

CHAPTER XXIII

MISCELLANEOUS

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Historic Bill Of Sale Dated January, 1829

The following bill of sale, handed us by our friend, J. F. Roberts of Dora township, dated January 15, 1829, may be of interest to our readers. Mr. Roberts states:

“Ransom Moore, the grantee in the enclosed bill of sale, was the original settler and owner of the farm I now own and occupy on the Arkansas river. He came here in an early day—I do not know the exact day—I think, however, that he came from Phillips County and was a brother to W. T. Moore, of that county, who was a member of the council in the Territorial Legislature of 1833. He was the father of M. C. Moore, who represented Crawford County in the legislature of 1875. M. C. Moore was the father of Miss Sue Moore, my first wife, whom I married in 1883, and who died in 1892. My first wife has two brothers living—grandsons of Ransom Moore, A. T.

Moore of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and J. T. Moore of Bonami, Louisiana; we have two children living—great grandchildren of Ransom Moore, they are: Mrs. Bessie Rutz of Sallisaw, Oklahoma, and Chas. R. Roberts of Irondale, Missouri.”

Following is the bill of sale:

Know all men of these presents that I, Samson Gray, of the County of Pulaski and Territory of Arkansas, for and in consideration of the sum of seven hundred dollars, current money of the United States, to me in hand, paid by Ransom Moore, the receipt of which sum is hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold and do by these presents bargain and sell and convey unto the said Ransom Moore a certain negro man named Jerry, about thirty-four years of age, a slave for life, and I, the said Samson Gray, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, and assigns that the above said negro man, Jerry, is a slave for life; that he is free and clear from all encumbrance, and that I will warrant and defend the title of said negro against the lawful claim and demand of all persons whatsoever, and that said negro is sound and healthy and free and clear from any disease whatsoever. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Little Rock this 15th day of January, 1829.

WITNESS:

SEAL.

James Henderson.

Samson Gray

From Van Buren Daily Argus, January 22, 1913.

Sale Of Lots In The Town Of Whitsontown, Arkansas

The lots in the town of Whitsontown will be offered for sale on the 15th day of July next, on the premises on a credit of six, twelve and eighteen months.

Whitsontown is situated seven miles from the Arkansas River on the north side in the beautiful and fertile valley of the Big Mulberry—and is selected as the permanent county seat of the large, populous and fast increasing county of Crawford.

Surrounded by large and fertile bodies of land—nearly in the center of one of the best counties of the

West—with an abundance of good spring and stock water, it offers greater inducements than any county seat in the upper part of Arkansas.

Its site is happily chosen and picturesque, being in a level plain, in full view of the mountains dividing the various tributaries of the Arkansas from those of the White River.

In point of health no point in the West surpasses it. Strangers and others wishing to invest money in land will find it to their interest to purchase. The Western mail will shortly pass through this place.

John Hale

Thomas Phillips Commissioners
Wm. Scott.

Whitsontown, Crawford County, Arkansas, May 18, 1836.
The Gazette will insert the above until the day of sale and forward its account.

Gazette, June 10, 1836.

Sale of Lots at Van Buren

The proprietor invites the merchant, the mechanic, the capitalist generally, and all persons of enterprise and energy of character, to make investments in this town, conscious that they will meet with an early and adequate requital for amount advanced or exertion applied. The undersigned, being the sole proprietor of this town—the contract here-to-fore existing between him and the late Gen. Wm. Montgomery having been rescinded and all disputes as to title from that and all other quarters fully adjusted and annulled—is now ready to dispose of lots and give indisputable titles.

Gentlemen wishing to invest money or to locate in a thriving new town, will do well to examine the superior natural advantages and plats of Van Buren where lots are offered, at private sale, on very moderate terms, and on accomadating credits—and a reduction in price will be made to those making immediate improvements on their purchases.

Thomas Phillips.

Van Buren, April 23rd, 1836, 5-tf.

Copied from the Gazette of that date.

History Of Why The Fort Was Not Placed On Lee's Creek Bluff

Every little while you hear the remark, the fort would have been placed on Lee's Creek bluff instead of Fort Smith if the owner had not priced the land so high. Some make the statement that the transaction took place in 1817 the date of the first fort at the mouth of the Poteau without stopping to think, that at that time all this country was owned by the Indians or United States government.

Old Fort Smith was abandoned several times the last being in 1834. In the latter part of 1837 the government decided to build a new fort on the borders of Arkansas. For this three sites were offered, one at the point of Lee's Creek bluff, by Dr. Jonathan McGee, Massard Bluff was offered by Dr. Joseph Bailey, father of the late Dr. W. W. Bailey of Fort Smith, and a third by Mr. John Rogers where the fort was eventually placed not far from the old fort.

William Whistler, lieutenant colonel of the 7th regiment of infantry and John Stuart, captain of a company belonging to the 7th infantry regiment were appointed commissioners to select sites for the forts, this being one. Members of the Seventh Regiment had occupied the old fort at different times. Writing from Fort Coffee, December 15th, 1837, to Hon. J. R. Poinsett, secretary of war, after reporting on Massard Bluff they have this to say of the Lee's Creek location.

"The point at the mouth of Lee's Creek would cover a much greater portion of people than that of the Massard Bluff, but it will not cover all of them, being five miles by the river below the line; and even if it did cover the whole of the settlements on the river, there are some strong objections to the site in a military point of view, one is the uncertainty of obtaining water on a point so elevated and so near the brink of a great precipice. It is true cisterns might be sunk of a sufficient capacity to contain a sufficient supply of water for the use of the troops but not for stock.

“Another objection to that site is that it is too elevated and difficult of access. The trouble and inconvenience of realizing stock, such as work horses and oxen, at such a great distance, and on roads so steep, as those at this place must necessarily be, would be very great, and if dragoons should be stationed there, that inconvenience would be still more seriously felt. Another serious inconvenience attending this place, would be the difficulty of hauling supplies from the river to the site, owing to its great elevation. With these considerations we will drop this point and take up Fort Smith which is however by no means without objections. In the first place we are not entirely sure that it will not be sickly, but as it has been for some years past improving in point of health as shown in our description of that place we are led to indulge an expectation of a continuance of its healthiness.

“Another slight objection to that place is, that the rise of elevation is not quite as great as might be desired. We consider it, however, after taking everything into consideration, our instructions as well as the wishes of the people of the state, to be the best site for the establishment of the contemplated military post, and do therefore respectfully recommend that the new fort be established within the State of Arkansas, as indicated by your instructions, and that it be placed near the site of Fort Smith and on the premises now owned by Captain John Rogers. It will then be immediately on the line and within the State of Arkansas where it will cover the settlements on both sides of the river and will leave no portion of the people on the river in a situation to justify a complaint that they are not covered by a military post within the state.

“Another matter worthy of consideration is that by placing the post immediately on the line and on the river the troops will be enabled in some measure to enforce the intercourse law which they could not do so well lower down.

“We have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

WILLIAM WHISTLER,
Lieut. Col. 7th Infantry.
JOHN STUART,
Captain 7th Infantry.

Major General Malcomb, Commander in Chief United States Army, Washington, D. C."

The writer has not been able to find exactly how many acres Mr. John Rogers offered the government for the fort for \$15,000. He does tell how many acres he owns, but expects to establish a town on part of it. Brevet Brigadier General Matthew Arbuckle wrote to the Adjutant General opposing having a town so near a garrison.

Dr. Joseph Bailey and Dr. Jonathan D. McGee made the offer of land with number of acres and price over their own name.

Dr. McGee says: "If the commissioners selected for the purpose of locating the garrison should select the site on the bluff below Lee's creek they can have four hundred and sixteen acres and sixty-ninth hundredth of an acre for \$50,000.

J. D. McGEE.

Fort Gibson, Oct. 11th, 1837."

"Gentlemen: I will sell Massard Bluff for \$10,000, or I will abide the decision of two men, one appointed by the secretary of war and one by myself; and should they not agree they two to appoint a third man.

"Massard Bluff is situated on the Arkansas River and contains not less than 262 acres or more than two hundred and seventy (270). The title is indisputable. It is owned by Dr. DeCamp and myself but I am fully authorized by him to convey it.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. BAILEY.

Lieutenant Colonel William Whistler and Captain Stuart."

It seems that both Mr. Rogers and Dr. McGee went to Washington City to press their claims before the government. While there Dr. McGee made a second offer to the secretary of war, as follows:

"Washington City, Feb. 10, 1838

"Sir: Since my visit to you of this date I have con-

cluded to make another offer to the government for the site at the mouth of Lee's Creek for the new garrison on the Arkansas frontier. My proposition to the commissioners as well as I now recollect was to give 400 acres for the sum of \$50,000. I now propose to give 300 acres including the site, and to select it in such a way as to suit the government for the sum of \$20,000 and besides I have no doubt that a quarter adjoining 160 acres will be given by Col Drennen or sold for a bare sum to pay him for the original price not to exceed \$1,000. I shall learn his determination in four or five weeks. The balance of the township is public land with the exception of a few sections including the town of Vankin; and I hereby bind myself to carry and make a perfect title for the sum above mentioned, if selected by the government.

J. D. McGee

Hon. J. R. Poinsett, Sec'y of War."

'These reports and the description of Lee's Creek Bluff are taken from American State Papers, Military Affairs, Volume VII, which book can be seen any time the library is open.

Several years ago while writing a sketch of the garrison at Fort Smith much research work was done and in talking with Mrs. H. A. Meyer, daughter of Dr. McGee, in regard to the Lee's Creek Bluff site, she said her father was at Washington City negotiating with the government for the site which was almost consummated, when he learned that his wife was dangerously ill, so left immediately for home leaving the closing of the deal in the hands of one of the senators from Arkansas. .

In talking with Dr. W. W. Bailey, he gave me this information. That the last time he saw his father, Dr. Bailey, who also had offered a site to the government, in speaking of the location of the garrison, said that he wanted it at Massard Bluff, Dr. McGee on Lee's Creek Bluff and Mr. Rogers where it was finally located. That Mr. Rogers gave to Colonel Bonnaville two lots on Garrison Avenue placed at Fort Smith. General Bonnaville being an army man had much influence with the war de-

partment. These are the facts as the writer has learned

While Dr. McGee did ask at first more than the others, his last offer was only \$5,000 more than Rogers; none of the reports gave the number of acres offered for the \$15,000.

Do you think it was altogether the price that influenced the war department not to buy the land at Lee's Creek Bluff for the site of the garrison? The writer does not.

Sallisaw Named in Honor of Fort Smith Lady

Sallisaw was named by the Indians for Sallie Price (Moore) Dillard. In travelling from Virginia to Fort Gibson, they could not find a place to ford the creek. Mrs. Dillard discovered the crossing, and the Indians called the creek "Sallisaw," because Mrs. Dillard, rather "Sallie" saw the crossing first. The Indians exclaimed: "Sally-saw," and the town and creek were given her name.

John Penn and Sallie Price (Moore) Dillard were born in Virginia and came from Virginia to Arkansas by water, landing at the mouth of the Arkansas River, and from there went to Moore's Rock on ponies and pack horses, which place they reached in 1822. While in Virginia they followed merchandising, but after coming to Arkansas engaged in farming also. In 1833 they commenced to keep a large boarding house at Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, for officers, and continued it until 1840. John Penn Dillard was one of the prominent men of his section of the country and represented his county in the state legislature. His parents, John and Lucy (Penn) Dillard, were a branch of the family of the famous William Penn. Mrs. Dillard's parents, Benjamin and Polly (Price) Moore, came from Virginia to Arkansas in 1818, and the descendants of this noble couple are among the leading citizens of Arkansas. Major Benjamin Moore sent out the first bale of cotton from this part of the state and raised the first tobacco.

Paschal's Letters

Van Buren, Ark., 2nd July, 1840

To. the Rev. S. A. Worcester

My Dear Sir;

It has been a source of deep regret to hear of the afflicting Providence which so suddenly deprived you of a dear earthly companion. Mrs. Paschal's grief on the occasion was deep and sincere, but it is a source of gratification for us to know that in affliction you can find consolation when many of us would be in despair.

The citizens of Van Buren have displayed considerable liberality and have erected a house for public worship of superior construction and sufficiently large to accommodate a very full meeting.

The citizens propose to hold a meeting to commence on Friday the 11th of September, to continue three days. We have written Messers Washburn and Henderson requesting their attendance at that time. And although you are not so well known among our citizens here, yet it would be a subject of great satisfaction to Mrs. Paschal, myself and I do not doubt to all others to have you attend with them and unite in the labours. That a very large congregation would attend there can be no doubt, and I feel very sure that your labours would be very useful.

If Mr. Butrick is with you please say to him that I should write him also but that I do not know exactly where to address him. His high character for superior eloquence, makes the few here who have heard him extremely anxious to have his attendance. Please write me whether you can not gratify us so far as to come at the time above designated, and let me know also if you can not influence Mr. Butrick to accompany you.

I remain very respectfully your friend,

George W. Paschal

Van Buren, Ark., 2nd July, 1840

Rev. Cephas Washburn

My Dear Sir;

I have had in contemplation to write you ever since

my return from the East but my engagements have generally been so numerous that I have not found time to gratify my wishes in this respect. I have now delayed writing until things which at first might have been considered news, are almost forgotten by myself, and all of interest you have probably heard. The great political excitement in this country drowns everything else, and my associations on my journey being principally with business men, my travels were not as pleasant as I could have wished. The compass of a letter would be too small to describe to you the numerous changes which have taken place in Georgia since I left that country. Among others who have gone from their labors in this world is the much valued servant, the Rev. Jack Lumpkin, none can describe how much he is missed by his church.

The purpose of this communication is to let you know that the Republican Church in this place is well nigh completed. Many of our citizens have manifested a liberality in the matter rarely exceeded in a country possessing much more wealth and possessing more religion.

The committee are only \$600 in debt, upwards of \$1000 having been subscribed. In addition to this another subscription was raised in my absence and a thundering bell has been sent for. So we are to have a bell that can be heard over the sounding hammering, the din of the grog shop, the music of the ballroom and the noise of the turf.

Whether the ringing of the bell is to be the only evidence of worship is a proposition extremely problematical. For some of our country preachers have become so political and trouble themselves so much more about "hard cider and log cabins" than about the Ark and temple, that to allow them to preach would be to desecrate the Sacred Cause. And the Rev. Mr. K. has given me notice that he is anxious that the town should select a minister of ability who could devote his entire time to his calling. His large school and pecuniary matters press too heavily upon him to allow him to preach on the Sabbath. And while all esteem him as a man, it is pretty generally conceded that he will not do as a preacher. But



The stone stands . . .
but the grave is empty.

Body of G. W. Sims
was stolen soon after
burial in Vaught ceme-
tery in 1890.

A soldier of the War
of 1812, Mr. Sims lived
almost 113 years.

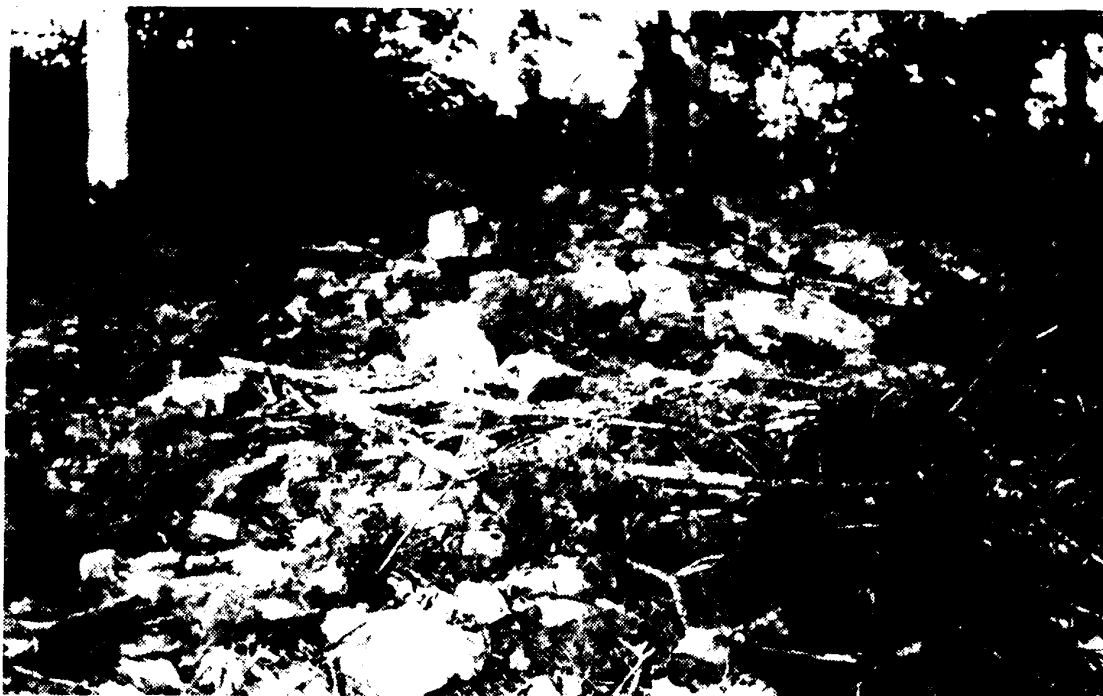


Another old grave . . .

Mary A., first wife of
Benjamin Dyer.

Born in Jan. 1836, died
Dec. 6, 1858.

Photos By
Jack Denniston
of Alma.



History—But Now A Mystery . . . top photo, a view of the “supposed to be fort” north of Cedarville—Was it built by De Soto?

Below—Mysterious grave in Fairview cemetery, which legend says may hold the bones of one of De Soto’s men. The marks on the headstone are believed to be the Masonic Cross.

we are desirous of having the house dedicated. We are therefore anxious to have a three days meeting to commence on Friday the 11th day of September. This seems to be a time which would best suit the convenience of our citizens (as many of them have gone on summer excursions) though the house will have been completed much sooner. I have solicited Mr. Henderson, soliciting attendance at that time. And we are all particularly desirous to have you come at the time. Please write us when it will suit you, as the appointment will not be made publick until some efficient labourers are procured.

I shall write Mr. Worcester and should also write Mr. Butrick if I knew certainly where a letter would reach him. Please, sir, take upon yourself to procure his attendance. I doubt not that the meeting will be most numerously attended. And we are desirous of making the appointment in time to avoid the conflict of county appointments. I shall expect you to use your influence with Mr. Worcester.

Mrs. Paschal and daughter are well and join in love to you and yours. Should you so far gratify us as to make an appointment to dedicate our church, we shall expect Mrs. Washburn and your private family.

Yours and etc.,

George W. Paschal

Van Buren, Ark., 2nd July 1840

To the Rev. D. R. Butrick

My dear sir:

You have doubtless heard that this very town of Van Buren is more notorius for vice and immorality than any place in the whole west. I well know its character abroad and if you have thought of the subject at all, you have undoubtedly wondered why we should quit the Indian country and settle where there is such an immoral influence as in this very town of Van Buren. But the truth is the place is greatly slandered and our people are the best material in the world. For they are all of the real go ahead order. True they have a ball every three months, horse races are often, and now and then there is a regular fista-cuff fight. And although our own population are

generally sober, yet the transient people support about a dozen groceries. But all this is nothing to the purpose of my letter. For the same people have built one of the best houses for public worship in the state and they have sent for a bell which can be heard over everything else. Now I will compare our subscription list to any ever gotten up in old sober New England, and will venture to predict that all things considered none was ever half so liberal. I am not boasting however of the righteousness of our place. But I commenced writing to solicit your attendance at the time appointed for the dedication of our meeting house. It is proposed to hold a meeting to commence on Friday before the second Sabbath in September, which will be the 11th. And we are desirous to have you attend. Having no church organization the office inviting the ministers devolves upon the committee, and as the committee I am particularly desirous to have the attendance of Mr. Worcester, Mr. Washburn and yourself. I am of opinion that were the Missionary preachers to come oftener among the whites and the usual prejudices existing might be aroused and much good be done.

Please let me know whether you cannot attend at the time designated, or if when you all confere together a better time would suit you, let us know as our house will be in readiness in a few weeks.

(The remainder of this letter refers to Indian matters and does not concern Van Buren).

I am very truly,

George W. Paschal

This letter is a copy from one in George W. Paschal's letter book.

Van Buren, Ark., June 30th, 1840

To the Rev. J. J. Henderson

Dear Sir:

Our house, the building of which we had in contemplation when you were here, we trust will have been completed within a few weeks. I think for convenience and durability the house is not surpassed in the state. We are desirous of having a three days meeting in the house, at as early a day as we may be able to procure efficient

labourers. At a time which will best suit the convenience of our citizens. I have thought it best to make the appointment to commence on Friday the 11th day of September.

I wish you to write me immediately whether that time will suit your convenience to attend or whether you can set a time which will better suit your convenience. You see that I speak with the confidence that your friends feel here that you will give us your attendance.

We shall endeavor to obtain the assistance of Mr. Washburn and Mr. Butrick and perhaps several others. As our citizens (nearly all of them) have displayed almost unequalled liberality in getting up the meeting, we expect the assistance of our friends in the dedication.

I am very respectfully,
George W. Paschal

Fort Smith At Time Incorporated

County of Crawford, Arkansas
Crawford County Courthouse
October Term, 1840

It is considered that the said town of Fort Smith be incorporated. Nathaniel Gookin is appointed alderman; A. Harris, C. A. Birney, A. G. Mayers, William J. McMillan and John Rogers are appointed Councilman for said town.

Fort Smith, then, was in Crawford county and the County Courthouse was 25 miles below Fort Smith on the Arkansas River.

Letter From Albert Pike to Dr. Thurston

This touching letter to a dying friend was written by Gen. Albert Pike to Dr. Thurston of Van Buren and received by the latter a few days before he died:

Washington, September 3, 1885

My Dearest and Best and Truest old Friend:

I have just received your loving message sent me by Mr. Sandels. I had already two days ago learned from our friend, Cush, who had the information from Jim Stewart that you were about to go away from us. In a little while I shall follow you, and it will be well for me

if I can look forward to the departure, inevitable for all, with the same patience and equanimity, with which you are waiting for it.

I do not believe that your individuality ceases to be when the vitality of the body ends. I have a profound conviction, the only real revelation which makes absolutely certain, that there is a Supreme Deity, the Intelligence and Soul of the Universe, to whom it is not folly to pray, that our convictions come from Him, and in them He does not lie to or deceive us, and that there is to be for my very self, another continued life in which this life will not be as if it had never been, but I shall know again those whom I have loved and lost here.

You have led an upright, harmless and blameless life, always doing good and not wrong and evil. You have enjoyed the harmless pleasures of life, and have wearied of it, not thought it had not been a life worth living. Therefore you need have no fear to meet whatever lies beyond the veil.

Either there is no God or there is a great and merciful God, who will deal gently and tenderly with the human creatures whom He has made so weak and imperfect. There is nothing in the future for you to fear, as there is nothing in the past to be ashamed of. Since I have been compelled by the lengthening of the evening shadows to look forward to my own nearly approaching departure, I do not feel that I lose the friends that go away before me. It is as if they had set sail across the Atlantic sea to land in an unknown country beyond, whither I shall soon follow to meet them again. But dear old fellow, I shall feel very lonely after you are gone. We have been friends so long, without a moment's intermission, without one little cloud or shadow of unkindness or suspicion coming between us, that I shall miss you terribly.

I shall never have the heart to visit Van Buren again. There are others whom I like there but none so dear to me as you—none there or anywhere else. As long as I live, I shall remember with loving affection your ways and looks and words, our glad days passed together

in the woods, your many acts of kindnesses, the old home and the shade of the mulberries and our intimate communion and intercourse, during more than 45 years. I hope to be with you once more in the woods, but now shall never be in camp in the woods again.

The old friends are nearly all gone. You are going sooner than I to meet them. I shall live a little longer, with little left to live for, loving your memory and loving the wife and daughter, who have been so dear to you.

Dear old friend, goodbye.

May our Father who is in heaven have you in His holy keeping and give you eternal rest.

Devotedly your friend,

Albert Pike

The above is from an old clipping.

* * *

State of Arkansas

Be it remembered that on this, the 8th day of April A. D., 1856, personally appeared before me, J. A. Eno an acting and duly commissioned Justice of the peace with in and for the County aforesaid Philip Pennywit and Charles G. Scott, both citizens of the County of Crawford in the State of Arkansas who being first duly sworn depose and say that some time about the year 1850 or 51, Mr. John G. Gunter of the Cherokee Nation, previous to his departure for California called upon us for a settlement for the hire of the following Negro Slaves to wit: Jack and Dred, belonging to him.

After making settlement with him for the hire of said slaves, he delivered into our possession another Negro boy named Jess, who soon after died in New Orleans with Cholera. The three Negro boys were at the time of said settlement left by the said John G. Gunter in our possession and charge, we agreeing to hire them out for him if we chose so to do at our own option and account for the proceeds.

The said Gunter at the same time saying to us that he wished his sister, Catharine Gunter (now Catharine Ross, wife of Daniel H. Ross) to have the proceeds of said

hire, even if it took the whole of it after deducting the necessary expenses of said slaves. And that should he never return he wished his said sister, Catharine, to have all of his property including said negro slaves and also all money and property that might be in the hands of these affiants arising from the hire of said Slaves.

This took place on the eve of Gunter's departure for California—and further these affiants sayth not.

P. PENNYWIT

CHARLES G. SCOTT.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of April, 1856.

J. A. ENO, J. P.

I, Phineas H. White, a citizen of the County of Crawford aforesaid, being also duly sworn do depose and say that I have read the foregoing affidavit of Philip Pennywit, and Charles G. Scott and have no hesitation in saying that the facts set forth in said affidavit touching the statements and declarations of the said John G. Gunter, as to the disposition of the said negroes and property are true in substance and fact—for I heard him make the same statements.

P. H. WHITE

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 12th day of April, 1856.

J. A. ENO, J. P.

State of Arkansas

County of Crawford

SS

I, Alexander McLean, Clerk of the Circuit Court, in and for the County aforesaid, do hereby certify, that, Jonathan A. Eno Esqr., before whom the foregoing Affidavits were made was at the time the same were made a Justice of the Peace within and for the County aforesaid duly Commissioned and sworn—That all his Officials Acts as such are entitled to full faith and credit, And that said Circuit Court is a Court of record having general jurisdiction.

Witness my hand and seal as clerk and the Seal of said Court this the 12th day of April A. D., 1856.

R. McLEAN, Clerk

(Seal) Crawford Circuit Court, Arkansas
Recorded in the Office Supreme Court Book "B" May
8th, 1856.

D. H. ROSS, Clerk.

Recorded in Office of District Court Tahlequah Dis-
trict C. N., May 8th, 1856.

THOMAS DAVIS, Judge.

I certify the above is a True Copy from the Original.

W. H. TURNER, Clerk.

Nov. 22nd, 1871.

Dist. Court T. Dist.

Peter Parley Pratt's Death

Over one hundred years ago Peter Parley Pratt, a Mormon Apostle, was shot and killed near Fine Springs, north of Alma. The killing of Pratt, is believed by some, to have led up to the Mountain Meadow Massacre, in which American History records there were 120 men, women, and children murdered in cold blood.

The incident leading up to the killing of Pratt involved an outraged husband, J. H. McLean of New Orleans, La., who believed Pratt to have enticed his wife to embrace the Mormon faith and follow the Apostle. McLean had followed Pratt and his estranged wife and two children over a long, round about journey, finally overtaking them at Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. Here McLean had Pratt arrested. He was brought to Van Buren, Arkansas, for trial before Commissioner John Ogden, of the United States District Courts. The preliminary trial was held in Commissioner Ogden's office in his home, after a 30-minute hearing Pratt was cleared of the charge.

Pratt left town the next morning, traveling north by horseback. He was followed by McLean, overtaken about four miles north of Alma and was killed by McLean.

In the spring after the murder of Pratt, Mormons were known to have visited Van Buren and to have sought directions to the place where Pratt was killed. They spent two days there, making inquiries, and taking notes. When they left, they went north over the mountains and it was believed they followed an emigrant train

of Northwest Arkansas people, who were headed for the gold fields of California. By some method of communication, it was believed, the Mormons kept their people in Utah informed as to the route and progress made by the Caravan, and that in an isolated mountain meadow, a human slaughter pen was made for the Arkansas people by the Mormons whose revenge this was for the single life of Peter Parley Pratt.

Pratt was buried at Fine Springs. Grave believed located in a peach orchard, which at the time the killing took place, was a community graveyard. Mormons, at different times, have come to the Fine Springs community, and searched for the grave, with the intention of placing a marker there, but so far, no definite plot has been accepted as location of grave.

Note: Since the writing of the above article some three decades ago, there has been uncovered considerable information which has changed the complexion of the Pratt and Mountain Meadow massacre stories, and casting doubt upon any connection whatsoever upon the two events. The grave of Parley P. Pratt has been located to the satisfaction of his descendants, and through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Park, the little cemetery has been purchased by the Mormon church and in 1951 a suitable marker will be placed at the grave to honor one of the early day leaders of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

Account Of Duel On Nearby Spot — Told By Dibrell

From the pen of the late Dr. James A. Dibrell Sr., of Van Buren, father of Dr. Matt Dibrell of this city, came the account of the duel fought at the close of the Mexican war, between the famous General Albert Pike, at one time a school teacher here, and John Selden Roane, who was lieutenant commander of the Arkansas regiment at the battle of Beuna Vista. The duel was fought at Fort Smith.

Dr. Dibrell Sr., acted as surgeon for Gen. Albert Pike at the duel and in the Arkansas Gazette of April 2, 1893, appeared the story by him giving particulars of the affair.

General Pike had written at the close of the war, an article that was printed in the columns of the Little Rock paper and which severely criticised the conduct of a part of the Arkansas regiment. Roane immediately sent a challenge to Pike, which was promptly accepted and the meeting took place as follows:

"With Albert Pike as principal, with Luther Chase and John Drennen as seconds, and the writer as surgeon, accompanied by Pat Farrelly and W. H. Cousins and Dr. R. Thurston as friends on one side and John S. Roane as principal with Henry Rector and R. W. Johnson as seconds and Dr. Phillip Burton as surgeon, met in mortal combat so to decide the controversy.

"At call both parties promptly stepped forward, distance ten paces, when duelling pistols were loaded and placed in their hands. Both stood firm and determined, neither displaying the least agitation. Pike was enjoying a cigar during the firing. At the word both parties fired but neither was wounded. A second fire was had with the same result. Some one said Pike's beard was touched; if so I have no recollection of it. After the second fire, Pike and myself were sitting on a cottonwood log on the edge of a forest that fringed the bar when Dr. Burton was seen approaching us, with his usual slow and dignified step and when a few paces of us, beckoned to me to meet him.

"He remarked: 'Dibrell, its a d-d shame that these two men should stand here and shoot at each other until one or the other is killed or wounded. They have shown themselves to be brave men and would fire all day unless prevented. The seconds on neither side can interfere because it would be considered a great disparagement for either to make a proposition for cessation of hostilities. So, let us, as surgeons assume the responsibility and say they shall not fire another time; that unless they do as we desire we will leave the field to them helpless, however cruel as it might seem.'

"I replied I knew nothing about the code, but would consult my principal." I stated Dr. Burton's proposition word for word as made to me.

Pike remarked: "I want one more fire at him and will hit him in a vital part; I believe he has tried to kill me; I have not tried to hit him."

"After reflection, he said; "Do as you think proper about it but do not by anything compromise my honor.' "

The good offices of Drs. Dibrell and Burton in the interest of peace and humanity were so effective that the matter ended honorably to both parties.

Union Soldier Returns Spoon "Salvaged" In Van Buren More Than 60 Years Ago

Mr. John Harrison, Indianapolis, Indiana, a Civil War veteran, is visiting his brother, Mr. Ben Harrison, 1610 South Q street, Fort Smith, this being his first visit to this section of the south since December 1862, but there was a vast difference between the reception he received on the two different occasions, for in 1862 he fought his way into Van Buren as a member of the Second Kansas volunteer Cavalry, Co., but in 1923 he was received joyously and peaceably.

Mr. Harrison's company belonged to the invading forces of General Blount, pursued General Hindman's command from the battle of Prairie Grove. The Confederate forces crossed the Arkansas river to a point of safety and trained their batteries on the federal batteries parked on Logtown Hill, the engagement between the forces being largely an artillery duel that was not disastrous to either life or property. Mr. Harrison talks interestingly of his advent into Van Buren on that occasion and considers the growth of Van Buren and Fort Smith most remarkable.

Mr. Harrison brought with him a sterling silver spoon that he is going to present to the Mary Lee Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, as a souvenir of his first visit to Van Buren. In discussing this spoon that has been in Mr. Harrison's possession more than 60 years, he explained that he "salvaged" the spoon from a restaurant in Van Buren during the time he was stationed here, And as he cannot recall the restaurant, nor can any of the older residents, he wants it placed among the

relics and highly prized souvenirs now in possession of the local U. D. C. Chapter. It is needless to say that the Chapter will prize the souvenir highly, keenly appreciating the motives that prompted its return, not to the owners, for that was impossible, but to the Van Buren organization that will ever cherish the memory of the South's gallant sons and enshrine their deeds daring and devotion to the Lost Cause in their hearts.

Mary Lee Chapter never received the spoon. It is believed it was left with some one in Fort Smith.

The 61 years intervening between Mr. Harrison's first visit to Van Buren as an armed invader of the Southland, and his present visit, has obliterated sectional lines and the bitter hatred engendered by the great civil strife, yet there lingers in the hearts of the Southern survivors and their older sons and daughters, as well as in the printed pages of local history, much that will never be forgotten. In this connection, the Press-Argus reproduces below, an excerpt taken from the early history of Crawford county published in 1889 by the Goodspeed Publishing Co., of Chicago, under the caption, "sacking the county" and bearing directly upon the incidents immediately following the occupation of Van Buren and the sacking of the county by General Blount's men:

"SACKING THE COUNTY—To realize what that means the fact must be recalled that Van Buren had been the wealthy commercial center of Northwest Arkansas during the previous decade, as Fayetteville had been the educational center; and Van Buren was, in wealth the flower of this region. Houses of wealthy families were ransacked for silverware, jewelry and gold; churches were rifled of their chalice; the merchants' shelves were made bare, and their contents sometimes destroyed, slaves were told that they had made their masters wealth, "You have been proclaimed free; take all you can get and go north!" and many of them did. Stock was nearly all run out of the country; furniture demolished and sometimes carried off; many fences were torn down and buildings burned; probably not a house within the limits of Crawford county but was at some period of the war

rifled more or less, mostly more. It was unsafe to reside without the corporate limits of Van Buren, and the city became a great camp of destitution; home-made goods became necessary and the books of the city miller, H. C. Hyman show page after page of flour orders to the destitute, so lately in affluence. The forest and field again became the home of deer and other wild animals, no schools, churches, courts, mails, newspapers, nothing but stern hardihood fear and anxiety, and scarcely the bare necessities of life."

The White Sulphur Springs Of Crawford County

We the undersigned practicing physicians of Van Buren, Crawford County, would call the attention of the press and the public abroad to the following matter of interest to that class of people, invalids and others, who seek for mineral waters in the interest of health and recreation.

For more than thirty years past the "Pennywit" White Sulphur Springs, so called, situated about fourteen miles north of Van Buren, have been visited by persons from this and adjacent counties in pursuit of health, while the present summer this number has been augmented. The locality in question is in the center of one of the oldest and thickly settled portions of our county, and lies but little below the average altitude of the Ozark Mountains, and free of the malarial influences as compared with the lower levels.

We regard this White Sulphur water as being of a similar character to that of the far famed White Sulphur Springs of Virginia. There is also a spring of black sulphur water, so-called as well as one of a chalybeate character, in which the bicarbonate or iron is largely predominant, and all of them gush forth from the earth in free and unremitting streams, within a few rods only of each other, running separately a short distance then uniting in a rippling brooklet flowing gently down along a grassy valley, and it has been only from the difficulty of procuring easy transportation that the health resort has not been more widely known and appreciated.

We are glad to know that these springs and land adjacent them to have been secured by Major Jos. Hanson of the St. Louis and Western railroad company and that a townsite has been surveyed and the necessary hotels and other conveniences for visitors, so we are told, to be in process of completion. The public here after will have little difficulty in reaching this important point through a system of railroads of which Van Buren is the center.

The nights at these springs are cool in the summer months, which is a great consideration with southern people, while the winters in this latitude being proverbially mild, the place is well suited to those from the north who seek a southern climate in quest of health and comfort.

Prof. Dale Owens, State Geologist, made an analysis of this white sulphur water, many years ago, from which it will be seen that the combination of its elements is all that can be desired. We submit such analysis:

Bi-Carb Lime.

Bi-Carb Magnesia.

Chloride Sodium.

Chloride Magnesium.

Trace of Sulphate Soda.

Trace of Sulphate Magnesia.

Trace of free Sulphated Hydrogen.

J. A. DIBBRELL, M. D.

C. F. BROWN, M. D.

A. M. BOURLAND, M. D.

L. C. WHITE. M. D.

VAN BUREN ARGUS, AUGUST 17, 1881.

On account of age and torn it was impossible to make out some of the words. Copist.

Attempted Train Robbery in 1883

The attempt to rob the train on the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad March 17, 1883, near Mulberry, was the sensation for many days and was widely published throughout the country. There were some angles that never have been told.

Let us hark back to October or November, 1882, when the first effort to rob a train in this state was made on the Iron Mountain railroad near Hope by three young men between 18 and 22 years of age. They were promptly caught, tried and sentenced to the penitentiary. The eldest one died of a broken heart—"nostalgia"—I was told by Dr. Lenow, who was the state's physician at that time. I commended the officers of the Iron Mountain road for their action and believed then, as now, that train robbers should be speedily caught and punished, that it should be made a capital offense; that such a law would go far toward making railroad travel safe in this state. But to my story:

Sitting in the home circle March 17, 1883, about 7 o'clock and feeling that all was well, the telephone rang and Mr. Harris, the train dispatcher, said, "Here is some bad news. Attempt to rob the train No. 1, Conductor Cain killed. Brakeman shot. Train now at Alma. Robbers jumped off train west of Mulberry. Orders?"

"Yes. Get best description possible of each robber and wire me. Have baggage man take charge of train. Have Cain's body prepared for burial and returned. Do all you can for brakeman. Notify other lines and agents. Order special for me to be ready as soon as possible."

"They killed Conductor Cain, my friend for 30 years! A few years my senior, a fine, clean, honest man. Wife, you will have to break the news to Mrs. Cain."

"Hello, central. Give me Colonel Zeb Ward's residence."

I got him promptly and told him what had occurred and asked him for the bloodhounds and their keeper.

"All right, sir, if you can find the keeper," was the response.

"Central, give me chief of police." I asked for any detective he could spare and went to my office. Then I got descriptions of the robbers and gave them to the Associated Press with an offer of \$5,000 for the apprehension of the murders.

With a few friends I arrived at the scene of the tragedy about daylight. This was about a mile west of

Mulberry station. In a cabin close by we found a man who had been shot in the face and who claimed to have been a passenger and shot by one of the robbers. When the train from Fort Smith arrived the next morning the trainmen identified the wounded man as one of the party of would-be robbers. Sheriff Sadler of Crawford county came down on the train and I had him arrest the man and put him in jail in Van Buren. He was not badly hurt, but I sent word to the doctor to scare a confession from him, "but he didn't scare worth a cuss." I was anxious to locate all the home rendezvous of the gang the better to direct the pursuit. A small party of "slow trailers" was organized to get the direction taken by the three men who escaped, which was found to be northward.

I sought all the publicity the newspapers would give the affair and besides ordered 10,000 descriptive handbills with reward sent all over the northwest part of the state.

The robbers boarded the train when it stopped at Mulberry station, where it stopped for supper, and the men took seats two on each side of the aisle near the back end of the rear coach, and when the conductor asked for tickets they jumped to their feet and drew their pistols and said "stop the train!" Conductor Cain realized at once that they had the "drop on him" and reached for the bell cord and (this I learned afterward from one of the gang) the man who shot him thought he meant fight and fired, the ball entering Cain's forehead. Having the bell cord in his right hand as he fell the engineer got the signal to stop and shut off steam. The would-be robbers became excited and lost their heads and began firing their pistols. Two rushed to the front end of the coach just as Brakeman Lester entered to see what was the matter and was shot and painfully wounded. In the excitement one of these men shot the other in the face. It happened the train was going up grade just at this time and when it lost its momentum began to roll back, there being no call for brakes. "Dock" Rogers, the engineer, told me that he gave her steam to hold the train and she began to move forward

slowly and getting no further signal, he "supposed the captain had put a man off." He gradually picked up speed, being entirely ignorant of what had really happened until the baggage man climbed over onto the engine and told him.

When the train began to move forward, the robbers, not knowing how to stop it, rushed to the rear of the car and jumped off. On a level grade where the cars would have stopped the passengers might have been robbed. The robbers' story about the "big shipment of money" was all bosh.

Detective Washmood with two other men was started out on the second day after with orders not to return until they had caught or killed the rest of the gang, to draw for all expense money needed. Some two weeks later they reported the last man of the trio in jail.

In the meantime, however, the large reward offered had pretty well filled the woods with amateur detectives and tramps were having a hard time "getting by" in many places. For a week or two I was called to come or send someone to identify supposed robbers.

Two or three days after Washmood and party started out they had a running fight with the trio with the result that one of the party got a flesh wound in one leg and they all got away.

Obtains Confession

On my return to Little Rock I sent Detective Sid Basie to Van Buren with a letter to Sheriff Sadler to let him work on the train robber. It was not long before Detective Basie was locked up with the train robber and got his confidence by proposing to escape and learned all we cared to know about who the robbers were and where they lived. This information was wired the sheriff of Washington county at Fayetteville, adding for effect that "blood hounds will be sent." This information soon reached the robbers and caused them to stick close to their hiding places in the bluffs of White river, where a few days later John Powers, deputy sheriff of Johnson



Albert Pike School . . . top photo, taken in 1918, before building was restored and moved from original location by Mrs. Allen Henderson. The front room was where Pike taught school near Van Buren in 1832. Below, the old log house now contains a museum on Highway 71, north of Mountainburg.



Courthouse Sites . . . Top photo—a view of the old sun-dial on the lawn of the Crawford County Courthouse at Van Buren.

Below—Miss Eno standing beside the marker at the county's first seat of government, known as "Old Crawford Court House" established "in 1820 near the house of John Jay on the south side of the Arkansas river."

county, and his posse found two of the gang. Washmood and his party trailed the third man into Missouri and brought him in about a week later.

A short time after these men were jailed it was reported that their friends would attempt a rescue and I was waited on by a committee of trainmen who asked my consent for the use of a train to take a party up to Ozark to lynch the prisoners. Of course I refused, saying the law will handle their punishment.

The prisoners were granted a change of venue to Clarksville and were tried there and convicted and sentenced to be hanged, no electric chair here then, at the same place and time by Sheriff E. T. McConnell, which event was told in the city papers at great length on that date, June 22, 1883.

Pending days of grace they were kept in the penitentiary at Little Rock.

After the time set for hanging a petition was presented to Governor Berry asking for clemency. He called men to his office and we went over the evidence. He was at first disposed to commute the sentence of the young man who really had done most of the shooting.

I told the governor my ambition was to make travel on railroads in Arkansas safe, that the roads and the state had spent a great deal of money to capture train robbers and turn them over to the courts to be tried, and it seemed to be a proper time to show by our action that Arkansas would prove unhealthy for train robbers. The governor finally said, "I will not interfere."

At the next session of our legislature we urged the enactment of a law to make train robbery a capital offense, but did not succeed. So, since then, we have had our share of train robbing.

I have purposely refrained from naming any of the men engaged in this affair.

Streams In Crawford County

Lee Creek: Named after a man who lived on the creek by that name.

Little Lee Creek: Named for the same man. A smaller

stream.

Foster Branch: Named for a man by the name of Foster.

Mountain Fork: Called that by being a stream winding among the mountains.

Cove Creek: Called after the name of the community of Cove City.

Slack Creek.

Webber Creek: Named for a man by the name of Webber.

Little Webber: A smaller stream.

Cedar Creek: Called that on account of so many cedar trees nearby.

West Cedar: Fork of Cedar creek, named that on account of the formation of the rock. All being of a flat nature.

Flat Rock: Called that on account of the formation of the rock. All being of a flat nature.

Mayes Branch: Named for a man who lived on the stream, a Mr. Mayes.

Arkansas River: Indian name.

Mulberry Creek: On account of so many mulberry trees growing nearby.

Little Mulberry: A small stream.

Frog Bayou: Named for a Frenchman named "Fraug."

Hollis Lake: Named for a man who lived near, a Mr. Hollis.

Ned Lake.

Mill Creek: An old grist mill was on the creek years ago.

Historic Spots in Crawford County

The original Crawford County was organized in 1820 and extended from Point Remove to Fort Gibson, all on the south side of the Arkansas River. The present county of Crawford was Indian land until 1828, when by treaty it was added to the original county, so most of the early historic spots are in other counties. The most important are the forts at Fort Smith in Sebastian County and Crawford Old Court House in Franklin County.

Site of the first County Seat in the present Crawford

County is in the eastern part of the county at what was Whitsontown, near Mulberry, now covered by the Be-neux Farm. Marked with a wooden marker by Miss Eno.

Home site of Captain Thomas Marlar, a Confederate Soldier, at Pleasant Hill. This is also the site of Crittenden, the second county seat.

King cemetery on Highway 64 at Mulberry where many prominent persons are buried.

Location of the building in which Albert Piike taught school in 1832, about three-fourths of a mile from where the dirt road intersects Highway 71-64 in the eastern part of Van Buren, just the other side of Flat Rock Creek bridge. A Centennial marker will be placed at the intersection of the two roads. The building has been removed to the northern part of the county on Highway 71 and marked by both the Masons and Centennial Commission.

The Revolutionary Soldiers Isaiah and Clement Mobley and a daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, Ann Forester, are buried in the Kimbler grave yard near Cove City, a good dirt road. Stones were placed to the memory of Isaiah and Clement Mobley.

Figure Five on Highway 45-59, one of the early settlements, received its name from a large "5" cut in an oak tree.

The grave of the Mormon, Parley Peter Pratt, is in an old graveyard opposite the Fine Springs Community House. The killing of Pratt is supposed to have caused the Mountain Meadow massacre.

Grave of Brigadier General N. B. Burrow is in the Alma Cemetery. Marked by the Alma United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Home of Colonel John Drennen, one of the founders of Van Buren, located on hill above the river at Van Buren. Oldest house in Van Buren and very historic. Albert Pike was a frequent visitor in this home and a painting of him hangs in the parlor. This home is 114 years old and is now owned by Miss Caroline Scott, a descendant of the builder, and is open to visitors at a

small admission.

First courthouse in Van Buren, completed in 1841, same walls were used when rebuilt in 1878. Its lawn has been the scene of many stirring events in the history of Van Buren and Crawford County; it also contains many memorials. A marker bearing much information and honoring Miss Clara B. Eno has been erected by the State Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Buildings used as hospitals for Southern soldiers: Wallace Institute on hill above town, no longer in existence; Court House, bounded by Main, South Fourth, Webster, and South Third streets; Lynch store, building at North Sixth and Main streets, lower part now a filling station; Presbyterian church, corner Webster and South Fifth, the site is now occupied by the public library; Methodist church, at the corner of Jefferson and South Fifth street, a new church occupies the site; Brodie Hotel, on the river bank on North First street.

Home of Judge Jesse Turner Sr., a noted lawyer, situated on South Fourth Street two blocks from Main Street. Now owned by Mrs. Dave Partain.

Site of first Church building erected in Van Buren in 1840. This was a Union Church and later used for school purposes. It is one block from main street on North Fourth and Washington Streets.

Site of Old Knox home, second oldest house in Van Buren. A log house weather-boarded, is situated on Highway 45-59 one block from Main street.

Home site of Dr. James A. Dibrell Sr., stands on the corner of Broadway and South Fourth Streets and Highway 71-64. This house was built about 1846 and is now the property of Mr. and Mrs. Dunham Scott. Dr. Dibrell was one of the leading physicians of Van Buren, as well as one of the early settlers. Here are many antiques for sale.

Location of the home of Dr. Henri Pernot, on corner of South Fourth and Jefferson Streets, built in 1854. He was another physician of early Van Buren. During the War Between the States had charge of the hospital of

the city and later of the hospital at Fort Washita, Texas. The old home was demolished in 1950 by R. C. Rhodes to make room for a used car market.

The Judge John B. Ogden house is another one of the ante-bellum days, having been built in 1846. The house and yard covers one-fourth of a block at Broadway and South Seventh streets on Highway 64-71. It is now owned by Miss Zula Ribling. Judge Ogden was one of the early Van Buren lawyers, United States Commissioner and tried Parley Peter Pratt, the Mormon.

The home site of John Symes is on Cane Hill Street one block from Main. It was built in the early forties, a large commodious one-story building with basement. It now belongs to the estate of Mrs. Walker Moore.

The site of the old home of Dr. Jonathan McGee is located in the eastern part of Van Buren on part of the land homesteaded in 1833. He was also one of the early physicians of Van Buren. The house, a large two-story brick, was burned in the spring of 1879, being replaced by one owned by the children of Mrs. Mary McGee Meyer.

The home site of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ward, on corner of Vine and South Second streets, was built about the middle of the fifties by Mr. L. C. Southmayd and is a large two-story house. The front part is built of logs, weatherboarded and plastered, the rooms being 18 feet square; the ell part is frame. Mr. Ward was one of the early merchants of Van Buren coming in 1844. It is now owned by Mrs. Charles Sexton.

The home of Judge Joseph Green is on what is now South Seventh Street. It was a large one-story house built before the War between the States. Judge Green was one of the early lawyers of Van Buren. The property is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pape.

The original home of the Henry Wilcox family is located about three-fourths of a mile north of the courthouse on Highway 45-59. The building erected in 1845, is a large commodious log building weatherboarded and plastered, of a story and a half. Mr. Wilcox was one of the leading lawyers of Van Buren. Later owned by

Mrs. Adda Hays, now owned by Carl Pegram.

One of the early homes of the county was that of Mr. Whitfield Bourne, a soldier of the War of 1812. It is a log and frame house, having been built in 1829. It is located eight miles from Van Buren in the Dripping Springs community. Mr. Bourne is buried in the family burying ground on the place. Still owned by a descendant. Before and during the War between the States, a stage coach stand was located there.

One of the most historic places in early Crawford County was Old Crawford Court House, now in Franklin County but all its history was made as Crawford County. This place is on the south side of the river about 2 miles below Van Buren and a few miles west of Mulberry. Tradition says "it was a one-story log house, but it was the scene of many hard fought legal battles, when such lawyers as Jesse Turner, Albert Pike, Absolum Fowler, Robert Crittenden and David Walker met in legal combat." Nothing remains but some unmarked graves. This spot is 16 miles from Highway 22 by the way of Lavaca. Marked by Centennial Commission assisted by the Mary Lee Chapter of Van Buren and Mary Lewers Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy of Alma.

The old Swearingen Home, an old Stage Stand between Fayetteville and Van Buren, located on the old Wire Road near Cove City.

The Butterfield Stage Route from St. Louis to San Francisco traversed the Old Wire Road through Washington and Crawford County and crossed the Arkansas River at Van Buren. Marker placed on bridge by viaduct by Mary Fuller Percival Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution of Van Buren.

Location of the old hotel and stage stand near the river, known as the Hanger Hotel, then the Gross and later Brodie Hotel.

Home of Bob Burns, radio comedian, located on the Northwest corner of Jefferson and South Ninth Streets one block from Highway 71-64.

Albert Pike Museum on Highway 71; not the orig-

inal location where he taught school. Marked by Fort Smith Masonic Lodge and Centennial Commission. The museum contains a large collection of glassware.

Location of the home of Rev. John Harrell, a missionary to the Indians, just off Highway 45-59 in City Heights. Now owned by Mr. Marvin Davenport.

In Fairview Cemetery is a marker to the memory of James Phillips, a Revolutionary Soldier; also an old grave that tradition says is one of DeSoto's men, was there when the cemetery was donated to the city. Many outstanding citizens are buried there.

Birthplace of Dr. Cyrus Adler is on Main street, Block No. 8, Lot 7, original town of Van Buren.

Old Wharf at foot of Main street where steamboats landed.

The Captain James Wright home at Chester was built about 1840 by Captain Wright, a log house weather-boarded, originally of eight rooms. Part has been removed and the remainder restored. As Captain Wright's title implies he was a Captain in the War between the States, and was active all during the war. This was his home until four years before his death, which occurred at the home of his daughter in 1920 at the age of 90 years, 6 months.

Shepherd Springs, the home of Mrs. Isabelle France, who writes "Hills of Home" a newspaper column about natives of the Ozarks.

At Kibler, seven miles east of Van Buren, and at Alma are the oldest natural gas fields in the southwest. They are still producing a big flow of gas.

Ozark National Forest reaches to Highway 71 and covers a large section of the northeast part of the county. White Rock mountain playground is just outside of Crawford county, beyond Bidville.

Half of Devil's Den State Park is in the north central part of Crawford county. May be reached via Winslow or Cove City.

Alma Canning Company at Alma is the largest canning plant in Arkansas.

Crawford County is the most diversified farming

county in the southwest. It was the only one in Arkansas to be placed in the vegetable allotment program of the federal A. A. A. in 1940.

Beauty Spots of Crawford County

This county has two outstanding ones. The view from Lee Creek Bluff compares favorable with any in the state, the river at the foot of the bluff with Lee Creek emptying into it forms a picture well worth seeing but when you add the surroundings it becomes one of magnificence. It has been compared with the view from Lookout Mountain at Chattanooga, then there is the view of the river from Mount Vista.

The next is the view from Highway 71, words almost failing to describe it. The valleys and the mountains on each side of the roads with the towns nestling among the trees, then Frog Bayou can be seen now and then; like a thread of silver running through the country and in many instances the glistening steel of railroad track. Who does not enjoy a trip over the splendid highway with the magnificent view.

Then there is the Natural Dam just off Highway 59. When the creek is full and an abundance of water is flowing over the rocky ledge, it presents a scene well worth seeing. Those who love to hear the splash of water over the rocks can stand and enjoy it, with the view up the creek adding to its beauty.

There are many beauty spots along the banks of Frog Bayou and Lee Creek but one has to leave the beaten tracks to find them. A few are found along Cedar Creek.

Mulberry Creek also furnishes scenes that will cause the beauty lovers to pause and gaze at the scene, one as you cross the bridge on Highway 64, and begin the ascent of the hill.

Another beautiful ride is along the Warloop stream with the hills on one side and the gurgling water on the other side. For this drive you turn to the right after ascending the hill at the north of Mountainburg bridge—along this route will lead you to Shepherd Springs.

Another lovely drive is the one by Walker's Store on

the old Mountainburg road to Locke, and the one taking you through the national forest to Bidville. At Locke you may take another road and come over the mountains into Mountainburg at the north end of the town.

From any of the mountain roads can be seen beautiful views as you drive along.

Another pretty stretch of road is along the hairpin turns between Van Buren and Rudy.

Wild Flowers of Crawford County

Among the wild flowers you will find in Crawford county are:

Calendula, Coreopsis, Larkspur, Purple Verbena, Sunflower, Blackeyed Susans, Wood Violet, White Violet, Birdfoot Violet, Yellow Violet, Two-toned White and Lavender Violet, Trumpet Flower, Golden Rod, Iron Weed in several varieties, Queen Anne's Lace or Wild Carrot, Yarrow, Yellow Milkweed or Butterfly Weed, Bloodroot, Michaelmas Daisy, Wild Aster in white and purple, Prickly Pear or Cactus.

Spring Beauty, Dutchman's Breeches, Azaleas, Wild Hyacinth, Solomon's Seal, Wild Honeysuckle, Red and Purple Horsemint, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Dandelion, Wild Pink Rose, May Apple or Mandrake, Columbine, Ginger, Spiderwort, in white, pink, blue and shades of orchid and sometimes called Bear Grass, Buttercups, Bergamot, Geranium, Red Sorrel or Oxalis, Yellow Sorrell.

Anemone, Indian Pink, Lady Slipper, Trillium, Evening Primrose, Ageratum, Ginseng, Shooting Star, Groundnut, Smartweed, Sensitive Plant, Jerusalem Artichoke, Virginia Creeper, Kansas Gay Feather, white and yellow Adder Tongue or white or yellow Dog-Tooth Violet.

Mullein Stalk, Morning Glory in several varieties, White Hydrangia, Blue Smilax, Jewel Weed or Balsam Blossom, Passion Flower, or May Pop, Petunia, Pink Ground Phlox, Phlox or Sweet William, Everlasting Pea, Large Purple Butterfly Pea, Indian Paint Brush, Lobelia, Cardinal Flower, Foxglove or Digitalis, Bluets, Partridge Berry, Purple Milkweed, Poe Pye, Jamestown, or Jimson Weed, Yellow Marshmallow, Downy Milk Pea,

Pokeberry, Blue Indigo, Yellow or False Indigo, Painted Daisy, Bitterweed, Dog Fennel in white and yellow, Forget-me-nots, Live-Forever, Skunk Cabbage.

Woodbine, Catnip, Indian Turnip, Jacob's Ladder, Onion, Mustard, Vetch, Thistles, Honeysuckles and Day Flower.

Iris, Two-toned lavender, and blue iris, the Crested Dwarf Iris, Blue-eyed Grass, Blackberry, Lily, Purple and Blue Dwarf Iris with no stem.

Water Flowers or Cattails, Water Poppy, Yellow Pond Lily, Arrowhead, Calamus, Water Lily or Yonca-pin, (sometimes called Monockernut or American Lotus).

Spicewood, Buckeye, Elderberry, Redbud, Dogwood, Rose, Ferns of several kinds, Buckbush, Woodbine, Hawthornes, Crabapples and Elder.