

that stood where the Brandt building (Royall's Jewelry Store) now is. It was afterwards occupied by Graham and Robinson.

The old court house stood in the middle of the street, in front of where the Bank now is. It was a two-story brick building, yellow plastered on the outside. The Court room was below, with the Sheriff's office in the upper corner, with a court gallery above, and above that in the second story was the Clerk of Court's office, the Ordinary's office, and the office of the County Commissioners. It had a portico in front facing down the street, having three steps on the upper side, five in front and none on the lower side next the Curry House, the distance from the floor of the portico was at least six ft. I saw a man, Charles Hardin, run his horse up the three steps into the portico and jump him off the lower side and land safe on the ground, showing that he had a sure footed horse and that he was a good rider.

On Saluda Main Street, just below McLure's old store were two offices, one occupied by Dr. Reedy and the other by Matthew Williams as a law office, an upright man and a fine judge of law. He owned the first pointer dog I ever saw. Every person knew that dog "Spad" by name. Next below was where Dr. Anderson, a Charleston man lived; now occupied by Mr. Frank Williams. (This was where Wherry's Garage now stands.) He did the first vaccinating that I ever heard of. He vaccinated me when I was just a boy, which rendered me exempt from small-pox during the late war, as then I had charge of a small-pox hospital for three months and did not take the disease. The next house was vacant, known as the Clem Woods house. <sup>(the Babcock house)</sup> He had lived there but had moved to the Crank place, beyond Rocky Creek on the Richburg road. He was a fine fiddler, had one stiff leg and required more room when he played at parties and balls. Then came a house owned by Robert McNinch. It had three acres of land attached, extending to the road leading to the "Big Spring". On this three acres in the year 1846, he raised 100 bushels of wheat and then 100 bushels of corn, the best crop ever known to be made on that amount of land hereabouts. All the family are dead except Isreal, Mrs. Culp and Mrs. Curtis. They still live on part of the place. Next house belonged to Mrs. Quay and he next to Mrs. Starr. It is the same house in which Mr. Robert Hornenow lives. (Where the Kirkpatrick Boarding House now is.)

In the house owned by the late Capt. Cousar, (Capt. Jack Robin's house) lived a good man, and humorous, named Obediah Farrar. He owned also and afterwards moved to a plantation on which now stands Eureka Mill. He was a noted workman in iron and brass, but when he saw the first engine that came to Chester I heard him say that he was ready to die as it surpassed anything he ever expected to see.

On York Street, the farthest out was the Brawley residence.

Judge W.H. Brawley, of Charleston, was a son of that house and he owned it until his death. (Mr. Jim Davidson bought this place from his heirs.) Over on the other ~~side~~ side stood Mr. James Hemphill's residence, afterwards burned and rebuilt. He lives in the same lot, is the oldest citizen in town, is a fine lawyer and an upright man. Tho he is far along in eighty, he looks the same as when I first knew him. He has a full set of teeth, as white as ivory, never had the toothache and never had a tooth pulled. (This place is now occupied by the homes of Mr. S.M. Jones, H.S. Adams, R.E. Sims, J.H. Williams, Dr. W.R. Wallace.)

The next house as you go up town was that of Mr. Robt. West, a good tailor, and one of my best friends. Then came the Turner Mansion and female school. (This property occupied the place wher Mr. Robt. Gage's residence and the vacant lot above it is). The next house was where Dr. White now lives. Dr. A.P. Wylie was the first who lived in it, and then a long house, about ~~where~~ where Mr. J.A. Owens now has a store, <sup>where P.O. now is</sup> was owned by the veteran tailor of the town, Angus Nicholson, who learned Dan Carroll, Robert West and Chelsea Robbins the tailor trade. (This is where the post office now is.) Then next to this and below the new court house, lived Mr. Jefferson Clark, also a tailor, an expert magician, versed in sleight of hand and ventriloquism. The next house, the one owned by the Misses Graham, then the property of John Rosborough, the oldest citizen and the longest office-holder that Chester District ever had. He was Clerk of Court until old age compelled him to resign. (Where the Agurs Building now stands.)

Then came the first store, owned by John Bradley, once owned by Dr. John Dunovant. The store was a long wooden house with a piazza in front, and in the far end Mr. Jordan Bennett had a jewelry store. Mr. Bradley was a shrewd, energetic man and was sheriff before my day. Next was the hotel, owned by Fowler Kennedy. a good landlord who kept a good table. The next house was occupied by John McKee as a store and dwelling. Hiram Brawley had a store next and on the corner was a wooden store, with a piazza, owned by John Kennedy, a son-in-law of Maj. John Kennedy. Between him and Brawley and Alexander was the law office of Maj. N.R. Eaves, one of the notables of town, a patriot. He volunteered when fifty and went to the war with Mexico, and in the war between the states when he was sixty. He was senator for a number of years. He was first on the walls of the City of Mexico, when our troops stormed that city. He hoisted the Palmetto Flag, the first flag on the walls.

Across the street (Center) on the corner occupied by Hafner & Co. Amos Estes had a store and after him John Walker and William Little. Just below E.J. West had a saddle and harness shop. He, with the assistance of Dr. J.S. Walker, a dentist, made the first set of round harness and the first shafted saddle ever sold in Chester. In a small house just below, Miss Susan Stokes, lived. She was a milliner and did all the fine sewing for the ladies of the town.

Just beyond was a hotel kept by John C. McAfee and his sister, Miss Ellen, which was noted far and near for its good fare.

Next below lived John D. Crawford, a good boot and shoe maker. The next house was occupied by Mrs. Kimbell and her son-in-law, Eli Elliott, a tinner by trade. He made the first fire-works ever made in Chesterville. Across the hollow, on the same side of Main Street lived Mr. John Connelly, and next where John C. McFadden now lives, then lived Dixon Henry, who was a store keeper. The last house on that side of the street was on top of the hill. It was built and owned by Rev. John Douglas. The house is now occupied by the family of Mr. R. Brandt. (Mrs. S.E. McFadden's house.)

On the opposite side of the street was Mr. Thos. McLure's house and at the back of it, about where the stand-pipe now stands, was the Chester Male Academy, presided over by a teacher named Shelton, a strict disciplinarian and a fine teacher. On top of the hill, with a rock wall next the street, lived Sample Alexander and next was C.D. Melton, a fine lawyer and for a long time solicitor. (Where A.G. Thornton and John G. White, respectively, live). Then in the Hollow was Elliott's and Kennedy's tin shop. Where the Whitlock house stands (Now owned by Mrs. B.E. Wright), A.B. Brown, a lawyer and afterwards a local Methodist preacher, lived. Then came a small brick house, the Presbyterian lecture room, built at the expense of the Rev. John Douglas, as the Purity church was three miles in the country. This was bought by the Catholics and was used by them as a church.

On the corner where now stands the City Hall was a large wooden hotel kept by George Kennedy. Graham, Starr & Orr had a store in the coener room of the first floor. This firm was afterwards J. and T.M. Graham, tho they then occupied McLure's old store behind the old court house. On the corner above Columbia St. was Maj. John Kennedy, then one of the oldest men in town. He had a museum of curiosities in his house and piazza. He was an Irishman and was the father of Mrs. Coleman and Mrs. L.C. Hinton. Next was a small house in which B.L. Hare had a jewelry store and afterwards C.C. West had a tailor shop.

Next lived two old people named McNinchwhom Eliza Waters (Melton, I think) took care of and heired their possessions. Dixon Henry had a store in the next house.

Down Columbia street, on the west side, between the top of the hill and the Tanyard branch was only one house, in which James Aiken lived and had a gin shop for making and repairing gins.

On the east side of Columbia St. after leaving Maj. Kennedy's house there was no house until we came to the tanyard, owned by J.C. McAfee and managed by T. Milliken Graham

On Center St. on the east side there was no house until

you reached Capt. John A. Bradley's , where Israel Hood now lives. On the west side of the street, after passing Amos Estes' was Maj. Williams' blacksmith shop. Then comes the new jail, where lives W.A. Rosborough, the sheriff, then the Methodist Church, (now Episcopal Church), then Jordan Bennett's, near where Pinckney St. goes off from Center. (The Kluttz House). There was no other house on Center St except far out where afterwards lived Mrs. Charlotte Mills, then lived a man named Smith. (Where Mrs. J.J. Hardin now lives.)

*Glenn Stricker's*  
E.J. West, Daniel Carroll and the Colvin house (~~Glenn Stricker's~~ the little house beside it and the Davega house respectively) were on the right side of Pinckney Street. On the other side was Francis Billian, a good carpenter, a good christian gentleman.

This ended Chesterville as it was when I first came to town in 1843.

I remember and was there when the first tree was cut near the Southern depot when they commenced to survey for the C.C. & A. railroad. I walked two miles with the Valanteers when they marched off to Mexico. I saw Yellow John, his wife ~~Dilsey~~ Harriet and old Dilsey hang for killing their master, Allen De-graffenreid. The gallows was across the railroad on Saluda st., but there was no railroad there then.

There were four old citizens that I overlooked when I was reviewing Chesterville. John D. Simrill, father of our present good citizen, Joel Simrill. I do not remember where he lived when we first came to Chester, but he later kept the hotel then kept by Fowler Kennedy. Also Col. William A. Walker. He lived in a house where the city jail now stands. He once was postmaster and colonel of a regiment of militia that mustered in town. He was one of the best known men in the county. Then Mr. Davie Parks. He once kept the Curry House and was a good citizen. Last was Mr. W.M. McDonald, known better as "Mid". He once was sheriff, and afterwards moved to the plantation now owned by Mr. Hamilton McCandlass.

In a few years Mr. Bridwell moved to Chester and commenced the publication of the "Chester Observer". The first type that i ever saw set up for print was there.

I may have overlooked others, but this gives you some idea of what Chester was like when there were three hundred inhabitants.

An Old Citizen.

AN OLD CITIZEN'S EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF CHESTER.

My mother moved to Chester in the Spring of 1843, when I was seven years old. The only house that could be rented was the old jail, now occupied by Mr. F.M. Chisholm. The new jail had just been completed and the prisoners moved into it just before we moved into it.

In front of the jail door, at the edge of the present sidewalk, stood a whipping post, with hand-cuffs on each side, just high enough for a man to stand on the ground and have his wrists cuffed to the post. Just before we moved in some man, whose name I do not remember, was whipped there for ill-treating his wife.

Opposite, across the street, stood an old house once occupied by George McCormick, a carpenter by trade, and an honest upright man, who moved to Winnsboro.

The next house below, on now Depot St., was Mrs. Wilks', mother of Maj. J.W. Wilks, where now is a beautiful cottage occupied by Mr. O.M. Massey. (Where W.A. Byars grocery store now stands.) Across a road then leading to the Baptist Church, was a small house where then lived John Charles, and next below was a small house occupied by Miss Eliza Waters. (I think this should be Miss Eliza Melton.) Just below that, where Coogler's old store stands, was a small house occupied by Mrs. Hudson and family. Her husband, Dabney, has died a few years before. She had four daughters and three sons, the second of whom is Judge Joshua H. Hudson.

That completes the village on that side of Depot St. From that to where the Southern Railroad now is was occupied by a continuous cornfield owned by Maj. John Kennedy. On the other side of where the railroad now is was a tract of woods extending to Mr. Robert Robinson's house, where Mr. J. Lyles Glenn now lives. *Nicholson Hotel was built in 1854 or 55 by Maj. John L. Carroll, whose wife was Sarah P. Chisholm, sister to Thos. & Col. Wm. Chisholm; also to Mrs. Louisa Allen Beckham & Jane Babcock, mother of Mrs. Sidney & Wm. Henry Babcock.* Where the cloth (Springstein) mill now stands was an old field with a thin skirt of timber between it and the road, and on the hollow below the Heyman House (Carroll & Foote's grocery) in this timber was a negro graveyard. These were the only houses on Depot St., except Mrs. Woods' house in the grove (Large three storied house in the Springstein Village), with a cornfield in front and a road leading to "Big Spring" on the other side.

There were no more houses on that road or street until we come to the top of the hill to the Curry House (Where Jps. Wylie & Co. now stands), except a small house about where C. Warren has his store, (Just below The White Bank), occupied by Mr. Samuel Barron as a law office. On the other side of the street where the Walker and Henry Building building is, McLure and Harris had a store and they also owned an old store building that