ordinance of secession from the Union. In January of 1861 similar ordinances were passed by the States of Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana; and in February Texas also passed a similar ordinance.

The following is the record of the vote of Clarke county on the question of secession, as copied from the Clarke County Democrat.

```
STATE CONVENTION—VOTE OF CLARKE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>O. S. Jewett</th>
<th>C. Poole</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grove Hill</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggsville</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choctaw Corner</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffeeville</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gainestown</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Spring</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McLeod's</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarke'sville</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitcham's</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell's</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bashi</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker Springs</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Ridge</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gates'</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cane Creek</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gosport</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

733 170
```

Majority for secession ....... 563

No election held at Tallahatta Springs nor at Pleasant Hill.

The Election.—The election in this county on the 24th ultimo, passed off in the most quiet manner,
evincing the firmness and deep determination of our people in the consummation of the responsible duty devolving upon them. The result exhibits unwonted unanimity among our citizens in favor of separate State secession."

It very soon becoming evident that civil war was near at hand, the patriotic citizens of Clarke prepared at once to enter upon that stern conflict which they expected would establish the independence of the Confederate States of America.

Some, however, there were, probably but a few, who entered upon the contest because they considered it to be their duty, and not with any hope of ultimate success. Volunteer companies were raised in different parts of the county, and the brave sons and fair daughters of Clarke entered zealously into the contest for independence.

The views, the feelings, and the spirit of this period, will appear vividly, and free from any suspicion of being colored, in the recorded words and deeds of that spirit-stirring era, which are here re-produced from the columns of the one patriotic publication of Clarke, The Clarke County Democrat.

"FLAG PRESENTATION."

This letter, Mr. Editor, should have reached you at an earlier period, but in the hurry of departure, it was neglected for other matters not more interesting but considered more momentous. I cannot let the occasion pass without thanking in the most heart-felt manner, in the name of the volunteers, those fair ladies of Choctaw Corner, who presented them with their beautiful banner, with its azure field, its bright stars and expressive motto. Brightly and gallantly it waved in the breeze, borne by the fair hands of beauty in the person of our charming visitor, Miss Emma Portis, assisted by
Miss Carrie Goodwin. After marching a short distance, from Mr. Poole's to Mr. Cleveland's building, (frequently used as a kind of town Hall) we were presented with our flag by Miss Carrie Goodwin, in a most graceful and patriotic manner. Many noble sentiments did she utter most felicitously, which caused an echoing throb in manly bosoms and tears in many bright eyes. One sentence recurs to my memory—"Go forth, soldier, to the field of fame, and we who present this banner expect it to be returned brightened by your chivalry and courage, or to become the shroud of the slain." One of our company, Mr. T. Cowan, received it in a brief but expressive manner. "Queens of the South, Queens of our hearts," said he, "we will overcome our Northern enemies."

After the ceremonies were over, we were invited by our fair friends to partake of a most tempting and sumptuous dinner with a profusion of good things. By request of the ladies, the volunteers first participated, and did ample justice to the good cheer. Afterwards the table was filled many times, and yet there was enough and to spare. This was a Gala Day in our little village. Old men and matrons, youths and maidens came to bid us God speed. Proud were we to be in the first Company from our county to meet the invader, while many vaunted patriots were willing to wait "for a more convenient season."

A Volunteer.

According to the above letter and the following editorial, the Grove Hill Guards was the first volunteer company of the county.

"The Grove Hill Guards.

This Company left our town on last Monday morning for Fort Morgan. The Choctaw Corner recruits came in on Sunday afternoon in fine style, with martial music and the beautiful flag presented by the ladies of their village floating to the breeze. It contains the simple and, we doubt not, appropriate motto—"To the Brave."
The procession passed through our principal streets to the delight of our citizens many of whom beheld the interesting and imposing spectacle with emotions of pride and patriotic gratification.

The main Company started from this place early on Monday morning with the addition of another beautiful flag presented them by the ladies of this place, with the noble motto—"Never Surrender."

Arriving at Jackson about 12 o'clock, the Company was cheered and greeted by a considerable concourse of the citizens of the town and vicinity, and where, by invitation of our liberal and patriotic fellow citizen, Isham Kimbell, Esq., they halted and partook of a splendid dinner prepared for the Company and accompanying friends.

The accommodating commander of the splendid steamer Cheerokee had awaited the arrival of the Company about three hours. The Guards embarked on the above steamer about 1 o'clock, P. M., amid the most deafening shouts and cheers from boat and shore. As the beautiful steamer moved majestically away we noticed many tearful eyes. Many prayers will ascend the heavenly throne for the health and lives of brothers, sons and husbands among the gallant Grove Hill Guards. May they all be permitted an early return to their relatives and friends.

Well may Capt. Hall be proud of his Company, for in it are men worthy of any foeman's steel.

ROLL OF THE GROVE HILL GUARDS.

J. M. HALL, Captain.
J. M. GOFF, 1st Lieutenant.
A. A. ALSTON, 2d Lieut.
Wm. M. BOROUGH, 3d Lieut.
Geo. B. HALL, 1st Sergeant.
ROBERT B. FLINING, 2d Sergeant.
R. H. WADE, 3d Sergeant.
R. L. RICHARDSON, 4th Sergeant.
W. F. WOODARD, 1st Corporal.
J. R. JACKSON, 2d Corporal.
C. G. Sunblad, 3d Corporal.
W. B. Woods, 4th Corporal.


Probably the second company was the one named in the letter below.

“SUGGSVILLE, ALA., March 4, 1861.

Mr. Isaac Grant.

Dear Sir—You will find below a list of the Company called the “Suggsville Grays,” completed to day, and a report of which will be made to the Governor forthwith, with a resolution unanimously adopted requesting immediate service. Two of our officers have gone to Montgomery to offer our services to the State, and as several have expressed a desire to join we will say that our list is yet open and a few more recruits will

*Excused by the Company.
be received. We wish and expect to go to Fort Morgan or Pensacola forthwith, any how, in a week or two. Men inclined to serve the country now have the chance. Drill at Suggsville every Saturday at 10 o’clock, a. m., until we leave.

S. B. CLEVELAND, Captain.
A. R. LANKFORD, 1st Lieutenant.
J. W. PORTIS, 2d Lieutenant.
A. B. CLEVELAND, 3d Lieut.
J. B. MOBLEY, 1st Sergeant.
B. A. DAVIS, 2d Sergeant.
E. M. PORTIS, 3d Sergeant.
M. B. BARNES, 4th Sergeant.
C. E. BUSSEY, 1st Corporal.
J. A. MEGGINSON, 2d Corporal.
J. H. HEARIN, 3d Corporal.
R. B. RIVERS, 4th Corporal.
M. J. GORDON, Clerk and Judge Advocate.
JAMES ODOM, Treasurer and Collector.
B. S. BARNES, Surgeon.
A. B. DAVIS, Standard-bearer.
JOHN EWING, Drummer.


The following is a copy of a resolution offered by Sergeant J. B. Mobley, which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas the Suggsville Greys have completed their organization, and have enlisted for the purpose of serving their country and not as holiday soldiers, and being for the want of necessary drilling inefficient and
incapable should our country call upon us in our present condition, of rendering effective service, therefore—

Resolved, that when we report ourselves to the Governor as organized he be requested to order us to some point where we can obtain proper military instruction, being satisfied the lesson will be a valuable one should there be no war, and in the event of hostilities indispensible."

The following local items pertain to these two companies above named.

THANKS.—At a meeting of the Grove Hill Guards on last Saturday, Capt. J. M. Hall presiding, the thanks of the company were tendered D. Daffin, Esq., for his valuable services in their behalf. Also to those gentlemen who furnished them the barbecue on that day, to Messrs. Cyrus Allen and Thos. Carter for superintending its preparation, and to Mr. Grant for his favorable notices in the "Democrat." To those ladies of Grove Hill and of Choctaw Corner who honored the Company with its two beautiful flags we were also requested to return lasting and heartfelt thanks.

The Suggsville Grays number now about fifty men—have tendered their services to Gov. Moore, and will be ready to march in a few days. The military spirit of our gallant old county is becoming aroused and she will do her whole duty if war be forced upon us.

The following addresses will present very clearly and fully the views and feelings in the county at this time. They were delivered in either March or April, 1861.

FLAG PRESENTATION—ADDRESS OF MISS EMMA PORTIS.

Soldiers of the Suggsville Grays:

Valor, one of the most ennobling characteristics of your nature, has prompted you to assemble here enlisted in the service of your country; not from any
vain love of display, but impelled by a sense of imperative duty. Whilst others, with equal opportunities with yourselves and many of them far better situated to make the sacrifice, have failed, refused or declined to accept the post of danger, the privilege has been reserved to the ladies gratefully to welcome you to the post of honor. And to my female friends, whose flattering kindness has commissioned me to represent them, I shall always feel deeply indebted, as it was rather their generosity than any superior merit of mine that selected me to address you at this time. Our feelings on this occasion are of commingled joy and sadness. It is but natural that we should feel a sigh of regret at the absence from our homes of the bold and ready men who have organized themselves to make effectual that physical power and true courage which is better in its demonstration than its boast. It is with joy we see men in our midst worthy of being honored as our friends in peace and as our defenders in war. The sky of our political horizon has for the last three months been overhung with clouds of a dark and threatening nature. The unnecessary agitation of the slavery question has brought with it a train of evils for which the most astute and talented statesman cannot find a ready cure. This absurd theory has broken up a government once the boast of freedom, but now despised as the nursery of tyranny. That once glorious Union, around which have clustered so many historical associations, the most stupendous monument of the past, is now crumbled and fallen; and that proud banner which so long floated triumphantly with the American eagle soaring aloft in his upward flight, is now rudely torn down and thrown to the reckless waves of despotism: and the genius of liberty, mantled for a season in gloom, wept despondently over the apparent doom of America. The South has long been the theme of Northern prejudice and aggression. The principles which actuated those who threw the tea overboard in Boston harbor in 1776, shotted and fired the guns of Morris’s Island
into the 'Star of the West' in 1861. Great and universal was the burst of exultant applause with which every true Southern heart re-echoed the shouts of South Carolina's mothers at the gallantry of their sons, at that eventful period, in tones not to be misunderstood by our Northern oppressors. The ladies of this place and vicinity, feeling a warm participation in that spontaneous glow of patriotism, and with an enviable hope that the men of this company may divide the honors of a war now about to be entered into in defense of the great principles of free government, whilst cheering you by their smiles and encouraging you by their prayers, have determined that you should carry with you into the tented field and upon the bloody plain of the battle ground a memento of the glad hearts who may welcome your honored return to your firesides, in this stand of colors. The horrors of war, and the sufferings of the wounded and dying, are alike calculated to inspire the fruits of victory with a hallowed remembrance and to make men pause before entering upon its dreaded details, yet the consoling reflection supervenes that every signal advance of man from heathenish and savage barbarity to the highest civilization has heretofore been consecrated by the shedding of blood, and this progressive Independence which we so much admire and enjoy must in the present advance anticipate its gory page. This flag has on its blue field the bow of promise, the covenant of philanthropic patriotism, that the rights of Americans shall never again be invaded by a ruthless and domineering people, who have enriched the capitalists and impoverished the laborers by their pseudo republican-ism. Under its beauteous rays the great purpose of our mutual hearts is expressed in the simple motto, 'Our Country!'

"Our Country! the loved, treasured home of the free;
Our Country! oh, shall it be said now of thee,
That fallen thou art from a pinnacle high,
With none to defend—no aid for thee nigh?"
The legacy precious descended to us,
Far removed be the recreant false to the trust,
Who submissive would be to retain a low place,
Mid traitors who dare the same lineage trace.

On the azure field of the opposite side, the bright Constellation, which has through time aided the benighted, the wearied and care-worn by its effulgent rays, is indicative of the seven nationalities we represent, which have congregated themselves under the canopy of truth, justice and a constitution, to share each others fortunes and divide each others woes. The Confederate States of America, although beclouded and dimmed in their diurnal progress by the smoke from the cannon of a faithless and detested enemy, must gleam forth in renewed brilliancy in the great galaxy of Heaven's recognized and eternal jewels. And to you, 'Suggsville Grays,' we confide this emblem of our zeal for liberty, trusting that it will nerve your hands and strengthen your hearts in the hour of trial, and that its presence will forbid the thought of seeking any other retreat than in death. Oh, let not its shining gloss and ample folds be ever dimmed. The gleaming swords and bayonets of the 'Suggsville Grays' can never permit this flag to trail in ignoble surrender; but, rather that it may return from the green savannahs of our Southern battle fields with its torn and tattered folds only faded by the leaden storm and the iron hail. 

Our Government is inaugurated, and must be maintained at every hazard.

The terrors of war are far less than the degradation of ignoble submission. Go on, gallant 'Grays,' sustained by the reflection that you are right, and by the remembrance of the continuous obligations which our Revolutionary ancestry entailed upon us by their deeds of self-sacrifice and noble daring. — Citizen soldiers, take up your line of march with a double quickstep to drive back the invader from our hills and shores, remembering that a benevolent Providence will grow the grain around your ploughshares which you leave standing on your productive farms, in obedience to the
promise that a righteous people shall never be forsaken. May the musical warblings of the forest minstrel greet you, and the rich fruits and foliage of our farms pour forth their sweetest fragrance on your homeward return, to welcome you to the cordial congratulations of friends and families.

CAPTAIN S. B. CLEVELAND'S REPLY.

Ladies:—The position which my companions have flatteringly assigned me, imposes upon me the grateful task of replying to the eloquent address of your fair representative, and of returning our thanks for this token of your regard — for this evidence of your appreciation of the motives by which we are actuated.

There are occasions in the lives of all of us when we find language impotent to convey a just conception of the deep feelings which animate our bosoms. Had I the eloquence of Chatham, were my lips touched with fire, I feel that I should fail to impress you with a just idea of the deep passions which at this moment agitate our breasts. To feel that we are about to risk our lives in the defence of our country, calls forth some of the noblest sentiments of our nature. To know that we have the approval and the prayers of wives, mothers, sisters and daughters, those whom we hold the nearest and dearest of earthly relations, touches the tenderest chord of all our feelings. But when you add to these such a touching demonstration of that approbation and sympathy as is evinced in the address we have just heard — as is testified to by this gorgeous and expressive token, and as is hallowed by the moist eyes I see surrounding me — then, indeed, is language beggared and the tongue of eloquence itself mute.

Ladies, truly have you declared it is not any vain love of display that sends us to our country's rescue. If we court the post of danger, it is in response to duty's call.—Reared amid scenes of peace and quiet, accustomed to the pacific duties of domestic life, enjoying the blessings of happy homes, and receiving the
tender cares and attentions of loving relatives and kind friends, strong indeed must be the incentive and imperious the sense of duty, which could induce us to forego all of these for the hardships, the trials and dangers of the life we are soon to lead. Our country demands the sacrifice, our love for you requires the peril, and our manhood seeks the hazard.

We do not enter upon the discharge of these new duties without a proper conviction of their importance and a serious reflection upon the hard experiences in store for us, nor are we so devoid of feeling as not to be touched, aye, deeply moved, at the near prospect of separating for a time, we know not how long, from those whom we so tenderly love. These familiar scenes, these much loved forms by which we are now surrounded, will go with us wherever we may go. Oft shall memory revert to this place and these associations to live over again the interesting ceremonies that are now enacting. Perhaps a sick son shall from the hard bed of a hospital couch, in memory review the occurrences of this hour, here well he will remember the tear which he sees to-day glisten in a fond mother's eye. Perhaps a wounded husband shall vainly wish for the tender hands of a loving wife now with him to bind up a lacerated side. Or, perchance, some absent lover in the peril of the hour of battle shall recur to these happy moments and again enjoy its cherished recollections.

We are proud to acknowledge such feelings — tis by the influence of such we are prompted to our missions. Oft shall they people the solitude of the lonely midnight watch — oft relieve the fatigue of the weary noonday march, and when the hour of danger comes they shall strengthen our hearts and nerve our arms to the daily strife.

To you, fair representatives of the seven nationalities which compose our new government, allow me to address a word. You are fit emblems of the sovereigns you symbolize. Armed with the weapons of innocence, virtue and justice, history has acknowledged you in every cause invincible. So with the States
your tableaux indicates. In the sacred cause of freedom they have girded on the sword and buckler, and may safely defy the power of tyranny though the world combine against them. As sisters united hand in hand, they go forth to nourish and protect the sacred tree of liberty. They are happy to share a common weal and are pledged to divide a common woe. Can we doubt their success in such a mission? Will not that Being whose divine promise is given to support the right and overthrow wrong, bring them safely through all the dangers that beset their path?

Ladies: On the folds of this token of the zeal that animates you in behalf of the cause we go to defend, you have impressed the shadow of an emblem, itself a well-spring of hope to the desponding of every condition. — Upon this blue-field you have traced an image which holds out a promise never yet forfeited, that the darkest clouds which can o'erhang us will yet be rolled away and the gloomiest prospect be gladdened by returning sunshine. As the sign of the sacred covenant itself was to the faithful, when set in the Heavens, so shall its beautiful image inscribed on this, be to us. Though misfortunes come, though portentous clouds envelope our cause in gloom, though hope may waver twixt doubt and fear, yet will a view of this emblem renew our faith in the coming sunshine.

By your motto, we are reminded of the priceless boon bequeathed us by the patriots and heroes of '76. "Our Country!" What a host of thrilling recollections rush upon us at the mention of those words? Robbed of those rights which alone can give us a country, we should be a libel upon our ancestry and a disgrace to manhood.

That figurative constellation which so resplendently shines on the other side of this banner, is typical of a cluster of governments which have recently united in one. As we have shouldered our arms for the purpose of sustaining the position which these States have taken among the nations of the earth,
and of asserting at the point of the bayonet if necessary, their right to throw off the oppressor's yoke, so, fair friends, do we pledge our fortunes, our lives and our sacred honor, to defend this offering of yours at the shrine of liberty. When next it meets your gaze, a deeper crimson may die its folds — upon its blue-field you may trace a stain made by the blood of its defenders — but I feel assured I may pledge the lives of the gallant spirits around me that dishonor's tarnish will not be there.

Grays: You have heard the pledges which you have authorized me to make. I charge you, see to it they are fulfilled. To your keeping I consign this sacred trust — watch over it as vigilantly as you would the well-being of those who have presented it — guard it as you would the nearest and dearest object of your life — should any fall in its defence let their comrades be able to report to these fair donors, that a soldier's fate has met with a soldier's honor."

The third company, of which records appear, bore the name of Clarke County Rangers.

ROLL OF CAPTAIN CLEVELAND’S CLARKE COUNTY CAVALRY.

S. B. CLEVELAND, Captain.
J. Y. KILPATRICK, 1st Lieut.
T. B. CREAGH, 3d Lieut.
J. C. CHAPMAN, Orderly Serg’t.

The following is from the field.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Oct. 20, 1861.

Mr. Grant:

Herewith please find a list of the names of those who furnished the Clarke County Rangers with horses and their appraised value:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Horse</th>
<th>Appraised Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John L. Jeffries</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1 horse</td>
<td>$165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. L. Marshall</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. L. Sewell</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Wimbish</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miel Ezell</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elbert Gwynn</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armisted Callier</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Brodnax</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. W. Armistead</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(at $250 and $165,)</td>
<td>415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex. Cammack</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. D. Hamilton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Whatley</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Cleveland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis Pope</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm. A. Morris</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Gates</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wesley Rodgers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allen Ódom</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norflet Horn</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abram Fanning</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Fanning</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I think the above is correct, but if anyone has fur-
nished a horse whose name is omitted he will please inform me by letter.

Persons who have furnished horses will please make some one in the Company an agent to draw the hire and transmit to their order.

We are encamped about 4 miles of Memphis awaiting to be armed. Six companies of our regiment have gone to Kentucky; we will go as soon as armed. I will keep you advised of our movements.

Very respectfully yours,

S. B. Cleveland.

A fourth Company was called the DICKINSON GUARDS.

"FLAG PRESENTATION. - The ceremonies of a flag presentation to the Dickinson Guards on last Monday were highly interesting. The Baptist Church, a very large building, was crowded to the overflowing by ladies and gentlemen eager to witness the proceedings. The ceremonies commenced by an appropriate prayer from the Rev. R. N. Thomas, then a neat and beautiful presentation speech was delivered by Miss Alice A. Savage, of this place - followed by a feeling and eloquent reception speech from Mr. T. A. Wimbish of the Guards. A few remarks were then made by James S. Dickinson, Esq., after which the Dickinson Guards and others repaired to the grove at the Male Academy and partook of a barbecue prepared for the occasion.

The flag was a large and beautiful one, and reflects much credit upon the fair hands that executed it. Its motto - "Victory or death" - is a sublime sentiment, and we are sure the Dickinson Guards will not dishonor it, be the storm of battle ever so high and destructive.

Dinner discussed, able and patriotic addresses were delivered in the Courthouse by R. B. Armistead and O. S. Jewett, Esqrs.

The Guards, we learn, start for Mobile to-day. The good wishes and prayers of their relatives and friends, and of the people of the county generally, will follow them in their absence, wherever their country calls them.
The Monday above mentioned was October 14th, 1861. The following are the speeches then delivered.

"SPEECH OF MISS ALICE A. SAVAGE
Soldiers of the Dickinson Guards:

In behalf of the ladies of this place and vicinity, I present you this flag. You have a great duty to perform. You are engaged in a great cause - life, liberty and every thing we hold sacred and dear are involved in this contest. You leave your homes, your fathers, mothers, sisters, wives and children to fight for liberty and independence. Brave men! May heaven smile upon you. The women of Lacedemon had the pleasure of knowing that the prosperity of their country had been secured by the education of their children, and when their sons were going to the field of battle to dwell amidst the din of war and the terror of arms, their charge to them was - "Go, my sons, and return victorious or fall in the cause of your country." The mothers of our country, this day, give you in charge the noble sentiment - the burning and patriotic words of the women of Lacedemon - "Go, my sons, and return victorious or fall in the cause of the South," and their fair daughters are here inviting you to the contest; and with one hand would gird on the flaming sword and buckler, and with the other point to the invading foe.

I now present you this flag - on its folds are inscribed the words, "Victory or Death." Take it, bear it to the field of battle - may it never trail in the dust. May the name inscribed upon it, and the motto we have selected inspire you to deeds of noble daring. When Cornelia was asked for her jewels she pointed to her sons. The mothers of our country, when asked for theirs, will turn and point to you, and such as you, and exclaim: these are they.

REPLY OF SERGEANEANT T. A. WIMBISH

Ladies:

Permit me, in the name of the Dickinson Guards, to tender you our sincere thanks for this beautiful
banner. We receive it as an additional token of your approbation and good wishes for the comfort, prosperity and success of us who are now ready to leave our homes and all that we hold sacred and dear to drive back the Yankee foe from this, our once happy country.

As you have truly said, everything we hold sacred and dear is involved in this contest. Our liberty and independence, the richest boon bequeathed by heaven to man, are at stake. And tho' mournful the task to bid a long and perhaps a last farewell to our homes, our mothers, wives and little ones, yet the same patriotism that burned in the bosoms of our noble forefathers, prompts us to make the sacrifice, and to strike for the independence of our beloved South in this her day of trial and distress. We know the last resting place for liberty and freedom is in the Constitution of the Southern Confederacy; and we are willing to sacrifice ourselves and our all for our country.

We will remember the advise of the women of Lacedemon to their sons, and we will always cherish the sentiment of the noble charge you have given us this day. Ever mindful that we are the freeborn sons of illustrious sires that braved the storm of Alban's wrath and laid prostrate the Lion of England at the feet of the American Eagle. We owe allegiance to nothing but duty, our country and our God. At our country's call we are ready to march to the tented field and to the battle's din. And as long as valor may be esteemed a virtue and necessary to perpetuate the independence of a nation, base timidity shall never find a resting place in our bosoms, but, rather, wrapped in the folds of the stars and bars committed to our care, we would prefer an honorable death and a soldier's burial to an ignoble life secured by the abandonment of the virtues inherited from our forefathers. With full confidence in the justice of our cause and the valor of our little band, it shall ever be our pride, ladies, so to conduct ourselves that, when our enemy is driven back to his Northern den, and our independence acknowledged
THE PERIOD OF CONFLICT.

by all the world, and we return again to you, you can truly say, as did Cornelia, that we, your sons, are the jewels of your country.

And now, fellow soldiers, let us go united in action, in sentiment and in heart. Let every effort of our souls be directed for our country and our God. Let us leave determined to teach the Yankees that we have inherited liberty, and that every drop of our blood is of and for the South, and that, tho' they have spoken contemptuously of us and have called our flag the "rebel rag," we will teach them before we quit the struggle, that we intend to be as free as the winds that will fan the Stars and Bars of our beautiful banner as it waves on the shores of the Mexican Gulf."

A fifth company was raised called The Eliza Flinn Guards. The names of these are not at hand. This company seems to have been in the Thirty-Eighth regiment which was organized in 1862. W. J. Hearin was the first captain, and on his promotion he was succeeded by Daniel Lee.

Two other companies in this regiment are credited to Clarke county. Of one G. W. Files, John J. R. Jenkins, and Benjamin Anderson were captains; of the other Charles E. Bussey. Also in the Thirty-Second two companies; of one Alexander Kilpatrick Captain; of the other John W. Bell.

In the Twenty Second was one company from Clarke, James Deas Nott first captain, Joseph R. Cowan the second.

For the Thirty-Second Clarke with Wilcox furnished a company, John Creagh and George W. Cox captains; and Clarke with Washington furnished one, J. C. Kimbell and S. T. Taylor captains.

Ten companies, it thus appears, were raised in Clarke county, and two parts of companies, making of the
volunteer troops from Clarke about eleven hundred men going forth to the stern realities of war.

"ROLL OF THE DICKINSON GUARDS.

Daniel McLeod, Captain
John C. Kimbell, 1st Lieut.
David E. Thomas, 2nd Lieut.
S. P. Chapman, 3rd Lieut.
F. N. Winn, 1st Ser'g't.
T. A. Wimbish, 2nd Ser'g't.
Stephen Pugh, 3rd Ser'g't.
N. W. Calhoun, 4th Ser'g't.
J. P. Chapman, 1st Corporal
C. W. Calhoun, 2nd Corporal
W. B. Woods, 3rd Corporal


Soon the Gala Days were over. There came next camp-life, sickness, battles, deaths and imprisonments. The following list shows the beginning of these
changes which cannot, for want of the records, be presented in full upon these pages.

"LIST OF GROVE HILL GUARDS.

List of members of the company from the 6th of May, 1861, to Jan. 1st, 1862.

J. M. Hall, Captain
J. M. Goff, 1st Lieut.
Charles Poole, 2nd Lieut.
T. J. Bettis, 3rd Lieut.
S. T. Woodward, 1st Serg't.
A. F. Hall, 2nd Serg't.
G. W. Hudson, 3rd Serg't.
J. Creagh Howze, 4th Serg't.
J. F. Hudson, 5th Serg't.
J. W. Fleming, 1st Corporal
Milo Deaton, 2nd Corporal
C. L. Sisson, 3rd Corporal
J. W. Daffin, 4th Corporal
A. A. Alston, Color Guard


Died

J. F. Blackwell, Richmond, 19th June, typhoid fever.
J. D. Huggins, Culpepper, C. H., August 3d, congestion of the lungs. P. H. Dumas, in camp, Union Mills, August 7th, typhoid pneumonia.
J. T. Woodward, Charlottesville, August 17.
R. E. Fleming, Richmond, Nov. 3d, typhoid fever.
Columbus W. Noble, Richmond, November 6th, typhoid fever.
W. J. Sheppard, Richmond, Dec. 13th.
Henry Morgan, Richmond, Dec. 2d, pneumonia.

Discharged

J. M. Carter, Pensacola, May 26th.
T. J. Cowan, July 1st.
Wm. Woodward, Union Mills, Va., Aug. 2d.
W. F. Fontaine, " August 15th.
R. B. Anderson, "
W. H. Chriswell, "
R. L. Richardson, "
E. R. Wiggins, Charlottesville, Aug. 29th.
E. H. Bettis, Sangster's Roads, Sept. 9th.
J. O. Trawick, "
B. F. Henderson, "
W. P. Hall, Richmond, November 6th.
J. E. Gates, November 20th.
Serg. C. H. Gilmore, Union Mills, Nov. 27th.
E. W. Harwell, Camp Walker, Dec. 3d.
The company now numbers ninety-five men, officers, and privates."

From the Tented field.

"RECRUITS WANTED.

Army of the Potomac

Fairfax County, July 8

Mr. Grant: Lieut. Brown of the Talladega Artillery, leaves to-night for Alabama by order of the Secretary of War, to recruit for the companies of our regiment. We are required to fill up our ranks to 100 men for each company. I am anxious that my recruits shall come from Old Clarke, as no better fighting material can be found in any part of the State. I understand there are many anxious to be in service. If so, this offers them some advantages they would not be entitled to in any company not in service. They will be received for the remainder of our term, which is only 10 months. As Lieut. Brown is ready to start, I have no time to give you further information in reference to the service. Those wishing to enter can have their way paid by reporting to Lieut. M. J. Brown, Montgomery, Ala. I can take 25 or 30 men.

Yours truly, J. M. HALL."

EDITORIAL

"Capt. Nott, of Mobile, was in town a few days since, hunting up a few more recruits for his company - one of Col. Deas' regiment. As most of his company are Clarke men, we would be glad to see it filled up from this County, and would remark that a volunteer could not get in a better regiment nor in one better provided with everything that a soldier needs. They have the Enfield Rifle, also knapsacks, haversacks, tents, and in fact everything for use or comfort in camp. Those wishing to join Capt. Nott's company can take the Steamer Coquette at Gospport or the Lower Peach Tree, on next Saturday night. Their expenses will be paid to Montgomery, where an officer will meet them from the regiment."
Hospital stores being needed, and supplies of various kinds for the volunteer troops, the GROVE HILL MILITARY AID SOCIETY was organized in the summer of 1861. Of this Society Mrs. E. H. Woodward was Secretary. From the Official report for September and October the following is extract.

"Disbursements - Oct. 12, sent a box to the Grove Hill Guards containing sixty pair of socks, twenty-five blankets, thirteen pair gloves, fourteen flannel shirts, sixteen towels, two handkerchiefs, five pair pants, one bushel dried-peaches."

Thus wants began to be supplied. Probably about the same time was also formed THE SUGGSVILLE SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETY.

D. Daffin was appointed Assistant Adjutant General of the 22d Brigade, and Dr. L. L. Alston Brigade Surgeon.

That a speedy termination of the conflict was not expected, the following paragraph will show.

"As the war in which we are now engaged will probably last during Lincoln's term, and it may be that it will continue for 20 years, it behooves us all to economize in every way it is possible, both individuals and State Governments, and to husband our resources in every conceivable way, in order that the old U. S. Government may not be successful in its present policy, which seems to be to rely on worrying us out by a long protracted war rather than by whipping us in pitched battles."

But hard fought battles came.

Some of the men of Clarke were in Mississippi, some were about Mobile, and some were in Virginia, and did their part on many a bloody field. Some survived and others fell. But such records belongs to a different history.
LIST OF CAPTAINS

This list may not be perfect, but it has cost some research.

In the Fifth Alabama Regiment, Clarke represented by one company, Josephus Hall, promoted, succeeded by Simeon T. Woodward.

In the Eleventh, John James, killed at second Cold Harbor.

In the Twenty-third, Greene D. McConnel, captured at Vicksburg.

In the Twenty-fourth, Daniel McLeaod, Thomas I. Kimbell.

In the Thirty-second, Clarke being represented in four companies.

1. John Creagh, resigned, George W. Cox.
2. A. Kilpatrick, resigned.
3. J. C. Kimbell, promoted, S. T. Taylor
4. John W. Bell, died.

In the Thirty-eighth, in three companies.
1. W. J. Hearin, promoted, Daniel Lee,
2. G. W. Files, resigned, John J. R. Jenkins, resigned and Benjamin Anderson, wounded at Mission Ridge.
3. Charles E. Bussey, wounded at Chicamauga.

In the Second, Stephen B. Cleveland, resigned, A. R. Lankford.

In the Twenty-second, James Deas Nott, killed at Chicamauga, Joseph R. Cowan, wounded near Marietta.

According to this list Clarke furnished twenty-two captains. Of officers higher in rank the number has not been ascertained.

During these dark days fervent prayers were offered for protection and success. The philosophic skeptic
might inquire, how sincere and earnest Christians, on
different sides of such a mighty conflict, could with
any reason or hope expect answers to very different
prayers. And he of course would declare the whole sub-
ject of answered prayers a delusion. But the Christian
at the North during those years, if praying according
to inspired instructions, presented his petitions in
submission to the will of God. And the Christians in
the South, of whom there were multitudes, - only a few
fanatics claimed that there could be no Christian slave-
holders, and their opinion had nothing to do with the
fact - the Christians in the South presented their
petitions in the name of the Saviour, when their pray-
ers were earnest and availing, in submission to the
same Divine Will. A little poem, whether written in
the South or North it matters not, for in each division
of the country there were just such lovely earnest,
little pleaders, - will illustrate this idea of answers
to prayers. It is called "Claribel's Prayer," and is
credited to Lynde Palmer.

"The day with cold, gray feet, clung shivering to the hills,
While o'er the valley still night's rain-fringed curtains fell.
But waking Blue Eyes smiled, "Tis ever as God wills,
He knoweth best; and be it rain or shine, 'tis well,
Praise God," cried always little Claribel.

Then sank she on her knees, with eager lifted hands,
Her rosy lips made haste some dear request to tell;
"O Father, smile and save this fairest of all lands,
And make her free, whatever hearts rebel.
Amen! Praise God," cried little Claribel.

'And Father'—still arose another pleading prayer—
'O save my brother in the rain of shot and shell,
Let not the death bolt with its horrid streaming hair,
Dash light from those sweet eyes I love so well."
'But pray you, soldier, was my brother in the fight?
And in the fiery rain? O fought he brave and well?'
'Dear child,' the herald cried, 'there was no braver sight
Then his young form, so grand mid shot and shell.'
'Praise God!' cried trembling little Claribel.

'And rides he now with victors' plumes of red,
While trumpets golden throats his coming steps foretell?
The herald dropped a tear. 'Dear child,' he softly said,
'Thy brother evermore with conquerors shall dwell.'
'Praise God! He heard my prayer,' cried Claribel.

'With victors wearing crowns and bearing palms,' he said.
A snow of sudden fear upon the rose lips fell.
'O sweetest herald say my brother lives,' she plead.
'Dear child he walks with angels who in strength excel.
Praise God who gave this glory, Claribel.'

The cold, gray day died sobbing on the weary hills,
While bitter mourning on the night winds rose and fell.
'O child — the herald wept — 'tis as the dear Lord wills;
He knoweth best, and be it life or death 'tis well.'
'Amen! Praise God!' sobbed little Claribel.'

Another beautiful gem of poetry is so appropriate for this chapter that it is here inserted.

"Two soldiers, lying as they fell
Upon the reddened clay—
In daytime, foes; at night, in peace
Breathing their lives away!

Brave hearts had stirred each manly breast;
Fate, only, made them foes;
And lying, dying, side by side,
A softened feeling rose."
Among New Hampshire's snowy hills,
There pray for me to-night
A woman, and a little girl
With hair like golden light;

And at the thought, broke forth, at last,
The cry of anguish wild,
That would not longer be repressed—
'O God! my wife, my child!'

'And,' said the other dying man,
'Across the Georgia plain,
There watch and wait for me loved ones
I ne'er shall see again:

A little girl with dark, bright eyes,
Each day waits at the door;
Her father's step, her father's kiss,
Will never greet her more.

To-day we sought each other's lives;
Death levels all that now;
For soon before God's mercy-seat
Together we shall bow.

Forgive each other while we may;
Life's but a weary game,
And, right or wrong, the morning sun,
Will find us dead the same.'

The dying lips the pardon breathe;
The dying hands entwine;
The last ray fades, and over all
The stars from heaven shine;
THE PERIOD OF CONFLICT.

And the little girl with golden hair,
And one with dark eyes bright,
On Hampshire's hills, and Georgia's plain.
Were fatherless that night."

How many little girls lost their fathers and brothers in that terrible conflict, how much there was, in those dark years, of the variety of the human anguish at which these two poems glance, no one on earth can ever know. Must not angels have looked down with astonishment and pity on man thus destroying his fellow-man, of the same country and language and kindred and blood!

Those years are over, and may such never visit earth again.

Illustrating some of the trying events of those years, the experience of a boy of twelve or thirteen years of age may fittingly here appear. His home was near the center of the county. His mother had anticipated the results of the approaching conflict and had advised his father to dispose of their colored people. But the father trusted in the final success of the Confederate cause. He invested in bonds, and as the months passed obtained an abundance of Confederate money. He died, leaving one son in the army, some daughters, and this boy as the manager of affairs at home. Tidings came that the brother was sick with fever in a hospital at Mobile, and this boy with an older sister went immediately down to find the sick soldier and bring him home. The sister and brother knew not to what hospital to go. They met an elderly man upon the streets, who offered to go with them in the search. While the sister and kind stranger stood at the door the brother went in to inquire for his sick brother. Scarcely noticing him the officials would tell him no such person as he sought was there,
and so, they went from place to place. At length a young man in one of the hospitals told him where to go to make inquiries, and they finally learned in which hospital their brother was. They cared for him day after day, the young brother entering the hospital at length unquestioned, and then removed the invalid to a boat to go up the river. On board the boat the feeble soldier needed some stimulant to keep him alive till he could get home, and his young brother went to the bar of the boat to procure some spirit of some kind in the room of medicine. This the bar-keeper refused to sell to so young a boy, but he was at last persuaded to sell a pint for twenty five dollars; and at last they reached their landing and their home. With careful nursing the soldier recovered.

And now we pass to the spring of 1865. Our energetic, heroic boy was then about thirteen. The Confederacy was breaking up. It was rumored that the Yankees were about to pass through Clarke, and it was expected with "fire and sword." Collecting eighteen colored men and mounting them and himself on good horses this boy took them to the wooded retreats of the hills. There they spent the day, while alarm spread all around them. No arrangement had been made for food in the hurry of the morning's departure, and when night began to curtain the hills the white boy, the leader of colored band, grew hungry, and with a part of his force he determined to visit his home for food. Drawing near to the house his quick eyes saw around it camp watch fires, but he rode boldly up till halted by a sentinel. And the first salutation was, "Have you seen any of the Yankees to-day?" Not accustomed to soldiers, not knowing the difference in the uniforms, the
The undaunted boy replied, to the man in gray before him, "No. You are the first I have seen." He did not know but the next moment would be his last, but he was hungry and there was his home, and he was the only white man to guard it. But presently the gray uniformed sentinel replied, "We are not Yankees." And the surprised boy found, quite to his relief for that night, that a party of Confederate officers and soldiers, escaped from some fort, was seeking safety at his home that night. Provisions were soon obtained and hunger appeased.

But how soon the real, live Yankees would come none could tell. His mother had some nine jars of nice lard. He had that buried in the field and planted corn over it. The corn came up and was some two feet high before it was considered safe to remove it, and he did not believe that even a Yankee could find that. This lard when unearthed was sweet and good.

Pictures, photographs, jewelry, were buried at and around Grove Hill, and some of the latter when brought again to the light of day was materially injured.

Little actual damage was done in Clarke by the Union soldiers. They crossed over at Gosport, burned a dwelling house, committed some havoc, but two hundred bales of cotton stored a mile from the river, sixty bales belonging to Col. Forwood, escaped their notice. This cotton brought a large supply of green-backs when the war was over.

Let us glance at other events of these five years.

The first session of the West Bend Academy in the new building opened September 2, 1861, C. F. Frazer, M. A. Principal. Tuition, $ .25. to $ .40. Board $ .8. per
month. E. S. Thornton, President of Board of Trustees.

Physicians in 1861. At Grove Hill, Dr. L. L. Alston, and Dr. A. Y. Bettis. At Bashi, Dr. J. C. Abernathy, Dr. B. M. Allen, and Dr. James M. Davis.

R. H. Rawlings and W. P. Dickinson came to Grove Hill as lawyers in 1860 and left there in 1861. O. S. Jewett, lawyer at Gainestown in 1861.

In June 1861 the Grove Hill Baptist Church was organized.

Officers of Clarke County in 1865.

Z. L. Bettis, Probate Judge; Thomas Carter, Sheriff; D. Daffin, Clerk Circuit Court; I. G. McCaskey, Tax Assessor; Cyrus Allen, Tax Collector; N. C. Booth, County Surveyor; R. J. Woodard, Treasurer; M. S. Ezell, Coroner.
THE Transition Period. 1865 to 1876.

The surrender had taken place; war was over. General Robert E. Lee, who with his brave and determined veterans had held Petersburg and Richmond against the forces of General Grant from June 1864 till April 1865, after General Sherman had marched from Atlanta to the Sea, seeing that it was hopeless for forty thousand men to contend longer against an army a full hundred thousand strong while Sherman's army was also on its way from Savannah toward Richmond, on the ninth of April, 1865, at Appomattox Court-House, made a surrender of his forces to the army of the Union. On the twenty-sixth of April General J. E. Johnston surrendered his troops to General Sherman, at the city of Raleigh in North Carolina. When June of that year opened, the last Confederate forces, those west of the Mississippi, having surrendered to General Candy on the twenty-sixth of May, the Civil War was over, and the Confederacy itself was ceasing to exist. Released from civil and from military duties in Virginia and in all other places, citizens of Clarke returned to their village and plantation homes. No special damage had been done by gunboats or by raiders within their borders; but before them, as before other communities in the South, grave questions arose. The necessities of their position were apparent. The labor question was to be readjusted and renewed self-government, under the Congress at Washington, was to be an experiment.
No one could tell how it would succeed. A civil war had long years before changed the condition of the old Roman world; an English civil war, beginning in 1642, had led to the beheading of Charles I, and to the English Commonwealth under Cromwell; and a French civil war and revolution, including a reign of terror, had begun in 1789, which opened the way for the career of Napoleon Bonaparte ending with the battle of Waterloo in 1815. But the results of none of these noted struggles would enable even sagacious statesmen to foresee in what shape and with what results the American war would terminate. While the Congress at Washington and President Johnson were endeavoring to steer the ship of state through the dangerous and unsounded channel of what was called reconstruction,—were considering, as that neat writer, the historian Venable, expresses it, "how to reconstruct the shattered Union, on what terms to restore the late belligerent states to their former privileges,"—an effort and a question which brought the President and the Congress into violent conflict; the citizens of Clarke were quietly returning to their former occupations and resuming their old relationships. It soon became evident that the Emancipation Proclamation in regard to the colored people, which proposed to change their relation from slaves to freedmen, must be carried out; and the change in Clarke county was quietly and peacefully effected. The questions in regard to voting and office holding and post office and mail facilities were all pressing forward for consideration.

The planting community and the men accustomed to public and civil life were entering upon a transition period. They were to pass from one form of social and
THE TRANSITION PERIOD. 293

civil life to another and quite different form. To do so might not be pleasant; but persons sometimes make a virtue out of a necessity.

The following editorial from the Clarke County Democrat will show the view that was taken at Grove Hill in 1865 in regard to the first required steps for becoming again citizens of the United States.

We last week expressed the wish that the people of this county would properly qualify themselves and vote for some good and sensible man to represent them in the Convention soon to assemble in the city of Montgomery. We reiterate that wish this week, and call upon every voter in Clarke county who has at heart the interests of his country and people, to attend to this matter promptly and be at the polls on Thursday, the 31st of this month — voting as a good and loyal citizen, and bowing meekly to the stern decree of that fate which, for four long and bloody years, we have vainly striven to set aside.

We know that the feeling of hatred toward the dominant party of the North — engendered by long years of radical and exciting political differences — is hard to overcome; we know that the terrible conflicts through which we have passed during the last four years, will live in the memory of this people for many long years to come; but as the last, dread appeal — the appeal to arms — has been made and resulted against us, what can we do but yield to the force of circumstances which we have been unable to control? It now becomes us, as a wise people, to look not to the past, but to endeavor, for the future, to control events for the security of our happiness and prosperity under the laws of our State and Federal Government. We can do this only by voting ourselves and by selecting pure and wise men as our law-makers.

We see no point in the argument of those who object to taking the Amnesty Oath. It is only taking an
oath to do what we have to do, whether we take it or not. We have to support the Constitution and laws of the United States, even if we do not swear so to do. The negro is free whether we choose to admit the fact or not. He is no less free by any of us refusing to take the oath or to vote. He is free now by military power and will so remain until we see proper to return to the Union under a Constitution acknowledging that freedom. He is then free by a law of our own making.

More than this, without taking the oath we are debarred of the dearest rights of freemen under the Government. As by taking the oath and voting — governing, as far as possible, our own affairs in our own way, we have everything to gain and nothing to lose, we hope every good citizen will come up to the standard of duty — yield to the stern logic of events and make the best of the 'situation.'"

In accordance with these suggestions and holding these same views many, at least, of the returned soldiers became again citizens of the whole country. Elections were held and civil affairs were administered under the form of state government established by Congress.

The relations of debtor and creditor had in the past two years been greatly changed, not always in the most satisfactory manner. The paper currency issued by the Confederacy although not made a legal tender for private debts was generally taken. When this currency became abundant, and especially when it began to depreciate, many debts were paid. As early as the fall of 1863 it is said that meat in the county was sold at four dollars a pound, lard at six dollars; and other things in the same proportion. Salt at ninety-five dollars a sack was taken from the salt works and carried to Demopolis. A cow, worth probably fifteen dollars, was sold by its
owner and a debt paid amounting to one hundred and twenty-seven dollars. During the depreciation the decrease in value was so rapid that merchants could not turn over goods fast enough to save themselves from loss. A little property or a little labor would not procure much real value; but would pay a large debt. Merchants were obliged to fail, as debts due to them were paid in a currency that became worthless before they could pay their own debts. Business men and capitalists who had money out at interest were not particularly pleased to have their debtors come with large bundles of this currency and propose to take up their notes. But it was that or nothing; and so the notes were given up with as good a grace as possible. The changed relations which thus took place, the loss of almost all their possessions by some who had thus far in life been wealthy, the debts which never could be paid with which some found themselves burdened, and the apparent hopelessness for working up again in life of those already past middle age, made the social and business relations of many, far from being pleasant. The depression of spirits was so great with those in this period of life, that men of this class died rapidly the first few years after the close of the war. It was with them as with Bernardo Del Carpio, after the cruel Spanish king had presented to him the dead body of his father. They could well say, "There is no more to lift the sword for now." "The glory and the loveliness are passed away from earth."

An extract from Ramsay's History of the United States in regard to the paper money of the days of the Revolution will be instructive in this connection.
The most extensive mischief resulted in the progress, and towards the close of the war, from the operation of the laws, which made the paper bills a tender in the discharge of debts, contracted, payable in gold or silver.

When this measure was first adopted, little or no injustice resulted from it; for, at that time, the paper bills were equal, or nearly equal to gold or silver, of the same nominal sum. In the progress of the war, when depreciation took place, the case was materially altered. Laws, which were originally innocent, became eventually the occasion of much injustice.

The aged, who had retired from the scenes of active business, to enjoy the fruits of their industry, found their substance melting away to a mere pittance, insufficient for their support. The widow who lived comfortably on the bequests of a deceased husband, experienced a frustration of all his well-meant tenderness. The laws of the country interposed, and compelled her to receive a shilling, where a pound was her due. The blooming virgin, who had grown up with an unquestionable title to a liberal patrimony, was legally stripped of every thing, but her personal charms and virtues. The helpless orphan, instead of receiving from the hands of an executor, a competency to set out in business, was obliged to give a final discharge on the payment of sixpence in the pound. In many instances, the earnings of a long life of care and diligence were, in the space of a few years, reduced to a trifling sum. A few persons escaped these affecting calamities, by secretly transferring their bonds, or by flying from the presence or neighborhood of their debtors.

Such were the evils which resulted from paper money. On the other hand, it was the occasion of good to many. It was at all times the poor man's friend: while it was current, all kinds of labor very readily found their reward. In the first years of the war none were idle for want of employment; and none were employed without having it in their power to obtain ready
payment for their services. To that class of people, whose daily labor was their support, the depreciation was no disadvantage. Expending their money as fast as they received it, they always procured its full value. The reverse was the case with the rich, or those who were disposed to hoarding. No agrarian law ever had a more extensive operation than Continental money. That, for which the Gracchi lost their lives in Rome, was peaceably effected in the United States, by the legal tender of these depreciating bills. The poor became rich, and the rich became poor. Money lenders, and they whose circumstances enabled them to give credit, were essentially injured.”

“They who were in debt and possessed property of any kind, could easily make the latter extinguish the former. Every thing that was useful, when brought to market, readily found a purchaser. A few cattle would pay for a comfortable house; and a good horse for an improved plantation. A small part of the productions of a farm would discharge the long out-standing accounts, due from its owner. The dreams of the golden age were realized to the poor man and the debtor; but unfortunately what these gained, was just so much taken from others. The evils of depreciation did not terminate with the war.”

“The iniquity of the laws estranged the minds of many of the citizens from the habits and love of justice. The nature of obligations was so far changed, that he was reckoned the honest man, who, from principle, delayed to pay his debts.” (Vol. 2, pages 316, 317.)

Like causes often produce like effects. And the planting community of Clarke found perplexities and obstacles in their way in endeavoring to secure again agricultural and business prosperity. The wealthy had become comparatively poor, outstanding debts had been paid in a worthless currency, but they had remaining their houses, their lands, and their farming implements. Cotton was very high for some little time after the close
of the war selling at forty and fifty cents a pound; the freedmen needed employment in order to gain food; and therefore again the planters entered largely upon the production of cotton. The price of cotton however did not keep up to fifty cents a pound, and as, year by year, its value in market decreased, debts again accumulated. To hire the freedmen and to pay them stated wages in money was found in most cases to be ruinous. Besides the natural result in a sliding scale of the price of cotton, this going lower year by year; the field hands were now found to be unreliable. Very likely at the most important times for vigorous and steady work they would take holidays, would hunt, or visit, or be idle, and the growing crop would be materially injured by this neglect of the planters’ interests. To stop their wages at such times had very little effect, for they had already present supplies, and they had not then learned, and they have scarcely yet learned, to provide for the future. It was found needful, after the experience of a few years, either to cease hiring these freedmen, or to give them a share in what was raised instead of any stated wages. And even in this way it was found to be difficult to induce them to perform good, regular, and reliable labor. The many difficulties that arose, in the adjustment of this labor question during this transition period, were entirely out of the range of experience of the farming community on the great prairies of the West. Some experience was gained year by year, and it may be considered that now an era of more profitable and more regular labor has commenced.

It was said that the change of relation from slaves to freedmen was quietly and peacefully effected in this county in 1865. The colored people remained, for the
these new hands at domestic duties, they did not know the easier, lighter, and labor saving ways in which their Northern sisters brought about the desired results; but could only follow the old ways in which the colored women had performed household work. These home labors therefore required much time and no little strength; and the transition period was abundantly hard on the women and girls who had never been accustomed to do their own work. But womanly energy and courage and tact proved equal to the necessities of the situation; and then began to work steadily up those who were of the middle class, who had never been numbered among the "poor whites" in the old times, and who had not been among the most wealthy. In general, neither class of the two extremes of society could adapt themselves to the demands of the new circumstances; but the large middle class, accustomed to some effort, and possessing more energy and physical endurance, pressed bravely and nobly onward amid their trying circumstances. Exceptions of course there are, but, for the most part, these constitute the prominent, prospering, useful, influential families of the present. In the circumstances it could not well be otherwise.

The Grange movement which swept over the country in 1873 and 1874 was an element of help in this transition time. It connected the farmers of the South with those of the North. It stimulated efforts for improvement in modes of agricultural work. It brought women into social organizations along with men. It aided in ennobling labor, in setting forth the teaching, so prevalent and popular in the West, that labor is honorable. While it did not lead to so much improve-
ment in the use of agricultural implements as it might have done, it led to an increase of information on that subject and to an improvement in the varieties of hogs and sheep.

This period witnessed a marked change in the vehicles used in the county. The old family carriages were not replaced by new ones after the war. The carriage roads, worked so carefully in the spring and in the fall, were very much out of repair when in 1865 the war worn veterans returned. Travelling was again resumed, mostly on horseback. Plantation wagons drawn by oxen or mules were again used, but soon lighter ones were introduced made after the style of Northern horse wagons, and then one horse buggies came into use here and there, and at length two horse buggies with two seats, and little one horse wagons, and also top buggies. In 1874 there seemed to be few vehicles in the county, but now light wagons and buggies are quite abundant. And the time cannot be far distant when again elegant family carriages, like those used in the cities of the land, will pass from home to home and from place to place over the smooth, and again well-worked, carriage roads of Clarke.

During the war the wheel and the loom had been running busily by the hands of the trained house servants, and now, in this period, white hands took hold of thread and shuttle and spun and wove and made garments. The women of Clarke, and doubtless elsewhere in the cotton belt, certainly deserve much credit for the earnest, resolute, and successful way in which they took hold of the various household duties, amid the many discouraging circumstances around them.

And many of these mothers and daughters not only
attended to home and household affairs, but went into the cotton fields to aid the fathers and sons in raising and gathering that product which was so needful in supplying home comforts. While the labor question was seeking some favorable solution, beautiful white girls, unaccustomed to manual labor, took into their hands the heavy hoes of the plantations and performed, day after day, heavy field labor which had formerly been done by the colored women and girls. They also learned to pick the cotton with the hot sun shining full upon them. Cheerfully and with womanly energy and love they for years performed this heavy and toilsome work, that their fathers might have the means for paying debts and obtaining comforts. These resolute and loving hearts are now deservedly held among the honored treasures of Clarke.

Ten years of struggle and effort soon passed away, and when the centennial year of the nation came many experiments in new modes of living had proved to be successful. This period of transition from slave labor to free labor has proved, however indolent and thriftless the colored people may have been, that the white race, the American Anglo-Saxon, can raise cotton successfully in South Alabama, can raise sugar cane and make excellent molasses, can perform household labor and field labor, and have as good health and as strong constitutions as in the older days of constant leisure.

Two obituary notices of 1868 are inserted here as showing the tinge which the dark years of the war gave in this period to this class of writing.

The first is dated Tallahatta, May 11, 1868. The name of the writer is unknown.
Departed this life on the 5th ult., at West Bend, Alabama, of Typhoid Pneumonia, Mrs. ELIZABETH F. PACE, aged 52 years, 2 months and 26 days.

The sickle of Death has again visited our country, and bereft us of one of our dearest earthly treasures; and whilst we lament her loss, we can only offer here to her memory the last tribute of respect.

Mrs. Pace possessed many affable traits of character. Kind in all the relations of life, she was ever ready to offer a balm of consolation to the afflicted or to succor those in distress. She was a kind mother, an obliging neighbor, and a devoted Christian—for many years a consistent member of the Baptist Church at Ulconush. During her illness she talked of her future destiny with a hope that buoyed up the lone pilgrim about to be launched out into the unknown sea of eternity—“that bourne from whence no traveller returns.” She said the Grim Monster, Death, had no terrors for her, but dreaded the thought of being separated from her dear children and loved ones.

Mrs. Pace had many trials to encounter here on earth. But a year or two previous to that unjust and cruel war which drenched in blood our once happy country, she lost a husband and a son; and but a short time afterwards, she was called upon to mourn the death of her youngest boy, who had fallen defending the most sacred rights that belong to freemen.

In her last moments, when her earthly tabernacle was dissolving, she talked with her loved ones of her approaching dissolution, and said she had bright hopes beyond this vale of tears. Son, daughters, relatives, friends, weep not for her, but be faithful followers of that meek and lowly Jesus of Nazareth, and you will one day meet her where there will be no separation; where you will hear no more of wars, and “where sickness, sorrow, pain and death are felt and feared no more.”

The second bears date July 23, 1868. It is probably an editorial notice.
DEATH OF DR. NEAL SMITH.

Another one of our oldest citizens has fallen. Dr. Neal Smith died, at his residence, near Gainestown, this county, about two weeks ago, in the 85th year of his age.

He removed to this county, from North Carolina, between fifty-five and sixty years ago. He was a prominent physician in the early history of this county, and for a number of years did most of its practice. On one occasion he skilfully removed a ball from the body of the brave and renowned Sam Dale.

Dr. Smith was a prominent and influential member of the old Whig party, and, for a number of years ably and faithfully represented the people of this county in the Legislature of the State.

In the memorable Presidential contest of 1860, Dr. Smith sided with the friends of Douglas and Johnson. He was one of the most ardent lovers of the American Union and Constitution we ever knew; and the fire of indignation would burn in the eyes of the old patriot, as he would speak of the usurpations of the Radical Congress, and their refusal to restore the Union and their efforts to add to and take from that good old Constitution under which he had lived so long and so happily. We regret that the aged patriot could not have lived to see a better day for his country — to see a return to law and order, and a Congress in the American Capitol with some regard for Constitutional obligations, for political honesty and decency.

But he has left us forever, and we can only remember and endeavor to imitate his virtues, and throw the mantle of forgetfulness over his faults whatever they may have been. How solemn it is to see breaking, one by one, the links of the chain which connect us with the early settlers — the dear old pioneers of our county. Soon they will all be gone!

Only a few weeks ago, Mrs. A. Pugh, living near this place, was gathered to her fathers, in the 90th year of her age.
That the dark war cloud which burst in such a fearful storm over the land should leave shadows, after the sun has again commenced to shine and the rainbow of promise has spanned the heavens, is by no means strange. We of this generation, however bright may become around us the beams of a renewed sunshine of prosperity, must carry with us to our graves some sad and dark remembrances.