

Genealogical Data For Husband

HUSBAND REV. ALEXANDER ROBINSON BANKS  
 Birth June 26, 1808 Place Fairfield District S.C. (York Dist.)  
 \*Chr. \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Death \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Burial \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother † \_\_\_\_\_  
 Married June 5, 1838 Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 †Other Wives (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Where was information shown on this family record obtained?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Genealogical Data For Wife

WIFE ELIZABETH PRATT 1st School Teacher Spring Hill, Ark  
 Birth \_\_\_\_\_ 1804 Place HEBLEN, N.H.  
 \*Chr. \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Death 5, SEPT. 1853 49yr. Place El Dorado, ARK.  
 Burial \_\_\_\_\_ Place Presbyterian Cemetery El Dorado, Ark  
 Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother † \_\_\_\_\_  
 †Other Hus. (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

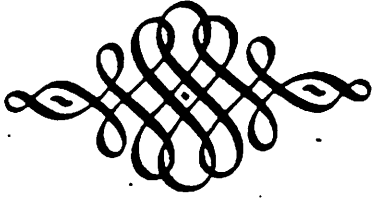
Family Representative: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name and address of person submitting this sheet.  
Donna L. Stroud  
3600 E. Mulberry  
Angleton, TX 77515

\*Christening date requested only in lieu of birth date (not L.D.S. Church Blessing).  
 †List other wives or husbands in order of marriage. ‡List complete maiden name for all females.

| Sex<br>M<br>F | CHILDREN<br>List each child (whether living or dead) in order of birth    | WHEN BORN |            |             | WHERE BORN    |                        | State<br>or<br>Country         | DIED      |             |             | MARRIED<br>(First Husband or Wife)<br>List Additional Marriages with Dates on<br>Reverse Side of Sheet |
|---------------|---|-----------|------------|-------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|--|
|               |   | Day       | Mo.        | Yr.         | Town          | County                 |                                | Day       | Mo.         | Yr.         |  |
|               | <u>Rev. Presbyterian Minister Licensed</u><br><u>1 HENRY Howard Banks</u> | <u>16</u> | <u>May</u> | <u>1839</u> | <u>Martin</u> | <u>Holly P. Church</u> | <u>Ashville</u><br><u>N.C.</u> | <u>6</u>  | <u>Aug.</u> | <u>1878</u> | <u>24 Oct 1865</u><br><u>Amatometter Hawley</u><br><u>NC</u>   |
|               | <u>2 Alexander</u>  | <u>19</u> | <u>Aug</u> | <u>1842</u> |               |                        | <u>ARK</u>                     | <u>16</u> | <u>Dec</u>  | <u>1847</u> | <u>Minden, LA</u>  |
|               | <u>3</u>  |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>4</u>  |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>5</u>  |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>6</u>  |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>7</u>  |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>8</u>  |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>9</u>  |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>10</u>   |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>11</u>   |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>12</u>   |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>13</u>   |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>14</u>   |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |
|               | <u>15</u>   |           |            |             |               |                        |                                |           |             |             |  |

*Elizabeth Pratt  
1st wife  
Alexander Robinson Dobb*

# SAM WILLIAMS: PRINTERS' DEVIL



## MEMORABILIA



Some Ante-Bellum Reminiscences of  
Hempstead County, Arkansas

Embracing Pictures of Social Life, Personal  
Sketches, Political Annals, and  
Anecdotes of Characters  
and Events

Editor  
MARY MEDEARIS

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Boats stacked high with bales of cotton would head down Red river to enter the Mississippi and continue south to the international market at New Orleans. Oral tradition says that Hempstead county long-staple cotton of the antebellum years was of such superior quality that it commanded a separate listing on the Liverpool (England) Exchange.

accumulate more than had fallen to him by inheritance, he gave himself up to the enjoyment of such sports and pleasures as men like he and Tom Nelson could devise. He removed to Louisiana, where he died many years ago. Bradley had a bosom friend and close intimate by the name of Samuel B. Fluit, who followed him to the Pelican state, and died there.

Another noted character who dwelt in Spring Hill in those days was B. J. Harris, a merchant and tavern-keeper. He was an obstreperous, drinking fellow, was always getting into trouble with the Virginians, and was ultimately slain in a personal difficulty by one of them — Tom Bankhead.

Col. James W. Finley, who came from Kentucky, lived for a time at Spring Hill, and died there. He was for a number of years a citizen of Washington, where he was engaged in merchandizing. Finley married a Virginia lady — the widow of Henry B. Coleman and the daughter of Dr. Foster, of Virginia. She is still living in the town of Hope.

Among other residents of Spring Hill whose names spring up in my memory were Dr. Cunliffe, Dr. Torrains, Col. Wm. M. Burton, Richard H. Binford, Judge Williamson Foster, Aquilla Davis and Richard H. Sullivan, the latter of whom still lived there till the time of his death, which occurred a few years ago. And I must not omit to mention the fact that it was once the home of the mother of Arkansas' most distinguished citizen, the present Attorney General of the United States, Augustus H. Garland. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Garland moved to Spring Hill, in order to be near a good school where she could educate her two boys, Rufus and Augustus, and I believe it was in that old town they first danced to the music of a pedagogue's switch. While living there she married Judge Hubbard, and from thence moved to Washington about 1844.

I must also note the fact that one of the best female schools ever taught in Arkansas was located at Spring Hill. It was presided over by that remarkable woman and successful educator, Mrs. Banks, the wife of Rev. A. R. Banks, a Presbyterian minister, who was still living a few years ago, though his wife has long since been dead.

But Spring Hill is now a thing of the past, and is known only in memory. A stranger in passing by and viewing the now silent and desolate spot where it once stood, would never imagine there had once flourished there a thriving, busy town, inhabited by a people noted for their wealth, intelligence and culture, many of whom lived in regal style and dispensed a generous hospitality. The stunted pine

Elizabeth Pratt

## SPRING HILL. FEMALE ACADEMY.

THIS Institution, located in the town of Spring Hill, Hempstead county, Arkansas, will open its Third Session on the first day of March next. The services of Miss ELIZABETH PRATT, from the distinguished school of Troy, New York, familiarly known as Mrs. WILLARD'S SCHOOL, are engaged for the next year. High intellectual attainments, and a thorough acquaintance with the different branches which she proposes to teach, of which she has given ample testimony within the last year, eminently qualify her for the high station which she fills, and a faithful discharge of every duty that may devolve upon her, may be confidently expected.

Spring Hill is situated 15 miles south of Washington, and about 10 miles from Red river. The population of the town and neighborhood is intelligent, wealthy, and highly respectable, and is composed chiefly of recent emigrants from the older states. The adjacent country is dry and elevated, and finely watered by the town of springs. The country intervening between Spring Hill and the river is undulating and heavily timbered with pine, which, together with the distance, affords ample security against the malarial atmosphere of that stream. The school consisted of between 20 and 30 young ladies, last year, no one of whom had an attack of bilious fever. The following are the branches taught, and the terms:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Reading, Writing, English Grammar, Geography, with the use of Globes, and Arithmetic, per session.....  | \$25 00 |
| French, per session.....  | 7 50    |
| Drawing and Painting.....   | 10 00   |
| Music.....  | 30 00   |
| Use of Piano.....   | 5 00    |
| Rhetoric and Composition, Logic, Kant's Elements of Criticism, Natural, Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Astronomy, Botany, Geometry, Algebra, and Euclid's Philology, per session..... | \$25 00 |

Board can be had in the best of families, for \$12 per month.

NORBORNE T. NELSON, *President.*

|                    |             |                    |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Williamson Foster, | } Trustees. | Robert Carrington, |
| Richard Pryor,     |             | Thomas Hubbard,    |
| John W. Paup,      |             | Thos. A. Bennett,  |
| Wm. M. Burton      |             | Wm. Cunningham,    |

Spring Hill, Feb. 13th 1837. 11-3w

To be published once a week, for three weeks, in the *Inquirer*, Richmond, Va., *Journal*, St. Francisville, La., and *Times*, Little Rock, and the bills sent to the Arkansas Gazette office, for collection.

Advertisement for the SPRING HILL FEMALE ACADEMY from the Arkansas Gazette Feb. 13, 1837.

ELIZABETH BANKS, wife of Rev. A. R. Banks, in the 49th year of her age.

The subject of this notice was born in the village of Hebron, in the State of New Hampshire, in 1804. Her parents were pious and respectable, and gave their daughter during her earlier years, such advantages as the schools of that day, in the rural districts of New England afforded. It soon became apparent that she possessed all the materials for a sound and able scholar. She was accordingly entered a student of one of those Seminaries which have in late years become so common throughout our country. Here she made rapid progress in the classical, natural sciences, and mastered many of the higher branches of Mathematics usually reserved for the triumph of the sterner sex in our academies and colleges.

Gratified and delighted with her success, her friends determined to open the way for still further advancement. One of the most notable institutions of that day and this, in our country, was selected, and she was placed under the charge of Mrs. Emma Willard, then and for so many years since, Principal of the Troy Female Seminary—a lady not less distinguished for her success as a teacher, than as a scholar and historian. Mrs. Willard was at that time assisted by her sister, Mrs. Lincoln Phelps, and under the supervision of these two eminent ladies, she soon achieved the highest honors. The time for her attendance here having expired, she received the appointment of assistant teacher in that institution, the duties of which she continued to discharge for some three years with marked ability and success. During her residence in Troy, and in the year 1832, she united with the Presbyterian Church (Dr. Tucker's), of which she continued an ardent and consistent member until her death. In 1833, inducements were offered her to visit the southwest, and the spring of 1836, found her in charge of the Spring Hill Female Academy, which she conducted for eleven years. Removing to Minden, La., she conducted the Female Academy there a year and a half, during which time, she lost an interesting little son and impaired her own health. In 1843, she returned to Spring Hill, and soon received overtures to conduct the Eldorado Female Academy. In 1849, she removed to this place for that purpose, and in connection with her husband, had charge of that institution until her death.

And here, having briefly alluded to the simple and unostentatious incidents of her life, we might close; but there was that in her character as a woman, teacher and Christian, which hundreds who have been under her care, and otherwise interested in her success, will be glad to read and treasure up.

In this village and county, the scene of her best labors, her memory will long be held in affectionate remembrance.

Her career as a teacher was almost unprecedented. Over 1000 young ladies have been fitted for the active duties of life under her instructions, and out of this large number, not one ever received corporal punishment at her hands, or was expelled from the school—a fact speaking volumes for her as a teacher, and highly honorable to her pupils. Of these, the greater portion resided in this, and the adjoining counties. Mothers, who during the first years of her residence among us, had received instructions under her at the Spring Hill institution, were now in turn intrusting their daughters to her guidance.

Up to the time of her last illness, which lasted eleven days, she was engaged in active preparations for the approaching term; and almost daily, until news of her death had been generally disseminated, her former pupils and many new ones from a distance, continued to arrive. The fall term was appointed for the 1st Monday in September—on that day she was a corpse!

Long years may elapse before another shall come to fill the place in society left vacant by her death; for she possessed a rare combination of qualities seldom found united in one.

Of a noble and commanding figure, her personal appearance inspired respect, while her intellectual endowments were not less imposing than her person. As a scholar, she was ever active in the acquisition of knowledge; while as a teacher, she possessed a happy facility of imparting it to others. For sometime previous to her death she had been engaged in preparing Analyses of "Butler's Analogy" and "De Cougal's life of God in the soul of man;" and from her known learning, and ability to master these admirable works, she would, no doubt, had she been spared to complete them, have made two valuable additions to the scholastic literature of our country. As a conversationalist, she was excelled by few. Ingenious in argument, lucid in demonstration, always fluent and frequently enthusiastic, her gentle and persuasive eloquence secured the unfeigned respect of her auditors, if it did not always subside into conviction.

As a wife and mother, she was gentle, trusting and affectionate; as a friend and neighbor, kind and self-sacrificing; while in all the diverse duties of life, she exhibited great self-reliance without vanity, independence without haughtiness, firmness without severity, charity and benevolence without ostentation.

As a Christian, she was not one of those who put on religion for occasions. It was with her, an abiding sentiment, developed in her daily walk and guiding all her actions. Ardently sincere without being bigoted, her opinions were not confined by formulas and creeds; but were broad, comprehensive and philanthropic, and of a pure devotional tone. Earnest belief, zealous teaching, sincerity of word and purpose, blended with charity and tenderness, were the outward manifestations of her soul's trust and hope.

Her last days were but an epitome of her whole life. Confiding in the promises of God she looked forward with calmness and composure to the end. Fully persuaded that life was ebbing fast, she appealed with unshaken confidence to those solemn truths in which she had trusted for so many years, and now in these, her last hours, more than half revealed to her. Sustained by the convictions of the past and the solacing consciousness of

it must be to rest.

upon an examination such decided improvement in the intellectual cultivation of the rising generation, and how truly gratifying to parents and guardians to see and know that their children's time is husbanded by those who are entrusted with their education; and to see as much improvement in their children in one session, with Mr. and Mrs. Banks, as might reasonably be expected in two sessions under the usual course of instructions in other institutions.

There is no institution North or South where girls can receive a more thorough education, than at the Eldorado Female Institute. Every branch of a female education is taught in this institution, and that, too, by the most efficient instructors. The number of scholars has already increased for the next session in such numbers that the building committee find it necessary to enlarge the academy, which will be done by the commencement of the next session.

Mr. and Mrs. Banks have written to secure the services of additional teachers to assist in the next session.

Every arrangement can be made by the commencement of the next session, for the accommodation of young ladies from a distance. Parents and guardians would do well, to make their applications as early as possible, for we are satisfied that the school will be very full, and that some difficulty in getting all admitted, that will apply.

Parents and guardians may feel assured

Elizabeth Pratt



H. W. BANKS.

The question has often occurred to us, How much of the splendid eulogies and elaborate memoirs in which we honor and glorify our loved, admired, and lamented dead, will be regarded as worthy of permanent record in God's Book of Life, when all that represents human pride, vanity, and selfishness, shall be excluded? But there are not a few elect spirits, whose lives of unselfish devotion and entire consecration to their Master's service entitle them, according to the principle of gracious rewards, to "everlasting remembrance;" and our estimate of their life-work will differ from His, only by the sum of precious things omitted. Such is the "cherished name," memory would here "take up and hide securely in her holiest urn." The life, labors, and sufferings of our dear and lamented Brother Banks are replete with illustrations of the manifold grace of God, into which the angels desire to look, and which his brethren will delight to treasure in their memories as worthy of imitation.

The son of a minister and a child of the covenant, he consecrated to God the dew of his youth, and from the date of his conversion contemplated the sacred calling, to which he afterward devoted all his energies. His preparation for the ministry was prosecuted under great difficulties and trials. Only a brave heart and strong will, by the grace of God, could have conquered the depressing influences of feeble health, and the discouragement arising from frequent interruption in his studies. The writer has sad recollections of these seasons of mental depression, occasioned by the morbid effects of disease, which not only beclouded his mind, unfitting him for the class-room, but also darkened his soul and robbed him of all spiritual comfort. He would often question his call to the ministry, and doubt the genuineness of his conversion. Under this dark cloud he returned home from the Seminary and suspended his studies for a year. Returning to Columbia, S. C.; he completed his theological course and entered upon the active duties of the ministry, the greater portion of which was spent in Asheville, N. C., and Murfreesboro', Tenn. It was in the latter place that the disease which caused his death was fully developed. He continued, however, to preach at intervals, as his health permitted, and was, up to the time of his decease, acting as agent of Davidson College.

We have always regarded Mr. BANKS as a man of more than ordinary ability. He was endowed with a vigorous mind of keen insight and rare penetration, that readily grasped the most difficult themes, and rapidly accumulated knowledge. He seemed often to have an intuitive perception of what others gained by protracted reflection. His health did not admit of the close application that severely taxes the brain, yet he exhibited great powers of analysis, and reasoned more vigorously than many a trained logician. We have seen this young David, with the skillful use of his sling slay many a would-be Goliath of philosophy. "Strongest minds are often those of whom the noisy world hears least;" and all who knew him intimately discovered the precious ore that lay hidden beneath a modest exterior and a partial culture, waiting only for the mining and minting process he was not permitted to perform.

It pleased God, whose sovereignty he delighted to honor, to choose him in the furnace of affliction, and to display his grace through a heart burning with love and zeal, an heroic and indomitable will, and a conscience regulated by the Word, to

To him, Presbyterianism was *jure divino* in doctrine, order, and worship; and so conscientiously and tenaciously did he hold his opinions, that he would have gone to the stake for any article of his creed. He had the "stuff" of which martyrs are made; and while "holding fast the form of sound words," and "standing in the old paths," with unyielding conservatism he "contended earnestly for the faith," with aggressive zeal, assailing every form of error with an almost iconoclastic severity. Gentle as a woman in his nature, he often reminded us of "the disciple whom Jesus loved," and was generally styled the John of the Presbytery by his brethren. But, like the tender and loving apostle, he was a Boanerges in the pulpit when he confronted what he believed to be error. His manner was bold and fearless, yet not denunciatory, though he was often charged with bigotry and uncharitableness. But he was wont to remark: that the ministry of the present day are more fearful of wounding the prejudices of their hearers, than of slighting the word of God. Notwithstanding his fidelity in "declaring the whole counsel of God," and opposing unscriptural doctrine, he was one of our most popular preachers. His sermons were carefully written, and read from the manuscript. They were attractive in style, abounding in beautiful imagery, and delivered with a fervency of spirit and a holyunction that arrested the attention and moved the hearts of his hearers.

In our ecclesiastical courts he observed the most modest silence, until some question arose touching a vital point of doctrine or discipline, which he felt that every man was bound to bear his testimony to the truth. He was a member of the last General Assembly, and it was upon his motion that a resolution was adopted, urging Christian parents to prohibit their baptized children from attending dancing schools. Against all worldly amusements and voluntary societies encroaching upon the functions of the Church, he set his face like a flint.

The type of his preaching and of his Christian experience was strongly Pauline. He lived in the eighth chapter of Romans, and proclaimed from the pulpit the great doctrines of grace with all the enthusiasm of the old Apostle. Above all, he magnified the righteousness of Christ, and recommended to his brethren the writings of Bonar and others who exalted the doctrine of imputation. The hymn in which the justifying righteousness of Jesus is made most prominent was his favorite: He attributed the joyless experience, the utterality and slothfulness of Christians, to the lack of a deep experimental acquaintance with the preciousness of Christ: "There is now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus."

"Free from the law, O happy condition," was the burden of his song.

We do not marvel that a conscience thus habitually sprinkled with atoning blood, and that always

S. Presbyterian  
Dec 3, 1878

felt its power, should have been so sensitive and tender, and yet apparently so stern and uncompromising. But for the counteracting influence of his womanly sympathy and affection, which charmed and captivated all who came within the circle of his friendship, his piety might have exhibited a gloomy cast, from an overshadowing conscience always alive to the evil of sin and the sacredness and inviolability of rectitude. In this respect, he reminds us of McChesne, of whom he was an ardent admirer.

But any portraiture of this beloved brother would be imperfect, that did not depict the genuine humor, which played like sunshine over the dreariest scenes of his life, brightening his darkest experiences, and flashing from a countenance writhing with pain. The very tears that dripped from the wine-press of suffering crystallized in sparkling sallies of wit; and many a paroxysm of pain was bantered with a jest. He did not "despise the chastening of the Lord" by making light of his sufferings. It was only "gentle patience, smiling on pain." It was the humor of one who often said with a triumphant faith: "Though he slay me, yet will I trust him." His few days spent on the border-land of heaven were sweet and peaceful. In the attitude of perfect resignation and sublime trust, he waited and longed for the summons that would speedily release his fettered spirit. When reminded of one, also near his end, who regarded him (Brother Banks) as the instrument of his conversion, he promptly replied: "In this trying period of my life I desire to think of nothing I have ever done, no prayer I have ever offered, no feeling I have ever experienced; but of Jesus only. I would press Him to my heart, and feel my complete and entire dependence upon Him. If I have ever done anything, I want all the glory to be given to Him. I want to lose sight of self, and see Christ alone."

Several days before his death, he was visited by Brothers Gammon and Wood, in company with ministerial brethren of the Baptist and Methodist churches of Asheville. During the interview, he requested them to sing his favorite hymns expressing most fully his religious experience: "Jesus paid it all;" "How firm a foundation;" "Rock of Ages;" etc. At the close of each hymn, he responded: "Oh how precious!" While they were singing the line, "Simply to thy cross I cling," he waved his pale wasted hand, and bowed his head twice with a sweet smile.

He desired during his last days to hear only the word of God. He called for some of the grand chapters of Isaiah; the 3d and 14th chapters of John; and those portions of the Book of Revelation describing the heavenly city. He also requested to be read to him the account in "Pilgrim's Progress" of Christian entering the land of Beulah.

On the day of his death he took a formal and affectionate leave of his family, giving to each member suitable expressions of love and counsel. Being asked a few hours after, if all was well with him, he replied: "I am at peace. I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed to him against that day." He was conscious ten minutes before his death. He has fought a good fight, finished his course, and kept the faith, and has received the crown of life. (J. R. B.)

any in the state of Arkansas. A lover of children and beloved by them, Dr. Chester wrought mightily in the characters of those who stepped under the wand of his influence. Today the scattered numbers of former members of this Sabbath School from Washington City to California rise up to call him blessed. Of our school's excellency, Rev. Samuel H. Chester, D. D., Secretary of Foreign Missions of our church, writes: "I was brought up in an old-fashioned Presbyterian community, in which the most prominent features in the life of the people were those connected with the church and Sunday school. In our Sunday school we committed to memory large portions of the Scriptures, and nearly all the old classic hymns, and were made familiar with a complete outline of Bible history as set forth in Smith's Scripture Question Book. The answers to the questions in that book had to be forthcoming under stress of prizes at one end of the line and of corporal punishment at the other end when necessary. We had none of the improved Sunday school facilities of modern times, but for thorough-going and substantial religious instruction it is my conviction that the work in that Sunday school is not surpassed by that of the most up-to-date Sunday school of the present day."

And even yet is this excellent work molding the lives of our community's young people; for the enrollment is now over a hundred and fifty, including the cradle roll, the Scriptures are still memorized every Sabbath, catechism study prominently emphasized, and hymns committed to memory, while there is some thought of enlarging the building to accommodate the work to modern methods. In all the history of the school only three Superintendents have piloted its course, Charles Chester, James H. Freeman, and Alfred McRae.

As a result of Sabbath School training, the children as a rule have publicly confessed their Lord when arriving at years of discretion. Thus the school has constantly fed the church roll and the members on moving

away to new fields have carried with them the whole some truths of Scripture with its resultant in scriptural conduct. Although the school has been the fountain spring for other churches, it is today larger in enrollment than any time in the past 35 years, so far as we have found any records.

One feature of the school's life is especially gratifying: it has been practically always an evergreen school. Neither winter's wind nor summer's heat has blighted its existence for many months at a time. Only once has a record been found when the school had to be reopened—in 1881 when shadows hung across our church's pathway.

#### PRESBYTERY.

In the creation of Ouachita Presbytery March 30, 1849, Mount Holly was one of the four churches represented when the session to constitute the Presbytery was held in El Dorado. Dr. Charles Chester represented Mount Holly church, while the other churches were La-Pile, Scotland, and El Dorado. Thus Union county became the cradle of Ouachita Presbytery over 70 years ago. As a testimony to the interest in the church's work that has flamed all these years in the breasts of Mount Holly elders, they have had a representative at 100 out of the 141 semi-annual stated meetings of that body. The records of the session instead of being a pulsive narrative of disciplinary cases are one continuous chronicle of elections to Presbytery. Five meetings of Presbytery were the largest number ever missed by the elders consecutively—and these two gaps occur before the Civil War and during that lamentable strife.

Mount Holly has entertained Presbytery more than any other church, the record showing fifteen sittings within our walls. The next highest is El Dorado with 12 and then Camden with 10.

In this church Presbytery has received, licensed or ordained the following ministers: Licensed Henry Howard Banks, April, 1861; received W. J. B. Lloyd, a

member of this church, as a candidate for the ministry, September, 1865; licensed W. E. Crawford, April, 1873; Samuel H. Chester, a son of this church, examined and licensed April 24, 1875; R. M. Hammock, an elder in this church, ordained to ministry September 22, 1893; licensed George F. Mason September, 1901; received W. F. Rogers of Arkadelphia and J. C. Head of Ashdown as candidates for ministry, September, 1909; ordained James W. McNutt, October 9, 1919.

The honor of being elected by Presbytery to membership in the General Assembly, an honor that ordinarily comes to an elder once in a lifetime, has fallen upon Mount Holly's brow several times, thus indicating the appreciation by Presbytery of the faithfulness of our eldership. Edward W. Wright was chosen alternate commissioner in 1859, and principal to the Assembly in Philadelphia in 1861. He did not attend, however, as it is presumed the outbreak of the Civil War hindered a peaceable journey. Again he was elected a commissioner to Columbia, S. C., in 1863. Colin L. McRae was alternate commissioner to Macon, Ga., in 1865. Charles Chester was made commissioner to Little Rock in 1873. C. L. McRae was commissioner to St. Louis in 1875. John B. Watts was chosen alternate commissioner to Savannah, Ga., in 1876. Charles Chester was alternate commissioner to Augusta, Ga., in 1886. Alfred McRae was alternate commissioner to Lexington, Va., in 1903. Thomas E. Freeman served as commissioner to the Durrant Assembly in Oklahoma in 1918. Of all these it appears that only C. L. McRae, Charles Chester, and T. E. Freeman actually attended the Assembly's sessions. Again in 1920 Mr. Alfred McRae was chosen to attend the Assembly at Charlotte, N. C., but poor health hindered his accepting this responsibility.

Four pastors of this church have been stated clerks of Ouachita Presbytery, Rev. J. M. Hoge, Dr. E. M. Munroe, Rev. R. M. Hammock, and Rev. James W. Marshall, the present incumbent.

## SCHOOL.

About 1845 or 1846, Mr. William J. Archibald, a young man, the son of a Presbyterian minister and the brother of Mrs. John W. Crisp, came into the neighborhood, and was engaged as school teacher. "He taught for about two years and left a lasting impression for good on the lives of his pupils. He has long since gone to the reward of a well-spent life and this community in its early history was largely benefited by his example."

"The church and the school were from the first almost inseparably connected. We cannot talk of one without mentioning the other." "If the glory of Mount Holly was her church, the crown of pride was her school." The Mount Holly Academy was founded in 1848 by Rev. J. M. Hoge. In its day and under Mr. Hoge's management as principal, this institution of learning was unexcelled in the state. The Academy was first built of hewn logs on the ground just east of the present home of Richard E. Payne, popularly called "Uncle Dick." To this school Mr. Hoge devoted all the tireless energies of his nature. His remarkable gifts as a teacher were supplemented by a wide range of literary acquirements, and to these he added a sleepless vigilance that watched with constant care the moral and intellectual training of his pupils. There are some now scattered over the land, some prominent in the church, others have occupied and are occupying high places in the state, who trace whatever of good that has come into their lives to the moral and intellectual training of Mr. Hoge in the pulpit and the school room; nor can any one be found who does not cherish his memory with the tenderest feelings of affection and esteem. "As a teacher imparting knowledge, maintaining discipline, securing the respect and confidence of his pupils, Mr. Hoge was unexcelled; as a friend he was true to the noblest impulses of human nature; as a citizen he discharged every duty."

In his school room, "desks were rudely constructed but the learned instructor invented a seat—a sample of

## RECRUITS.

As a recruiting station for the warfare of other churches against sin, Mount Holly enjoys an enviable record. We wonder if any other church in Arkansas has sent forth so noble a band, not to be any larger in numbers than ours has been. Our "alumni" have supplied the backbone of strength for many churches in Ouachita Presbytery and in Texas and other states. Wm. E. McRae went out from us to become a Ruling Elder in the El Dorado church, Wm. Ed McRae and John H. Morgan to be Elders in Camden, W. Y. Foster and Kenneth G. McRae to be Elders at Hope, Thos. C. McRae Elder at Prescott, John D. Spragins Elder at Arkadelphia, Edwin F. Chester Elder at Texarkana, Alexander Morgan Elder at Lafayette, La., Wm. Y. Chester Elder in Paris, Texas, Alfred Dews Elder at Washington, Ark., Arthur M. Watts Elder in Ladonia, Texas, twelve in all. Robert Freeman was an Elder-elect in Hollis, Oklahoma.

Aylmer L. Morgan and Leonard Powell were elected Deacons in Camden, Charles C. Spragins, George H. Spragins and Dorsey McRae deacons in Hope, and Alfred M. Patterson Deacon in the First Church of San Antonio, Texas.

Four grandsons of this church are known to have chosen the ministry for their life's work: E. Marshall Munroe, Jr., John D. Spragins, Jr., Lawrence W. Harvison, and Thos. J. Watts, Jr.

In public life God has honored our church by placing Rev. Samuel H. Chester, D. D., into the Secretaryship of the Foreign Missions Committee of the Presbyterian church in Nashville, Tenn., where for many years he has been a faithful administrator in the world-wide propagation of the gospel. Through him and Mrs. Ross our little congregation has sounded the name of Christ around the globe. In the political field, Hon. Thos. C. McRae represented his district for about sixteen years in the House of Representatives, while at the present moment he and Hon. H. Smead Powell are contestants for

the Governor's chair in our state, with good prospects that one of the two will pluck the prize. \*

\*Note—Since the above was written, Hon. Thos. C. McRae, a native of Mount Holly, was inaugurated Governor of Arkansas, January 12, 1921.

## REVIVALS.

Rev. Joshua Green, our state evangelist, visited this congregation in 1853 during Rev. J. M. Hoge's pastorate. He preached under a brush arbor a little northeast of Mr. R. E. Payne's home. "The meetings were characterized by profound attention, deep interest and wonderful evidence of the presence and power of the Spirit. Mr. Green was a man of rare endowments. These natural gifts, cultivated by a broad and liberal education, with a pleasing address softened and refined by divine grace, easily attracted and won those who heard him. His preaching gave an impulse to Presbyterianism in the state, an influence which the Mount Holly church felt to its great benefit. Returning to his home in Little Rock later from a visit to Kentucky he fell a victim to cholera in Memphis in the 34th year of his age. Thus died one of the ablest ministers of our church in this state."

In the summer of 1859 Rev. A. R. Banks conducted a meeting which turned into a season of grace for our church. Of the 20 people who joined the church only one, Mr. James A. McCall, still abides with us as he nears his 80th birthday, the oldest of our living members. Mr. Banks was one of the pioneers of Presbyterianism in south Arkansas. There was scarcely a church in all Ouachita Presbytery which had not received the impress of his ministrations prior to 1860. He died in Rocky Mount, La., after a life devoted to his Master's cause.

The revivals in 1884 and 1886 have been already mentioned in the story of Rev. Dr. Munroe's pastorate.