

Wood Family
Papers and Letters

Copied by
Marjorie Scott Ashley

1998

Wood Family Papers and Letters

The story begins with John Wood and Story Lord who left their native England by the mid-1700s. Whether they were married in England or met and married in the colonies is unknown. Four known children were born to them; John, Robert, Edmund and Mary. Story Lord was a widow in Virginia by 1790.

Their son Robert Wood, born in 1765 in Halifax County, Virginia, married in Spartanburg County, South Carolina the 21st of October 1790, Rebecca Traylor, born in Amelia County, Virginia in 1771. He was 25 and she was 19. There is no evidence that they knew each other before their families were in South Carolina. The original name of her French Huguenot ancestors was Traillour, whose staunch religious convictions were to strongly influence their descendants.

By 1820 they moved to Hall County, Georgia, where Robert died in 1835. After settling his estate, some of his children began their slow movement westward. The widowed Rebecca lived with her Brice and Conley daughters and died in 1855 in Walker County, Georgia, and is buried in Rockspring Cemetery.

Robert Capel Wood, son of Robert and Rebecca, and whose daughter Nell saved these papers, moved to Athens, Georgia, then to Alabama. Two of his daughters married McCleskeys in Hall County; then the McCleskeys moved en masse, saving one, to Marshall County, Alabama.

Nell's grandfather, David Henderson McCleskey, told her about his own father who fought in the Revolution. She personally knew six or seven generations born from 1783 to 1941 that spanned the country from South Carolina to Alaska. She kept every letter, clipping, photo and memento that came to her hands, most of which was unfortunately destroyed in two fires at her home. She had the Revolutionary uniform of her great-grandfather and the Confederate money that her father received when he sold his land in Marshall County. These letters and papers allow us a first-hand look at the people she knew and loved.

Marjorie Scott Ashley
1998

Method:

Handwritten letters are in italics.

Names in the letters are capitalized so they can readily be found.

Printed materials (i.e. newspaper clippings, letterheads, certificates) are in regular type.

My comments are in brackets.

Acknowledgement:

These original letters and papers are in my possession, given to me by my cousin Thomas F. Dowling, who was raised by Nell Wood Sampler and Mattie Wood after his mother died. There were many other letters that were destroyed by water when the house caught on fire twice, and a leaky ceiling in the annex where they were stored after Nell died. Had Tom not painstakingly gone through them and rescued the legible ones he could find in the short time available, none of them would have survived.

MSA

□

John Wood m. Story Lord

Their son, Robert Wood, married Rebecca Traylor

(daughter of Joel Traylor and Catherine ___)

Their son, Robert Capel Wood, married Martha Matilda McCleskey

(daughter of David Henderson McCleskey and Martha Ivey Jarrett)

Their daughter, Mary Louisa Ann Wood, married William Moore Robbins

(son of Edward Robbins and Jane ___)

Their daughter, Ella Jane Robbins, married Little Berry Scott

(son of Elbert Scott and Margaret Proctor)

Their son, Robert Marvin Scott, married Nettie Oneal Thornton

(daughter of James Daniel Thornton and Lucinda Guest)

Their children were:

Marjorie
Dorothy
and
LaDillian

□

[This is the oldest of the papers, made of heavy material and roughly legal size when folded.]

SONG BALLAD

*For Robert Wood
Wrote By James P. Woodson
Steal not this Song ballad
for fear of shame for look
Above there is the Owners
Name*



*Wrote the 52nd year of the America
Independance
Taken from The Birth
of Christ
An that of King Herod
Destroying of Infants*

[This is followed by 10 verses, then:]

*Sept 21st|=Day 1826
Wrote By James P. Woodson
For Robert Wood*

[Robert Wood was a fa-sol-la teacher in Hall County, Georgia. He died there in 1835.]

July the 28th 1834 Spartanburg Dist. So. Ca.

My dear Brother, [Robert C. Wood]

I gladly received a few lines from you last Sunday in which I was glad to learn that you and all your friends were well. Through the mercy of God myself and family are all well at this time, and I hope when these few lines reach you they will still find you and yours all enjoying the same blessing; we have had some affliction in our family and through our country this summer. A Severe bowel complaint, and some have died though none of our friends have died.

I saw MR. BRICE last Saturday but did not know that he was your Brother in law untill after we had parted, or I should certainly have had more conversation with him about you all; I am sorry that it is so that I cannot come to your Camp Meetings; my situation is such that it renders it inexpedient for me to come. I should have written to you sooner, but I did not yet know the time of our camp Meetings untill the day before yesterday, Our first will commence on the 18th of September three miles from Greenville Court House, and the second on the 2nd of October at Shiloh and the third on the 9th of October at HUTCHINGS old factory and we shall be glad

to see you at any or all of them; times in religion seems but dull through Our Section of country, tho at present there seems to be a little more move, our Preachers received on trial about 50 from the first to the Second Quarterly meeting.

Give my respect to your father and mother and all your brothers and sisters and all enquiring friends, and particularly remember me to your cousin JOHN WOOD; REBECCA sends her best complements to you, your father and mother and all your sisters.

KENNEDY and WILLIAM and RICHARD all sends their respects to you all and (RICHARD says tell your cousin JOHN WOOD howdy for me) the boys say they will write to you before long: - - -

I have two singing schools on and one at the Clayford Academy the other at Old DAVID DRUMMONS; but I am so near worn out that it is with great difficulty I attend them:

Through the mercy of God I still feel like traveling to the kingdom; O my dear Br. let us live near the Lord, there are many snares laid by the enemy to take us in; and Only by keeping on our guard we can escape them; but this you have learned by experience.

Give my best respects to your Father and Mother and Rebecca and all your people, and tell them that I still feel like meeting them in my fathers kingdom; give my love to all who enquire about me; I have nothing very perticular to write at this time but remain as ever your sincere friend and Brother

ANDREW GRAMLING

[This folded paper was addressed to "Mr Robert C. Wood, Hall County Georgia"]

Spartanburg District So. Ca.

Dear Cousin

Altho it has been a great while since we have had any intercourse by letter or any other way I yet feel that warm kindred feeling which formally persisted I often think of you and think of writing to you but for that thief procrastination I have just heard from you by cousin JOHN WOOD who brings the news that you and family with the connections generally are well who also finds us in this country enjoying the same great blessing.

It seems to be almost a natural consequence to complain of hard time but last year having taught us something of hard times I think we should feel very thankful that we are now in the enjoyment of good times Corn may be had now at \$1.50 a bushel Kentuckky port is selling at 3 1/2 c per lb wheat is tolerable plenty yet seems to be in demand in market Charleston \$7.00 Columbia \$6 1/2 per barrel I am now living between my Fathers and Mrs MASONS not far from Cub branch WILLIAM is in Greenville, WASHINGTON moved to Charleston over a year ago JOHN is going there to live about Christmas sister ELIZABETH lives at the Crossroads near uncles old place I understand you have four brag daughters if you wish to see something calculated to stop that just come over and see my 3 sons as so many cap pieces

however as I do not like to brag much I will jus leave it to your own judgment when you see them but to leave light matters and come to those of great weight, religion. altho weighty in reality is too lightly esteemed by the majority notwithstanding this, we have reason to rejoice and praise God that there has been this fall a considerable accession to the churches

Give my respects to cousin DOW and cousin LEWIS ULMORE and wife and all the family also to cousin JOHN DEVERS and all his family and particularly to old Aunt REBECCA I had Like to forgot Cousin ARCHER to whom (if not all dried up) return the same complement and tell him to come over and see abody we have some choice young girls here probably he could be suited among so many Give my respects also to DAVID GRAYHAM and wife and his Brother MARTIN and to all inquiring friends and accept the same to your Self and family

in great respect Your Cousin

BOOKER BOMAR

Dec 10th 1846

[Booker was son of Edward and Mary Wood Bomar.]

Spartanburg S.C.

19th May 1852

Mr. R. C. WOOD.

My very respected Nephew

Yours of the 13 April came to hand in due time & contents noticed. It afforded me great pleasure in the purusal of it & the flattering manner you have been pleased to notice me. I am glad at all times that if by Grace that My life has been such as to prove the truth of the Gospel & not be a stumbling block to the rising generation, for whatever I am, I am by the Grace of God, & it is an overwhelming thought that God is omnipotent, that while he supports the Old Man of Spartanburg, the reaches of his Grace May be abundantly poured out on the citizen of Georgia. May God aid your every day's effort to live the life of the righteous, for without Him you can do nothing. Christ & him crucified is all in all. Age has brought me near the Grave a few days more & I am gone from all things of this world. My sight is very dim my hearing exceeding bad, my feeble limbs often almost refuse to support me, Yet I am often comforted with the Heavenly thought that in a very short time these dim Eyes will be Illuminated in the presence of The Father, these dull ears will hear the Sweet sound of the Golden Harp & these feeble limbs will leap & praise God, with my stamring tongue I am still permitted to sing His praise & to address a throne of Grace For Myself & all mankind & we have the promise that God will answer prayer. Religion is the chief concern of us all. Therefore press forward My Kind Nephew God in his providence has abundnatly blessed me notwithstanding I am in my 86 year I enjoy a reasonable portion of health appetite good & I still can travel some; a few days past I rode on Horse back 6 miles to see son JOHN & family & returned the same day & daily walk considerable about My Home, My wife is still with me & I ought to feel very thankful that she is so very

tender & kind to me. She too is very feeble & seems often to be very much on the decline.

My children are mostly near enough to see them occasionally except WASHINGTON & CATY those near are all well at present & doing well enough (the sons) for this world. JOHN MARTIN lives in about 1 1/2 miles of me & Generally has plenty for a support they are all well.

Your Old AUNT WOOD was quite sick or unwell some time past. I know not how she is at present.

My wife MARY desires to be remembered to you & also joins me in desiring to be Kindly & affectionately remembered to your Mother Sisters & Brothers & all of our old friends & acquaintances & accept for yourself the prayers of an old Uncle that in time you May have all that is necessary for you & that when life closes that you may enjoy the presence of a reconciled God Farewell May God bless you

I remain your
ED BOMAR &
MARY BOMAR

Receipt for making Blackberry Wine

To every 3 pints of berrys well crushed add 1 quart of water let it stand 24 hours then strain through a cullender then through a Jelly bag then to every gallon of the Juice add 3 1/2 lbs of brown sugar the white of two eggs well beaten add a small piece of Isenglass put it in a stone Jug & let it ferment one week filling it up with more of the Juice if it works out then cork it up tight & set it in a cool place for two or three months then bottle it up for use with a small lump of white sugar in each bottle
This 1 July 1852

[on back:]

To dye cotton yarn a Deep blue

Take one pound of Logwood chipped fine, or powdered; boil it in a sufficient quantity of water untill all the substance is out of it then take about half a gallon of the liquor and dissolve it in half an ounce of alum & one ~~one~~ ounce of verdigris; boil your yarn in the logwood water one hour; stirring & keeping it loose Take out your yarn Mix half gallon that contains the verdigris and alum; then put your yarn into the mixture and boil it four ~~four~~ hours stirring it & keeping it loose all the time and taking it out once

Jacksonport Ark January 30/1858

Mr. JAMES WOOD

D Sir:

I take the opportunity to inform you that I am living here and have been here for two years You will think strange to receive a few lines from me now, as I had promised to write to you on arrival here, but as it happened I have been too laisy

and troubled to at times and neglected it. I can inform you that I am well, and my little family likewise, PYRENEESE as well as myself are satisfied. we have lost one of our Children here last fall, and we have one, alive she is 4 1/2 months old and a sweeter Child never was. her Name is, MARY PAINE. How do you like Auroria. How is Business, and for all how is you health and Health of your family. I have written to COLEMAN four time to Atlanta and have not heard from him since last Summer. I do not Know what to think. News their is none here.

In Conclusion I expect an Answer on receipt of this and please let me Know all the News of the Familie Connexions also of COLEMAN. PYRENEESE joyins in sending our Kindest Love to your family and Friends in general and except the same for yourself

*Your etc
L. ELLENBURG
Jacksonport Jackson County Ark.*

[Pyreneese was Robert Capel Wood's cousin. One of Robert's daughters was named for her. This letter is addressed to JAMES Wood, and was in possession of Robert. Sometime later that year, Robert and his family moved from Hall county Georgia to Marshall county Alabama.]

Gainesville Georgia

July 6th 1863

Brother ROBERT

yours of the 13th of June came to hand this morning and carefully _____ I did not _____ your letter written last year as regard the note you paid off to COL WIGGS is all write on your part. A S came home from Guntersville and joined the army on the 4th of March 1862 ____ was one year ago he assigned over all his notes to me not knowing whether he would ever return home but the notes are put in his trunk and I have not seen them since but you hold on to your receipt it will be good against the notes where he is now I cannot tell he marched all through Kntucky then was ordered to Vicksburg about Christmas was in the fight the first hour after ariving there and on the 16th of May last was in the fight at Bakers Creek in command of the company the Capt lung sick and absent he is Leut in company 7 of the 43 Georgia Regt. I see the causalities of Regt and company but do not se his name there came a letter from his Capt to his wife the other day stating that A S DORSEY his Luet was missing suppose he was taken prisener I cannot tell what has becom of him the other three boys are all in Virginia all of them received Lead from the Yanky guns but are well the Last account I. N. was seriously wonded and come home last fall but retud to his command in October he is Luet Col in the 27th Regt Ga I have two sons in the 27th one in 11th and one 43th A S DORSY you see they are all gone from home whether they will return or not is not for me to tell our wheat and corn crops are fine if we can have dry weather enough to get our wheat out of the field and the wevls out of the corn

*we are well
JOHN DORSEY*

[From a newspaper clipping with partial date ___ Y 2, 1863 is a resolution and a long poem regarding the death of Col. O. E. Edwards 13th S. C. Regiment who died in Goldsboro, N. C. 21 June (?) 1863 after the battle of Chancellorsville. He was to be buried in the Spartanburg Village Cemetery. Below are other notices.]

STOLEN,
FROM the sale room at Bivingsville, on Tuesday the 28th ult., a black MARINO SHAWL, with fringe, with some of the fringe eaten off. A suitable reward will be paid if left at the FACTORY. WIDOW MARY BROWN
May 7 1f

[Taken from the backside of a clipping from a South Carolina newspaper, May 2, 1863. Masthead letters showing are ARTA, presumably part of SPARTANBURG.]

Administrator's Notice.

ALL persons having claim against the following estate to wit; J. T. WALL, deceased, WILLIAM COLE, WILLIAM ROBBINS, an J. J. KIMBRELL, are hereby notified to present the same, duly attested, to the undersigned for payment in final settlements of the estates of said deceased will be made as soon as the law will permit.

ELIAS WALL.
May 28 9 3t.

CLAIM AGENCY.

I HAVE on hand moneys received from Virginia for the following persons, who will please call and receipt for the same.

W. D. HOWE, _ P. LEONARD, THOMAS KIMBRAL, JOHN WHEELER, LUCINDA SWAFFIELD, DANIEL PARRIS, A. J. BYERS, HARRY GRIFFIN, CATHARINE CASH, M. B. EASLEY, CHARITY LIPSCOMBE.

J. M. ELFORD.

Spartanburg, June 16, 1863.

June 18 12

HEADQUARTERS, 13TH REGT., S. C. V.
CAMP GREGG, VA. March 30, 1863

DESERTED from my Company the following members, for whose apprehension the usual reward of thirty dollars will be paid, to wit. JOHN WOFFORD, 19 years old, 5 feet 1 inches high, blue eyes and dark hair, and fair complexion. WM. M. STATON, 19 years old, 6 feet high, dark hair, dark eyes, and fair complexion.

A. COPELAND.

Capt Co "F", 13th Regt. S. C. Vol

May 14 7 1f

NOTICE.

I FOREWARN any person for trading for a note given by myself to W. J. SEAY for seventy Dollars, dated March 24, 1855, which note is paid in full.

R. B. SEAY.

March 5

51

tf

RUNAWAY. FROM the Works of the Magnetic Iron Company, a negro boy named JOE, in height he is about 5 feet 6 inches, complexion dark-yellow, heavy built, with a sullen downcast look. He is originally from Kentucky, owned lately by A. Q. DUNNE-VANT, Esq. of Chester, and may probably be found in the neighborhood of his last place of residence. A REWARD OF FIFTY DOLLARS will be paid for his apprehension and delivery to me at this place, or in any jail in the State.

A. M. LATHAM, Agt.

Limestone Springs P. O., S. C.

June 18

12

tf

[The following articles are from S. C. news clippings, May 1863]

OUR FLAG

There is a general prejudice against the Stars and bars; though in itself a handsome banner, it is said to be too like the old Yankee concern, which has become so hateful. Fortunately, it is not the flag under which our armies have won their most signal successes; and many believe that it will be hard now to supersede the crimson battle-flag, with its starred St Andrew's cross of blue. It has claims upon us now; for was not this the banner that waved along the lines of the Confederates when they pressed so fiercely upon McClellan's hosts thro' the woods and marshes of the Peninsula until its crimson flutter was a vision of terror and vengeance to the flying foe? Was not this the glorious rag that struck panic into the legions of Pope when they saw it flash upon their rear like a crimson star? It has waved defiance from the heights of Fredericks-burg; and Potomac, from the mountains to the sea, has fondly reflected its blood-red gleam. Under its shadow great soldiers have died with one last look upon its dear cross; and in the hour of victory it has seemed transfigured into something God like, when the rapturous shouts of our Southern soldiery shook its folds like a storm. It will be hard to supersede this battle-flag and many will sympathize with the sentiments of our correspondent "Alabama".

Richmond Enquirer.

MR. J. F. GRANT - In compliance with an order from Col. RUSSELL, I send you the following list of names to be published as deserters from the C.S.A.; they having been absent from my company without giving satisfactory evidence of their inability to return to their command.

G. W. HENDRIX, who was enlisted by Capt. PRUITT at Gadsden Ala, on 10th March, 1862 about five feet six or seven inches high, dark complexion, blue eyes, light hair, and occupation a farmer, about thirty one years of age.

JOHN CLYNE, who was enlisted by Capt. HAMPTON at Glasgow, Kentucky, on the 10th day of Sept, 1862, is about five feet five inches high, light hair blue eyes,

fair complexion, is about 18 years of age, occupation unknown. Said Clyne has a red flesh mark on the left side of his face.

GREEN McCLENNON, who was enlisted by Capt. HAMPTON at Murfreesboro, Tenn, on the 1st day of Sept 1862, is near six feet high, dark complexion, dark hair, blue eyes, ia about 24 years of age, and by ocpation, a blacksmith. Said McCle-nnon

said he lived at Shelby county, Ala near the county site. R. C. EADS, who was enlisted by Capt. TAYLOR of Guntersville, Ala, on the 1st day of Sept, 1862, is about six feet high, dark complexion, dark hair black eyes.

JOHN H. STONE, who was enlisted by Capt. HAMPTON at Murfreesboro, Tenn, on the 1st day of Sept. 1862, is about five feet ten inches high, dark complexion, black eyes, dark hair, is about 30 years old, and by occupation a blacksmith. He is supposed to have gone to the enemy.

The reward allowed by the Government for the apprehension of deserters will be paid for any of the above named soldiers, if taken up and returned to their command.

THOS. W. HAMPTON, Capt.

Comdg. co B, Col RUSSELS Regt,

Gen MARTIN's Brigade of Cavalry

apl 16

Walker Co September the 18, 1869

Dear brother sister & family these lines leaves us all well as common hoping when thay come to hand may find you all well non of you seames to wright so I will wright again hoping that some of you will wright I will now say to you on the 24 of August sister CONLEY departed this life she died of remitant feaver also brother CONLEY died on the 11 of September with cancer of the face he seamed to suffer a gr ___, it eat on the top of his nose it broke on bothe sides of his neck he had many

spasums the morning before sister died at night they put brother CONLEY in a chair & toted him to whar sister wase he could not tell day from night the most of this time he told his chrildren he must pray with her he sat in his chair & prayd then bid her farwell he told her it wold not bee long befor thay would meet thay ware bothe liveing with thare chrildren at tryon factry sister wase staying with BALOW, brother CON-LEY with ROBERT CONLELY thay ware bothe burid at rockspring by MOTH-ER at our church too miles of us brother CONLEY ware buired in the mason-ic order according to his request thare furnerals will be preached at rockspring on the forth sabbath in this munth by A J LEUT half past 10 oclock thare is no use in saying how did thay die Just say how did thay live no dobt thare names are written in heaven & a crown upon thare heads singing the song of moses & the lamb forever

we have made plenty of wheat & corn to doo us corn crops are cut short in many places in this country ASBURY & his wife lives in the house with us so fare she is number one she is quite religious & of a fine nice family a methodist I wount you to wright to wheather you cure cancers with medicens or not thare are some bad caces

in this country if this letter ever comes to hand wright soon & let us hear from you once more it seames as you all have forgotten us we are dropping off one by one & not a greate while before we will all be on

Oh dear friends let us all bee preparte to enter the portal gate that it may bee said enter in to the Joy of thy rest of whare thar will bee know parting of friends so mot it be I must close my imperfect letter as the time hase come to mail it parden all misstakes we send of our best love to all your family direct your letter to rockspring I will close by saying

we remain your affectunut sister & brother till death

S BRICE ANN BRICE [sister of Robert C. Wood]

[On November 9th, 1858, 16 year old Eliza Rebecca Catherine Wood married George Washington Klutts in Clarke county, Georgia. The Wood family was moving to Alabama and Eliza did not want to go. Athens was home to her. Her little sister Harriet Elizabeth Helen Wood was born in 1848 when they were living in Athens, and died in 1850. Eliza's poignant memories were written 13 years later in Alabama during the Civil War.]

“ . . my lovely sister left us one cold November day . . three summers had dawned over her sunny head . . bitter tears were shed over her form as she lay cold in the icy arms of death. They buried her on the hill top and planted cedars over her grave. I see their branches interlocked with each other in protection of the sleeping (one). I am far away from that sacred spot today, but memory brings them to my heart. . . ”

[Eliza found that she missed her family after they left, so she and George moved to Marshall county, Alabama near the Woods. Then the Civil War took her husband away, inspiring despair in the young mother left with their young son.]

“One generation passeth, another cometh. How sad I feel this evening. Why this grieving for the past, this longing for the future? Let the present moment suffice for us, for time is so precious that only one moment is given at a time, and that is taken before another is given. he goes to the battlefield perhaps never to return. the dark cloud hangs over our ruined country . . ”

[George returned, and died 3 weeks before daughter Ethel Klutts was born in 1872. Ethel's artistic abilities were so obvious, the family saw that she received training in that field. For a time she taught at Galloway College in Arkansas, and Eliza was librarian. Ethel planned to marry a professor there, but their plans failed to mature, so mother and daughter returned to Gadsden. Ethel threw herself into her work, which she loved. She became Superintendent of Art in the Gadsden schools, and assisted in the restoration of the Cyclorama in Atlanta. Ethel taught art to private students.

They lived with Emily Ellen Pyrenee's "Nell" Wood, Eliza's sister, who, with sister Mattie, bought a home on College Street and went into the millinery business. Nell's marriage in 1885 to Dr. Robert Johnston Sampler, Methodist minister and physician, added another to their household.]

Gainesville Ga January 31st 1870

R. C. Wood

Dear old friend This leaves me in very good health, except my eyes I can now see my way but have been blind And I hope this will come safe to hand and find you and family well Yours of the 4th Inst. come safe to hand and I was truly glad to hear from you & c. I find old Georgia very near worn out and gone down. And the people that I once knew nearly all scattered gone and dead. I find old uncle JOHN BAKER & wife yet living their Children both dead JOHN DORSEY & family are all hear yet except one Son (Fletcher) he is is Colorado Teratory Old Mr. BOONE and family are in this country yet GEORGE LATHEM is dead. the family are all hear except one daughter that is gone to Texas My brothers family are all hear his oldest son is speaking of starting to Colorado in a few days. You requested me to give you some account of Texas Johnson County where you brother [Lorenzo Dow Wood] is gone it is high roling hills and rich vallies of lands and the best of a stock section and the pasturage is sufficient to keep stock in good order the year round. And sufficient timber for all purposes that may be nesesity The lands are excellent for corn wheat oats cotton and potatoes in short it is a good farming country healthy and well watered. the Indians have been troublesome in that section of Texas. it was in Johnson county that old uncle HENRY PARKS & wife was killed by the Indians and WILLIAM PARKS their son is now liveing in that County, as for the County I live in the lands are not quite so rich not quite so well watered and perhaps not quite so healthy, and better for cotton yet where I live is about one hundred miles southeast of Johnson County Also Sociaty is better where I live. And Should ever you go to Texas you will find the best beef you ever saw. the Texas beef is said to be the best beef in the world. The State of Texas is so large you may select nearly any climate you want from the warmest to almost perpetual snow. but Northwest Texas is the best portion of the State. should my eyes improve sufficient which I hope they will I shal return to Texas during next summer or fall. And I may see you upon my return. Then I hope to see the Wood family you came so near boasting about in your letter I had some rather you would not boast yet as I have never married and I learn your oldest Children are daughters and I do not know what effect it might have on me at this late hour My dear friend Wood my advice to you is to leave where you are and go to Texas and should we ever both get thar I will most assurdly go to see you & c. I could have written this letter myself but my doctor advise me not to write I hope to hear from you upon the receipt of this. for I must close for the present & c

yours most respectfully R WROARK

Mr. R. C. Wood

Alow me to introduce my-self to you as the writer of this letter for Mr. ROARK. Since he has come back to Georgia myself and him have spent considrable time together and have often spoke of you as we ware both schollars to your singing school at BAKERS MEETINGHOUSE in 1834, We have often spoke to each other how we would like to meet up with face to face & c. you will please give my respects to your family notwithstanding I am a entire Stranger to them. but for the acquaintance I have had with you & c. I am as ever yours respectfully & c.

G. W. BOONE

Rockspring Walker Co Georgia

March 28 1871

Deare Bro Wood & family, this leaves us in moderate health hoping it ma find you all well, you wrote to me Some two years since that you could cure several kinds of Diseases & withe the rest Cancer; I have somthing on the right side of my face a little to the right of my cheak Bone, it is now a dry Schab, it is about half as big as a five cent peace, it has ben hurting me Some times for a month I cant tell whether it is cancer or not Some think it is others think it is not. I want you to write by return mail & give me your plan whether you give internal remedies or apply Exturnally to affect a cure. this had ben theare for 7 or 8 months. if it dont get better before a great while I most Seak for a remedy Some wheare if it can be found. if you Think you could be succesful I would come & see you. WESLEY came up last friday to see us. he is well he says theare is a cancer Doctor in Atlanta he is going down to Atlanta to day to see him. WESLEY saw one of Bro JOHN WOODs girles in Marietta last week they was all well. ASBURY got a letter the other day from MAT WOOD in texas they was all well & well pleased. we have nothing new in this country. wheat is worth 1.70 cts per bushel, corn 70 to 80 cts, Bacon 11 to 12 1/2 cts as JOHN DEVOURS Said to me once thare is plenty of evrything in this country But Christians I think Religion is at a low Ebb. I was at WM HORTONS a few nights ago they was all well. BOB CONLEY lived last yeare on WM HORTENS land this yeare he is at Trion factory again they are well. JACK BALLEW that married THURZA CONLEY is at the factory watchman, quit the methodist last yeare & joind the Baptist fool like. CATHERINE CONLEY that married GLENN SIMMONS lives in one half mile of the factory doing well & all well. WM CONLEY Son in law lives 2 1/2 miles from us all well & doing well. we had all of our children & grand Children with us last Saturday night & Sunday. we have four grand Children CATHERINE three ASBURY & his wife one a girl 8 months old, they call it NANCY ANN, they think it mity pretty ASBURY & his wife lives in the house with us works at the Shoe & Boot bisness. he talks of going to Texas this fall I dont much think he will go (dont let him no that I think so) I have the appointment of Bible agent in Cattosa Conty I exspect to engage in the present yeare if this place on my face gets better I can make two Dollars a day. my bisness is to visit Evry family with the Schurpuers [scriptures]. I have rented my farm out to ASBURY & a Neighbour ASBURY farmes by hiring, he has a very heavy Small grain crop ASBURY has a wife hard to beat in a great many rspects She is truly pius & as kind as kind can be & as smart as any body, for a man to live with Such a woman and go down to perdisheon will have to work very hard. Bro. & Sister WOOD we are Still trying to get to Heaven, yours & our Stay by the course of natur on Earth will be Short let us make Shure work for heaven wheare parting wil be no moore ASBURY ADELAID & ANN Sends theare love & respects to you all

Yours Truly

SAMUEL

BRICE

My Address is Rockspring Walker County Georgia

N. B. I have bin Recomend to MOSES WILCA or WELCHEL of Hall County Ga for the cure of cancer he says cancer is in the Blood & they say he gives medison inturnally to kill cancer in the Blood puts very little on the sore. they say he has bin very succesful But they say he is nearly allwayes Drunck theare four Dislike to place

*my self under the treatment of Such a man if I can do Better Dear Bro I want to
heare from you Before I apply anywheare Else*

S. BRICE

Walker co Ga Nov 27 1873

*I write with pencil for the want of ink Deare Bro and Sister WOOD I suppose
ASBURY wrote to JANE of the death of his mother my Deare wife and your Deare
sister is no more on Earth but is gone to Heaven. Sometime along the first of July
ANN was attacked with the runing off of the bowels thay ware stopt in a few hours
that was on Sunday the next Tuesday She Became prostrated I came home from my
circuit some week or ten days and found her in Bed She said to me I dont want you
to leav me any more until I get well or die one that was the 19 of August we wrote
for WESLEY he came and staid three weeks we commenced settling up with her
about that time and Sat up evry night until the 28 of October when she died we set
up about two months we had kin and a plenty of friends to set up all the time she
was not sick at hur stumac nor had any paine during hur sicness it was a jeneral
prostration and drawing of the whole nurvis siston you no that She had a drawing of
her ribs for years that increased and kept increaseing while she lived I thought for a
while She wood rally and get over it but She kept sinking evry week She was Happy
allmost evry day She told me She was Burdend of life I asked hur if She was willing
to get well and live longer with us She Paused a moment and Said it would have to
be gone all over agane my inferance was that She had got that far on hur way to
Heaven and that She would have to Suffer it all over agan She Said all hur Prays
was converted into prases She said to me at the same time I want you to Preach
Christ and him Crucified as long as you live Some 8 or 9 days before she died she
never ate or drank anything the mind Seamed to be Dethroned She was not rash-
anal on any Subject She died on Tuasday about nine oclock the 28 of october 1873
Some half Houser befor She died She looked up to heaven and Said glory glory glory
three times and then Said Honor Honor Honor Honor four times She died without a
strugle Deare Brother I have a Sainted wife and you a Sister in heaven today I feel I
have nothing to live for but to live god[ly] and get to Heaven She was Buried close to
your mother [Rebecca Traylor Wood] and _____ and sister and Bro CONLEY and
MARTHA ANN CONLEY and right by the side of one of her chilldren we put her
away very Desant hur Obituary will be out in a few dayes in the Southern Christian
Advocat I Exspect to have hur Funeral Preached in the Spring some time at wich
time I will Wright to you*

wright to me my address is Rock Spring Walker County

Yours truly

SAMUEL BRICE

give our Respects to MAT and ELIZA and all the rest of your children

Rockspring Walker Co Ga

Feb 17 - 1874

Deare Bro & sister WOOD this leaves us all well hope it will find you and Family all well I wrote to you some two or three months ago informing you of the Death of my wife and that her Funeral would be Preached Some time this Spring it will be Preached the third Sabbath in March at Rockspring By the Preacher in Charge of the Circuit H. C. CHRISTIAN a good Preacher Come up if you can if not you might Have it Preached on the same day at your place come if you can. ASBURY has mooved three miles off at the post office cousin MAT knows wheare it is that leaves me alone I have MARY CONLEY, CATHARINEs Second daughter Staying with me now She will Stay until the last of march then She is going to School I expect I shal have to do my own cooking give my respects to MAT and ELIZA and all the rest of the Chilaren

Yours Truly SAMUEL BRICE

[News clipping, no date, reads:]

S. A. BRICE TAKES HIS LIFE.

Prominent Citizen of Rock Spring Committed Suicide Last Wednesday.

S. A. Brice, a prominent citizen of Rock Spring, committed suicide last Wednesday morning by sending a load of buckshot through his body. For a week past Mr. Brice had been observed to be very despondent, and this is supposed to have been the cause of the deed. In his pocket was found a small piece of paper on which he had written: "Grief, sorrow, affliction, discontentment."

The place Mr. Brice selected for the terrible deed was in the woods about a quarter of a mile north of his home. Sometime Tuesday he had hidden out his double barrelled shot gun with shells loaded with buckshot over squirrel shot, and Wednesday morning about ten o'clock he told his wife he was going out for a work [walk?] which was the last time he was seen alive.

Last Wednesday evening after he had been away from home all day, a search party was organized and the body was found about eight o'clock. The scene that greeted the finders was a horrible one. The clothing had been ignited by the discharge of the gun and had smouldered for several hours, the upper part of the body being burned to a crisp, and the searchers locating the body by the odor of burning flesh.

At the side of the body lay the gun while not far away was a bottle which is supposed to have contained some poison. Placing the butt of the gun on next to the bottom rail of a fence, with the muzzle against his lower rib, Mr. Brice touched the trigger with the toe of his shoe. The load of shot passed completely through the body, coming out just below the shoulder blade.

The funeral services occurred Thursday afternoon at three o'clock at the Rock Spring church, Rev. A. S. Harris conducting the services. The interment followed at the Rock Spring cemetery.

Mr. Brice was sixty years old at the time of his death, and is survived by his wife to whom he was married last November, and by one son, T. J. Brice, who is in the west.

[Martha Matilda McCleskey Wood wrote from Springville, Alabama to her daughters working in Macon Georgia, who preferred city to country life. They did return to Alabama, however, and opened their own various businesses.]

Feb 2 1876

My Darling children

*we receive all the letteres you write in due time and I recon you think we are very slow in answering them I try to get some of the others to write because I am such a sorry hand to write but better me than nobody I have no news of intrust to write we are all well and getting along after the same old sort ALBEN came up after BETTY last night the train past just now carrying them back home ALBEN came to see us this moring well your letters said he had wrote you two letters and a Postal and had no answer so you must write to him BETTY has a sweet baby you can see which is the prettiest when you come home I have been home once since the children left CATE ALISON is here with us now MART says he is going home soon are you all comeing home I think it the very best thing you can do I think we can all do splendid here I can find you all plenty to do one can mind the chickens one the ducks one the turkeys and who will work the garden if you will come and you dont want to stay here we can all go some where together it is two bad to live like we are living and I expect it will be better for you all to come home than for us to go to Macon we have plenty for us all to live on this year and we can make a good garden what does MAT-TIE think about it I think she needs rest I think if she dont come home soon she never will you can tell better than I can what to do with your things whether it will be better to pay freight on them or sell them you se I am in earnest about you all comeing you see to it JOSE [Josie] that you all come I dont want you to disappoint us your Pa went to see Mrs CHANDLER she was improveing ALBEN saw Mr SULLENBERYS in Carthage he told him ROBERT CONLEYS daughter was dead FRANK says he is going to move to Ashville I cant write much more for it is getting dark and I cant see to write at night I think ELIZA writes often enough when you come wont I have a nice time pieceing quilts if we can get lineings and calico to put them together write to me my darling childrn often as you can much love to you all M KATE and JINNA
M M your Mother*

Into whose hands this letter may come.

The undersigned takes great pleasure in saying that he had known Miss JOSIE WOOD both in and out of the school some and can say that she is qualified to perform any duty she may undertake. As a pupil she always conducted herself in such a manner as to gain the love and esteem of her teachers. We know that there is gen-erally a dislike to female teachers, but we are satisfied that she would make a

good instructress for the young and be an exception to the general rule. Those desiring a good teacher would do well to employ her.

J. F. McLAUGHLIN

Teacher in P.S. of Bham

Feb. 16th, 1876
Birmingham,

Attalla County Mis

May the 28 1876

My dear Parrents

we received your verry kind letter a few days since we was so glad to heare from you but so sorry to heare you was so afflicted when I read your letter and see the lines your Pore akeing hand have written it makes tears flow from my eyes I know you love your children or you would not write to them when it is so painfull to youre hand I have allways thought that Parrents loved there children better than there children loved them Know I know it but I think I love my Parents as good as any child ever did I love my step Mother tho I never saw here. I love her becuse she loves you and is so good to you I wish I was near you I would help her to wait on you but alas I am dined [denied] that pleasure if I were a man and wanted to see you as bad as I do I would see you in one month if I beg my way I dont know whether you would know JOSEPH an me or not we look so old I look as oald as mother did when I saw her last our children are all grown they are all verry good children all members of the church but JOHN they are all doing verry well THOMAS health hasent ben good in eight monts we have had one letter from Brother THOMAS since he got to texas he seemed to be verry well pleased BEN speaks of moving to texas next fall tell Mrs MARLOW that her sister SALLY has some fine looking children we have a verry wel cool spring corn generly sorry cotton looks sorry wheat is not food corn is worth one daollar per Bushel Bacon thirty cents per pound tel Brother HOWEL [Joseph Howell McCleskey] to write me a long leter and I will anser it tell Brother TURK [Nathaniel Turk McCleskey] to write give my love to all the children tell SUSAN I would be glad to see her I want to see how she looks in her oald age I think I will write sister a letter this week it isnt worth while to ask her to write to me I would be glad to git a letter from any of you Pah I want you to write when you feel like you can dont try to write much I will now close by saing farewell to all give my love to RACHEL

JOSEPH GUYTON and

ZEMELY C. GUYTON

to DAVID H McCLESKEY

& R A McCLESKEY

[Rachel was the slave girl given by James McCleskey to his son David H. McCleskey at his marriage to Patsey Jarrett in Georgia. She would have been old by 1876.]

Bevingsville

Spartanburg

Decr 30th 1876

Robt C Wood

Dear Cousin

I have just recd your letter of 9th Oct. I wish I was prepared to give you the information necessary in order to test our claim to the large Estate alluded to. I and my wife are at this place at present

If you are willing I would like to know the Lawyers name & address with whom you are in corrispondence. Am glad to hear from you & may write you a long letter soon

Respectfully Your

Cousin

G. W. Bomar

Bristow Cove Etowah Cty

June 24th 1877

dear Children

we received both your letters. you requested some information for rheumatism. you suppose in your letter we had heard of MARTHAS sickness and many uneasy and anxious days passed we never hear one word from you and expected every day to hear She was dead the only thing cheered us was we thought you would write or send us word. I assure you when we got your letter it relieved us much as to my own health I might say it is very good for a man of my age I am very feeble and weak not able to go about but very little on account of Weakness in my knees your Mothers health has been very bad for some time mostly confined to her bed she has been taking some of Simmons regulating Powder and it did not seem to affect the disease or do any good. I then concluded to consult Dr. MANLY of Dalton, Ga could cure her if I would send him his fee he would send the medicine Postpaid his fee was \$12 was about to inclose his fee and your [stepmother] said She felt better than she had in some time and has been on the mend is up to day attending to little matters although weak Several letters from our Friend in Texas and one from your sister GUYTON she sent me JOSEPH and her own likeness together with three of Children that was with her. she has Eleven grandchildren ALFRED has come back from Texas and is living with Father (not Mama) She complains that none of her Brothers or Sisters will write I sent her our likeness and put MARTHAS in with them THOMAS McCLESKEY writes he is in Hunt County and that three days THAD DAVID & THOMAS was gone to Red River County and he expected to go there too there health was not good and I fear he will not better it by going THOMAS EBERHART and LYDIA writes they are at the same place as last year THOS has planted no cotten and intends as soon as his work is done to take a genaral Search untill he finds some place better than any he has seen HARRIET TURNER who went with them says TURK [McCleskey] writes in May that the connection there is all well their corn was bit by the frost TURK says his health is better the Society is better than he expected they have a fine Sabbath school of which he is Superintendant, also a good

week school taught by a man by the name of WOOD. MAT WOOD is married to GEORGE DUNAGAN and DOW DUNAGAN is also married. I will now give you the directions how to make the ointment for Rheumatism as well as I can recollect. Take 1/2 bushel of poke root well washed and boyl it untill all the strength is out and untill the liquor is down to one quart. Then strain. put it in a clean vessel add a quart of oil to the poke root, then place it on a slow fire Simmer it down untill all the water is Evaporated and the strength of the root in the oil also add three or four Pods of red pepper in the simmering process then set it of and let it cool then put it in a Glass bottle and it is fit for use any kind of oil will do as there is no virtue in the oil fish oil or Dago oil is said to be the most efficient neat foot oil is very good before using the ointment it will be necessary to prepare the Sistom with purgative Medicine and Sassaparilla Tea The diseased parts should be well washed and dried before putting on the oil and when used should be bathed in with something hot twice a day.

I will now say something about your railroad ser ___ It has caused me abundant uneasiness in mind when I would Reflect that an old man with a large family to labor as hard as you have done to make a support & then be swindled out of your pay it seems more than Mortal man can bear. you still seem to have some hope that you will get your money I pray that you will but I still have my doubts from what I see in the paper. Please write that I may [know] what success if any

With due Respect your Father & Mother

P S if you wish to make less than a quart you can process it down to any quantity

DAVID H McCLESKEY

REBECCA A McCLESKEY

Springville Ala

Oct 14th 1877

My very lovely children

Mattie & Ella

I this sabbath evening try to write you a few lines to let you know that I have not forgotten you but think it a great blessing to my feeling to see boath of you it seems a long time since I saw you I trust the good Lord it may not always be so if you can do well there it is better than you can do many other places MIT WIGGINS wife was buried this evening & MIT looks like he would soon follow brother SAMPLER been preaching for us in Springville all this week the Cumberland Presbyterian Presbytery comes on here embracing the fourth sunday in this month they are looking forward for a good meeting I trust they may have it that sort of meeting is needful about Spring-ville JOE had given you I suppose all the particulars it is not worth while for me to commence & go over them again brother SAMPLER had a very good meeting MANLEY HILLS wife was all that jointed the church it was a good time to myself I prayed for a blessing & I was blest my soul was made happy two weeks before the meeting came on I prayed that it might be so & it was so I never have passed off three weeks more pleasantly in all my life I have been made to rejoice two or three times while in the field at work with the hope of geting to that good world children will you meet me there O let us all meet in heaven it is enough to suffer the afflic-

tions of this world but what is that compared to that pain that never ceases never no never I will try & write you again before long I am so Sleepy I will have to quit writing your Mother was well friday we are all well at home & hope this may find you in like condition write soon & let us hear from you I must close

yor father

R. C. W.

Springville Ala

Jan 30th 1878

MATTIE & ELLA

My very dear & beloved children you no doubt think it a long time between my letters I have so much to do I can hardly get time to write any way your Mother JOE & myself is at our new home this year if the fruit hits this year & you &c will come in fruit time we can give you any Kind of fruit almost you can ask for & good water to drink DOCK TEASDALE has had a meeting going on at Springville two weeks to night & closes to night there has been some few conversions I presume JOE has given you all particulars I want to write to ALBIN to night on some business I will try & write to you again before long we are well all to colds your Mother has been quite sick with cold & cough but is better hopeing this may find you enjoying good health my lovely children do not forget that long long Eternity is waiting us prepare to meet thy God think of it

Your Father RCW

Springville Ala

Febr 26th 1878

MATTIE ELLA

My dear children you must not think I have forgotten you because I do not write oftener your Mother has been very sick but she is about well now Her & JOE put in & quilted out two quilts in two days last week and hem them in the bargain the same day we heard from ALBIN & BETTIE this morning they were well MARTIN received a letter from CATHERINE wrote sunday saying JOHN McCLESKEY had had neuralgia in his ear & face almost all winter & now taken the lock Jaw & dangerously ill she finished her letter Monday evening saying he was no better JANE has been very sick but is better now she is up FRANK was very bad off saturday & sunday with tooth ache or neuralgia FRANK is geting an extensive practice at law my little FRED is the finest looking boy in this country he must hug & kiss me at all times when he meets me you would love him if you could only see his big head & eyes I got a letter from CHARLEY BLACKKE two or three weeks past he was well has had five boys only three is living the young does die & old must die. how important it is for us to cast our selves fully into the arms of the blessed Savior trusting alone in him for he

says his grace is sufficient for us - oh how we should love & serve him his love is so great his blessings so many on us poor sinful creatures I am still trying my children to inherit that good world will you meet me there & sing some of these beautiful songs with friends & relatives rich & poor alike there happy - happy - yes happy for ever and for ever it is getting late I will soon have to quit we want you to come if you can this summer & spend it with us we could pass many pleasant moments together during the summer if all things go well with us & you live & do well & do not get too far off may be your Mother & myself may try & spend next winter with you but that is all I can say now I believe I can venture to say we are all well at this time & hoping this may find you in possession of good health I think now it shall not be so long before I write you again I will now close write soon & let us hear from you

Your

Father & Mother

[John McCleskey, born 1835, married Rebecca Allison in 1852. He was son of Joseph Howell McCleskey & Susan Eberhart. Frank was J. Franklin Osborn.]

Springville Ala

March 28th 1878

MATTIE & ELLA

My dear children

no doubt you think it a long time between my time of writing & sure enough it is & then to write on scrap paper but I am working so hard to prepar for my crop. JOE she had had the tooth ache or newralga three or four days she says she will write to you as soon as Dock gets her tooth out BILLEY come down last saturday & stayed untill Monday Morning he come to get some Jersey yam potatoe seed MARY & the children was well your old grand Pa & Ma was also well. SARAH ADERHOLT was buried at springville last Saturday I suppose she died about friday I did not know she was sick untill yesterday JNO OSBORN has been very sick with infermation of the bowels the children some of them no doubt has wrote you about the death of JAMES HERRING we had a fine rain yesterday we have a fine prospect for a full fruit crop this year I hope we will have fruit plenty when you come to see us in the summer I will try & have some water Mallons also your Ma is rasing this year Chickens Ducks Turkeys & pedgeons so she will try & have some thing for to ate when you come up . . I will try & make you a potatoe pie we have some yams yet they do eat fine FRED can make them get away. I was out last sunday to hear Dr. WATSON preach at Eleven & at night he preach two fine sermons he will preach next sunday on Drunkenness that sermon I want to hear he is down on drunkness & dancing some of their members has been dancing he toled them the next violatin should be delt with according to the rules of there faith or disciplin well I will have to close some of these times for want of paper My dear Children do not fail to go to the good Lord day by day for help to guide you through this world of sorrow & distress that when he calls you away that you may not be found wanting I do not think it will be so long before I will write you again write when ever you can accept of our best love & respects your

Father & Mother R. C. & M. M. W.

[Margin:] *do not suffer your self to get in debt if you do they mite run in on you & take your Machine from you & leave you nothing to work on & a long way from home & then you would be ruined*

[Billey, Mary - William Moore Robbins & wife, Mary Louisa Wood Robbins. Grand pa & Ma - David Henderson McCleskey & wife Rebecca Ann Kent McCleskey.]

Springville Ala

April 21st 1878

ELLA & MATTIE

My very dear children as this is Sunday I will commence my letter to you this is brother WALDRUPS day to preach in Springville but Will not be here his wife beeing struck with Paralysis a week or two past was thought she would not live but last account was better when my eyes gets wery of reading in my bible I employ my time in writing to you if I can rake anything to write ELIZA JANE & JOSIE writes you all particulars that occurs I can say to you my corn is looking finely & my potatoe slips is coming on I think I can set some slips next week if I have a season we have had eating potatoes all winter every day if we wish them untill a few days past we heard a few days past your grand Pa McCLESKEYs [David Henderson McCleskey] health was quite feeble again his mind seem to be failing he cannot call the name of many of the people he is well acquainted with he is still geting about ELIZA JAKE & ETHEL [Kluttz] is with us last night & today JAKE is now gone to Sabbath school us & the children so fare as I know is all well this morning it has been so long since I have seen you it seems almost like you had passed into another world. but I thank the good Lord & trust to him to save & protect you from death from the temptations of sin & Satan & that we will meet again before a great while we will look for you before the sickley season comes on. I do hope we can give a peach pie occasionally we expect you to come & see & partake of it with us - let us thank the good Lord for his goodness & blessing so often bestowed upon us oh why should we not love him more & serve him better when he has done so much for us & is yet willing to do so much more for us & will continue his goodness if we will only obey his law & keep his commands 24th I am not right well to day I am thretend with something like Cholera Morbus I have ben lying up by the fire all day I have Just been into the dining room trying to pack in some dinner. Joe is tryig to be sick but she has been trying ___ all day your mamma says she is sick but she makes the White old Sewing Machine move a head & has Just returned from the dinner table so you se how we are getting along we had a powerfull night of rain last night thundering & lightning & rain poaring alnight the old man PRIDGEON & FRONEY MULLINS is married DOCT McLAUGHLIN & IRA SPRUILLE has opened a new dry goods store in Springville in the FOREMAN house adjoining lot to WASH PERKINS I have wrote so much nonsense I will try & close up we shall look for you with out fail keep out of debt settle all your bills give no chance of complaint hoping this may find you well I will close by saying write soon MATTIE & ELLA Your Father & Mother*

[*His Bible, a very small one, had extremely small print which I could not read.]

Carthage June 9th, 1878

MATT & ELLA,

Dear Sisters,

I will write you a few lines tonight, but you must not expect much of a letter. I am in trouble. BETTIE went to Springville last Monday and I can't help but think about her all the time. I have heard of men not loveing their Wives enough but I believe I love mine too well, if such a thing is possable. A negro broke into my house the 25th last month, and got BETTIE's Breast Pin & Gold Ring five dollars (\$5.00) Greenback & twelve dollars (\$12.00) Silver. Broke her trunk. I caught him same night, but he escaped, I rode all night (with five others) last Saturday Night & caught him about 3 O'Clock Sunday Morn he is now in Greensboro Jail. Got most of things back. I am batching, worse dissatisfied fellow you ever saw. A letter from BETTIE today: "All well" I do not know when She will return The old H. & C. R. R. is getting along finely. She runs Pasanger Trains through with Sleepers attached.

She has also changed her name, it is known now as the Alabama Great Southern R. R. I haven't been home since February. I Haven't been able to obtain the address. Doo you still want it. Did you ever hear from London. Well I have no news to write that will interest you so I will close, the nights are short, and I have to rise early so I will go to bed.

I have neglected writing home as well as to you all, you must not think hard of me for I work hard all day and then at night would have to talk to my Darling. I love you all the same, I often go to sleep thinking of you. When you were talking about BETTIE to me you did not know you were talking about my betrothed. I came very near letting you know several times, that we were engaged but I felt a delicacy in doing so. But you did not say anything to hurt my feelings, you only didn't like her, but I like her well enough for us all. Give my love to all my friends and write soon. I remain as ever

your Brother

A. B. C. Wood

St Clair County Ala
Oct the 6th 1878

My dearest Children

his sabbath morning is raining heavily & seems as I cannot get to church & I will try & write to you ELIZA & ETHEL is with us ETHEL has been with us all the time since ELLA & JOSIE left we are all very well & trust the good Lord these lines may find all of you in like condition WILLIAM HERRING is lyeing very

low with fever DOCT Mc come home from there said he would die very soon he had given up to die & he would die from that if nothing else but I hear he is better those people at DOCT OSBORNS received many letters from friends in & about Vicksburg stating. yellow fever was yet rageing awful in that region yet the people have died so fast they just had to dug holes & throw or pile them in & cover with dirt & that was done so lightly & shallow that the heavy rains that followed washed the dirt off from the bodies & then they are lying exposed to the sun & the stench from it is awful & all that takes the fever now dies none get over it all die the fever is quiting Chat-tanooga I trust no new cases last accounts though some of these particulars you will learn through the news papers There never has been such a time of death in our land as it is in some of those places where this disese is rageing the good Lord will scourge sin & he must begin somewhares I fear if the people dose not do better that all the land will be visited by some calamity & sweep country of millions of its inhabitants God will not always bear with sin & wickedness he destroyed nations after nations in old times & he will do it again. My dear children while we are toiling in this world of sorrow let us look to the right course for help for if we fail in that we have lost all we must look to the blessed saviour or we will miss that good world oh what a miss that would be let us come right to the foot of the cross & call upon the good Lord to be merciful. David a man after Gods own heart if he should cry to the good Lord for mercy should we not as more helpless creatures call upon him for mercy you that have read the Psalms of David know how often he calls upon God to be merciful & often commence his Psalm Lord be merciful to me be merciful I have thought more recently of what was contained in that word & it contains almost everything Lord be meriful be merciful to me Oh Lord children think of it be sure you in the right way & call upon him for mercy that can show Mercy Children I am trying to live more faithfullly for that good world than I ever have done few days have passed lately but my soul has been blest will we make an unbroken family in Heaven or will there be one that shall be found wanting & missing in that great day - good Lord be mercyful to me a father & do have mercy upon my lovely children my soul has been happy all this morning & while I am writing now the tear of love to God is stealing down my well worn cheak & staining my paper not the tear of sorrow no but the tear of Joy for the hope of that good world I believe you will oh father be merciful to me & my children for Jesus sake amen Lord let my last days be my happy days for jesus sake I ask it amen & amen write soon

Your father & mother

Springville Ala

Oct 22nd 1878

MATTIE ELLA & JOSIE My baby

we was so glad to hear from you & hear you was all well I answer JOSIEs letter immediately this leaves your Mother myself & all the family connection well so fare as I know nothing special or new about Springville only FRANK has moved into the SLADE house & SLADE into the STOLENWERCK house maybe ELIZA has

wrote you some of those that have been marrying lately WALLIS WINN to the widow WOODALL CLEMMMA JONES & JOE STRANGE JIM SELLERS to GEORGE REECEs daughter MORMON McCLENDONs son to a Miss HICKSON in Claytons Cove after all the marrying is said I will give FEDEY's idea of skinning a squirl FRANK killed a squirl FRANK & JANE went to skinning FRANK took it by the head & JANE by the tail cut it across the back & went to pulling the skin off FED says now aunt JANE you pull off the breeches & Pa will pull off the Shirt JANE got along faster than FRANK FED hollowed pull Pa Pull Pa aunt JANE has almost got off the breeches pull off the shirt where is the man or woman that ever thought of that thing before old as I am I never thought of such a thing in all my life

29th as it is raining this morning I will try & finish my letter all well this morning MARTIN & JANE will move down this week in the house with us for a few months I cannot tell exactly how long we will tell you more about that after a while I was out to hear brother WATSON preach Sunday & he did preach one of his best sermons & had a fine congregation to preach too next Saturday the Cumberland commences a protracted meeting I hope they will have a good meeting ALBIN come up Sunday he is quite puny he will stay sum several days there was a negro hung at Ashville two weeks ago for cilling one of Old Preacher COLLINS sons I learn a very mean man many thinks he aught not to been hung but the Bible says life for life I want to be a Bible man in every respect I must be Judged by it & I must live by it if I gain the great prise that I intind to do by the help of the good Lord I can I will be the help of the holy Spirit aiding me live a Christian the balance of my days what do we live for in this troublesom world if it is not try & gain Heaven Heaven oh what a happy home it would be to me to gain Heaven Heaven to be with Christ & be like him be like God Why who would not strive to be like the most glorious object that has or can ever live my dear children will you try to be like him will we all be like the blessed Saviour in that great day will we all hear the Saviour say come into thy rest or is there one that will be found wanting at that day oh it makes me tremble to think of it Children live for Heaven gain Heaven if you loose all this world hope this will find you well I close write soon again

Your Father

[Fedey; Fed - Fred; Martin & Jane - Martin Allison & Jane Wood Allison]

[Margin:] *The ink freezes in my pen I cannot write*

Springville Ala.

Dec 29th 1878

My baby JOSIEs birthday

MATTIE ELLA & JOSIE I write as much to one as the other therefore I name all three ELLA yours of the 22nd instant come to me Friday night found us all well JANE & baby geting on finely BETTIE had a fine boy on the 23rd weighing only 12 pounds they are doing fine ALBIN returned to Carthage this evening JANE says if you want to know how the baby looks just imagine how CHARLEY looked when he was a baby

& you will see him HARRIET has just come in FRED is still FRED into every hole & corner box & basket we have a dull Christmas cold wet & snowy it had been trying to snow all the time it snowed a little all day Wednesday it has been cold to day I have not been out to church I have not heard but one sermon since brother SAMPLER preached his farewell that was Mr WATSON this day two weeks past my dear children do not forget to look for ward to that great day of accounts the garments must be unspotted at that day if we should never meet again on earth let us be sure to try to meet in Heaven let us think of it pray for it ask for it faith & God will answer prayer we were sorry MATTIE did not come at Christmas but disappointments will come we will affectionally look for ward to a time when she will come I could write more but Time & space will not admit of it now we are all well this evening & hope this will find you all the same write to us soon

no more [to tell]

Your Father

January 5 1879

Dear children I recon you think mamy is never going to write to you any more the truth is I have not had the time you know we have two babies up here and they had to be attended to I wish you could see them BETTYS looks like ALBEN he is a sweet little thing JANEs looks like CHARLEY did when he was a babe now I do wish you cold see MART I dont believe he thinks about anything but that babby it looks funny to se him nursing and talking to it we are all getting along very well we have been having some very cold weather and is still very cold you wanted to know about our new preacher his name is GREGORY he marred a Miss CONE in Birmingham has two children is living in the EDWARDS house every boddy likes him say he is a good preacher he stayed one night with us he is very pleasent and sociable JOSIE are you geting homesick I expect if you were here you would want to go back to Macon are you all tiered if so wind up your business there and all come home in the spring and rest through the sumer then we will go so we can all be together I was sorry MATTIE couldent come home christmas but I did not look for her much MART and your Pa has tried to get your money but has failed to collect any ABNEY says he will pay MART say it won't do any good to sue them they would keep you out of it as long as they could I am afraid to give the act to F you know why did you all have a nice time christmas drinking eggnog did anyboddy get drunk JOSIE will tell when I see her I dont know whether your Pa will make an effort to get that STANTON money or not he is writeing I dont know what he will say about it I think if Mr W will buy the claim I would sell them to him you could find out how much he will [pay] on the dollar ALBEN says take any thing he can get you know your Pa is a sorry man to attend to business at the right time if he wont do any thing we cant help it well JOSIE A has settled down to Railroading you know thats the last thing I dont think from all acounts he has cleared expenses so far but better that than nothing what did you write to him that mad him so mad he threw it in the fire he wrote an answer but I think he did not send it JOSIE darling dont let A know I wrote this to you for [he] has a terrible temper he says LIZA wrote something to you

to make you mad with him for your own sake my darling you had better drop him well JANE wont to write I recon I had better quit if you will all come home in the spring bring Miss KATE and will try and have lots of chickens and eggs NELL darling if you dont put it off two long I will save you some sausage and mak mor pre-serve when you come woudent we have a nice time if you would com write as often as you can you need never be uneasy about us if we get sick we will let you know to my darling children MATTIE ELLIE and JOSIE

M. M. WOOD

[Margin:] *Old Mrs CHANDLER has been very low Dr Mc tol me she wold die I saw him since he thought she was better I have not heard from her for more than a wek*

Dear children as I am here all alone I thought I would write youa few lines though I have nothing interesting to write. it is sunday and I am alone as usual I have to stay at home to take care of the ducks and chickens I have eighty four ducks thirty of them are nearly feathered I do wish you were here to help me trot round after them they keep me busy all the time them and other things we have a very good garden more vedgatabls than we can use we get plenty of milk and will have plenty of chickens to fry when you com if they do well cherries are geting ripe and dewber-ies you ought to be here to eat pies we got your picture all wright ELLA does not look as well as that I think it nice I think your Pa is carying it in his pocket he is so proud of it I wish I could se one of my darling little NELLs so I could see how she looks now. As to your plan of comeing home one at a a time do as you think best I would love for you both to be here together but you must work to your own interes. if you can do better there and have good health I think it better than to try a new place bleached domestic is fourteen cents calico twelve yards to the dollar quiltlineing about seven I am afraid every letter we get you will make some excuse and say you can't come I know it will take a long time to stich for money to bring home. It sems like you have been gone a long long long time I wish I could step in and see your little family you have so much to be thankful for you have had better luck than one in ten thousand can miss CATE come with you give her my love I wish I could see her I cant tell you how bad I want to see you darling children

your Mother

[Margin:] *you said did I not wish I had my scraps yes I do well you can bring them when you come I recon ther will be all sorts and colors my pen is worn out and wont write so will tell you the rest of it when you come home*

Springville Ala

Febr 3rd 1879

MATTIE ELLA & JOSIE My lovely children half past 3 oclock Monday evening I am here at home alone not being as able to work from a little stich in the back last week

hualing wood not beeing quite so active as I thought I was was why I got it but I am yet as active as many four years old fellows tomorrow If I can make it I think Just returning home from mill I find your mother & CATHARIN a gone up to see ELIZA & HARRIET JANE IDA & young Mr ALLISON gone to Mrs. BALLEWs I thought I would write you a few lines I know of nothing to strike at for no doubt your Mother ELIZA or JANE has not hit upon therefore I shall just have to run round after nothing like the Pig running round the sow with a pig at every tit & none for it so you may not expect any news from me. yes I seen your little TOM HOOPER boy at Mill today anxiously inquiring Macon Georgia how far off three hundred Miles or over why did she go so far that we could not get to see her now so you see he was very anxious you was inquiring about your Mink your Mink is passed away to another clime with old gray & JANEs old motley puss with them your Mother can tell who how & what caused the crash among the cats your mama is death to cats & rats- but enough of that. we hav had the coldest time since the cold Friday & Saturday & sunday in January 1835 My sweet potatoes got frozen in the hill I had to hoe the hill down & take out all the frosen ones twenty bushels or more I think I have yet between fifty & seventy five bushels I wish you had twenty five or thirty bushels to ate. is MATTIE ever coming to us she says she wants to see us so she does no doubt but no worse than we want to see her & you if I live and do well it shall not always be so let us not for[g]et the path of duty - neither in prosperity nor adversity when I lie down at night & think if I should pass away before tomorrows light that that blessed God would receive my spirit oh how pleasent I can close my eyes in sleep in the care of a blessed Savior & iln the hands of a blessed Jesus we are all well nearly sun set hope this will find you well - I will close write as often as you can will you all accept a Fathers love & prayers for you yes

Springville Ala

Febr 23rd 1879

MATTIE ELLA & JOSIE my baby child These lines leaves us all well at home HARRIET is not well with neuralgia ELIZA has a very bad cold. The balance of the friends are well so fare as I Know nothing new in the country the time of year has come again that presents a gret deal of hard work & industry to the farmer. I reckon you think it a long time since you heard from me but do not think hard of me for that I love you all Just as well as if I was to write to you every day I do love my children & the time seems long since I saw you but if I live & do well it shall not always be the case if you live this year & your prospects continue good in Macon I think if I see any way to feed & clothe myself & the good lady I shall have to come & stay a while with you but keep this to your selves I had rather be with you than with any of my children or even at my own home unless I could do something more for you there but I will not be a tax on anyone as long as I can work if [I] could get a lot or too & garden it perhaps I could pay my way but when I see you this summer you may be can tell me more about it we will look for you up to see us this summer if our

fruit hit & do well I will have some cider Peaches grapes melons ELIZA stept in with ETHEL she seems to be all right as to health also JAKE and A with her

MATTIE please send me that man's name & address you wanted me to write too in Chattanooga on that work business I have mislaid or lost it also if you have learned any thing more about I will have to risk FRANK to keep the secret & get him to assist me to make out my papers right MOSES DYER will do all for me in proving accounts that will be necessary. He says he will be qualified these men worked with him at that time & the months & that they boarded with me if that was wanted to be proven I heard Rev WATSON preach a fine sermon to day from the two last verses in the old testament, also John Bapostist for a text showing he John was sent to reform the people from the evil of sin in the world & then come to his text after preaching a good sorman about John's mission he then brought to Elijah the prophet that the heart of the fathers to the children & the heart of children to their fathers - oh it was a good thing My dear children ask the good Lord to help us on & Keep us in the way to heaven if we should live a hundred years & gain all we desired of this world at the close of that time would we not be bowed down with old age & meet up with affliction distresses & disappointments with all our gain & after all go down to ruin who would give a hundred thousand censuries in the good world oh think of the same length of time in that awful dispare how long do you think a hundred thousand centuries would seem to be in the bad world & then no nearer the end than when we first begun children let us our selves by the help of the good Lord in the way to that good world where it will be all peace Joy & happyness let us be faithful & gain Heaven & be with God angels & all the host of Heaven I must close for you see I have well nigh filled up my paper: hope this will find you well & making your way to that good world I will close write soon

Your Father & Mother

March 23

Dear children I will write you a few lines this morning though I have nothing that is very interesting to write we had a few days of very cold weather frost and ice yesterday a heavy rain this morning is clear and pleasant. if you were here we could go fishing to morrow I never go about the creek or railroad but I think of the times JOSIE and I have had I recon CAT [Catherine] and I will hav to go. your Pa is grunting with a very bad cold Mr. FORMAN fell off the steps at the drug Store was hurt very bad they had to haul him home. he is now verry sick he says he is going to die JOHN PEARCE died in Arkansas a few weeks since JOSIE what has become of darling NELL it seemes to me I hav not heard from her in a long tim we was glad to get JOSIE's letter have you made up your mind yet what you will do. do you like Macon any better you must decide for your own interest. I would as soon live any where els as here I would be so glad if you could all come home and rest JOSIE you did not say when you would come got eleven turkey eggs seting no duck the hens have to set their selve we dont get any milk JOSIE I recon we will by the time you get home BOB T comes to see us some time he told me when I wrote to give you all his best regards said he was going to write to you himself BECK [daughter Eliza

Kluttz] finished my dress now how will it look with my old bonet you see I must make a new one well I dont think I will wear it until you come home I want us to quilt all our quilts this sumer if they were all finished there would be over twenty I dont newed [need] Machine nedles but I ned some good oil you can bring me some when you come home had we better get material there or here you know best I mean for the quilts

I commenced my letter sunday this is tuesday night sunday evening LIZA B and DORA HERRING come and BOB come home with MART so I could not finish my letter yesterday. We scoured and today we washed and so now I will finish my letter yesterday Old Mr ADAHOLT died and was buried today Dr SAMPLER Preached his furnel at the church he took a sever cold and it turned to nieumonia all went to the funeral but CAT me and CHARLEY Your Pa went in to see Mr FORMAN he says he was dieing. they dispatched to Birmingham for his coffin it come on the twelve oclock train I supos they will have to bury him as soon as possible after he dies I feel two sad to night to write much MAT why cant you wind up your business ther and come home I do want to see you all so very bad write to us often as you can JANE says tell you the baby is a perfect little rowdy he is a sweet little fellow we have not heard from the cove [Bristow Cove, Grandpa McCleskey] in a long time I mus close
your Mother M M Wood MAT ELLA JOSIE

Darling children I am all alone today
I thought I would write some more you dont know how bad I want to see you all to day they are having a gay time at Springvill to day I can hear the drum beating there is to be a play at base ball the boys from Trussvill are to play against Springvill and a crowd from Birmingham a crowd from Gadsdsen and a band of music and wind up this evening with a big dance at VANCLEAVEs all our folk are gone but your Pa and I he is in the field at work CAT has not gone home yet her mother fell over two months ago and hurt her hip and is almost helpless cant walk without help and crutches we never hear from your Grand Pa nor Mollie* It looks like I will never get to go up there any more if I had money to send I would get you to bring calico enough to line and put all our quilts together I dont get any work to do nearly every boddy has a sewing machine them that want work done dont want to pay for it I wish you could see our baby he is pretty and smart and such a pet he is wearing short dresses now he is the sweetest rowdy I heard him laugh from the house to wood lot across the road I think we are going to have a warm sumer and you three childrn had better hurry home I just believe you will work day and night til there will be none of you left but four frames for Jamin [Jimma, Jennie] to have burried if I had the money I would come and see about it its hard to writ when you have nothing to write take care of your selves and dont be uneasy about us at home

mama

[Margin:] we have not had the chance to send our letter to the office going to have pigeon pie for diner I wish you were her to help us eat it mama

[your Grand Pa - David H. McCleskey; Mollie - their sister, Mary Wood Robbins, Walnut Grove]

Darling JOSIE we received your letter in due time but I have not had the chance to reply some one we have company from Saturday till Monday this is one Sunday we

*have no company yet and I hope we won't have I get so tiered during the week I want to rest when Sunday comes do you wonder what I have to do well you know every step is mine get breakfast feed the turkeys I have about fifty milk the cow carry the milk to the spirng churn carry the milk and buter back get up something for dinner and so on wel I have been busy last week plowing blackberries and making jam think I will finish this week the chickins are large enough to crow JANE says she is going to kill the littl roosters for trying to crow I wish you could se the old rooster the hens around the turkey the poor things were crying round so the rooster just took them all it look funny to see over thirty turkeys following one rooster scratching and feeding them CAPT RANDOLPH gave me a pair of cochin chics I left them with LIZ for fear they would die with dolera I call the hen Katie and the rooster darling we heard from MOLLIE [Mary Wood Robbins] they were all well are not comeing this year to see us will you be home by the 15 I am thinking long of the time I ___ we won't get many more letters before you come I do wish you would all come I dont recon TRUSS cares if NELL does get her another pet he goes to town nearly every day have not seen ALLEN since I wrot before I recon WILLIAMS folks are in the dumps dont see much of them these days maybe they are sorter cracked about BETTY and the baby and they have got a sewing machine and there is no fruit for them to come for I recon you will all think from thils letter I have nothing to write about sure enough well its so I haint I recon you have seen the account in the papers about the negro that was hung at Ashvill for abusing Mrs POPE She used to go to scooll to HATTI ELLA you remember the girl that showed ___ the way one night comeing from the cove with your cousen TOM it was one of them we are all well and doing the best we can give my love to KATE and JAMIE write soon all write a litle write when you will be home it seems like it has been along long time since I have seen MAT will she be sure to come if she dont come now I dont think she wil ever come write me a long letter mama
 [Margin:] I want you to bring my scraps sure*

Springville Ala

May 22nd 1879

MATTIE ELLA & JOSIE

My dear & beloved children I think I directed my two last postals to Mattie & Ella This I will dertext to JOSIE my baby this is a big day in Springville playing bass ball & mustering & marching of a company from Birmingham & Trussville but I am doing my marching in the corn field holding the plough handles I can enjoy myself a litle better alone than I could in such a croud I can pray a litle better alone than I could looking at them besides I am very tired & no time to loose out of my crop I would write oftener to you but I am so tired when I come in at twelve & at night it seems I cannot begin to write I am doing this [at] dinner time & tired enough & it so hot it maked the lizards sun powerful fast no one at home to day but your mama & myself she could not leave her little chickens & turkeys she has I think over fifty young turkeys & quite a number more of chickens.

JOSIE after taking three or more glasses of good buttermilch at supper I will write a few lines more your mama & myself is yet alone & she is gone to bed I am scrabbling at nothing for want of something to tell about your mother has been writing to day & is a head of me again & leaves me no news to write some of these times I will rake & gather up news & give you all a busting big letter that will count I can say to you my crop of corn looks finely my wheat what little I have will I think be tolerable good wheat I think in general in this country is very fine we will have no peaches or pears this year to treat you to when you come home will have a few apples that will be all in the fruit line to give you if you was here now we could give you a mess of Irish potatoes it is giting late & this is such a poor letter I better quit let us remember we have to die & not forget to implore Gods blessing upon us at all times come all of you when you get ready I want to see you all so much come when you can this leaves all well & trust it may find you all like wise my best love to all of you & also to Miss Kate Your old

Father

you must rectify mistakes I have not looked over a line

June 4

Dear children I recon yu think I am a long time answering MATTIEs letter we got MATs letter about the time I sent my last letter and thought I would wait a few days before I wrote again I cant write much becaus I stay at home and hear nothing thats worth writeing about I recon you remember WILLIAM GARNER well his Brother Dr. GARNER spent two nights with us last week he lives in Tennessee and was on a visit to his Farther he is a fine looking man all WOOD ALBEN and BETTY was here Sunday they were well but ALBEN is not looking well he says he had never received a line from JOSIE since she left home the people are all very busy now cuting wheat Old Mrs ADEHOLT and JOE live at ALMUS TRUSS place on the hill Well my ducks have been a failure the tran [train] has been killing them all the time on sundy they killed two the next saturday they killed nine dead cut off ones leg anothers wing and crippled five more I have only nineteen poor crippled things left we have a nice garden plenty of chickens you must not disappoint us about comeing home Mr. WILLIAMS is going to live here next year and we will go home there is no place like home BOB comes home with MART every wek or two he always asks about you all and never fails to pray for the absent ones HATTIE and GERTY come over last night and have just left cotton has gone up and of course every thing els will go up with it I am counting the weeks after awhile I will begin to count the days it wont take another month to roll around and I will look out for you is my darling NELL not comeing I cant tell you how much I want to see you*

[mama]

*[*Mr. Williams - Albin Wood's father-in-law]*

MATTIE ELLA JOSIE

Sunday evening June 8th/79

Just returned home from Church I will write you a few lines had a fine sermon from revered GREGORY you must excuse me for not writing of-tener I am so tiered at [night] I cannot write only on sundays & after going to

*church I am trying to cultivate some Eleven or twelve acres of land this year besides my garden my crop looks well & nearly all in fine growing condition this you know makes the old man hussle from morning till night you must come to the quartly meeting embracing the second Sunday in August I have taken dinner to day with Rev MELVILL WILSON son of JUDGE WILSON to morrow I want to have my little parcel of wheat cut I must have a cake for you when you come home HARRIET spent the last night with us and is Just off for home we will look for you between this & qurtly meeting when I get through with my push of work I will write you again & try & do better for we must be better to get to that good world This leaves all well & hope it will fine you the same best love to you all Miss KATE & JIMMA
Your Father*

*[On back:] ELIZA received a letter from Dr SMITH he says MAT is killing herself at work and she ought to come home and rest. I wish you could all come but you know whether it is best or not. When you come we will do another year if we are all spared until then Pappy wants to write a litle and I will quit dont disappoint me JOSIE be sure you and ELLA make MATTIE come my best love to every one
M M WOOD*

Springville Ala June 29th 1879

My dearest baby JOSIE

I am quite well this Morning it was raining this morning I did not go out to church & as writing generally some what is a violation of the Sabbath your mother no doubt will give you all the news & tell you of her fifty or more of her turkeys & what prosperous site they are & how anxious we all are to see you all come home when July comes I reckon I shall be as fisty & dodge about as a speckle kitten if you should all get her come all of you that can come

*The friends is all well so fare as I know I wish I was in Macon to hear some of your big preachers you must all write soon hope this will find you all well
Your Father*

Springville Ala

My dear MATTIE I am well

Your Mother is writing She will give you all the news I wrote Mr HARTZ at Chattanooga as you will se in the letter this letter was sent to the ded letter office at Washington D. C. as an uncalled for letter & returned to me the 7th of this month June as I know of no other chance please show it to Mr WOLF & ask him to be so kind as to send it on for me to the proper address anything is better than nothing dispose of it with him as you please or as you can or at any price you can my best regards to Mr WOLF & yourself

June 29th/79

Your Father

Springville Ala June 29th 1879

ELLA my dear child I am well & Trust too & hope this will find you all likewise Your Mother is writing she will run round & give you the news general I commenced a letter to you two weeks ago today but it will come along some of these times If it ever does as to the thing you desired me to send you that you said you seen in my Bible you are the only one of the family that ever saw it or even heard tell of it untill you named it in your letter the first word then from some of them was have you been dreaming please excuse me for this time love to all & Miss KATE too

Your Father

[On back:] tell Miss KATE to take no umbrage at me for nameing coffee Miss KATE for I never thought the first of her & if I had I only wanted coffee to have a fine name

Springville Ala

Aug 31st 1879

ELLA My dear child

These lines leave us nearly all grunting with colds your mother has a bad cough & has been almost down my head has been hurting very much I am trying a remedy called sure cure prepared by Dr Sykes of Chicago Ill - I have taken one package and have five others coming on [torn off] great faith in it curing [torn off] the relatins is well excepting bad colds I was out to day to hear the cumberlans preach we had a fine sermon by a young preacher I did not learn his name though I could not hear it as well as I would like to have done* my hearing is gradually growing worse it is with difficulty that I can hear any speaking to advantage I have no news I will let JOSIE hunt up all the by way news I can tell you I am almost done saving fodder My crop is moderately good will make enough to do me & your mama & a little for passengers I shall move back to my place this fall after I gather my crop fatten my hogs & get all stratened out but after all our labor [torn] troublesome world let us labor to get to that glory land ELLA live for that land tell Miss Kate to make a starte now to that good world or she may be cut off & never reach that happy place my best love to you & her tell Miss Kate I will write her a letter before a great while

Your Father

[*He used an ear trumpet in his latter years.]

Dear children we received JOSIEs letter that come in MARVINs JANE will say MARVIN dont you want to go to Grandpas he will say JOEs gone he is the funyest little scamp you ever saw ask him when he is comeing back he awlways says Sunday he is fat as a pig I recon this cold spell has decided MAT to get that husban you will let me know by the first mail well red has a calf a few days old have you any place to keep her it will be a week or two before I can posibly come it is no use to stay here to work for I can't get any done we dug our potatoes last week got them up in good time we put up about forty bushel of nice eating potatoes what can you buy them at what is pork worth will it be better to sell what we have here and buy there what is dried fruit worth we can buy dried apples from eighty cents to one dollar I will bring the sope if you say so why dont you write oftener dont you have time we would like to hear every day I dont know what to do with my turkeys some of them are small I dont think I can sell them here before christmas I dont think they will do any good if I leave them Springville is crowded and more comeing ___ is writing and wil give you all the news and I can tell you all I know when I come I feel awful dull

well BALLEW has landed to home from Texas have not seen him DAVIS PEAR-SON stoped in Arkansaw with BOB HIGGINS [?] I suppos you heard of Mr McFER-RIN getting kiled last week he was on his way to springville when I come I will bring Dick when daddy comes he will bring truss but I think you will have one extra fireplace for them if this kind of weather lasts all the winter how have you ben get-ting on this cold weather who gets up and makes the fire I think of you all the time I thought when I comenced wrting I could think of something to write but I can't so I had better quiet [quit] much love to all my dear children

mama

My very dear children
your mama & ELIZA I reckon has wrote evrything that I could think of only buffalo bill was sick & your mam took the notion his liver did not act & she gave him three dose of calomel he is now doing very well but when she commenced the operation he was well nigh ded her turkeys & chickens is coming on finely I will stop lest I wery patience
Your in love

Springville Ala
Oct 7th 1879

MATTIE & ELLA

My dear children

This leaves us all about well to night I should have writen before now but my work has been pushing me so hard your Mother JOSIE MART & the baby has all been down sick with bilious fever at one time I did not know that your Mother would live till I get the Doct her or not I seen my horse to town & back for Dock about 3 oclock at night I left him to dress & come on I found her better but they are all well now give yourselves no uneasyness about them I hope they are in better health than be-

fore I am yet in a great push gathering in my crop stock is breaking in I was compelled to gather it in when I get strate I will write you a longer letter & can find any thing to write the Baptist Association is Just past I was not there JOSIE went up to the meeting JOSIE is writing she will give you all the particulars you will hardly read what I have written hope this will find you well I will close love to you & Miss KATE

*Your
Father*

[Josie's note is lost.]

Fryday morning dear children and all at home I will write a few lines this morning as I will have a chance to send it to A^[urora] I staid at A Monday night come out here Tuesday found Pa ^[father David Henderson McCleskey, who died shortly afterward at age 96] and mother very sick they have both been in bed four weeks Pa said when I first came he could never get up any more he has the worst cough you ever saw any one have I dont know how he has lived through it for the last two days he has been much better I dont know how it will end if he gets worse again he can't live long mother dont mind but seems to be getting worse she looks very bad LIZIE has had a hard time I could not get to write home until this morning I am siting by the fire in the kichen writeing on my knee I dont know whether you can make any sense of what I write if I had time I would write a long letter Mrs ALLISON came over wendsday and staid all night says she dont know when she can come down I recon she had to consult the homeforks PICKEN BUFINGTON and ZEMULY were here yesterday they dont get any letters from Texas I can't go to see MARY ^[daughter Mary Robbins] until Pa gets better I can't tell now when I will be at home but I will come as soon as I can if they get worse I will let you all know ZEMULY says why dont uncle BOB ^[husband Robert Capel Wood] come she wants to see him I want you to be vearry prudent to every way I think the world is wrong side up I want you to writ to me how you are all getting along at home I forgot to put the button on your Pas new shirt I will have to quit writeing the baby is crying and LIZZY is busy I hope you will all enjoy the meeting and have a good time if I can't be there if you get letters from MAT and ELLA write how they are and ALBEN kiss BETHEL and FRED tell them I will be home before very long I hope I will take good care of you Pa and be good children

your mother MM WOOD

[Margin:] *I did not get to send my letter this morning Pa and mother ^[2nd wife Rebecca Ann Kent] is much better this evening*

*Lindale, Smith co, Tex
March 8th 1880*

Mr. R. C. Wood

Dear Cousin

I was very much surprised yesterday to receive a postal from you, and no doubt you will be equally surprised to receive an answer from me in Texas. Your postal was forwarded from Acworth Ga, where we formerly lived, to this place. I left Ga three years ago last Nov. I have no family except my wife. We are living in the house with our son COLMAN who if you remember passed your house about twelve years ago on his way on here. He kept writing for us to come as he is well situated and settle for life he wanted us with him. He has a large farm well stocked and every convenience and a small family so we all live together, he is the largest WOOD I ever saw his weight being about 180 lb I will try [to] tell you all about Fathers family. there is only four of us livng, FRANCES who is the oldest, next myself and then ALBERY and last but not least PYRENE. FRANCES is at the old homestead where Father died. She has been a widow a long time. ALBERRY is living between Gainsville & Lawrenceville near Hog Mountain. I am living within five miles of Lindale Smith Texas. PYRENE married a dutchman [L. Ellenburg] who is immensely rich. They are living in Yellvill Marion Co Ark. COLEMAN died near Clarksville of hemnorage several years ago. His family is living in Atlanta My wife and I were fortunate enough to raise seven children but only have four living now. Our oldest daughter died at Rome Ga about four years ago She was a model Ch[r]istian woman. She left four little children. WYLEY BLAKE our youngest son died Nov 2nd 1878 he was a telegraph operator at Big Shanty Ga. He died suddenly in the night. HENRY GRAMBLING (RICHARD son) was lying near him but he was cold when HENRY awoke he had been suffering several days but with sore throat, and HENRY was waiting on [him]. They were more intimate and thought as much of each other as you and I used to. BLAKE was a remarkable pious young man, commanding the love and esteem of all who knew him. He now sleeps near Big Shanty by the side of cousin BETSY Widow of Cousin ROBISON WOOD. VALLIE our baby died Nov. 17th just two weeks after BLAKE and almost as sudden. She had Brain fever and lived only a day or two and was unconcious all the time. She too was an example of a dutiful daughter and a Christian. We feel that all is well with those dear ones.

ED our oldest left here a few day ago for West Texas COLMAN is the secon son, HENRY the third son is livng in Rome Ga Working at the tinner trade.

MYRA our only daughter is marr[i]ed and is liviing near this place. Her husband WILLIAM HUNDLEY is a Sturdy industrious well to do farmer, he has a good farm and plenty of stock in $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of Lindale. They have one little boy his name is EMMETT he is a great pet with us all. FELIZ McMINN who married Cousin LIZA JOHNSON is living in this county he is doing well has a large family of boys. If you ever have any notion of going west I would like you to see these parts, the society is good and the land is fine. I am so blind I cannot see to get about much I spend most of my time shucking corn and feeding the pigs and I have some verry nice ones too. This has been such a warm winter that a great many people have lost their meat.

My son ED accidentally met up with STEVE DUNNIGAN soninlaw of DOW WOOD. He live in Callahan City Texas, he seem to be a very clever man. To let you know that [I] had not forgotten you, on the day before you wrote the postal was a cold slu ___ day like the day you and I staid at Major McCLESKEY after going to a show, and I was telling my folks about it. it reminded me so much of that day it made me

think of you. Me and my wife have very good health and are as stout as most people of our age though I am blind and deaf Let me hear from you as soon as you get this tell me all about your famly and all your conexion I would like to know all about them. Direct to Linldale Smith Co Texas

I am you[r] Cousin

JOHN H. WOOD

PS LIZA McMINN is one of the yongest daughters of Cousin NANCY JOHNSON and one of her brothers JOHN JOHNSON is living in Marion Co Ark and is doing well. Dear Cousin if we never meet here I hope we will meet on the other Shore, I am trying in my weak way to get there I have ma[n]y ties over there

Write me a long letter

Your As Ever

J H. W

Office of
JOHN P. JAYNE,
Old Claim Lawyer,
No. 7 Murray Street,

New York ..May 4,188..3..

Dear Miss Wood,

I have found your Wood Family Record after a search of 3 days. Please find the record here enclosed. I am glad I have found it, for you. I have Retained a Copy of it, for use. I have been looking over my Books some and I find there is about 100, Wood Cases including those in the Bank of England Books - the Clement, and James Wood cases have been settled - but there are many other good Wood cases that remain unsettled. Did you receive my letter of Dec 11th 1882.

Very respectfully yours,

John P. Jayne

Dear children I got home all right Dr SAMPLER was at Atalla to meet me saw CHARLIE at Springville he said the Babies were gettin on fine found all right at home your Pa is looking better but complains much as ever he says tell you he cant use his hand to write I cant tell who was gladest to see me come home Miss CUTLER the new milener says she never was so glad to see any body I found LAURENCE and HELEN [Garlington, daughter] here I dont know whether they will go home today or not the children had their opening yesterday [millinery shop] and today I

wish you could have com home with me they all say every thing looks beautiful they are well pleased with miss CUTTER. You know I promised to write last night well I felt two tiered the others all seem tierd down mat said she wrote yesterday so I put off writing until this morning dady was proud of his peaches I will make him a pie out of them soon I have no news to write I feel better this morning I took some medicine last night so my head does not feel so heavy and bad I think I will be all right in a few days they were all glad I went to see you Ethel said she did not look for me until Saturday if I had known that I would have staid it is not worth while to try to tell you how Etna treated her Parents Hattie says she though[t] loosing george and Plumer was trouble she says it was noth[ing] compared to the way etna had done I believe I have told you all I can think of so be good children
much love to both

mama

M. A. WOOD E. C. WOOD
 MISSES WOOD
 FASHIONABLE MILLINERS
 AND DEALERS IN LATEST STYLES OF
LADIES' HATS, BONNETS, RIBBONS AND LADIES' GOODS.

Gadsden, Ala.July.25th...188..3...

Dear JOSIE

I have the same old song no news only all as well as usual the old man DAY died here with Typhoid fever was buryed yesterday I do not know that you was acquainted with him or not. He lived out some whare toward the Depot we had a fine show yesterday & a good rain in the night things much revived this morning It is about train time & I must close hope it will find you fast mending & HITTIE [Hattie] & children all well
will write HITTIE some time

Yur Father R. C. W.

Darling JOSIE

why dont you write to me how you are getting on are you not well enough I am uneasy about you all the time writ if you are improveing any had you not better see Dr. Mc and get him to give you some medicin If you dont mend had you not better come home you dont know how much I miss you but I am willing for you to stay as long as you like if you dont feel like writeing get HATTIE or JANE to write for [you] I am getting uneasy about you I have no news worth writeing things are get-

ting on after the same old style as always I get on very well with my work we are all able to be up they all look blue and lonesome when they come home at night Mr. and Mrs SHEPERD has been to see us and staid all night they seemed disappointed about not seeing you they said they missed you so much when you come home you can go and see them if you want ot the pigeon was so lonesome it found it another home but comes every evening gets in my lap to eat her dinner sits on the bird cage awhile and then walks around awhile then goes off poor old dick looks bad I think I will get him some beef. I have not heard any thing like you was improvin since you left home JANE dont write HATTIE dont write the first you know you will see me coming to see what the matter

fryday morning we got your letter and JANEs postal last evening was glad to hear from you was sorry to hear of the death of Mrs ADEHOLT I cant write much this morning got to make bottenholes pleas take care of your self and get well fast I guess you will [send] all the news from Gadesn soon be sure to send JANEs churn give my love to all so I mus close

your mama

[On the back:]

Dear JOSIE

I quit work to come in to [write] you . day before yesterday two young fellows walking on the plank side walk. one had a very long water mellon on his shoulder the other one stepped on the middle of one of the short planks at this end of the walk the one having the mellon hitched his toe against plank & down came the mellon & busted wide open thats all of it I must add that in to fill up I will [write] you before many days

Your Father

THIS CERTIFIES
THAT ON THE TWENTY SECOND DAY OF
JANUARY
IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD
1884
WILLIE R. GOUDLOCK
AND JOSEE WOOD
WERE BY ME UNITED IN
MARRIAGE
AT GADSDEN ETOWAH COUNTY
ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA
GADSDEN ALA
R. A. TIMMONS M.G.
JAN 23. 1884

Springville Ala

July 14 1884

Monday morning

to all the dear ones at home I recon you will expect to hear from us to day JAKE is mending but slow he has gone over to see the Dr this morning the swelling is going out of my feet but they are sore and hurt me all the time I wont be of no use at home so I will Stay here until I get all rigt FRANK is comeing after me to day or tomorrow you need not be anxious about us attall but I wish I could know how you are all getting on at home there is so many of you that I might hear a little from home every day I feel uneasy for fear some of you sick and wont tell me you dont know how I want to see you all at home you mus take good care of JOHNY my head is in such a whir I cant write with any sens so I will get JANE to write maybe she can writ something

[In different handwriting:]

Mother commenced to writ you all a letter but she got in a hussale to smoke or to go to work I dont know which for she got her pipe and sat down to her quilt peises. My notion is she just wanted me to finish it for her She commenced on the wrong sid of her paper too All went to church yesterday but JAKE & MARVIN. JAKE [Robert Jacob Henderson Klutts, son of Eliza] says he is better than he was. he wrote his Mother I can see he looks better but he complains of feeling to weak Mother is getting on fine she eats hearty and dont complain only of her feet hurting her She spent the most of yesterday at ALBINS we had the worst storm one night last week that has ever reached us I can't describ it for I was so scared. LIZER you remeber Mr RO-LANG who married a Miss PRESSLY near Argo Jefferson Co. about five or six miles from Springvill She with her babe three weeks old in her arms and a daughter nearly grown went in their storm pit The lightning killed both of them but the babe wasn't hurt The Dr brought the daughter to life again but her Mother was killed dead Dr Mc told me they came after him soon as was done. the storm came just as we sit down to supper. it didnt leak on our dining room it just pourd in every one gathered its hands full off the table put it down on the floor in the other room before I could get the table in Mother was down in a chair with her supper in her lap just as if I was not scared atall It is time I was getting dinner so I had better quit writing I could write more but I have been called twenty times since I sit down to write you need not be uneasy about Ma for she is doing as well as she could any Where the swelling is nearly out of her feet but she complains of them being soer I dont know who to direct this letter to Tell Miss GENNIE she had better write me one of her good letters if she wants to call me Aunt GINNIE with much love to all I must close

Yours lovingly

JANE ALLISON

PS Tell Pa please write to us

Springville Ala

July 16th 1884

Dear mother I feel just about like I did yesterday the rest of the folks is well except IDA She gets a little sick ever few days Mother if I dont ment faster it will be 10 days or two weeks before I can come home. I am looking a heep better I feal considerable better but some how I [can't] gane any more strengt & I dont see why it is I havent miss a meals vituls since I been here I nearley allways drink two glases of buttermilk three times a day & egg Bread & butter so why dont I gane some strengt my bowels seams to be regular I have two axions abut one hour apart every other morning just to a minit all most Tell Miss JINNIE, ETHEL said [she] was so buisy that [she] cant write to day Aunt JANE has got an old rooster on cooking she says it will keep ETHEL busy all day long keeping fire. I will close give my love to all & keep a big portion for yorsell I remain as [ever]

your son R. J. K.

Gadsden, Ala July 18 1884

My Darling boy & little Ethel,

I did not get any news from you to day. & I am feeling very anxious about you to night. I can hardly stand it to stay away from yu & would not were it not for Grand Mas sake. I know she wants to come right home but if you are not improving you need me & I will come at a moments notice. We are not taking any work now. We are all compelled to have a little rest. I have not been to the store since monday on account of JOSIE being sick. she is better now.

Did you have those night sweats before you went away? They will make a person very weak & I suppose that is the reason you cant gain any strength. Miss JENNIE is sick to night. she says we all want to go to Springville to get well. Mr. CARLIN says he will have some money for you to morrow. we'll send by Aunt MAT if I dont come. If you improve I will wait till later.

Dear ETHEL,

I dreamed you had a thorn in your foot last night, so you must be careful how you go about that old tree. I think of you and JAKE all the time. You cant imagine how bad I want to see you both & one of these [days] I may run in on you all. You would laugh to see the four squirrels all in one cage. Such fighting & qualling I never heard the like. I miss you & JAKE & Granma all the time. You must send me news how brother is every day & let me tell you what you do for him two or three times a day take a brush & rub his back all over till it is red & you can bathe his feet for him occasionally too I would give anything just ot see you to night but we are all in God's hands if we are apart. Give my love to every[one] & kiss all for me. I am get-

*ting on surprisingly well. all due to "Harlers iron tonic". Good night my darling children & may our heavenly Father protecting care be over you is the prayer of your mama
will send you some clothes by Aunt MAT.*

[Eliza was mother of Jake & Ethel]

ROBERT J. KLUTTS was born October 16, 1860, and died at Springville, Ala., July 29, 1884. Bro. Klutts was converted and joined the Church early. His piety was of the highest type. He was in no respect conformed to the spirit of the world. The popular amusements of the day possessed no charms for him. Being transformed by the renewing of his mind, he was not under the dominion of sin, but realized and acknowledged the supremacy and sufficiency of the grace of God. At home and abroad, under all circumstances, he manifested his devotion to the Church, his love for God and his faith in Christ. His life was short, yet long enough to show the grandeur and glory of a life hid with Christ in God. His sickness was short, his sufferings great and his death peaceful and triumphant. It is sad to see one so full of promise suddenly called away; but with faith in the special providence of God we submit, and with his widowed mother, and other relatives, sorrow not as those without hope, but "believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." - J. Wright Tucker.

[Jake died of typhoid fever.]

[From Josie's small Bible]

*Our baby MARVIN AUGUSTUS was born and died February 22nd 1887
we burried him in cemetery Gadsden Ala
April 13th 1888 We carried his remains to Springville Ala
JOE ROBERT MILTON GOUDELOCK was Christened May 18 1892
by Rev AIKEN
WILLIE R. GOUDELOCK
JOSIE C. WOOD were
married January 22nd 1884
MARVIN AUGUSTUS GOUDELOCK was born February 22nd 1887
JOE ROBT MILTON GOUDELOCK was born March 5th 1892
ROBBERT JACOB KLUTTS died July 29th 1884
JOSIE C. GOUDELOCK died March 11th 1892
JOE ROBT MILTON GOUDELOCK died June 14 1892*

Aurora Ala. May 7th 1885

Dear Cousin ELLA,

I am anxious to hear from you all, and have not the time to spare to come. I will send a short note by Cousin WESTLEY. I am coming to see you all before long. I think I can spare a day or two after a while. I received a letter from home last week they [are] all well at present, except Pa. His health seems to be slowly declining I do hope I will get to see him again, but sometimes I fear. The Girls have bought them an Organ. I am glad they have one. Sister GEORGIA says that it does [not] get to rest much when WILLIE or EMMA is about, so I reckon they have music at their house I have my buggy at home and it is alright and my horse is getting to work very well so when I come to Gadsden, I want to go to the falls. everybody says I am going to marry since I have brought it home.

I spent the night at Cousin WILL's night before last, they were all well but Cousin RADER she had the sore throat. Cousin I have something to tell you when I come, about how some of my enemies are treating me, but God will cause all things to work together for good to them that love Him. We are having some good meeting on my circuit. The spirit of the Lord is with us. I do hope that we will have a good meeting this year

But I must close for the present as it is late When I come I want you to tell me all about the exposition give my love to all the family and tell little old meanie to behave herself until I get there. Tell Aunt MARTHA to have the skuttle hole ready with a good lock and keg [key?]. Tell Uncle BOB [Wood] to have his plow and gear ready and I will help him again.

Your Devoted Cousin

WILEY O. HORTON

EMILY ELLEN PYRENES WOOD

married

ROBERT JOHNSTON SAMPLER

Gadsden, Alabama

at 12 noon

December 27, 1885

by W. O. HORTON, M. G.

Gadsden Ala

March 11th / 86

My Dear Husband

I would have written you yesterday but thought you would not go to the office I am sorry you are feeling so badly I cant help being uneasy about you. Can't you get things so you can come Saturday? I will look for you I think you

better bring those two largest trunks as baggage it will lessen the freight bill some. Now is as nice weather as we will have soon to get the things to the Station. Pa says "BOB" he is waiting for sotten seed. If you want to leave the hens with young chickens with Mrs. B it is all right. but I think I would bring all the balance it will cost but a trifle more if any. Dr LEFTWICH of Nashville (Editor of the Nashville Advocate) is assisting Brother THOMPSON in his meeting. We are all going to church today. We have obligated ourselves with all or most of the business houses (I havent heard of any refusing) to cloase our doors one hour every day from ten to eleven as long as the meetings last MAT says did you get her that merchandise to "kill or cure" She is getting to large. I have to fasten her dress for her [torn] going to keep on till you tell me [torn] she gets to large for all her dresses Please bring the little common sense [torn] chi --- & the Patent iron with you. My dear old darling I have no news to write I want to see you so bad I cant wait longer than Saturday. There is no use in you staying there alone & I am not going to let you. I wish I could see the yard now. I know it is pretty. I could set here & write you a long letter but I must go to work now Al send love to you

Your loving Wife

ELLA SAMPLER

Ashville Ala

April 19 /86

Dear Wife, I reached hear Safe Friday. Stayed at Judge ROBINSON that night. Saturday night at the BASS's last night at Mr. EDMONDS hous. The P E preached a very fine Sermond. your Dr preached Saturday night. Times are dull here I get a horse from Mr PHILIPS to go up home today will come back tomorrow I think of geting back to you, about Wensday. I feel like I had been away a month now. I have no tast for staying awaye from my dear darling wife, & glad I am, that I havent.

Love to all, good by dear

R J SAMPLER

Gadsden, Ala

March 15th 1887

Dear sister MAT:

I will take time this morning to write you a few lines. Just to let you know I think of you if I dont write much I presume ELLA keeps you posted on the general news of theday. The constant cry is for Miss MATTIE & the whole subject is new dresses.

*Mamma is not very well but she keeps up. She says it seems you have been away a long time. I came by JOSIEs this morning. she did not rest well last night & consequently did not feel so well this morning.**

I should feel it a greater honor to shake Dr. DEEMs hand than to be intro-duced to the President. he certainly must be a favorite of yours, as you have not been to hear TALMAGE yet. you must not tire yourself down. remember there is bushels of work awaiting you hope your health will be improved. I told her BERGER

if it helped you much as it did him I should not object to your going again.so you had better be careful of your looks.

Mr. BEN KYLE a girl went back on him, so he is a forlorn widower still. I have not seen my \$12,000 twelve thousand dollar "fella" yet. I think Dr SAMPLER is afraid I might take a fancy to him just wait till I get my new bonnet & you'll see. ETHEL has kept your room tidied up, says no body shant mess it till Aunt MAT comes.she was proud to get your letter yesterday. says she will write to you. Mrs WILSON asks about you every day I told Mr. WILSON I was going to write you. that he had not been to see us since you went away. Gadsden is still booming Walnut Grove is also on a boom.

You must thank Mr & Mrs WILTHAM in our name for their kindness to you we appreciate it very much. any kindness shown you is a favor to us all. I shall always love them & treasure up sweet memories of them as long as I live may our Heavenly Father watch over you & bring you back safely much improve. ETHEL sends love to Aunt MAT. Papa & Mamma join me in lots of love.

Yours lovingly ELIZA

[*Josie's son, Marvin Goudelock, was born and died 22 Feb 1887]

Fair Forest S C

Spartanburg County July 24th 1887

Mr ROBT. C. WOOD

Dear Cousin

I recd your postal a few days since. I was glad to hear from you and family and to learn you were all well. I was very agreeably surprised when I found out who you were. It has been so long since any of us had heard from any of you. There is only three of Fathers family living . My self, Sister NANCY & Brother WILLIAM the rest are all dead I am 77 years old; NANCY is 74 WILLIAM is in 60ties. I have 22 Grand children 3 great gran children I am living with first one an then an other of my children this year though I still own the old place. Cous JOHN P. MARTIN is blind has been blind 2 or 3 years lives near his old homestead. Our post office is in his old house on the Airline R R. Sister NANCY is living in the house where father lived when you all left this country. FOSTERs meeting house where you were all members has perished out from the white folks and has been given up to the negroes for a church and burrying ground.the old farm that you all owned and sold here for \$600 would bring at this time not less than \$6000 oweing to improvements on and near the place. All of Cousin NEDDY BOMARS [Edward Bomar married R. C. Wood's aunt Mary Wood] family are dead except Cus BOOKER [son of Edward] and he has gone to Texas but he is in this state at this time on a visit. The folks that you knew when you were here are all gone and dead together My own husband died during the war. I will now close by saying that this leaves me in tolerable health hope it may find you and all in the same like blessing

Your Cousin as ever

RACHAEL CALDWELL

Greer's S. C.
Oct. 15 1887.

My dear cousin:

Your very welcome letter. You asked how long my Mother has been dead it is about nine years since she died. She was, as nearly as we can remember 103 years old. An age few of us live to. Your cousin WILLIAM and wife have both passed away. There are six children living three girls and three boys. I saw a letter the other week you wrote to him 33 years ago. Your cousin WASHINGTON [Bomar] moved from Charleston to Greenville and has been dead some three or four years. Cousin ISAAC POLLARD and wife too have gone the way of all the world. Old Mr. RICHARD MOSS and OLIVER are still living. OLIVER is living in N. C. There are only two of my father-in-laws family living they are ELIZABETH and ELEANOR. Mr. COWEN died about two years ago and his wife died about two years before he did. Your old friend JOHN MARTIN is still living. I dont know that a single tree of the old apple-orchard is left standing. The two June apple-trees are both dead. The stump about as high as a man's head is all that is left of the old mulberry tree and SEAY's old field is in cultivation. We have none of the Tea-plant. There is none any where that I know of. I would like to see yours and your wife's likeness. With the wish that we may all meet again in the "Better World" I remain, With much love

Your cousin,
RACHEL CALDWELL.

Paulding Cty Georgia

June 19. 1888

THIRSA

I sit down this day at Noon to drop you a few lines we are not well MAT was going to answer your letters which come to hand last Saturday but she is sick Dr McCORLY was at WILEYs yesterday his baby is sick of fuever your Mar [Armina Shockley Wood] is not well She has bin nearly down since last Wendsday her sudin & unexpected disappointment come verry near prostraiting her All hands was up to see you come we had Stopt the place went after you & no tidings of you friday put out to dallas sirtin to meet you & stayed all day till knight when we go home & no THIRSA heard from yet Saturday all day till late in the evening I was going home with BILEE & we was going to Duglessvill that knight to dispath to gadsdin what had becom of you, I waited for the male, & boath your letters come, so we was mad & glad too, dont suppose your mar had slept two hours in forty Eight, she perhaps had up a thousand buggers before her, she says she wants you to come home, says tell cousin MATT [Martha Wood, dau of M. M. & Robert C. Wood] she has kept you long Enough for her to quit work & come with you home, rite rite now befor fear you git sick you wrote your uncl ROBET wanted to know the time Father & Mother [Rebecca Traylor & Robert Wood] died Father died July 22 1835 Mother September the Eighth 1855 Brother Archer died April 22 1882 I dont know what time the narrow gage gets to rockmart the _____ pass rockmart 8.05 oclock in the morning and at five in the Evening, gits to dallas

*8.50 in the morning & 9 o'clock in the evening find out what time you will git to Dal-
las if you can*

So No more JOHN J WOOD

to THIRSA WOOD

WOOD.- At half past 6 o'clock on the morning of the 17th of March 1895 Brother John J. Wood went away. Brother Wood was born in Spartanburg District, near Spartanburg, S. C., the 2d day of June 1815 and was happily married to Miss Arminda Shockley, January 11th 1838. He came of good Methodist parentage, and was converted and joined the Methodist church at old Mossy Creek campground (originally Hall, but now White county, Ga.,) when about ten years old. Thus it will be seen that he was a member of the church for about seventy years. For about fifty years, consecutively, he served faithfully and efficiently in the office of steward. After a month's illness entailing great physical suffering, Brother Wood "fell on sleep" at his home near Nebo, Paulding county, Ga., on the day above indicated. He was the youngest of a family of twelve children, all of whom came to manhood and womanhood, and not one of whom, it is said, ever used profane language, or tobacco or drank whiskey. They are all gone except Brother R. C. Wood, of Gadsden, Al., who, having attained his eighty-eighth year, full of faith, waits in momentary readiness, the summons which will permanently reunite this large and exceptional family. The subject of this notice was intimately known by the writer. I have many times shared the hospitality of his pleasant Christian home. It was, indeed, a house of prayer. He was one of the truest and best men I ever knew. He was a steward on my first circuit, and a great help to me in many ways. Like Abraham he was "the friend of God," and therefore, a friend of the church and the preachers. He leaves a devoted wife and large family of children behind; but they are all traveling in the way in which their father trod, and "some sweet day," if faithful to the end, will join him in the home of the good. The church, the community and his family will very much miss him. His loss is heavy and will be keenly felt - but there is compensation and comfort in the thought - aye, the fact, that our loss is his eternal gain. He has made the fight - conquered in the name of Christ - the opposing forces, and won the victor's priceless, _____less crown. He sleeps well. Peace to his ashes. J. T. GIBSON

OFFICE OF
A. C. WOOD.
UNDERTAKER, CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER.
CABINET AND GENERAL SHOP WORK NEATLY DONE.

Springville, Ala., . . Nov 23 . . . 1890

Dear Sister,

We received your most welcome letter in due time, and were very glad to hear from you. It is not because we never think of you that we do not write oftener, the only cause we can assign is procrastination. Our "new boy" consumes a great deal of our time, but we think of you all and talk of you often.

IDA very often reminds us that Aunt MATT told us to come to see her Christmas and bring her with us. We have not named the "Boy" yet, but ROBBERT will be a part of his name. He favors BETTIE more than anyone else.

I suppose Dress-Makers are about like Mechanics, one good one to 25 sorry ones. I have quit contracting and gone to work by the day for Mr. TARRANT at \$2.50 per day. I think I can make as much at that as I can by contracting, and there is nothing like so much worry.

HELLEN & LAURENCE [Garlington] spent one night with us, and WILL & JOSIE [sister and her husband] stayed with us Friday Night. Yes, you may look for us Christmas, as you say, it would not seem like Christmas if we were not to be together.

Springville is about to get on another big "Boom". Give my love to all & write soon.

[ALBIN WOOD]

Roswell Ga. Dec 24, 1890

Dear Nell,

We had to stop at Aniston 3 hours to wait for delays Train got to Atlanta about Sundown. Just on 5 minute time to take the Danvill train 15 miles then took the litle narrow guage 9 miles to Roswell depot then back to Sisters found all well. Mrs P was there and all was estonished with delight this morning I have walked to the 2 factorys and over the town. Saw the house in which father died. Saw where Carrie [his dead wife] & I were married Saw some friends of many years ago. I will go to Mrs. PADENs tonight tomow the factory all Stop and the good Templers have a big diner. I am invited to attend and make Something of a Spetch and the people have layd hands on me for the Methodist church next Sundays Fair on the road from G. To Atlanta \$4 on road to Roswell, 70 SC Track [?] 25 SC Making \$5 When on the GPRR it loocked like evrybody in Ala was going to Ga. Atlanta was full I had to Stand up part of the ways and on the Danvill RR I Sat on My valies on the flore of car we got here last night at 8 oclock

The Chatahooche River doesnt look half as large as it ust to be to me. I hope you will have a good time tonight at the Chrismus tree. They all take on over the pic-turs, espetially the old people, & ETHELs and something about MATTs.

Love to all

Husband [R. J. Sampler]

Roswell Ga. Dec 27, 1890

Dear Nell

I am not so well as I would like to be. have taken cold but nothing much rounq. I have had no line from you yet. I hope to get a letter this evning. the weather is cold If it continues bad I Shall not go to Cherokee atall.as I remembr MATs promise you to take care of myself and I find that I cant stand much. I made the dinner Speach the 25 and had a good time. am to preach here tomorrow. the paster here Bro BRAZEL uncle of the Walnut Grov BRAZELL claims that I shall preach for him Sundy weake but I may go home before that time. I had an invitation to attend a big party at Col RUSKs in Cherokee last night. But I learnd that there was Some of the Same old girls to be there that I used to play with and kiss out and I was a fraid to go for fear some-thing might hapen. I am enjoying my self verry well My peopl here treat me well and they are all doing well So fair as I can See. Dont be uneasy about your Honey if I get Sick I go home quick Mouch Love to all at home. Take care of your Self.

You[rs] in much Love

RJS

Dear ROBERT and all the dear ones at home

well I have no newes to write I have not been very well since I left home but I stay up all the time I cant leave JOSIE to go any where so you need not wonder I am sorter blue and a little homesick but I dare not let JOSIE know it it seemes a long long time since I left home I try to think as little about home as posible knowing I cant come dont be uneasy about me may be I will get home sometime I want to see you all very bad at hom. I imagine you are rather lonely up there it is very little use for me to write as I have nothing to write and I am such a poor hand to write any way when I get to thinking about home I want to see you all so bad I can harly bear it there is so many coming in I will have to quit the house shakes like and old barn love to every one

mama

GOUDELLOCK - In Springville the 11th inst. Mrs. W. R. Goudelock, leaving an infant daughter one week old. Mrs. Goudelock was once a citizen of this place, and has three sisters, Misses WOOD and Mrs. SAMPLER living here at present. Our citizens sympathize with the bereaved relatives.

[infant son, not daughter]

GOUDELCKE - JOSIE WOOD GOUDELCKE, daughter of R. C. and M. M. WOOD, and wife of Wm. R. GOUDELCKE, was born near Athens, Ga., Dec 29 1857, and died at her home in Springville, Ala., March 11, 1892 .
[born in 1856, not 1857]

[Will "Buddy" Goudebeck, after losing his wife and both sons, married again and had a family.]

*Patello Erath County Texas
August 7th 1893*

Mr R. C. WOOD and family

Dear Brother & Sister

to begin with I will say that ALLEIN arrive here yesterday at 2 oclock & 30 min MILTON met him at Santo Weir, was grate rejoicing he is all right this morning and gratefully refreshed by a good night rest. The Rev THOMAS PERSER is now visiting in this section he is verry low with Bronchities and Rheumatism if not soon checked will terminate in consumpcion he live 200 miles Sout East in Lee county his famely came with him but has returned home and left him. has visited the [Mineral] Wells once received considerable benefit if you recollect he marryed ELIZABETH MORTON for his second wife you have no idier what a fine looking old Lady she has made she's large and fleshy and is as fine a looking an old Lady as you can find accept my old Lady of course the PERSER Boys are all in Easy circumstances ALEN MORTON is allso in Lee county says say if he had come to Texas when young he could have mad a fortune. Crop is good in that section MARIEN DEEVERS and his Baley Boy PIERCE was with us several day recently MARIAN is looking old PIERCE is a nice boy about grown I was on Greens creek in the Sout part of the county in July when last herd from J. W Yourk and family has moved to Oclahomer Territory W. A. KEY and BELL and MARSHALL in company with others or makeing a tour Through the Indian nation and perhaps to wher JOHN and MARTHA is before they return. do not be uneasy about ALLEIN. we will take good care of him. must close for the present farewell

N T and M L McCLESKEY

[Nathaniel Turk McCleskey was brother of Martha Matilda McCleskey Wood]

Gadsden Ala Spt 24, 93

Dear Nell and all the rest.

We are all well this morning We reseivd your of the 22d yesterday. glad to hear from you and all. MARY ROBINS, and FANIE [Nell's sister and niece] came yesterday. She tells us that the Federal Court at Burmingham cent the postmaster at Walnut Grove to the penatentrary for five years and that the good sitizens of the grove Swore REVIS out of the whole buisness, MURPHEY and Manny others of the place Swore that R was a man of first rate charecter and of course that put all on the post-

master and that Sends him to the penstentiary and WILL will have the bond to pay. They sent some persons from this county to the Chain gang yesterday two of them were white womin for keeping a house of ill faim. one of them was a grand mother and the other had two childrin Well there isent a thing new in Town I dreamed about you all last nite. but I hope there is no Sign in that. If you all put confidence in any Stranger with whom you may meet and get into trouble it will be your own falt for you know better about the world than that Do take care of yourSelves and get all the good out of the trip that you can, for you are paying verry deare for it. If any evill befalls you I Shall neaver reflect upon my Self about the matter. Ask MATT to kiss you for me. DAN [the dog] and Tops Sends complements to all interested. The pigs are all right.

*With love to all. I am your
husband
RJS*

MISS WOOD & MRS. SAMPLER,
DEALERS IN
MILLINERY AND FANCY GOODS.
DRESSMAKING A SPECIALTY. TERMS CASH ON DELIVERY OF GOODS
COLLEGE STREET NEAR DUMMY LINE.

Chicago Sept 27 1893

Dear Husband & all the dear ones at home will just write a line I'm to tired to say much have spent 3 days in the fair grounds have just got in Stayed late to night to see the Electric display it was grand but will tell you about when we come home next week dont be uneasy about us we get along all right we havnt Spoken to half doz men since we have been here except policemen we could not get along without them. I dont remember the name of the hat I trimed for MAT but any of those small shapes will do for JANE it dont make much difference what she has so [long] as it is comfortable. If I have time in the morning will write more Love to all

*Lovingly
NELL*

Gadsden Ala Sept 29th 93

Dear NELL & all

We have reseived nothing from you for two or three days untill this morning MATT says in a we note in September - the Lord only Know what date - that you were all well. I have been real anctious to hear from you. When you do write please date your letters. Coten is coming in about 35 bales per day and brings about 7.50 per hundard. It is clear that Mr. Cleavland and Congress is going to fool a long untill they ruin the price of the preasant coten crop. SAM JONES is to hold a big meeting in Burming-ham in the confedrit vetruns big building in November that will be a big

time. Two Large Boxes of your goods came yesterday. The pigs ar doing well. I think that they are anctious to se you come home not that I care so much. We will look for you next thursday at the outside day. little Sickness in Town. no deaths. I see a good many girls about Mr. WILLSONs Since his wife left. I dont know what it all means. well this is anouph of this sort of Stuff. As I dont know whether you will take time to read it all or not. May you have a Safe return in due time

Your husband,

R J SAMPLER

Springville Ala

Nov. 6th 1893

Dear Sister ELLA,

Received yor letter of the 6th this evening. MARVIN has put on long pants now and said good bye to his short ones. Well I suppose you heard of the trouble we had in Springville. A Man by the name of HUGHES Shot and killed JOHN SMITH in Mr. MOODYs Store. the troubl started the day before SMITH wanted HUGHES wagon, but HUGHES wanted to hawl cotton Saturday and told SMITH so SMITH got mad & crazy. he wanted to fight, and did Slap HUGHES in the face. He told SMITH he did'nt want to hurt him and tried to quiet him but that only maid him worse. He told HUGHES he intended to Kill him. HUGHES come to town with his cotton Saturdy, carried it to the deepot as he come back SMITH was at the HERRING Hotel. they both passed our door. HUGHES in his wagon SMITH on the sidewalk In about 15 minutes I heard the shooting - SMITH walked to MOODY's back door walked to the front door. HUGHES had stoped his wagon in front of the door. SMITH had his gun up and ready to shoot, HUGHES pistol was on the Seat He had to shoot him or be shot & so he did. SMITH lived about half hour but never knew anything. The ball went through his head then in a Shoe box on MOODYs Shelf. Somebody had to kill him. He was a dangerous man when he was crazy. the last time he took his babie and carried it to Birmingham Mrs SMITH was afraid to follow him for fear he would kill the child If Mrs SMITH could tell her story I know it would be a sad one, and 15 years long. The bell toaled for him late yesterday eve (Sunday). I feel sorry for his family. I dont think they have any thing to eat. they came to me Saturdy night to get meal or flour. was out of both and no meat. Has MAT sent AUSTIN's dress yet or will she send down here IDA ask me what in the world I had done with AUSTIN's white dress, but I did not tell her. She does not know MAT is making him one please send 1/2 box boy caps like one you sent with a piece hanging down

[JANE ALLISON]

Duke Ala

Feb 19 1894

Dr R. J. SAMPLER

Dear Grandfather I will this morning answer your moste hily appreciated letter We are all well except pa he is complaining with his Back but he works some PIERCE is his plow hand this year and hi ginny. BOB said tell you he would write to you in a few days so will close give my love to Granny

*Yours Truly
H. M. SAMPLER*

[It is not recorded what Nell thought of her title "Granny" - she was 32 years old then; her husband was 57.]

Roswell Ga.

June 5, 1894

Dr. R. J. SAMPLER,

Dear brother I know you have been exptcing a letter from me for some time. well I arived home safe on the 29 found the children all well. They were not looking for me as they didnt get my letter. I left Sisters familey all well except one of her little boys he was quite sick I had quite a pleasant time all around. I shall never forget Sister NELL and people they were all so kind to me. Give my love to all of them and especly do I wish to be rememberd to Mr. and Mrs. WOOD. I hope that while they linger on the Shores of time there Faith in Christ may grow Stronger and their path way to Heaven brighter. Tell Mr. WOOD that I deliverd the mesage as I said I would. He is the same Man that Mr. WOOD was inquiring after.

Mother is not very well She is not as stout this summer as last. She sendes love to you and familey tell Sister NELL Her and ASA were very proud of their quilt peices and send many thanks we are needing rain auful bad. it has not rained but very little here in six weeaks. I done think there will bee much cotton made in this part of the country on acount of the cold wave. Gardens are burning up and the Mills are stoping for water We had a letter from GEORGE last night He said that some one set fire too the Methodist Church and the Acadamy at that place last thrusday night and they were burned to the ground What is the world coming too The children all join me in love to you. We would all be gald to have You and Sister NELL to visit us. Let us heare from you soon.

*Your loving Sister
E. V. BUSH*

MRS. M. V. ALLISON
DEALER IN
MILLINERY * AND * FANCY * GOODS.
TERMS CASH ON DELIVERY OF GOODS.

Springville, Ala., ..June..8th..189.4..

Dear Sister ELLA

I received your letter yesterday evening. Was not surprised to get a scolding. I have as many hats now as I now what to do with. business is kindly dull since the school is out and I havnt had time to write you about myself. IDA staid until Monday. She would have gone with me up there but had to go home first, and you know the District Conference comes off sometime in July She decided to wait until after it is over. The babe is not well at all he takes a cold and had croup two nights since she went home. I am afraid it is whooping cough. He is the very image of IDA when she was his age, except the color of his eyes. I wish LIZER could see him. I have just finished washing will iron this evening and go up there tomorrow if IDA does not write for me to come up there. if she does I wil have to stop and see about them hope I will hear from her again to day

MARVIN & I have cleaned out every thing in the enclosure at the cemetery. We worked two mornings until eleven oclock. Everything is dry and dusty up here. The freeze killed nearly all the rosebushes but everythin looks nice now. ELLA I hope you all will not be disapointed if I fail to get there tomorrow. [MART] has too many chicks to leave. I will bring you the eggs, and you can tell the old hen to be ready. This leaves us all well hope it will find you all better hoping to see you all soon.

I remain as ever,
Your affectionate
Sister JANE

Dunagan
Georgia

July the 10th 1895

Mr. R C WOOD dear sir

by the request of Mr. WELCHEL I write you a few lines he stated that you wanted to no what had becom of all the BUFFINGTONs and MARTINs and DUNAGANs the Old set of the DUNAGANs is all Ded except my self & cister BETSEY EBERHART BRO JEF & cister JANE McCLESKEY is living yet they ar in Texas the balance of them is ded to I have heard the Old set of the BUFFENGTONs is all dead & a number of the yonge set is dead WILLIAM BUFFINGTON & several of his family is dead his wife dide be fore he did TOM & BERRIAN & JOHN ar living on the old place yet last monday we buried old Mrs LANGFORD I think she was a bout 88 year old JONATHAN MARTON & JOHN MARTIN & PINCKNEY MARTIN & Old Sqr SPENCER MARTIN & his Brother JON ar all dead all the Old set of GILMERs is dead Little Bull as he is cawld is living yet his wife dide a bout 10 days ago Uncle MOSE BRYAND and wife is ded WM BRYANT & BEN BRYANT is dead AMES BRYANT is living yet he is a bout 85 years old and his wife is living yet old man LEWIS JONES & JACEY MORRIS and their wives ar all dead in fact all the old cit-tersons that was living hear when you left is dead. DAVID MARTIN & ELISHA WILLIAMS ar both living yet thru the Murcy of the good Lord I have been speard. I am now turnd in my 75th year I have good helth EVALINE my wifes helth is not very

good I was glad to hear from Mr WELCHEL that you was living. you write to me and if there is any thin perticuler you want no I write it to you I have one daughter living in Ala MARGARETT WATS__ they live in Jackson County Ala. I have 9 mor children close round me all groan and all married but 3. I dont no what else to write to you so I will close if we never meat on earth I expect to meat you in Heaven your Truley

Jas. R. Dunagan

*P. S. Durect you leters to
Dunagan
Georgia
Hall County*

[Jef - possibly Thomas Jefferson McCluskey b 1833, son of Isabella Rhea McCleskey McCluskey & Miles McCluskey]

ALABAMA GREAT SOUTHERN RAILROAD CO.
Office of the _____

Springville Ala Oct 25/95

Dear Aunt NELL

Received the Hats all right they were just beyond our expectations KATIE was delighted with them said she never did see anything as pretty. I thought I would have to hold her and NINA & NELL - Well they just cut up over them and I think they look just too sweet with them on KATE and I certainly appreciate them I enclose the cash KATIE & the children left Monday for Cuba & York on a visit to be gone until Nov 3rd Mrs HIGHTOWER will come back with KATIE to keep the children while we go to Atlanta & to Conference. We havnt fully decided yet though about going to Atlanta. Guess we will come to see you any way whether we go to Atlanta or not

We are having a protracted Meeting at our church had good meeting last night. Bro HOWARD from Avondale has been preaching forus this week he went home today. Bro GREEN from Elyton came up yesterday to preach till Monday. We are having quarterly meeting this evening Our collections are away behind not much over half paid Give my love to GrandPa - GrandMa and all and accept a lot for your self from KATIE - Chidren & I

*Your loving nephew
CHAS. W. ALLISON*

Robertson Co. Texas

April 19th 1897

Dear Cousin ROBERT & family [Robert J. Sampler]

Gadsden Ala

you will no doubt be somewhat surprised to see that I am in Texas. We move here in Nov. After Ma determined to go back to Ga. I decided to see how I would like Texas. Can't say that I like here as well as in the old states and the water in abundance & Land in superabundance, but the Farming lands in the Bottom are the finest I ever saw. They are chopping cotton now. I have had two big messes of snap Beans from my Garden & other seasonable vegetables. everything is so much earlier here than there Cousin ROBERT you remember I mentioned to you last summer when we were there about the Legacy that is due you all SAMPLER heirs. well I have been on the hunt for dates ever since & now I want you to help me some. Cousin EMMA SAMPLER told me that you had a whole lot of the family Geneology now if you haven't the time to copy it for me just send me the whole of it & I give my word of honor I will return every scrap of it to you. The things I want to know is: what was your GrandMothers & Great Mothers maiden names & what was their husbands names & their places of residences & where & when did they die. Ma has been to see the Wilkes Co. Kin folks to find out all they can remember about it & i have wrote to evry one who knows anything at all about it & now if you can give me these dates I have it all ready & a Lawyer ready to take hold of it & see if it is still there he wont charge anything for this as it wont be much trouble to locate it but he says the trouble may come later in recovering it from others but if it was money he says there is a Trust committee appointed to invest it & it will be no trouble if we can only get all the dates right. Ma & Cousin JANE RORIE [?] one of Aunt POLLY DAVIS' daughters & an old negro woman that Aunt SALLIE SAMPLER owned, all agree as to the time Great uncle ROBERT & __ SAMPLER went North & got their share & now if you can give me these dates that I have mentioned I will have them complete. I have been at a good deal of trouble to get it all & have tried to get a good honorable Lawyer to take hold of it. some of the Heirs wrote me to be sure & not pay out my money untill they found the treasurer but I wrote to Ma that I was willing to pay the retainers Fee & take my chances. this Lawyer says he dont want any Fee untill he locates the property. I will be carefull not to give him the names of the Heirs he is only to find it & then the heirs can authorize who they choose to collect for them. Ma needs her's & I am so anxious to do all I can to help her to get it, she says to the best of her recollection Grandma always said her Brother ROBT got \$4000 for his part now Cousin ROBERT dont throw this down & say Shaw - this is all foolishness for I believe firmly that Ill find it. I have allways tried to help others all I could & I hate to even think of failure. Ma seems to be enjoying the society of her old friends I was sorry to hearof the death of Cousin EMMA's mother hoping to hear from you soon I remain with love to all yur family

your cousin

JOE A. ADAMS

Writ in care

ROBT. ADAMS

Bigenoch Ga.

Apr 25 1899

Rev. ROBERT SAMPLER.

Dear Son.

Your letter was received in due time.

Was very glad indeed to hear from you once more. Was very sorry to hear of the death of your son WILLIAM. Am thankful that you sent his obituary It is sad for his family for when father is gone the main stake is gone. There is one thing that we will all have to encounter with and that is death. Sooner or later we know not when, but God will call us at his own good time.

I want you to visit us in the summer as you said something about it when you wrote. I am getting old and have not much longer to stay here.

All the connection are well as far as I know. As for myself I am feeble all the time. Write again soon. Give my love to your wife and all my children and grandchildren. I am as ever

Your Mother

LILLIE A. MERRITT

WOOD - ROBERT CAPEL WOOD was born at Spartenburg S. C. July 9, 1807, was converted and joined the Methodist Church September 20, 1824 and was married to MARTHA McCLESKEY near Gainesville, Ga January 10, 1839. God gave to them eight daughters and one son. The son and six daughters, with the aged and feeble old mother, remain to mourn their loss. He was the last of a family of twelve children. he died January 17, 1897. Truly a good man has gone to his reward. He had been a reader of the Alabama Advocate from its beginning. His family don't remember when he began taking the Nashville Advocate. He loved them both. In the last twenty-four years he had read the Bible through seventeen times, the New Testament fifty-seven and the Psalms fifty-seven. The last sermon he ever heard preached was by Bishop DUNCAN at the last conference held in Gadsden. My home was at his house during the conference. I remember he told me when we came from church (he had used an ear trumpet for twenty years and he had become so deaf he could not hear with it) how he prayed God to open his ears and let him hear the sermon, and how God granted him his request so completely that he heard distinctly every word the Bishop said and as he spoke his soul broke forth in a shout of praise to God for his goodness. He was happy for three weeks afterwards. On Sunday before he died his daughter was sitting by him. He looked up and said: "Who is that singing up stairs?" She says "No one, father." "Why yes; don't you hear them singing that good old song 'And Am I Only Born to Die,' etc? They have been singing for the last half hour." On the Sunday before he died he told his wife he wanted to die on Sunday. She asked him why." "Oh," he says, "it is such a good day." And while tender love bedewed his couch with tears of sorrow he fell asleep at 3 o'clock Sunday, 17th, and joined the host of loved ones awaiting him on the hills of light. To the bereaved we would say only follow his foot prints, and one day there will be an unbroken family in Heaven.

W. O. HORTON.

Sylacauga Ala. March 11, 1897

WOOD - MARTHA M. WOOD was born in Hall county Ga near Gainesville, March 9, 1820 and died in Gadsden, Ala Dec. 7, 1898. She was the daughter of DAVID H. and MARTHA McCLESKEY. She was married to ROBERT C. WOOD January 10, 1839. To them were born nine children, eight daughters and one son. Two of the daughters crossed the flood before the mother, and doubtless greeted her on the other shore. The surviving children were all present to comfort and bless mother in her dying hours. Sister WOOD's parents were stanch Christians, the father a Presbyterian and the mother an earnest Methodist. When a child MARTHA became serious and was soon graciously converted, "born of God", and joined the Methodist church with her mother. She had a kindly feeling for the Presbyterian church, but was none the less a Methodist. She loved her church next to her God. Sister WOOD came to Alabama in 1858 and settled in Marshal county then, now in Etowah. In this county about Walnut Grove her impress was stamped ineffaceably upon many a heart young and old. Always bright and happy with the young people, she touched and saved scores of them for Christ and heaven. They delighted to be in her home. She was indeed a great woman, strong intellectually and doubly strong morally. She possessed a great force of character. No mother ever loved her children more than did Sister WOOD never turned the hungry away. She removed with her husband to Gadsden in 1880; where she finished the work that God had given her to do and fell on sleep Dec. 7th last, to awake in the bright hereafter. "Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord"

J. S. ROBERTSON.

[The following is from the wallet of R. C. Wood, found after his death:]

<i>P. O. Addresses</i>	<i>7 Aug 1883</i>
	<i>(RCW 1878)</i>
<i>N. T. McCleskey or family.</i>	<i>Joel Woods children</i>
<i>Patillo</i>	<i>They live near Edom</i>
<i>Erath Co.</i>	<i>in Van Zandt County</i>
<i>Texas</i>	<i>Texas the oldest</i>
	<i>boy Robert owns some</i>
<i>Dave Wood.</i>	<i>three Hundred Acres</i>
<i>Matt. Stokes.</i>	<i>of Land a very good</i>
<i>Bluff Dale</i>	<i>farme</i>
<i>Hood Co.</i>	<i>- the other two boys</i>
	<i>& Robt live with</i>
<i>Thomas Wood.</i>	<i>there sister Catharine</i>
<i>Toler</i>	<i>who married John Boyd</i>
<i>Hood Co.</i>	<i>or rather she lives</i>
	<i>with them</i>
<i>George Wood</i>	<i>the oldest Girl lives</i>
	<i>in Miss - the others</i>

*Ezekiel McCleskey.
Black Dave McC -
Harbin
Erath Co.*

*all live in the same
neighbor hood
none of the boys
are married*

*Billy & Davy McCleskey
Jack Morton and
any of the Kikers,
Dublin
Erath Co.*

*brother Dow still
living & at camp
meeting*

*Oliver Homes.
Palixy
Hood Co.*

*Margeret Wood
Sonora
Sutton Co.*

Mr R J. SAMPLER

1900

Roswell Ga Mar the 25

Deair ROBERT and fameley your letter came to hand in du tim and fownd all well I was glad to heair you wair all well and doing well we are all well as to and trying to liv for a better world when we leav this arth deth is taking many from this world we no not when the good lord ma col us my las Brother ded and Broth WIL widdo is ded one of hair sons i hav bin wating for __ well to writ to you and he can tel you mowr than i can a bout thing in Rswell than i can. EMEY BUSH has got so she can walk a gain JASON BUSH and MARRETT both mared last yeair and living in Roswell and may liv in marett tha ar all doing well yu sed in your letter the churches wasent doing mucth good religesley we hav a good preacher but no conversns in eney of the churches it seem we air sading still i cant undersant it we hav larg con-grasions and a good sonday school bt the pople in Roswell downt ceair for eney thing but the world and fashen and prid and dress the old pople that is ded and gon was the life of the [church] but the yowng pople is the life of the world and sum of tem or in the church but it sax them for god ses yu muwst be bownd a gain but sum of them never stop to think until it will to lat we hav sum good yowng pople but few in number i hope and pray the tim will com when holey gost will wi pourd owt in Rswell

i must close writ soon

*lov to all godliess you all
your Stepmother
Mrs E PADEN*

MISS WOOD & MRS. SAMPLER,
MILLINERY
and FANCY GOODS.

Gadsden, Ala., ..Feb 27...190.3..

Cincinnati

My Dearest Sister

You see I am here all safe & sound. Mr COSTELLO met me last night it was almost 12 oclock when we got here. I will write you just a line now so you will know I'm all right. Mr. C- will be after me in a few minutes. Will write to you to night. Please take care of your self & don't try to do anything till I get back BECKY [Eliza Klutts] you write me every day & tell me how she is. It is warm this morn. Am going to the store *Lots of love Sis*

ELLA [Nell]

[On the back:] *I will take care of myself - dont you worry about me one minute*

Tolar Texas
Nov. 2. 1904.

Miss WOOD & Mrs. SAMPLER,

Dear Aunts I know you both think I have done you rather shabby in not writing before now. I just came back last week from a visit of ten days to BELLE. You know it was my first visit to one of my married sisters. BELLE is the nicest kind of a house keeper, and is just as happy as a lark. CLYDE is just as good as he can be to her.

OLA lives here at Tolar only a few steps from home They went to house keeping last Friday. She certainly got a good man, and his family is all nice people. They are going to enter tain a crowd of us young people tomorrow night. RUBIE and I are going to bake her cake for her this afternoon. CLYDE said that BELLE could come to see you all when Papa did, but I am afraid she will be to stingy for they are saving all they can to build them a pretty home. My school hasn't begin yet they put the free school off on account of the cotton not being picked out. So many of the school children live in the country and they have to work. I will only get \$30.00 a month, but that does better than going out into the country where I would have to pay board and have all the responsibility thrown on me. I can save the most of it if I just will.

I have me a pretty winter dress and one pair of \$3.00 shoes you sent my hat so you see I have a nice Sunday suit. I was certainly proud of my hat. I think it is real pretty. I had bought me a hat in Granbury, but I hadn't worn it when I received mine so they took it back. It becomes me real well and I feel all right with a hat on that

you select anyway. The milliners here are not very well up on the subject, but they think they know all there is to be learned about it.

Aunt MATT I wish you and Aunt NELL would have some pictures made and send me one. You know I haven't a picture of either of you. I have been thinking I would get ETHEL [Ethel Klutts, the artist] to make me two pretty parlor pictures when she has time but I havn't decided whether to spend my money on such as that or not. I suppose it will be the best though to wait until I have more. I wish ETHEL would try to work herself in some of the colleges in Texas.

How is Aunt ELIZA? Give her my love and tell her I would give a brass monkey to see her. I know you are tired of reading this - Write soon

We are all well, Your neice

IDA WOOD

Lafayette Geo

Sept 7th 1906

Miss MATTIE WOOD

Dear Cousin

I received your letter yesterday was glad to heare from you all I supposed I would not heare from you any more as it had been so long since I had heard from any of you. how soever I was truly glad to get a letter from you did not know you had moved back to the old home. Yes I have the family Bible Will send you a list I do not know any thing about Grand Pa WOODs [Robert Wood who married Rebecca Traylor] family bible it may be at the old place the first time I go over there I will find out about it though I hardly think it there. Aunt LULA still lives at the old home place there has been a lot of changes made there since you was here. the house begins to need re-pairing verry bad Uncle ASBERRY place looks natural the man who bought it has had it newly painted. I know you & cousin ELLA enjoyed your trip to Texas I know I would love all of them. how long has cousin ELIZA been in Ark I had heard through cousin WILLIE ELLIS that ETHEL was Teaching out there. you said I had some grand girls yes I have three grown two more almost grown. But dont you think it is making me feel old far from it I am just as spry as a girl so far as my size Will let me I have not lost any flesh. CORA the oldest works at dress making in Chattanooga ETHEL teaches school the other three help to keep house.

Sister [LULA?] has four children three boys one girl they are healthy bright children. We have had a wet summer crops are fine dont think I every saw any finer corn than is this year JOHN does not farm very much now as he is not very strong We had a good meeting at RockSpring this summer the best for a number of years thirty four (34) Joined at RS. I wish you could come to see us and visit the grave yard it is well cared for kep nice and clean any time you could come just write and wee will meet you at the train will be glad to have you visit us any time that suits you. I would like so much to see you all give my love to your sisters

and accept a large portion for yourself

Lovingly

MARY TYNON

adress Lafayett R F D # 1

[Mary Tynon - granddaughter of Ann Wood & Samuel Brice]

[Dec. 1907]

Tuesday

My dear Aunts

We are at last "quieted down" for the Holidays. We are enjoying these quiet days. We have left six girls six Teachers and Mr. and Mrs WILLIAMS. For my part I would like these silent Halls for about one month. One gets so tired of being asked questions and say "do this and do that".

How are you getting along with your measles boys. They did not show very good judgment in the time selected for having measles. [1] picked up a most horrible cold somehow somewhere - The girls went to the church tonight to the Christmas Tree - Im not glad I have a cold but was glad did not have to take them. Aunt JANE and MARVIN will take dinner with IDA tomorrow. We were invited there too but could not accept on account of a previous engagement. More than three weeks ago we promised to take Christmas dinner at Galloway College. We are faring sumptously had chicken tonight for supper and hear we are to have a good dinner tomorrow. Dr. _____ DDEN will take dinner with us. I hope joy will come your way during the holidays. Hope old Santy will be good to you -

A great deal of love from

Your neice

ETHEL -

GALLOWAY COLLEGE

All Her Paths are Peace

1888

Searcy, Ark.

April 12th 1908

Dear Sisters,

This has been one of the loveliest of spring days and all nature seems to be out in whole suit of green with roses, and lovely flowers everywhere - ETHEL and I walked out in the woods this evening and it was so beautiful and the air so pure. I wanted to stay till dark but the old gong warned us to hasten home to supper at 5 oclock, so we sadly retraced our steps back to the college. I know you all are very busy at this time with spring hats commencement is seven weeks from next Wednesday. We will come back here for another year, Mr. WILLIAMS raised ETHEL's salary. He thought he was going to loose her and he does not want her to go. He told her some time ago she could stay here just as long as he did. Next year I hope she

will open a studio of her own in some city of the west. One of the old Teachers, Miss JACKSON is visiting Mrs BORDEN so ETHEL is with them, and I am alone, and thinking of you all. ETHEL has been working very hard so this morning I took charge of her class in S S and let her rest. She is about through with the Gallowagian work. When have you heard from ALBAN? I have looked in vain for a letter from him. I have not had the pleasure of wearing my bonnet yet, We did not either of us go to church this morning. We knew we would miss a good sermon, but we wanted to stay at home

With lots of love for every one.

Sister BECKY [Eliza]

Fairbanks, Alaska

July 15, 1908

My Dear Auntie;

I was so glad to hear from you. Yes we had reached our destination and had only been settled a few days in our little home when your letter came. We were quite a little while getting in on account of low water at one place which has only happened a few times within a hundred years. We left Seattle the 26th of May at one A.M. We took an inland route. After leaving Seattle we passed between the Island of Vancouver and the Mainland then to the Alaska coast. When we got to Juneau a crowd of us got off and walked around town. It as at night and raining. But it was worth the walk. The town is built right on the water front and just at the back are the mountains a mile high or over with their snow covered peaks. We didn't get to go on land but a few times until we got to Skagway where we took the White Pass and Yukon R. R. to go to White Horse. When we arrived in Skagway we learned of the low water so we decided to make the best of the situation we could and enjoy ourselves. By this time we had made the acquaintance of several nice people among whom were a man and his daughter who had lived in Skagway for a number of years and was back there on a visit and a young lady who was on her way for a visit to a sister in Fairbanks. Skagway is right in among the mountains and of course there is some awful pretty scenery. One mountain which overlooks the town is in the exact shape of a woman's face and is called Face Mountain. Another is called A B Mountains for the snow in the crevices make those two letters. There is also a number of beautiful water falls around the town. But we weren't content with only seeing those things around town we wanted to see those that were hidden among the mountains. Denver Glacier was one of them and it was certainly worth seeing. A party of eighteen of us started but one morning only three girls in the crowd. Over half of the men were the government surveyers boys. All nice boys. We went for six miles on the train then we had to walk, for three and a half miles. but we had a very good trail, and we girls had overalls to wear after we got off the train so we got along fine When we got to the Glacier we had our ice creepers and Alpine Stocks to aid us in climbing in fact with out them we couldn't have gone up for it was very steep at first. It was very cold just pleasant with our light coats on and was something wonderful to be standing on so much ice and to look down through the deep crevices and hear the water running underneath. We returned to camp had lunch and returned to

town on the evening train. You see by the time we arrived in Skagway we weren't having any dark at all. Which seemed very queer. You have to go to bed here by your watch altogether. The sun is shining when we go to bed and shining when we get up. After while it will be all dark. Well our next trip was to Black Lake. It was up among the mountains awful large has inlets but no outlet that you can see and the water is very black. We walked up there one afternoon being only four miles from town. You would be surprised at the number of pretty flowers that grow wild in the woods. Violets, Sweetpeas, wild roses and in one place we found the prettiest kind of yellow poppies. We had to stay at Skagway sixteen days, but after we left there it only took us eight days to land in Fairbanks. We found Fairbanks rather dull on account of the strike of last fall. Lots of men out of employment. I have met quite a number of people. They are all very friendly and nice. I guess you wonder what kind of homes they have. The greater part of them are built of logs, and is surprising how comfortable and nice they are on the inside. We rented our house ready furnished We have two rooms and a large woodshed. Every thing as nice as we could wish. We pay \$25.00 per mo.

I wish you could see some of the gardens here. Any thing in the vegetable line will grow and grows awful fast. But they are awful high when tomatoes are one dollar per pound.

People as a rule here are very generous to the unfortunate. A few months ago a miner died on one of the creeks, and when word was telegraphed to his wife in Seattle, she was too weak to hear the news, for she lay dying in one of the hospitals there leaving a little girl a few years old. And the man had not made anything so the people started a baby stocking fund for the child which has reached the sum of \$2,464.25 which is to be invested for her.

Blueberries are ripe now. We had some for lunch to day. There are the same as the huckleberry. Awful fine cranberries and raspberries also grow wild here. We intended having our pictures made while in Seattle but kept neglecting it so don't guess will be apt to have any made in here, for nice ones are about \$24.00 per dozen. I do hope you will soon get over the rheumatism it is an awful thing to have.

I too hope you will be living in Texas time we get back for we intend making our home there. Either on our ranch or near San Antonia.

I had a letter from BELLE saying DEWITT was going to visit them this month and that she thought she would be ready to go back with him. If so I guess she will be there by the time this letter reaches you. If she goes I hope she will do well and learn lots about the trade. I will be glad when I can visit your home again, for you know I have always enjoyed staying with you and Aunt NELL. I guess ETH-EL is at home by this time and I know she is glad to be back with you again. I will answer her letter soon, I wish she would make the trip up here

[last page is missing.]

[From Ida Wood Watkins, daughter of Albin Wood, to her Aunt Matt (Martha) Wood]

Dunbarton 8/30 - 1908

Dear Sisters,

I expected to have a letter from you by this time but the terrible floods on the Rivers thru this Section of country have demoralised the mails as well as everything else.

I suppose you have read of the horrible time the people had in Augusta last Tuesday Night. I stayed at the Planters Hotel Sunday Night The water got up 8 or 10 ft. in it.

I consider I made a narrow escape. If I had lost any time on my way I might have been caught in the flood there.

I am 7 miles from RR, and 15 or 20 from the River, in high, dry and healthy community, and living with one of the nicest families to be found anywhere.

I will be here one more week. Just as soon as I get instructions for another place I will let you know.

I have not heard a word from home since I left Haskell. I crossed the Oconee River last Sunday and thought of our dear old Mother. You remember how She love to talk of her life time spent near that stream I have no news to write but thought you might be a little uneasy about me if you did not hear from me.

This is a pretty day and I hope we will have no more rain soon.

*With much love to all, I am as ever
your brother*

A. C. WOOD

In care of B. F. ANDERSON,

*8/31 Have recovered 80 bodies in Augusta and some think
there are 200 or 300 Negroes drowned*

[Their mother, Martha Matilda McCleskey Wood, lived near the Oconee at Gainesville where her father had a mill. After her marriage, she and R. C. Wood moved to Athens, and lived near the Oconee River there.]

21st Avenue M. E. Church, South

W. O. Horton, Pastor

Birmingham, Alabama

July 7th 1914

Dear Cousin ELLA:

I have just heard by phone message from ROBT OSBORN, that cousin MATTIE is not expected to live through the night. I am so sorry to hear about it. I do hope she is better now, and I do pray if it is God's will that she may be spared to us a little longer, I was planning to see you all the last of this month as I would be passing by on my way to Menlo to assist in a meeting up there. It is almost impossible for me to come now, but I do hope she will stay with us a while, if she is conscious when you get this, tell her I love her dearly and am praying earnestly to God that she may recover. I love all of you Dearly and I wonder why you all dont come to see me when you come to our city. Call me up next time and come to see me or I will come to you if you let me know where you are All join me in much Love to you all May God bless you abundantly in this affliction

*Devotedly,
W. O. HORTON*

A PIONEER WOMAN, MISS M. WOOD PASSES AWAY

Miss MATTIE WOOD died last night at 1:08 o'clock at her home on College street after an illness of long duration. Brief funeral services will be conducted by Rev. Geo. W. Read at the home tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock and they will be concluded at Springville, where the remains will be taken for burial. The news of Miss WOOD's death has caused a profound shock throughout the city as it was not generally known that she was seriously ill. No woman was better known among the older citizens of Gadsden and none more highly esteemed.

Miss MATTIE was born in Hall county Georgia November 20, 1845, and was 69 years old. She was the daughter of Mr. And Mrs. R. C. WOOD, who are remembered by the older citizens. She came to Gadsden in 1880 with her sister, Mrs. ELLA SAMPLER, and entered the millinery business under the firm name of WOOD & SAMPLER. The business continued for 25 years and extended into a large territory.

"Miss Mattie Wood" was a household word throughout several counties surrounding Gadsden in those days and thousands of women will recall her sweet and gentle nature.

The deceased possessed a splendid business mind and was a successful woman. She was a devoted Christian, being a life long member of the Methodist church.

She is survived by one brother, A. C. WOOD of Tolar, Texas, and five sisters. Mrs. MARY ROBBINS, Walnut Grove; Mrs. E. R. KLUTTS, Gadsden; Mrs. J. A. ALLISON, Springville; Mrs. H. I. OSBORN, Birmingham, Mrs. ELLA SAMPLER, Gadsden. The interment will be in the family lot at the Springville cemetery tomorrow.

THE MURRAY COMPANY
Sole Manufacturers of
Murray Complete Gin Outfits.

Dallas, Texas ..April..29..19....

Tolar

Mrs. JANE ALLISON

Springville, Ala.

My very dear Sister,

We received your more than welcome letter a few days ago. It is the only line we have had from you in over 12 months. NELL phoned to cousin MATT to know if she had received a letter from you, and cousin MATT says no, that she has heard nothing from you in a long long time. I gaot one letter from ELLA last winter. At

times I feel like my sisters have forgotten me and left me to fight lifes battles alone since CLAUDE left me for his home in Heaven I have yearned and craved for some one to give me some word of sympathy and consolation - - -

This world is so hard and cruel I believe I could not have stood the strain of it were not for the faith I have in the precous presence of my dear Saviour. Our children were with us Xmas, except OLA & RUBIE. Cousin MATT ate Xmas dinner with us. Cousins BILLY & JANE Mc[Cleskey] came over from Dublin and spent 3 or 4 days with us in November. MILTON & MOLLY Mc[Cleskey] spent Saturday night, two weeks ago with us. I see cousin PARKS occasionally ALBIE has been with me since before CLAUDE left me but he is now in Lubuck putting up a house. RUBIE has been living in Lubuck till lately She moved to Farwell. OLA lives in Miles near Sanangelo. IDA is still in Ft. Worth. HAZIEL lives in Huckaby, Erath Co. BELLE & CLYDE live in Tolar (at home) BETTE JOE, DEWY and NELL live on our farm and I tell them I have two homes for I am here apart of the time and at the farm some. I have had carpenter work all the year, JOE & DEWY have two horses each and are farming the place. They have some pretty corn & oats and 12 acres planted in cane that is just up. So far the prospects are good for all crops this year. They will plant about 20 acres in cotton and 40 or 50 in Peanuts. BETTIE has 50 hens 4 pigs and milks 3 cows, 1 dry cow, two Heifers two Heifer calves & 2 male calves. She says she is fixing to live during the war. Yes, I had heard of cousin ZEMILYS death. I know IDA hates to think of CHARLY being so far away from home.

BELLE is in bad health. She had to give up her millernary work. I wish you could see your name sake, ELLA JANE, she weigh only 150 lbs -

DEWY is about as tall & slender as your CHARLY was at his age. you asked me about War times, well, I hardly know what to think, this I do know, the necessaries of life are almost out of reach of the laboring man. Flour \$14.00, Meal 4 cts per lb. Meat 25 to 35 Sugar 12 1/2 and other things in proportion. I have quit buying meat. Have flour to do us till September and sugar to put up our fruit Our Black & Dew Berries are fine Peaches are not so good but will make plenty for own use. Our gardens are good.

I am sure glad to hear that you can get around (if only a little bit) with out that old crutch.

Dont allow yourself any uneasiness about us being close to Mexico. We have no fears here. Mexico knows Texas better than it does the U. S. and I have no fears that CARNAZA will ever take sides with Germany. The reports in the daily Press is all bash.

Tell me about [BERRY?] FOREMANs case and all about the old Springvillites It seems so long since I heard from any of them. Now, sister, I have rambled off about all I can think of and hope it will not be so very long before I can hear from you again. If I could be with [you] I could talk for hours.

I think of you every day and never go to sleep at night till after I have said my prayers and ask my Heavenly Father to bless and take care of my dear sisters.

Let us remain faithful a few more years and we can step over and Join the loved ones that have gone on. Give my love to all.

Your affectionate Brother [Albin Wood]

CLAUDE WOODS. CLAUDE WOODS, son of A. C. WOODS, died at the home of his sister, Mrs. P. L. TELFORD in Hamlin, Texas, last Tuesday morning. His remains were brought to Tolar Wednesday for burial in the Strouds Creek cemetery Thursday evening at 2:30 o'clock. CLAUDE was practically raised here, was a member of the Methodist church and of the W. O. W. lodge at Stephenville. He leaves a wife and host of relatives and friends to mourn his going. Funeral services were conducted at the home by Rev. J. F. ADAMS and the remains were taken in charge by the woodman. The Standard sends sympathy to all bereaved.

[No date on obituary. Woods - name is misspelled; should be Wood.]

A. C. WOOD DEAD AT HOME IN TOLAR; FUNERAL MONDAY

A. C. WOOD, long time citizen of Tolar, died at the family home Saturday morning following an illness of several months' duration. He was buried Monday morning at Stroud's Creek cemetery where a number of his relatives have been interred in the past. At the time of his death, Mr. WOOD was 77 years of age, and had lived in Tolar for more than thirty years. Besides his wife he is survived by a number of children, among them being JOE WOOD, who has made his home in Stephenville for the past five years. All were present for the funeral held Monday. Another son, the late CLAUD WOOD, is well remembered in this city as a student in Tarleton College in 1912. Mr. WOOD came from an old and prominent family in the State of Alabama where he grew to manhood. Early in his married life he moved to Texas and eventually settled at Tolar where he has made his home for the past thirty years. As a building contractor he was recognized as one of the best and projects he supervised were considered finished in the best of order. For a number of years he was connected with the MURRAY GIN COMPANY of Dallas and during that time supervised the erection of some of the largest gin plants in Texas and the entire South, his territory covering almost every Southern state in the Union. Many of the better homes in Tolar and Hood county were erected under his supervision. In more recent years since Mr. WOOD had reached the age in life when it was impractical to follow his life's profession

he retired from that line of work and established a waterworks system in Tolar. Until his death, he operated this system, which was carried out in the characteristic manner of his thoroughness.

A fitting testimonial of his popularity and the number of friends he had was manifested in the manner in which his neighbors and associates took care of the family during the time of their distress. Friends literally took charge of every detail of the arrangements in connection with the funeral, all of which was a great consolation to his broken-hearted wife and other members of the family. Almost every person in the little city of Tolar attended the funeral services at the Methodist church in that city and followed the remains to their last resting place in the cemetery which

nestles among the hills of what is commonly known as Strouds Creek a few miles north of Tolar.

Local friends of JOE WOOD have extended to him every possible word of condolence during his grief, many of them being with him at the time of the funeral. Many others would have attended the funeral but for the inclement weather and the further fact that the hour of the funeral was not generally known.

C. J. RUSSELL of the HIGGINBOTHAM UNDERTAKING DEPARTMENT, had charge of the funeral arrangements.

[He died 28 Feb 1931.]

MARTIN VAN BUREN ALLISON, son of JOHN and MARTHA ALLISON, was born in Hart County, Ga. September 28, 1842, and died in Springville, St. Clair County, Ala., November 27, 1899. He came to Alabama in January, 1859, and settled in Blount County. When the call came for volunteers to serve in the Confederate army he was one of the first to respond. He enlisted in Company B Twenty-eighth Alabama Regiment, and served his country faithfully until the surrender. He was married to Miss JANE A. WOOD, July 31, 1865. In 1867 he moved with his family to Springville, where he has since resided. He had been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, since early youth. He assisted in organizing and establishing the Methodist Sunday school at Springville, and for more than a quarter of a century that the Sunday school has been in existence he was its Secretary, constant in attendance and untiring in his efforts in its behalf. Every Sunday, fair or foul, he was in his place smiling and happy, ready to lead the childrens voices in songs, and ready to lead the choir in the more solemn music of the Church service. Music was with him a passion. The children grew and went their ways in the world, and another generation took their place, but "Brother ALLISON" was still a familiar and well-beloved figure in the Sunday school. The last day of his life was spent in the loved service. He sat in his accustomed place, leading the music as usual, and no one saw the shadow that was even then hovering over him, or dreamed that when they next assembled in the house of God the place of the gray-haired leader would be vacant evermore. Sunday afternoon he asked his wife to play and sing some sweet old songs. As she complied with his request, he stood by her and joined his voice with hers in singing the dear familiar hymns. In the evening he sat with family and friends around the fireside, chatting cheerfully and indulging in reminiscences of bygone days until bedtime. Shortly after he had retired for the night death came to him, suddenly, swiftly, as unexpected as a bolt from a clear sky. But coming even thus, "as a thief in the night," death had no terrors for him. His face, as he lay in the repose of death, was not the face of one whose last moments had been spent wrestling with uncertainties; but as the face of one whose passing soul, catching a glimpse of the glories unfolding to its vivion, had left a faint reflection of its joy upon the worn-out clay.

HARRIET WOOD OSBORN

DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN

M. V. ALLISON, brother in law of Miss MATTIE WOOD, Mrs. KLUTZ and Dr. and Mrs. SAMPLER of this city, died suddenly at his home in Springville Monday morning. Sunday night he was in his usual good health, and talked until 10 o'clock with Dr. R. J. SAMPLER about various things, and the fact that only three men were then living who were in Springville when he moved there. He soon after retired, and at 11 was stricken with apoplexy, and at 2:15 was a corpse.

Mr. ALLISON was 55 years old and was a good citizen. He had been post-master at Springville and was highly thought of and was a power in the community and will be sadly missed.

MRS. JANE ALLISON

Mrs. JANE ALLISON departed this life in Atlanta, Georgia, during the Christmas holidays, December, 1920, while visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. IDA BYERS. Sister Allison was the oldest member of Springville Methodist church at the time of her death. She united with the Methodist church in childhood and was a loyal member to its doctrines and polity. Now that she has gone from among us her friends remember as a mother in Isreal beloved and honored for the faithful life of Christian service which as wife and mother was so beautiful and self-forgetful. The husband with whom she journeyed until their children had grown to manhood and woman-hood's estate, preceded her a number of years to the glory world. Her children who had such a blessed mother's counsel and love for so long can rejoice that she died with the light of the Eternal City falling full on her face. For she had been looking that way for many years. Two sons, a daughter, grand-children, sisters, a brother and other relatives, with multitudes of friends mourn her passing away. But in the glorious morning of the resurrection with the redeemed of God may we meet her in the city where God is the light.

O. L. MILLICAN.

W. M. ROBBINS SERIOUSLY ILL

W. M. ROBBINS, one of the oldest and best loved citizens of Etowah county, is reported to be dangerously ill at his Walnut Grove home. Mr. ROBBINS has been sick for some time and on account of his age his recovery is doubtful. This will be painful news throughout the county for he is widely known and respected.

[The Gadsden Times, 15 July 1913, pg 1]

W. M. ROBBINS HAS PASSED TO THE GREAT BEYOND

W. M. ROBBINS, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of Etowah, died yesterday near noon at his Walnut Grove home after a weary illness. Mr. ROBBINS was 79 years old and he leaves a wife and seven children. Mrs. ASA SMITH of Gadsden is a daughter. The deceased was one of the most substantial citizens of the county. He was a pioneer and was always for the right and for the good of his community, state and nation. He was widely known in the county and his death will cause genuine sorrow in Gadsden and throughout this whole section. Mr. ROBBINS died from an attack of pneumonia. The funeral took place this afternoon at 2 o'clock and the burial was at Walnut Grove cemetery.

[The Gadsden Times, 19 July 1913, pg 1]

Walnut Grove Ala
July 15 1924

Dear ALICE

It seemes a long time since I had a letter from you. We had a nice shower yesterday & every thing was needing it. Our garden is looking fine but we have had no tomatos (ripe ones) yet but a lot of them comeing on. Will soon have roasting ears. The crops are looking fine, some of them are lean, but the grass has the advantage in some places & somebody is going to have to work if it ever makes any thing. I can do no garden work & but little house work. I am getting positively lazy, I can't go without crutch or stick, my appetite is all right but I don't sleep well.

ELLA [daughter Ella Scott] has gone to Birmingham to see if she can find some thing to do for herself & MARVIN. They intended to leave Gadsden before BERRY [Scott] died. You could not help being sorry for her, she looks like she is lost. They buried him beside MAURICE [Scott]. The K.K.K. buried him. I have no news to write. I have not heard from EDD [Robbins] in quite a while. Cousin THURSIE is staying with Sister NELL till ETHEL comes home from "Lake Junaluska" in N. C. She is gone to do some decorative work, another Art teacher is with her. NELLIE has gone to see her folks in "Penn". I supposed you knew BIRD [daughter of Mary Wood Robbins] was married.

We are looking for you & as many more as can come. Remember there is not many of us at the Grove now, but all come when you can. Hope this will find all of you well. How are you all getting on? They will be looking for you in Gadsden this time. Your Aunt NELL is not looking well. She stayed with us a few days this spring then went home sick. I would like to see all of you, CHARLIE [Robbins] has been talking about going down there or somewhere for a change. He is not looking well & works all the time. Let us know when you are comeing. Much love & best wishes for all.

Mother [Mary Robbins]

[Margin:] *Dont forget to bring the quilt squares. I will finish them up.*

[Envelope addressed to: Mrs Alice Reid, 924 - 10 Ave Tuscaloosa Ala]

Feb 7 1925

Dear ALICE

& family I am going to write you a short letter & do it in a hurry. I have no news to write & will have to do that in a hurry. ELLA SCOTT [daughter of Mary Robbins] was doing well the last time I heard from her but she did not know if DAISY was with HOLLIS [Scott]. They were all well at Gadsden the last time I heard from them. Hope this will find all of you well.

We are not all well here but are getting better I have a severe cough but it is getting better; all have colds here I did not sleep well last night & I have to nod sometime. Have not fe

[This letter was never finished. Mary Wood Robbins died 11 Feb 1925.]

Office of the Registrar of Vital Statistics
ETOWAH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
109 South Eighth Street Gadsden, Alabama
VERIFICATION OF DEATH RECORD
This is to certify that there is recorded in this office a
copy of the death of

--Mrs. Eliza Klutts-- on December 27, 1921
in Etowah County, Alabama, Color W Sex F Age at death 79 years
Legal residence College Street
CAUSE Primary Pneumonia
OF
DEATH Contributory
Attendant M. P. Hughes, M. D. File date Not shown
Jennie R. Lorren
Registrar of Vital Statistics

[Following is an excerpt from an item in the Gadsden Times column, Social and Club News, no date. Second item is also from the Times.]

PICTURE BY MISS KLUTZ HANGS IN AUDITORIUM.

At a meeting several days ago, Senator Rogers presiding said that North Carolina turns to a little town in North Alabama and singles out a modest unassuming woman Miss ETHEL KLUTS. At the solicitation of the assembly association a large picture forty by twelve hangs as a back drop on the stage of the auditorium at Junaluska. This is a reproduction of Lake Junaluska and for its beauty, richness of color and excellence of perspective, is receiving much praise from the hundreds of people who

journey to this lovely spot each summer. It was painted as Miss KLUTZ saw the view from the porch of the cottage of Mrs. BANKS, the mother of Mrs. EDWIN GOODHUE. Gadsden people are proud of women who really achieve along their chosen line and recognize Miss KLUTZ in this class.

[Date and newspaper unknown]

MISS ETHEL KLUTTS' PICTURES EXHIBITED AT PUBLIC LIBRARY Ten Pictures Executed By Local Artist Shown Here

An exhibition of paintings by Miss ETHEL L. KLUTTS, well known Gadsden artist, is being held this week in the children's room of the public library. Miss KLUTTS' paintings have for years attracted the attention of art critics all over the South and many of them [have been] in exhibitions held in the larger cities of Dixie. The pictures on exhibition at the library have all been shown in Birmingham and Montgomery at various times. Two pictures which have attracted considerable attention are of Noccalula Falls, one painted from the north side and the other painted from the south side. The picture painted from the north side was chosen by the Southern States Art League to be placed in their traveling exhibition. Each year a jury composed of members of the league select what they consider the best pictures painted by Southern artists and tour the South, giving exhibitions at all the principal Southern cities. However, probably the best known painting of Miss KLUTTS is the flower picture which was awarded a prize offered by the Montgomery Garden Club at the annual exhibition of paintings sponsored by the Alabama Art League in 1932. "Spring Flowers", a beautiful painting of poppies in a brass vase, has been exhibited in Birmingham several times

and a picture of the painting appeared in the rotogravure section of the Birmingham News. An excellent painting of the river bridge painted late in the afternoon when the twilight's glow has softened the muddy colors of the river is one of Miss KLUTTS' most beautiful pieces. Her most recent picture is a fruit and flowers against a tapestry background. At the present Miss KLUTTS serves [as] supervisor of art in the gram-mar grades of the city schools. Many years ago she received her diploma from the Art Academy of Cincinnati, following which she worked for some time as a member of the Art Students League in New York where she [worked] with M. M. MASON in New York, teacher of design. Miss Klutts taught art in Galloway College for Girls in Searcy, Ark., for a number of years. Sandwiched in between the years spent in New York and those spent in Arkansas, Miss Klutts worked with CARRIE L. HILL in Birmingham, regarded as one of the best teachers in the South.

[The Gadsden Times, 31 Jan 1935]

MISS KLUTTS, NOTED ARTIST, PASSES AWAY Funeral Will Be Held Here Friday Afternoon

Miss ETHEL KLUTTS, superintendent and director of art in the Gadsden public schools and one of the most noted artists in the South, died at a local hospital this morning at 1 o'clock, following an illness of several weeks. Funeral services will be held at the First Methodist Church at 1:45 o'clock Friday afternoon with Dr.

CLARE PURCELL, the pastor, in charge. Burial will follow at Springville, Brown-Service directing.

The active pallbearers will be cousins of the deceased, THOMAS F. DOWLING, Jr., W. AUSTIN BYERS, CHARLES W. BYERS, M. L. BYERS, GEORGE M. BYERS, ROBERT OSBORN, MARVIN ALLISON, MARVIN SCOTT, ROBERT CHARLES ALLISON. The honorary pallbearers will be Dr. A. W. RALLS, W. U. PASCHALL, C. A. DONEHOO, TOM DOWLING, Jr., W. I. MASON, Dr. L. K. COOPER, J. D. SAMUELS, EDWIN GOODHUE, DAVID McCLESKEY, F. V. BUCHANAN and JOHN DUKE.

The only near relative surviving is Mrs. ELLA SAMPLER. She and Miss KLUTTS have lived her for many years. Miss KLUTTS was a member of the First Methodist Church and her blackboard art work for the Sunday school is said to have been of the highest order. She had been a member of the church since girlhood. She was a member of a pioneer and prominent family of this section. Miss KLUTTS' paintings have for years attracted attention of art critics all over the South and many of them have appeared in art exhibitions in most of the largest cities of Dixie. In 1932 she was awarded a first prize offered by the Montgomery Garden Club at its annual exhibition of paintings sponsored by the Alabama Art League. It is a picture of flowers. Some of her paintings have appeared in rotogravure sections of Southern newspapers.

Miss Klutts painted flowers and landscapes only. One of her prettiest paintings is one of the river bridge in Gadsden. It was done late in the afternoon when the twilight glow had softened the muddy colors of the Coosa River. One of her most recent paintings is one of a bunch of flowers with a tapestry background.

Critics were unanimously saying that Miss KLUTTS' work was good in composition and pleasing in color. Years ago she received an art diploma from the Cincinnati Art Academy. She then went to New York city where she worked for some time as a member of the New York Students Art League. Later she did some special work with Miss M. M. MASON, who was recognized as the best teacher of design in New York City. It was under the tutelage of Miss MASON that Miss KLUTTS developed her skill as a painter of flowers. Following those days in New York she taught art in Galloway College in Searcy, Ark. She also worked with CARRIE L. HILL in Birmingham, regarded as one of the best teachers in the South.

MRS. ELLA SAMPLER DIES; RITES TODAY Member of Prominent Family Passes At 94

Mrs. ELLA E. SAMPLER, 94, member of one of the oldest and most respected families of this part of Alabama, died at her home at 239 College Street at 1:30 o'clock Sunday morning, following an illness of several months.

She was born in Athens, Ga April 15, 1851, and came to Gadsden with her family 70 years ago. She was the daughter of ROBERT C. and MARTHA McCLESKEY WOOD. Her husband was the late Dr. R. J. SAMPLER, a Methodist minister who died 40 years ago after a colorful life. He was a circuit rider in Northeast

Alabama when preaching the gospel in out-of-the-way places was dangerous. He had several churches in tough sections of Marshall, Etowah and St. Clair counties where he preached his sermons over a pulpit on which rested his Bible between two cap and ball pistols. Just before each sermon he announced that he was aware that hoodlums of the neighborhood had been in the habit of interfering with church service but that he was prepared to meet any and every emergency. He was rarely molested, although there was occasionally some wild shooting in the vicinity of his services.

Mrs. SAMPLER and her sister, Miss MATTIE WOOD, conducted a dress-making and millinery establishment here for many years under the firm name of WOOD and SAMPLER. She was a remarkably good woman and was successful in business. She was a devout member of the Methodist Church.

Surviving are eight nephews and four neices as follows: C. W. ALLISON, Springville; R. C. OSBORN, Birmingham; FRED OSBORN, Tuscaloosa; M. M. ALLISON, Atlanta Ga; ALBERT WOOD, Toler, Texas; CHARLES B. ROBBINS, Walnut Grove; ED ROBBINS, Milton, Fla; ROBERT W. ROBBINS, Miami, Fla; MRS. IDA BYERS, Hapeville, Ga; MRS. ALICE [REID], Ocoee, Fla; MRS. BIRDIE KAMP [Kemp], Birmingham; MRS. BELLE WATKINS, Ft. Worth, Texas.

Funeral services were held in the Collier-Butler Chapel at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon with the Rev. W. A. SHELTON, pastor of the First Methodist Church, in charge. Burial followed in the Springville cemetery.

Nephews of the deceased acted as pallbearers.

[Several survivors were omitted, among them Ella Jane Scott, her namesake, who was daughter of Nell's sister, Mary Louisa Wood Robbins]

Appendix

[The following was written by Mattie Wood, daughter of Robert Capel Wood, son of Robert Wood below.]

*my grand father Robert Wood was born in Halifax Co Virginia January 23rd 1765
Rebeca Traylor was born in Amelia Co Virginia June 14th 1771
Robert Wood and Rebeca Traylor were married Spartenberg District South Carolina
Oct 21st 1790*

*My great grand father the one who moved from England
John Wood & Story Wood his wife (her maiden name was Story Lord) both died in
South Carolina Spartenberg District. Could not get the dates of their deaths*

*They had acording to grand Pa's record four children
John, Robert, Edmund & Mary. Mary married
Edward Bormer [scratched out] Bonner [Note above it says "should be Bomar"],
but father says he has often heard his mother speak of an uncle Edward Pegram.
The Pollards & Greens were relatives also and all lived in Virginia*

*_____ of Grand Father Wood family
_____ t Wood & Rebecca his wife was married
_____ 21st in the year of our Lord 1790
Polly Wellbeloved was born Nov 15th 1791
Rebecca Story was born Nov 6th 1793
Thirza was born April 1st 1795
William Edmund was born Jan 28th 1797
Wiley Edwards was born Dec 16th 1798
Catherine Thomas was born March 11th 1801
Archer Marshal was born April 24th 1803
Lorenzo Dow was born April 16th 1805
Robert Capel was born July 9th 1807
Ann was born April 26th 1810
Joel Traylor was born June 13th 1812
John Judge was born June 2nd 1815*

*Eliza R. Klutts Book
Nov 8th 1874*

[Notes of ROBERT CAPEL WOOD]

Robert Wood died July 22nd 1835
Rebecca Wood his wife died September 8 1855
Archer M. Wood died April 22nd 1882
The above entered in Testament
*Lorenzo Dow Wood died the 7th day Saturday of January 1890**
Robert Capel Wood and Martha Matilda McCleskey was married Jan 10th 1839
George W. Klutts and Eliza R. C. Wood was married Nov 9th 1858
Martin V. Allison and Zemuly Jane A. Wood was married Aug 16th 1866
William M. Robbins and Mary L. et. Wood was married Aug 16th 1866
Joseph Franklin Osborne and Harriet G. J. Wood was married June 3rd 1874

[*Date on the monument is 7 Dec 1889, one month earlier.]

[From the Bible of ELIZA REBECCA WOOD KLUTTS]

BIRTHS

G. W. Klutts was born February 14 1836
E. R. C. Klutts was born April the 16. 1842
R. J. H. Klutts was born 16th October In The A.D. 1860
Ethel Lindsay Klutts was born May 29th 1872

DEATHS

G. W. Klutts died May 2nd 1872
Robert Jacob Klutts departed this life July 29th A.D. 1884

[Bible Record of R. C. WOOD]

Robert Capel Wood was born on 9th July 1807
Martha Matilda Wood McCleskey was born March 9th 1820
David H. McCleskey her Father was born Aug 2nd 1783 Abbeville District South Carolina
Martha Jarrett his first wife was born in Wilkes Co Ga Dec 10th 1810
James McCleskey (father of D. H. Mc= was born Jan 20th 1755.
Isabella Rhea (wife of James) was born in Augusta Co Virginia January 1753

Record of the Grand Childrens Names and ages of Davids and Martha McCleskeys as taken below from their parents records by himself this 30th of March in the year of our Lord 1845 beginning at the oldest

<i>James J & Ann MCleskey 1st</i>	<i>Joseph & Susan G MCleskey 3rd</i>
<i>David Henderson born June 21st 1825</i>	<i>James Rhea Dec 12th 18--</i>
<i>Ann " June 17th 1827</i>	<i>John Eberhart Jan 25th 18--</i>
<i>-ekial Dunagan August 24th 1829</i>	<i>Martha Jane June 17th 18--</i>

--eph Howell November 29th 1831
 --mes Benson June 5th 1834
 --ner Perry October 27th 1836
 --rtha Jane March 27th 1839
 Thaddeus H. & Asenith McCleskey 2nd
 James Rhea Nov 16th 1827
 David Samford February 4th 1829
 James Austoson April 15th 1831
 James Franklin March 4th 1833
 John Westley Nov 8th 1835
 Thomas Smith Dec 31 1837
 Martha Elizabeth Jany 21st 1840
 Milton Turk April 16th 1842
 Joseph & Zemuly C Guyton 5th
 Martha Margaret born Feby 13 1829
 Mary Jane January 28th 1831
 Aaron Steel March 28th 1833
 John Whittaker June 11th 1835
 David Thomas January 29th 1838
 Harriet Louisa June 7th 1840
 Robert Alfred Nov 23rd 1842
 Sarah Elizabeth July 29th 1845
 Zemuly Matilda Feby 17th 1848
 Joseph William Sou--er Sept 26 1850
 Miles & Isabella Rhea McCleskey 6th
 James Alexander Born June 7th 1831
 Thomas Jefferson July 3rd 1833
 Amanda Louisa March 26th 1836
 Edward Bingham Jany 23rd 1839
 Louisa Jane Feby 27th 1841
 Oscar Dunreath Jany 14th 1844
 Albert Theadore 1845
 ---- A & Eliza McCleskey 9th
 Thadeus Ob---- Dec 13 1844
 David Henderson Feby 20th 1845
 Thomas Wood August 15 1850
 Martha Margaret March 1853
 Mary Jane June 28 1854
 Nathl T & Mary McCleskey 10th
 Margaret Jane born Decr 31st 1844
 David Henry February 1847
 Mary Bedford &
 Martha Atwood twins, 1850

Louisa Angeline Jany 25th 18--
 David Henderson May 31st 18--
 Zemuly Susan
 --gia Ann Virginia Nov 16th 1841
 Lorenzo D & Louisa R Wood 4th
 Eliza Ann Turk June 17th 182--
 Robert Rhea March 16th 183--
 Zemula Isabella Nov 28th 18--
 David Milton Feby 11th
 Joseph Benson June 6th
 Martha Elizabeth March 16th
 Thomas Archer August 11th -84-
 William George Dec 25th -84-
 Robert C & Martha M Wo----
 Mary Ann Louisa born Dec 4th --
 Eliza Rebecca April 16th 18--
 Zemuly Jane Adaline April 24---
 Martha Amaltha Frances

David M & Polly McCleskey 8th

Louisa Harriet Sept 30th 18--
 William Columbus June 9th 184-
 David Henderson April 1st 1848
 Benson 11th Feby 1850
 & died 11th Feby 1850
 Milton Joan December 31 1850

[In the handwriting of R. J. Sampler, found among his papers.]

Support of the poor and historical fact - publication in the Cherokee Georgian
 ANDREW PATERSON was among the first of the new England emigrants to the southern part of this country of ----- . At the commencement of the revolution he enlisted as a private and by continued good conduct he was promoted a little before the close of the revolution to the rank of an orderly sergeant. During the whole of that memorable contest he had been an active and hardy soldier At one time he received a letter from General WASHINGTON directing him to take charge of a small scouting party. This document he preserved as a most precious jewel until the close of his life. Its contents and the frequent exhibitions of it as he related the stories of the times that tried mens souls constituted the source and fund of all his happiness And when he told the trials and hairbreadth escapes to which he had often and again been subjected the recital of which would bring the big tear drop in the eye he would show you the letter: the warrant of his bravery and his integrity He was industrious and of good habits but by pursuing the business of a shoe maker in the early settlement of the place he could obtain little if any more than the scanty necessities of life. In the sixty eighth year of his age he was smitten with an apoplectic fit This crippled and disabled him for the remainder of his life. In this situation no alternative was left him for subsistence but to apply to the town for support The bare idea ren his very soul and he suffered long before he resorted to this mortifying alternative. the services he had rendered, the battles he had fought, the espousal of his life for the cause of his country and independanse were often taken in review by him and when he mused upon these circumstances you would see his manly heart rise with convulsive throbs in his bosom Soon after his application for publick support the annual town meeting took place. It had been the practice for one or two years to put up the public poor or paupers as they were called at vendue at the annual town meetin and sold to the lowest bidder PATTERSON was present After the ordinary business of the meeting was over the officers proceeded to the sale of the paupers. The name of PATTERSON was at last cried by the auctioneer. No sooner did PATTERSON hear his own person offered for sale than with a convulsive sob he exclaimed Can it be possible that my country who has had all the services of my youth and manhood will in my old age sell me as a beggar. With the aid of his crutch and his cane he hobbled a little one side the crowd but before the sale was made his bosom gave another heave accompanied by an agonizing groan his heart bursted his sould took wing and his body fell a lifeless corpse before the assembly who were speculating on his misery.

[Mary married William Moore Robbins; their daughter Ella married Little Berry Scott.]

Mary L. Wood Song Ballad
 Wrote Sept. 27th 1862 in Bristow Cove, Marshal Co Ala.
Homeward bound

1st Out on the Ocean, all boundless we ride
We're homeward bound, homeward bound

*Tossed on the waves of a rough, restless tide
We're homeward bound, homeward bound
Far from the safe harbor we've rowed
Seeking our Father's celestial abode
Promise of which on us each he bestowed
We're homeward bound, homeward bound*

*2nd Wildly the storm sweeps us on as it roars
We're homeward bound, homeward bound
Look! Yonder lies the bright heavenly shore
We're homeward bound, homeward bound
Steady, oh! Pilot stand firm at the wheel
Steady we soon will be outside the gale
Oh how we fly neath the loud reaking sail,
We're homeward bound, homeward bound*

*3rd We'll tell the world as we journey along
We're homeward bound, homeward bound
Try to persuade them to enter our throng
We're homeward bound, homeward bound
Come trembling sinner forlorn and oppressed
Join in our number, oh come and be blessed
Journey with us to the mansion of rest
We're homeward bound, homeward bound*

*4th Into the harbor of heav'n now we glide
We're safe at last, safe at last
Softly we drift on its bright silver tide
We're home at last, home at last
Glory to God! All our dangers are o'er
We stand secure on the glorified shore
Glory to God we'll shout forever more
We're safe at last, safe at last.*