
CHILTONIAN

Volume 28, Number 1

January 2008

QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chilton County Historical Society will hold its quarterly meeting at 2:00 PM on Sunday, January 13th, at the Clanton/Chilton County Library. The guest speaker has not yet been determined; however, the meeting no doubt will be interesting and informative.

All members and other Chilton citizens who are interested in our County's history and its preservation are encouraged to attend.

CREDITS:

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P. O. Box 644, Clanton, Alabama 35046-0644.
(A Non-Profit Organization)

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President	-	David Dennis
Vice Pres.	-	Wayne Sewell
Secretary	-	Marie Smith
Treasurer	-	Colyn Moatts
Reporter	-	Marie Smith

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Biographical Transcriptions from Chilton County Newspapers

By Ben Roberts

[EDITOR'S NOTE: In this issue of the *Chiltonian* we continue the series on biographies of prominent County citizens, as those biographies were published in local newspapers of the time. Once again, our thanks to Historical Society President Emeritus Ben Roberts for the transcriptions.]

Thursday, September 22, 1927

Jack Hayes Of the Washington Senators

Jack Hayes, the son of Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Hayes of Clanton, was born in 1906. He attended the Clanton grammar school and in 1926 he graduated from the C.C.H.S. [*Chilton County High School*] He attended the University of Alabama in '26 and '27 at which time he played college [base]ball. Before entering professional ball Jack played with the Roanoke and Abbeville teams.

Several months ago he signed up with the Barons of Birmingham in the Southern League, who recently sold him to the Washington Senators of the American League. Since that time he has done some good work. The following is copied from a Washington paper written by Lewis A. Dougbar, the famous sports editor of that paper.

"On the nice smooth Washington bench he sat and sat. He rode around the circuit in Pullmans,

taxicabs and plain ordinary street cars. He played third base and shortstop and right field and left field—but all in practice. The weeks passed and he simply seemed ‘outa luck’ thassall [*sic*].

“Then at his wit’s end to shake his team out of the doldrums, Bucky Harris pulled out Bluege and substituted Hayes. That was Friday, September 9th. The kid got the one real hit off Ted Lyons that day and handled himself nicely in the field. The following Saturday he appeared in the short field where he belongs, by the way, and in two games he went to bat eight times and cracked out three hits. In the field he continued to perform easily and surely. The next day he collected two hits for himself and the second one turned the tide in favor of the Griffs. It was his clean smack in the 12th that scored Bluege with the winning run. Hayes has been up 14 times, has scored two runs and has collected six singles for himself, averaging .428.

“Hayes has a strong arm and considerable accuracy in pegging. He covers the whole short field, having plenty of speed and a lot of daring. He dodges nothing and nobody. The Griffs seem to have picked up a shining pebble to find a pearl of great price.”

Chilton County is exceedingly proud of the achievement of this young citizen of Clanton.

VOLUNTEERS AID FUND (Continued)

EDITOR’S NOTE: In this issue, we continue the record of the Autauga County Volunteers Aid Fund, which was established during the War for Southern Independence in order to provide some measure of relief for indigent families of Confederate soldiers who were away fighting the war. We hope you find one of your relatives in this listing. As always, your comments will be welcome.

[A reminder...]

["The Pages being ruled [*lined in columns*] as thus, it is deemed necessary to give this

Explanation
Month of entering service—as well as has been ascertained [*Column 1*]

Day of month of entering service [*Column 2*]

This Column contains the name of the Volunteer, the means of support as nearly as can be ascertained, and the description of family [*Column 3*]

Captain of Company [*Column 4*]

No [*number*] of family [*Column 5*]

Allowance in Dollars per month [*Column 6*]

... all of which is stated as nearly as practicable.”]

[*month/day*] [*name & family*] [*captain*] [*#*] [*\$/mo*]

Sept 5 1862	J B Gains wife & 2 children Negro woman & child Bread till Christmas but little meat	D ^e B	5
----------------	--	------------------	---

Sept 10 1862	G W Hedgepeth wife & child Meat to do this year, no corn need shoes & not making corn to support [<i>sic</i>]	D ^e B	[?]
-----------------	---	------------------	-----

Aug 1 1862	Jerome Vinson wife & 3 children Corn for the present & nearly enough – nothing else	“	[?]
---------------	--	---	-----

Sept 1 1862	John Calloway wife & 4 children no means, 2 cows	Conscript	6
----------------	--	-----------	---

“ 1	Jackson Mims wife & 4 or 5 children no means	Conscript	6
-----	--	-----------	---

Sept 1 1862	W ^m Wilson wife & 6 children Some corn, nothing else	Hudson[?]	6
----------------	---	-----------	---

“ 1	Henry Wilson wife & 4 children corn enough & some hogs	“	4
-----	--	---	---

[month/day]	[name & family]	[captain]	[#]	[\$/mo]				
Sept 1 1862	Matthew Wilson wife & 2 children corn & hogs	[Hudson?]		6	[Sept 6/62]	Joe Smedley wife & child no means	Oliver	6
					"	W ^m Wright wife & 2 children but little means	Conscript	
[Editor's note: Matthew Wilson was killed in the war; his wife was A. K. Eiland.]								
" 1	Thos Connell wife & 2 children & mother in law Corn for bread & hogs but not corn enough to fatten	"		6	[Sept] 8/62	John Anderson wife & child & cousin have corn to do 6 mos, a few hogs & cows - no meats [sic]	W L Davis	3
Aug 2 1862	W ^m H Tatum Mother Corn enough, hogs enough to make meat, but not enough corn to fatten them	Humphries		4	[Sept] 10/62	Jim Lawrence Wife & 4 children no means	"	[?]
"	W ^m Wiggins Mother no means	Bass		[?]	[Sept] 8/62	Tom & Dick Gains without means Mother	Pow[ell]	3
1861 Sept 10 Mar/62	James C Butler & John C Butler (Isaac) Father & Mother & 3 sisters James was wounded at Shiloh & lives at home on his father since - limited means	Faulkner Jackson		5	[Sept] 7/62	John Brownlee & Robert Brownlee Mother & two daughters 14 & 12 yrs old - No means	Conscript	5
					[Sept] 8/62	W ^m Biglescomb Mother & Sister nearly grown no means	W ^m L Davis	5
Sept 6/62	Henry Peter Crowson Mother & his child Very dependent No means	Oliver		6	[Sept] 3/62	W ^m Martin wife & 3 children no means	Davies Gov. Guard Enl-in/61 [sic]	7
"	W ^m Jones Mother & Sisters Children able to work	"		5	June/62	T J Houston Mother no means	Crow	5
"	Joseph Gentry [?] Mother & his 3 children gone to Georgia	"		[0?]	Oct 10 [62]	Jefferson Wright wife & 2 children has 20 bus[h] corn - 2 fallowing hogs - dry cows	Conscript	5
Sept 6/62	James Sackett wife	Oliver		four [sic]	Sept 5/62	James Sackett wife no means	Oliver	[?]

[Editor's note: Possible repeat entry - see left.]

[month/day] [name & family] [captain] [#] [\$/mo]

[Sept] 11/62 W. A. Turner (Turnir) Oliver [?]
Wife & child
need corn -

[Sept] 2/62 W^m Johnson [Oliver?] 7
wife 3 children

[Sept] 5/62 Bur Robinson " 5
2 children
No means

[Sept] 2/62 James Glenn " 6
[NFI]

[Sept] 1/62 Thos Aldridge " 6
wife & 4 children
his wife says she has no
corn or salt nor the
means of buying it
if she had corn & salt
she could make her [way?]

[To be continued...]

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

CHILTONIAN

Volume 28, Number 2

April 2008

QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chilton County Historical Society will meet at 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 13th, at the Clanton/Chilton Library. Guest speaker will be Colonel (ret) Larry Cornwell, past president of the Alabama Sons of the American Revolution (SAR)—in full dress uniform of the period.

Congratulations to Wayne Sewell who will be installed as new Vice President of the State SAR chapter at Prattville on March 29th at 11:00 AM.

Biographical Transcriptions from Chilton County Newspapers

By Ben Roberts

[EDITOR'S NOTE: In this issue of the Chiltonian we continue the series on biographies of prominent County citizens, as those biographies were published in local newspapers of the time. Once again, we thank Historical Society President Emeritus Ben Roberts for the transcriptions.]

December 29, 1927

Who's Who in Clanton W. I. Mullins

We like to read the stories of the pioneers of the West who were surrounded by romance and adventure, whose dauntless courage and perseverance converted wild undeveloped country into the land of plenty. And we are inclined to overlook the pioneers of our own town who through taking in hazardous experiences are important nonetheless. It must have taken courage to have settled a [small] town of [seemingly] few possibilities and to have expended years of energy until it has become a modern little city located in a good agricultural section and has developed into an important business center.

In thinking of the early settlers of Clanton the name of Mr. W. I. Mullins comes to mind. Mr. Mullins moved to Clanton in 1893 and since that time has given generously of his time and support to every phase of the development of Clanton.

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Mr. Mullins, the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Arthur Mullins, was born in Shelby County, January 10th, 1857. It is interesting to note here that Mr. Mullins' birthplace, 2 miles west of Lock 12, though a part of Shelby County then was taken into Chilton County in 1868.

Mr. Mullins received his schooling at Mount Zion Church. Later his parents moved on Yellow Leaf Creek. In 1876 Mr. Mullins accepted his first position as clerk at Wells and Mullins in Verbena.

In 1880 he married Miss Alice Wells daughter of K. [Kenyon] Wells, representative of this county in the legislature. A short time after that Mr. Mullins and his bride moved to Kincheon where he went into business for himself.

In 1893 Mr. Mullins visited Clanton and Talladega and decided to locate in Clanton where he opened a general merchandise store in the old Garner building. A few years later Mr. Mullins bought his present location.

For 35 years he has carried on a good business in general merchandise, cotton buying and fertilizer. And for 35 years Mr. Mullins has stood by Clanton and lent his support to the building of our city. He is one of Clanton's most progressive and influential citizens and is held in high esteem by everyone who knows him.

Mr. and Mrs. Mullins and his family means a great deal to every community in which they live. They are as follows: Mr. Renfro Mullins, Mrs. J. Watts Moore, and Miss Kathleen Mullins of Clanton; Mrs. Amzi Gowan and Mr. Bill Mullins of Birmingham.

Mr. Mullins has 11 grandchildren of whom he has just cause to be very proud.

When asked what his first impression of Clanton was, Mr. Mullins answered, "I thought it was a live little place with a good future, but the progress has far exceeded my fondest hope." Mr. Mullins continued, "And now the dawn of bright day is just breaking and the star of prosperity is beginning to rise. I have watched Clanton grow from year to year. It has progressed in a business way. Manufacturing interests, building churches and in a literary way its standards and ideals are higher than ever before, and Clanton's future is brighter."

With splendid citizens like Mr. Mullins who is a real booster, Clanton is sure to make great strides toward a big city in the near future.

April 5th, 1928

Who's Who in Clanton Mr. Jasper Dennis

Needless to say the leading industry of Chilton County is farming and the fact that our farmers are among the most prosperous and up to date is largely due to the efforts of one of our best citizens, Mr. Jasper Dennis, who has shown a beautiful and unselfish spirit in assisting the farmers of our County.

He has taken an active interest in furthering every phase of the development of farming interests through a long period of years in behalf of obtaining a county farm demonstrator even in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles is proof of his love for his county, and his persistence and tact in handling this situation emphasizes that fact.

Mr. Dennis has spent years of his life in working out scientific methods of farming and he has saved the farmers of Chilton County thousands of dollars by introducing modern methods of farming. He is responsible, to a large degree, for our farmers raising fertilizer crops such as vetch and clover. This in itself has proven a great money saver to our County.

Mr. Dennis not only advocates advanced methods but also employs them as is demonstrated on a farm 2 miles south of Clanton. It is modern in every respect and is very productive.

It will perhaps be interesting to Mr. Dennis's scores of friends to know about his life history. He is the son of Aaron Dennis and Lizzie Rollins Dennis and was born six miles south of Clanton in Bethany community of October 13, 1876. He attended public schools of the county and in 1893 when he was only 17 years of age, he began teaching and taught two three-month terms. Between terms he followed his favorite vocation—farming.

In 1899 Mr. Dennis sold his farm and attended school at Brierfield under Professor J. M. Collier. Later he taught at Pleasant Grove five miles west of Jemison [for] two terms, and the following year at Enterprise.

We hope you find one of your relatives in this listing. As always, your comments will be welcome.

[A reminder...]

[“The Pages being ruled [*lined in columns*] as thus, it is deemed necessary to give this

During the years of 1922 and 1923 he devoted his entire time to farming until the latter part of 1923 when he put in a cotton gin here. Needless to say Mr. Dennis is a very busy man, his time being divided between farming, operating a gin and warehouse.

Explanation

Month of entering service—as well as has been ascertained [Column I]

Day of month of entering service [Column 2]

Mr. Dennis's good wife was before her marriage Miss Ola Murrah, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billie Murrah of Collins Chapel.

This Column contains the name of the Volunteer, the means of support as nearly as can be ascertained, and the description of family [Column 3]

Captain of Company [Column 4]

Mr. Dennis is truly a successful business man and when one finds such a man one is inclined to think that success is easily realized, but Mr. Dennis is like a number of other successful men who say that in climbing to their goals they have encountered numerous difficulties and obstacles. We know that such men possess courage and determination, and they set a splendid example for younger men.

No [number] of family [Column 5]

Allowance in Dollars per month [Column 6]

... all of which is stated as nearly as practicable.”]

Mr. Dennis is a staunch member of the Primitive Baptist Church which is located three miles west of Coopers.

[month/day] [name & family] [captain] [#] [\$/mo]

[Sept]	Rollin Ausborn	[Oliver?]	6
1862	wife & 9 children		
	has corn to do several		
	months, and some		
	meat, perhaps enough		
	if she had Salt, & no		
	money to buy with so		
	says his wife		

Besides furthering the cause of good farming, Mr. Dennis has always stood for the betterment of schools and good roads, and the best interests of the county in general. In short he is a man of high ideals and is a 100 percent citizen.

Mr. Dennis has great faith in the future of Clanton and Chilton County.

[Sept?]	Jesse Mattox	2
1862	wife [and] 1 child	
	Corn to do 9 mos – meat to do	
	6 mos	

***VOLUNTEERS
AID FUND
(Continued)***

1862	John G Price wife [<i>and</i>] 4 children but little means	6
------	--	---

EDITOR'S NOTE: In this issue, we continue the record of the Autauga County Volunteers Aid Fund, which was established during the War for Southern Independence in order to provide some measure of relief for indigent families of Confederate soldiers who were away fighting the war.

1862	E T Hays wife & 2 children Some means	4
------	---	---

[month/day] [name & family] [captain] [#] [\$/mo]

1862 James Christian 5
Mother
but little means

[1862] W^m Littlejohn 6
wife & 2 children
but little means

[1862] J T Barrett 6
Wife & 2 or 3 children
but little means

Names of Families on Chestnut Creek
To draw Salt allow [allowance]

W^m Headley
Wilson Matthew
Gray of H – [sic]
Moore John
Dennis John
Moon W^m

[To be continued...]

Chilton County Historical Society
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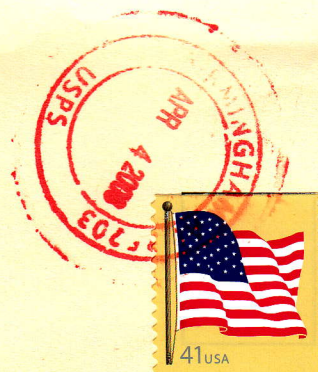
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CHILTONIAN

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July 2008

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Union Banner, February 9th, 1928

Who's Who in Clanton J. C. Jones

The secret of success is constancy to purpose according to Disraeli, an English novelist of a couple of generations ago. This thought so tersely expressed by the writer will be accepted as an axiom for many generations to come.

It may be that this thought, together with many others that light the way on the road to success, influenced our townsman Mr. J. C. Jones several generations ago, for it has been proven time and time again by scientists that one's history begins a hundred years or more before one's birth.

Be that as it may, truly constancy to the purpose of the attainment of success unquestionably has characterized the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Jones' success as a merchant is the fulfillment of his boyhood dreams, for as a tiny lad it

was his ambition to become a merchant and throughout his youth he worked with that thought in view, and today we find him as one of Clanton's most popular merchants so acknowledged by his many customers all over the county who have stood by him for years in his business activities.

Mr. Jones is the son of Mr. William W. Jones and Eliza Mullins Jones. He was born at Yellow Leaf, December 1873. Mr. Jones received his first schooling in the County School and later he attended the McMorries Academy in Clanton.

In keeping with his ambition Mr. Jones became a clerk for W. I. Mullins in 1897 where he worked until 1907, at which time he established his own business in the Mullins building which was built especially for him. The style of the firm will be remembered as J. C. Jones and Company. In 1913 Mr. Jones formed a partnership with the late Ross Mullins who was beloved all over the county. Messrs. Jones and Mullins operated their general merchandise business in the building known as the P. D. Wilson building and under the name of the Clanton Mercantile Company. Their business became one of the most successful general merchandise stores ever known in Chilton County. They did advancing business on a large-scale and bought cotton, and on the whole their establishment proved to be quite an asset to this county.

On October 31, 1900, Mr. Jones married his lovely wife who was before her marriage Miss Sophia Mullins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Mullins, who also lived at Yellow Leaf. Mr. and Mrs. Jones both mean a great deal to Clanton and their love for their town is demonstrated by the interest they show in all the enterprises of the town. Mr. Jones is a steward of the Methodist Church and Mrs. Jones is an active worker in that church.

In 1924 Mr. Jones retired from business and he spent some time traveling but his energetic nature would not stand for much rest, and a few years ago he went back into business on First Avenue, the name of the firm being J. C. Jones, and again Mr. Jones is enjoying a splendid business, having reestablished his popularity as a merchant. He is being assisted by one of Clanton's former merchants, Mr. G. C. Armstrong.

Some people are in doubt with many talents and Mr. Jones is one of the four tenants [*sic*]; besides having yet attained success as a merchant, he is one of Clanton's most prominent holders of real estate.

Mr. Jones has a large family connection in this county. His sisters, Mesdames W. Z. Hodges, A. S. Prince, and Irene Raspberry reside in Clanton, and a fourth sister, Mrs. W. E. Mauk, makes her home in Birmingham. His two brothers, Mr. Oscar Jones and Mr. Claude Jones, are citizens of Clanton.

As a businessman, as a citizen, and as a friend Mr. Jones holds an exalted place in his community, and his friends are numbered by those who know him.

Just as previously mentioned citizens foresee a bright future for Clanton, just so Mr. Jones, also a farsighted citizen, believes the future holds great things in store for Clanton.

Union Banner, Thursday January 12th, 1928

Who's Who in Clanton W. L. Popwell

Every town is judged by its citizens, and if those citizens are clever businessmen and women of civic pride who progress with [*the*] times, that town or city has a future.

Clanton is blessed with a goodly number of wide-awake citizens who are industrious and progressive, hence Clanton even now a little city of importance is destined to become one of Alabama's leading cities.

One of Clanton's most dependable citizens is Mr. William Lafayette Popwell who was born in Chilton County, five miles from Clanton on January 20, 1868.

In 1889 Mr. Popwell's people moved to Mulberry where they did extensive farming. He received his early schooling at Shelby Jones Institute in Fairview, which he entered in 1890. In 1892 Mr. Popwell attended the Florence Normal School at Florence, Alabama.

In 1893 he married Miss Kitty Atkins of Talladega. Their first home was near Kincheon, and in 1913 they moved to Clanton where Mr. Popwell has been prominent in business for 15 years. His various interests including farming, sawmilling, etc., have added much to the business life of Clanton. One of Mr. Popwell's favorite businesses is the Planters Gin and Warehouse owned by Mullins and Popwell

Brothers. This alone means much to the farmers all over the county, since the up-to-date gin turns out hundreds of bales of cotton during the ginning season, and the commodious and modern warehouse insures the safe keeping of cotton until the market price becomes attractive.

Mr. Popwell is recognized all over the county as being a fair minded man of splendid business judgment, and his friends are numbered by all those who know him.

His four children are Mrs. Julius Burnett (Mary Popwell), Mrs. Garland Foshee (Myrtle Popwell), and his two sons Morris and Horace, and each of them like their parents have a number of friends all over the county.

VOLUNTEERS AID FUND (Continued)

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[month/day] [name & family] [captain] [#] [\$ / mo]

[Page 75 of the Fund's ledger is devoted to the following undated entries:]

Names of Families on Chestnut Creek

To draw Salt alow [allowance]

W^m Headley
Wilson Matthew
Gray of H — [sic]
Moore John
Dennis John
Moon W^m
Wise J F discontinued
Robinson J T
Weldon Jno
Weldon Thos
Aldredge Reuben [husband of Ellen Baker]
Headley Jno L
Baker Stephen Jr. [brother of Alfred Baker]
Sewell Jonas

[Sept] 1862	Sol Owens wife & 3 children but little means	[?]	6
1862	Elhanon Boone wife & child but little means		5
[1862]	George McCord wife & child no means		6
[1862]	Frank Hurst Wife & child no means		6
[1862]	John Brownlee mother & 2 sisters no means	conscript	6

[month/day] [name & family] [captain] [#] [\$/mo]

[1862] not drawn off [sic]
Decr 5— [sic]
Thomas Skipper conscript 6
Father & Mother
Have meat enough but prob[ably]
will need 20 bushels corn
no salt or money —
{allowed 20 Bus corn & Salt}

[1862] not drawn off [sic]
John W Scott D^eB 5
wife & 5 children
Has enough corn. No meat nor
Hogs—and no money—no salt

[1862] W^m T Jones 7
Wife & 7 children
has half enough Meat
& 15 Bus corn—

[To be continued...]

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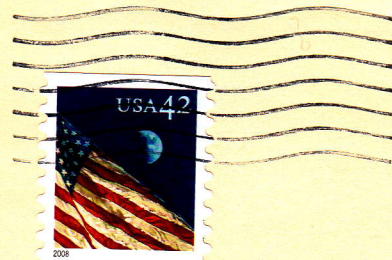
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NOTE: ON YOUR ADDRESS LABEL, THE TWO-DIGIT NUMBER AFTER YOUR NAME INDICATES THE YEAR THROUGH WHICH YOUR DUES ARE PAID. AN "L" INDICATES LIFE MEMBER.

VOLUNTEERS AID FUND (Conclusion)

EDITOR's NOTE: In this issue, we conclude the record of the Autauga County Volunteers Aid Fund, which was established during the War for Southern Independence in order to provide some measure of relief for indigent families of Confederate soldiers who were away fighting the war. Although the Record contains some additional handwritten entries regarding appointment of disbursement agents and payment of taxes in-kind, those are not included in this transcription. The full record is available at the Autauga County Courthouse. We hope you have found at least one of your relatives in this listing. As always, your comments will be welcome.

[A reminder...]

["The Pages being ruled [lined in columns] as thus, it is deemed necessary to give this

Explanation

Month of entering service—as well as has been ascertained [Column 1]

Day of month of entering service [Column 2]

This Column contains the name of the Volunteer, the means of support as nearly as can be ascertained, and the description of family [Column 3]

Captain of Company [Column 4]

No [number] of family [Column 5]

Allowance in Dollars per month [Column 6]

... all of which is stated as nearly as practicable."]

[month/day] [name & family] [captain] [#] [\$/mo]

1862 Jacob Risor (Mrs Johnson) 4
Mother & his 2 children
have some corn

[1862] John B Wyatt 6
wife & 4 children
corn enough nothing else
• One month Back [sic]

[1862] W^m Nobles 6
wife & 4 children Conscript
But little corn or anything else

[1862] W^m Norris 7
4 children
Corn enough – Nothing else

[1862] T C Monroe [?]
wife & 4 children
Needs salt

[1862] R C Baggett [?]
wife & 9 children
corn to do 6 mo nothing else

[1862] Austin Baggett [?]
wife & 8 children
25 Bus Corn & 4 hogs & 2 cows

[1862] Arch Oats [?]
Wife & 7 children
30 Bus corn – 2 hogs – 2 cows

~~Jim Tomasson~~
~~wife & 6 children~~ [sic]

ADDITIONAL EDITOR's NOTE: As can be seen from the above final entries, all originally required data were not included, i.e., the month/day, the name of the company captain, and even the amount of money authorized for each family.

Biographical Transcriptions from Chilton County Newspapers

By Ben Roberts

[EDITOR's NOTE: In this issue of the Chiltonian we continue the series on biographies of prominent County citizens, as those biographies were published in local newspapers of the time. Once again, we thank Historical Society President Emeritus Ben Roberts for the transcriptions.]

Thursday, January 26th, 1928

Who's Who in Clanton J R Broadhead

The foundation of any town, hamlet or city is the merchant who gathers his wares from every corner of the world and thus furnishes the merchandise necessary to civilization.

We have often noticed a small store roughly constructed, spring up overnight, so to speak, and in time other stores follow the example. Soon a post office follows and then residences, and before we really realize what has happened we have a town.

We seldom stop to consider the important part merchants play in the development of a town. It is largely through their efforts that the town keeps up with the times and in touch with the outside world.

The oldest continuous merchant in Clanton is Mr. James Russell Broadhead. He is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Broadhead of this county, and was born December 9, 1854.

The nearest school was six miles from his home. When we consider the inconveniences the children of former times and the obstacles they had to overcome in order to receive an education, we begin to appreciate the wonderful opportunity that the present school system affords.

Mr. Broadhead's first work was on a farm where he earned \$10 a month. Later he became

interested in cattle, driving droves of cattle to market in Selma.

At his father's death he became head of the family of ten children, shouldering the responsibility of his brothers and sisters with the ability and undertaking of a matured man.

On January 29th, 1878, Mr. Broadhead married Miss Fannie Headley of the community now called Fairview, in Chilton County.

In 1900 Mr. Broadhead moved to Clanton where he entered the merchandising business. His first stand styled Broadhead and Popwell, was on the spot now occupied by Carter's Garage. A year later Mr. Broadhead bought out Mr. Popwell and established the popular firm of J. R. Broadhead and Sons. Needless to say Mr. Broadhead's store holds an important place in the progress of business houses of Clanton. Through their splendid management, their up-to-date merchandise and their courtesy, they have won hundreds of friends all over Chilton and adjoining counties.

Mr. Broadhead has one living sister, Mrs. Mary MacKenzie of Birmingham.

He is the father of four children, Mrs. J. R. Popwell, Mr. Mack Broadhead, Durwood Broadhead and Grady Broadhead. Each of them are splendid citizens of Clanton who have contributed much to the development of their town.

Mr. Mack Broadhead, the eldest of the sons is associated in business with his father. Mr. Durwood Broadhead is a member of the firm of Broadhead and Nivens, and Mr. Grady Broadhead, who holds an M.D. degree is associated with Broadhead and Nivens.

Mr. Broadhead has always proved a loyal citizen. The unwavering faith he has shown in Clanton during his long residence here in itself would convince one of the fact that he believes in Clanton and his verbal statement that he foresees a wonderful future for Clanton adds emphasis to that fact.

Thursday, March 22nd, 1928

Who's Who in Clanton
Mr. J. Thomas Rockett

Our previous write-ups of prominent citizens have been confined to pioneers of Clanton and the important part they have played in the development of our town.

This week we would call your attention to a man who has taken an active part and who though a recent resident of Clanton is nevertheless one of our most progressive and loyal citizens.

Mr. J. Thomas Rockett, the son of James Thomas Rockett and Lula Rockett was born in Birmingham in 1877.

In 1880, when Mr. Rockett was three years of age his parents moved to Chilton County where Mr. Rockett has lived since. His first schooling was received at the old Easterling schoolhouse, six miles east of Clanton. Mr. Rockett spent a number of years on the farm and later he worked for Mr. Gullahorn at a sawmill at Coopers.

From 1906 to 1908 Mr. Rockett operated a sawmill for himself and a few years later he received a position in the general merchandise store of Harris and Eiland at Coopers. In 1912 Mr. Rockett engaged in the mercantile business again at Coopers with Mr. J. H. Roberts, the style of the firm being Roberts and Rockett. They enjoyed a splendid business there and in 1915 sold out to Mr. T. C. McSwain.

The following year proved a busy one for Mr. Rockett. He established a general merchandise store, styled J. T. Rockett, at Coopers. He also operated a sawmill and gin at Coopers.

In 1920 Mr. Rockett discontinued his various business interests and entered politics. He entered the race for Tax Collector in that year and was elected. He also ran the following term and is now enjoying his second term as Tax Collector.

In 1896 Mr. Rockett married his splendid wife who was Miss Isabella Clark, who lived five miles southeast of Clanton. Mr. and Mrs. Rockett have only one child who is Mr. Dewey Rockett, one of Clanton's most progressive young business men. He operates the Building Supply Company, a business which is quite an asset to Clanton. Mr. Rockett has two lovely grandchildren Nell and Lois, the youngest member of the family.

Mr. Rockett is a loyal member of the Clanton Baptist Church where he has had his membership for

several years.

And speaking of boosters, Mr. Rockett is one of Clanton's best and he believes absolutely in his town which has always seemed like home to him even though his permanent residence here has been only about three years.

Clanton real estate has been on a boom for a number of years and Mr. Rockett has played a great part in developing it; his property ranking with the very best in modern and attractive homes in various improvements.

In speaking of Clanton Mr. Rockett said, "I have traveled quite a bit but I've never found a town as good as Clanton. And as to Clanton's future, I believe that there are great things in store for our town."

Needless to say Clanton as well as Chilton County, is fortunate in having a man of Mr. Rockett's ability as a citizen.

[To be continued...]

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