. On Monday morning, Dr. T. went over to the "White House," to seek an interview with President Lincoln. But Congress had recently adjourned, and the members of both Houses had a great deal of business to transact with the President. Also there were several army officers waiting for an interview with the President. They always have precedence over private citizens. The members of the Cabinet, and the Ministers of Foreign Governments have precedence over all others. The press of business with the President from all these parties was so great, that although Dr. T. went every day

to the President's mansion, he failed to obtain an interview with the President until late on Saturday afternoon; and then an interview was granted by special favor only. Finding that he was likely to be much longer delayed, if he waited for his turn for an interview with the President, he addressed a note to Mr. Lincoln, in which he informed him that he was a resident of the State of Mississippi, but was in Washington at that time on a mission of mercy; and that he would be thankful for an interview with the President at his earliest convenience. Mr. Lincoln immediately sent the messenger back to invite him into his reception room. Finding the President engaged in business with parties admitted before he went in, he waited until the last one was served. During his delay in the reception room, President Lincoln, in the midst of pressing official business, as usual, stopped to relate two amusing anecdotes to his auditors. When the rest were all served, and Dr. T. was left alone with the President, as he especially desired that he might be, he arose immediately and advanced towards the President. Mr. Lincoln recognized him at once, and advanced with hand extended to greet him. The reception was cordial and unostentatious. The usual salutations were passed, and then Dr. T. immediately explained to the President the object of his visit, and handed to him the petition of the Board whose interests he represented. Mr. Lincoln read the entire document, and then, turning it over, he read on the back of it the cordial endorsement placed upon it by President Davis. After having read the entire paper, together with the endorsement of President Davis, Mr. Lincoln turned to Dr. T. and said, in a very pleasant manner, "You ask me to give you relief in a case of distress, just such as we have been striving to produce." And then smiling he added, "We want to bring you rebels into such straits, that you will be willing to give up this wicked rebellion." Dr. T., having known President Lincoln quite intimately in former days, replied in familiar style: "Mr. President, if it were the big people alone that were concerned in this matter, I should not be here, sir. They might fight it out to the bitter end, without my pleading for their relief. But, sir, when it is the hapless little ones that are involved in this suffering, who, of course, had nothing to do in bringing about the present unhappy conflict between the sections, I think it is a very different case, and one deserving of sympathy and commiseration." To this the President instantly replied: "That is true; and I must do something for you." He then said, after a moment's thought upon the subject, "Well, I will authorize Gen. Canny to grant the petition of your Board, provided it does not interfere with any of his military movements. I will not order it to be done; for if I order it to be done, it must be done without any regard to his military operations. And if you desire me to do anything more than this, you may leave the papers with me until Monday morning, when I will see you again, and let you know what I can further do for you." Dr. T. replied at once: "That is enough, Mr. President. I do not ask for any interference whatever with the military movements of your armies. I am satisfied, that with the authority which you propose to confer, I can accomplish my benevolent purposes in behalf of our suffering children, and that is all that I now desire." The President then took the petition,

and wrote his endorsement on its back, directly under that of President Davis, and thus conferred the authority which was desired. Dr. T. had previously seen and conversed with Gen. Banks on the subject of his mission; and as he was appointed to succeed Gen. Canny in the command of the New Orleans and Mobile Districts, he had received the assurance from Gen. Banks that there would be no difficulty in managing the matter. "The President," said he, "will doubtless authorize the proposed arrangement, and you and I can easily manage the details of the business." Dr. T. had enjoyed a personal acquaintance with Gen. Banks, while a resident in Washington; and that acquaintance proved advantageous to him now that this important measure was to be effected under his and thus conferred the authority which was desired. Dr. T. had previously seen and conversed with Gen. Banks on the subject of his mission; and as he was appointed to succeed Gen. Canny in the command of the New Orleans and Mobile Districts, he had received the assurance from Gen. Banks that there would be no difficulty in managing the matter. "The President," said he, "will doubtless authorize the proposed arrangement, and you and I can easily manage the details of the business." Dr. T. had enjoyed a personal acquaintance with Gen. Banks, while a resident in Washington; and that acquaintance proved advantageous to him now that this important measure was to be effected under his jurisdiction. It was this assurance of Gen. Banks, that with the simple permission of the President, the proposed measure could be carried into effect, by Dr. T. and himself, that induced Dr. T. to say to Mr. Lincoln, so promptly, that the authority which he proposed to confer in the premises, was all that he asked.

At the close of his interview with President Lincoln, Dr. T. informed him that he was there without a pass, and would be glad if he would be kind enough to furnish him one. The President then asked him which way he wished to return. He replied that he thought he should prefer to return via Saint Louis and Memphis. Mr. Lincoln then took a card, and said, "I will allow you to pass our lines wherever you please, in returning South." And as he began to write the pass Dr. T. said to him: "Mr. President, I should like to take some baggage with me on my return, if you have no objection." Mr. Lincoln then paused, and very pleasantly remarked to him, "Now, you bother me again. How much baggage would you like to take with you?" "Well, Mr. President," said he, "I should like to take a good deal, Sir. Your folks have made some things rather scarce with us down South." "O, well," said the President, "I will write the pass so as to suit you, I reckon." He then wrote:

"Pass the Rev. Thomas Teasdale through our lines going south, with convenient baggage. A. LINCOLN."

As the President handed the pass to him, it was accepted with thanks. It was really intended to allow him to pass wherever, he pleased, and to carry with him as much baggage as he desired. A lady relative of the President, residing at the South, had not long before obtained a similar pass; and it was said, that she carried with her sixteen large trunks, and insisted that it was

Having such a commentary of the phrase "convenient baggage," it left him as wide a margin as he could reasonably desire.

When he returned to his quarters, after having concluded his business with President Lincoln, he observed to his excellent host and his lady, that he had succeeded in getting the two Presidents nearer together than they had been for the last four years. He then exhibited to them the back of the Petition of his Board, on which was placed the endorsement of President Davis, in his own handwriting, and directly under it was that of President Lincoln, written also by himself. The endorsements were as follows, viz.:

Ref'd. to the Sec'y. of Treasury, and the Sec'y. of War for conference with Rev. Dr. Teasdale, in connection with the praiseworthy effort in which he is engaged.

Jefferson Davis

Gen. Canby is authorized, but not ordered, to give Rev. Mr. Teasdale such facilities in the within matters, as he, in his discretion, may see fit.

Lincoln

The document containing these endorsements is retained by Dr. T. as a remembrancer of the hardships and dangers to which he was subjected in procuring them; and it will be transmitted as an heirloom to his posterity.

While Dr. T. was in Washington, waiting impatiently to obtain an interview with Mr. Lincoln, and wishing to be as retired as possible until that interview was secured, to his great annoyance, there appeared one day in a prominent city paper THE EVENING STAR a brief article to this import: "The Rev. Dr. Teasdale, formerly a prominent pastor in this city, is here from the South to solicit aid for the destitute and suffering women and children of Richmond." This brief notice was immediately caught up, and republished in a large portion of the papers throughout the North, with varying comments, but generally in terms of severe censure that Dr. T. should be in Washington for any such purpose and that he should use his influence in any way to promote the welfare of the Southern people, while they were engaged, in what they called a most wicked rebellion. He felt greatly relieved when he found that the President's mind had not been unfavorably affected by these newspaper squibs; and that the object of his wearisome and perilous journey to Washington, had at length been so satisfactorily effected.

On his arrival at Cairo, Dr. T. found that the intelligence of the base assassination of President Lincoln, and the vile attempt to murder several members of his cabinet, had just been received, and the people were busily employed in draping their stores and dwellings and public buildings, with the emblems of deep sorrow and unaffected mourning. Finding that Gen. Banks was there, and that he was intending to address the citizens on the death of the President in a few minutes, Dr. T. went ashore and attended the meeting. The address was

much more temperate than might have been expected on an occasion of such outgushing public indignation. Gen. Banks acquitted himself well; and the vast crowds conducted themselves with becoming solemnity and decorum, throughout all the exercises.

Finding that Gen. Banks was on his way to relieve Gen. Canby, and that he was going down the river that evening, Dr. T. took passage on the same steamer to Memphis, in order that he might consummate arrangements with him in relation to the exchange of cotton for the supplies needed for the Orphans' Home. Gen. Banks reiterated his entire willingness to allow the arrangement to be carried into effect, and said the authority of the President which had been obtained, was all that was necessary in the premises. On his arrival at Memphis, Dr. T. found Gen. Washburne in command in that city. He had known the General, as a member of Congress, while he was a resident of Washington City; and he received at his hand a very cordial greeting. After stating the object of his recent visit to Washington, and exhibiting his pass from the then murdered President, he told Gen. W. that he had some baggage with him; that a part of it consisted of gifts from a deceased daughter to her mother, and all the other members of the family; and as he could assure him that there was nothing contraband in his trunks, he would be thankful if he would order the baggage to be passed without examination by the sentinels. The General cheerfully acquiesced in this request, and issued an order at once to pass his baggage without examination. Much annoyance from rough and impertinent sentinels was thus entirely avoided.

From Memphis Dr. T. went by hired conveyance to Hernando, Miss.; and thence, in like manner, to Senatobia; and thence by cars to Grenada. At the latter place he completed the arrangements with the cotton agent of the Confederate government, for the sending out of the cotton according to the agreement which had been consummated with both governments. This finished the work of his mission; and nothing now remained to be done, but to send the cotton to New York, and procure the necessary supplies for the HOME. He, therefore, hastened to make his report to the Board, and assist in carrying the arrangements thus consummated into immediate effect. But alas! It was now too late. The surrender of Gen. R. E. Lee, and the capitulation of the Army of the West, soon afterwards, made it certain that Gen. Joseph E. Johnson would be compelled very soon to succumb, and that the end of the Southern Confederacy was at hand. Under this state of things, not a pound of cotton could be purchased with Confederate money; and this grand scheme for supplying the wants of the suffering children, and placing the HOME on a permanent basis, fell to the ground. And all this resulted from being a little too late in making the foregoing arrangements. If Dr. T. had been sent on his mission to Richmond and Washington only three months sooner, the success of the undertaking would have been certain and glorious. But as it was, the anticipated crisis soon came. Gen. Johnson capitulated to Sherman, and the cause of Southern Independence was lost forever. Then the question at once arose in the minds of the members of the Board of the HOME: "What is to become of our cherished institution?" It was seriously doubted whether it was possible, under this new state of affairs,

to carry out the benevolent project. The immense fortunes of our people had been swept away as with the besom of destruction. The country was terribly devastated and utterly impoverished. Our people generally were depressed and disheartened. A pall of impenetrable gloom hung over the whole South. It was indeed a time to try men's souls. But to give up the project now, would be to acknowledge an inglorious defeat, not only, but also to leave the hapless, dependent children of our fallen braves totally unprovided for. This was an evil too great to be incurred by allowing the enterprise to fail; and Dr. T., in order to reassure the wavering confidence of his fellow members of the Board in the success of the undertaking, and inspire them to go forward with the great work, offered to lay his own little all upon the altar of the enterprise, and thus stake his private fortune upon its success. At that very meeting of the Board it was determined to go forward, and make a vigorous effort to sustain the institution. At the same time, Dr. T. was appointed General Financial Agent of the Board, to endeavor to carry into effect the benevolent objects contemplated in the organization of the HOME, This was a very responsible position, and involved, of necessity, a vast amount of earnest and self-denying toil. But with the same devotion to the interests of the HOME which had characterized his conduct in relation to this humane institution from the beginning, he accepted the appointment, and entered at once upon the important duties of his office, with a zeal that knew no flagging, and an energy that soon gave promise of complete success.

A debt of over seven thousand dollars, in greenbacks, was still due on the premises; and everything necessary to furnish and stock the HOME was to be provided mainly by the exertions of the General Financial Agent. In the course of a few months, the debt was paid off; and in a few months afterwards, sufficient furniture, clothing, provision, stock, etc., had been secured to justify the Board in opening the institution. The late Prof. S. S. Granbury was elected General Superintendent of the HOME, and immediately removed to Lauderdale Springs, the seat of the institution, to enter upon the duties of his responsible position. He proved to be as was anticipated, "the right man in the right place." Never was an institution more blessed, in this regard, than was the "Orphans' Home of the State of Mississippi." Under the judicious and efficient management of Prof. Granbury, and a corps of able co-workers at the institution, and the untiring labors of Dr. T., and his noble coadjutors, in providing food, clothing, etc., for the children of the HOME, the institution soon rose to a degree of prosperity that attracted the attention, and elicited the admiration of the friends of the enterprise, in all parts of the country. Over two hundred poor children were, in process of time, admitted to the benefits of the HOME. The amount of physical suffering, mental degradation and moral corruption thus prevented, it is impossible to conjecture; and the benefits conferred upon the dear children by suitable care of their persons; the proper cultivation of their minds; and the moral and religious training which they received at the HOME, can be known only in the developments of the last day.

It is not intended to enter further into the details of Dr. T.'s work in building up this humane institution. Suffice it to say, that he devoted more than four years of untiring and self-denying toil, in the prime of his ripened manhood, to the accomplishment of this noble charity. It is conceded that to his untiring zeal, and his indomitable perseverance the institution was mainly indebted for its establishment and success. If this were the only work of his life, it ought to place his name along with those of Howard, and Mueller, and Van Meter, and other distinguished philanthropists, whose lives have been devoted to the work of providing for the hapless orphans and the dependent poor. May God reward him for this labor of love!

It is not improper to state, in closing this account of Dr. T.'s connection with the Orphans' Home of Mississippi, that a very large proportion of the necessary means to establish and support this institution were obtained in Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio and Maryland; and large donations were also made to it by liberal individuals in many of the Northern cities and towns; and particularly by the people of New York and Chicago. Many of the Southern States, besides those above named, aided in the noble work according to their ability

In 1869, Dr. Teasdale was elected corresponding secretary of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Sunday School Board, during the previous year, reported receipts of less than four thousand dollars. During the first year under the management of Dr. Teasdale, the gross receipts of the board were nineteen thousand one hundred and sixty-eight dollars and ninety-eight cents. He closed his labors as secretary of the board in 1871 and entered upon the work of a general evangelist. He continued in this field until he was elected to the chair of rhetoric and elocution in the East Tennessee University at Knoxville and he entered upon his duties in that institution in 1874.

He gave up his work at the University in 1885 and returned to Columbus to make his home among friends of former days. As his health and strength would permit he preached in different revivals in the State and about this time published his quite interesting *REMINISCENCES OF A LONG LIFE*.

Dr. Teasdale's life was one of great activity and usefulness. He baptized over three thousand persons on a profession of their faith in Christ; witnessed the conversion of some fifteen thousand souls under his ministry; preached about fifteen thousand sermons; published several pamphlets and books, the principal of the latter of which is a volume of his *REVIVAL DISCOURSES*; edited at different periods three religious periodicals; assisted in establishing the Orphans' Home in Mississippi; contributed materially in building up other institutions of learning and religion; and conducted through most of his public life a very large correspondence; and through verging in the allotted period of man on earth, Dr. Teasdale enjoyed a remarkable degree of vigor, both of body and mind. After a long and active life he passed away in his home in the beautiful city of Columbus, April 4, 1891, at the age of over eighty-one.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF
THE BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION
AT HOLLY SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI
MAY 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th, 1867

D.P. Bestor, S.S. Granberry, T.C. Teasdale, C.S. McCloud and J.W. Bozeman, were appointed to a committee to nominate the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home.

On motion of Elder D.P. Bestor, the charter incorporating the Orphans' Home was unanimously adopted, the charter having been previously presented and read.

Elder T.C. Teasdale presented the report of the committee to revise the Constitution of the Orphans' Home, which report was received and adopted. The Constitution as amended and adopted is as follows:

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. The name of this Institution shall be The Orphans' Home of the State of Mississippi.

ARTICLE II. Its object shall be to provide a home for the dependent orphans of the State; to support and educate them; and to qualify them for usefulness and respectability in the world.

ART. III. The Board of Trustees of the Home shall be composed of twenty-one members, one-third of whom shall be elected annually, by the Mississippi Baptist State Convention: but in case of failure to elect annually, the Board shall continue till an election be held.

ART. IV. The Board shall elect annually, by ballot, its own officers, consisting of a resident, two Vice Presidents, a Secretary and Treasurer; and it shall appoint a General Superintendent, and such other officers of the Institution as it may deem necessary, who shall hold their offices at the pleasure of the Board.

ART. V. The Board shall be alone responsible for its contracts and liabilities, and it shall control its own pecuniary interests.

ART. VI. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Board, or, in his absence, one of the Vice Presidents; and in the absence of the President and both Vice Presidents, any member present may be called to preside pro tem. The President, or in his absence the Chairman pro tem, shall sign all contracts, and all orders of the Board on the Treasury, and exercise a watchful care over the general interests of the Institution.

ART. VII. The Secretary shall keep a full record of the doings of the Board, in a book provided for the purpose; shall conduct the correspondence of the Board; and shall have the custody of the archives of the Institution. He shall countersign all contracts, and all Orders of the Board on the Treasury, and shall present a full report of the proceedings of the Board at each annual meeting of the body, a summary of which shall be presented annually to the Mississippi Baptist State Convention.

ART. VIII. The Treasurer shall receive and hold all moneys, notes, bonds, stocks, or securities belonging to the Institution, and shall pay them out only by order of the Board, signed by the acting President and countersigned by the Secretary; and he shall give bond for the faithful execution of his trust, whenever the Board may deem it necessary.

ART. IX. The Board shall have a common seal, and it shall be affixed to all contracts and obligations of the Board, and to the commissions of all agents of the Board.

ART. X. The Board may adopt such by-laws as are not incompatible with this Constitution.

ART. XI. This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Board, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided that such amendment shall have been recommended by the Board at a regular meeting prior to the annual meeting.

The report of the Committee to Nominate a Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home, was presented by Elder D.P. Bestor, Chairman; and the individuals named in the report were thereupon elected to constitute said Board of Trustees: To Serve One Year: Hon. B.G. Humphreys, Jackson; Elder W.F. Barbee, DeSoto; Elder O.S. McCloud, Raymond; Mr. E.L. Bramlett, Meridian; Elder T.G. Teasdale, D.D., Columbus; Mr. R. Randolph, Enterprise; Rev. Jas. A. Lyon, D.D., Columbus. To serve Two Years: Rev. Geo. T. Stainback, Columbus; Mr. L.A. Duncan, Meridian; Maj. H.B. Whitfield, Columbus; Dr. D.P. Kennedy, Lauderdale; Elder Eugene Strode, Macon; Hon. W.F. Gain, Pike County; and Elder J.B. Hamberlin, Meridian. To Serve Three Years, Elder D.P. Bestor, Columbus; Elder T.G. Sellers, Starkville; Elder W.S. Webb, Crawfordville; Elder D.E. Burns, Canton; Hon. Jas. B. McLelland, Macon; Col. E.W. Upshaw, Holly Springs; and Maj. W.M. Strickland, Holly Springs.

The order of the Convention being that at this hour there should be a mass meeting in behalf of the Orphans' Home, Elder T.C. Teasdale, General Agent of the Home, then read the report of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, after which addresses in behalf of this institution were made by Elders T.C. Teasdale, D.P. Bestor, and Bro. S.S. Granberry, Superintendent of the Home.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ORPHANS' HOME
OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI - 1867
Officers Of Orphans' Home

Gov. G.B. Humphreys, President, Jackson; Elder D.P. Bestor, 1st Vice President, Columbus; Elder J.B. Hamberlin, 3d Vice-President, Meridian; Elder W.S. Webb, Secretary, Crawfordville; Jas. B. McLelland, Treasurer, Macon; Executive Committee, D.P. Bestor, W.S. Webb, Jas. B. McLelland, L.A. Duncan, and Dr. S.P. Kennedy; General Superintendent, Prof. S.S. Granberry, Lauderdale Springs; General Financial Agent, Elder T.C. Teasdale; Other Agents, Elder Wm. M. Farrar, Elder E.C. Eager, Elder J.C. Keeney, Elder T.P. Montgomery, Mrs. Laura Reed.

The executive Committee meets on Wednesday before the first Sabbath in each month, at the Home.

Jas. B. McLelland, Secretary

At our last annual meeting there was an indebtedness on the property at the Home of some four thousand dollars. It is true that we had then in goods, tools, furniture and fixtures of various sorts, an amount equal in value, perhaps, to the entire indebtedness of the Board on the property. But in the estimation of some members

of the Convention, at its last meeting, the prospects of our success were by no means encouraging, and some of our brethren openly predicted a disastrous failure, and consequent disgrace to the entire denomination. The Board, however, trusting in God and in the merits of their excellent charity, determined to make an earnest effort to pay the remaining indebtedness on the property and place the institution in a condition to enable it to meet the exigencies of the hapless sufferers for whose particular benefit it was inaugurated.

At the first meeting of the Board after the adjournment of the Convention at Jackson, the Rev. Thos. C. Teasdale, D.D., was chosen as General Financial Agent of the Board for the then ensuing year, and he entered at once, with characteristic zeal and devotion, upon the duties thus assigned to him. A brief synopsis of his report, which we here introduce, will show with what success the labors of our Agent have been attended. He says in the report: Soon after the last meeting of the Convention your General Financial Agent went to Missouri and spent several months in collecting for the Home in that noble State. He met the warmest sympathy of the people generally, and the donations that were made to his object, indicate the interest, which is there felt in our excellent charity. It is hoped that, in consequence of the intimate business relations subsisting between St. Louis and Mississippi, and the interest which is known to exist in the minds of many of the citizens of the Western metropolis in behalf of our humane institution, a considerable amount will yet be collected in that city, from which as yet comparatively little has been obtained, in aid of our noble enterprise. It is expected that an effort will soon be made to obtain an expression of the interest of those people in behalf of our philanthropic institution, by a more thorough canvassing of the city.

From Missouri your Agent went into Kentucky, and received a warm greeting and a liberal response to his appeals for aid from the generous hearted people of the great State. A reference to the details of amounts contributed in this report, will show how warm is the sympathy of Kentucky hearts for the poor, suffering children of deceased Confederate soldiers in the desolated State of Mississippi. Your agent deems it but just to say that Tennessee has also done her part, so far as application for aid has come before her people.

It is proper for your agent further to say, that he has received the most essential aid from the ladies of the several States which he has visited, and he deems it to be his duty especially to mention the name of one of these noble ladies, whose services in our behalf have been pre-eminently successful. Mrs. Laura Reed, within the last two months, has raised for us in cash, provisions, clothing, stock, &c, in the State of Kentucky alone, some eight thousand (\$8,000) dollars. Our devout gratitude is due to this self-sacrificing lady, and our earnest prayer is that her life and health may be precious in the sight of the Lord, and that her future services may be as productive of good to our noble charity as have been her past untiring efforts in its behalf.

It is proper to remark also, that a considerable amount has been contributed to the Home in cash, goods, produce, &c., which had not come to hand when this report was made out. They will fully appear in next year's report.

Cash collected by the General Financial Agent in	
Missouri	\$9,297.43
In Kentucky	5,147.78
In Tennessee	368.10
In Mississippi	151.40
Total in cash	\$14,974.71

The amount in goods, &c.	
In Missouri	\$1,269.62
In Kentucky	11,148.85
In Tennessee	453.10
Total	\$13,148.57

The Home has also received from others the following contributions:

Rev. T.P. Montgomery, Agent collected in Miss., Tenn., and Ala.	\$1,487.40
Rev. Wm. M Farrar, Agent	75.31
Rev.P.E. Collins, Agent	50.00
Messers. Barnes & Rankin, Ind.	
33 school desks	198.00
Laurel Hill Factory, Tenn.,	
1,200 yards domestic	360.00
John P. Morton & Co. Louisville, Ky.,	
753 vols. school books	625.75
Choctaw Association, Miss.	202.15
Collection in Jackson, Miss.	31.15
Sharon Church, Miss.	5.00
Ladies of Jackson, Miss.	60.00
Mrs. G.S. Davis	10.00
Mrs. Rebecca Conner	10.00
Mrs. Thomas T. Freeman	5.00
Gov. Benj. G. Humphreys	500.00
A Senator	10.00
Judge Howry	5.00
Rev W.C. Ross	10.00
Othe sources	\$33,673.78

EXPENDITURES

Payments on property	\$4,150.00
Provisions and supplies	16,833.89
Repairs, Freights, &c.,	3,797.36
Salaries of Agents & expenses	5,000.00
Goods in transit to Home	3,226.29
Balance	666.24
	\$33,673.78

The Home was opened on the first of October, 1866, and there were then present two children and one mother as beneficiaries. The number has been constantly increasing ever since, as our means of support would justify, until we have admitted to the benefits of the institution one hundred and thirty-six of these hapless sufferers. They have come to us from twenty-four different counties of the State. These children who, but a few weeks ago, in their poverty and rags, were crying for bread, are now well clad, comfortably fed, and well provided for at the Home. They seem to be contented and happy, and their deportment and improvement are all that could be reasonably expected.

The Board has been peculiarly fortunate in securing the services of Prof. S.S. Granberry as General Superintendent. He is emphatically the right man in the right place. He is ably assisted by a corps of competent instructors. His excellent lady acts as principal Matron of the Home, and is assisted in her responsible duties by the mothers of some of the children who have admitted to the benefits of the institution. The Home is conducted on principles of the most rigid economy. The few mothers whom necessity compels us to admit with their fatherless children assist the older girls in cooking, washing, ironing, house cleaning, setting the table, sewing, &c. No servants are employed by the Board, except the driver of the team belonging to the institution. The rest of the work is done by the beneficiaries of the Home. But great has been the work already accomplished, it is but just fairly commenced. Hundreds of poor, dependent children, whose fathers fell in the great struggle for Southern independence, are now stretching out their imploring hand to us, and with gaunt famine staring them in the face, tearfully exclaiming, "Have pity upon us, O, Ye, our friends, for the hand of God has touched us." And can we refuse to admit them?

With comparatively slight improvements our buildings will comfortably accommodate at least five hundred children. It is earnestly hoped that the means may be speedily obtained to justify the Board in filling the Home to its utmost capacity with the indigent, suffering children of our patriotic dead. The pledges made to these fallen fathers, in relation to their dependent children, will yet be redeemed. They shall be fed, clothed and educated. They shall thus be elevated to their social status, and their usefulness and happiness be thereby prompted. Their self-respect will also be preserved, by reason of affording them the means, through mechanical and manufacturing operations, of earning their own support.

Already have such operations been commenced; and from certain overtures which have recently been made, the Board entertains the hope that so soon as the present want of food has passed away and suitable machinery can be erected and put into operation, the institution will be self-sustaining. Till then, however, the most liberal contributions of the sympathizing friends of these hapless sufferers will be required. And we must believe (how can we doubt it?) that such contributions, from every quarter, will be poured into the Home, and every want of the institution will be promptly met.

D.P. BESTOR, President pro tem

JAS. B. McLELLAND, Secretary pro tem

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

ORPHANS' HOME, LAUDERDALE SPRINGS, MISS. - MAY 13, 1867
 To the Board of Trustees, Holly Springs

GENTLEMEN: As Superintendent of the Orphans' Home of the State of Mississippi, we beg leave to submit this our first Annual Report. This institution was put into operation on the 1st of October, 1866, having on hand, at that date, supplies estimated to be worth as follows:

Through the Agency of	
Mrs. Laura Reed	\$3,092.00
Rev. T.P. Montgomery	1,189.92
Rev. Wm. M. Farrar	220.25
Rev. P.E. Collins	46.00
Rev. T.C. Teasdale	9,008.91
From other sources	3,276.81
Supplies since Oct. 1, 1866	\$16,833.89

During the time we have received cash donations through the Treasurer amounting to \$4,463.61, and have expended for the benefit of the institution up to the present date \$3,797.36, leaving a balance in the hands of the Superintendent of \$666.25. Of this amount the Home now owes of debts already due, about \$350; thus leaving in my hands \$316.25 after all debts are paid. A full and detailed statement at all receipts of cash and items for which expenditures have been made is also submitted with this Report. At the opening of the institution, on the 1st of Oct, 1866, there were two little girls present as beneficiaries, and one mother, who has since that time been employed as a laborer. Since then we have been receiving others just as fast as the supplies on hand have justified us in doing so, always endeavoring to select such as were destitute of the means of obtaining the actual necessities of life. Hundreds of applications have been rejected for the want of adequate supplies. Attendants, laborers, and teachers have been employed as their services have been needed. We now have connected with the institution two teachers, one male laborer and five female laborers, who assisted by the girls, perform all the necessary in-door work. We also have at the Home one hundred and six orphans, and from the following counties, to wit From Chickasaw, 6; Lauderdale, 35; Hinds, 8; Leake, 7; Simpson, 2; Kemper, 7; Lownds, 10; Octibbeha, 7; Newton, 1; Monroe, 8; Lee, 1; Madison, 1; Noxubee, 3; Winston, 1; Clark, 6; Tishomingo, 2; and Scott, 1. Supplies recently received, and promises of continued support, have induced us to receive within the last few days thirty (30) children. This number has been selected from applications on file from the following counties, to wit: From Kemper, 23; Clark, 1; Yazoo, 2; Copiah, 2; Calhoun, 1; Hinds, 3; Newton, 3; Tallahatchie, 6; Yallabusha, 4; Warren, 4; and Attala, 2. These added to the number already at the Home make one hundred and thirty-six orphans who will have to be provided for. The children now with us were in a very destitute condition when received, full half of them not having a change of clothing. These little orphans, whom you have taken from hovels of poverty and want, we are trying to train to the habits of industry, and to give them that mental

and moral training that will make them useful members of society. During the severe winter just past, our supplies of food were, on several occasions, almost exhausted, but, by the blessing of Almighty God, friends were found in distant States who have thus far supplied our wants. Although our stock of provisions was so low as to create a great anxiety on the part of those immediately identified with the institution, yet our little orphans have never experienced a real want since their connection with the Home. We cannot be too grateful to the people of Missouri and Kentucky for what they have done for us, nor can too much praise be awarded to our principal agents, Dr. T.C. Teasdale and Mrs. Laura Reed, through the exertions of whom we have received our principal supplies. The State of Tennessee has also aided us much. We have now on hand supplies, &c., sufficient to feed the orphans already received until the 25th of October next.

The amount of labor to be performed in attending the commissary, receiving freight, answering correspondence, attending the boys while at work; directing mechanics, &c., makes it necessary for the Trustees to secure the services of some male assistant at as early a day as possible. It is impossible for your Superintendent to perform all the labor necessary to the interests of the institution without some assistance of this sort. He is frequently called away from the Home to attend to business connected with the institution; during such absence it is all important to have some one who can direct and attend to the outdoor work necessary to be done. During the summer months we should prepare for winter. Most of our buildings are without fire places; some are leaky; and much general repairing is necessary to make the buildings comfortable. To accomplish all this we must have large contributions in actual cash.

We would also suggest in this connection that every effort should now be put forth to secure such implements, machinery, &c., as most of you have visited us, and have seen what we are doing. We think, gentlemen, that you have great reason to be thankful to Almighty God, that He has so abundantly blessed your efforts in trying to relieve the wants and sufferings of so many of the little dependents of our noble dead.

Respectfully submitted,
S.S. GRANBERRY, Superintendent

GENERAL FINANCIAL AGENT'S REPORT
REV. T.C. TEASDALE
In Account With The Orphans' Home
1865-1866

Collections	Hernando, Mississippi	\$17.00
From A. Jeffaries		378.60
From E. Deupree		426.00
Cash - Rev. F.L. Seward		381.00
do from J.B. McLelland		54.10
do from Mrs. McGill		100.00
do collected at Siloam		85.52
do from Bro. Seward		27.70

do corn by Mrs. Spencer	150.00
do J.B. McLelland	68.45
do collected at Crawfordsville	5.00
do from Dr. M. Clay	75.00
do from Rev. G.A. Goulson	13.00
do Mrs. M.M. Boyd	28.00
Cotton from J.U. Perkins	112.00
Corn from Mrs. Spencer	100.00
Collected at Henderson, Ky.	260.00
Cotton from John E. Brown	125.00
Cash from Meridian Church	28.00
do from Summit Church	72.00
Collected in Memphis, Tenn.	812.20
Subscribed in Memphis	1,050.71
Collected in Louisville, Ky.	1,763.50
Subscribed in Louisville	431.99
Cash collected in New York	2,085.00
Subscribed in New York	2,130.56
CONTRA.	

By expenses to Washington by direction of the Board, before the surrender 200, commission on 6 bales cotton, 10 per cent, (Old subs.) 80.55 cash paid for hauling same 18 paid on property 45, commission, 10 per cent., on old subs. Miss Gill 10 cash paid for affidavit on cotton 1, expense to Memphis, Louisville &c., 250, cash paid freight 34.80, do 130 traveling expense and telegraph 10, cash paid Sturges, Hurlburt & C. 1000do. E.L. Bramlett for repairs 100, do. on crockery 15 do. paid for seal 4, do. board in New York 285, do. traveling expenses 50, goods sent to Home from New York 2,130, 66 bad money received 5, com 10 per cent., on corn, old subs, foods sent to Home from Memphis 946.98, traveling expenses, telegraph and express to St. Louis, Russellville, &c., 75, cash to Rev W.C. Buck 350 com., 10 per cent on bale cotton, old subs., M. Clay 7.50 cash paid L.A. Duncan, Treasurer, 100, 15 months services to June 1, 1866, at 200, 3000

Total - \$11,051.95

CONTRA.

June 1866

By balance from old account	\$158.15
By cash to pay on land	300.00
Remitted to Treas	5,372.75
Remitted to S.S. Granberry	1,907.56
Goods bought at St Louis	1,037.38
Flour, coffee, &c.	31.71
Cooking stove	175.00
Beans, bbls, &c.,	80.12
Chairs	75.00

1867

Feb. 7 By cash for hay	50.00
Chairs, bedsteads, mattresses	381.75
Povisions goods to Home	9,483.17
Quinine	5.00

Sacks, twine, express	8.75
Apr. 3 By cash to express	4.50
Provisions, goods, &c. to Home	4,665.40
Cash and drafts to Treasurer	5,390.40
	28,126.64

T.C. TEASDALE, General Financial Agent

This is only a small segment of a detailed list of hundreds of donors during the fiscal year, June 1866 through May 1867. Ten pages of the annual Report is devoted to this listing of the names of donors with the amount of each cash contribution. Donors of produce, provisions, clothing, &c., are listed, designating the nature and the value of the items given. A complete copy of this Report is preserved at the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission in Clinton, Mississippi.

1867 LOUISVILLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Your Committee on the Orphans' Home of Mississippi begs leave to report the following, as the result of its first years' existence: The Home commenced its active operations, under the supervision of Prof. S.S. Granberry, in October, 1866.

The Home has some 420 acres of land, with the buildings, appurtenances, &c, of what was known as the Lauderdale Springs property. We have there some 60 or 65 acres of open land, under cultivation by the inmates of the Home. Some of the boys are learning the shoemaker's business, some are working at the carpenter's trade, while the girls are engaged in all the duties of housekeeping, such as carding, spinning, weaving, knitting, sewing, washing, cooking, &c., &c. Each studies every other day, and works the other, so we have one half in school every day, and the other half at work. We have now about 140 Orphans under our care. It is the design of the Board to give each beneficiary a thorough English education, and when practicable to give a thorough Literary course. Up to this time the Home has been sustained by our kind friends in Kentucky and Missouri. We have also received some valuable assistance from Maryland and some other Northern States. The Home is yet wholly dependent upon voluntary contributions from the friends of the Orphans of our Confederatesoldiers.

Respectfully submitted
W.M. FARRAR, Chairman

Many individuals and groups demonstrated their concern and love for the children by sending contributions to the Home. *THE MERIDIAN GAZETTE*, April 27, 1867, announced:

The Ladies Aid Society of this city will give a Children's Concert at the Baptist Church on Saturday Evening next at 8 o'clock, for the benefit of the Orphans' Home at Lauderdale Springs. This is a commendable enterprise and one that ought to be responded to by every liberal spirited member of the community. We understand active preparations are being made to render the occasion quite entertaining. The price of admission is only 50 cents.

An article from *THE ORPHANS' HOME BANNER* was reprinted in the December 14, 1867 issue of *THE MERIDIAN SEMI-WEEKLY GAZETTE*. Extracts from that article are copied below:

The near arrival of Christmas, the gala season of the year, awakens vivid memories of merry making, family reunions, the giving and receiving of presents and general hilarity ... it is no unimportant deed to give honest pleasure to children ... it will add to your heart's pleasure to know that you helped to fill Santa Claus' wagon for the orphans ... when you sit down to your own table, it will be a pleasant reflection, that the orphans are at that moment, regaling themselves with your bounty...

Mary J. Welsh - A teacher at Orphans Home

Another article from *THE ORPHANS' HOME BANNER* was published in the August 7, 1869 issue of *THE JACKSON TRI-WEEKLY CLARION*. Extracts from that article are presented here:

ORPHANS' HOME ANNUAL FESTIVAL

The Third Annual Festival of the Orphans' Home will occur at Lauderdale, on the 15th of September. We are anxious that these annual gatherings should be generally attended by the people. Your presence will cheer us and cheer the orphans ... The orphans will entertain us with an exhibition of their attainments. Distinguished speakers will address us. There will be music to charm us...

We would not have the people forget, however, that the object of this festival is to entertain the orphans. We therefore invite everyone to bring a little something for them ... Let us show the orphans that we love them still, and wish to be loved by them ... The railroad will convey visitors to the festival at half fare...By order of the board

W.S. Webb, Secty.

THE BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION HELD IN MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI JUNE 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th & 8th, 1868 REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ORPHANS' HOME

The Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home make this, their third annual report, with the most profound gratitude to God, for the success which has crowned their efforts during the past year. They have labored under difficulties and disadvantages, and yet the Home has made, under the circumstances most satisfactory and signal progress. God has smiled upon our endeavors to serve him, and we render to him devout thanksgiving and praise.

THE PUBLIC FAVOR is being gradually, and, we trust, permanently secured. The Orphans' Home is becoming a household word among the people. It has grown rapidly in public esteem, and with the continued smiles of Providence, is destined to achieve a complete and glorious success. This success, however, will not be attained without still greater labors and sacrifices on the part of its friends. While the institution, when properly known and understood, will commend itself to the judgment and sympathies of every lover of

of his race, it will nevertheless need the tender, fostering care, the continued self-sacrificing labor and the constant and earnest prayers of those, who have thus far nourished and sustained it. A knowledge of its existence of its plans and aims and of its wants, must be more widely disseminated among the people; and everyone must be made to feel that the institution is what it really is: a necessity of the times, as well as a distinguishing mark of our advancing civilization and Christianity.

THE NUMBER of orphans in attendance during the past year has been 232 - gathered from various portions of the State, and some few from other States. They have come to us homeless, fatherless, and in some cases literally friendless; they have come in tatters and rags; they have come moneyless and helpless; they have come ignorant and diseased and vicious; they have been tenderly cared for; kindly nursed, and judiciously taught how to become useful men and women in society. Since the opening of the Home in October, 1866, hundreds have been denied because we did not feel justified in assuming their support with the means at our control. And yet those who have been denied admittance were as needy, perhaps in some instances more so than some of those who were received. It has been with the profoundest grief, therefore, at we have been compelled to say to those unfortunate little ones, you cannot be received. Their tears, and the entreaties of their homeless mothers have wrung our hearts with anguish. Gladly would we have taken them by the hand and welcomed them to the sheltering care and the kindly benefits of the Home. Gladly would we do so now, for many of them are still knocking at the door for admittance, but we dare not. We cannot do this until the friends of the Institution furnish us some guarantee that they will be supported.

If all the buildings upon the place were put in proper order and repair it is thought there would be ample accommodation for 500 children. Considerable has been done during the past year toward repairing these buildings, not as the Board desired but as the exigencies of the Home demanded. All the rooms that can be occupied are now filled or nearly filled with children. And very few more can be received without further expenditure in the way of repairs. It is very desirable, therefore, that the friends of the Orphans contribute funds immediately and liberally for this specific object.

Various plans have been suggested by which the Institution may become self-sustaining. It has been the purpose of the Board from the first to make it so at as early a day as practicable. But to accomplish this purpose two things are necessary. First, a sufficient number of Orphans of proper age and size to make any particular branch of manufacturing practicable and profitable.

Second, Funds sufficient to build the shops and purchase the machinery and stock necessary to commence and carry on operations. Both these ends we hope to obtain in due time, but we are compelled at present to make haste slowly.

Many of the Board have also had strong expectations that the State Legislature would eventually render some efficient aid to our, enterprise. Several bills were passed by the last Legislature

private companies, the condition for going into operation being that they pay a certain amount or a certain per cent of profits into our treasury. Nothing has as yet been realized from this source. And considering the present political condition and prospects of our people we would not consider it wise or prudent to form any plans or enter into any enlarged operations in expectation of any aid from our State authorities. Nor do we think that Legislative aid or aid from any other source, secured to us by giving the influence and prestige of the Home to lottery and other enterprises of an immoral tendency, by any means desirable.

Another plan, therefore, more feasible and practical, and from which we hope eventually to receive valuable assistance, is to enlist the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities in our enterprise. There are now 102 Orphans of Masons and 40 or 50 Orphans of Odd

Fellows, enjoying the benefactions of the Home. These numbers, accidental, or rather Providential as they now stand, might be greatly increased. Why cannot these fraternities be induced to make this the school where they would educate all their indigent Orphans? They are both strong in numbers in the State, and abundantly able, if their sympathies and cooperation can be secured, to render efficient aid in placing the institution beyond all contingencies of ultimate success, making it, as it is, a general Orphans' Home, as well as a Home for their own dependent ones, they would secure the aid of the benevolent and generous everywhere in building up an educational enterprise, that would be an honor to themselves and a blessing to the world. Through the influence of Rev. T.S. Abernethy, one of our Agents, and Rev. G.T. Stainback, a member of the Board of Trustees, the Grand Lodge, of Masons of this State took action upon the subject at their last annual communication in the city of Natchez and agreed to request the donation of at least one dollar from every Mason in the State during the present year. If this donation can be secured from year to year this source will furnish us a regular and permanent fund by means of which we may extend our benefactions to hundreds and thousands, now growing up in ignorance and want. But as yet we know not how high to place our expectations. Until the Grand Lodge or the Subordinate Lodges, shall issue something more authoritative than a request, or at least until a fair trial of this plan shall establish its efficiency, we should not feel justified in greatly enlarging our operations, in reliance upon this aid. We believe, however, that ultimately something will be accomplished upon this plan and we should be gratified to know that the Masonic and Odd. Fellow Fraternities of this State, and indeed of the whole South, would adopt this Institution as the channel through which they would pass their wards to stations of respectability and usefulness in the world. To secure so desirable an object the Rev. Abernathy proposes to spend the next few months in visiting Masonic. and Odd Fellow organizations throughout the country. We commend him to the kind regards and Christian courtesy of all to whom he may come.

Until, therefore, some better plan has been developed and perfected for the support of the Institution, we are compelled to rely upon the system already in operation - that of agencies. This is necessarily expensive; but with it we have accomplished much,

hope to accomplish more. Besides, we have no alternative, it is this or nothing; we must use this means or leave the Orphans of the land to grow up and die in their ignorance.

RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES

The actual cash received by the Superintendent, during, the year for the purposes of the Home is \$11,370.00. In addition to this a considerable amount of provisions, clothing, &c., has been received. This amount, the sources whence derived, and by whom collected, is fully exhibited on the books of the Superintendent and Treasurer. It would be impossible publish the details in this report.

Of the money received there have been paid out:	
Improvements	\$2,022.76
Salaries of Sup't. and Teachers	1,961.01
Medicines and Medical Attendance	777.03
Matrons and Employees	323.06
Freights	4,503.03
Supplies purchased at the Home	1,783.11
	11,376.00

The Home was established for the special purpose of providing for the indigent Orphans of Confederate Soldiers of the State of Mississippi, but since its organization, it has been thought best to enlarge the sphere of its operation so as to include dependent Orphans of every class of the white population. Nor need Orphans be necessarily, confined in their residence to the State of Mississippi. By the action of the Board, they may be received from any of the States of the South. The object of gathering them into the Home is as expressed in the constitution, "to support and educate them for usefulness and respectability in the world. A nobler charity surely could not claim the attention of a Christian or generous people. And as "pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father" is, in part at least to visit the fatherless and widow in their affliction, so is this Institution an evidence of the existence of that "pure and undefiled religion" among our people. And as the institution shall grow and enlarge its operations and thousands instead of hundreds shall enjoy its benefits, so shall this evidence increase until by its splendor many shall be constrained to acknowledge the efficacy and the power of Christianity. And narrow indeed must be the heart which through SECTARIAN INFLUENCES will withhold an offering from a cause so good, so soul inspiring, so divine. And we take this opportunity of saying to all that the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home have used every endeavor in their power to make the Institution nonsectarian. All the leading denominations are ably represented on the Board. Agents of different denominations are employed to raise funds for its sustenance. Teachers, employees, and beneficiaries are taken alike from all. In the Sabbath School the Bible and the publications of the American Sunday School Union alone are used. And upon the Sabbath, Clergymen of the various denominations are invited minister to their spiritual wants. We feel confident that this is all that a just, generous and intelligent public will require of us in this direction. It is true that the institution was established by the Mississippi Baptist State

Convention, and will by the conditions of the charter, kept under their supervision - one third of the Board of Trustees being annually appointed by them; and this is just as it should be. The Board of Trustees is not, as in most institutions of this kind, an irresponsible body, or responsible to no one but themselves, nor are they a self-perpetuating corporation. They are responsible by the act of their incorporation responsible to the body which brought the institution into existence, and which appoints them to their positions. Once every year they must render a strict and impartial account of their stewardship to this body, and through them to the public should they be disposed to act dishonestly, imprudently or unwisely, how easy a matter it is to detect, restrain or dispose of them altogether. Every legal and moral restraint and protection is thus thrown around the institution that could possibly be secured by any other plan of organization. And until it can be shown that Baptists when associated with pious, intelligent Presbyterians, Methodists and Episcopalians, are not worthy of confidence, till then it may be safely assumed that the Institution will be kept free from all improper sectarian influences.

We cannot close this report without commending to the public confidence, and expressing our regard for our excellent Superintendent, Prof. S.S. Granberry, a man of indefatigable energy, of untiring patience, of tender sympathies, of unyielding firmness, and of large experience. We consider ourselves and the little Orphans committed to his care exceedingly fortunate in securing his connection with the institution. His duties are arduous, and his position a responsible one; he needs, therefore, all the sympathy and encouragement which not the Board only but the friends of the Home every where can give him. The Board is equally fortunate in its selection of competent teachers and assistants. Some of these qualified by natural gifts, intellectual culture, and long experience for positions in our best seminaries of learning, are here giving their service to these unfortunate sufferers for the mere pittance of a bare support. The God of the fatherless will surely reward them.

W.S.Webb, Secretary

1868 LOUISVILLE BAPTIST SSOCIATION REPORT ON THE ORPHANS' HOME

This Institution has been in successful operation now about two years. In its commencement we had to secure all the apparatus for carrying on our farming interests, the way of teams and implements: of husbandry, the food and raiment to meet the exigencies of the occasion. Now, we are satisfied to say, that the Institution is amply supplied with the best improvements of garden and plantation tools of almost every variety, and various machineries for starting different trades for the boys, and the female department of labor is also well supplied with sewing machines of different patterns, a knitting machine of the first quality, a loom with a flying shuttle, cooking stoves, &c. We have on hand a tolerably good supply of clothing.

We have a fine lot of school books and the beginning of a permanent library for the benefit of the Orphans, of some three

of four hundred volumes of valuable works, which we wish to add to, as friends may enable us. The Home has, also, a partial supply of drugs. There are some few articles in this line, that it is hard to get enough of, such as quinine, alcohol for making tinctures, and some of the more common medicines in use. We have between 190 and 200 children as beneficiaries of the Home, and but few more can be taken until we get means to repair the dilapidated buildings on the ground. Such have been the severe afflictions of the present season, that they have been compelled to suspend temporarily, the regular instruction of the children; but it is to be hoped they will soon be able to resume the regular routine of duties. The present pressing necessities of the Home are bread and meat, and money enough to pay current expenses, and to repair the buildings, so as to render them comfortable; and mattresses, comforts, sheets, bolsters or pillows, &c., &c.

And for these means we are compelled to look to the friends of this praiseworthy enterprise; and shall we look in vain? Surely not. We have 102 children (as reported last June) who are Orphans of Free Masons; and between 40 and 50 who are Orphans of Odd Fellows, all of whom were killed or died in the unfortunate struggle, through which we have just past. If all were to help but a little, the work can be accomplished, and as many more children as we now have can be taken care of. May the God of the Orphan open the hearts of the people to respond liberally to the claims of this noble enterprise. All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM M. FARRAR, Chairman

1868 CHOCTAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION REPORT ON THE ORPHAN'S HOME

The Committee is glad to report that this Institution is in successful operation. The struggle of its friends has not been in vain. We are most assuredly reaping the fruits of our labor.

It is with a degree of sadness however, that we report that sickness, so extensively, prevailing over our land, and death, no respecter of persons, has not passed over the Home, and left it untouched. Ten of those dear little, orphans have been its victims. Some have gone to their mothers or friends, and are awaiting the return of health. The number left is about 121. Up to the present sickly time, the health of the Home has been almost undisturbed. Never in this land has a happier place been found for the orphan. The happy little creatures have been, and are yet well cared for and faithfully instructed in the duties of religion. They have a flourishing Sabbath School faithful and efficient teachers. Instead of roving over the country, half fed, ill clothed, and without religious instruction, they are to be seen every day happily situated in the house of prayer, and frequently listening to the gospel of Jesus. This is a blessing to which, but for the Home, many no doubt, would live and die utter strangers. Dear brethren, let us not be weary in well doing, for in due time, we shall reap a large harvest, if we taint not. Let us contribute largely of our substance, remembering that God hath said: There is that which withholdeth more than is meet, and yet increaseth, Prov. 11, 24. He who soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly and he that soweth bountifully, shall reap also bountifully - 2nd Cor. Respectfully submitted,
JOHN E. WHITE, chairman

1868 - At the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, of the Masonic Order, Bro. J.I. Power offered the following resolution which was adopted:

"That the committee appointed to consider the destitution of the country and the distress prevailing in the Order be requested to consider the claims of the Orphans' Home, at Lauderdale Springs, upon this Grand Lodge, and upon Subordinate Lodges, and upon the Craft generally, and report to the Grand Lodge what action, if any, should be taken by us toward the Home, in view of the fact that there are now over ninety orphans of deceased Masons in that Institution.

The committee reported: According to the information furnished the Committee by the Board of Trustees of the Home, it appears there are ninety (90) orphans of deceased Masons now in the Home in a very destitute condition. Their claim upon our sympathy and help is unquestionable. We therefore beg to offer the following: Resolved, That as a Grand Lodge, we recognize and heartily approve the Orphans' Home, at Lauderdale Springs, and cordially recommend it to the sympathy and respect of the Craft wheresoever dispersed around the globe.

Resolve, That each Subordinate Lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction, be and they are hereby requested to pay to the Agent of the Home, the Rev. T. S. Abernathy, Jr., for the benefit of the Orphans of Masons now in the Institution, the sum of one dollar, or such sum as they may see fit, for each member of each Subordinate Lodge; and that the Representatives of said Lodges to this Grand Lodge be requested to bring this matter before their respective Lodges immediately upon their return home from this Grand Lodge for their action there,...

T.S. Abernathy, Jr., Chairman

John Sample J.W. Patty A.H. Barkley

THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE
STATE BAPTIST CONVENTION - 1869
REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ORPHANS' HOME

The number of Orphans who have enjoyed the benefits of the Home during the year is 264. This number has been thus necessarily limited by want of accommodations and inability to provide for more. All are aware that we have as yet no permanent endowment.

Our endowment is the good will, the generous sentiment, and the benevolent deeds of an appreciating people.

It has been the aim of the Board to bring the expenses down to the lowest possible limit. Economy in every department has been our study. We make the following summary of our receipts and expenses:

RECEIPTS	
Balance on hand, June 1, 1868	\$1,584
From Masonic Lodges	1,169
Orphans' Banner	2,240
Other sources	7,673
EXPENDITURES	
Salaries	\$3133.45
Paid for improvements	683.00
General purposes, support	277.67
Freights	1393.65

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS PROPERTY

A recent article published, by order of the Board, in the Orphans' Home Banner, sets forth the condition of this property so clearly and correctly that we copy from that:

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home of Mississippi, held on the 30th of April last, it was resolved to make an official statement to the world of the causes of the imminent condition of our beloved Institution, so that the charge of blundering which occasionally reaches the Board, may be considered in the light of facts.

On the twentieth day of April 1861, Joshua F. Speed of Louisville, Kentucky, sold to B. B. Smith the property known as the Lauderdale Springs, and deeded the same to B.B. Smith. On the 1st day of May, next following, said B.B. Smith did execute four several notes for the purchase money; the first due and payable on the first of April, 1861, for \$3,300; the second for \$3100 due and payable on the first of November, 1862; the third due and payable on the first of November, 1863 and the fourth, for the balance, due and payable on the first of November 1864. To secure the payment of these notes, Smith executed a mortgage deed to the property purchased by him of Speed. This mortgage bears date May 1st, 1861.

The above notes and mortgages were left with C.H. Mingo of Mobile, who was appointed an agent by Speed. In October 1864, Mingo accepted payment of Smith in full satisfaction of the before mentioned notes and through his attorney, Hon. R. Leachman, surrendered such notes and promised to cancel the mortgage leaving Smith with the deed to the property. Smith at once sold the property to the firm of Hurlbutt, Sturges & Co. consisting so far as the purchase of the property is concerned of Levi Hurlbutt, Theodore Sturges, J.R. Graves, L.A. Duncan, Maj. Whitfield, and perhaps others. The deed was made to Levi Hurlbutt, J.R. Graves, L.A. Duncan and Maj. Whitfield, the consideration being twenty-five thousand dollars; this deed bears date 24th October, 1864, or thereabouts. In November next following, these gentlemen sold the same property to the Baptist State Convention for the sum of fifty thousand dollars. The property was to be used for its present sacred purposes.

The Orphans' Home, or rather the Baptist State Convention (for the Home was not then chartered) paid the above named gentlemen about \$10,000 in Confederate money. The army of Gen. Lee surrendered in April 1865, and when the war was over, Messers. Hurlbutt claimed the property, and resold it to the Trustees of the Orphans' Home for \$7,000, which the Trustees paid at different times, paying the entire before the first of September 1866.

Hurlbutt, Sturges & Co. reserved the bowling alley, which was outside of the enclosure, and sold it to another party, which the Trustees bought from this other party for \$500. Hurlbutt, Sturges & Co. sold this building for \$250. In essence, therefore, the Trustees paid \$7,500 on the original purchase, but only \$7,000 on the original purchase for which Levi Hurlbutt and Theodore Sturges executed a bond for titles. In order that the matter may be clearly understood and justice be done, we have written below the names of the parties who received it:

Levi Hurlbutt received \$2,000 of it; Sturges received \$2000 and still holds an amount for Rev. J.R. Graves, \$589; L.A. Duncan received \$870; Mrs. Levi Hurlbutt received \$1160; Mrs. Rogers received \$580. Total amount - \$7250.

The greater part of this money was paid to these parties after the question of the sufficiency of the title was raised, though Speed never filed his bill of complaint at Jackson until September 20, 1866. The Trustees supposed that since they held a duly executed bond for a good and sufficient title, signed by Levi Hurlbutt and Theodore Sturges, men of means and standing in the community, that these bondsmen would see that the obligations of that bond to the fatherless and homeless children of our care, whose money they were receiving, should be faithfully enforced. To blunder in reference to the interest of the Home would be almost a crime; and the foregoing narrative of facts shows that the Trustees did not blunder. They paid their money upon the faith of a bond executed by parties abundantly able then and now, to make good all its provisions.

After the suit of Speed vs. B.B. Smith, et al, was decided against the defendants, and declaring Smith's payment of notes to Leachman, attorney for Mingo, who was agent for Speed, null and void, and ordering the foreclosure of the mortgage from Smith to Speed, the Trustees sent a special committee to ask Messrs. Hurlbutt & Sturges to give good and sufficient titles to the Home, or return the \$7,000. Neither was done. In a spirit of compromise, looking to the great necessity of the children, and the imminent danger of being dispossessed, the Trustees offered, and offer now, to take \$5000 in cash and surrender the bond.

The foregoing is a simple narrative of facts showing how the Trustees came into possession of the Lauderdale Springs property. How did they lose the property? It came to pass as follows: Joshua F. Speed of Louisville, KY owned the property, and sold it to B.B. Smith and on the 1st of May, 1861, took a mortgage to secure the payment of several notes hereinbefore described. On the 24th of October 1864, Smith paid these notes in Confederate money, and immediately sold the property, for which he held Speed's title, to Levi Hurlbutt, Theodore Sturges, L. A. Duncan, Maj. Whitfield and J.R. Graves for \$25,000 in Confederate money. These parties, within thirty days, sold the same property to the Baptist Convention for \$25,000 in Confederate money and received \$10,000 thereof. When the war ended, the balance not being paid, the Trustees of the Orphans' Home, selected by the Baptist State Convention, agreed to pay \$7000 in Greenbacks, and Messrs. Levi Hurlbutt and Theodore Sturges executed a bond for titles, when the money was paid. The Trustees paid the money as shown before and now hold the deed.

On the 20th of September 1866, Joshua F. Speed, who remained in Kentucky during the war, declined to recognize the action of Mingo and Leachman, began suit in the United States Circuit Court, at Jackson, to render the payment of Smith null and void. The Court so decided, and has appointed a commissioner to foreclose the mortgage and eject the present occupants, which can be done in six weeks from this writing. The public can now see how the Trustees got the property and how they lost it. The friends of the Home can see also who have the money.

The Orphans' Home has been conducted with singular care. The Board always consisted of prominent citizens and ministers of all denominations. The Superintendent is a man of talents and unwavering integrity; and carries into the discharge of his duties, a religious devotion. The Trustees have no doubt, if they could get back the \$7,000, paid in Federal Currency, about being able to sustain the Home. If the facts are closely examined, every one must see that no hardship is involved in returning the money to the Orphans, to whom it belongs.

We have deemed it due to the Board of Trustees, who have been charged with the management of the Home to submit to the public the foregoing facts; and it is done with no desire to render any party odious; but to vindicate the actions of men, who have, at all times, invited the closest scrutiny into their conduct. These men are conscious of nothing but the purest purpose and their sacrifices have not been few.

The only course, which seems left to us is the selection of a new location for the Home. With this end in view we have invited bids from various portions of the State. In response to this invitation we are receiving some very favorable and encouraging propositions, and we hope soon to be able to announce that we have secured a location in many respects superior to the one now occupied by us. It has become necessary for us, therefore, once more to appeal to the generosity and liberality of the people. But, believing that our cause is dear to our hearts and sacred in the sight of Heaven, we shall do so with the utmost confidence of our success.

Resolved: That in this report of the Trustees of the Orphans' Home hereby disclaim any intentions to cast reflection upon our esteemed brethren J. R. Graves and L. A. Duncan, and that they be permitted to make explanation of their connection with the matter, to be published in the minutes of the Convention.

W.S. Webb, Secretary

EXPLANATION

The Springs property was bought by Bro. Hurlbutt, in behalf of himself and others, at the instance of earnest friends of the Baptist cause, he was first actuated by a desire to enable the denomination to secure a house of worship in an eligible location in Meridian. It was next to impossible to obtain lumber and the demand for it was so great, he had no difficulty in finding persons willing to join with him in this purchase of the property in order to secure some of the buildings for removal to Meridian to erect residences. Just before completing negotiations, the suggestion was made to him to offer the place for an Orphans' Home, if he bought it, to the Baptist State Convention about to assemble at Crawfordsville. This he concluded to do, though as a matter of speculation it was found that much more could be made by selling off the houses, applicants being in readiness to take them and pay the money down. Elder Graves and myself encouraged Bro. Hurlbutt to offer the property to the Convention, and agreed to refund him part of the purchase money and join in the risk of getting the funds back. We had no idea of speculating upon the Orphans of course, and before the surrender were willing, and so stated, to let the Convention have our interest in the matter for the net amount invested; but the sum was not raised. The undersigned always

believed the title to the property good, and united in its defense at considerable expense and much loss of time. Notwithstanding all this, he readily agreed to return his proportion of the funds left only asking a little time, to recover from recent heavy losses and severe financial embarrassments. With this proposition, the Board expressed themselves fully satisfied. Elder Graves had not received his proportion of the money, so simply donated it to the Trustees; but he also is allowed to speak for himself. I have said thus much lest his explanation reach me too late for the minutes. Respectfully submitted, L.A. Duncan

The following article was published in *THE ORPHANS' HOME BANNER*:

The decision of the court turning this property over to the claimant who is declared to be its rightful owner, diverts it from the benevolent purpose of its founder and deprives the orphans there collected and provided for by the hand of charity, of their home.

It is sincerely hoped that the parties who were paid for the property, and who guaranteed a title to the Directors of the Home, will yet act in good faith and secure it to them.

In default of such action on their part, considerations of humanity call loudly for contributions by our whole population for the relief of the bereaved children.

The following extracts are from a letter from Mr. Granberry to *THE MERIDIAN GAZETTE*:

The Trustees are determined not to abandon the Home, but thus far have been able to take no action "that provides for its permanence," beyond the foreclosure of the mortgage held by Mr. Speed. This much is certain; the orphans have lost their present Home, and with it all the funds, that have been contributed by their friends to provide for them a shelter, unless the parties, from whom the Trustees made the purchase, will refund to the orphans the money, which was received for the property.

In your editorial of the 30th ... the writer attempts to fix the extent of the "moral obligation" resting upon the parties to make this title of property good to the orphans, as promised in their bond, or to refund their money ... If the true object of these articles is to inform the public...the surest way to accomplish this is to state the date of each purchase, and the amount promised to be paid for the property at each purchase, from the date of the mortgage held by Mr. Speed to the present time. Such statement will give to the public a correct view of the character of the agency referred to in the article...

S. S. Granberry, Superintendent

The August 7, 1869 edition of *THE JACKSON TRI-WEEKLY CLARION* reprinted this article from *THE ORPHANS' HOME BANNER*:

THE ORPHANS WITHOUT A HOME

On the 13th of July the property, which has been occupied as a Home for destitute Orphans, was sold at public auction, in the city of Jackson. One of the Trustees, Col. J. L. Power, bid Nine thousand dollars for the Home. Joshua F. Speed,, of Louisville. Ky., bidding more than nine thousand, became the purchaser ... The Board of Trustees met on the 15th of July. The principal business before them was the selection of a new locality for the Home, and to devise some plan of raising additional means to enable them to start at some other point...

There is within reach of the Board only about six thousand dollars, including funds contributed for the support of the orphans, money raised from subscriptions to the *Banner*, and contributions to a repurchasing fund... if the orphans are to have a Home, the Trustees must have more money ... All contributions of money should be sent to Capt. T.J. Deupree, Treasurer, Brooksville, Miss. or any member of the Board of Trustees.

The problem of finding a new home for the homeless children was intensified by its urgency. It seemed hopeless but a new home was found, amazingly, only two miles from the old home.

THE HOWARD ORPHANAGE FOR NEGRO CHILDREN

The site for the new home was an abandoned Confederate hospital. This property was bought, after the war, by a group of Quakers, who established an orphanage and school for Negro children.

DEEDS TO YEARLY MEETING OF THE INDIANA SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

On 19 January 1866, John F. Kennedy and his wife, Mary, and J.R. Kennedy and his wife, Kate, for a sum of Two Thousand four hundred and fifty dollars sold and deeded to the yearly meeting of Friends of Indiana the lands describes herewith:

situated in the County of Lauderdale and State of Mississippi Namely - East half (1/2) of North West Quarter (1/4) Section Thirteen (13); Also the following Commencing at the Center of Section Thirteen (13) running West on the line through Center of Section six chains and 61 links Thence South 25 chains 61 Links thence East 6 Chains 61 Links thence North to place of beginning being a portion of the East half (1/2) of South West quarter (1/4) of Section Thirteen (13). Also the following - Commencing at Center of said Section Thirteen running South 25 Chains 61 Links, Thence East 7 Chains 50 Links to intersection with Mobile & Ohio Rail Road Thence Northerly on a line parallel with the Center line of said Mobile & Ohio Rail Road to a point where the line intersects

the line running East and West through Center of Section Thirteen. Thence West 13 Chains and 28 Links to point of beginning being a portion of the South East quarter (1/4) of Section Thirteen all of Township Eight (8) Range Seventeen (17) East To have and to hold the said Lands with the appurtenances excepting buildings known as Hospital Buildings on which the first party sets no claim.

On July 28th, 1866, S.C. Stovall and his wife, A.D. Stovall, for a sum of Seventy-five (\$75), sold and deeded to Indiana Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends of the State of Indiana lands with the appurtenances thereon as described below: In Lauderdale County and the State of Mississippi - Commencing about the center of the buildings known as the Howard Orphan Asylum at a point on the line running North and South of a tract of land conveyed to S.C.W. Stovall by J.F. & S.P. Kennedy running thence North with said line Ten Rods thence West Ten Rods thence South West Twenty Rods Thence East Fourteen Rods to said line thence North West said line Ten Rods to the Beginning in the South half of Section Thirteen Township Eight Range Seventeen East, containing or intending to contain Seven acres and a half(?).

Some interesting information concerning the history of that locale was related by Rev. James Lynch in a letter written to *THE NEW ORLEANS ADVOCATE* and reprinted in *THE MERIDIAN CHRONICLE* on October 22, 1868. Extracts from that letter are presented here:

THE HOWARD ORPHAN ASYLUM AT LAUDERDALE

The site is a most convenient, healthy and beautiful one.

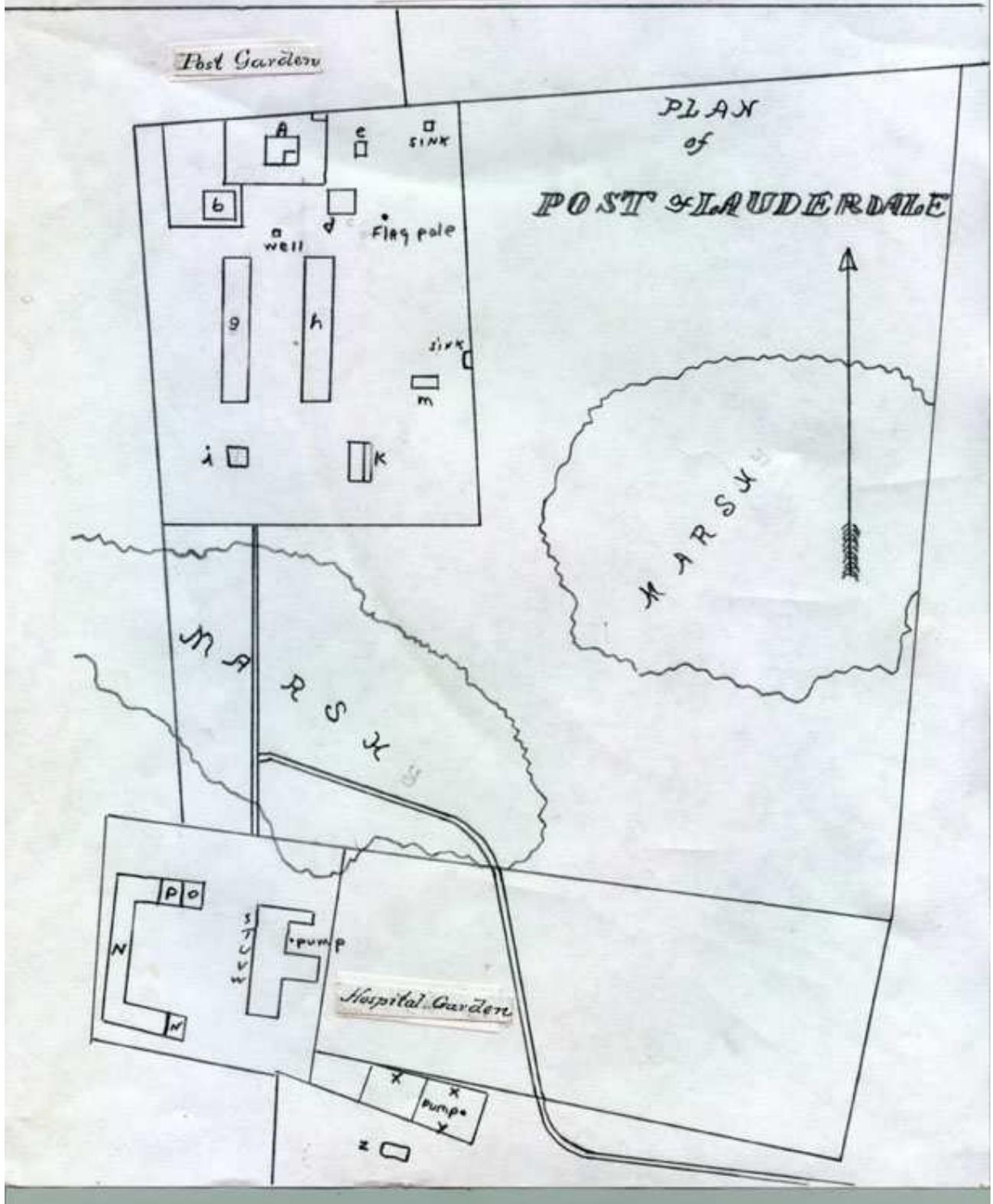
It is three quarters of a mile from Lauderdale, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, which connects Mobile with Cairo ... It embraces one hundred and twenty acres of cleared land, abounding with beautiful shade trees and an abundance of good water. it is highly elevated and diversified by hill and vale, and a fertility unsurpassed by any in the state...

The buildings are United States Hospital buildings, in good order, of the following number and dimensions: three, 30x150; one, 30x450; six, 30x36, and would accommodate five hundred soldiers.

The Howard Orphan Asylum was established by the Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, March 1, 1866. They purchased the land at a cost of \$2,100 and the use of the above described buildings granted them by the government. The society managed and partly sustained it by furnishing clothing and teachers up to April 15th, 1868. It is now under the supervision of the Freedman's Bureau, and is superintended by Mr. O.C. French, Agent of the Freedman's Bureau, who appears to be zealous and faithful in the discharge of his duties. There are one hundred orphan children, now being cared for.

They are favored with good educational advantages, and are enjoying the care and tutelage generally which might not be expected from a supervision which has only the promise of being temporary. From what I could learn with the exception of periods when epidemic reigned, the mortality has been small.

Description of Post.



There can be no doubt that the Freedman's Bureau will be discontinued in this State within the next two years, and unless sane provision is made for the support of the Howard Orphan Asylum it must be discontinued also.

The following information was obtained from the National Archives: Record Group 84, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, Entry 547, Medical History of Posts #173.

U.S. MILITARY POST AT LAUDERDALE

LOCALITY AND HISTORY OF POST

Post of Lauderdale

Lauderdale County, Mississippi

National Archives Record Group 94: Records of The Adjutant General's Office Entry 547, Medical Histories of Posts #173
(Lauderdale, MS)
(SEE MAP PAGE 126)

Established on the 24th of October 1868 in compliance with orders from Headquarters 4th Military District when Company H 34th U.S. Infantry arrived here from Grenada, Miss. under command of Captain & Brevet Major James A. Hearn and 2d Lieut. G.B. Pickett. Situated about one mile North of Lauderdale, a village of about one hundred and fifty inhabitants, and two hundred yards west from the Mobile and Ohio R.R.; is in Latitude 32 degrees 30 minutes North and Longitude 88 degrees 30 minutes West from Greenwich.

The buildings at the post were erected by the Confederate authorities during the late war and used as a military Hospital, since the war they were used as a freedman's Hospital till the end of year 1867 by the Bureau, Refugees Freedmens' school. These buildings are on a comparatively level piece of ground, elevated about 20 feet above a small swamp which lies to the South-west, South and South-east of the camp, which received the drainage from the higher ground.

The swamp was formerly very wet and in places quite impassible, but has been much improved by the cutting of a wide and deep drain through the middle of it and could be made still dryer by cutting small lateral drains. Immediately back of the camp to the North-west is a low hill which has been cleared and is now under cultivation as the post garden. The land around the camp is cleared of timber except a few scattering trees between it and the R.R. though on the North-east corner the forest extends to within about fifty yards.

Since the expiration of the Freedmens' Bureau the buildings used by that institution as an asylum for colored orphans, under the name of the Howard Orphan Asylum, till the 31 of Dec. 1868, have been added to the post. These buildings are situated on the other side of the abovementioned swamp and are surrounded by a well made picket fence. They were erected by the society of friends which got permission from the government to tear down a number of buildings, that had been built by the confederates about half a mile from their present position and used also as a hospital, and rebuild them in their present position. They were occupied by the friends

as an orphan asylum for colored children for about a year when the institution was turned over to the Freedmens' Bureau, which has been till the expiration of the Bureau, Dec. 31st, 1868.

The garrison of this Post was augmented by the arrival of Company "B" 24th U.S. Infantry, about the latter end of November 1869, under command of Captain George Halles, U.S.A. and 1st Lieut E.C. Gilbreath, U.S.A. This Company remained at the Post until March the 4th 1869, when it was ordered to rejoin its regiment, then en route for Texas. On the 1st of April, 1869, Company "H" of the 11th U.S. Infantry arrived here for the purpose of consolidating with H Company of the 34th, thus forming Company H of the 16th Infantry. "H" Company of the 11th was commanded by Captain and Brevet Major D.M. Vance and 2d Lieut. and Brevet 1st Lieut. F. Town.

Captain and Brevet Major J.A. Hearn U.S.A. turned over the command of the Post to Brevet Major Vance and was shortly afterward placed on the awaiting order list and went home. Lieut. Town shortly after his arrival elected to go on the awaiting order list and returned home. On the 19th of April, 1st Lieut. W.H. Vinal arrived here having been assigned to Company H of the new Regiment. On the next day Provost Major Vance and 2d Lieut. George B. Pickett, having been ordered to other companies, left for Jackson, Miss. On the 24th of April Captain James Kelly arrived and took command of the Post. About the 3d of May 2d Lieut. I.O. Shelby, having been appointed to "H" Company, arrived thus making the Company complete.

No further changes occurred in the command from this time till the Post was abandoned. On the 13th of January 1870 Captain Kelly received orders to report with his company at Jackson, Miss. and to leave Lieut. Shelby with 15 men to guard the buildings until sold. Captain Kelly in compliance with the orders received left here on the 15th of January 1870 and the Post of Lauderdale ceased to exist.

W.H. Rippard

When the troops took Post at this place they were assigned quarters in the building of the North side of the swamp. The buildings on the South side were occupied as the Howard Orphan Asylum under the jurisdiction of the Freedmens' Bureau. Upon their arrival they found all the buildings as they are laid down in the plan with the exception of the guard house "i", the shed addition to commissary store house (l), the suttlers shop "m" and the lower left hand sink which was moved to its present position from a spot opposite the South end of barrack "g." These buildings are on a comparatively level piece of ground which is elevated about twenty feet above the marsh.

The building marked "a" is the Commanding Officers quarters, it contains 4 rooms, 2 of which have fire places the other two are heated by stoves, its dimensions are 39 X 47 feet, 10 feet from floor to ceiling. It is surrounded by a low picket fence and has a sink, chicken house, and cow stalls in the enclosure. The building

marked "b" is similar to "a" except two shed kitchens and contains two sets of quarters for lieutenants. The two rooms in the building "c" to the right of the camp are also officer's quarters. The two rooms marked "d" are the adjutant's office and the clerks sleeping apartment.

The building marked "e" is the bake house 20 X 25 feet it contains a good brick oven, capacity 200 loaves. The building marked "f" is a log house used as a store house for lime. Before the buildings on the south side of the Marsh were vacated this house had a shed round it and was used as a stable.

The barracks marked "g" and "h" are each 150 X 30 feet and are occupied by the troops as quarters, dining room and Kitchens. Since Co. "B" 24th Infantry left "h" has not been occupied, the other barrack affording sufficient room. "g" is divided into three rooms, two of which are used as dormitories, and the other is divided into a kitchen, dining room, and store room. These buildings each have four chimneys and are well lighted. The guard house "i" was erected shortly after the troops arrived and is 22 24 feet divided into two apartments, one for the prisoners and one for the guard. The guard room is lighted by two windows the prison room by one. The building is heated by a stove. The Commissary store house marked "k" with shed "l" is 22 X 40 feet and is well adapted. "m" is the sutler's shop 18 X 30 and was erected by the Post Trader. All these buildings, with the exception of "m" and "f" are framed with walls of rough boards nailed on vertically and the joints covered with narrow battens, but at the time of erection the lumber was evidently "green", which, since seasoning, has shrunk and split to such an extent, that is almost an impossibility to make the buildings weather tight. The floors were so open that a hand could easily be thrust through the cracks, and the buildings had to be blocked up, the under pinning having all rotted. The men's quarters, during the first winter, were heated by fire in the fire places only and the men suffered a good deal from cold though two slept in a bunk. The furniture of the men's quarters are rough wooden bunks 6 X 4 feet, eighteen inches high with a shelf at the foot and an arm rack at the head of each bunk and a few shelves and tables. The quarters are lighted by kerosene lamps at night. Each barrack has 26 windows 6 X 3 feet and 8 doors. These buildings have all been repaired and are in much better condition.

In the beginning of January 1869 the buildings on south side of the marsh were vacated and the troops took possession; previous to this time, however, the Post Hospital consisted of two Hospital tents, floored and walled at each end and heated by a stove and was poorly adapted for the purpose. When we got possession of these other buildings on end of the building marked "n" was divided off and subdivided into a ward "o" 20 X 30 feet, dining room "p" 15 X 20 feet and kitchen "r" 15 X 20 feet, with a passage 10 feet wide between the ward and the dining room and kitchen. The ward has two windows at each end, 6 X 3 feet, and is heated by a stove in winter and lighted by lamps at night. It is furnished with 8 beds, 6 bedside tables, chairs and window curtains. It is battened inside and out and is a very comfortable room. The passage has a door at each end and a door on each side, one opening into the ward, the other into the dining room.

The dining room is lighted by 2 windows, curtained. It is furnished with a dining table and two benches of the same length, a dresser for dishes and a refrigerator, it is divided from the kitchen by a low partition 8 feet high, with a communicating door. The kitchen has two windows and an outside door, at one end is a large closet under lock and key for hospital stores and rations.

The kitchen contains one cooking stove with fixtures, one table and bench and a lamp. All these rooms are 14 feet high and are ceiled overhead. The dispensary marked "s" is in the building on the right of the hospital, the room is 18 feet square, 14 feet high, ceiled overhead and lighted by one window, lamp at night. It is furnished with shelving, which covers one end (divided into three parts, each arched overhead, and is stained in imitation of walnut and varnished), counter, small closet with lock and key for liquor and more valuable medicines, and desk and chairs.

The room marked "n" in the other end of the building in which the hospital is situated was the sutler's shop, the rest of the building was occupied by the laundresses. The rooms marked "t" and "u" are used by the Post quarter-master, "t" as an office and "u" as store rooms. The rest of the rooms in the building were occupied as officers quarters until August 1869 when the repairs on "a", "b" and "c" were completed, the rooms marked "v" were then allotted to the married soldiers as quarters.

Immediately after getting possession of this side, the sheds around log house "f" were torn down and the stable on this side used. This stable is 30 X 60 feet, contains stalls for 16 animals, a hay loft, and two small rooms, one used for harness, the other for feed. "y" is a shed used for mules and "x" are mule and cow yards. Nine horses are kept at this post and from 20 to 30 mules, two army wagons, one ambulance and one police cart, all in good repair. Outside of the stable is a small shed for the ambulance.

The carpenter and black-smith shop marked "2" is 20 X 35 feet, well furnished and is in good repair.

The Post Garden, situated back of the officers quarters is in a field of between 60 and 70 acres belonging to the Post about four acres of it are used and during the year 1869 yielded a good supply of vegetables, it was worked by a man detailed as Post gardener who called on the prisoners for assistance when he needed it.

The hospital garden was never worked, though laid out, owing to difficulty of getting the men to work in it.

On the 17th of May 1869 permission was granted to tear down unoccupied buildings and use the materials in repairing the occupied ones. With the lumber so obtained the officers quarters were ceiled inside and made very comfortable. Barrack "g" was also repaired. A bridge was built across the swamp between the two collections of buildings and a tight board fence made around the buildings on North side of Camp; this when whitewashed improved the appearance of the camp very much and prevented stray cattle from wandering over the grounds.

To supply the material, the building marked "n" was demolished with the exception of the Hospital portion, and the room marked "n" which remained until blown down by a heavy gale of wind in the month of September 1869. After "n" was torn down the gable end

of the Hospital was quite open and became untenable during the autumn rains. Accordingly it was moved on the 5th of November 1869 into the same building in which the dispensary is located. The large room marked "w" is the ward - "d" dining room - "k" kitchen - "s" stewards quarters and (l) laundry. The hospital ward is 18 X 30 feet - 630 square feet of (sup ?) area, contains 8 beds with air space of 1102.5 cubic feet to each bed. It is lighted by 6 windows (6 X 3) and by lamps at night, heated by two fire places. The dining room is 12 X 111 feet with two windows, same furniture as before mentioned in "p". The kitchen is 18 X 10 feet, also with two windows and has the same furniture as was in "r". The other rooms are nearly 18 feet square and are very comfortable.

W.H. Rippard

THE NEW HOME

At that critical time, when the Confederate Orphans Home of Mississippi was being evicted from its property, the site of the old military post was vacant and available for purchase. The Mississippi Baptist Convention bought the property and the homeless children had a new Home. It was not as nice as their old Home but it had a plentiful water supply and adequate buildings situated high and dry on two hills and, best of all, the title was secure.

The move to the new Home was a major undertaking. It took two months for more than 200 children and 10 or 12 adults with all of their possessions and equipment to be transported on two wagons, drawn by two yokes of oxen and one team of mules, one horse and buggy and a pony.

The girls occupied one hill and the boys the other. The Federal guardhouse in one corner of the compound was utilized as the printing office. A very productive adjoining farm was purchased and a grist mill and a brick yard were added to the facilities on the grounds. In 1872, a large building was built with bricks made by the boys, and lumber donated by mills on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. Extra bricks made by the boys were sold to pay the other costs of construction

1870 MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE ORPHAN' HOME

In our last Annual Report, the fact was stated that the title to the Lauderdale property had been lost, and a detailed statement of facts connected, with that unfortunate transaction is given therein. We commenced the labors of the year, therefore, under the most embarrassing circumstances. With two hundred helpless children on our hands, we had no certain Home in which to shelter them. We knew not at what moment we should be ordered to leave the premises we then occupied. We had no assurance that the people would feel able or willing to provide the means necessary to purchase a new home. But, as we could not honorably go backward, and had no disposition to do so, trustingly went forward. Our first object was to secure the rent of the Lauderdale property for the balance of the year.

In this we succeeded. This gave no time to perfect our arrangements. Calls had been made for money, and for bids for a new location. Unfortunately, we had no general agent in the field at this time, and funds came in slowly. Many places, however, were offered as suitable locations for the Home. Committees, appointed by the Board, visited as many of these location as it was thought advisable. None Of them, however, entirely met the wishes of the Board. On the 6th of November, after a thorough examination of the whole subject, it was decided that we could not perhaps do better than to re-purchase the Springs property. It is true that location did not in many respects suit us; but it came nearer doing it than any other place at the time offered us. It seemed to be the best we could do; indeed the state of our finances shut us up to this choice.

It would cost less than any other place at our disposal. We, therefore, appointed Col. J.L. Power as our agent at Jackson, to negotiate with the agent of Mr. Speed, for the re-purchase of the property. In due time, Col. Power informed us that he had contracted with said agent to take the property for the sum of nine thousand dollars, in three equal annual payments.

We soon found, however, that many friends of the Home, who could not appreciate our motives and circumstances, were dissatisfied with the decision. The result was an immediate and almost total falling of the small receipts that were coming into the Treasury. When Board met again, in December, to consider whether they would ratify the contract made by Col. Power, we found ourselves quite unable to comply with its terms. It had become necessary to use some of cash in hand in purchasing provisions for the orphans; and this with the cessation of receipts, was rapidly depleting the Treasury. Even if we could have made the first payment, we should have done not only with the almost certainty of losing the money thus paid, consequence of not being able to make the other payments, but, with the fair prospect of bringing the children to absolute want. No other course was left us, therefore, but to decline the purchase. The agent of Mr. Speed demanded the fulfillment of the contract, and informed us that if the first payment was not made by the first of January, he would turn us out, and would rent the premises to other parties; and would not thereafter, for any consideration, either rent or sell us the property. Here was a trial of our faith and of our resources and here, too, we saw in the end the wisdom and the strange, but wise Providence of our Heavenly Father. This very extremity wrought our deliverance. We were confident of the rectitude and wisdom of our decision, and we trusted to time and a kind Providence to vindicate our course. We were not disappointed, nor did we have long to wait. But at the time, the prospect of two hundred children, turned out in mid winter, to suffer from the chilling blasts, and rains, and snows of that inclement season, was harrowing in the extreme. Our anxieties were intense. But, in the midst of these perplexities, we learned that possibly we could secure the Government buildings, one mile north, of Lauderdale Station. We had long had our eye upon those buildings, and had used every exertion to secure them, but had hitherto failed. Our necessities opened the way to their

final possession. An effort was immediately made in that direction. In the meantime the agent of Mr. Speed was also induced to change his terms. He proposed as his ultimatum, to rent us the old property for one year and no less a time, for the sum of \$1,500 cash, and a policy of insurance on the buildings for \$6,000. This proposition we of course could not accept. Our efforts, however, to obtain the Government buildings were soon successful. An order was obtained from General Ames to dispose of them at public sale on the 27th of January, and they were purchased by our agent for the sum of \$558. They are worth ten times the amount we paid for them.

The land on which these buildings stand, belongs as yet to parties in Indiana. They are anxious to sell, and it can be purchased at reasonable figures. There are 120 acres in the tract. We have, also, purchased 260 acres adjacent to this, of good rate land, for \$3,000 payments, in two equal annual installments. We now consider the Home permanently located.

We have a beautiful site, with plenty of land for present purposes. The land is as productive as any in that section of the State, and the timber the best in the whole region. There is a sufficiency of the best pine and oak to put up ten times the number of buildings we shall ever need, and then have enough left for fencing and fuel. If we had the means to suitably improve this location, we could make it a little paradise for our orphans. Commanding in position, healthy, well watered, and easily accessible, with a comparatively small expense, it can be made not only a comfortable but an elegant Home for the destitute orphans of our land.

Many may be anxious to know the estimated cost of fully equipping the new Home. We can of course only approximate the figures, and yet we think we can reach a point of exactness sufficient for all practical purposes. If we had \$20,000 to be spent in the erection of buildings, and \$5,000 to pay for land and other improvements, the Board are confident, that, with this expenditure, they would be prepared to accommodate at least four hundred children. Our friends in Kentucky are proposing to spend \$100,000 in the purchase of land and the erection of buildings in the city of Louisville, and then will not be able to accommodate more than one hundred children. Yet they consider it a wise investment. How economical our expenditure compared with theirs. With one-fourth the amount invested we can care for four times as many orphans. And with us, when they leave the Home, they will be prepared in every case, so far as capacity will permit, to take care of themselves. For each will have acquired a useful and profitable vocation, as well as a suitable mental training. We are confident that no Orphan Asylum in the land will compare in cheapness with the expenditure, which we propose to make. No College with an equal number of students can be established on a permanent foundation for three times the money. The above estimates are of course outside the annual cost of support. But it should be remembered that we propose to manage the Institution, that this annual cost shall gradually diminish to a small amount, and if possible to zero. And then the whole amount need not be secured and expended all at once. The present buildings can be used until better ones can be provided. We can have time in which

to accomplish our plans. Yet it should not be overlooked that some of this work needs to be done immediately. We should make a beginning at once. The lands should be paid for, and some new buildings are absolutely required. The children are too much crowded in their present quarters, and we are compelled to refuse admittance to many who imperatively need the benefits of the Home. We have made some progress towards the independence or self support of the Home. We have planted this year 125 acres in cotton, 30 acres in corn and oats, besides other small crops and a large garden. We have set out 2,000 fruit trees, and planted 3 acres in grape vines, all of which are doing well. We, also, have commenced a small nursery, which we hope to make remunerative. Influenced somewhat by the judgment of experienced nurserymen and fruit growers, it is the intention of the Board to extend operations in these lines until we make the Home as near self-supporting as it can be made. We need, however, more stock of every description, such as mules, horses, hogs and cows. Friends of the Home cannot do us a greater favor than to contribute something that will aid us in working the land and feeding the children.

One of the most efficient means of self-support, is the Orphans' Home Banner. The amount of revenue derived directly from profit on it as profit on its publication is considerable, and it has proved to be the best agent we have had in the field during the year. The good it has done is incalculable, not merely in bringing contributions into the treasury but in disseminating just views of the character and aims of the Home. Its circulation ought to be quadruple what it is. How easy it would be for its friends to make it more than this, if they would but make the effort. We urge this with emphasis upon every lover of the Home. By laboring to increase the circulation of the Banner, the most tender female can do as much towards feeding the hungry and clothing the naked as the most robust and energetic man. Will not the lady friends of the Banner run its circulation up to ten thousand during the year? They can do it if they will to do it. The paper is worthy of patronage because of its intrinsic merit; it is worthy of patronage because of the good it accomplishes in the cause of the orphan.

We must, however, still depend for some years to come mainly on the charities of the people for the sustenance of the Home. It would be wrong to create any other impression. The Home must pass through the period of childhood before it can reach the vigorous and independent state of manhood. A slow and healthy growth is better than a precocious one. And do the best we may in the way of self support, it will nevertheless doubtless always make some small demand upon our charities. And why should we wish it otherwise? Benevolence is a God-like attribute, and the more we exercise it in the right spirit, the more like God we become. We ought to be thankful for opportunities like this of developing our better natures. This Home, if we sustain it as we should, will make us better men, better citizens, and better Christians. Of all types of men, the penurious and niggardly are the meanest and farthest from the Kingdom of Heaven. The Home, while it blesses the orphan, equally blesses those who sustain it. It will be a sad

commentary on the character and Christianity of our people, should they permit it to suffer for want of support. We desire here to make special acknowledgment to the Masonic Fraternity of the State, for the very liberal contributions received from that source since the foundation of the Home, especially during the past year; and we have no doubt that the fact of there being nearly one hundred children now at the Home who are the orphans of Masons, will continue to invite the Charitable offerings of that great and noble brotherhood.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Amount of hand, June 1, 1869	\$2,624.47
Received from agents	3,651.25
Received from Masonic sources	2,363.88
Subscriptions to Banner	1,863.37
From all other source	3,603.62
Total amount received	\$14,106.59

DISBURSEMENTS

Freights and express charges	\$1,176.93
Printing and office supplies	1,183.99
Employees of Home	2,180.90
Agents	700.00
A.D. Trimble to purchase team	500.00
Paid for team to stock the farm	560.00
Rent of Springs property six months	500.00
Paid for buildings	558.00
Attorney' fee in Hurlbutt suit, ec.,	200.00
Paid for seeking a new location	270.00
General supplies	5,553.00
Total disbursements	\$13,382.61
Balance on hand	\$723.98

COMPROMISE

We are happy to announce that the suit which we brought last year against Hurlbutt, Sturges & Co., has been amicably settled. Mr. Sturges agrees to pay back all he received in his own name and in the name of Elder J.R. Graves, amounting to \$2,610. Mr. Hurlbutt pays back \$1,500 in three equal annual installments; Duncan pays back \$700 in three equal annual payments, making in all \$4,810 returned to the Home. Only \$1000 of this was paid in cash; the balance is well secured. We trust this arrangement will meet your approbation. We are greatly indebted to Judge T. Reavis, of Gainesville, Alabama, for the accomplishment of this result, who, without fee or reward, served as peace maker on the occasion of the settlement. Special thanks are also due to Messrs. Hamm & Evans, our attorneys, for faithful discharge of their duties, and for their efforts in securing the compromise.

Strange as it may seem, complaints have reached us from two opposite sources, with regard to the denominational control of the Institution. One party complains that it is too denominational, the other it is not enough so. It is of course impossible to satisfy both parties, and the present management seems to satisfy neither. This, however, may be the result of not understanding the plan on which the Home is conducted, and the causes, which led to the

adoption of this plan. It will not be out of place, therefore, to give a brief history of the origin of the Institution as it now exists.

During the year 1864 the subject of establishing a Home or Asylum for the destitute orphans of Confederate soldiers, was generally discussed in the public papers throughout the State. Public meetings were held to deliberate upon the matter, one at Jackson, called at the instance of Governor Clark, and one at Columbus, of which Bishop Green was Chairman, or in which he took a prominent part. The object of these meetings, was to unite all denominations in the support of a Home in such a way that no one denomination would have a superior control. After a thorough canvassing of the whole subject by the leading minds of the State, the opinion seemed to be quite general that it could not be done. It was thought best by some that some one denomination should become responsible for its origin and management, who would conduct it in such a manner, if possible, as to unite all hearts in its support. The Baptists, being perhaps, the strongest denomination in the State, voluntarily undertook to do this. The Mississippi Baptist State Convention met at Crawfordsville, October 26th, 1864, and inaugurated measures which resulted in establishing the Home at Lauderdale. The Charter gives the entire control to this Convention. The Convention appoints the Board of Trustees, one third of them every year, thus becoming responsible for the Character of the Board and the success or failure of the Institution. They have the power of reviewing the action of the Board as often and as critically as they choose, and of directing them in their line of policy. It has been thought best by the Convention hitherto, in appointing these trustees, to give leading members of other denominations a place upon the Board. The Board thus constituted, has endeavored to manage the Institution in accordance with the plan thus indicated by the appointing power, in the spirit of catholic Christianity. No just cause of offense has been given to these gentlemen of other persuasions who have been associated with us. And we bear cheerful testimony to the fact that they have been faithful and true to the interests of the Home. Some of them have been among the most laborious and self-sacrificing of our number. Every measure of the Board, so far as we know, has met their cordial approbation. We have labored together as Christians and philanthropists, and not as Baptists and Pedobaptists.

Where, then, is there any cause for complaint? With all this unlimited control of the Institution, the Baptists demand that it should be made more thoroughly Baptist in its internal administration, and its religious influences. And the Pedobaptists, notwithstanding all this yielding to their wishes and views, in conducting the Institution in the interests of no one denomination, demand that it shall be entirely severed from the control of the Convention, and either made self-perpetuating in its Board, or placed in other hands. We have reference in the above to Baptists and Pedobaptists outside the present Board of Trustees? The pressure is from without, not from within, but it is strong, and cannot be ignored. Official deliverances from the ecclesiastical organizations of our Pedobaptist Brethren, and a mighty ground-swell coming from the Baptist brotherhood, throughout the State, have forced the issue

upon us. Both parties may be unreasonable; but they must be heard; and if they cannot be satisfied that the present policy is wisest, then some new policy must be adopted. The Board is placed under very embarrassing circumstances; they can turn neither to the right hand nor to the left; on the one hand Scylla, on the other Charybdis; in front the boisterous sea, behind the wailing cry of helpless orphanage; the current running across our course, and threatening to engulf us. What are we to do? Shall we lie on our oars and miserably founder amid the contending waves? Or shall we nerve our arms anew and strike out through the storm to the light and the calm beyond? To perish would be cowardly. There is a glorious future before us, if we prove ourselves worthy of the occasion. We appeal to the Convention for instruction.

We cannot close this report without bearing our renewed testimony to the faithfulness and efficiency of our worthy Superintendent, his devoted wife, and all their assistants. They have labored with untiring zeal amid many discouragements, and deserve the prayers, and sympathy and hearty cooperation of all the good people of the state.

Whatever policy the Convention may adopt with regard to the future management of the Home, it seems to us that there can be but one sentiment with regard to its continuance and ultimate enlargement. It is the only asylum in the State not under Catholic control. It has long been a reproach to anti-Catholics that they have not cared for the poor, as the spirit and teachings of the Gospel demand. Shall there remain any just grounds in this State for such a reproach? Is it possible that the five or ten thousand orphans of the State shall be permitted to grow in ignorance, to become, perhaps, the victims of vice and crime, without some adequate effort being made for their relief? It would be a shame if the fifty thousand Baptists alone, could not successfully maintain the Home; but when we add to these as many more from other churches and from no church at all, to let it fail or even suffer for want of support, would mark us with a pusillanimity that would deserve the contempt of the world. Twenty-five cents from each of one hundred thousand men and women of Mississippi, would give us an income of \$25,000. And can we not do that? Then let us blush for our civilization to say nothing of our Christianity. The commonest instincts of humanity should prompt us to care for the helpless offspring of the departed dead. When these offspring come to our very doors, in tatters and rags, and stretch out their emaciated hands, and lift their pale, yearning faces to ours, imploring our assistance, how can we turn them away? The fathers, many of them, fought side by side with you on the ensanguined field and today are sleeping in bloody graves, their lives a sacrifice for us and our children. We cannot, we must not, we will not deny them the shelter, the food and raiment, the culture, which they ask at our hands; but the Home which, through a generous Providence, is permitted to shelter a few of these shorn lambs from the pitiless storm, shall ere long throw its protecting arms of virtue and religion around its thousands.

W.S. WEBB, Secretary of Board

1870 - Extracts from the Address of Grand Master T.S. Gathright to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi are presented below:

ORPHANS' HOME

This Institution...has been laboring under peculiar circumstances for the last several months...The title to the Home property proved to be worthless, and by a decree of the U.S. District Court, was, on the 15th of July, sold, and passed out of the hands of the Board of Trustees...I have only this to say of this institution: I have the honor to be president of the Board of Trustees, and it is my candid opinion, that I have never seen any charity, public or private, managed more carefully and economically. Bro. S.S. Granberry, the Superintendent of the Home...has given no large sum of money, but, cutting himself aloof from the world, his pure life and benevolent heart have made darkness light before hundreds of poor little staggering, fatherless, motherless children.

**1870 Census
LAUDERDALE SPRINGS CONFEDERATE ORPHANS' HOME**

NAMES	AGE	SEX	RACE	BORN	OCCUPATION
Granberry, Simeon S.	41	M	W	MS	Superintendent
Elizabeth M.	35	F	W	NC	Keeping House
Henry J.	15	M	W	MS	
James A.	14	M	W	Unknown	
Simeon S.	11	M	W	MS	
Laura A.	4	F	W	MS	
Delia	14	F	W	MS	
Owen, Adelia	35	F	W	TN	Laborer
Lafayette	12	F	W	MS	
Mary	11	F	W	MS	
James	6	M	W	MS	
Melton, Martha A.	40	F	W	AL	Domestic Servant
Robert A.	13	M	W	MS	
Carrie	11	F	W	MS	
Martin	8	M	W	MS	
Smith, Christina	33	F	W	LA	Domestic Servant
Frank	12	M	W	LA	
Della	10	F	W	LA	
Maggie	8	F	W	LA	
O'Brien, Susan	54	F	W	MS	Domestic Servant
Ambrose	15	M	W	MS	
William	13	M	W	MS	
George	9	M	W	MS	
Jones, Sallie F.	43	F	W	TN	Domestic Servant
Melissa	11	F	W	MS	
Emma	9	F	W	MS	
Willie	7	M	W	MS	
Barrett, Virginia	38	F	W	MS	Domestic Servant
Nora	5	F	W	MS	

NAMES	AGE	SEX	RACE	BORN	OCCUPATION
Kellum, Joshua	10	M	W	MS	
George	8	M	W	MS	
Grantham, Nancy	30	F	W	Unknown	Domestic Servant
Mary	10	F	W	MS	
John	8	M	W	MS	
James D.	6	M	W	MS	
Willaims, Mary C.	30	F	W	MS	Teacher
Carrie	11	F	W	MS	
Juda	9	F	W	MS	
Elizabeth D.	7	F	W	AL	
Thigpen, Moses J.	30	M	W	MS	Laborer
Isabella	25	F	W	MS	
Ida B.	1	F	W	MS	
Wonham, Andrew	45	M	W	MS	
Welch, Mary J.	43	F	W	AL	Teacher
Davis, Theresa	32	F	W	TN	Teacher
Atkins, Thomas	13	M	W	AL	
Joseph	10	M	W	AL	
Anderson, Etta	14	F	W	MS	
Susan M.	11	F	W	MS	
Gates	9	M	W	MS	
Sallie	7	F	W	MS	
Berry, George	14	M	E	Unknown	
Anna	15	F	W	Unknown	
Beason, Bettie	10	F	W	MS	
Para Sue	8	F	W	MS	
Bearden, Mary	14	F	W	MS	
Curtis, Job	13	M	W	MS	
William	12	M	W	MS	
Isaac	10	M	W	MS	
Crosby, Perry	12	M	W	MS	
Matilda	10	F	W	MS	
Dunlap, John	13	M	W	MS	
Mary	11	F	W	MS	
Downer, Winnie	10	F	W	MS	
John	8	M	W	MS	
Davis, Alice	10	F	W	MS	
Feston	8	M	W	MS	
Nancy	6	F	W	MS	
Drake, Mary	11	F	W	MS	
Wesley	10	M	W	MS	
Henry	8	M	W	MS	
Dehan, Minnie	8	F	W	MS	
Ellis, Thomas	10	M	W	MS	
Mattie	7	F	W	MS	
Fisher, Synthia	12	F	W	MS	
Fredrick, Anna	8	F	W	MS	
Grantham, Martha	15	F	W	MS	
Alice	13	F	W	MS	
Green, Judson	14	M	W	MS	
Lafayette	12	M	W	MS	
Ida	11	F	W	MS	
John	9	M	W	MS	

NAMES	AGE	SEX	RACE	BORN	OCCUPATION
Green (continued)					
Charles	7	M	W	MS	
James	5	M	W	MS	
Goodwyn, John	11	M	W	AL	
Eunice	9	F	W	AL	
Thomas	7	M	W	AL	
Gartham(?), Leona	10	F	W	MS	
Viola	8	F	W	MS	
Gosey, Debba	7	F	W	MS	
Glasgow, Fannie	10	F	W	MS	
Karie	8	F	W	MS	
Howell, Rufus	16	M	W	MS	
Maggie	13	F	W	MS	
Hasty, Wayman	17	M	W	MS	
Mary F.	15	F	W	MS	
Jane	13	F	W	MS	
Nancy	10	F	W	MS	
Benjamin	4	M	W	MS	
Hogan, William H.	15	M	W	TN	
Mellie L.	12	F	W	TN	
Hillyer, James	11	M	W	AL	
Henely, Albert	11	M	W	MS	
William	9	M	W	MS	
Harris, Ella	10	F	W	MS	
Henry	7	M	W	MS	
Hoy, Ellen	10	F	W	MS	
Missouri	8	F	W	MS	
Hudson, Eugenia	12	F	W	MS	
Lizzie	11	F	W	MS	
Josey	10	F	W	MS	
Mary J.	9	F	W	MS	
Thomas	7	M	W	MS	
Harvey	6	M	W	MS	
Hightower, Jersey	10	F	W	MS	
Tiny	8	F	W	MS	
Jameson, Nancy	12	F	W	MS	
Jones, Lizzie	9	F	W	MS	
Jefferson D.	7	M	W	MS	
Jones, Lastley	12	M	W	MS	
Jasper	12	M	W	MS	
Henry	10	M	W	MS	
Andrew	8	M	W	MS	
Jones, Anna	8	F	W	MS	
Joyner, William	12	M	W	AL	
John	10	M	W	AL	
Edward	8	M	W	AL	
Johnson, James	11	M	W	AL	
Glover	9	M	W	AL	
Harper	8	M	W	AL	
Knight, Sarah	16	F	W	MS	
Albert	14	M	W	MS	
Elizabeth	11	F	W	MS	

NAMES	AGE	SEX	RACE	BORN	OCCUPATION
Knight (Continued)					
Henry	10	M	W	MS	
Lewis, Mary	18	F	W	AL	
Lee, Nancy	10	F	W	MS	
Joseph	10	M	W	MS	
Ladd, Sallie	10	F	W	MS	
Scott, Luther	14	M	W	MS	
Josie	12	F	W	MS	
Langford, Nicodemmous	11	M	W	MS	
McGee, Sylalva	15	F	W	MS	
Addie	13	F	W	MS	
McDonlad, Amanda	13	F	W	MS	
Moore, Semele	13	F	W	MS	
James	12	M	W	MS	
William	11	M	W	MS	
Sidney	9	M	W	MS	
Mason, Kate	11	F	W	MS	
Morris, Vestuka	12	F	W	MS	
Mixon, John	13	M	W	MS	
Henry	11	M	W	MS	
Mary	10	F	W	MS	
Jane	8	F	W	MS	
McKenzie, Molly	9	F	W	MS	
Meador, Malcolm	18	M	W	AR	
Daniel	15	M	W	AR	
Alonzo	13	M	W	AR	
Dave	11	M	W	AR	
Owen, Thomas	12	M	W	MS	
Robert	10	M	W	MS	
Porter, Mary	14	F	W	MS	
Riley	11	M	W	MS	
Peavy, Sallie	13	F	W	MS	
Pope, Pattie	10	F	W	MS	
Popham, Susan	11	F	W	MS	
Pearson, Rebecca	13	F	W	MS	
Jackie	11	F	W	MS	
Johnnie	9	F	W	MS	
Purvis, Sallie	12	F	W	MS	
Pearson, Maggie	10	F	W	MS	
Cassie	8	F	W	MS	
Robinson, Mary	14	F	W	MS	
Roy, Charles	12	M	W	MS	
Mary	10	F	W	MS	
Robert	9	M	W	MS	
Reynolds, Priscilla	11	F	W	MS	
Jane	9	F	W	MS	
Spellings, Geneva	14	F	W	MS	
Swain, Jerry	12	M	W	MS	
Smith, George	11	M	W	MS	
Saunders, Tucker	10	M	W	MS	
Lee	8	M	W	MS	
Sumrall, Nancy	12	F	W	AL	
James	11	M	W	AL	

NAMES	AGE	SEX	RACE	BORN	OCCUPATION
Sumrall(continued)					
Malcolm	9	M	W	AL	
Sherman, Rosanna	12	F	W	MS	
Arena	10	F	W	MS	
Anna	8	F	W	MS	
Shelly, Theodosia	12	F	W	MS	
Victoria	10	F	W	AL	
Lovey	8	F	W	AL	
Simpson, Carrie	9	F	W	MS	
Watson, Lucy	14	F	W	MS	
White, Lucretia	16	F	W	MS	
Nancy	14	F	W	MS	
Caroline	12	F	W	MS	
White, Daniel	10	M	W	MS	
Abraham	8	M	W	MS	
Travis, Dallas	10	M	W	MS	
Wooten, John	12	M	W	MS	
William	10	M	W	MS	
Elizabeth	8	F	W	MS	
Weaver, Malinda	12	F	W	MS	
Mattie	10	F	W	MS	
Williams, Martha	15	F	W	AL	
Sarah	13	F	W	AL	
Nancy	11	F	W	AL	
Kittie	11	F	W	AL	
Woodruff, Sallie	8	F	W	MS	
Ward, Ophelia	8	F	W	MS	
Mary H.	7	F	W	MS	
Walker, Henry	8	M	W	MS	
Henson, Moose	42	M	B	VA	Laborer

1871 MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION
SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE ORPHANS HOME

The Orphans' Home still lives! And it lives in vigorous and elastic growing strength. Twelve months ago it was in great peril. Its best friends almost despaired of its success. No one doubted that great good had been accomplished, and that there was an almost imperative necessity for the continuance of the Institution; all, we believe sincerely, desired its perpetuation. But the denominational status of the Institution needed to be more satisfactorily defined. A large majority of the Board favored this definition. In your capacity as legal guardian at your last Annual Session, you determined upon this course. The Board cheerfully acquiesced in your decision, and the present condition of the Home attests the wisdom of your action. The little weakling has become strong, and is steadily growing stronger. Coming out of the ordeal of trial through which it has passed, it has gone on its way rejoicing. It has lost no old friends, it has gained many new ones. Its young and tender limbs are plethoric and active. People of every name and order, now strive to promote its welfare. The rattle of its voice, and the echo of its songs, has been heard and responded to, its acts

of unselfish love, from the Mississippi to the Atlantic, from the Great Gulf to the Ohio. The brotherhood of the mystic tie have bound it with new cords of love to their large, warm hearts, and to them we are greatly indebted for the success which has crowned our efforts. Friends love it more than ever; passing strangers smile upon and caress it, and the child, now healthy and strong, is growing in the grace of all the people.

We have not, during the past year, made any very general effort to secure through State and local agents, the contributions of the people. Except for a short time, we have had no such agent in the field, and yet our receipts are largely in excess of those of former years. Material aid has been received through the Masonic Fraternity, and from other sources without any appeal on our part.

This inspires us with the belief that the Home has a place in the hearts of the people which will insure its permanent usefulness. Means have been largely provided also, through the agency of the orphans themselves. A band of about thirty Orphans, under the direction of Rev. A.D. Trimble, have visited various portions of the land giving a series of musical entertainments for the benefit of the Institution. They have been kindly, and even enthusiastically received wherever they have gone. The sum received from this source to this time, in cash and supplies amounts to over \$1,6000. Through this instrumentality the land on which the building now stand has been purchased and the balance due on the former purchase has been canceled. We have now 380 acres of land entirely our own. We commence the seventh year of our history with no debt of any kind hanging over us, and with a respectable balance in the treasury.

As the titles to all our property are now clear and undoubted and the denominational character of the Institution has been clearly defined and is well understood; as we are entirely free of debt, and there is nothing to turn away the public attention from our legitimate work; and as the Institution possesses the confidence so far as we know, of all classes of the community, we think we see a wider field of usefulness opening before us, so that we can confidently rely upon the charities of the people for our future support.

While a general success has thus characterized our operations during the year, have not been without concern. Death has entered our household and taken away one whom we most relied on the conduct of the Institution. Just as prosperity was once more within our grasp, our horizon was suddenly dimmed by the sudden death of our excellent Superintendent, Prof. S.S. Granberry. It is true, for a long time he had been in precarious health, yet we still hoped to enjoy, for months at least, the benefits of his experience. But God's ways were not as our ways, and on the 13th of January last, he rested from the labors below to the rest and the reward above.

Bro. Granberry was an eminently good and true man, and peculiarly qualified for the position which he filled. He was a benefactor of his race. He leaves a noble legacy to his children and to the world. His character and life are worthy of commendation. He was a man in whom you could implicitly confide. He was modest and unassuming, gentle as a child in all his actions with others,

yet firm as the rock in times of trial. The highest eulogy we can pronounce upon him, is to say that he was true man, a Christian. He rests from his labors and his works do follow him. The Board considers themselves fortunate in having secured the services of Capt. T.J. Dupree to supply the place of the lamented Granberry. We believe him eminently qualified for the position, and believe the Home will be prosperous under his administration.

We compile, the following Financial Statement from the Reports of Superintendent and Treasurer.

RECEIPTS

In hands of Supt. S.S.G.	\$1,669.98
In the hands of Treas. T.J.D.	723.00
Received on BANNER	1,321.85
From T. Sturges, on Compromise	810.00
From Judge Hamm, Twilley suit	202.00
From 19 bales Cotton	1,289.90
Through Rev. A. D. Trimble 1	2,111.18
From all other sources	2,307.82
	\$20,496.19

DISBURSEMENTS

Express charges and freights	\$848.62
To Supt. and employees	1,351.25
Salaries of employees for this year	4,816.25
Payment on land	4,000.00
Expense of printing BANNER	720.74
Farming implements	4,067.95
Balance on hand	4.385.55
	20,496.10

It will be seen from the above exhibit that the finances of the institution are in a healthy condition. We are out of debt, and there was on May 1st, a surplus in the treasury of \$4,385.55. We have reason to thank God and take courage. The expenditures for the year may seem larger than usual, really this is not so. The time embraced in Reports of Treasurer and Superintendent is 13 months instead of 12 months. This is done in order to make our financial year commence with May 1st instead of April 1st as last year. Subtract from the whole amount of the old debts we have been compelled to pay and the amount paid out for land, and the expenditures will become to be really less than last year.

We again call attention to the Banner. Its circulation is by no means what it ought, to be. No paper can succeed if its friends are indifferent to its success. We are not able to pay agents large salaries to canvass it and yet we propose to do something in this direction. In a few weeks a list of programs will be announced which we hope will stimulate the children at least to an earnest canvass in behalf of the paper. Other improvements will also be introduced which we trust will only make it more interesting to older people, but emphatically the children's paper of the State.

We do not propose simply to congratulate ourselves on what we have accomplished, and be satisfied to rest on our laurels. We can but rejoice in what God has permitted us to do, but we recognize that there is work, much hard work, yet before. To insure the permanent success of the Home, we must have buildings more suitable to our purposes than those we now occupy. To pass another winter in the buildings as they now are, would be to expose the children to extreme suffering. We must either diminish our number or furnish better accommodations for a portion of the number we now have. We can put up a building this summer, if we are not compelled to use the funds we now have on hand for the purchase of general supplies. If our friends will furnish us food and clothing for the orphans, with the money now in the treasury we can make them comparatively comfortable for the next year. We have determined to devote the present surplus to the erection of suitable buildings; asking our friends and the orphan's God and Father for our want.

We hope it will not be forgotten then, that for the next two or three years we shall have two uses for money. 1st, The ordinary expenses of the Institution. 2nd, For the erection of new buildings. Without these buildings it will be impossible to achieve any great degree of success; with them success will be almost assured. We can surely raise all the funds we need, if we trust God and make the effort. Our people are kind and Christian in their feelings and sympathies, and they will not let the orphans suffer if their wants are brought before them. If we can do it, we ought to do it. It would be a shame to cease our efforts when success is so nearly within our reach. We cannot think of letting the home fail through weariness in well doing. It pays to serve God. There is nothing lost in giving to the poor. God will bless him who blesses the needy. We cannot then; we must not, we will not go backward in this good work. Every patriotic and philanthropic heart says so to such a proposition. Every impulse of our better natures and of our Christian manhood bids us go forward. And by the grace of God, we are determined to yield to these holy impulses until the Orphans' Home of the State of Mississippi has become one of the proudest monuments of Christianity in our Southern land.
W. S. WEBB, Secretary

1871 CHOCTAW ASSOCIATION
REPORT ON THE ORPHANS' HOME

Your Committee would report that the Home still lives and wishes to be remembered by the Association. In a letter written to our moderator on the 12 instant, the Treasurer of the Home says,

Having used the old buildings as long as they were safe, and much longer than they were comfortable, it becomes necessary to abandon some of them, and provide something else to take care of our children, and we are having the additional expense of trying to build. Our buildings though substantial will be of the cheapest character. A three story brick house, with accommodations for more than one hundred children, will not cost exceeding four thousand dollars, perhaps not more than three thousand dollars. I verily believe it will be the cheapest house, public or private, ever erected in the State.

The Home is out of corn, out of meat, and has very little money in the treasury. Every pound of meat used for the last five months has been bought, and so of the bread. I would ask of you to bring to the notice of the Choctaw Association the following resolutions adopted by the Columbus Association at its recent session:

RESOLVED, That we recommend every church in the Association to provide for the support of one orphan at the Home, or such a portion of that support as it may be able to provide annually; that the pastor or someone one appointed by him, or elected by the church, collect the amount annually, and forward it to the Treasurer of the Home.

RESOLVED, That the person also solicit subscriptions for the Orphans' Home Banner.

Brethren, shall we not respond to this call? Shall we not provide shelter, food and raiment for those dear children? We have done something; let us not be weary in well doing. May the Lord open our hearts to take care of those fatherless and motherless children.

Respectfully submitted,
J.E. WHITE, Chairman

1871 LOUISVILLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Your Committee on the Orphans' Home, should beg leave to report; That this institution has shared a degree of prosperity in so much, that its original indebtedness has been paid off. It now has about two hundred orphans to provide for. This Home commends itself to every friend of hapless children, and should receive not only our prayers, but our sympathy and support. Your Committee would also recommend the "Orphan' Home Banner" to the patronage of our people, as by it they will be informed with reference to its worth.

1871 - Extracts from the Address of the M.W. Grand Master to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi are included below:

I again call your attention to the Orphans' Home. A year ago this Institution was in danger of being lost to the little ones whom it sheltered, and to whom it was not only in name, but in deed and in truth, a Home. That crisis has passed. By the exertions of a few of the orphans themselves guided by kind friends, funds sufficient to pay for the property have been raised and a good title is now vested in the Trustees. But though relieved in this respect, its necessities are still great. The inmates of the Home must be fed, clothed and educated. Many of them are children of our brothers; all of them are helpless, destitute orphans...Let me suggest that each Lodge pledge itself to the support of one of these children.

1872 MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ORPHANS' HOME

We regret to state that the anticipations with which we commenced our financial year, twelve months ago, have not been fully realized. Our cash receipts at that time were largely in

and we were inspired with the belief that the Home had a place in the hearts of the people, which would insure its permanent usefulness. Our confidence, however, did not lessen our exertions to provide the means for carrying into execution our generous plans. An extensive correspondence was kept up with leading brethren of the State; circulars were issued setting forth our wants; appeals were made through the press; the claims of the Home were urged before every Association in the State where we could find brethren interested enough to act for us; and the little band of orphans under the direction of Mr. Tremble, so successful last year, was continued in the field; and yet, in spite of all these efforts, the 22d of December found our treasury exhausted, with no immediate prospect of relief. The people had apparently come to the conclusion that the little band of Orphan Warblers were amply able to support the Home without their aid. A few hundred dollars were all we received from other sources from June to October, and less than eighteen hundred dollars from this source. Our appeals to the brethren were not generally responded to. Nine-tenths of the denomination gave us nothing, and, so far as we could judge, used no exertions in our behalf. Again and again we renewed our entreaties for help. We plead with them in the name of the orphans themselves; we plead with them in the name of the Master, who said: "I was ahungered and you gave me no meat; I was thirsty and ye gave me no drink, I was a stranger and ye took me not in; naked and ye clothed me not." And, with all the emphasis that we could command, we reminded them that "inasmuch as they did it not to the least of these, they did it not to Him." But almost in vain did we thus plea. The denomination, as a body, seemed to be immovable.

Just at this juncture in our affairs, when our resources had all apparently well nigh failed, and we knew not whether to turn the right hand or to the left, the annual meeting of the Board for the election of officers and other purposes occurred. Some members of the Board, after consultation, had determined to introduce at that meeting the subject of

TRANSFERRING THE HOME
TO THE MASONS

The Secretary, therefore, in giving the usual notice of the meeting, stated explicitly, in a written communication to each member, that this subject would be brought before the Board for their consideration. To one member, however, Elder J. Hamberlin, this notice was, we regret to say, not given. As is quite common, a bare quorum was in attendance. The subject was introduced, and fairly and thoroughly discussed. No one present wished the status of the Home changed, if it could be avoided; all most decidedly preferred that it should remain in the hands of its present legal owners. But we had evidently reached a crisis, in our history. We could not continue our work without funds; these funds could not be obtained. The legal guardians of the institution, the Baptists of the State would not heed our cries for help. We could not reasonably expect others to continue their aid unless the Baptists rendered more liberal aid themselves, And even if we might expect the same generous cooperation on part of others, this alone would not sustain the Home. It was plain that the Baptists must do more than they had been doing, or we must give up the enterprise.

If the Baptists would not sustain the institution, it was thought that perhaps the Masons would. One thing was certain; the orphans could not live on even the most tender expressions of regard. Of such, there was no lack, but at the same time there were no greenbacks in the treasury; there was no bread for hungry mouths; no clothing for tender limbs, and the most urgent appeals had failed to secure them. The chilling winds of winter were already howling through every crevice of our rickety buildings, and the children sometimes slept with the literal snow for a covering, or piled in drifts in their cheerless rooms, while the work upon the new building was compelled to stop for want of funds to purchase material. When we saw the denomination, who had been repeatedly informed with regard to the condition of the Home, turning coldly away, and saying by their indifference, that they were willing to see the orphans thus suffer, rather than give of their means for their support, could we come to any other conclusion than that they did not intend to sustain the Home? We do not mean to say that we believe they wished to see the orphans suffer, but that they preferred somebody else would relieve them. Who, knowing all the facts in the case, and hearing the cries of nearly two hundred children for bread, which we did not have to give them, would have hesitated to accept, so far as in them lay, the first feasible plan for escape from impending ruin? Our conclusions, however, and consequent action, we freely acknowledge, may have been wrong. We may not have read the signs of the times aright. And may have judged too hastily. We claim no infallibility. Happy are we if our action shall result in arousing and uniting our might-be invincible denomination in a hearty, general, systematic and successful effort to establish the Home upon a sure and permanent basis. What we have thus had to say of our denomination may seem too severe. The resolution embodying its action, upon this subject, reads as follows:

Resolved, That in order to secure a more hearty cooperation of people of the State in support of the Orphans' Home of the State of Mississippi, we, the Board of Trustees of said Home, hereby, nominate and appoint Past Grand Master Thos. S. Gathright, President of this Board, a Special Committee to represent to the M.W. Grand Lodge, at its next annual Communication, our willingness as a Board to transfer to that Body the Orphans Home; with all its property, franchises and solemn trusts; provided the Baptist State Convention, at its next annual session in June, agree to make the transfer; and provided further, that the Grand Lodge is willing to accept it.

From this resolution, with its provisos, the Convention will see that the Board did not give the Home away, nor even propose to do so. We are simply Trustees, and we have no right thus to dispose of our solemn trust; but we did have the right to say to the Grand Lodge that we would transfer the Home to them if this Convention should authorize it. Indeed, if you should authorize it, we could not do otherwise than transfer it. We simply said we would obey your behests, when they should be ascertained. If you should say, keep the Home, we should endeavor to keep it; if you should say, dispose of it, we should endeavor to dispose of

And we wish it distinctly understood that we do not advise nor in any sense desire the transfer of the Home to any other Body, if you can and will take care it yourselves. We would, however, most certainly rather see it live and prosper in the hands of the noble Masonic Fraternity than to see it die on our hands. This was the motive that prompted our action, not that we wished the Home transferred, but that we wished it to live. Our denomination, in connection with the benevolent of every name and order, who will cheerfully assist us, is abundantly able to sustain the Home if they will. It will be an honor and a blessing for us to do so. To care for God's poor is a heavenly work and will not lose its reward

VALUE OF THE PROPERTY

As some statements have recently been published with regard to value of our property, we give the following as the estimate of the acting Superintendent: Buildings, \$10,000; furniture, beds and bedding, \$1000; stock, \$1000; lands, \$3000. Total \$15,000.

The Banner is still published as our organ. It is a valuable aid to the Home. Its editorial department is conducted with ability and success by Miss Mary J. Welsh. Its circulation is by no means equal to its merits. We again urge the friends of the Home to interest the children everywhere in efforts to increase its circulation.

While Capt. T.J. Dupree has been nominally the superintendent during the past year, circumstances have been such that he has been unable to give much personal attention to the duties of his office. These duties have been faithfully and efficiently performed by Acting Superintendent, Dr. S.P. Kennedy, assisted by Mrs. S.S. Granberry. We may truly say that but for Dr. Kennedy the Home would long since have ended its mission of mercy. The domestic arrangements have been entirely under the direction of Mrs. Granberry, and she has proved herself a superior manager and an invaluable assistant.

During most of the year, Mr. Trimble has been in the field with about thirty orphans, collecting funds for the support and permanent endowment of the Home. While his success has not equaled that of last year, it has not been inconsiderable. Without his efforts, the Home could not have been sustained during the year even as well as it has been. And yet it is doubtful, with some of the Board and in the public mind, whether this agency ought to be continued.

RECEIPTS OF THE BOARD

On hand as per last report	\$4,385.55
Received from sale of brick	741.25
Received from Banner	747.06
Received from Masonic source	962.35
Through Bro. Trimble's agency	8,433.23
From Sturges-balance on note	800.00
From all other sources	2,080.15
Total	\$18,149.55

DISBURSEMENTS

Express charges and freight	\$1,176.65
Salaries of employees	3,863.25
Expense of publishing Banner	587.95
Cost of new building	7,977.56

Old debts	765.00
General repairs	325.00
General supplies	5,573.74
Total	\$20,249.18

In addition to the above, it is proper to state that \$2,400 have been secured as a nucleus for a permanent endowment. From this statement, it will be seen that at the close of our financial year, the Home was in debt \$2,099.60, and at the present time, reckoning in all outstanding liabilities, amounts to about \$3,700. How, it may be asked, has this debt been contracted? Most of it has been created by our efforts to complete the much needed new building. That building seemed to us necessary, absolutely necessary to the continuance of the Home. Relying upon the support of our friends, we formed contracts which we were compelled to meet, or sacrifice the work and the work and money already extended. Our friends did not come to our help, as we anticipated, and the consequence is a burdensome debt. Another source of the debt may be found in the fact that our current expenses during the year have been somewhat larger than usual, in consequence of being compelled to purchase for cash nearly all our supplies. Our friends did not keep our larder filled with provisions and our wardrobe with clothing, as they have generally done. We have been compelled to rely upon the market, to a great extent, and this has called for a larger supply of greenbacks than we could command. The indifference of the mass of the people to the wants of the Home has also, as we have shown, had much to do in the creation of this debt. The same general interest that was manifested during the last Conventional year would have kept us above want during the current year. The apparent belief of the public that Mr. Trimble could supply all our needs has well nigh proved fatal to our prosperity. That the agitation of the question of transferring the Home to the Masons has had much, if anything, to do with our diminished receipts, we do not believe, from the fact that the receipts during the last six months of the year during which this question has been agitated, have exceeded those of the first six months by more than three thousand dollars. Nor is this excess of receipts owing entirely to Mr. Trimble's increased success, for the same ratio of increase is seen in receipts from all other sources.

It is to be hoped, however, that the friends of the friendless will not cease to care for these orphans "the poor whom we have always with us" because of this debt or because of any other present complications of the Home. Let us pay the debt which, by our indifference as a people we have permitted to be contracted; and by our continued generous support, aid in training these little ones for usefulness in life and for the enjoyments of heaven. If the Home is to be sustained, however, there must be some well defined and practical system devised by which its success may be put beyond a peradventure. We cannot rely upon spasmodic efforts. Whether it shall be the agency so effectually employed by Mr. Trimble, or some plan that shall more generally reach the churches, or whether it shall be both combined, we leave the Convention to determine. We cannot close the report without bearing testimony to the continued kindness and generosity of the Masons of the State

towards the Home. Several Lodges have adopted each an orphan, whom they agree to support at the Home. The cost of such support is, at the present time, about seventy-five dollars per annum. We earnestly recommend this method of aiding the Home to the consideration of other Lodges.

W.S. WEBB, Secretary

By a vote of the Convention the supplemental statement furnished by Elder J.B. Hamberlin, in connection with the report of the Board, was ordered to be printed in the minutes of the Convention, as follows:

A STATEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE ORPHANS' HOME

The undersigned would respectfully submit the following statement, with special reference to the supposed necessity of alienating the Home from this Convention.

We believe that the action of the majority of the Trustees present at their meeting in December last, by which they suggested the transfer of the Home to the Masons, was prompted by the best of motives on their part, and that no suspicion can be attached to their intentions as to the highest good of the orphans. There is no reason whatever to believe that they designed unfairly to wrest the Home from the Baptists. The men who introduced that resolution, viz.: Messrs. Gathright, Kennedy and Power, were incapable of such motives and intentions. Their long and zealous labors for the orphans of this Home, even when they had no thought of its ever being anything else than a Baptist Institution, forbid the least suspicion that they could design to bear a treacherous or ignoble part as Trustees on the Board. Without being called on or requested in any manner, we voluntarily express the foregoing as due to these gentlemen. And the same must be said also of every member who voted with them on this question. At the same time we did humbly question the wisdom of their judgment, and the propriety of their action. But perhaps two strong cases accounted for it:

First. Just at that time, a sharp persecution was being waged by a number of prominent secular papers against the idea that the Home should have only a Baptist for a superintendent, that it should be exclusively under the control of Baptists, or any one religious sect. These strictures were necessarily very unpleasant to those Trustees who were not Baptists, or who were members of other religious bodies, and no doubt increased the suspicion, which had perhaps, already frequently occurred to them, and to others, whether the Home could be supported under the control of the Baptists.

Second. The extra expenses, already incurred, and the heavy payments, which were still coming on for settlement, the failure of our Secretary to secure special agents to raise funds in the State, or to secure a suitable response to his appeals for funds, sent out through the press, and the apparent inability to meet all our obligations, new as well as old, by the income of Bro. Tremble's agency, all naturally suggested the idea of failure to the minds of many. These two causes, we suggest, may have had influence enough to precipitate the vote in regard to the alienation of the Home. But, now, that the financial year has closed, we respectfully

ask: Has not our success, under such circumstances, in comparison with last year, or any former year, been highly satisfactory? For, over and above the usual, and necessary current expenses of the Home we have nearly completed, for which we have in cash thus far, \$7,977.56. This building, counting the donations of labor, lumber, &c., has actually cost us \$9000, or more. It is 50 feet by 70 feet, three stories high, divided into 24 small and 4 very large rooms, all nicely plastered; and will accommodate, if used for sleeping purposes, at least 125 orphans. This edifice, erected under the supervision of Maj. Herrod, in point of elegance and durability, is one of the best in the whole South, and, will be an honor to the efforts of this Board for ages to come. Had we not undertaken this extra, yet absolutely necessary expense, we would, at this Convention, have had a surplus in our treasury, as great if not greater, than that of last year. Does this look like failing?

On the other hand, all things considered, have we not great reason to thank Him who is "the Father of the fatherless?" For what He has done for these, our helpless orphans, during the past twelve months; and thanking Him, should we not take courage and go forward with the Home still under the care of this Convention? Very respectfully, J.B. HAMBERLIN.

On motion the following motion was adopted:
Resolved, That 1000 copies of the Report of the Committee on Orphans' Home be immediately printed, and copies placed in the hands of every delegate to this Convention; and said delegates are hereby requested to bring the matter before their respective churches at the earliest opportunity.

The Committee on Nominations submitted their report, which was read and adopted, except that portion nominating Trustees for Orphans' Home, which was recommitted with instructions.

1872 LOUISVILLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINUTES ON ORPHANS' HOME
Your Committee on the interests of the Orphans' Home at Lauderdale, Miss. would remark that there is a crisis of vast importance in relation to our connection with that noble enterprise. As you are apprised, the Board of that Institution, last summer was a year ago, proposed to transfer that Institution into the hands of the Masonic Fraternity. This matter, of course, was referred to our State Convention, for rejection or approval. The Convention took no decisive action, but referred the matter to the Churches of Mississippi, as it should have done, requesting the Churches to speak out on the subject of Transfer, by the first of December, next. The Convention further states that it will take about \$12,000 annually, for a time at least, to support it. Your Committee would further state that we have about 50,000 Baptists in Mississippi, which will be about 24 cents annually for each member. Your Committee would therefore, respectfully recommend the raising of said funds, and retaining the Institution.

All of which is respectfully submitted,
WILLIAM M. FARRAR, Chairman

1872 - Extract from the Address of the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge

The continued help of the Masons was so significant that the Trustees of the Orphans' Home offered ownership of the Home to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. A committee was appointed by the Grand Lodge to deal with the proposal, however, the Mississippi Baptist Convention of 1872 did not approve the action of the Trustees. A resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge stated:

Resolved, That the M.W. Grand Master appoint one Master Mason in each county in this State, who shall be respectfully requested to deliver in their respective counties lectures in behalf of the Orphans' Home at Lauderdale, the money raised thereby to be transmitted to the Orphans' Home to the benefit of said Institution.

Agreeable to previous announcement, the cornerstone of an edifice at the Home, to be three stories of brick, was laid in due Masonic form:

The Grand Lodge was opened in honor of the occasion with the following as Grand Officers:

George R. Fearn, M.W Grand Master
John O. McArthur, Dep. Grand Master
J.C. Porter, Senior, Grand Warden
C.M. Kelly, Junior, Grand Warden
Rev. J.L. Cooper, Grand Orator
Rev. W. S. Webb, Grand Chaplin
A.J. Herrod, Grand Architect
R. Fowler, Grand Treasurer
J.L. Power, Grand Secretary
J.M. Wood, Grand Senior Deacon
J.L. Simmons, Grand Junior Deacon
James Watts, Grand Marshall
G.J. Fortner, Grand Stewart
Z.C. Gathright, Grand Personivant
W. Henderson, Grand Tyler
George Bancroft, Methodist minister, carrying the Holy Writings
Duncan Kelly, of Toomsaba, carrying the Book of Constitution

The ceremonies of laying the stone were not only well conducted but very imposing. The Masons in the vicinity to the number of about sixty marched in procession to the northeast cornerstone of the foundation wall, proceeded by the children and officers of the home. The children formed a circle on arriving at the corner stone and were surrounded by the craft and a large concourse of visitors. While the stone was being lowered a beautiful anthem was sung by the children to the air of "One Hundred" the words of which were printed at the Orphans Banner office only an hour previous.

The ceremonies of laying the stone having been concluded the audience were comfortably seated and entertained for almost an hour with music, speeches and dialogues by the children.

Rev. J. L. Cooper was then invited without previous notice to address the audience which he did in a most appropriate and eloquent manner. He was followed by Grand Master Fearn during whose remarks the children adopted as wards by Subordinate Lodges were called to the platform when the Grand Master took each child by

the hand, receiving them on behalf of the Lodges. The scene was well calculated to moisten the eye and to start the sympathetic tear.

Could it have been witnessed by the twelve thousand Masons in Mississippi there would not be an orphan at Lauderdale today who would not be registered and provided for as the child of a Lodge. Photographs of the children thus adopted are sent to the Lodge and a duplicate copy to the Grand Secretary.

The ceremonies of the morning were followed by a bountiful feast for the children provided mainly by the visitors who came with baskets and trunks filled with good things for the orphans.

The boys at the home have not only made all the bricks for the building now in course of erection but have made about two thousand dollars worth besides which are being sold at market price and the proceeds applied to the payment of workmen and the purchase of subsistence.

The home for the last eighteen months has been supported mainly by the efforts of Rev. A.D. Trimble and his Orphan Concert Troupe - they have not been very successful - the past few months, the home treasury is almost empty. Under those circumstances the Secretary, the Board of Trustees, was directed to commission suitable agents to at once enter the field and gather up supplies so that our children of the Lost Cause may not be permitted to suffer for bread and for suitable shelter.

The Rev. J. L. Cooper, who as Grand Orator was called upon to address the assemblage as noted, was from the Cooper Normal College at Daleville, while R.C. Gathright, who would later attain prominence as a school administrator in Texas, represented the Gathright School in Noxubee County.

STATE BAPTIST CONVENTION - 1873
EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ORPEANS' HOME

In making this report we are glad to inform the Convention that in many respects the Home is in a better condition than it was a year ago. Since the last meeting of your body, the Home has had for its Superintendent, Rev. A.D. Trimble, concerning whom we are glad have the opportunity of saying that he has discharged his many and hard duties with energy, judgment and faithfulness. If the brethren will support him in his work, ho will make the Home a success.

During the three fall months of last year, Bro. Trimble was on agency in Texas with twelve of the children. In this agency his success was considerable. As will be seen by the financial statement, this was one of the principal sources of revenue to the Home. Up to the 13th of December last, Mrs. S.S. Granberry filled the position so long occupied by her; but at that time she tendered her resignation, which was accepted by the Board.

THE BANNER is still doing valuable service to the Home. Since January 1, it has been conducted by Maj. S.H. Stackhouse. There are at the Home about one hundred and ten orphans.

It will be remembered that at the last Convention the Home was represented as being in very straightened circumstances, and that an appeal was addressed to the Baptist Churches of the State, urging them to come to its support. The Board of Trustees were instructed to wait till December 1, and see the results of this appeal. If by that time it was ascertained that enough had not been pledged to assume the support of the Home, then as a matter of humanity, they were authorized to tender the Home, with all its appurtenances, to the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of Mississippi. On the 13th of December, a meeting of the Board was called. After due deliberation, in view of the action of the churches, and other hopeful indications, it was deemed wisest and best not to make the tender. The Board felt assured that it was the wish of the denomination to retain the Home, and that if tendered it would not be received by the Masons. Thus the Home is still, in the Providence of God, dependent on our Lodge in its continued expressions of kindness to the Home. Respectfully submitted,
W.A. MASON, Sec'y. Board of Trustees

The special order for the hour being the report of the Committee on Orphans' Home, the report was read and laid on the table, to be taken up tonight at a mass meeting.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORPHANS' HOME

Your committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home, respectfully report the permanent establishment of a great institution of this character is necessarily a work requiring much time and money, and the friends of the Home should not be discouraged because of the severe struggles which have been endured, nor yet by the continual demand for money to meet the wants of the Board in the great work committed to them.

The experience of the past Conventional year has proven that the Home can be sustained in its present hands, and only needs prayerful perseverance in urging its claims upon the people, and a cheerful contribution by each of its friends; and with the blessing of God it will continue to be an instrument of good in sheltering and providing for the helpless children gathered there to be trained for future usefulness in society.

We therefore recommend that the action of the Board of Trustees with regard to the subject of transfer proposed last year, be heartily approved by the Convention, and that the churches and friends of the Institution be urged to meet their former pledges promptly, and contribute regularly to its support in the future.

Respectfully submitted, W.H. TUCKER, Chairman

1873 LOUISVILLE ASSOCIATION

Your committee on the Orphans' Home have but little to report aside from the fact the Home lives and now looks to the Baptists of Miss., mainly for its support. And we deem it a noble enterprise, well deserving our sympathies, our prayers, and our contributions. True, they are trying hard to help themselves and to no doubt become less and less dependent on our contributions as their orchards and vineyards become in full bearing. Till those dear little ones committed to our care become self-supporting, we must cheerfully contribute to their wants.

Respectfully submitted, WM. M. FARRAR, Ch'n.

1873 - Extracts from the Address of the M.W. Grand Master to the Grand Lodge are included below:

The Baptist State Convention, who are the chartered owners of the Orphans' Home at Lauderdale, declined to ratify the tender of that Institution to this Grand Body, made by the Board of Trustees at the last Grand Communication, and that question is no longer before this Body.

Pursuant to a resolution adopted at the last Annual Grand Communication I appointed one Master Mason in each county in the State with the request that he deliver lectures in his county in behalf of the Orphans' Home at Lauderdale, and to transmit the funds thus raised to the Grand Secretary. That officer's report will disclose the amount thus raised and transmitted.

Allow me to suggest that the refusal of the Baptist State Convention to transfer that Institution to this Grand Lodge does not release us, as Masons, from our obligation to aid the support of the orphans of our deceased brethren in that Institution, and I affectionately commend them to the charity and benevolence of every Mason in this Grand Jurisdiction.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST COVENTION

1874 REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORPHANS' HOME

Your Committee to whom as referred the report of the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home would respectfully report that, so far as we can glean from the facts set forth in the report of the Board of Trustees, the Home is in a much more prosperous condition than we expected to find it, considering the unprecedented stringency in the monetary affairs of the country, and the difficulties attending the collection of the supplies for its support. To the able and efficient Superintendent, and the burning zeal and untiring labors of the General Agent, we are largely indebted for its successful management through these trying times, and its now hopeful future. The objects of the Home, when understood, commend themselves to the denomination throughout the State, and are favorably regarded by many of other denominations who are ready to contribute of their means for its support. Since the last report to the Convention, forty or fifty of the orphans have professed Christianity, and a church, has been organized for their benefit, with Elder W. H. Tucker as pastor. By reference to the report we find the indebtedness of the Home to be about \$3500. To meet this indebtedness, we learn that the income of the same will be about as follows: From the proceeds arising from the farm estimated at \$1875, and income from the "Home Banner" \$1000 amounting in the aggregate to \$2875. We commend the Home to the sympathies and prayers of the denomination and friends of the orphans, as an object worthy of their support. We would recommend that the pastors of churches throughout the State bring this subject before their congregations, at least once in each quarter, and that the General Agent appoint such agents to canvass within the bounds of each church as he may see proper, to collect supplies and report the same to him. The responsibility of supporting the Home rests upon the Baptists of Mississippi, and upon their efforts depend its future existence as an asylum for the orphans of our State.

Then let us, as individuals, work and contribute of our means to relieve it from embarrassment, and for its future support. Respectfully submitted,
T.B. DALTON, Chairman

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

To fill vacancies of Board of Trustees of Orphans' Home: Elder J.E. White, Elder J.B. Gambrell, Elder H.J. Vallandingham, Dr. A.H. Smith, Dr. J.L. Crigler, W.D. Northrup, M.V. Noffsinger

1874 CHOCTAW BAPTIST ASSOCIATION REPORT ON THE ORPHANS' HOME

Your committee would report that the Home still lives; and under the efficient management of Elder R.N. Hall, bids fair, with assistance from the churches, to be self-sustaining.

Brother Hall has recently erected a steam mill, gin and press, which will bring in a monthly revenue of some two hundred dollars, which, with the breadstuffs made on the place, will soon, probably, afford the necessary amount of bread; and he hopes soon to raise all the, bacon, required. Yet, the necessary clothing must, in all future time, be provided for by donations. This paltry sum, surely the denomination will cheerfully supply. The objections heretofore raised against the Home, are now probably removed, such as high salaries for the attending physician, officers, &c. The physician, instead of being employed by the year, is only called when needed, and that being very seldom, as Rev. Dr. Tucker, one of the resident officers, also attends the sick.

All Board members are Baptists, with only one or two exceptions, whose terms will shortly expire, when the entire Board will be made of Baptists. There is a Baptist church at the home, and we are informed in a prosperous condition. The Orphans' Home Banner, a newspaper devoted to the interests of the Home and general literature has a healthy circulation, and is cordially recommended to the support of the denomination; also, a Sunday school in a prosperous condition, but am not informed whether the Union Sunday School Books or those published by the S.B.P.S. are used. If the latter are not, would respectfully suggest they be adopted. And, in conclusion, would earnestly recommend the Home, and its orphans, to the warmest support of the denomination.

R. Fowler, Chm'n.

1874 - Some remarks from the Address of the M.W. Grand Master of the Grand. Lodge of Mississippi are included below:

It having come to my attention, early in the Autumn, that the Home at Lauderdale was in need of help, I issued a circular letter to the Subordinate Lodges, appealing to them for such assistance as they might think proper to render, or that individual members might feel disposed to contribute, for the relief of these orphans, and a short time thereafter directed the Grand Treasurer to expend one hundred dollars from any fund at his command, in the purchase of provisions for the use of the Home, and it is gratifying to me to be able to announce that the Subordinate Lodges have, in many instances, responded with a liberality characteristic of Masons, and much suffering has been thereby prevented..."

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION - 1875

Your Committee on the Orphans' Home respectfully submit the following report:

Since the reasons for the suspension of the Home have been given by the Board of Trustees, we do not deem it advisable to repeat them, but simply to declare our endorsement of them all as correct. While we deplore the necessity of the suspension of our efforts in this great work and feel humiliated in consequence of the same, we cannot do better, under existing circumstances, than to recommend to the Convention the adoption of the suggestions of the Trustees respecting the disposal of the property and the payment of the debts, provided all the claims against the Home be audited by a Committee appointed by this Convention. We feel that no one can charge the failure of this benevolence to the neglect of, or want of ability in the officers of the Home or the Board of Trustees. A more self-sacrificing man was never, since the lamented Granberry, at the head of the Home, than the gentleman who had charge of it at the time of its suspension. He employed his time, energies and means for the benefit of the institution; and it is clear from the reports of eye-witnesses that the condition of the children in respect to their appearance, instruction and health, was better than at any time since the death of its first Superintendent.

It cannot be charged upon the Trustees that they did not exert themselves to prevent the result so much deplored by us all; for appeals were made to the people, and when there was a failure from this source, the worthy President, brother W.H. Hardy, tried to negotiate a loan by giving a mortgage on the property. No one was willing to take a mortgage on such property because of the unfavorable public sentiment generally felt on such questions, when there is a failure to pay and a necessity to take the property. We fully endorse the sentiments advanced by Elder R.N. Hall, in his report respecting this officer. These statements we have felt it our duty to make respecting these gentlemen, because no others have felt the anguish of soul that they have felt in consequence of the dispersion of the orphans they had learned to love so well. The weight of responsibility and distress at the thought of failure was theirs, and therefore these facts are given to the public in their vindication.

C.M. GORDON, Ch'm.

The report of the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home was read by Brother W.H. Hardy, President of the Board, and on motion was referred to the Committee on Orphans' Home.

REPORT BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ORPHANS' HOME

To the Mississippi Baptist State Convention:

Since your last meeting, the Orphans' Home, at Lauderdale, Miss. has been suspended. We cannot better detail the causes which led to the occurrence than is done in the following card from the Executive Committee published at the time:

SUSPENSION OF THE ORPHANS' HOME

The executive committee of the Orphans' Home are under the painful necessity of announcing to the public the suspension of that noble institution, and the dispersion of its helpless inmates,

The institution is without money, without supplies, without credit; and in this condition no other alternative is left. This is the saddest duty we have ever been called on to perform in connection with this Institution. We hold the superintendent and his subordinates blameless in this matter. It was no fault of theirs. A more devoted and self-sacrificing set of individuals can scarcely be found anywhere, and especially do we desire to attest the integrity, efficiency and energy of the superintendent, R.N. Hall.

But his appeals and our appeals to the public, and especially to the Baptist denomination, who are the chartered owners of the Home, were ineffectual and the contributions of the past sixty days have been almost nothing; and with an old indebtedness hanging over it, its credit was destroyed and we driven to the sad alternative of suspending. We ask the creditors to be patient. The assets are abundantly sufficient to pay all indebtedness, if properly managed, but if suit be brought, it will necessitate putting the corporation into bankruptcy, and in that event it would not pay out. In the meantime we assure the creditors that the property shall be preserved and no preference given to any creditor, but that all shall share alike.

In the meantime, there are twenty-five or thirty little children not yet provided with homes. And it may be several weeks before they can be, and we appeal to the public in behalf of these to send contributions of food for them that they may not go away hungry. The Home has performed its mission. It raised and educated hundreds of orphans of Confederate soldiers, and with that the people lost interest in it, and while we fondly hoped it would be perpetuated as a living memorial of the heroism and patriotism of our gallant dead, and a home for the homeless, yet we do not reproach anyone, though no doubt if the whole people of Mississippi could see the anguish wrung from the hearts of these children, their tears, their sighs, their parting embraces, as day by day they leave, we doubt not there would be thousand who would indulge in the self-reproaches deep and lasting. But we feel we have done our duty, and to God and the public we commend them. The superintendent will remain in charge of the property, and such of the children as can't get homes; and we beg the people in the name of humanity, send of supplies sufficient to feed them until the Baptist State Convention meets in July, when the property will be disposed of in some way, and the debts paid, or it may be, some plan will be devised to resume and continue the Institution.

S.P. Kennedy, A.H. Smith, W.H. Hardy - Executive Committee

The Trustees doubt not they could have kept up the Home a while longer by incurring other debts; but they felt that with the debts of the Institution already existing, they were not authorized to create others, and run the hazard of leaving the Institution with a debt greater than the value of the assets; and as in their opinion there was now sufficient property to pay the debts if judiciously managed; they deemed it best to suspend and accordingly did so.

We append hereto as a part of This report, the report of R.N. Hall, superintendent of the Home. The resignation of the former Superintendent, and the election of R.N. Hall to that responsible

position, was made a necessity, by facts and circumstances unnecessary to be detailed in this report. Suffice it to say that with R. N. Hall we have no fault to find, but on the contrary we fully endorse what the Executive Committee say of him.

The Board see no hope of reviving the Institution, indeed it is a question of grave doubt with many, if it were practicable, the circumstances it ought to be done. We therefore recommend that this Convention invest the Board of Trustees with authority to appoint a Receiver, to take charge of the entire property of the Home, and to invest him with plenary power to dispose of the same and settle up the debts of the Institution. All of which is fraternally submitted,

W.A. MASON, Pres. Board of Trustees

W.H. HARDY, Sec'y, pro tern.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home:

The report of R.N. Hall, Superintendent of the Institution over which you preside, sets forth the following facts for your consideration, viz:

After my report to your body at Oxford, as agent of the Home, I did but little before I was elected superintendent. Leaving Oxford, I came by Meridian and made arrangements by which the Home could be supplied with provision temporarily, and then pushed on into Tennessee with the purpose of collecting and shipping provisions sufficient to sustain the Home until our people, then overburdened, could recover sufficiently to enable them to carry the self-imposed burden. I had scarcely commenced work before I was summoned by your President to return at once to Lauderdale, as I had been elected Superintendent. I reached the Home and took charge on the 19th June, 1874. I found the children in a state of insubordination, and but poorly clad, although there was almost sufficient, goods in the storeroom to make them comfortable. My first object was to restore confidence, and try by mild but firm discipline to get control of the children. As I was their choice and had, in days past and gone, won their confidence and love, I had but little difficulty, and soon I had as perfect order as I cared to have. I then turned my attention to the sentiment of the public and sought to reinstate confidence there, and seemingly succeeded beyond my expectations, and if not for the fearfully stringent times, when men of families were looking anxiously around for a support for their own little ones, and but little able, or disposed to contribute to our support, I would have been enabled to have gone on until this coming fall, when our people would have been able to lift us entirely out of trouble.

I well knew that to give the public confidence it would be necessary to demonstrate that the Home could be made well nigh self-sustaining, and I commenced at once to develop the resources of the institution.

The BANNER was thrown on the aggressive; and by persistent effort in the way of appeals, circulars and specimen copies, its circulation was increased from 850, to 2,500 paying subscribers; and instead of banging upon the Home as a debt, without a dollar's income, it was made, under the blessings of Heaven, to yield a

a net income of \$1210 a year: and was increasing its circulation each issue; and I am confident that in twelve months more it would have had a circulation of 5,000: for it would be easier to double its circulation when it was growing in interest, in twelve months time, than treble its number when it was thought to have no life in it, in ten months time.

A grist mill and gin was the other source from which we hoped to draw our living, and strenuous effort was made; and had not unforeseen circumstances forced us to close, would have been a glorious success. At considerable expense and trouble a gin and mill house was erected; an engine, mill and gin were purchased and we commenced work in earnest. From the day our mill started until it stopped, sufficient toll was received to bread the Home, which was a saving of \$50 per month. I am satisfied our toll corn would in the next twelve months have amounted to enough to produce an income of \$800. Then toll for ginning would have netted \$400, which would make an income of \$1,200 per annum.

The farm was put in a condition to produce the largest yield of everything planted and from the facilities at hand, character of soil and amount of labor possessed, we confidently looked for an income from it of \$800 or \$1000. Our stock of hogs being increased and with the advantage of the good pasture we had, the slops from the kitchen and the waste corn from the mill, we indulged in the hope of raising a good many meat hogs. While active effort was being made in the different directions pointed out herein, your Executive Committee were planning new schemes, such as shoe shops, broom factory and tannery, &c., all of which were calculated in their nature not only to supply a great demand for these articles, but would also fit our boys for useful lives and honest pursuits. During this time while we were putting forth such strenuous efforts to care for the outer man, no less effort was being made, indoors, to cultivate and develop the mind and heart of the children that we might send them out as blessings to society, and we were encouraged to believe we were making progress in this direction. With the heavy expense attending the keeping up of such an institution, I could only keep even for a while, and after a few months in spite of the best efforts I could put forth, the receipts began to come short of expenditures, and each succeeding month the deficit became greater, until after January 1875, it became alarming. This state of facts could not be hidden from the creditors and they became shaky. When these facts were set forth to the Executive Committee, they at once decided to suspend and give time for a judicious disposition of the property, rather than be thrown into bankruptcy, the property sacrificed and a debt left upon the Denomination. You have the cause of the suspension in a nutshell. Nothing remained but for the Executive Committee to suspend and seek homes for the children.

As soon as the news of the suspension became known, all donations except for a few noble individuals ceased, and I was left with 80 odd children with no money nor provisions. Under such circumstances the Executive Committee instructed me to sell off any perishable property, in order to the obtaining of money sufficient to defray expenses of finding homes for the children. Under the blessings that God, our bountiful Father,

confers upon orphans, I succeeded in their behalf in speedily finding them good homes. And very generally I have heard good reports from them. The property stands now as it did at the time of the suspension except such as was sold under the instructions of the Executive Committee.

We have a farm of between three and four hundred acres, with a three story brick house with capacity for fifty persons as sleeping department, besides four rooms on the first floor suitable for schoolrooms. On the farm is a fine orchard of apple and peach trees and a vineyard, with all the appurtenances to make it a good farm. The farming utensils are but few and have but little value. Crockery ware, beds, bedding, &c., are all locked up in the brick house in the care of a young man under the supervision of the Chairman of the Executive Committee. An inventory of all these things has been carefully taken and handed over to the Chairman of the Executive Committee. The sum of \$4,250 has passed through my hands. Of this sum I have paid out \$440 on account of the Banner; \$800.00 on engine, mill, gin and gin-house; \$432 on account of freight and expenses; \$325 repairs on Home premises proper; \$400 on account of officers, and balance for food, clothing and incidentals, an account of which will be turned over to the Executive Committee which may be appointed by your body at anytime in the future, when some one duly qualified and empowered, shall audit Dr. Kennedy's and my claim against the Home. By our rules and regulations I am to draw upon the Treasurer, and this is to be approved by the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and as we both have claims against the Institution, we feel a delicacy in regulating and auditing our claims. I would have presented my Report to your Executive Committee sometime before the Convention, but being left without a dollar in the world, and having a considerable family to support, I was forced from dire necessity to devote the time to my own affairs which was necessary to close up the books of the Home. Added to this, I have had sickness and affliction in my family which required my undivided attention.

I would take occasion here to say that so peculiar were the circumstances surrounding me, I was forced almost to ignore your Treasurer as there would be a need for the money before it came, and having no banking facilities, the persons whom I traded with would become dissatisfied before I could get the money back. This I very much regret, as it was not strictly in accordance with the "regulations," and had the tendency of wounding the feelings of my friend and brother, Capt. R.M. Leayell, your efficient Treasurer, who has at all times treated me with marked kindness, courtesy, consideration and forbearance, for which he has my unrestrained gratitude and thanks.

I do not hesitate to say your Executive Committee have done all in their power to advance the interest of the Home and sustain me in my arduous labor. Dr. A.H. Smith, of Meridian, who is a practicing physician, gave all the time he could, and freely of his money. Dr. S.P. Kennedy, Chairman of the Executive Committee, rendered me all the assistance he could officially, was attentive as the physician of the Home and courteous in his treatment of me as Superintendent, doing everything in this way to advance my efforts. Too much credit cannot be given him for his manly support

during the dying struggles of the Home. Of Capt. W.H. Hardy, the President of your body I desire to say more.

I await your further action and that of the Baptist State Convention.

Fraternally submitted,
R.N. HALL, Superintendent

1875 - Extracts from the Address of the M.W. Grand Master are included below:

This institution was visited on the night of the 22nd of November, 1874, by a tornado, which in its terrific march blew down one of the large buildings of the Home, and totally destroyed all the dining room and kitchen furniture, rendering entirely useless all the cooking utensils. The orphans, by now inured by the hardships of the past, set about clearing away the wreckage, and putting their house in order, and the Home continues in operation.

In this Home there were children of our deceased brethren, and in this time of calamity, which was then upon them, I felt it our duty as Masons to lend a helping hand. I therefore, on the 30th of November, 1874, issued a circular letter to all Subordinate Lodges, calling upon them as men and Masons, to heed the cry of these little ones, and send them help, in this day of their calamity.

Past Grand Master Hardy, as President of the Board of Trustees of the Orphans' Home at Lauderdale, extended to the Grand Lodge an invitation to visit that Institution.

By 1878, most of the orphans were old enough to care for themselves and left the Home to take jobs or enter into other endeavors. Many families were recovering from the hardships of the postwar years, and took the younger children back into their own homes. The real purpose of the Home had been accomplished, and in that year the Confederate Orphans Home of Mississippi was closed and the property was sold. The people of Mississippi showed that they cared and proved that they could take care of the dependents of those heroes who had died for their cause. Some years later, the brick buildings erected by the orphan boys was destroyed by fire, adding a post-script to the list of catastrophes the Home had endured.

The site of the old military post and orphanage is on the west side of Highway 45, just after crossing Ponta Creek when traveling north from Lauderdale. In later years, it was owned by Mr. Lang Smith, who lived in Lauderdale and operated a store there. Lang Smith's daughter, Earline, was married to Dr. Kelly Unger, who was the beloved pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Meridian for many years.

The closing of the Confederate Orphans' Home of Mississippi at Lauderdale intensified a realization that had been in the minds of the Masons of Mississippi for many years - that there was a need for a Masonic Orphans' Home in the state. In 1830, Grand Master John A. Quitman, in his Address to the Grand Lodge, sounded the first notes of a clarion call concerning the welfare of the needy children of Masons: "Many of us will, I trust, live to see the day when the orphan children of indigent Masons will not only be fed and clothed but also educated and trained in the principles of morality and virtue."

After the War Between the States, the Grand Lodge approved a recommendation that a dollar per member be asked of the Mississippi Masonic membership to help care for the 90 or more orphans of deceased Masons who were residents at the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Orphans' Home. The Masons' support continued until the Home was closed.

In 1890, The Grand Lodge adopted a proposal calling for a special collection to be made twice a year in the subordinate Lodges, and paid into a fund for the purpose of establishing a Masonic Orphans' Home in the State of Mississippi. A committee met on May 29, 1907 in Meridian to consider various proposals for the location of the home. A group of citizens from Meridian offered ten acres of land, \$5,000.00 in cash, free water and permission for the children to attend the city schools. This offer was accepted and on June 24, 1907, the cornerstone for the first building was laid by Grand Master Henry C. Yawn. On October 15, 1908, the dreams of the Masons became a reality when the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home in Meridian was officially opened and sixteen children, ages one through thirteen and one widow were welcomed into their new home.

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History, The Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History and the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission have been searched for records of the operation of the Lauderdale Springs Orphans Home but none have been found. Records of the business of the Home and the actions of the Board of Trustees are available and are presented herein, but efforts have been futile when searching for listings of the names and personal information about the residents. It would be interesting to know their parents' names and family connections, where their homes were, anecdotes about life at the home, some biographical sketches about the lives of some of the residents after leaving the home and some information about deaths at the home. Hopefully, the information presented in this volume might come to the attention of some descendants who have some additional information to add to this study of the History of Lauderdale Springs. Most assuredly, any information passed along to the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History, P.O. Box 5511, Meridian, MS 39302, will be cataloged, preserved and made available to the public.

Information about a few of the residents is presented below:

The 1870 Census lists Lydia Priscilla Reynolds, age 11, and her sister, Jane Reynolds, age 9, as residents of the Lauderdale Springs Orphans' Home. Lydia Priscilla's Great-grandson James G. Hadley of Austin, Texas provided some information about her: Priscilla Reynolds was born February 6, 1857 in Clarke County, Mississippi. She went to Texas in 1870. She married J.K. Brannan March 13, 1874. She died in Bynum, Texas February 14, 1934, survived by her husband, J.K. Brannan and 11 children: H. T. of Haskell, J. H. of Hillsboro, G.T., H.M., and W. J. of Bynum, Mrs. J.N. Young of Clifton, Mrs. J.M. Beckham of Moundsville, Mrs. W.E. Martin of Westover, Mrs. R.J. Young of Bynum, Mrs. W.M. Garrison of Martens and Mrs. O.E. Taylor of Bynum. Also 58 grandchildren and 40 great grandchildren.



Jackie Pearson

Mary Frances Cockrell of Cedarbluff, Mississippi provided a photograph of her Great-grandmother Jackie Pearson and a picture of the Lauderdale Springs Orphans' Home "Glee Club." Miss Cockrell's Great-grandmother, Jackie, and her sister, Johnnie, are included among the 29 children in the picture. On the 1870 Census, Rebecca Pearson age 13, Jackie Pearson age 11, and Johnnie Pearson age 9 are listed as residents of the Lauderdale Springs Orphans' Home.

Miss Cockrell related that these Pearson children were from the Pearson and Hobson families in Greensboro, Alabama. She provided biographical sketches of famous members of the families, but did not make it clear what their connections were. She stated that Jackie married a Mr. Cockrell and Johnnie married a Mr. Greer. Mary Frances Cockrell is now deceased.

In a separate position on the Census, Maggie Pearson, age 10 and Cassie Pearson, age 8 are listed as residents of the Home. It is not known if they are related to the other three Pearson children.

Jack Knight of Collins, Mississippi provided some information

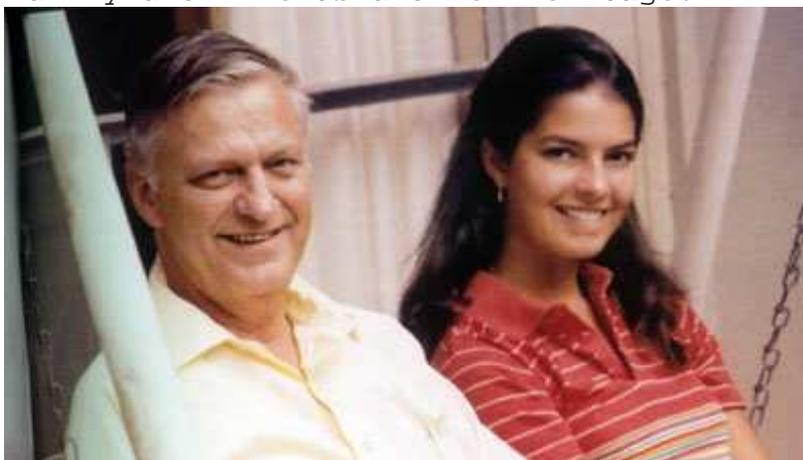
about his Great-great-grandmother Judith Welch Knight. Judith's husband was killed in the Battle of Atlanta and she was left with five children. They owned their home and farm at Crackers Neck, a hamlet in Covington County, Mississippi, but the family was destitute and Judith was desperate. She was well aware that the children could not survive the winter. She placed her five children in a one-horse cart and set out on the eighty mile journey to the Confederate Orphans' Home at Lauderdale Springs. It was a difficult trip and a horrible experience for the family.

After eight days, she and her family arrived at the home of her first cousin Ruby and her husband Robert Bynum in Enterprise. The Knights were filthy, starving and totally exhausted. They rested two days and Robert Bynum drove them to their new home in a surrey pulled by a team of matched roan horses. Family lore has it that the youngest son, James, could not be accepted because he was too young, however, Judith returned at a later time and James was accepted and Judith was employed as a housekeeper. She remained at the Home and worked at whatever needed to be done to provide care for the children.

The Knight children are listed on the 1870 Census: Sarah age 16, Albert age 14, Elizabeth age 11, Henry age 10, and James age 4 as residents of the Lauderdale Springs Orphans Home. For some unknown reason, Judith is not listed on that census. Judith Knight never remarried. Her three sons, Albert, Henry and James David all returned to Covington and Jones Counties and raised their families. Elizabeth married Henry Morgan and they made their home at Old Augusta in Perry County, Mississippi. Sarah left the orphanage at sixteen and took a teaching assignment at a one-room school in Boykin, Alabama, near Butler. She married Robert Boykin and they made their home in Ellisville, Mississippi. James David Knight became a carpenter and a farmer. He married Betty Napier. Jack Knight said one of James David and Betty Knight's sons was his Grandpa Stocky who had a great influence and impact on his life.

Another delightful bit of history has been provided by members of a pioneer family of East Mississippi. On the 1870 Census, four children of the Moore family were listed as residents of the Lauderdale Springs Orphans' Home: Semele age 13, James age 12, William age 11, and Sidney age 9. Later in life, Semele Moore married Horace Reid Ward and they made their home and raised their family in Enterprise, Mississippi. At that happy time, Semele remembered Professor and Mrs. Simeon Sebastian Cranberry with love and respect for the loving care they had given her while she was growing up in the Lauderdale Springs Home. As an expression of her love and appreciation, she named her firstborn son "Granberry." That son extended that love into another generation when he named his son "Granberry, and that son in turn named his son "Granberry," and so did that son. That adds up to four generations of Granberry Wards. The second, third and fourth generations of Granberry Wards reside in Meridian, 17 miles from Sernele's old home at Lauderdale Springs.

A note of added interest, Granberry Ward II has a daughter, Sela Ward, who has gained fame as a motion picture and television actress. She makes her home in Beverly Hills, California, but she and her family spend much of their time at their other home in Lauderdale County. In October 2002, Sela published an autobiography entitled *Homesick*, which is an expression of her love for her family and friends and her heritage.



Granberry Ward II and Sela Ward.

She is greatly involved in activities and progressive programs in her old hometown, Meridian. She has acquired the 22 acre property of the old Masonic Home, which has been closed for many years, and it has been organized into the *HOPE VILLAGE FOR CHILDREN*, where a home and help are given to children who need some tender love and care. In many ways this venture resembles the love and care given five generations ago by Professor and Mrs. Simeon Sebastian Granberry.



LAUDERDALE

In 1856, when the Mobile and Ohio Railroad established Springs Depot at the present site of Lauderdale, the village was incorporated and soon inherited the mantle of business and trading center for the area, and prospered in that role for many years. Mr. Warner Lewis had the first house and store built there.

A post office was established at Springs Depot on October 7, 1856 with Warren H. Lewis as postmaster. On October 21, 1859, the name was changed to Lauderdale Station and serving as postmaster were: John Greenlees, Frederick H. Adams, Lorenzo D. Belk, Henry Chiles, Miss Sallie A. Tucker, Samuel Porter, Charles Hoffman, Mark Yaretzky, Issac Yaretz, and Eva B. Walker. On December 17, 1884, the name was changed to Lauderdale and serving as postmaster through 1929 were: Blanche Porter, Blanche Browning, Eva V. Walker, Eva V. Hargroder, Edwin H. Walker, James E. Smith, John E. Nunnery, Carrie E. Smith, James A. Riddell, Jr., Andrew R. Shelby, William T. Simms, and Sallie C. Walker. The post office is still in operation.

The town was incorporated in 1856. Capt. John Cooper Porter, who moved there in 1863, after the name of the town had been changed to Lauderdale Station, served as mayor for four years. Capt. Porter operated a successful merchandise business and owned large tracts of land. Also, he served as Justice of the Peace and as a member of the County Board of Supervisors. Capt. and Mrs. Porter had fourteen children and the descendant generations of the Porter family have been prominent and influential citizens of Lauderdale and Kemper Counties.

In early days the Police Court had a wide range of duties and broad powers in the administration of county government in Mississippi.

At the October, 1884 session of the Lauderdale County Court at the court house in Marion, the members of the court were: Littleberry Banes, President; L.B. Moor; David Cameron; Isaac Suttles; and Abia Clay; with R.H. Herbert, Deputy Clerk; and William Rainey, Sheriff.

Some items selected from the minutes of the court, through the years, provide some insight into the history of Lauderdale Springs:

...ordered that the following persons be appointed election commissioners at the Springs: J. R. Walker, Thomas Simmons and James Agnew.

...ordered to let to the highest bidder at the White Sulphur Springs the building of a bridge on Ponta Creek on the Livingston Road near the Springs...

...William S. Patton is hereby licensed to keep an inn and tavern at the White Sulphur Springs...

...William M. Gains is hereby licensed to retail vinious and spirituous liquors at the town of White Sulphur Springs...

...ordered that William Raney be allowed the sum of fifty four dollars, the amount allowed him as returning officer at the presidential election in 1849...

...Hiram W. Roberts is hereby licensed to retail vinious and spirituous liquor at the White Sulphur Springs...

...Ordered that George W. Null be allowed the sum of seventy four dollars and ninety cents for building a bridge on the stage road across Ponta...

...ordered that the return of Shepherd Busbee as overseer of the Springs road commencing at Dupree's old place and working to Reedy creek be received and that James Crocker be appointed overseer of this road for the term of six months to warn and to make work the following hands, to wit, Calaway Crocker, William Jones, E. Edwards, Wm. Drewett, Thos. McIlwain & S. Busbee ...

Today Lauderdale is a pleasant residential community, amid many landmarks left as reminders of the accomplishments of those stalwart citizens of earlier years, who worked and fought to make this a great place to live. Agriculture has been the chief industry of Lauderdale. In early years, cotton was the principal crop, but through the years farming became diversified, with more corn, sugar cane, oats, peas, fruit, and potatoes being raised. At one time truck farming and dairying were profitable ventures for some farmers.

The virgin forests provided a lucrative income for many land owners and timbermen. From the earliest days Lauderdale enjoyed a prosperous business climate and a congenial social life.

The article copied below appeared on the front page of *THE MERIDIAN DAILY HERALD*, November 19, 1896. It is quite possible that this writing might be pure satire, since no person can be found, who ever heard of there having been a coal mine at Lauderdale:

BURNT CUT GEMS

Items of News from Lauderdale, Miss. The mine is progressing nicely and is still shipping 20 tons of coal a day. Mr. G.W. Meyer and Col. Goldsmith, of Meridian, were out inspecting the mine last week, and inaugurated some improvements, which add to looks very much.

Mr. Joe Pickett, of Ohio, has a position at the mine. His many friends wish him success. The "Social Hop" at B.F. Nunley's was highly appreciated by all that attended.

Some miscreant let the car run off the tippie Sunday and did some damage. Such carelessness as this should be stopped. Nolan McDowdle got slightly injured about the head in the mine Wednesday at noon by falling slate.

THE MERIDIAN EVENING STAR, January 12, 1898, reported the following transaction in Chancery Clerk White's Office:

In consideration of \$2,000 Capt. Joel P. Walker, deceased, has conveyed 600 acres of land to W. D. McWilliams. The land is situated near Lauderdale and known as the Ivy plantation.

An undated, unsigned and unidentified paper, headed *THE OLD IVY PLACE OR STOCK FARM*, gives an elaborate description of the Ivy property:

There are 940 acres ... O'Possum Creek on the west, the Ponta River on the north, Plummer Branch on the east...there are many lake sites...one within 50 yards of the Lauderdale and Livingston road, less than 300 yards of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad Station ...

A social affair was reported in *THE MERIDIAN EVENING STAR*, December 28, 1905:

RARE HOSPITALITY OF THE OLD SOUTH

Capt. Green B. Simmons assisted by his two charming daughters, Misses Ella and Mattie, entertained a merry party of Meridianites Wednesday at his palatial country home four and a half miles south of Lauderdale...

Capt. Simmons is one of the best known and wealthiest cotton planters in this section of Mississippi and guests at his beautiful country home are always treated with old time southern hospitality...

Connected with the Simmons home is one of the finest shooting preserves and the male members of the pleasant house party enjoyed some of the best shooting of their lives, while the ladies enjoyed the day in horseback riding...

On June 6, 1906, *THE MERIDIAN EVENING STAR* published a column of news items from Lauderdale:

INTERESTING NEWS
FROM HUSTLING GOOD TOWN

Lauderdale has had the building and remodeling fever this summer. Mr. T.H. Naylor has just finished a fifteen hundred dollar house. Mr. Mark Porter has made about \$600 improvements on his home, and Mr. J.C. Smith is remodeling his house to the extent of about \$2000.

Another improvement that is very attractive is the large and up to date store of Mr. J.E. Nunnery. The Tartt-Harring saw mill is making some very costly improvements. The new locomotive for the Lauderdale and Northwestern railroad has arrived. The owners are extending the line and it now has been connected with the Mobile & Ohio track. It is thought that in the course of time this road will run to DeKalb.

Mr. J.E. Tartt has built about 10 houses here this year, by no means small or cheap affairs. The Methodist church has received a new dress of paint, new fixtures and new carpet. The new bank has recently put in about \$800 worth of new fixtures and is doing a flourishing business. Mr. H.G. McNair is the manager of the bank.

Mr. T.C. Lyle has been very sick, the first time in 20 years he has been unable to attend to his duties at the store, but will probably be well in a few days.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. S.K. Gully has been desperately ill but it is now thought that the little one will get well.

Mrs. Brock O'Leary of Jackson, Tenn. with her charming children, are guests of relatives here ... Mrs. Katie Sullivan of Laurel is visiting her parents here ... Mrs. Joe Miller is in Meridian this week ... Mr. H.G. McNair was an attendant in the Gordon-Wetherbee nuptial in Laurel ... Mrs. John Simmons has been visiting her mother, Mrs. S. E. Mosby ... Mrs. Della Chiles has been quite sick ... Little Maggie and Sallie Barefield are visiting relatives here ... Mr. Dryden Walker has been taken to Mobile for medical treatment ... Miss Emmie Smith, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.C. Smith, who has been attending college in Nashville, Tenn., has returned home to spend her vacation ... Mrs. Lee Rawls is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pigford in Meridian ... Mrs. M.F. Mimms has returned from a trip to Silver City ... Mrs. J.T. Plummer leaves today for a trip to Biloxi ... Mrs. Mary Porter and her son, Earl, are spending a while in Vicksburg ... Miss Madge Smith who has been a student at Moffat McLaurin Institute has returned home to spend her vacation ... Mr. and Mrs. Elnathan Tartt have returned from a delightful fishing trip to Coden...

The Meridian Dispatch , December 4, 1912, carried this news item:

The Tartt house is commodious and comfortable, but its cuisine and dining room constitute its best title to celebrity.

The greatest pleasure to the manager, Elnathan Tartt seems to be in the enjoyment of his guests.

The Tartt family was prominent in the history of Lauderdale. The name "Elnathan" was given to a son in seven generations of the Tartt family. One Elnathan Tartt married Helen L. Mosby, of Meridian, and they served as superintendents of the Confederate Soldiers' Home in Biloxi from 1916 to 1943. This Home was located at Beauvoir, the last home of Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederacy. After Davis' death, his widow sold Beauvoir to the Mississippi Division of the United Confederate Veterans on condition that the estate would become a home for Confederate veterans, their widows and their servants. Nearly 2,000 soldiers and their widows lived at the home over a period of 54 years, from 1903 to 1957. Several black Confederate soldiers lived at the home.

It is said that both Elnathan and Helen served as superintendents of the home because Elnathan had a tendency to get a little over zealous in his criticism of certain politicians and Beauvoir board of trustees members, which resulted in his being fired for awhile, and then Helen would be appointed superintendent. She was appointed to the position by five different governors. Elnathan would then make a comeback and she would be his assistant until he got in hot water again. Helen was loved by everyone, even the politicians and board members who periodically fired her husband. When Helen died, in 1843, he was devastated and resigned, because he just did not want to carry on with the job without her.

THE MERIDIAN EVENING STAR, April 14, 1908 reported:

GOOD PEOPLE OF LAUDERDALE HAPPY
TALKING EVERYWHERE OVER THE NEW TELEPHONES AND HAVING
MOONLIGHT BALLS AND SOCIABLES

One of the most enjoyable events of the summer season was the moonlight ball given at Lauderdale Springs last Friday night. A large crowd was in attendance, and the pavilion under the cool shady trees was crowded with dancers till after midnight...

Lauderdale has recently installed residence telephones and nearly every home in the village has been connected. They have the advantage of the city subscribers in that they can talk over long distance without extra charge ... Little Tommy Naylor enjoyed a party at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T.H. Naylor, in celebration of his fourth birthday ... one of the most stylish social functions of the week will be the one given by Mrs. W.T. Frank ... Mr. M.G. McNair, of the Bank of Lauderdale, has returned from a trip to Yazoo City ... Miss Emile Walker, after spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Walker, has returned to Starkville ... Misses Emma and Ella Scruggs, after spending a few days in Meridian, have returned home.

The information presented below is condensed from a full page article, which appeared in *THE MERIDIAN DISPATCH*, December 4, 1912:

PROSPEROUS AND PROGRESSIVE LAUDERDALE
By WILLIAM F. GRAY

Lauderdale lies on the Mobile and Ohio railroad, eighteen miles north of Meridian. It counts a population of about 750, and is the business and social center of a wide reaching and productive agricultural area. The people, while they are old fashioned in their ethical standards, they are in touch with the twentieth century in all of its essential for growth and development, maintaining a steady moral balance that makes their town a good place to live and do business in.

Lauderdale is one of the most healthful localities in the state, largely attributable to the drinking of the sulphur and chalybeate waters that abound in the vicinity, and which at one time made Lauderdale Springs a very popular watering place.

There are three handsome church buildings. Methodist and Presbyterian services are held every Sunday with good congregations; the third, a Union Church, is open to all denominations and there services are held once each month, by Archdeacon DeB. Waddell of the Episcopal church.

An excellent public school with an enrollment of more than sixty pupils in nine grades is in charge of Professor D.W. Jackson, assisted by Miss Katie Gray Lyle. Both are teachers of exceptional skill and attainment.

Six passenger trains north and south daily, afford ample mail and express facilities. An electric light plant furnishes light at reasonable cost to consumers, and at the same time provides illumination for the streets. Two cotton gins are busy throughout the season, and a large warehouse is well patronized by both farmers and merchants. Mr. J.E. Nunnery, well known in Meridian as a long-time deputy chancery clerk, is the courteous and efficient postmaster. His assistant is the courteous and obliging Mrs. Jeanette Smith.

Foremost among the agencies that are contributory to the commercial prosperity of Lauderdale is the Bank of Lauderdale. Organized four and a half years ago, its stock is now worth more than double its face value being quoted at \$225 per share. The officers are: Mr. L.C. Smith, president; Lieutenant T.C. Lyle, vice president; Mr. M.G. McNair, cashier and manager. Mr. S.A. Scruggs and Mr. W. A. Lyle, along with the above named officers make up the board of directors.

Tartt Lumber manufacturer, now owned and operated by Mr. Jim Miller, is the largest industry in town, employing 60 to 75 men.

The plant, well equipped in every way, operates eight miles of railroad to bring the logs directly to the carrier. The plant produces about 5 million feet of lumber annually. Mr. Miller, who owns large interests in Kentucky and Montgomery, Ala., has been a resident of Lauderdale the past four years.

The Tartt house is commodious and comfortable, but its cuisine and dining room constitute its best title to celebrity. The greatest pleasure to the manager, Elnathan Tartt seems to be in the enjoyment of his guests.

Lieutenant T.C. Lyle is manager of A. Roberts & Co., one of the oldest and most substantial business houses in Lauderdale county. Lieut. Lyle began his business career in Lauderdale in 1866. A man of broad views, sound judgment and high character, the Lieutenant has carried successfully into business, the courage that distinguished the soldiers of the old South and has prospered correspondingly. Big Hearted, generous, optimistic W. A. Lyle, a merchant like his brother, the Lieutenant, is imbued with the progressive spirit and counts it a privilege to work for the good of his community.

The following news items are from a clipping from an unidentified newspaper:

Lauderdale Items - March 23rd

Mr. Dryden Walker, the handsome representative of the Star, was in Lauderdale yesterday.

Miss Linnie McConnell has returned from the Queen City, where she has been attending school.

Dr. Haynes, a noted divine of Nashville, will begin a series of meetings here Sunday.

Mr. D. McWilliams went to Kemper county yesterday to see his father who is very ill.

Mr. Penn Krouse, of Meridian, was out walking with one of Lauderdale's fairest daughters yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Gussie Plummer has a severe case of measles.

A number of Lauderdale people went to Meridian yesterday to attend the opera last night. Among them were Mrs. W.A. Dunnigan, Miss Annie Chiles and Prof. Shields.

Mrs. Caldwell and her two little girls are visiting Dr. Dillehay's family.

Miss Susie Lightsey will open up a well selected stock of millinery in a few days.

Mrs. Chiles is having her "paper shell" pecan orchard nicely worked.

In a survey of *TOWNS, CITIES AND COMMUNITIES OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY*, compiled by the WPA, the following information was submitted in a report by Mrs. Gladys Dempsey on August 5, 1936:

LAUDERDALE, with a population of about 1000 ... has eight stores, post office with 3 rural routes, depot, two gins, one saw mill and planing mill, Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian Churches, and a consolidated school. There are some very pretty homes of modern type with lights and water.

There is one hotel, Hotel Belle of old colonial style, rates \$1.00 per day.

About one mile from Lauderdale are the famous Lauderdale Springs owned by Mrs. Crooker ... The springs have been known as a summer resort and are still a favorite spot for picnics.

Lauderdale has no municipal government... (Information from Miss Louise Johnson, 27th Ave., 8th St., Meridian, Miss.)

During the War Between the States Yankee headquarters were at Lauderdale. After the war closed, some of the Yankees told the negroes that they could take anything they wanted, that it was theirs and they were free and had a right to take it. The Yankees sold stakes to the negroes to stake off the property they wanted...(Information from H. A. Shotts, Dumont Bldg., Meridian, Miss.)

A very unusual marriage ceremony was performed in Lauderdale, on December 21, 1929., when Arthur Freeman Rigdon married Vera Rose Rector. The ceremony which was broadcast from the studio of WCOC Radio Station in Meridian, Mississippi. Aubert Dunn, a Baptist preacher who was later to become a U. S. Congressman and whose son served as Governor of Tennessee, performed the ceremony from the studio. Russell Wright, the District Attorney, played the organ, and Gertrude Michea rendered the vocal music. The bride and groom stood in the doorway of a store in Lauderdale, Mississippi, and at the magical hour of 9:00 p.m. the enchanted couple marched down the aisle to the flower adorned counter of the store in step with the strains of the Wedding March being transmitted across seventeen miles of airwaves. The ceremony was performed with all the solemnity and propriety of a big church wedding. Mr. Henry Wedgworth who still resides in Lauderdale at the time this book is published, attended the wedding and stated it was a happy and impressive happening.

It was an historic event, because those were the pioneer days of radio, and this was the first time on-the-scene coverage was used in this unusual manner. The news story of the wedding in the Meridian Star was picked up by numerous other newspapers, and was featured on a Shreveport, Louisiana radio station by O. K. Henderson, who had developed a huge listening audience through his novel promotion of Hello World coffee and his long-running fight against chain stores.

Another interesting development related to the wedding - Gertrude Michea, the vocalist, went on to Hollywood and enjoyed a most impressive movie career.

The following information is excerpted from a report filed by Ben Clayton, Mississippi State Student, date unknown:



Lauderdale is located on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad and at one time was a giant shipping center for strawberries and cotton. There are three highways into the town - Highway 45, the Lauderdale-Cihallo Road and the Lauderdale-York, Alabama Road.

Lauderdale has two manufacturing enterprises - J.D. Clark and Sons Lumber Company and The Lavender Pottery Factory, which turns out some of the best pottery in the South. The pottery grew into a bog business with distribution over a wide area. Examples of the pottery are pictured on the left.

Cecilia Nabors Hobgood and Ann Jones Clayton published a book entitled *CEMETERY RECORDS OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI* in which are listed the names of all persons known to be buried in the Lauderdale Springs Cemetery. The names of the earlier residents of the community who were born prior to the end of the War Between the States, and who are known to be buried in the Lauderdale Springs cemetery have been extracted from that book and listed on the following pages of this book.

The names of the later known burials in the cemetery can be found in copies of this Clayton-Hobgood book, which are available at the Meridian Public Library and the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History.

There were many earlier burials in the cemetery, but the graves are unmarked. Some plots have bricked or native stone monuments with no discernible identification. Some children who died at the Lauderdale Springs Confederate Orphans' Home were buried here. Some older residents of the county have related that some Union soldiers, about nine in number, were buried in unmarked graves at the cemetery. Possibly, these were men who were stationed at the nearby Union military post or who died at the Lauderdale Springs Confederate General Hospital.

A stroll through this beautiful cemetery can put the mind awhirl with images of those old pioneers and the tales they could tell. With a little biography from each of them, this history could go on and on and on and become more interesting and worthwhile page by page.

Randolph H. McKim expressed the need for this kind of history when he declared:

The people that forgets its heroic dead is already dying at the heart, and we believe we shall be truer and better citizens of the United States if we are true to our past.

Sir Winston Churchill clearly affirmed our need to know and understand our heritage:

Any people with contempt for their heritage have lost faith in themselves and no nation can long survive without pride in its traditions.

President John F. Kennedy added emphasis to this truth when he proclaimed:

There is little that is more important for an American to know than the history and traditions of his country.

LAUDERDALE SPRINGS CEMETERY

List of persons who were born prior to the end of the War Between the States, 1865, and are known to be buried in the Lauderdale Springs (public) Cemetery. A complete list of all persons known to be buried in this cemetery is included in the book CEMETERY RECORDS OF LAUDERDALE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, published by Ann Clayton and Cecila Nabors Hobgood. This book is available in the Meridian Public Library and the Lauderdale County Department of Archives and History.

BEASLEY, KATE SMITH 1824-1916	ELLIS, JOHN T. Oct. 23, 1862 - Aug. 29, 1889
BOURDEAUX, EUGENIA Oct. 24, 1858 - Nov. 6, 1890	ELLIS, LUCY J. Aug. 21, 1861 - Feb. 13, 1946
BOURDEAUX, CLITUS O. Feb. 19, 1852 - Jan. 16, 1950	ELLIS, MARGARET E. Apr. 20, 1931-Sept. 9, 1912
BOURDEAUX, LEONA ELLIS Aug. 23, 1861 - Aug. 31, 1915	ELLIS, SPICIE WOOD Feb. 21 1848 - Aug. 9, 1886
CARR, TITUS L. May 8, 1848 - Jan. 3, 1904	EUGENIA R. TAYLOR Sept. 27 - Aug. 31, 1940
CHILES, ANNIE Jan. 11, 1813 - May 10, 1885	GLASCOCK, ELIZABETH JANE MEEK Jan. 9, 1820 - Feb. 20, 1857
CHILES, ELIZABETH June 29, 1808 - Apr. 22, 1866	GILLIAM, ALBERT. July 21, 1847 - Apr. 9, 1928
CHILES, HENRY July 11, 1844 - June 10, 1892	GILLIAM, CLARA E. Sept. 28, 1853 - May 9, 1921
CHILES, JESSIE E. Nov. 18, 1855 - Jan. 19, 1882	GLASCOCK, ALEXANDER "ALEX" Born 1808 - Apr. 11, 1865
CHILES, CEBELLE E. Apr. 3, 1827 - Sept. 8, 1858	GREEN, MARGARET STEVENS Apr. 23, 1823 - Nov. 28, 1880
CLAY, WALTER G. 1848-1923	GREENLEESE, GEORGIA ANNA Apr. 22, 1834 - Mar. 17, 1889
CLAY, ZELLA Mar. 19, 1865 - Aug. 23, 1931	HARGRODER, EVA WALKER, 1857- 1941
COLEMAN, EMILY A Apr. 25, 1837 - May 6 1899	HITT, MARY A. June 12, 1835 - Aug. 20, 1911
COLEMAN, JOSEPH G. June 15, 1817 - Mar. 4, 1885	HITT, REV. JOHN M. Aug. 2, 1813 - May 24, 1887
CROOKER, GEORGE A. Born 1850 - Dec. 18, 1903	HUNTER, HOLLIE Sept. 18, 1855 - Nov. 4, 1909
DARDEN, ANN Aug. 16, 1821 - Aug. 21, 1827	HUNTER, R.B. Apr. 4, 1837 - July 24, 1908
DARDEN, R. Feb. 4, 1808 - Oct. 25, 1885	KENNEDY, ADDIE D. June 13, 1859 - Apr. 26, 1928
DELK, SALLIE J. Mar. 29, 1848 - Mar. 13, 1937	KENNEDY, DR. JOHN F. June 10, 1826 - Sept. 10, 1867
EASON, E.K., Sept. 25, 1837 - May 20, 1870	KENNEDY, KATE LOCKHART Died May 12, 1907 - Age 72
ELLIS, ARCH F. Jan. 7, 1860 - Jan. 19, 1936	KENNEDY, SIDNEY P. Nov. 29, 1830 - Sept. 18, 1882
ELLIS, E.G. July 22, 1835 - Jan. 26, 1890	KENNEDY, WALTER F. Nov. 3, 1857 - Aug. 20, 1902

LANCASTER, KITTIE
 Oct. 26, 1856 - Feb. 6, 1891
 LANCASTER, LOUIS J.
 Mar. 16, 1855 - Dec. 22, 1924
 LEWIS, LEESIE ANNE
 1840-1862
 LYLE, W. A.
 1850-1921
 LYLE, EVIE SCRUGGS,
 1860-1932
 LYLE, THOMAS CALVIN
 1841-1926
 LYLES, MARTHA A.
 Died Sept. 24, 1885 - Age 46
 LYON, JOS. TRAVIS
 June 11, 1836 - June 30, 1864
 McBRYDE, CORNELIA JEWEL
 Jan. 7, 1856 - Dec. 12, 1883
 McELROY, MARY G.
 April 23, 1811 - Sept. 22, 1884
 McKINLEY, JOHN AUGUSTUS
 Apr. 27, 1852 - Sept. 7, 1920
 McKINLEY, KATE KENNEDY CARROL
 Feb. 2, 1856 - Aug. 23, 1914
 McKINLEY, MARY E.
 May 29, 1822 - May 31, 1877
 McKINLEY, R.
 Feb. 17, 1813 - Aug. 14, 1900
 MEEK, HENRY FRANCIS
 Oct. 1933 - Apr. 28, 1856
 MELLARD, A. E.
 Sept. 8, 1845 - Apr. 5, 1892
 MELLARD, ELISHA A.
 Sept. 23, 1854 - Dec. 20, 1905
 MELLARD, MARY S.
 May 27, 1851 - Aug. 7, 1894
 MOON, JOSEPH H.
 Mar. 21, 1845 - Dec. 6, 1907
 MOON, JOSEPHINE H.
 Oct. 29, 1851 - Apr. 4, 1917
 MOORE, EMMA
 May 1, 1854 - Feb. 18, 1938
 MOORE, GEORGE CALVIN
 Died Oct. 3, 1892 - Age 32
 MOORE, SUSAN CASE
 Feb. 21, 1853 - July 28, 1928
 MORGAN, J.W.
 Co. C - 56 Ala. Partisan Rangers
 CSA
 MORGAN, MARTIN VAN BUREN
 1860-1935
 NUNNERY, MARY A.
 July 28, 1849 - Dec. 30, 1909

NUNNERY, MARY E.
 July 8, 1827 - Jan. 20, 1899
 NUNNERY, WILLIAM ROBERT
 Nov. 11, 1844 - Apr. 30, 1922
 PARKER, C. W.
 Dec. 8, 1855 - Mar. 30, 1940
 PARKER, RUBY A.
 Aug. 9, 1858 - Jan. 29, 1925
 PARKER, SARAH NANCY
 July 19, 1827 - Dec. 17, 1906
 PHILLIPS, CORA HITT
 Jan. 5, 1857 - Oct. 10, 1895
 PHILLIPS, GEORGE C.
 Died Jan. 20, 1933 - Age 78
 PLUMMER, GUSSIE M.
 May 16, 1863 - Apr. 4, 1952
 PLUMMER, JOHN F.
 Nov. 1, 1859 - Aug. 19, 1938
 PORTER, I. D.
 Nov. 15, 1857 - Feb. 3, 1903
 PORTER, J.C.
 Oct. 17, 1815 - Oct. 23, 1908.
 PORTER, MARTHA B.
 Mar. 7, 1858 - Sept. 19, 1884
 PORTER, MARY. E.
 Feb. 17, 1847 - Apr. 9, 1904
 PORTER, NANCY. G.
 Mar. 12, 1824 - Oct. 26, 1884
 PORTER, THOMAS P.
 Sept. 24, 1849 - Aug. 27, 1876
 RIVERS, S.J.
 May 30, 1847 - July 22, 1924
 RIVERS, W. A
 May 16, 1836 - Aug. 11, 1889
 ROGERS, BETTIE B.
 Aug. 28, 1846 - Nov. 2, 1915
 ROGERS, ELIZA M.
 Dec. 3, 1848 - Nov. 28, 1939
 ROGERS, P.A.
 Feb. 26, 1842 - Dec. 12, 1913
 SCRUGGS, SWASSIE S.
 Mar. 20, 1858 - Aug. 3, 1945
 SCRUGGS.A., M. D.
 May 8, 1854 - June 3, 1931
 SILKERSON, BETTIE G.
 Aug. 11, 1861 - Nov. 27, 1940
 SIMMNS, MARTHA M.
 Apr. 11, 1839 - Sept. 19, 1896
 SIMMONS JAMES L.,
 June 22, 1822 - July 24, 1905
 SIMMONS, ASA JAMES
 Dec. 15, 1859 - May 6, 1933

SIMMONS, CAROLINE
 Feb. 25, 1826 - May 22, 1898
 SIMMONS, CHRISTIANA
 Nov. 9, 1829 - Nov. 26, 1908
 SIMMONS, G. B.
 Co. F. - 13 Miss. Inf. CSA
 SIMMONS, JAMES E.
 Feb. 8, 1860 - Dec. 10, 1914
 SIMMONS, MARY E.
 Apr. 5, 1850 - May 25, 1907
 SIMMONS, NEAL McLAUREN
 Mar. 4, 1859 - Apr. 1, 1884
 SIMMONS, SADIE HOUSTON
 Feb. 26, 1860 - Nov. 27, 1903
 SIMMONS, SIDNEY KENNEDY
 Aug. 12, 1854 - Aug. 20, 1873
 SIMMONS, SUE E.
 Dec. 11, 1861 - Feb. 19, 1947
 SIMMONS, THOMAS
 Apr. 24, 1816 - Feb. 12, 1895
 SIMMONS, WM. G.
 Feb. 13, 1842 - Mar. 30, 1920
 SMITH, BAKER
 May 25, 1854 - Dec. 20, 1905
 SMITH, BETTIE COLEMAN
 Oct. 29, 1860 - Dec. 27, 1948
 SMITH, JAMES E.
 Jan. 31, 1858 - Sept. 3, 1922
 SMITH, LANGDON CHEVES
 Oct. 14, 1856 - Jan. 31, 1936
 SMITH, ROXANNA H.
 Jan. 16, 1832 - Apr. 20, 1877
 STEVENS, PEGGY
 June 20, 1783 - May 20, 1862
 STEVENSON, DR. WM. JOEL
 Nov. 24, 1856 - Aug. 17, 1918
 STEVENSON, RINTIE L.
 July 12, 1855 - Apr. 15, 1936
 STEVENSON, WILLIAM G.
 1854-1906 and ELIZA J. STEVENSON
 TARTT, ELNATHAN
 Aug. 11, 1816 - Aug. 6, 1876
 TARTT, JOHN W.
 Mar. 23, 1844 - Oct. 20, 1881
 TAYLOR, ROBERT
 Nov. 11, 1847 - July 18, 1909
 TOWERS, JOEL READ
 June 23, 1824 - Jan. 15, 1883
 TUCKER, G.R.
 Jan. 9, 1810 - Aug. 26, 1860
 TUCKER, MARY J.
 Feb. 9, 1837 - Nov. 11, 1888
 TUCKER, THEODOCIA A., Nov. 4,
 1810 - Jan. 21, 1869

ULRICK, ISABELLA CAROLINE
 May 22, 1842 - May 13, 1911
 ULRICK, MARY ELIZABEH TARTT
 Aug. 28, 1846 - May 21, 1924
 WALKER, ANN C.
 Feb. 2, 1862 - Dec. 30, 1943
 WALKER, E.H.
 Oct. 31, 1855 - Mar. 17, 1825
 WALKER, HARRIET ELIZA
 Aug. 11, 1847 - Nov. 19, 1893
 WALKER, JERUSHA
 Jan. 15, 1839 - Feb. 31, 1898
 WALKER, JOEL P.
 Mar. 16, 1912 - Nov. 14, 1863
 WALKER, JOHN D.
 Co. C - 2 Miss. Cav. CSA
 WALKER, MARGARET E.
 Sept. 25, 1840 - Nov. 21, 1907
 WALKER, MARTHA ANN
 Sept. 3, 1822 - Dec. 26, 1902
 WALKER, MARY E.
 Jan. 8, 1847 - Mar. 22, 1870
 WALKER, MARY
 Nov. 9, 1781 - Nov. 28, 1858
 WALKER, RICHARD P.
 Co. C - 2 Miss Cav., CSA
 WALKER, ROBERT D.
 Jan. 31, 1862 - Aug. 1, 1921
 WALKER, S.J.
 Aug. 29, 1828 - Nov. 18, 1910
 WALKER, SUSAN A.
 Feb. 26, 1832 - Nov. 20, 1916
 WALKER, THOMAS FELTON
 Nov. 9, 1865 - Oct. 5, 1938
 WATSON, F.M
 Co. A - 17 Ala. Inf. CSA
 WATSON, VICTORIA
 July 18, 1905 - age 53
 WEBB, BARNABASS
 Nov. 5, 1810 - Jan. 27, 1873
 WEBB, HENRY F.
 Jan. 12, 1838 - Aug. 17, 1878
 WEBB, JAMES R.
 Nov. 29, 1845 - Nov. 6, 1881
 WILKERSON, CHARLES S.
 Oct. 30, 1857 - July 19, 1908
 WALKER, JOHN R.
 Apr. 22, 1910 - Feb. 3, 1858