SCATTERED NOTES PICKED OUT OF LETTERS

Lillie and Rosa Manuel married Drake men.

One had a boy named Irvin and a girl named Bertha.

Lilly was a school teacher.

Gertrude married Edd McCabe.

Claudia Eichelbarger married Dan McCabe.

Bess Bolding married Smith McCabe

Clint McCabe

Mark McCabe

Ossie McCabe married Pete Cottrell.

Sadie McCabe married Sam Morse.

They came to Dyer after the children were grown. They had lived at Mountainburg

Julius Faust was a teacher here and had married \_\_\_ Flowers. They lived in the house where Kate Rogers lived and Julius' wife died there. Julius later married Lucy Moss, a half sister of Thomas William Moss

Granny Bounds lived at Alma and was a midwife and would come to Dyer and stay in the home where the "stork" was expected until the baby put in an appearance.

Frank Selby built the concrete cover for Rev Davis's grave.

Edd Chastain lived in what we know as the John Wright house. He may have built it. Milt Chastain also lived there, in 1914. Jess Chastain, son of Harve Chastain, lived there too.

Jerushas Wagner married Terrell I Rhodes when she was 14 years old. She had gone to school to Mr. Terrell and continued in school after marriage.

Sula Moss' mother named Whittington died at Moss home; she was bedfast for some time. Sula's dead sister's daughter lived with Sula in early 1900. Her name was Stella.

John Jordan married Sarah Sullivent and bought land north of the Dyer Cemetery. In the summer of 1888 the neighbors had what was called a "House Raising". The neighbors cooked a big picnic dinner. The men built a big two-room log house and didn't use a nail in building the house. Logs were notched and put together and fastened with wooden pegs. Cracks between the logs were daubed with lime and clay which afterwards they had a picnic. The Jordans had two children when they moved into this house: Serena Jordan who wed Charley Morse and a daughter named Cordelia who wed Ira Griffin in 1907. Other children were born later. A son who burned to death. Lewis Jordan who wed Sarah England. Jess Jordan who wed Maggie Baldridge. Beulah Jordan who wed Frank England. Cordelia was named after her grandmother Sullivent. The Englands were reared on the mountains north of Dyer. The Baldridges lived on Georgia Ridge.

W. C. Fox settled in Dyer. He married Vina Chastain, a daughter of Shelton Chastain. He ran the gin and grist mill at Steve Dyer place, now called the Renfroe place. Later he moved to 61 Community and reared his family there. W. C. and Vina Chastain Fox children were:

1. Cora Fox who wed Tom Broadhead

2. Cordia Fox who wed Charley Harris

3. John Fox who wed Rhuie Sutton

4. Herbert who wed Myrtle Morse

5. Maggie who wed \_\_\_\_Wooley.

After his wife Vina died Mr. Fox married Kate Cottrell's sister, \_\_\_\_. There was one son and maybe two born to this union.

1. Mr and Mrs. Keifer lived on the mountain up above Mack Dyer and their children were:

11. Henry Keifer wed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

12. Jim Keifer wed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

13. John Keifer wed Oma Selby

14. \_\_\_ wed Mittie Henson

15. Douglas wed Matilda Criswell

16. Burl wed\_\_\_\_

17. Sarah Kiefer called "Pet" wed J. D. Brannon

18. Lena Keifer wed Jim W Ganer

19. Fronie Keifer wed Hud Henson

1A. Jane Keifer wed\_\_\_\_

The CHITWOODS from Georgia settled on Georgia Ridge. This Ridge was named for the people who came from Georgia and settled it. The men were brothers and lived on the Ridge all their lives. Children were:

1. Joe Chitwood and wife Malissa Chitwood's children:

11. Fletcher Chitwood wed Alice Webb

12. Little Danny Chitwood wed Jennie Morse

13. Annie Mariah Chitwood wed Lige Morse

2. John and Mandy Chitwood's children:

21. Lee Chitwood wed Bess Wilson

22.Ples Chitwood wed \_\_ Meadors

23. Mary Chitwood never wed

24. Janie Chitwood wed Charley Morse

1. Big Dan Chitwood, a relative of Joe and John Chitwood on the Ridge, married a sister of Sam Taylor. She was his first wife Their children were:

11. Wylie Chitwood wed Fronia Rhodes

12. Columbus Chitwood wed Minnie Fowler

13. Letha Chitwood wed Emzy Arbuckle

14. Milage Chitwood wed Ida Warrick

15. Bert Chitwood wed Sarah Renfroe

Their mother died while living on the Ridge. Then Dan Chitwood wed Venia Kelly who also lived on the Ridge. They moved to Dyer sometime in the 1890. A daughter was born to this union in 1898, and she was named Beulah Chitwood who wed Willie Kennedy.

Big Dan's brother, John B Chitwood, came to Dyer from Georgia to live with his brother. They lived where the Church of Christ is today. John was a farmer and worked for John William Moss when he married Addie Davidson, daughter of Tom Davidson. John and Addie are the parents of Lois Marie Chitwood who wed Settles Williams and Jewel Chitwood who wed Martha Bowlin. Big Dan was a cattle buyer and he would drive big droves of cattle by our house before he moved to Dyer.

Sometime in the late 1890's another room was added to the one room school by Bro O'Rear who moved to Dyer from Franklin County below Mulberry. Mr and Mrs. John Hood, a daughter and son-in-law of Mr. O'Rear came with them. They all lived in a log house leading to the Dyer bottoms.

Floyd Loomis built the first Depot in Dyer about 1876 He also built the Methodist and Baptist Churches one year apart. All the labor on the Methodist Church was free labor. The Baptist Church was built on land donated by Steve Dyer. Shelton Chastain donated the land for the Methodist Church Mr. Chastain was a member of the Church of Christ. They held their services in the Methodist Church for years and finally built a church where Big Dan Chitwood home was situated.

The first members of the Methodist Church were:

J. W. Moss served as steward and Supt of Sunday School

Sula Moss was a Sunday School teacher

Floyd Loomis and wife Fannie; he was a steward until 1909.

Jim Chastain was a teacher in Sunday School

Bobby Anderson and wife Lucy

John Jordan and wife Sarah Sullivent Jordan. He was a steward.

Robert Lester and wife Ann. Bob was also a steward

Tom Davidson and wife Julia. He served as steward

Bro O'Rear and wife

Louis and wife Frances Wells

George Dyer and wife Jennie. He was a teacher

Jane Morse and wife of Percival Morse

Joe Minyard and wife Lulah Morse Minyard

Kate Rogers was a Sunday School teacher

May Dyer was a teacher

Annie Dyer was a teacher for years.

Warren Loomis; Lucy Loomis; Lena Moss; Lucy Moss; Charley Moss; T. W. Moss; Dr. Ayres and wife Gussie; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Selby, Florence Selby, Lou Earl Selby; Addie Davidson, Belle Davidson.

Most of the children of these Methodist parents joined the Church as they grew up.

The first choir in the Church were: Joe Wells, Florence Selby, John Chitwood, Lou Earl Selby, Wylie Chitwood, Oma Selby, Marvin Selby, Lena Moss, Charley Moss, Lucy Moss, and Lucy Loomis.

Pastors: **after 1982** when Church was built: Weaver; Stogill; McAnnally; Denton; Stegall; Griffin; Hammonds; Waldrip; Sitton; **in 1902** DeShazo; Villines; **in 1916**;and again later, Key; **in 1906**; Southerland; Story in the one room school; Johnson **in 1912**; Moore **in 1920**; Grey **1914** and again in **1921**; Bumpers **1918-1919**; Steward, McKlsson; Patty; they are not written down as time they served.

Floyd Loomis built the Baptist Church in 1893 or1894 First members were:

Mr. John Manuel and wife

Edd Chastain and wife Mamie

Mr Jean and wife

Big Dan Chitwood and wife Venia

Serena Jordan

Nan Carter

Mrs. Dick Heard

Mrs. Joe Malone

Thurman Hurd

Jim Patton and wife Rebecca

Dave Cottrell

These are the ones that I recall as members.

The pastor of the early Baptist Church were: Bro Leonard Dyer; Bro Bottles; Bro Taylor; Bro Pillars; Bro Laster; Bro Crawford.

Bro Leonard Dyer died at the place called the Renfroe home. I think Bro Dyer owned the property then. Leonard Dyer and Elisha Dyer were brothers.

The first doctor who came to Dyer in the early 1890's was named Livingston. He was an old man and did not live long. The next doctor was Dr. Ayres in early 1890. He wed Gussie Thurston. They built their home where Bro. Martin had lived. Dr. Ayres spent the rest of his life there and died in 1918 during the Influenza epidemic. He would go to his patients any time he was called, day or night. Mrs. Gussie was a faithful Church worker. Dr. Westbrook came to Dyer about the same time and lived at what we know as the Joe Wells home. He and his wife had two children: Cleo Westbrook and Bertha Westbrook.

Quince Galloway was studying to be a doctor when he was teaching school at Dyer so in the summer months he made rounds with Dr. Ayres and Dr. Westbrook to see their patients to learn all he could from them and when he became a doctor he settled at Alma.

I don't know the year that Mr. Jake Wells moved to Dyer. I think he and his second wife George moved from Rudy to Dyer. Their children were: Mary Lee Wells wed Asa Dyer, Quincy Wells who wed Amy Chitwood.

His children by his first wife were grown when they moved here. He lived on Main Street where Vilas Manuel built his home later. The house was painted green and had two yard gates on the south and east sides of the yard. He moved to the house where Rhodes store is today then bought the house on the west corner back of the store and lived there until his death. He was a J of P **[*Justice of the Peace]****.* I hear that Little Mack Dyer has built a house there. Mr. Wells was his grandfather.

Teachers that taught in first school house: I have been told that Floyd Loomis taught the first school then Bro. Davis, a Methodist Minister taught next. Teachers that I remember were: Jim Galloway who later became a Methodist Minister, Ella Burkhead who married Jim Galloway; Miss Hattie Rhinehart; Miss Jessie Neal. Quincy Galloway became a doctor later; Ira and Julius Faust; Mr. Hall; M. T. Rhodes; Miss Dora Haydon.**1** Abbie and I went to school to your mother when she first came to Dyer. I was in the 4th grade.

***1 ~ Editor's note: Dora Hayden was the mother of Lorena Moss Lancaster, the compiler of this book.***

Some of teachers who taught in the four-room school which was built in summer of 1902. Teachers for the advanced pupils until 1906 were Selma Jordan of Mulberry, Mr. Gallighar, Mr. Wasson; teachers for the lower grades were Jim Chastain and Annie Dyer.

In 1903 Herbert Cravens came to Dyer and bought the first school building for $50. Tore it down and built the house that is called the Tom James home. Mr Cravens lived there until his wife died in 1905 or1906.

Harve Chastain lived there next and Tom James who had lived in what we know as the Renfroe house moved into the Cravens-Chastain house and lived there until his death. While Tom James lived at the Renfroe place, his brother Bill James lived with them and went to school in the four-room school. Names of the James children were: Elizabeth James who wed Orel Rhodes; Mildred James who wed Ervin Morse; Thelma James who did not marry; Ruby James wed \_\_\_; T. J. James wed \_\_\_; and Rome James wed \_\_\_\_.

Bill James married Callie Patton and their family was:

Millie James who wed \_\_\_;

Carl James who wed \_\_\_\_;

Marie James who wed \_\_\_\_;

Rosemary James who wed \_\_\_\_.

Mr. Bill Renfroe moved to Dyer from Mountainburg. He had lost his first wife who left these children: Bertha Renfro; Sarah Renfroe who wed Bert Chitwood; Node Renfroe who wed Daisy Chastain; and Jim Renfroe who wed Hattie Then he married Amanda Vaught and had two daughters:

Lucille Renfroe who wed Guthrie Moss;

Martha Renfroe who wed \_\_\_\_.

Hillary and Florence Bennett home stood where the brick school was built in 1917. They had the place rented to Sam Kelly. In 1919 we bought 13 acres of the old Joel Dyer place. It joined the Dyer Cemetery on the east. We built a new home in 1919 and reared our family there and lived there 39 years then moved to California in 1958. Three of our children had settled out here before we moved out. Our children names are:

1. Fannie Lou Bennett who wed Neal Spelce. She is a noted artist and sometimes called "Grandma Moses" because of her style of paintings.

2. Louden Bennett who wed Edith Leftwich;

3. Inez Bennett who wed Harley Robinson,

4. H. A Bennett, Jr who wed Louise Rosser

5. Marie Bennett who wed Lee Colvert

We have eleven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. All live in California except five of them. Fannie Lou is a registered nurse and graduated in 1928 in Fort Smith. She was a nurse for 44 years and in 1968 she took up art as a hobby. A lot of her paintings are in Kennedy Galleries.

Dude was in the grocery business but he has retired in 1972. Inez is a home maker and teaches a class in Sunday School and plays the organ for her church. Marie is a homemaker and has reared two of H. A. children and one of her own.

1. FLOYD AND FANNIE STRINE LOOM IS FAMILY ~ All children were born and reared in Dyer:

11. Warren Loomis born 1880. He wed Sadie Wakefield

12. Lucy Loomis born 1882. She wed George Roberts

13. Daniel Loomis born 1885. He wed Lavada Letts

14. Florence Loomis born 1888. She wed Artie Bennett

15. Abbie Loomis born 1890. She wed Luther Flemings

16. Fannue Loomis born 1892. She wed Joe Lawrence

17. Floyd Loomis born 1898. He wed \_\_\_\_

Warren, Daniel, and Floyd all followed in their father's footsteps and were carpenters. Warren went to New York to visit relatives and married and reared his family there. When we children were small, mother spun her thread and knitted our stockings and socks. She gathered berries and bark from different trees and made her dye for different colors and taught we girls how to do this also.

John Warrick moved to Dyer in 1898, the year of the big overflow of the Arkansas River. He had lived in the Dyer bottoms at a place called Riverside. There was a little Methodist Church there and several dwellings. They all washed away. This was the biggest flood on record and none since has COVERED SO MUCH LAND.

1. Their children were:

11. Ella Warrick who wed Charley Floyd

12. Buddy Warrick died

13. Charley Warrick wed Grace Lawrence and second Etta O'Bar

14. Ida Warrick wed Millage Chitwood

15. Ola Warrick wed Tom Wells

16. Minnie Warrick wed Lee Winfrey

17. Lucy Warrick wed Buddie Flemings and second \_\_\_\_.

1. Jeremiah Eichelbarger moved to Dyer about the same time and from Riverside and for the same reason. They were members of the Methodist Church. Martha Eichelbarger was a half sister to John Warrick. Children:

11. Son Eichelbarger wed Hattie Spriggs

12. Minnie Eichelbarger wed William Summers

13. Claudia Eichelbarger wed \_\_\_\_ McCabe

14. Ella Eichelbarger wed T. J. Spencer

15. Ruby Eichelbarger wed Jap Morse

16. Hubert Eichelbarger was killed on a freight train.

Bill Flemings moved from Mulberry in 1905 or 1906 to Dyer. He owned a gin where Tom Frank Alexander owned a gin later. Mr. Fleming

also had a gin at Riverside on the Arkansas River. Joe Lawrence got his arm cut off while working at the gin and his arm was amputated just below his shoulder. Dr Reaves from Alma and Dr Haney of Dyer did the surgery in Joe's home.

Mr. Flemings had been married before and the children were: Ora Flemings; William Flemings; and Amy Flemings. Then he married Belle Johnson and they had these children:

Juanita Flemings

Tracy Flemings

Erma Flemings

?

After Mr. Flemings death the family moved to Colorado.

Mrs. Rogers, Kate, and Buck Rogers were early settlers here, and after Mr. Rogers died she married a man named Wagner. They had one daughter, Jerusha Wagner who married Terrell Rhodes, who was a teacher of Jerusha, and after they married she continued in school. She was 15 years old when she married.

Kate and Buck never married. Miss Kate taught many a child in Sunday School from 1892 until the late 1920s. Marie, my daughter, called her "Miss Cake." Terrell and Jerusha Rhodes children:

Cabol Rhodes who wed Evelyn xxx

Fannie Marie who wed John Holleman

Ned Rhodes died as a young man

Wand Ruth who wed Tom Frank Alexander

After Artie and I built our home, I landscaped our yard. Put out flowers of many kinds and set out shade trees and fruit trees. I entered the yard contest of Crawford County, there were 38 ladies who entered at this time. I won first prize for two years in succession which was $10 each time. They wouldn't let me enter the third time. I was the first president of the Dyer Demonstration Club. First members were: Kate Cottrell, Susie Tomlinson, Sophia Chastain, Maud Winfrey. This little Club grew very fast; in a few years it became a large Club. I will name some of member that I can recall I before I came to California.

Florence Bennett (1st Pres.), Kate Cottrell (V.P.), Susie Tomlinson, Sophia Chastain (2nd Pres), Ada Winfrey, Emma Chastain, Nancy Whitlow, Bonnie Rhodes (3rd Pres), Madge Chastain, Martha Chitwood, Ethel Wright, Sybil Cranford, Vivian Harris, Fila Johnson,

We learned to can with a pressure cooker; to make cheese; learned a lot about sewing and cooking and home making. We drew names and had "secret pals" Exchanged gifts. The Christmas party was held in my home every year. Our Club never died or failed to meet once a month and everyone had a great time. The Demonstration Club was organized in the 1920s, probably about 1925.

These are some of the business men in the new brick stores after the 1909 fire: M. T. Rhodes, drug store; John Smith, a General Merchandise; Seth Davidson, General Merchandise; Marset Bennett, Ice cream and cold drinks; Dan Harrison, General Merchandise; Late Buck Davidson, General Merchandise; T. W. Moss; Mr. and Mrs. Fines; Misenhammer and Henry Burrough, a hardware store.

The first building north of the Depot was built by Shelton Chastain where Leonard Davis lived. Mr. Chastain ran the Post Office there. When I was in my early teens, he lived across the street on the south of J. W. Moss' store. I went to his Post Office many times, also over to his house where he and Sophia reared their children. His first wife died. My Mother played with her children when they were growing up.

The Farmers Union Building was used after the Union quit. Lee Meadors had a blacksmith shop there, then a lumber yard and then Spencer's blacksmith shop.

Mack Dyer's first wife was the first one buried in the Dyer Cemetery. Her name was Elizabeth Dyer, and she was buried there in 1888. The people were buried in other Cemeteries until then: such as the Sullivent Cemetery just south of railroad in the 16 ***[61?]*** Community; the Kings cemetery between Dyer and Mulberry; the Henson Cemetery and the Lipscomb-Nelson Cemetery east of Dyer. My sister Ora Loomis was buried in the Nelson Cemetery in 1884, there was no Dyer cemetery when she died. My father and mother were also buried there, also Brother Dan Loomis in 1941. Mr and Mrs. John Jordan were buried in the Twelve Corner Cemetery the best I can remember. Mrs. Jordan was a Sullivent. (They were probably buried in the Sullivent Cemetery.)

Lucy Thomas is right about Monroe's Barber Shop. It was a small building north of Patton Store. He was there about 1908 or 1909 because in 1911 he gave Dude his first haircut.

Terrell Rhodes had the Post Office and Drug Store in the new brick building on the west side of the street as late as 1914 when Dr Haney was there. Dr. Haney came to Dyer in 1911 and had his office in the back room of Post Office in brick store. Dr. Haney moved to Texas in 1915, so it was after 1915 when the Post Office as we know was built on the east side of the street.

The Allisons never lived in Dyer. They came from Missouri and settled near Mulberry. The mother's name was Rosie Allison, I am not sure of the father's name, I believe it was Thomas Allison. The Allisons had four children; a son, Charlie; a son Thomas; a son George; and a daughter, Lou Allison. Their father was killed in the Civil War. She was born in Missouri and married Alphus Lane Bennett. Born in Texas, Alphus died in 1905 then his family moved to Dyer in January 1910, and she died in 1932. Her son Marset moved to Dyer in 1911. Minnie Lou, Chester, and Odus Bennett grew up in Dyer and married there. We were already in Dyer, Artie and I were married in 1906, moved to Fort Smith and then back to Dyer and reared our family there. I was born and reared in Dyer.

Uncle Steve Dyer owned all the land where the old Cemetery (part of) is, and he donated this part to the town of Dyer for a Cemetery. Where the new cemetery is I think Mr. John Jordan bought this from Steve Dyer. Mrs. Jordan sold it to the Odd Fellow's Lodge for an addition to the Cemetery. Odd Fellows sold lots for burial to get their monies back. Mrs. Sophia Chastain bought the first lot for her family. There was already a grandbaby of Mrs. Jordans buried on this plot of land before Mrs. Jordan sold it. Mrs. Mack Dyer (first wife) was the first one buried in the old cemetery in 1888 and her baby that Steve Dyer donated. He owned all the land from where Tom James house was built over to the main road to the Loomis farm south of the railroad. I can remember when all of this, except where the cemetery is, was a forest of big oaks around the Baptist Church and the first school building in town all the way to Steve Dyer's house.

***Filename: WeRememberDyer post-1986 Book 03, 046-053 ~ assorted letters***