

AUTO BIOGRAPHY
HISTORY OF E. T. JARRETT
YEAR 1922

I was born in the year of of 1854 Dec. 4th in Jackson, Co Ala.

I wasn't born just like Christ in a stable, but I was born in a house on the back of a lot that afterwards a stable was made of it, about 3 of my first years was in this house. My father was a tanner and a shoe maker by trade. He was of a German decent and a noble Christian man. My mother was of an English decent and was a good Christian woman. He moved from Jackson to Coffee County Tennessee, living there only a short time say about one and a half years, then he moved to Grundy County.

Moses Myers
Jarrett
Sarah Ann
14.2.1922

where he lived until the Civil War began in 1861. Then volunteered
 and went in the war on the Southern side. His wife my mother and
three boys and one girl went to Sand Mountain to her mothers and
fathers where she could have their protection during the war went
 on and being robbed of everything we had time and again. Then it
 was we had hard times. I remember that father got shot through the
thigh with a minnie ball and came home on a furlow and staid three
months I remember asking him if he ever killed a man and he said
 "Son, if I ever did I do not know it." I remember he had his old
 muscat with him and he tuck a notion to shoot it one day and when
 he did it kicked him hard and we all laughed at him. I also
 remember, once my mother called us to dinner and my father had
 to wash,

Richard Price Hughes
 C.C. (Johnny)
 Hughes

I waited until he got done washing and like all boys I dabbed my hands in the water and while father was drying his hands and face I ran up and grabbed the towell and started to dry, while he was still using the towell, and the thing that made me remember this was that he slapped me and told me never to take hold the towell when anyone else was drying. Well another thing I remember is then we did not have confortable seats to sit on at school like we have today. but instead we had old ruff slabs with wooden legs and no backs, no desks, no cloak closetts and we walked 2 or 3 miles to school at that. we only had 3 months of school in a year. As I started to say my father went back to his company and he had not been there long untill he was killed with a cannon ball.

Then our hard times came. We knew we would never have him with us any more. But my good mother struggled along. _____ for help and working with her hands, carding, spinning, weaving, cloth to clothe us children working until midnight by a greece light, compelling my brother that was older than myself and me to spin our cut of thread each before we went to bed, while she would card the rolls for us, then we would go to bed and go to sleep. While she would work on. Oh you think you are having a hard time, in these days of plenty, I don't think so. I call back the days I have just been telling you about. _____ Well I must go on, after the war was ended my uncle, my mothers brother Uncle Dick Hughes (by name) came and lived with us two years, and I never will forget those two years

for he sure made us two boys work. We farmed in the bend of the river above Bridgeport Ala. in 1867 when we had the biggest rise we have had in the old Tenn. river. I could stand in our back yard and throw a rock into the water. I could see houses going down the river. This was the time that the bridge washed away at Bridgeport Ala. Well my uncle left us to make our own living. My mother then moved across the river to what was known then as the Chittic Cove, where Mama's oldest sister lived. She rented some land I don't know just how much, but about ten acres I guess and my older brother left home. I was only fourteen years old and the making of the crop depended on me. My mother braged on me and said she knew I would make a good crop, so barefooted and in my shirtale I worked the crop.

1867
1868

We, my mother and I had accuilated seven or eight head of cattle and sever head of hogs, and chickens.

Well about the time we was ready to gather the crop, there came an old man from Dade County Ga. to see my mother and they soon agreed to get married, and when my brother knew that our mother was going to get married he came back home. Well he just staid long enough to help us move, he left again. Now this was my oldest brother, his name was Billy, he went on a railroad and work in a commasary for the railroad company. and got killed by a half indian. Well I staid with my stepfather and worked for him who was a good Christian man. I am glad to note that he never gave any of us children any bad advice but to the contrary he gave good advice.

Well as I have said above we only had three month school in the year and sometimes I would get to go as much of the three. So you see it was very hard to get an education that way of going to school, but that was the best we could do. When I was eighteen years old I became a Christian and lived a good Christian for about or three years, then I went away from home and fell into bad company and for six or eight months I lived out of duty but my conscience whipped me all the time for the advice and training my stepfather and my mother had given me never left me, and when my uncle died my aunt wrote me to come and take charge of her farm which I did and it put me in the neighborhood where I was born so as soon as I went I went to the Church I went to the Church and made my acknowledgements. which surprised

Sept
1872

plus B.
Wakefield

every one as they had great confidence in my faithfulness and ever since then I have tried to live in all good conscience before God. I won't say I have never done or said anything that was wrong. But when I did and I came to myself I went at once to my God and my Savior for forgiveness realizing that he had promised to forgive and if I live to see next Sept 1922 I will have been in the Church of Christ fifty years being sixty-eight years old next December the fourth next December the fourth 1922.

When I was eighteen years old and on until I was about twenty two, my sister who was two years younger than myself went to gather all the time and where one went the other went. and we would go to singing at some of the neighbors houses two or three times a week and we were always there.

Those days we never saw a streetcar no automobiles, no bicycles, no flying machines, no electric lights, no gas, no telephone, no picture shows, no pool rooms. no low neck dresses, no short skirts, no womens legs showing to their knees. Well thing were different fifty years ago. They wore long trails to their skirts _____ as long as four and five feet long draging the ground. I do remember that women did not vot. I do remember when God speaks of giving power to anyone on earth it was always to Man and not woman. Man and not God give the power to the women, and Man will have this to account for in the judgment.

Well back to my career. As I said above I was partialy raise by a stepfather, Oh I have to say he was a good stepfather. He never whipped any of us, but Mama did

and when Mama got hold of me I sure jumped Juber. Well I had an Aunt Nan and when Mama was not. there she took charge of me. I will never forget once in time of the Cival War, when Mama and us children lived with my grandma and this good old soul. I loved her like my own Mama and she loved me as dearly as if I had been her own boy. But listen this porticular time that I am about to tell you about was once my Mama had to go to a neighbor's hous about one mile away to do some work for them and I wanted to go with her and my Aunt Nan told me I could not go, and I thought I would slip off. So I made an effort but when I had gotten about three hundred yards from the house Aunt Nan, who was always on the job, discovered I

was gone, So here she came right after me, and she ran and I ran and finally she caught me and if I tell you just what she done for me you would laugh heartily, But I will not tell it all to you. But I will tell you this much, She hunted around until she found a switch that just suited her and put me in the road just ahead of her. and what she done with the switch I will leave you to guess at. And the best of all isthis good old Aunt Nan is still living, she is in her eighty-first bless her good old soul. Yes and another thing I remember and that was the first cook stove that I ever saw. My stepfather came to Challanooga and bought it. And it was a little slep stove. We thought it was the grandest thing we ever saw. All the neighbors had to come in and see it and I

remember how proud of it my Mama was. Well she loved to cook on it so well. She would cook pies and tea cakes by the bushels. Yes she did and don't laugh at this for it is so. Well you could not blame her for being glad for she had to cook bread in an old flat oven with a flang lid and put fire on it and under it and lift the lid with a pair of old pot hooks and she would bake bread on a _____ in front of the fire. We would them Johnie Cakes. Our fire places was not like the ones you have today. They were from three to four feet wide and we burn't wood in stead of coal. Coal was about a thing unknown. And for supper, thats what we called it then, I believe you call it today dinner, but at any rate it was the last meal we ate before we went to bed. I believe you would say before we would retire, but then we were not educated.

Well as I started to tell you. My Mama would open out a nice bed of hot embers in this big old fire place and pour in a big basket of sweet potatoes and cover them well with these hot embers and they would cook so nice and taste so good Oh I wish I had some cooked that way now. Well those good old days I never will forget. And another thing I can never forget and that is the old school house that stands on the hill. My boyhood day my boyhood days. I always had as much fun as anyone there. I would always try to be best in everything, but times they would put me _____. I remember the first girl I ever went with, Well, we had to go through a field to a neighbors to preaching and

as we went I hit my toe against a little stump and down I, and the whole crowd lauged until I was so shamed. But the best of all was when my girl picked me up. Oh I loved that girl for that. And lover her until this very day.

I remember when we were boys and rainy days, we boys would go up in our barn loft with our old Army swords for on rainy days the big rats would get up on the top rib pole to lick the water from the boards and some times we would kill as many as twenty a day. And sometimes our Pa would put us in the corn crib to shuck corn. In stead of playing cards, Dominoes, or some other game we would be working at something that was profitable. We enjoyed it. Well I will have to tell you happenings of my life just as they come to my Mind and as we get more into my life it will become more serious. I will now tell you when I left home to go to Texas. I was going with a family by the name of Tailor he had a girl by the name of Maggie and I fell in love with Maggie. Well we had a

fine time on the way going to Texas, but I have not told you the most interesting part of this going yet. As I have told you before my oldest sister and I was great Chums and when I was to go, this was the trying times. I almost wish I had not promised to go. For there was my Mother and this dear sister. It seemed it would break their hearts and there was the leaving of the only brother I had and two other sisters and this dear old stepfather who was crying just the same as the others. Well what hurt me worst, I could hear my oldest sister (we called her sis) scream for atone half mile, this nearly breaking my heart and I thought of going back, but I thought if I did the neighbors would laugh at me, so I went on and staid nearly four years. Well I wrote them I was coming home _____ the time and my brother went to the train to meet me but I was behind and did not get there until the next day. So they gave me out and did not go the next day and I came. I got a neighbor boy to haul my trunk out home another neighbor boy was at the depot and knew me and ran to my fathers and told my brother, so here he

came with a lead horse for me to ride, but before I met him on the way who should I meet but my step father and my oldest sister on horse back, had been to see a sick lady. My sister spide me on the wagon, and the way she left that horse and came to me with her arm hoisted in the air and threw them around my neck and cried for joy. She was not crying for the same thing she was when I left home for it was sorrow then. But when I left my brother was a beardless boy and when I met him he wore a long black mustach. I did not know him. But still this was not the most serious time yet for as we reached the gate, my poor old Mother was standing on the pourch watching us come and then my good old stepfather hallow to her that the dead was alive and the lost was found, So when we went and my good old Mother threw her arms around my neck and sobbed for joy then it was sadness and joy to all. Still we all cried as though we were hurt but it was for joy.

well I tell you this was good old times. Now my oldest sister was married she got married while I was away. She married Dr. L. Case but was the same good sister, Well I had not been gone but four years but the young people had grown up until I scarcely knew anyone. The neighbor boys all came to see me expecting to see a wild Weslern but i had not changed very much. for I was grown when I left home. Well I had a good chance to have gone wild if I had been inclined that way. But with the raising I got from my good old Mother and stepfather, and their good advice that never left me, I could not go wild. Still my brother thought when I came that I would try to buldoze, and he had it made up in his mind that if I started anything he would finish it with me. So he looked for me to say something so he could take it up. One day we went a rabbit hunting and when we got in the woods my brother (Jeff by name) wanted to go one way and I wanted to go the other way. Well my brother did not like this very well but we finally agreed but I could see in him a

disposition to want to get mad at me but I avoided making him too mad until we went to Texas together. Well my good old stepfather sold what he had and went to Texas with me after I had stayed home about three months. And all of the family went except this good sister who was married to Dr. L. Case who did not want to go. Yes here comes another sad parting with this dear sister again. Well you must know this was a sad day when we all had to go. We went into Collins County Texas. Where three of my stepbrother's sons live. All good men and all were our friends. My stepfather bought a good farm and my brother and I staid with him the first year and farmed, then we bought a piece of land for the timber, built a house cleaned up a small piece of it and hired men and put in the wood to cut cordwood we done the hauling to a town about two miles away. We bought a fine span of mules. We bacted. We cooked and could cook pretty well for boys. We had our cow, hogs, chickens and raised potatoes, corn and beans. So we lived pretty well. Our Mother lived

about one half mile from us. She would come on Sunday and cook us a good dinner. and it was a good dinner too is what I'm talking about, for she knew how. Well my Mother died in 1885. ^{OR 20th 1887} So this was an other sad parting to have to give her up. After she died I married a Miss Susie Humphries We did not live together only about one year and wight months. We had a little girl born to us and called her Ocea Ann My father in law and Mother in law thought I was going to be very rich. for I had invented a cultivating harrow to be used on Cultivalors on double showel stocks. And I had a patten on it. And I admit it looked fine for a fortune. You know all inventors build more air castles than any other people in the world. So I was no exception to the rule for I had them. Well when my fortune seemed to have blown a way, her mother said she should never live with me. And I was making a crop and her mother would keep her home with her most all the time. And I would work all day and have to go home and do my own cooking. I tried it all summer.

and when my crops was layed by, I went after he and this was the last time. I had gone and brought her several times before this. And I said "If you if you go again and stay away from home you can stay, for I will not fool with you anymore" So she went, and when she went I left and went further west out in the Panhandle of Texas. When Ocea my baby was eight months old she taken the fevor and fied. so the tie was broken. But Susie married again but did not live live very long afterwards. This released me. So nine years after we was seperated. I was married to a Miss Mattie Norrell, of Chattanooga, Tenn. We lived together nineteen years and had seven children the three first died, two first died at birth the third lived until he was seven years eight months and ten days old. He was the only boy we had and this was a hard thing to bear. We had two girls Lucile and Aleen. Then we had another boy we called him Jewell. In two years another girl was born to us. This was the seventh and when this one was born we lived in St. Louis Mo. While there Mattie, my wife, who had been one of the best wife and best Mother taken Consumption

and grew worse all the time and soon became bedfast and had the best doctors in St Louis to treat her and one specialist. None of them done her any good. I wanted to take her to Colorado, but she wanted to go back to Chattanooga to die for she said she could never get well. So I bought her back and tried several doctors here. But she had to die in about three months after we landed in Chattanooga we laid her in Forrest Cemetery. She left four children, three girls and one boy. The two oldest were girls Lucille and Aleen. The boy Jewell and a baby birl Inez who was quiet three years old. She is now twelve years old. the twenty sixth of February 1922. (next month) Oh I know you want to ask me have you not married again? No, and my wife has been dead nine years. No I promised her I would see that no one ran over her children, for she said that that was all she cared to die for and I made her the promise that as long as I was able I would take card of and feed and clothe and educate and raise them as best I could and she looked up at at me and said "Papa I believe you will do that and I will die satisfied" and I said "So help me God I will do that", and I

have done the very best I know to do, and for this reason I did not marry again but only for this promise I would have married again. My wife could abuse Mattie's children and I would not know it. Then another reason was I knew how I wanted to raise these children and I thought if I got an other woman in the house she might not have the idea of raising children that I had, and this might bring on more trouble. So I decided to just take the responsibility on my self. So here I am now my oldest is twenty two years and my youngest twelve years, so you see they will all soon be grown. I am now in my sixty eighth year year and when my baby is grown I will be seventy six years old if the good Lord allows me to live that long. But this is not all of my life I will gather up a few more things that has and will come to my mind. First I will go back to the time I was in the Pan Handle of Texas. Just after my baby (Ocea) died I went to Vernon Texas. This was in Wilbarger County on the Red River in the deviding line between Texas and Oklahoma.

There I could see all the Indians I wanted to see, and see them as they lived in their every day life. At that time they were pretty wild. This was in the year 1886. The government clothed and fed them and they would do nothing except to hunt and that was not much for they was too lazy. They would come over to Vernon and trade their blankets or anything they had for anything they would see the white man with that they wanted, provided they could not steal it. They were at that time a very trecherous people. You could not trust them at all. I was in the real estate business at this time for Vernon was on a boom. I did pretty well there. made some money. Then I met a very nice fellow, by the name of J E Jacks, a fine little fellow, well educated and refined and tried to live a good Christian life. He had money and property. Well we decided to gather us a Texas menagery show. So we began to to pick up a collection of the best we could. The first thing we bought was a young black eagle, three months old and measured eight feet from tip to tip of his wings. Then the Keota Wolfe, badgers, sivit cats, cougar, rats, pararie dogs

cenlopedes, Trantulas, Musk hogs, Lion, Black bear. Oh so many other things I can't mention. But we had all kinds of birds. Well we got our cages and a very long tent, and every thing was ready and we started, chartered a freight car to take our show in and we began to move from town to town. We did not have to pay license so long as we stayed in Texas. But when we struck the State of Arkansas our license was Seventy five dollars per day. At Texarcana on the line of Texas and Arkansas. We met up with the Black Bros who had a show similar to ours and we consolidated and traveled together, went to several towns. Finally we decided we would write back to Tennessee and Georgia and see what the license was there. So I had a brother in Tennessee, and my partner had a brother in Georgia. We wrote and each one informed us that the license was seventy five dollars a day in each state. Then it was we decided we would sell out and we told the Black Bros that we would price and give or take. And they agreed to this and we priced so low we were sure they would take. Sure enough they took our show. So this wound up this part of my life.

Well then we went to selling this cultivating harrow I have been telling you about. We would sell a county right for anything we could get for it, trade for land, houses, lots wagons or any thing we could get for it that we could turn into money. We traveled about eight months with it. We spent all we made and had a good time finally it got so we could not sell anything so we went until we had no money to go any further. Well I thought, What will we do? There was a small canning factory in the little town we stopped in. I said "I believe I will go and get me a job in that factory" and he said "I will too" So we went and got us a job and went to work but we did not make very much and my good old partner said, "Say lets go up here and get board at a certain hotel and I will write back to Vernon and have one of my lots sold" and we did and he got three hundred dollars out of his lot and we were two glad boys we had been at the hotel nearly a month when he got his money. but the folks was so good and kind to us. Well when my partner got his money he came

right to me and said to me "Here old boy is half of the money I got for my lot which is one hundred and fifty. Now lets go and pay up our board like men, then we will go until we spend it, and it may be something will turn up by that time" So we did but before we had spent it all my Mother got to die and telegraphed me to come. And I would not let my good old friend off but taken him home with me. Now this was the end of my palent right as far as I was concerned for I made my friend a deed to the state of Texas and as for the rest I never done anything with but I still had one hundred acres of land in Texas near Austin I had gotten out of my patent, but after I came back to Tennessee I traded it one hundred thirty one Acres on Cumberlain Mountain. I traded it for a steam laundry and traded the laundry for mules and that was the last of that. Then my brother (Jeff) and I went into the grocery and drug business in Marion County Tennessee.

We sold about three years then we sold out. My brother was a school teacher had taught about ten years in that County, so he went to teaching again. He was better educated than I was though he was seven years younger than my self for all that I made it up in my Mind I would go to school to him so I did. About eighteen months.

Well he decided he wanted us to go to college to gather, which we did about eighteen months and then it was I came to Chattanooga this was in the year of 1894. I came here to sell a patent, a fire kindler. I got license to sell them and thought I had a right to sell it in any part of the City, the funniest thing of all was when I strung about one hundred on a wire and made two slings of them taking one string in each hand and went all over the town with them in an awful hurry. Would not stop to allow anyone to ask me what they were. I could hear people "What on earth are those things. So I did this about three days and when I stopped with them I stopped on the corner of Market and Ninth street. Well I had raised the curiosity of the people and when I stopped

they came running up and crowed the sidewalk and half the street. Then you know what happened the, police came to me and said "Young man you will have to move from here. But I argued with the point with them and told them that I had paid license and that they gave me the right to sell any where in the City, but they told me I could not blockcade the street and told me I could go any where except on Market between sixth and ninth and if I insisted on selling there that they would arrest me, so I obeyed orders and sold them about six months here in Chattanooga. Then I trimmed electric lights. I had eighty one to trim and to climb poles from twenty to fourty feet high. I believe this was as cold winter as I ever saw in my life. Then I worked at the Cayhill foundry, polished grate fronts and the emery dust went to my lungs and made them bleed and I quit there. Well my wife and I decided to put us up a resturant on Main street. We did and done very well there. Then we moved to South Pittsburg Tenn.

Then ¹ our first son was born to us but did not live but a little while. I went into the picture business and moved to Florence Alabama, then to Tuscumbia, Ala then to Sheffield Alabama then Decatur Ala. While in Tuscumbia ² we had a daughter born to us but she was born dead. While in ³ Decatur we had another boy born to us, we kept him seven years, eight months and ten days and he died in Chattanooga. We moved from Decatur to Huntsville Alabama. then to Chattanooga. But while we was in ⁴ Decatur we had another daughter she is twenty two years old and still at home. And after we moved back to ⁵ Chattanooga we had another daughter born to us. She is now seventeen years old. and at home. Then we ⁶ had another boy born to us in Chattanooga.

Then we moved to St. Louis Mo. Then we had another girl born to us. This was our last. We staid there three years any my wife was struck with the terrible malady of tuberculosis and got down and wanted to come to Chattanooga. I had done for her while I was in St. Louis. I had a specialist to treat her while there but that was no good. She gre worse all the time. I brought her back to Chattanooga. She lived three months then died and left me.

with four children, the youngest not quite three years old. While the oldest was twelve years old. My youngest is now twelve years old. I have never married any more. We are still in Chattanooga. I will go back to the time I first went to Texas. I landed in Waco on March the 9th 1877. I went 22½ miles south west of Waco and made a crop. When it was gathered I went back to Waco and at a planing mill for a man by the name of Mr. J C McCrary, a very fine man, he also had a big feed store and after I had worked for him in the planing mill about 6 or 8 months and the business got dull he put me in the feed store and I worked there about 9 or 10 months. Then I bought out a barber shop and a confection store and done fine But I am too fast. Before I done this buying I worked with a man by the name of Jim Saxtain in a grocery store for 8 months. Then I got in with a man by the name of Ab Bowlin from Tennessee and as it was cotton picking time. We decided to go down the Brasis river

and picked cotten all fall, so we did and had a fine time and when we quit picking cotton I went to the nearest R. R. station to go back to Waco. and who should I meet there but Mr. McCrarys oldest son who was buying hides and bones and he hired me to stay in the office there at that station and buy hides and bones for him and he went to another station, leaving a check book to the bank so that I could pay for the goods I bought. This will show you that I made a good record with his father and his younger brother who was a a grown you see. If I had not proven honest with them, the oldest would have known it and he would not hired me. But my parents always told me it was always best to act honest. This has always been my aim all through life. I have been many times in life so I could not pay my debts when they were due but I never made a debt that I did not aim to pay. But we all fall short of our expectation. When I left this job I went back to Waco there I bought the barber shop and confection store

I ran them some lime and taken a man by the name of Jones in with me and he drank and gambled and stoled me out. I sold all I had and the man I worked for in the grocery store sold his store and wanted me to go with him to Gainsville Texas and go with him in the grocery and feed business which I did for I had about \$800. which I did and we ran there for about a year and I sold out to to him and I went to work in a black smith shop shoeing horses which was very hard work and I only worked at that a short time, then it was that I came back home when my people went to Texas with as I have already told you about. Some of this will seen very funny to you. Indeed it is verry funny to me to look back over a life of 68 years. I am so thankful to my God that he has spared my unprofitable life to this good age and given me good health and strength and a portion of the temporal blessings of this life and my little family and good health to them and family and friends

for I want to tell you when you act so you have no friends you are in a bad fix. Better you were dead. Life is just what you make it, good or bad, good is best. I wish every one could realize this. Well I must tell you I would like to live until I was 93 years old. Now you wonder why to that age. Well when my baby is 21 or grown, I will only be 76 years old and then I would not be too old to get married again. Then I would have 17 years more of married life. you see. Now I will tell you some of my present life. I am now in the Medicine business at present in Chattanooga Tenn. Have been in this business about 12 years. I have seven remedies, a tonic, linament, salve, catarrh ointment, Pile ointment, face cream. I have also gotten up a preservative for Medicines and make tincture of iron. and use this preservative instead of alcohol. This gives good satisfaction. I have never had any money to push this business so it has been very slow. But I still think the time will come when I can push this business. My life has been a life of experimenting spent many a dollar, trying to do something

that no one else had done. The rest of my life shall be more in the service of my God than it has ever been. I intend to do all the good for others I can while God lets me live here on earth. I intend to help others to live the Christian life. I intend to condemn sin when it is in my power to do so. I will do my best to overcome all temptation. God said he will make a way for my escape. I will try and look for him for help, for I don't want to miss heaven. For if I do my life here on this earth will have been a failure and that would be bad for me and others. I will try to make my life conform to the teaching of God's word. I think this safe, don't you? If I have an enemy on earth I don't know it. Nothing but friends, I hope. I have no ill feelings against any one and can _____ for all a like. Saint and sinner. I can always say God's will be done.

Well let's take a little back view again. I can remember the first streetcar I ever saw. This was in Decatur Alabama. It was about 15 or 20 feet long and pulled by two mules. When they

get to the end of the car line the driver would have to get out, no matter how rainy or how cold and unloose the double tree from the car and turns the mules and carry the double tree and drive to the other end of the car and hitch them to that end of the car and get in and drive. This was not so fast as our electric cars today. but that was fine for that day. Oh these days are fast days. I wonder what the next 50 years will bring. Wouldn't you like to know. I can look back 50 years and see the changes and it has been wonderful. So the changes that may be made in the next 50 years may be wonderful. I do remember in the year about 1865 and on until about 1875 that we had the Ku Kluck Klan. Oh I have seen hundreds of them on their white horses dressed in white with great high white hats on. And to see them was enough to excite most anyone. For every one knew when they were out some one had to suffer for something mean he or she had done. the rich and poor, white and black. The high and low. All had to

suffer alike, for they were no respecter of persons. Yes, I remember the first ones I ever saw. I went one night to stay all night with my uncle a my aunt said he had to be away from home. She wanted me for company. Well I was about 15 or 16 years old. And of course could be excited. So we went to bed about 8 o'clock and about 11 or 12 came a rattle bang at the door with a demand to open it. My Aunt of course knew who it was and hollered at me pretty loud for I was asleep, to wake me up and open the door and I did and bless your life as soon as opened that door the house was filled with these KKK Well I had no idea what they wanted and I just backed back to the bed and sat on the edge of it. And these fellows began to pick at my toes and to ask what they were. I remembered one especially, this one appeared to be very old having a great long white beard. Oh the thing that makes me remember him so well is he asked me to feel of his beard and when I did his chin dropped down

well I can't tell you just how I felt. Well another one I remember I remember very well and what makes me remember him so well was when I went to shake hands with him his arm fell off and he groaned mightly. Oh he hallowed and I thought I was the cause of it. But he picked it up out of my hand with his other hand and put it back and exclaimed "It is alright" yes another thing I remember is one called for some water and I handed him a bucket all most full of water with a dipper in the bucket expecting to see him drink out of the dipper but he laid the dippr out of the bucket and turned the bucket up to his mouth and drank all there was in the bucket. Oh they done so many funny things.

I remember too that instead having base ball, foot ball and basket ball. We played bull pen _____ Marbles, Kittie wants your corner, thimble and all round the MULberry bush. Mumbeldi peg as we called it. Oh those were fine days

I liked all of our plays. Although they would look silly to the people today, but I liked them. I would take part and play my part too. We would run foot races, rastle, jump, half hammer, quarter hammer, stand and jump, run and jump, turn summer salts, roll like a wheel stand on our head, climb poles, pull up rope and try our strenght in most every imaginable way. Oh well we were just boys, Well we were not mean but justed fun but we did not destroy the other fellows property. To have it now days it seems the boys don't care what they do to have a little fun, destroying someones property is not right. Hense we ought not to do that for fun. Well I thought higher fall harder and hollow louder than anybody. But (now) I can fall harder than most any body and run slower. Oh I realize I am not so much today. But according to my age I am here about as much as anyone. But when you get to 68 years old you will put away childish things

Well, I have waited sometime to give you something else. Yes a few more things has come to my mind. First, some time go I went to dry valley. I was walking a long time in this dry valley and this was in Hamilton County Tenn to ____ a dry valley road, and I spied a hole of water near by the road and as it was such a dry valley I concluded I would go over by the hole of water and when I got over there there was a culvert that was across the road to carry the water off. If it should happen to rain, which it did sometimes; but the funniest of it all was I decided to step over in this culvert and on doing it I had to step on a big rock that extended over the deapest part of this hole of water. Well I made it all right going over in the culvert, but when I stepped back on the rock to come out it gave way with me and I fell into that hole of water which was about waist deep to me wahoo Oh I hollered. I scrambled and scrumble and the more I scrambled it seemed the deeper I got in to it. Well finally I got out as wet as a drowned rat, water running from my clothes

Hah Hah Hah I laughed and I laughed. Well there I was going to deliver some good out in the country, what will I do? Well there was a store not far away and I went to that store, I told the Merchant the Joke, three or four more were listening and everybody Joined and we had a good laugh over my experience, they all suggested that I had better go home and get on some dry clothes and I ask the merchant if he had a backroom I could get into to wring the water out of my clothes and a Jolly old boy he was said come in here. I went in there and what I done for these clothes was a plenty and put them back on and when I put them on this was worse than falling in the water for it was a cool day and they stuck to me like a leech and Oh you can guess at the rest, but if you guess you wont guess half of it. Well I went right on and delivered my good and I never even taken a bad cold from it.