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COL. DAVID COGDELL

Among the many pioneer citizens of old Tishomingo County none were more widely known and universally respected than Col. David Cogdell. During his thirty-seven years residence in the county he held many positions of trust, and during the 40's was colonel of militia. David Cogdell was born near Fayetteville, North Carolina, in 1808, and received the benefit of a good common school education. At the age of seventeen he emigrated to Tennessee. During those stirring times the village blacksmith was almost important personage, and Mr. Cogdell decided to learn the trade. After serving an extended apprenticeship and thoroughly mastering the business, he opened a shop in Henderson County, Tenn., and for several years followed his chosen vocation. In 1835 he married Miss Margaret Morrow, of Madison County, and in the fall of 1838 moved to Tishomingo County, Mississippi, settling in the little village of Farmington where he opened a blacksmith shop and resided for six years, thence moving to Jacinto, the county seat. He served as justice of the peace for the years 1840, 41, 42, 43, 46 and 47; was overseer of the county poor for the years 1843 and 44; and also served as deputy sheriff for the years 1842 and 1843. He was foreman of the grand jury in March, 1845, and returned a true bill against James Adams, Sr., for the killing of Bluford Roberts, who was the first man to be hanged in the county. In 1844 Mr. Cogdell moved his blacksmith shop to Jacinto; where he lived for one year, going thence to Rienzi and remaining for one year, and from there to one mile west of the present town of Kossuth. Shortly after opening his blacksmith shop at the latter place it was set on fire and entirely consumed. Accusing a man named McClung with the crime of arson, Mr. Cogdell was challenged to fight a duel, a full account of which will be found elsewhere. Mr. Cogdell was a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and was appreciated and as public official, esteemed as a private citizen, and highly prized as a friend and neighbor. He died near Kossuth in 1875. Five children of Mr. and Mrs. Cogdell are living: Mrs. Levidia Babb, near Corinth; Mrs. Martha McLeran, near Booneville; Mr. T. B. Cogdell of Corinth; Messrs. J. S. and D. M. Cogdell of Mineral Wells, Texas, and Rev. D. L. Cogdell, Jonestown, Mississippi.