

announcement:

Died, in this city, of worm fever, on Sunday morning, the 29th ult., Laura, aged two years and a half, and on Sunday morning last, the 5th of September, Mary Jane, aged 5 years, daughters of Col. Sandford C. and Eveline Faulkner.

The little girls were buried in the old town cemetery at the present site of Peabody school. Their graves were not marked, and there is no record of their having been moved to Mount Holly after the old cemetery was abolished.

Faulkner was president of the Columbia branch of the ill-fated Real Estate Bank, and the bank became the instrument of his financial downfall. Early in 1842, the Central Board of the Real Estate Bank, in an effort to straighten out the badly tangled affairs of the bank, made an assignment of all the assets and effects of the bank to trustees for the benefit of its creditors. Sandy Faulkner was one of three trustees named for the bank at Columbia.

Sandford Faulkner had been a wealthy man, but he was a generous, fun-loving spendthrift, and he blithely squandered his money. When his fortune was dissipated, he borrowed heavily from both the Real Estate and State banks. When the day of reckoning came, he owed \$4,488.00 to the State Bank, and \$40,503.76 to the Real Estate Bank (of which \$33,028.76 was listed as principal and \$7,475.00 as surety.)

The \$4,488.00 note to the State Bank was due September 15, 1847. The securities were Nicholas Faulkner and A. W. Webb, and on July 28, 1850, the State Bank obtained a judgement against Webb and Sandy Faulkner. Credits up to December 31, 1850 totaled a mere \$1.37, but this debt was assumed by L. A. Whiteley.

Faulkner's problem with the debt to the Real Estate Bank was even more serious. In December of 1851, he voluntarily surrendered to the bank all of his 37 slaves, plus his plantation property, in payment of the debt. The property included 626 acres in Chicot county and 160 acres in Phillips county. That the bank lost no money on Faulkner is a matter of record. The slaves alone were sold to eight buyers for a total of \$36,017.74. Even 60-year-old Charity was sold, although she brought a paltry \$5.00. One of the slaves, 35-year-old Granville, died in the possession of the trustees, and there was no record of the sale of 13-year-old Bill. In addition to the money received from the sale of Faulkner's slaves and land, the bank credited his account with \$5,811.17 in Arkansas money as the equivalent of \$3,188.50 in specie due him on his salary account.

On May 30, 1855, tragedy struck again, with the death of Sandy's daughter Bettie, who had married John C. Peay. Her grave in Mount Holly cemetery is the only Faulkner grave that is marked. Her simple tombstone is inscribed: "Bettie, daughter of Sandford C. and Eveline Faulkner, and wife of John C. Peay, June 22, 1833 --- May 30, 1855, aged 21 years, 11 months, and 8 days." The words "To my wife and little babe" on the back