

# CHILTONIAN

Volume 25, Number 1

January 2005

## QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chilton County Historical Society will hold its quarterly meeting at 2:00 PM on Sunday, January 9th, at the Chilton/Clanton Public Library.

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

## CREDITS:

*Chiltonian* is a quarterly publication of the Chilton County Historical Society & Archives, Inc.  
P. O. Box 644, Clanton, Alabama 35046-0644.  
(A Non-Profit Organization)

## OFFICERS:

President	-	John Glasscock
Vice Pres.	-	Bruce Glenn
Secretary	-	Marie Smith
Treasurer	-	Colyn Moatts
Historian	-	Dot Cole
Reporter	-	Marie Smith
Programs	-	Wayne Sewell

## MEMBERSHIP RATES:

Annual: Individual \$9, Couple \$12, Student \$5  
(Dues payable in January)  
Lifetime: \$100

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## James H. Black

*By Colyn C. Moatts*

There is little documentation on James and his family, but that which we have is quite useful.

From census data, we know that James was born in Georgia in 1837 and that he was the son of James Lawson Black and his wife Martha. James Lawson was born in Georgia in 1815, as was Martha. Lawson apparently died before the 1850 census; Mary Black (his mother?) was listed as head of the household that included Martha and her boys (James, Pleasant, and Jesse).

From the Alabama State Archives, we have a copy of a Tallapoosa County marriage certificate, which informs us that James H. Black married Louisa Malinda Jane Thomaston on 26 September 1858. The ceremony was performed by G. T. Speaks, a Justice of the Peace.

Malinda was the sister of George Washington Thomaston, and, in fact, George was James's co-signer for the \$200 "bond of security" that "there be no lawful cause why [the couple] should not be joined together in the holy union of Matrimony. Both men "made their marks" on the certificate, in the presence of Simeon Goolsby, the Tallapoosa Probate Judge.

James and Malinda next appear in the September 1860 Federal census for the Youngville District of Tallapoosa County. The census listing includes James, an "overseer," age 23; Malinda, age 21; and, Elizabeth, age 1. James was born in Georgia, but Malinda and the child were born in Alabama. We also can infer that Malinda was pregnant at the time of the census, because their second child, Mary Ann, was born 28 March 1861.

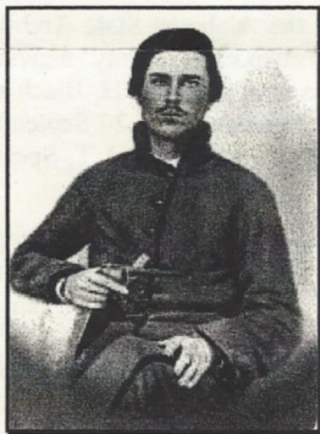
The census further indicates that James owned no real estate and that his personal estate was valued at



only \$50. From this information, it is clear that James owned no slaves, so his job was on a farm of plantation located elsewhere. Other records indicate he was an overseer for Mrs. Drusilla Lee, the widow of Benjamin Lee. The size of the Lee farm and the number of slaves involved is unknown.

The census also reflects that James and Malinda could read and write. For James, we've already noted that he "made his mark" on his marriage certificate in 1858; therefore, it would seem that he became literate in the first two years of his marriage—perhaps Malinda taught him—and that would be consistent with the duties of a slave overseer who would have to keep records of workhand availability as well as crop production.

Although the primary documentation is very sketchy, it indicates that James and his younger brother, Pleasant Lawson Black (see photo, below), were at Speak's Springs on 25 July 1861 when they enlisted as Privates in Captain W. W. Selman's Company "H" of the 14<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry Regiment. Company "H" was made up almost entirely of Tallapoosa County boys, and they called themselves the "Jackson Avengers."



*Pleasant Lawson Black  
Company "H," 14<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry*

According to Crute, *et al*, the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment stayed in Camp Huntsville until October 1861 when it was ordered to Virginia and assigned to the Potomac District on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November. On 14 November, the regiment left for Fredericksburg and Manassas, but it was ordered back to Richmond on 5 January 1862 to rest and regain strength after suffering great losses due to camp diseases.

Unfortunately, James H. Black was a casualty of those camp diseases, dying of measles. According to his Compiled Service Record in the National

Archives, James died at Dumfries, Virginia, in December 1861. In M. B. Hurst's history of the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment, we learn that five other members of Company "H" died at Dumfries; another 59 men of the regiment also died at that place. On 20 June 1862, James's company commander, Captain Selman (an attorney), filed a "claim for settlement" with the Confederate States Auditor, probably at the behest of Malinda Black, James's widow.

The family's bad fortune continued when James's brother, Pleasant, was wounded by a shell fragment near Yorktown on 27 April 1862. As a result of losing a large portion of his gluteal area, Pleasant was discharged on 10 July as permanently disabled. That notwithstanding, within a year he had enlisted as a Sergeant in Captain Gachet's Company of Cavalry, Alabama State Reserves, where he served until the end of the war. Given the nature of his disabling wound, he must have used a special padded saddle.

James's youngest brother, Jesse Wilburn Black (age 17), was killed at Second Manassas, while serving under Sergeant George W. Thomaston, Company "C," 47<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry Regiment.

James's widow, Malinda Black, remarried on 26 March 1862, to James O. Peeples, a brother of Marsella Ann Elizabeth "Mae" Peeples, the wife of George W. Thomaston. Malinda and James Peeples had two daughters before he was killed in a wagon accident in 1869.

The twice-widowed Malinda married her third husband on 2 June 1871. The groom was John Black, a first cousin of James H. Black. Malinda and John also had two daughters, Louisa and Jane.

Malinda died on 4 June 1890. She is buried at Old Macedonia Church Cemetery, two miles from the Coosa River, on the Lay Dam Road in Chilton County. We assume that her first husband, James, is buried somewhere near Dumfries, Virginia.

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## *Civil War Service Of Alfred Baker, Sr.*

*By Colyn C. Moatts*

Alfred Baker was the farmer, businessman, and politician of north Autauga County who became a Radical Republican after the great War of Southern



Independence and, by virtue of his position as a State Legislator from said county, the founder of Baker—now Chilton—County.

By the time of the 1860 census, Alfred already was a relatively wealthy man. According to that census, he owned land valued at \$500, and his personal estate was worth \$5,454.

Much of his income came from the store he operated at Goose Pond, and the interaction with various customers and suppliers allowed him to become well-known in the rural community. This is likely what prompted him to run for and be elected as a Justice of the Peace of Autauga County (for Chestnut District) on 3 March 1862.

Only three weeks later (25 March 1862), Alfred enlisted in the Autauga Rangers and was given a commission as a Second Lieutenant. The Autauga Rangers comprised Company "D" of the 4<sup>th</sup> Alabama Militia, Colonel Byrd's Regiment of Ninety-Day Volunteers.

Alfred served his 90 days of active duty in the City of Mobile, from March to June 1862. However, a document preserved in Alfred's Compiled Service Records (Confederate Voucher No. 941) indicates he was not paid upon completion of his active duty tour. In fact, he had to submit an affidavit from the Mobile County Justice of the Peace certifying that he had received no pay for his service.

The subsequent pay voucher for \$237.33 (\$80 per month) was dated 3 September 1862, the same date as the Mobile JP's affidavit. The fact that the affidavit was signed and the pay was issued on the same date indicates Alfred made a special trip to Mobile to get his money. Company "D's" final active duty muster roll, signed by Captain Northington, reveals why Alfred's pay was withheld: he was absent from the final muster. The absence was explained by Captain Northington: "Furloughed for 15 days time extra... certificate sent forward."

After the brief stint of active duty, Alfred returned home and continued business as usual. However, as the war progressed—and conscription expanded to include former "90-day men"—Alfred became concerned enough to submit a conscription-exemption request to Governor Watts on 15 April 1864.

The handwritten request was accompanied by a petition signed by 19 of Alfred's friends, neighbors, and relatives, which indicated "...his services are

necessary for the proper administration of laws, that in the County where he resides it is at this time indispensably necessary to have a Justice of the Peace." The request for exemption was approved by Governor Watts.

If the Autauga Rangers were, in fact, one of the militia units called out to support General Nathan Bedford Forrest at Ebenezer Church, then it is probable Alfred participated in that battle at the end of the war. However, no primary documentation has been found to support that probability.

Family verbal history indicates Alfred finished the war as a Captain.

////////////////////////////////////

## *Surname Research*

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MIMS, RAY, SCARBROUGH, WILSON, WYATT

*The research listing of names with Chilton County roots will be continued in the April 2005 issue. Send us your surnames, and we'll be pleased to publish them as space permits. Send as much—or as little—contact information as you wish, as long as you can be contacted. Thank you.*



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ADDRESS CO



# CHILTONIAN

Volume 25, Number 2

April 2005

## QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chilton County Historical Society will hold its quarterly meeting at 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 10th, in the County Commission auditorium in the handicap-accessible basement of the Chilton County Courthouse. Probate Judge Bobby Martin will be the guest speaker.

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

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## *Biographical Note On William Parish Chilton*

*From  
Dictionary of American Biography,  
Vol. 4, pp. 71-72,  
New York, Scribner's, 1930*

CHILTON, WILLIAM PARISH (Aug. 10, 1810 – Jan. 20, 1871), jurist, was descended from an English family of that name which settled upon the Potomac River about 1650. His father, Thomas John Chilton, a Baptist minister of some note, married Margaret, sister of Jesse Bledsoe, a Kentucky jurist, and William was born near Elizabethtown, Adair County, Ky. His mother died while he was a child, and little is known of his early life beyond the fact that he was brought up by a maternal relative. His education was scanty; nevertheless he was earning his living by teaching. In 1828 he went to Athens, Tenn., where he studied law for three years, and in 1831 removed to Alabama. After some preliminary prospecting he opened a law office at Mardisville, Talladega County, and finally settled at Talladega, the county seat. In 1839 he was elected as a Whig as a representative of his county in the state legislature, where he established a reputation for ability out of the ordinary, and was regarded as a rising force in politics. In the presidential campaigns of 1840 and 1844 he was much to the fore, addressing meetings in all parts of the state on behalf of Harrison and Clay, and in 1843 was an unsuccessful candidate for Congress. In 1846 he removed to Tuskegee, Ala., where he established and conducted a law school, also continuing in practice till his election by the state legislature to the position of judge of the supreme court of Alabama, Dec. 31, 1847. This action of the legislature was a signal testimony of his standing in the community, since he was a strong Whig and its membership was predominantly Democratic. He was chief justice from Dec. 2, 1852, until Jan. 2, 1865 [*sic*, should be 1855], when he retired, and resumed



practice. In 1859 he was elected state senator for Macon County. He considered secession unwise but when the step became inevitable he resigned, and, having taken up residence in Montgomery, was elected to the provisional Confederate Congress. Secession having become a fait accompli he threw himself with vigor into the contest, and was an influential member of both Confederate Congresses. He acted on important committees and his energy was such that it earned for him the reputation of being "the most laborious member" of the Southern legislative body. The fall of the Confederacy left him in poor financial circumstances, but engaging in law practice he to a large extent retrieved his losses before his death in Montgomery, Jan. 20, 1871. He was twice married: first to Mary Catherine, daughter of George Morgan, or Nashville, Tenn., and later to Elvira Frances Morgan, his deceased wife's sister.

A contemporary says of him: "Justice Chilton was a rather robust figure with well-formed features and a grave but cheerful manner. A profound lawyer and impartial judge—distinguished by pure unselfish patriotism, and incorruptible integrity and a capacity and willingness to work which seemed inexhaustible" (W. Brewer, post). Fluent in speech, attractive in manner, and possessed of an imposing platform appearance—being over six feet in height—he was a favorite speaker at public meetings, and in the legislature he had the reputation of being the ablest debater of his period.

(Sources cited: W. Brewer, "Alabama" (1872); Wm. Garrett, "Public Men in Alabama" (1872); Memorial Record of Alabama (1893) II, 641; B. F. Riley, "Makers and Romance of Alabama History" (no date); Centenary Sketch of Wm. P. Chilton (privately printed, 1910), by C. L. Chilton, his son).

Article is by H. W. Howard Knott, with corrections by Thomas H. Chilton.

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In General Assembly, Second Session, at the Town of Cahawba, Oct – Dec 1820:

**AN ACT**, To alter, and extend the limits of Autauga County and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Alabama, in General Assembly convened*, That the boundaries of Autauga County be and they are hereby altered and extended as

follows, to wit: Commencing at Big Mulberry creek where the line dividing the nineteenth from the twentieth township crosses the same, thence east along said line to the range line between thirteen and fourteen; thence north along said line to Shelby county line, thence east along said line to Coosa river; thence down that river to the mouth of Mulberry creek; thence up to the same place of beginning: and the same shall be and remain the permanent boundaries of Autauga county.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the commissioners appointed to superintend the building of a court house and jail in the county of Autauga be, and they are hereby authorized to draw on the county Treasurer for the county of Autauga for such sum or sums as the county court of said county may think proper to allow them, for superintending the building of said court house and jail in said county.

*Approved*, Dec. 13, 1820.

Editor's Note: The area described above includes a large portion of present-day Chilton County.

In General Assembly, Annual Session, at the Town of Tuskaloosa, Nov 1827 – Jan 1828:

**AN ACT**, To authorise Ansel Sawyer to erect a Mill on Coosa river.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Alabama in General Assembly convened*, That Ansel Sawyer be and he is hereby authorised to build a water Grist Mill at and upon the three Island shoals on Coosa river, in the County of Shelby; with power to raise a dam of such height as will provide a sufficient quantity of water for the use of the same; Provided, That he shall not at any time obstruct the navigation of said river thereby.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That if the said Ansel Sawyer or any person claiming through or under him, shall at any time obstruct the navigation of said river with any dam or dams, which he, she or they may erect on said river, for propelling the machinery of said mill, so as to prevent the passage of any boat or boats, he, she, or they, so offending shall forfeit and pay for every such offence, the sum of five hundred dollars to be recovered before any Court having competent jurisdiction thereof, one half of which shall go to the use of the said County and the other half to the use of the party or parties aggrieved.

*Approved*, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1827.



**Editor's Note:** Ansel Sawyer was one of the pioneer settlers of the area now known as Chilton County. He is buried in the cemetery at Walnut Creek Methodist Church.

In General Assembly, Annual Session, at the Town of Tuskaloosa, Nov 1827 – Jan 1828:

**AN ACT,** To provide for ascertaining the sense of the citizens of Autauga county with regard to the seat of Justice in said county.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Alabama, in General Assembly convened,* That it shall be the duty of the Sheriff of Autauga county, at the general election to be holden on the first Monday in August next for members of the General Assembly, to open a poll for the purpose of ascertaining the wishes of the citizens of said county, with regard to the removal of the seat of Justice from its present location to, or near the centre of said county, and all persons entitle to vote for members of the General Assembly shall be entitle to vote on said question.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Sheriff of said county to put in nomination the present seat of Justice, and the centre of said county, and shall advertise the same at the Court House and the several election precincts in said county at least thirty days before the election.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That all persons voting for the present seat of Justice shall write on their tickets, "Washington," and all persons voting for the removal of the seat of Justice shall write on their tickets, "Centre," and it shall be the duty of the Sheriff to make out a correct statement of the number of votes given for each place and file the same in his office, and furnish one certified copy to each of the members of the General Assembly for said county.

*Approved, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1827*

**Editor's Note:** We can infer from this legislation that many citizens of Autauga County were upset with the location of the county seat at Washington, and especially with the long distances they had to travel to conduct business. Eugene Wyatt, in his book, *Chilton County and Her People*, cited this discontent as one of the reasons for the ultimate formation of Baker (now Chilton) County in 1868. (If memory serves correctly, the Autauga County seat was first moved from Washington to Kingston and, later, from Kingston to Prattville.)

## Surname Research

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GREETINGS FROM  
ALABAMA  
BIRMINGHAM  
25 MAR 2005





# CHILTONIAN

Volume 25, Number 3

©

June 2005

## CHILTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPECIAL JOINT QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chilton County Historical Society will hold its quarterly meeting at 2:00 PM on Sunday, July 31st, jointly with the Coosa County Historical Society. This will supersede the normal second Sunday meeting date. **Ted Urquhart**, president of the **Alabama Cemetery Presentation Alliance**, will be the speaker. **Lee Anne Wofford**, coordinator for the **Alabama Historical Commission Historic Cemetery** will also speak, explaining the program for historical cemetery preservation. Due to the number of people expected, the meeting will be held in the "old" Elementary School in Rockford on Highway 231, two blocks south of the intersection with Highway 22, left at Nixburg Road for one block. The speakers will address questions including legal issues, maintenance related, financial aid, etc. This meeting will be fun and offer great information on our county's cemeteries. Bring your question about cemeteries! All members, and other Chilton County citizens who are interested in our county's history and its preservation, are encouraged to attend.

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## *Genealogical Extracts from the Journal of Reverend Hardy Jones Minister of the Gospel*

By:

Dewey Bruce Glenn,  
Great Great Grandson

Location of transcribed source:  
Samford University Library

Genealogy File Document #SCB3765

## REVEREND HARDY JONES

(October 12, 1830–July 27, 1901), was one of several renowned Christian preachers to come from the Coosa County, Alabama area into Chilton County, Alabama.

Reverend Jones had much effect and interaction with the establishment of the enormous Christian faith populist of the entire area of current Chilton County, which remains a part of his greatest legacy to this day. Reverend Jones was known as Church planter, working with his fellow Christian preachers of various denominations, to start Churches for communities and to keep the Gospel preached in areas that had established houses of worship. Reverend Hardy Jones was directly responsible for the formation of Poplar Springs Baptist Church and Maple Springs Baptist Churches, which remain to this day, over one hundred years later.

Many preachers, particularly in that day kept journals. Those journals can be a great source of important information that can not be located or documented by any other source. Most denominations have a depository or library for records that are available and have been provided to them from their churches, preachers, family members. Perhaps the key missing link in your genealogical quest is located in one. Check it out or you'll never know what you are missing.



Follows are examples of what you possibly might find and I found recorded in a journal he kept sixteen years.

January 30, 1884  
Balzora, 8 year old daughter of John Jones, died 8 A.M.

January 31, 1884  
Balzora was buried 1 P.M. at Hatchett Creek Cemetery.

December 15, 1884  
My wife died at 2:45 A.M. Church bells in Verbena tolled at 3 A.M. We left Verbena with corpse on wagon at 9 A.M. and buried her at Hatchett Creek in Coosa County, 4 P.M.

February 21, 1885  
Mrs. Bales was buried at Hatchett Creek.

May 5, 1885  
I became betrothed to Miss Mary Posey.

May 18, 1885  
Monday, went to Verbena and was married to Miss Mary Posey by Elder J. L. Thompson at 10 o'clock A.M. and returned home. Pyron and wife stayed all night with us our first night.

June 1, 1885  
I preached at Chestnut Creek Church and took dinner with Jackson Dennis and we stayed there all night.

June 18, 1885  
Went to Masonic burial of Mr. Terry.

July 17, 1885  
Poplar Springs, ordained Brother Ray a Deacon.

August 22, 1885  
Wife and I dined with John Dennis. I married M.W. Ferguson and Miss Sally Weaver in the evening at the Dennis home.

September 21, 1885  
I did wedding for John Estes.

September 29, 1885  
Married Ethan Jones to Lula Farr at my home.

October 22, 1885  
Daughter Docia and Sidney were married at my house today.

March 14, 1886  
Preached at Chestnut Creek. Dinner at E.J. Vinson's.

March 27, 1886  
Preached at Friendship. Baptized 3, Bullar, Langly and wife.

December 1, 1886  
I married Mark Nored and Clemie Bridges at my home.

January 27, 1887  
I married Hiram B. Oliver and Mary E. Gulledge.

May 2, 1887  
Mrs. Merriweather died.

May 8, 1887 I preached E.M. DeVaughn's funeral at Corinth Church.

June 2, 1887  
Traywick child died.

January 1, 1888  
I married Newton Posey to Altamary Butler.

March 1, 1888  
Mrs. Howard and her baby died.

March 2, 1888  
I had funeral for Mrs. Howard and baby at Chestnut Creek.

March 10, 1888  
I preached at Mt. Zion and visited with Parson Mullins and old Mr. and Mrs. Goodgame.

March 18, 1888  
I preached a dedication sermon at Bethsalem Baptist Church.

May 29, 1888  
I preached funeral William Johnson.

November 25, 1888  
Dock married Bama Logan, she is the daughter of Henry and Becky Logan, I married them.

December 10, 1888  
Ethan and Lula's baby died. I did the funeral. One hard job.

December 14, 1888  
Went to W.F. Claughton's. Their baby was born.

December 29, 1888  
I married Bill Driver and his wife.

January 15, 1889  
Molly married. We raised log home for them in one day.

February 28, 1889  
Thomas W. Wilson married at my home.

April 11, 1889  
I married John Bullard and M. McKinney.

October 28, 1889  
Went to Elmore and preached Fannie Estes funeral.

December 19, 1889  
Little Wilber Claughton died as result of fall from barn loft.

January 5, 1890  
R.C. Hardy and Mary Williams married at my home.

January 14, 1890  
Nathan Hardy died.

March 21, 1890  
Nancy Callaway, wife of John, died near old Salem on the river.

July 9, 1890  
I preached the Claxton funeral.

August 4, 1890  
John Roberson died. I preached his funeral.

August 10, 1890  
Performed the Perkins marriage.

May 24, 1891



Preached at old Salem in Coosa. Albert Bulger died and I had his funeral at old Salem in Coosa. He married a Little.

August 17, 1891

Mr. Billy Ray died at Coopers.

August 21, 1891

Peter Cooper died early morning and was buried at Chestnut Creek 4 PM. He had requested to be buried the day he died and his grave not to be marked in anyway. He was my wife's grandfather.

**Editor's Note:** This was the Peter Cooper that settled in the area about 1819. There has been much speculation about when he died, many vowing that he died about 1865, due to information or lack thereof in an estate settlement. This shows how inferences from estate settlements might sometimes lead astray. Also a popular legend is that Mr. Peter Cooper is buried in a Cooper family cemetery located somewhere on his old plantation. Again this shows how legend can lead astray rather than help. This is a first hand written account of the death and burial of Peter Cooper the plantation owner and the stated and known grandfather of the Reverend Jones' second wife, Mary Ann Posey, daughter of Martha Margaret Cooper Posey, daughter of Peter Cooper.

September 19, 1891

Saturday, McCord and I Constituted Maple Springs Baptist Church.

February 18, 1892

Buried James Morgan at Chestnut Creek.

April 18, 1892

To Coopers to bury the Edwards baby, the mother is Anna Dennis Edwards.

June 25, 1892

Buried Brother William Connell.

October 16, 1892

Brother Weaver died.

January 28, 1893

Old man Yates died at 82.

January 29, 1893

Preached Sam Yates funeral, at the graveside full Masonic honors. Burial at Chestnut Creek. He and his wife who was a Vinson came from Georgia.

**Editor's Note:** This would have indicated that Samuel Yates was born about 1811. Tombstone appears to read born 1822. Reader should research the birth year to their satisfaction.

April 7, 1893

Conducted funeral for Mrs. Meriwather, burial Verbena.

November 7, 1893

Father Posey's funeral at Verbena Baptist Church conducted by the Methodist Minister, the he was quietly laid to rest at the family private graveyard not far from his parent's graves and other very close relatives.

December 8, 1893

I had a double funeral for Newt Weldon and his child.

July 8, 1894

Wife and I dined with John Dawson and I married H.C. Dawson.

December 15, 1894

I married W.W. DeVaughn and Mrs. Scarbrough.

February 27, 1896

Funeral for Sally Dawson. She died late at night and during the day B.J. Baldwin died also.

April 24, 1896

Old Uncle John Cooper, Mother Posey's brother, died last night, late into the night.

May 16, 1896

Hollis Warren Strock died.

June 14, 1896

Williamson died, just sick 2 days.

April 9, 1897

Joseph H. Jones died at 7:05 today. Was born May 20, 1856.

September 6, 1897

Mary's old Uncle Jesse Dennis died, one month and 10 days before his 98<sup>th</sup> birthday.

September 28, 1897

Telegram at night. My Docia died. Docia was buried today, her funeral was preached by our dear friend, Rev. J. T. Nelson. Just how much more can I bear and keep my mind.

April 10, 1898

Dasie Claughton, W.F.'s mother died in the night.

April 11, 1898

Went by wagon to Dallas County to bury Dasie.

May 13, 1898

Mose Jones' baby died. I had the funeral.

July 12, 1898

Roxie and Wesley Johnson came to my house to get me to marry them.

July 23, 1898

My father, Henry Jones, died 21 years ago today, died 1877.

January 31, 1899

Bessie Elmore Mitchell died today and I had the funeral with burial at Verbena.

July 6, 1899

Haralson died.

July 25, 1899

Mother Posey died in full faith today.

January 26, 1900

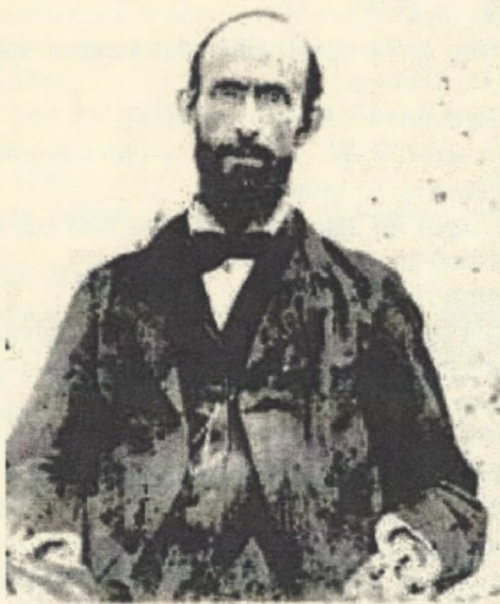
F.W. Scroggins died.

October 12, 1900

I am 70 years old today. My three score and ten spent.

**Editor's Note:** Reverend Hardy Jones departed this life, the following July 27, being granted no more or no less than the three score and ten.





### **Reverend Hardy Jones**

**October 12, 1830 Coosa County, AL**

**July 27, 1901 Chilton County, AL**

**Buried at the Verbena Cemetery**

*Photo courtesy of  
Elizabeth "Betty" Jones Collins  
Great Great Grand daughter*

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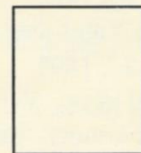
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# CHILTONIAN

Volume 25, Number 4

October 2005

## QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chilton County Historical Society will hold its quarterly meeting at 2:00 PM on Sunday, October 9th, at the Clanton/Chilton County Library. At the time of publication, the guest speaker had not been named.

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

## CREDITS:

*Chiltonian* is a quarterly publication of the Chilton County Historical Society & Archives, Inc.  
P. O. Box 644, Clanton, Alabama 35046-0644.  
(A Non-Profit Organization)

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(Dues payable in January)  
Lifetime: \$100

**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

*EDITOR's NOTE:* During the War for Southern Independence, Chilton County did not exist as a geopolitical entity. Autauga County did exist at that time, and, as we all know, a large part of present-day Chilton was originally a part of Autauga County. Early in the war, the Autauga County leadership recognized the difficulties caused by so many men being absent from their farms and families due to service in various military units. Consequently, Autauga (among numerous other counties) established a "Volunteers Aid Fund" to assist indigent families of absent soldiers. The proceedings/disbursements of the Fund were recorded chronologically in a 7.5" X 12" handwritten ledger that was found in the loose records of the Autauga County Courthouse only a few years ago. Because we have only a copy of the handwritten document, there are some portions that are unreadable; however, many familiar names are listed, along with the cash disbursements, as well as a listing of families eligible for a salt allowance. It is our intent to publish the entire document, using as many editions of *The Chiltonian* as necessary, so long as it pleases our readership. Further, we will stay as true to the originally recorded spellings as is humanly possible, and we will include editorial notes based on personal research or knowledge. Please give us your feedback on this effort, as well as any additional information you might have on individual spellings, listings, etc.

The State of Alabama, Commissioners Court,  
Autauga County, Special Session June 9, 1862.

At a Special Session of this Court [begun?] and held on the ninth day of June 1862... Present G W Benson P[robate] Judge, E Pressly, L A (Sale ?), Jas L (Perot ?), and M D L Thomas (Coruso ?).

The following proceedings were had in relation to the funds in aid of families of indigent volunteers in the service of this State or of the Confederate States.



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. It is further ordered that inasmuch as frequent changes occur in the condition of families, and new applications are continually being made, the Probate Judge in Vacation [absence of the other Commissioners] is authorized to change the allowances and make new ones as Circumstances may require.

Ordered further that the Probate Judge be authorized to receive and accept for all funds in aid of indigent families of soldiers by whatsoever authority appropriate including assets of the Soldiers Aid Society and the County funds intended for this purpose, the fifty per cent [sic] County tax in aid of indigent families, & c [etc.], and that he is authorized to disburse the same in such sums as he may find expedient and proper.

Ordered further that the payments be considered to commence May 1<sup>st</sup> 1862, that is, that the monthly allowance commences at that date.

And the Court is adjourned *sine die*.

G W Benson  
Judge of Probate  
Ex officio Judge C C

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

Aug 19	Sam Burns	—	6	10
	wife, 5 children			
	no means			

[Aug 19]	Henderson Rhodes	—	2	6
	wife & child			
	no means			

“	Parchal Gentry	Hodson	4	7
	Wife & children			
	Very little means			

Sept 11	Ransom Miears	Oliver	3	6
	*Wife & 2 children			
	but little means			

\*[ed. Miears's wife was Catherine Popwell, daughter of Reuben Popwell]

Sept 15	Henry Robbins	Faulkner	3	6
	Wife & children			
	but little means			

Nov 1	James Christian	—	5	8
	wife & children			
	small means			

Aug 19	Elijah Claiborne	—	6	10
	Wife & children			
	Scanty means			

Mar 7	(Mrs ?) L Vinson		6	11
	Mother & her children			
	Small means			

This woman has 3 sons in the service and one other died there. She is without means.

Sept 15	(Mrs ?) R Davis	(Dredman ?)	2	6
	Mother & c			
	Scanty means			

Statement rec <sup>d</sup> from Capt Hall's Company				
[unreadable]	R H Driver**	Hall	1	2
	Wife			
	Pay to (Mrs ?) Gray per mo \$1 <sup>50</sup>			

\*\*[ed. This must be Henry Driver, who married Rachael Gray, daughter of W<sup>m</sup> C. Gray]

[unreadable]	J S Holly	“	5	7 <sup>20</sup>
	wife & children			
	Pay to J D Goss per mo 7 <sup>20</sup>			



[unreadable]	J J Howard wife & children Pay to wife per mo 3 <sup>50</sup>	Hall	5	3 <sup>50</sup>	"	J H Crawford Mother & 3 brothers Pay J S Johnson per Mo. 4 <sup>50</sup>	"	4	4 <sup>50</sup>
[unreadable]	L Kemp Mother & her children Pay to Mother for 10 mos 20 <sup>00</sup>	"	8	2	"	N J Hill Mother 2 Bros & Sister Pay J Smith per mo 3 <sup>00</sup>	"	4	3
[unreadable]	L A Miears wife & 4 children Pay to E G Miears for 10 mos 20 <sup>00</sup>	"	5	2	1862 Mar 16	D J Johnson Wife & 2 children Pay T Norris per mo 6 <sup>00</sup>	Hall	3	6
Mar 16 1862	R H Nelson wife & 3 children Pay to wife per mo \$3 <sup>33</sup>	Hall	4	3	"	J H Nelson wife 2 children Pay E Johnson per mo 2 <sup>00</sup>	"	3	2
"	S J Dennis Wife 9 children Pay to P Cooper per mo 9 <sup>00</sup>	"	10	9	"	G. A. Nelson Mother Pay J L Johnson for 10 mo. 10 <sup>00</sup>	"	1	1
"	Seaborn Dennis wife 2 children Pay to Sam Baxley per mo 6 <sup>45</sup>	"	3	6 <sup>45</sup>	"	W M Parrish Wife 3 children Pay T Norris for 10 mo 22 <sup>00</sup>	"	4	2 <sup>25</sup>
"	W <sup>m</sup> S Johnson Wife & child Pay to J L Price per mo 3 <sup>00</sup>	"	2	3	"	M Strickland Wife Pay T Norris per Mo 3 <sup>00</sup>	"	1	3
"	J C Lewis Mother Pay to Mother per Yr. 10 <sup>00</sup>	"	1	1	1862 Mar 16	Joseph Ray Mother & Sister Pay W <sup>m</sup> Ray per mo \$5 <sup>00</sup>	Hall	2	5
Mar 16 1862	J M Lewis wife 2 children Pay to Geo Myricks per Yr 6 <sup>00</sup>	Hall	3	5	"	R H Scott wife child & Sister Pay wife per mo 7 <sup>50</sup>	"	3	7 <sup>50</sup>
"	W A Bowdoin Wife 3 children Pay to [blank] per Yr 6 <sup>00</sup>	"	4	1	"	C M Temple Mother Pay Mother per mo 6 <sup>00</sup>	"	1	5
"	P J Brewer Wife Per mo 2 <sup>50</sup>	"		2 <sup>50</sup>	"	W <sup>m</sup> Moore wife & child Pay J Moore per Yr 10 <sup>00</sup>	"	2	1
"	G W Crawford wife & child Per mo. 8 <sup>00</sup>	"	2	8	"	Thos Pearce Wife & 4 children Pay J D Goss per mo 5 <sup>80</sup>	"	5	6



[Mar 16]	J G Jones	[Hall]	4	3
	Wife & 3 children			
	Pay J D Goss per mo 3 <sup>00</sup>			
1862				
Mar 16	R L Williams	Hall	5	2 <sup>50</sup>
	Wife & 4 children			
	Pay J D Goss per mo 2 <sup>50</sup>			
"	Moses Moore	"	5	7
	wife & 4 children			
	Pay John Moore per mo 7 <sup>00</sup>			
"	W A Box	"	8	10
	wife & 7 children			
	Pay H Poole per mo 8 <sup>00</sup>			
"	Randal Blake	"	4	8
	wife 3 children			
	Pay wife per mo 8 <sup>00</sup>			

[To be continued...]

////////////////////

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