

battle of Poison Springs and Marks' Mill; in the latter battle Col. Pettis and Lieut. Gilliam were killed. After this it was in the western and southern part of the State and disbanded in 1865 in Lafayette County.

Few localities can boast a more beautiful situation for a town site than Lockesburg, the county seat of Sevier County. It occupies a position a little east of central, in Section 23, Township 9 south, Range 30 west, on land given to the county by Matthew W. James, F. and W. T. Locke, in whose honor the town was named Lockesburg.

The settlement of this vicinity dates back to an early day, but the town owes its origin to the fact that its site was selected as the seat of justice of the county in 1869. Judge Williamson erected the first building, and William Wallace started the first store, in the building now occupied by Mr. Gilliam. Other early merchants were McCown & Millwee, T. W. McCown, B. F. Forney, Lowery & Williamson, etc.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, which was erected in 1872, was destroyed by fire in 1880, but was immediately rebuilt. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was erected in 1878. The court house, a large and tasty brick edifice, was erected on the public square in 1870-71.

The town was incorporated in 1874 and M. W. Locke was the first mayor; John E. Wallace was marshal; Capt. Forney, L. L. Kirk and M. B. McMurray, aldermen.

The present business interests in Lockesburg are: General Stores—A. C. Steel & Co., T. W. McCown, John W. Locke, D. M. Bryant, H. C. Williamson, and R. A. Gilliam; grocer—W. F. Clardy; drug store—F. C. Floyd; millinery—Mrs. Alice Park; physicians—J. M. Johnson, D. Maxwell, W. T. Boyce, and Dr. Manning; lawyers—Collins & Lake, W. T. Campbell, Steel & Steel; blacksmiths—Fair & Sparks, John Shott, T. A. Miers; shoemakers—Temple and Redman; hotel—Locke House, J. F. Locke, proprietor; newspapers—The Tocsin, W. S. Grant, proprietor; the Democrat, W. W. Selvidge, proprietor, G. W. Austin, editor.

John T. Locke is serving as postmaster. The population of Lockesburg is 450. The city officials elected April 1, 1890, are: Mayor, W. H. Collins; recorder, Burt Pride; marshal, J. E. Wallace; aldermen, F. C. Floyd, Alex. Luthier, H. C. Williamson, R. A. Gilliam and W. B. Edwards.

Paracelista was the site of a very ancient settlement, but how far it extended in the past can not now be ascertained. It was selected as the origi-

nal seat of justice of Sevier County at the time of its organization in 1828.

Mr. Abraham Block was perhaps the first merchant, at least he was in business here prior to 1836. Other early merchants were J. H. Hudson, R. C. Gilliam, William M. Wallace, E. N. Jackson and Robert Lowery, afterward governor of Mississippi.

During the period of the Civil War business was suspended, but it was resumed by W. M. Wallace, P. S. Smith and Mrs. W. M. Gilliam. In 1867 L. H. Norwood started a business, which was continued up to 1884.

When the county seat was removed in 1869, Benjamin Norwood bought the court house for \$100, and the streets of the town were laid out, H. Norwood for \$10; the latter also bought all the other property. Some of the buildings were removed to Lockesburg, and in a short time old Paracelista was a dismantled town. Mr. Norwood alone continued in business, and retired in 1884.

Cotton, and corn now grow where formerly were noisy streets, and the sites of busy centers of trade. The public square has so far been un-molested by the plow, but by disassociation with the buildings which formerly adorned it, it conveys no impression of the time when it was here that Sevier County held its courts and administered its laws.

Norwoodville, in Clear Creek Township, was settled in 1854 by Benjamin Norwood and family. Mr. Norwood in partnership with his son, L. H., soon started a store, under the firm name of Norwood & Son. The first mercantile stock was bought in New York, and L. H. Norwood consumed two months in making the trip to purchase it. The goods were shipped to New Orleans, then up the Mississippi River to Gaines Landing, in Chicot County, Ark., from which place they were hauled overland entirely across the State, over 200 miles. A post-office was soon secured, with L. H. Norwood first postmaster. The Norwoods continued in business till the war closed all trade, but the same firm resumed again in 1865. In 1867 L. H. Norwood withdrew and went to Paracelista, but Mr. Norwood, Sr., continued in the business here until his death in 1874. Mr. B. L. Cowden is now the merchant and postmaster at this place.

Brownstown is located in Washington Township, on a high ridge between the Saline and Little River. The place was named for Henry K. Brown, an early settler, who in a very early day did a small business near here. The first merchant in the village proper was Mr. Stewart. A post-office was

established here long before the war, but was abandoned during the years of strife, and re-established in 1878. Mr. J. E. Smith has held the office of postmaster since. The present business edifices are four stores, two blacksmith shops, one millinery and a cotton gin and mill. There are two churches, of the Baptist and Presbyterian denominations respectively; also a good school. Brownstown is surrounded by a rich and highly productive country, some of the finest of plantations in the county being situated in this vicinity.

Chapel Hill, a prosperous little village situated about the center of Monroe Township, derived its name from the old Union Church that was located about one mile east of the present town site. Bank merchants were the first merchants, and established their business in 1878. S. H. Nunnally also conducted a business here for a time. A post office was established about 1874, one and one-half miles east of town in 1885 was removed to town. E. G. Cordeau the first postmaster. The present business interests of Chapel Hill are two general stores, one grocery and drug store, two shops (blacksmith and wagon-maker), and three physicians. The shipping point is Nashville, thirty seven miles east. There is one private school, the Chapel Hill High School, established in 1889. The farming land is mostly "mantato" upland. A number of mineral springs abound in this vicinity. Mr. W. S. Southworth is the present postmaster.

Ultima Thule is the site of a post-office and a small trading post in the western part of Monroe Township, very near the line of the Indian Territory. A settlement was made here in 1833 by Hon. J. W. McKean; he was the first merchant and postmaster. After his death in 1851, the business was continued by his sons. The present merchant is George T. Locke.

Ben Lomond is a small but prosperous village in the southern part of the county. Its settlement dates back to an early day, and it is surrounded by magnificent farming lands, partly the celebrated black lands and partly the bottom of Little River. There are two general stores here, both of which do a good trade. The proprietors are Fancett Bros., and D. Ferguson. There are also two blacksmith shops. There has been recently erected a good two-story high school building. N. A. Hamilton is the present postmaster.

An abstract of the tax books of Sevier County for 1889 reveals the following interesting statistics: Number of acres in county taxed, 200,966, value, \$547,505; value of town property, \$16,920; total value of real estate, \$564,425; number of poles,

18,533; number of horses, 2,118, value, \$95,211; number of mules and asses, 991, value, \$70,971; number of cattle, 11,168, value, \$98,927; number of sheep, 3,501, value, \$4,305; number of hogs, 16,456, value, \$21,052; number of carriages, 1,022, value, \$25,110; number of watches, 208, value, \$2,841; number of pianos, 25, value, \$3,701; value of goods and merchandise, \$37,240; value of manufactured articles, \$31,965; value of money and credits, \$99,192; value of bonds and bank stock, \$450; value of all other personal property, \$107,652; grand total valuation, \$1,133,496. On this assessed valuation of property in the county is a tax rate of less than fifteen mills. The county is encumbered with a debt of less than \$9,000, and a condition of universal prosperity is apparent, greatly in contrast to that of former years. For example, the total valuation of property in 1873 was \$995,530, on which was raised \$33,536.15. In 1869 a total assessed value is seen of only \$235,208. On this small property value was collected \$34,700. These figures show plainly what a burden was imposed upon the people of that day and time. The large debt is now nearly obliterated, and the present rate of taxation so small the people hardly feel it; property is rapidly increasing in value, and its worth becoming recognized. This is a financial showing of which Sevier County may be justly proud.

While raising cotton and corn is the main agricultural pursuit followed by the people of Sevier County, it is plainly apparent that many other branches of farming industry might be profitably engaged in by the planter. The peculiar distribution of the soils makes it one of the best countries for mixed farming in the State. While all of the river bottoms and black land country may be counted among the best cotton and corn lands in the South, and will always be profitably applied to the production of those crops, much of the remaining portions of the county are admirably adapted to the production of grain, the grasses, and all fruits and vegetables. Though the remoteness from market facilities renders engagement in the cultivation of most of these crops unprofitable now, yet on the completion of several lines of contemplated railroads through the county, great changes in farming operations may be expected to follow. These railroads will also place on the market a vast amount of timber, which now lies idle and valueless on nearly three quarters of the total acreage of the county; indeed, so vast are the timber resources of Sevier County, that to reduce it in the aggregate to board measurement would be to present a row of figures that would convey no impression but bewilderment to the mind.

released from duty and ordered to report to Gen. S. B. Maxey at Doaksville, Choctaw Nation, and was assigned to his staff and appointed drill master of Gen. Gano's brigade, which went into winter quarters in the winter of 1864-65 on the Red River, and the place is known to-day as the Gano Camp Farm. In the early part of 1865 he was ordered to report to Col. Hardeman for assignment for duty in his regiment, and was appointed by him to take command of Company E, which had been abandoned by its officers, and he served in that capacity until the close of the war. His command disbanded near Houston, Tex. Prior to this, in the fall of 1864, Mr. Anderson had joined his fortunes with those of Mrs. Margaret E. Ward, nee Lane. She was the daughter of B. H. and Margaret (Moren) Lane, early pioneers of this county, and natives of Virginia, and previous to her marriage with Mr. Anderson had been twice widowed. She had one child by her first marriage, Villulia E. Brooks, who married J. C. Anderson, a brother of our subject, and she also had one child, a son—John C. Ward—by her second marriage. For some time after the close of the war Mr. Anderson was occupied in teaching school, but in the fall of 1866 he, together with his wife, made a visit to his parents in Western Texas. In 1867 he was engaged as a clerk in a mercantile house at Rocky Comfort, and was thus occupied until the spring of 1869, when he entered upon the duties of assessor, to which office he had been appointed in 1868, and during the spring and summer of that year he visited every man's house in the county. After finishing his term as assessor, he turned his attention to farming, and was thus occupied when he received his second appointment as assessor. He served in this capacity in 1870 and 1871, and then he opened his real-estate business at Rocky Comfort, this county. He also served as deputy-clerk and postmaster for several years. In 1873 he moved to the country on his farm, and there tilled the soil until 1874, when he was again elected assessor of the county and served for two years. During the latter part of 1876-77, he was occupied in teaching the public school, but in 1878 again returned to his farm and remained, there, extensively engaged in farming until 1882, when he was elected county surveyor, and he has succeeded himself at every election since then. He is still engaged in agricultural pursuits, having a farm of 250 acres, with thirty-five or forty acres under a fine state of cultivation, and ever since 1871 he has been carrying on a real-estate business. He is conceded to be one of the best-posted men in the southwestern part of the State in regard to the

lands and land laws of the State and Government. He also holds license to practice law in the State and Federal courts, having been admitted to the practice of law in the State courts in 1873, and in the Federal court in 1878. In politics he affiliates with the Democratic party, and both he and wife are much esteemed members of the Missionary Baptist Church.

Cyrus Bailey. This substantial and well-esteemed agriculturist of Franklin Township, in his nativity to Hempstead County, where he was born in 1832. His father, Robert M. Bailey, was a native of Kentucky, was a son of William Bailey, a Pennsylvanian by birth, who served in the Revolutionary War. The latter moved from Pennsylvania to Kentucky, where his son, Robert, was born, later to Missouri, and then, in 1818, to Hempstead County, Ark., where he passed the balance of his life. Robert Bailey was reared to maturity in Hempstead County, and here he spent his entire life, dying in this county in 1875. He had been married four times. His first wife was Miss Mary Pugh, of Hempstead County, who died after bearing one child (now Mrs. Sarah C. Johnson). He took Miss Mary Burton for his second wife, and by her became the father of three children, our subject being the only survivor of this family. Miss Eliza Kay, a widow, became his third wife, and departed this life in Hempstead County. His fourth wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Warker, bore him one child, a son—Robert, now a merchant of Saratoga, Ark., and is still living. Cyrus Bailey grew to maturity in Hempstead County, and received such an education as the common schools of that time afforded. In 1860 Miss Mary A. Peyton, born in Tennessee in 1832, and a daughter of William Peyton (deceased in Missouri), became his wife, and of the six children born to their marriage only two are now living: Mary E. (wife of John S. Trotter), and Milly E. (wife of J. M. Matthews). In 1866 he came to Little River County, where he has ever since resided, and here he owns a fine farm, located about sixteen miles east of Richmond, and about twelve miles west of the Iron Mountain Railroad, comprising 240 acres of valuable land, 120 acres of which is under cultivation. The timber on his land is mostly pine, and is very valuable. In August, 1861, Mr. Bailey enlisted as a private in Company D, Monroe's regiment of Mounted Infantry, Gen. Cobble's brigade, in which he served until the surrender, and during this time participated in the battles of Prairie de Ann, Jenkins' Ferry, Bayou Meto and Fayetteville, and was at the surrender of Fort Pillow. At the close of the war he returned home, and shortly after moved

to his present place of residence. He belongs to the Alliance, and in politics is a decided Democrat. He cast his first vote for Buchanan. He is actively interested in promoting the public welfare, and has the confidence and esteem of all who know him. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Jesse G. Billingsley is one of the substantial, well-to-do agriculturists of Caney Township, Little River County, and his name, a brief outline of his life, will not be out of place in this volume, and will be read with interest. He was ushered into the world in Tennessee, in 1834, being a son of John C. and Catherine (Brooks) Billingsley, who were born, reared and married in Tennessee. The paternal grandfather, Thomas Billingsley, was a native of Ireland. The mother died in Illinois in 1840, and in 1846 the father immigrated to this county, where he was one of the early settlers, and here he made his home. He received his final summons in this county in 1873. Of the five children—four sons and one daughter—born to their marriage, only three—two sons and one daughter—are now living. Jesse G. Billingsley came to this county with his father in his tenth year, and here he attained his growth, and obtained his education in the common schools. He selected Miss Julian Alford as his life companion, and they were united in matrimonial bonds in 1860. She passed from life in 1882, leaving the following children: John A. James (deceased), Robert E. (deceased), Edgar, Oscar, Virginia L. (wife of George Brazzil), Lulu (wife of James Brazzil) and Jessie (at home). In 1883 Mr. Billingsley took Miss Eliza Kington, a native of Columbia County, Ark., as his second wife, and the fruits of their union have been two children: Charles C. and Grover. He owns a valuable farm of 400 acres, seventy acres of which are under cultivation, lying about twenty-five miles northwest of Richmond. At the outbreak of the late war he enlisted in Company D, Monroe's regiment, and served until its close, and during this time took part in the battles of Jenkins' Ferry, Prairie Spring and Mark's Mills, and was with Gen. Price on his famous raid through Missouri. After the surrender he returned to this county, and resumed his farming operations, which he has conducted with marked success ever since. He joined the Masonic Order in 1870, and now affiliates with Oak Grove Lodge No. 391. He is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church, as was his first wife, and in politics is a staunch Democrat; having cast his first presidential vote for Buchanan. He takes an active interest in the welfare of the community, and aids so far as he is able all laudable public enterprises.

A. M. Bishop, farmer and merchant, of Bishop, Ark., was born in Alabama in 1827. His parents were Eliza and Arinna (Rose) Bishop. For many years the father tilled the soil in Alabama, being a farmer by occupation, but in 1850 he moved to Mississippi and passed from life in that State in 1852. The mother received her final summons in Frankfort, Ala., in 1850. Of the nine children born to their marriage, only three survive: daughter, resident of Scott County, Ark., A. M., and Ann (now the wife of E. B. Boring, of Mississippi). Our subject obtained his education in Lawrence County, Ala., and at the age of twenty-seven, in 1856, he came to this State, locating in what was then Sevier County, but now Little River, and entering the place where he now lives, consisting of 160 acres of unimproved land, which he has since converted into a fine farm, with about seventy acres under cultivation. His marriage occurred in 1847, Miss Mary A. Parker, of Lawrence County, Ala., being the interested party, and they are the parents of two children, Edwin C. (wife of F. P. Trauman, of this county), and Ann E. (who was the wife of Joseph Henry, but is now deceased). In 1862 Mr. Bishop joined Company A, Nineteenth Regiment of Infantry, Col. Dawson, commander, and served on the west side of the Mississippi River, participating in the battles of Pleasant Hill, La., and Jenkins' Ferry, besides a number of skirmishes. He surrendered at Marshall, Tex., and immediately afterward came home and engaged in farming and saw milling. At present he is farming and conducting a merchandise business at Bishop, and is also the efficient postmaster of this place, being appointed to the office in 1888. He handles about 100 bales of cotton yearly, and does an annual business of some \$5,000. Politically, Mr. Bishop is a strong Democrat, and socially is a member of Richmond Lodge No. 174, A. F. & A. M., and both he and wife are honored members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He takes a deep interest in schools, churches, etc., and is a progressive man and a good citizen.

Dr. J. T. Butler, the present efficient postmaster of Richmond, was born in Overton County, Tenn., in 1841, but educated in Cassville, Barry County, Mo., whither his parents had moved while he was quite small. He was a son of James M. and Elizabeth (French) Butler, both of whom were natives of Tennessee. The father was a blacksmith and bell maker by occupation, and worked at his trade in Tennessee for a number of years, but he subsequently moved to Cassville, Mo., and there died in 1854. After his death the widow

HUSBAND (full name) John C BILLINGSLEY (to Ark in 1846)

Born (date) 1804 (46-1850) Place Tenn.

Chr. (date) _____ Place _____

Marr. (date) _____ Place _____

Died (date) _____ Place _____

Bur. (date) _____ Place _____

HUSBAND'S FATHER (full name) Thomas BILLINGSLEY (born Tenn, Irish ancestry) HUSBAND'S MOTHER (full maiden name) _____

HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE (full maiden name) Catherine BROOKS

Born (date) _____ Place _____

Chr. (date) _____ Place _____

Died (date) 1840 Place Illn.

Bur. (date) _____ Place _____

WIFE'S FATHER (full name) _____ WIFE'S MOTHER (full maiden name) _____

WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS _____

NAMES: WATSON, John Henry
 PLACES: Sharon, Windsor, Vt

ENTER ALL DATA IN THIS ORDER:
 DATES: 14 Apr 1794

To indicate that a child is an ancestor of the family representative, place an "X" behind the number pertaining to that child.

SEX M F	full names CHILDREN List Each Child (Whether Living or Dead) in Order of Birth SURNAME (CAPITALIZED) GIVEN NAMES	WHEN BORN			WHERE BORN			DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE	WHEN DIED
		DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TOWN	COUNTY	STATE OR COUNTRY	TO WHOM	DAY MONTH YEAR
		19-1850						25 Dec 1853	1907
M	Thomas Jerome BILLINGSLEY	Jan 1830/1					Tenn.	Mary Jane ANDERSON	
M	John D "	16-1850		1834			"		
MY	Jesse Gra nville "	Jan 1834/5					"	14 Oct 1860	1. Julie Ann(Juliann) ALFORD
M	Columbus "	13-1850		1837			"		
F	Sarah Jane "	10-1850; 30-1870		1840			Illn.	William GRAY	

SOURCES OF INFORMATION 1850 census Sevier county, Ark., Jackson twp., pg. 189(film 44 2,875) pg. 190; Sevier Co., Ark., marr. 1007942 marr Jesse and Thomas Jerome; 1860 census Sevier county, Little River twp., pg. 149, P O Rocky comfort, film 803051 John Billingsley fam. Jane Gray and c hildren, Jesse Billingsley family; Little River Co., Ark. probate film 1007962, pgs. 136-7 1 June 1868, Aug term 1868 Heirs at law of Nathaniel Billingsley making statements in court, some of heirs Nathaniel's brothers, children and families, incl. incl. niece Jane Gray via her husband William Gray.

OTHER MARRIAGES
 None

FAMILY GROUP RECORD

Additional data BILLINGSLEY

on work sheets

and one family

sheet

Edward Billingsley/Winaford and children
Joan C Billingsley Catherine Brooks update
with additional data
Thomas BILLINGSLEY, update additional data

I didn't take time to list all of Jesse G.'s
additional wives names as in hurry to get to
post office before it closes today.

lls/AG

WORK SHEET

EDWARD BILLINGSLEY
49-1850; 58-1860 born Tenn.

father possibly Thomas BILLINGSLEY

wife Winaford
49-1850-59-1860 born abt 1801 N. Car.

children

Amanda	21-1850	born about 1829	Tenn.
Granville	17-1850	born 1823	"
Elizabeth	16-1850	born 1834	"
Susan	12-1850	born 1838	"
Amarallis	10-1850	born 1840	"
William	8-1850; 17-1860	b. Abt 1843/3	in Tenn.

1850 census Jackson twp., Sevier county, Ark., film 442,876 pg. 190; 1860 census Jackson twp, Sevier county, Ark., film 803051 pg. 134 Edward Billingsley, next door Amanda Billingsley and children; In 1850 census on page 190 Edward Billingsley family on same page as older Thomas Billingsley and your Jack Billingsley, direct ancestors.

WORK SHEET

Thomas BILLINGSLEY (of Irish Ancestry)
67-1850 born 1783 in Tenn.
marr. in Tenn.
of Irish ancestry

wife
unknown at present

died before 1850 In Illn. or Ark?

children possible, may be more

Edward BILLINGSLEY 49-1850; Wife Winiford 49-1850 born Tenn.

John C. " (Jack) 46-1850 born 1804 wife Catherine BROOKS, born
Tenn and died in 1840 in Illn. John to Ark in 1846

Nathaniel BILLINGSLEY 40-1850 born 1810, wife Dicey M. 20-1850. Dicey marr. 2nd af
after her husband's death a Mr. Burnett

Thomas BILLINGSLEY 37-1850 born Tenn., teacher in 1850 B. 1813

Martha I. BILLINGSLEY 32-1850 born Tenn. marr John W. Quinn born 1818

History Southern Ark, film 266242 item 1, pg. 529 Little River County, biography
Jesse G. Billingsley, parents names given and grandfather Thomas, reported in history
born in Ireland, but 1850 census shows born in Tenn, so must have Irish ancestry.;
1850 census Sevier county, Ark. pg. 190, Edward Billingsley family, Thomas Billingsley,
Jack(John) Billingsley(film 442876); Little River county, Ark. probate records on
film 1007962 pg. 122 and pgs. 136/7 probate matters dealing with estate of Nathaniel
Billingsley including lists of heirs, his children, siblings and niece and nephews
in petitions, final Aug term 1868