

BIOGRAPHIES

He joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in his early boyhood and was a consistent member as long as he lived and often walked from his home to Crockett to attend Sunday school and church services in the little brick church located where Miss Amelia Collins' home now stands. He married Miss Mittie Royall, of Athens, Texas, Feb. 8th, 1868 to which union seven children were born. He built and operated for many years a cotton gin and grist mill on his farm and it was always his practice to never charge a widow for ginning her cotton or grinding her corn. He served Houston County as County Treasurer for six or seven terms during the 1880s and 1890s. His wife died Oct. 26th, 1882 and in Sept. 1885 he married Mrs. Minnie Harris Murchison to which union two children were born. He died Feb. 6th, 1906 survived by the widow and nine children, as follows:

The first born, Dick Baker, who married a daughter of Judge, E. Winfree, and is now dead; Arch Baker, the President of the First National Bank of Crockett, is still living in Crockett; John F. Baker, who married Blanche, a daughter of Hon. F. H. Bayne, and is now dead; Tucker Baker, who married Miss Hattie Crook, and is still living; Rev. Henry Baker, a distinguished minister of the Presbyterian Church, is now dead; Lucy May, who married George H. Denny, a prominent citizen of Crockett, is still living in Crockett; Mittie, who married Rev. O. C. Payne and is now dead; Alwilda, who married Carter Anderson and is still living and Harry Baker, who still survives. Altogether they were a distinguished family.

DOCTOR JAMES G. BARBEE

Mrs. Fannie Mae Barbee Hughes of Wharton, a granddaughter of Dr. Barbee, gave the author the following family history:

"Dr. J. G. Barbee, came to Shelby County when quite a young man, practiced medicine there during the feud of moderators and regulations. In 1851, they were living in Crockett. My father, J. G. Barbee, Jr. was born there that year. The Barbee's were French Huguenots, and came to the United States from France, seeking life and liberty from religious oppression. Chappel Hill University, Chappel Hill, N. C. was largely promoted by our great, great grandfather, Christopher Barbee. He gave the first 241 acres. East and West Halls, the first buildings, were erected on this acreage and stand today in a fairly good state of preservation. Christopher Barbee's old law office building is