

HISTORY

—OF—

BENTON, WASHINGTON, CARROLL, MADISON, CRAWFORD, FRANKLIN, AND SEBASTIAN COUNTIES, ARKANSAS.

FROM THE EARLIEST TIME TO THE PRESENT, INCLUDING A DEPARTMENT
DEVOTED TO THE PRESERVATION OF SUNDRY PERSONAL, BUSI-
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County, Ind., and resided in that State until 1872, when they moved to Kansas and lived in the following counties of that State, in the order in which they are named: Lyon, Montgomery, Chautauqua and Elk, coming to Washington County, Ark., about 1880, where they are now residing. The father has been a farmer throughout life, and in his political views is a staunch Democrat. He and wife are members of the Baptist Church. The Laymons first came from Ireland to America about 1600, and finally located in Ohio. The Halls came originally from England. To Mr. and Mrs. Laymon six children have been born, two of whom are living: J. H. and H. H. J. H. Laymon, when a small boy, began learning the blacksmith's and gunsmith's trades, under Joshua Cotton, and followed these occupations in Sulphur City from 1880 until March, 1888, when the above partnership was formed. In January, 1886, he was commissioned postmaster at Sulphur City, which position he is now holding. In 1882 he joined the Baptist Church, and in 1887 was ordained a minister of that denomination. He is an earnest adherent of the Democratic party, and as a citizen is highly respected and esteemed, being a kind and considerate neighbor and friend. October 18, 1876, he was married to Miss Mary E., a daughter of Joshua Cotton. She was born July 28, 1854, in Pennsylvania. Four children have been born to them: Ida May, Clarence M., Cora B., and Laurance L., who died at the age of nineteen months.

Armstrong Hendricks, farmer, stock raiser and mechanic, of Prairie Grove Township, Washington Co., Ark., was born in Pulaski County, Ky., November 22, 1836, being a son of Green and Rutha (Hall) Hendricks, who were born, reared and married in their native State. They came to Arkansas about 1838, locating on the farm on which Armstrong Hendricks now resides, and owns, and here the father's death occurred in 1840, and the mother's in 1850. They were the parents of two sons: Armstrong and Gibson H. The former was reared in Washington County, and at the breaking out of the war enlisted in Col. Brooks' regiment, serving with him two years, and the following two years served on detached duty. He was in a number of engagements, but escaped unhurt, and after the cessation of hostilities returned home and began working at the blacksmith's trade, which he had learned previous to the war, continuing the same about three years, after which he began improving his home farm, which consists of 153 acres, with about seventy-five acres under good cultivation, on which is a good two-story residence. Besides this he has another good farm of 100 acres. He is doing well, and his farms yield him a comfortable competency. May 13, 1875, his marriage with Miss Nancy B. Rainwaters was celebrated. She was born in Washington County, and is a daughter of Matthew Rainwaters, who was formerly from Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks are the parents of three sons: James Pressley, Edgar Austin and William Perry.

Alexander Hendry, carpenter and builder, was born in the parish of St. Fergus, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, October 18, 1820, and is a son of James and Margaret (Reid) Hendry. Alexander learned his trade in Aberdeenshire, and for a number of years worked in Glasgow. In 1853 he came to America, and spent twelve years in Tecumseh, Mich., where he was engaged in contracting and building. In 1866 he came to Fayetteville, Ark., where he has since been identified with the building and milling interests of the place. Among the many structures he has erected may be mentioned Judge Gregg's residence, the Washington County court-house and mills, the university, the public school buildings, the opera house and many others. He is now in the foundry and machine-shop business. Mr. Hendry was married in Scotland to Miss Mary Duncan, who died January, 1887, having borne one son and one daughter: John, a miller at Walla Walla, and Mary, wife of John Clancy. Mr. Hendry is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Baldwin Commandery No. 4.

Patrick Hennessey, who is accounted one of the best farmers of his vicinity, was born in County Cork, Ireland, March 17, 1818, and is the son of James and Fannie (Cantley) Hennessey, both natives of the same county as their son. The father was a farmer by occupation, and the Hennessey family from time immemorial have been Catholics. The mother died in Ireland, but the father died in Providence, R. I. They were the parents of six sons, all of whom came to this country. The second child, Patrick, was left an orphan at the age of six years, or nearly the same as an orphan, for his mother died, and his father was banished from home for threshing his landlord, with whom he had gotten into trouble. The children were thus thrown upon the world to look out for them-

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engaged in farming from 1866 until 1876, since which time he has engaged in mercantile life, meeting with good success, and has since accumulated considerable property. In politics Mr. King is a strong Democrat, and greatly in favor of a reduction of the tariff. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and A. F. & A. M., and himself and wife belong to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

James Kenner, farmer, was born January 27, 1834, in Hawkins County, Tenn., and is a son of Wiley B. and Elizabeth (Shanks) Kenner. The father was a native of Virginia, who in an early day started for Tennessee by wagon, where he engaged in farming in an unsettled country. He had but a limited education, and it was in Tennessee that he died in 1861. The mother was born in Hawkins County, Tenn., where she passed her entire life, dying upon the old homestead in 1887. She had ten children, seven of whom are now living: William, Hanson, Mark, Dock, Newton, Polly A. and James. Those deceased are Lucinda, Marian and Wiley R. Hanson Kenner, the grandfather, was a resident of Virginia, and engaged in trading with the Indians. The maternal grandparents were both natives of North Carolina, born of German parents, and in an early day went to Tennessee. Our subject passed his youth upon the farm in Tennessee, receiving only a common-school education, but learned the blacksmith's trade. When twenty-four years of age he left home and married Adeline Wells, daughter of Newton and Susan (Brewer) Wells. Mr. Wells was a soldier in the Mexican War. Mrs. Kenner was born and reared in Tennessee. To Mr. and Mrs. Kenner six children have been born, all save one living: Susan, Sallie, Minerva, Wiley and John. Polly Ann is the one deceased. During the late war Mr. Kenner enlisted in Company H, Eighth Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, First Brigade, Third Division, and served until the close, being mustered out in North Carolina. He was in the battles at Burnt Hickory, Atlanta Crossing and others, and, besides being on the raid through Georgia, participated in a number of other engagements. After the war he returned to Tennessee, and twelve years ago came to Crawford County, buying land on Cedar Creek, where he lived eight years. He then removed to his present farm, which contains 160 acres, forty of which he has finely cultivated. He is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church, and in politics is a Republican.

Peter Kuykendall was born in Buncombe County, N. C., June 7, 1814, and when about ten years old was taken by his parents to Georgia, and from there to McMinn County, Tenn. Four years later they went to Knox County, Ind., and in 1833 the family located opposite Memphis, Tenn., in what is now Arkansas, spending about two years in the southeastern part of the State, during which time Peter carried mail on horseback from the Mississippi River to Little Rock, then but a village. In 1835 the family moved to what is now Crawford County, where the father died in 1846, aged fifty-two, the mother living until her death after the war. Their names were James and Rebecca (Norton) Kuykendall, and they were both natives of Buncombe County, N. C. Mr. Kuykendall was of Dutch descent, and a successful farmer. For some years he served as justice of the peace. His father, James, was a Revolutionary soldier, and died in Georgia. The parents of our subject were for many years connected with the Baptist Church. Peter is the eldest of a family of eight children, only four of whom survive. He was given but a limited education during his youth, and in 1833 was married in Knox County, Ind., to Martha Tague, a native of North Carolina, who died in 1871, leaving seven children, all of whom have since died. In 1873 Mr. Kuykendall was united in marriage to Mrs. Frances Harris, daughter of Cader Woodard. Mr. Woodard was born in North Carolina, and after his marriage went to Alabama, living there until after the war, and then going to Texas, where he died. He served as justice of the peace in Alabama. Mrs. Kuykendall was first married, in Georgia, to Charles P. Harris, in 1856. Her husband served in the Confederate army under J. P. King, and, coming to Crawford County in 1861, died in 1872, leaving a widow and four children. Our subject has no living children, but has about sixteen grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. He has been a resident of the county over fifty-three years, having settled upon his present farm on Frog Bayou in 1836. He has accumulated his property since coming here, and now owns 380 acres, and is considered one of the substantial men of the county. He remembers when there was but one store in Van Buren, and when the few settlers were obliged to protect their property and lives against the wild animals which inhabited the forests. He endured all the hardships of pioneer life, and earned the money to

buy the first horse he owned by making rails. For many years his corn was ground by hand in a stone mill, and rather than borrow his neighbor's horse Mr. Kuykendall used to take his chickens to Van Buren, walking the distance of ten miles. He is a Democrat, and has voted for every presidential candidate on that ticket since 1836, with the exception of war times. Mr. Kuykendall would never accept public office. He was a Southern sympathizer during the war. One son, James, was a private soldier in the war, and was captured at Helena, Ark., and was kept a prisoner at Alton, Ill., for two years. He served under Col. Wallace. His other son, Andrew J., served two years during the latter part of the war. Mr. Kuykendall's first wife belonged to the Baptist Church, and his present wife is a member of the Christian. When the family first came here from Knox County, Ind., they rowed in a flat-boat down the White River into the Wabash and Ohio, and thence to the Mississippi, landing opposite Memphis, where Mr. Kuykendall ran a ferry across the Mississippi River.

Samuel L. Larue was born in Kentucky in 1830. His grandparents, Samuel and Elizabeth (Waters) Larue, were natives of Virginia and of French and German descent, respectively. In 1806 they moved from Virginia to Kentucky. They were wealthy farmers and slave-holders, and died in 1840 and 1858. The maternal grandparents, James and Elizabeth (Waters) Castleman, were also natives of Virginia, who moved to Kentucky when young, and lived until their respective deaths in 1842 and 1854. They were also wealthy people, and owned a large number of slaves. The parents of our subject, Josiah and Mary (Castleman) Larue, were born in Virginia, in 1804, and in Kentucky, in 1810, respectively. When young the father moved to Kentucky, where he married and engaged in farming the remainder of his life. To himself and wife thirteen children were born, nine of whom are living, and two are residents of this county, viz., our subject and James Larue. Mr. Samuel Larue received but a limited education during his youth, and began life for himself when twenty-one years of age. He left Kentucky when forty-one years old and came to Arkansas. Since then he has by industry and good management become the owner of 300 acres of land, 110 acres being well cultivated and improved, with a good residence and out-buildings. There are three tenement houses upon the home place, and his fruit farm contains 1,000 apple trees besides a large number of peach and plum trees. In 1851 Mr. Larue married Mary Burdine, who was born in Kentucky in 1830, and is the mother of seven children, all, with the exception of Mrs. Letitia Hubbs, of Texas, being residents of this county. The other children of our subject are Mrs. Elvira Lowett, Mrs. Frances Rainey, Mrs. Grace Swearingen, Christopher C., Mrs. Elizabeth Cluck and Mrs. Martha Johns. Mrs. Larue's father, John Burdine, was born in 1802 and died in 1878, having been a farmer all his life. His wife, Rebecca Burdine, was born in 1812 and died in 1834. Of their fifteen children but two survive, viz.: Mrs. Larue and Mrs. Sarah Larue. Our subject, wife and four children are active members of the Missionary Baptist Church, and Mr. Larue belongs to the Masonic fraternity. Democratic principles were instilled in his mind when a youth, and he has always voted the Democratic ticket, his first presidential vote having been cast for Taylor in 1848.

James C. Larue was born in Hardin County, Ky., October 2, 1831, and is a son of Josiah and Mary (Castleman) Larue. The father was born in Virginia in 1805, and was an infant when taken by his parents to Hardin County, Ky., in an early day. Hardin County was afterward divided, one portion being named "Larue," in honor of his family. He received a collegiate education, but was a farmer by occupation. His death occurred in 1857. The mother was born in Hardin County, and bore Mr. Larue thirteen children, Samuel, James C., William, Jacob, David, Hardin, Thomas, Lydia and John still living. Those deceased are John, Squire, Sarah, Elizabeth and an infant. Samuel Larue, the grandfather, was born in France, and immigrated to Kentucky in 1810 from Virginia, in a wagon, with 100 horses and ninety negroes, he having been a man of means. Himself and wife died in Kentucky. James Castleman, the maternal grandfather, was born in Pennsylvania about 1810, of French parentage, and he also immigrated to Kentucky from Virginia. Elizabeth (Walters) Castleman was his second wife, and died in Kentucky. James C. Larue, our subject, lived with his parents during his youth, passing a large portion of his time upon the river. In 1853 he married and began life for himself by farming a year. He then went on the river again, and after teaming three years in Henderson,