

**JEWISH FAMILIES**  
*of*  
**COAHOMA COUNTY**  
**1868-1879**

**MARGERY KERSTINE**



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## **CHAPTER 2**

### **1868 TO 1879 SIGNS OF JEWISH IMMIGRANTS**

#### **1868**

According to Cobb, “The good years came first, but passed too soon, the 1868 crop produced nearly a hundred thousand bales larger than that of 1867; cotton prices rose sharply.”<sup>1</sup>

#### **GENSBURGER**

##### **MARX**

Born in Fraunenberg, Germany; date of immigration unknown. He married Julia Levy, daughter of Ephraim Levy and Rosa Wolf.<sup>2</sup>

Sarah was the first Jewish girl born in Friars Point, Coahoma County in 1868. Very little is known about her birth, however, the family moved to Gunnison, Mississippi, prior to the 1870 census as the next daughter was born in Gunnison.<sup>3</sup>

Max Borod wrote in his Borod Family Background History the following to show what happened to Sarah Gensburger:

I do not know all the sisters or brothers of my maternal grandmother whose maiden name was Julia Levy. Sisters known to me are Secrete and Therese, born both in Loraine, France. Both came to the US and married here. Serette married twice although I do not know her first married name. I recall her second husband, Sam Hirsch. I was quite impressed with the fact that he used a ram's horn to improve his hearing. Children born of this marriage were Mrs. Ben Goodman, Sr., the mother of Ben Goodman, Jr. and a daughter Mrs. Heilbonner, who had several children whom I do not remember. Harry Moss was in the insurance business in Memphis.

Therese lived in Greenfield, MS, and was married to Albert Mayor. I do not remember their names, I know that she had a grandson, Godfrey Hirsch, a musician (vibraphones) with Pete Fountain. He lives in New Orleans.<sup>4</sup>

My mother's sisters and brothers named above had the following children:

1. Sarah was married to Sam Jacobs, Gunnison, MS. They had three children: Alma, Gertrude and Nathan. Alma married Walter Scott. They lived first in Greenwood, MS, and then in Little Rock, AR. This was Walter's second marriage after his first wife died. He had two children by the former marriage. I know one is Leonard Scott, a lawyer in Little Rock, AR and member of a law firm there. His sister lives in New Jersey

2. Gertrude was married to a cousin, Sam Jacobs. They lived in Rosedale, MS and had one daughter, Hermine Davidson, who now lived in Memphis, Hermine was married to Norman Davidson and they have 1 daughter, Debbie who is married to Dr. Kriger, a dentist. They have 2 children.

3. Nathan was married to Freda Woolbert. They lived in Gunnison, MS, and had 1 daughter, Amelia Claire. She now lives in Dallas, TX.<sup>5</sup> Freda Woolbert is related to the Woolbert family of Clarksdale.<sup>6</sup>

### **RICHBERGER/PACHTER/SALOMON**

David Pachter wrote:

According to the family story, great-grandfather David Pachter left New York City a poor man in search of work in Pennsylvania, but then disappeared. The family believed he drowned in the tragic Johnstown, Pennsylvania flood of May 31, 1889...Left alone to care for her four children, Sara was saved by family connections in Mississippi – a marriage between two first cousins, Sara’s nephew George and niece Mary --not uncommon in those days. Sara’s sister Fannie and her husband Jacob Richberger had one child, George. They brought George to this country in 1864 when he was six, and raised him in an Irish settlement in Harlem, where he acquired an Irish accent. Sara’s brother Hayim and his wife had six children, including a daughter Mary, who married her first cousin George Richberger.<sup>7</sup>

According to Gertrude Friedman Nelson, her grandparents always told her George and Mary came from Poland, as she always was told this.”<sup>8</sup>

George’s parents Jacob and Fanny Richberger were the pioneers in the family. Every family has a story, based on fact, myth (or a combination), about how its earliest ancestors made their way South. The story of Jacob and Fannie goes like this. Hearing of opportunities in the South, Jacob ventured down about 1880 and opened a store in Rich, later known as Lula, about twenty miles north of Clarksdale. Jacob left Fannie and George in charge of their store in Harlem. Once established in Mississippi, Jacob sent for his wife and son. After selling off some of their merchandise, George and Fannie had a wagon built with shelves and sleeping quarters and bought a pair of mules. On the way, they sold all of their stock, and, at their destination, sold the mules and the wagon.

George’s first cousin Mary, on arrival in America, received an invitation to visit her Mississippi relatives. Her father agreed on the condition she would return to New York. She never did. When George met Mary’s train in Memphis, he found a beautiful girl of 19, and soon proposed marriage. So, Fannie welcomed a niece but got a daughter-in-law as well. In about 1889, with these family members established in Mississippi, Sara Pachter arranged for her son Henry (now 12) and his older brother John to work for their cousin George and his father Jacob. Henry would recall the frontier life in Rich, of Saturday night hold-ups and fist fights. He and John looked forward to the fights on Saturday night. Although physically small, they were accustomed to the tough street life of the lower east side, and had well-developed arms and chests.

In two or three years, Henry and John persuaded their sister Annie, now married to Arthur Salomon, to join them and open a general merchandise store in nearby Jonestown, Mississippi. Arthur and Annie, a tiny but energetic person, raised eight children (David, Ruby, Herman, Cecil, Teddy, Sara, Louise and Harry Lee) while working in their store. The store, the first to open in Jonestown, was about 110 feet deep. In the front were bolt goods sold by the yard. Annie, a wonderful seamstress, made all her girls’ clothes and shirts and pants for the boys as well. Any fabric that did not sell she took home to make dresses and put in the store for sale. These dresses

were the first ready-made clothes offered in the area. In the back of the store were canned groceries, molasses and cider, and barrels of flour and meal.<sup>9</sup>

1900 Census shows Mary P. was living in Jonestown; This may have been Mary Pollewada as she was born in Russia in September 1861 and immigrated with her parents and brother when she was six years old in 1868.

## 1869

An election is held for the ratification of a new State Constitution and for State officers. J. L. Alcorn wins in the race for Governor over his opponent, Louis Dent, brother-in-law of President Grant, and resident of Coahoma County.<sup>10</sup> Alcorn lived in at Eagle's Nest which is now in plain view from a public road leading from Jonestown to Clarksdale.

Each indentured slave had a deed for being freed during the period of 1868 and 1869. These are mixed among the bankruptcies, mortgages. Men are listed as property in a Land Deed book for establishing their freedom.

“Fabulous Packets” by Miriam Dabbs an article in *Here's Clarksdale*:

## 1870

“Fabulous Packets” by Miriam Dabbs stated:

Luxurious steamboats piled the Mississippi River and its tributaries in the latter part of the nineteenth and early twentieth century... Milton M. Painter, who lived in Friars Point, was a cameraman and his pictures of life on the river in the days before the steamboats disappeared are authentic and exciting.

The *Kate Adams* was one of the last of the fabulous packets which have their final grand filing in the 1870s. There had been glory days of 1850 to 1861 when the Civil War docked these boats for its duration. Then toward the end of the 1800s the steamboat began losing capital workers and mail contracts to the new railroads. At one time there were thirty-two passenger steamboats 48,000 tons marching up and down the Mississippi

At one time there were thirty-two passenger steamboats 48,000 tons marching up and down the Mississippi. .<sup>11</sup>

June 30: The Great Steamboat Race from New Orleans to St. Louis between the Natchez and the Robert E. Lee began. The two boats, ROBERT E.LEE and NATCHEZ, left the Wharf at New Orleans at 4:55 p.m. The Lee reached the Wharf first at St. Louis on July 4 at 11:25 a.m., which was three days, eighteen hours and thirty minutes. (Because of a dangerous fog the Natchez tied up for hours at Devil's Island, but the Robert E. Lee kept on, coming in first. The distance was 1,210 miles.

Mississippians ratified the Fifteenth Amendment in March 1870; thus, Mississippi was readmitted to the Union.<sup>12</sup>

According to Weeks, Northerners and freedmen participating in the political leadership created political seeds that caused significant changes in Coahoma County. Due to laws described in many history books, such as the Black Codes, "the 'crop lien" and the Freedman's Bureau Act, black sharecroppers refused to contract with the white planters. .<sup>13</sup>

Other books and literature described well the racial tensions that mounted in the Black Belt of the Delta.<sup>14</sup>

From the 1870s to the turn of the century, approximately twenty-five Jewish men attempted to settle in Coahoma County. The following were identified:

|                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cohen, Isaac & Harris | Gentsburger, Adolph             |
| Greenbaum & Kahn      | Julius Hart                     |
| Moses Wronker         | Leopold and Jacob Marks         |
| Arthur Salomon        | H. Silverblatt                  |
| Henry Summerfield     | Adolph, Isidor, Julius Kerstine |

#### **RICHBERGER**

##### **JACOB AND FANNIE**

Gertrude Friedman Nelson did not know who Jacob was. She said: “Maybe he was the father, my great grandfather?” Gertrude said her great grandfather lived alone. Jacob Richberger is listed as 45 years old in 1880 Census. She spoke of one Richberger that attempted to return to Europe but the ship went down during the journey.

According to the 1880 Census, Fannie, Jacob’s wife, was 45 years old. In addition, Ann Pachter, age 14 was living with this couple.

#### **1871**

By 1871 this small village was referred to as “Clarksdale” by the Coahoma County Board of Supervisors. The same year in which the Rules of Reconstruction authorized an election of county officers. The ballot included a proposed bond for a railroad, the Mobile and Northwestern (M&N Railroad).<sup>15</sup>

First election of county officers, following military rule, is held, including the vote for bond issue for the benefit of the proposed Mobile and Northwestern Railroad. The State incorporated the Levee District Number 1 and the Coahoma County Board of Supervisors supported the first railroad bond proposal during 1871. Poor funding slowed progress on both.<sup>16</sup>

#### **1872**

##### **SACK**

##### **SAM G.**

Sam was 38 years old in 1900. He immigrated from Russia in 1852 and lived alone on Delta Avenue. He was a of a dry goods merchant. It is not confirmed that this is the brother of Aaron Sack.

## **1873**

### **COHEN**

#### **ISAAC AND HARRIS**

July 14: Trust Deed and mortgage with George Thompson. Cohens are from Chicat, County, Arkansas. The land held in trust was Malone Plantation in Coahoma County.<sup>17</sup>

### **KERSTINE**

#### **ADOLPH**

Four Different Sources related to Adolph's Coming to America:

1. Corinne said she understood Adolph came alone to the US in about 1860 and peddled his way to Greenwood with the circus or something. It sounded as though he came alone, rather than with his family: “Yes, that is right; he came alone. He came from Germany—from Czarnikau. I believe. I think that is what Isidor told me. In those days it was Prussia. It would be considered Poland today. He was raised as a German, like my father was. He had German parents who lived in Prussia.”<sup>18</sup>
2. Selma said Adolph stowed away on a ship when he was thirteen years old. He left home because his mother had died, and his father wanted to marry his mother's sister. Adolph did not like her.<sup>19</sup>
3. The orbit reports he lived in Czarnikau until he was nineteen.<sup>20</sup>
4. Different passport data and the 1910 U.S. Census shows Adolph reported different years for his original immigration date: 1874, 1876, and 1880.

Corinne said:

The Kerstines were the first of two Jewish families to come to Clarksdale. But I do know that he settled in what is Jonestown today. That is where he stopped. He had a store, a liquor store; however, liquor was free then. He was the postman. I don't know exactly when he got into Clarksdale, but he lived a long time in Jonestown. He was the first Jew in that area.

Adolph rode a horse to Friars Point to take a packet [boat] to Memphis. He carried up to \$200 and a gun with him. In Memphis he did his banking and buying at William R Moore's wholesale house. Then, he would bring it back. I have often wondered how he got his merchandise back to his store--a distance of about maybe twelve miles from Friars Point.<sup>21</sup>

Selma said: “I heard old men talking that there was nothing but saloons when they first came to the area. I heard Adolph say that old man Clark wouldn't sell any property to anybody that

owned a saloon. Although Adolph had owned a saloon, Selma was unable to explain why John Clark had sold land to Adolph.”<sup>22</sup>

According to another statement by Corinne, “Adolph didn't talk much about his life before he married his wife.”<sup>23</sup>

According to Corinne, Isidor and Selma, Adolph was the second person to buy property in Clarksdale from John Clark, The author was unable to find the Land Deed to confirm this. In response to this trying to help Margie find the deed, Corinne said: “I have no idea what year he bought the land from Clark.”<sup>24</sup>

Different Versions about the man Adolph killed:

1. Corinne said: “Adolph Kerstine killed a man in Jonestown. Killing the man was not the cause of losing his postmaster job because it happened a long time before he lost his job.”<sup>25</sup>
2. Isidor , Adolph's son, told several people different versions:” For example: One version is that carpetbaggers came in his saloon. He believed that they were planning to rob him; he told one that if he took another step he would shoot. Happened before his marriage but Corinne, nor Selma, could not pinpoint a time frame.”<sup>26</sup>
3. Another version related to Adolph asking an African American to get the mail for him. The man refused and Adolph shot him.

## **WRONKER**

### **MOSES**

Moses Wronker (buried in Helena) with whom Kerstine brothers were in business with during the 1870's.

## **1874**

### **MARKS**

#### **LEOPOLD AND JACOB**

December 30: Mortgage granted by Jordon Hopson to Leopold and Jacob Marks Brother. Note on Margin of page 200 stated that this mortgage was transferred by Morris Israel and J. Marks on February 15, 1877.”<sup>27</sup>

## **1875**

September 20: Post Office at Clarksdale established with John A. Suddoth, postmaster. This information was copied from a letter to a member of a local WPA project from the First Assistant Postmaster General's office.”<sup>28</sup>

Olive Edwards in a feature article said: “

During this period the Delta was described as a 'veritable Sodom' where 'Whiskey drinking, gambling, and Sabbath-breaking were common and prevailing sins of the country .... The Baptists, the Methodists, and the Presbyterians took their beliefs and doctrines seriously. Numerically they were the [largest] denominations in the South. Consequently, there was competition for winning souls. Fiery debates between clerics [were] not uncommon .... Churches served as community houses and the social life of an area centered there. To be effective the minister had to be an individualist and a leader.<sup>29</sup>

Weeks said the 1875 riots which occurred in Friars Point were termed *Riot of Black and Whites*. He continued:

Article in *Coahomian*. and described extensively .... In his book, *The Day of the Carpetbagger: Republican Reconstruction in Mississippi*, William C. Harris relied mostly on Alcorn's testimony in the Jackson's, Clarion, October 13, 1875, for an account of the Friars Point fracas: The story in the Jackson newspaper was very similar to the New York Tribune report. According to Harris, however, Otis A. Singletary his book, *Negro Militia and Reconstruction*, reported that eight black citizens were killed in the riot."

But the decade was not finished with Coahoma County. Not yet. As if man's cruelty to man were not enough, the mosquito reached its malevolent potential in the damp and disastrous summer of 1878. And yellow fever brought Friars Point to its knees.<sup>30</sup>

#### KERSTINE

#### JULIUS

Julius was Postmaster for the village of Friars Point, at the same time that Adolph told family members that he was postmaster at Jonestown.<sup>31</sup> Government records show Julius as postmaster at Delta from March 19, 1875 to May 22, 1878.<sup>32</sup>

Harold Forst said: “Harold Forst believed Adolph worked in Helena prior to coming to Coahoma County in 1873. He lost his job as postmaster in Delta, MS; however, he is not listed as Postmaster. His brothers, Julius and Isidor are listed<sup>33</sup>

#### MARKS

#### LEOPOLD

March 17: Leopold married Pauline Marks at Peabody Hotel, Memphis, TN.<sup>34</sup>

#### SILVERBLATT

#### HENRY/HARRY AND LIZZIE

Harry was born in 1863 in Russia and immigrated in 1875 with his wife Matilda, who was born in 1868 in Russia. He was living in Friars Point and owned a dry goods store. His wife Lizzie was born in 1868 in Russia and immigrated in 1875. They married in 1876.<sup>35</sup> He died in June, 1940 and Lizzie died in 1907.

## **CHILDREN BORN**

- 1) **Sarah** 1888
- 2) **Bessie** 1894
- 3) **Lewis** 1896

According to the 1900 Census, Sol Sacks was a boarder in their home.

### **WILLIAM**

The 1900 U.S. Census reports he was born in Russia in 1849 and immigrated in 1879. He married a Matilda. She was born in Russia in 1858 and immigrated with William in 1879. He was a merchant in Friars Point. The couple did not have children.

### **SMALL**

#### **D.P.**

March: Mortgage given by W. G. King to D. P. Small.<sup>36</sup>

## **1876**

Points of Interest listed: Levee District went bankrupt and the territory was again without any levee organization.<sup>37</sup>

### **MARKS**

January 12: Land Ease given by William L. Smith to Marks and Bowman partnership.<sup>38</sup>

February 12: Mortgage given by Wilson David.<sup>39</sup>

February 12: Articles of a Partnership between Leopold & Jacobs Marks and William A. Bowman for the purpose of farming.<sup>40</sup>

March 31: Deed Trust given by Henry Clay.<sup>41</sup>

April 15: Deed Trust given by Henry Hill to Marks Bros and T. F. Hammitt.<sup>42</sup>

April 15: Deed Trust has given by Chance Clarke and Alex Evans.<sup>43</sup>

May 2: Deed Trust given by Marks Bros (Friars Point) to Simon Sulig and Lee Sanders, Helena, Phillips, AR.<sup>44</sup>

May 5: Assignment conveyed to Julius Kerstine for real and personal property being mortgaged by Simon Sulig. Kerstine paid \$1.<sup>45</sup>

May 15: Lease Trust given by Elizabeth N. Strode to Leopold Marks for property in Friars Point.<sup>46</sup>

## **1877**

October 13: Two-time Governor and three-time Senator Theodore G. Bilbo was born in Juniper Grove, Pearl River County.

Strip of territory on eastern border given to newly organized county, Quitman.<sup>47</sup>

Clarksdale, not "Clarksville" is mentioned as a location when John Clark sells land to the Methodist Episcopal Church South at Clarksdale, MS. Sale was \$1.<sup>48</sup>

Only eight miles of M&N track had been laid from Dowd's Landing to Lula. A line [of railroad] stretched another ten miles southwest to Jonestown.<sup>49</sup>

#### **KERSTINE**

#### **ISIDOR**

U.S. Postmasters Registry showed Isidor Kerstine, Jonestown Postmaster, from June 18, 1877 to Mar 23, 1880.<sup>50</sup>

#### **PACHTER**

#### **ROSA**

Rosa, age 14, was a niece living with Fannie and Jacob Richberger in 1880. Gertrude said she did not know anything about.<sup>51</sup>

#### **SARAH**

Sarah was Anne Pachter's mother. She was born in Russia in 1845. and the mother of ten children. Because she was a widow and living in the home of her daughter Annie Salomon, she listed herself as Annie's husband's, Arthur Salomon. house keeper in the 1900 U. S. Census. No immigration date was given; however, Annie listed 1888 as her immigration year. Arthur reported 1878 as his immigration year.

#### **RICHBERGER**

September 10: Deed Trust given by T. L. Potts.<sup>52</sup>

September 26: Deed Trust given by T. L. Potts.<sup>53</sup>

### **1878**

#### **YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC**

Yellow fever epidemic—Eighteen whites and seven colored die at Friars Point.<sup>54</sup>

According to Weeks,

The mosquito reached its malevolent potential in the damp and disastrous summer of 1878. And yellow fever brought Friars Point to its knees... Brought down by boat from Memphis, yellow fever soon swept through the town like a tornado. According to Alida Heidelberg, the dread disease--replete with chills and fever and black bile vomit--affected nearly every white resident of the river town. But there was nary a single case of yellow fever in the black community. 'The Negroes cared for the sick, buried the dead and comforted the bereaved,' Mrs. Heidelberg wrote, 'so only thirteen years after the Civil War, race relations were back to normal

Those Friars Point folks who could afford it escaped to the hills where it was cool, and where water did not gather in stagnant pools. George F. Maynard traced the onset of the fever to the nephew of A. B. Rozelle. Maynard's brother, M. L. Maynard, was the wharf master at Friars Point and when Rozelle's nephew came down on the Anchor Line for a visit from St. Louis, he contracted the fever in Memphis. Maynard contracted the fever, but recovered. His brother, Joe Maynard, died almost immediately after being exposed .... Maynard believed the cigar smoke kept the mosquitoes at bay.<sup>55</sup>

#### **PROPERTY TAX ROLL:**

1. Israel Irvin, Julius Kerstine of Jonestown paid personal property tax.

2. Jacob Marks, Moses Wronker of Clarksdale paid personal property tax.
3. Noah Jacobs of Delta paid personal property tax.<sup>56</sup>

### **KERSTINE**

#### **ADOLPH**

Although private records show three brothers arrived in Coahoma County in 1873, the lease transaction mentioned in 1876 represents the first true document to establish their residence in the county. Two Kerstines-Julius and Adolph show several property transactions by 1878.

Selma and Corinne agreed Adolph had a liquor store in Jonestown. Liquor was free then. He served as a postman but was never registered as a Postmaster by the U.S. Government. He lived a long time in Jonestown; he was the first Jew in that area.

Isidor, his son, often told the story of how Adolph rode a horse to Friars Point from Jonestown to take a packet [boat] to Memphis. He carried up to \$200 and a gun with him. In Memphis he did his banking and buying at William R Moore's wholesale house. Then, he would bring it back—a distance of twelve miles from Friars Point.<sup>57</sup>

Corinne said: "I don't know when Adolph moved to Clarksdale, but he began buying property at \$0.25 an acre from John Clark. Adolph started in the whiskey business, but changed to general merchandise. This is controversial because previously stated Selma talked about Adolph serving free liquor to his customers. In those days, this was a form of advertising and competition.

John Clark (founder of Clarksdale) owned everything in Clarksdale, when the town plat was a wilderness. According to Adolph's granddaughter, Selma, John Clark was very careful to whom he sold land. One criterion was that they did not own a saloon. Although Adolph had owned a saloon at one time in Jonestown, he was able to convince Clark to sell him the land on Delta Avenue.<sup>58</sup> Adolph bought land from John Clark before Clarksdale was incorporated as a township. "I don't know when Adolph moved to Clarksdale, but he began buying property at \$0.25 an acre from John Clark."<sup>59</sup>

Land Deed Index showed Adolph started in 1878; however, no land deed transactions are shown between 1860 and 1878.

#### **JULIUS**

June 11: Julius Kerstine buys Jonestown property from G. M. Pittman & wife.<sup>60</sup>

Personal Property tax rolls showed Kerstine paid personal property tax for the first time in Jonestown.

### **RICHBERGER**

#### **GEORGE**

November 12: Trust Deed with T. L. Potts for Jonestown property.<sup>61</sup>

#### **JACOB**

October 16: Jacob assigned Fannie \$500 and two bales of cotton as compensation so that she would relinquish all rights to his Jonestown merchandise business. Julius Kerstine, Justice of the Peace, signed it.<sup>62</sup>

## SALOMON

### ARTHUR

Arthur Salomon arrived in 1878. Immigrated in 1878; and married in 1895. He was a German merchant in Jonestown.

## 1879

Another 10 miles of additional railroad track extended south to Clarksdale. By the end of the 1870s, the railroads system that would take the Delta to the 21st century had harmony delays and problems. It did not discourage the local residents because the families had proven that cotton, family and religion would survive the good and bad times.<sup>63</sup>

## KERSTINE

### JULIUS

April 18: Trust Deed for Jonestown property from Julius to J.L. Alcorn.<sup>64</sup>

## MARCUS

### LEON T.

1900 Census stated Leon T., a merchant, was born 1870 and immigrated from Russia in 1879. Mary, his wife was born September 1872. Selma, daughter was born in Mississippi in 1892, and Abie/Abel in Texas in 1897.

## RICHBERGER

### JACOB

June 26: Trust Deed Fannie for \$2500 to be repaid within 30 days.<sup>65</sup>

## CHAPTER 2: 1868 TO 1879 SIGNS OF JEWISH IMMIGRANTS

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1 Cobb, *The Most Southern Place*, 60.

2 Hermine Davidson, interview by author, Memphis, TN, April, 2005.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

4 Max Borod, interview by author, Memphis, TN, October 7, 1994.

5 Ibid.

6 Ibid.

7 John Pachter, *My Life and Times 1913 to 1933*, Greenwood MS Public Library, 2000.

8 Gertrude Friedman Nelson, interview by author. Vicksburg. MS. March 16, 1995.

9 John Pachter, *My Life and Times*.

10 Weeks, *Clarksdale*, 51.

11 Miriam Dabbs, "Fabulous Packets," *Here's Clarksdale*, Nov-Dec 20-23, 1973, 20-23.

12 Weeks, *Clarksdale*, 50-55.

13 Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Weeks, *Clarksdale*, 50-55.

15 Ibid, 60.

16 Ibid, 61.

17 *Land Deed Record, 2nd District Coahoma County #H*, MS, Coahoma County, Clarksdale, July 14, 1873, 31.

18 Corinne Kerstine, interview, by author, Clarksdale, MS, June 20, 1977.

19 Selma Weinberger James and Corinne Kerstine, interview by author, Jackson, MS, September 16, 1993.

20 "Mr. Kerstine is Taken at Home in Clarksdale Sun." *Clarksdale Daily Register*, January 6, 1936, 1.

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- 21 Corinne Kerstine, interview, 1977.
  - 22 Selma Weinberger James, interview by author, Jackson, MS, September 12, 1993.
  - 23 James and Kerstine, interview by author, Jackson, MS, September 16, 1993.
  - 24 Corinne Kerstine, interview, by author, Upland, CA, June 3, 1989.
  - 25 Ibid.
  - 26 Isidor Kerstine, interview by author, Clarksdale, MS, August 10, 1954.
  - 27 *Land Deed Record #N*, December 30, 1874. 220, 221.
  - 28 *Carnegie Public Library Album Volume #1*, (Clarksdale, MS: CPLCC), 103.
  - 29 Olive Edwards,, "Last Words and Testament of Reverend Thomas Wesley Dye. *Here's Clarksdale*, May-June 1980, 6.
  - 30 Weeks, *Clarksdale*, 57.
  - 31 Corinne Kerstine, interview by Harold Forst, Jackson, MS, January 7, 1985.
  - 32 US Postmaster's Registry, Clarksdale, MS Room, CPLCC.
  - 33" Corinne Kerstine, Selma Weinberger James and author, interview by Harold Forst, Jackson, MS. January 7. 1985.
  - 34 Rabbi Max Samfield 1871-1896.
  - 35 Ibid.
  - 36 Trust Deed Record, 1st District Coahoma County #N, <sup>MS. Coahoma County. Clarksdale.</sup> March 1875. 451.
  - 37 Louis Mosley and Heaton, "Points of Interest in Coahoma County," Irwin Kaufman Private Collection.
  - 38 Land Deed Record #P, January 12, 1876, 559.
  - 39 <sup>Ibid</sup>, 581.
  - 40 <sup>Ibid</sup>, 586.
  - 41 Land Deed Record #Q, March 31, 1876, 112.
  - 42 <sup>Ibid</sup>, 144.
  - 43 <sup>Ibid</sup>, 185.
  - 44 Ibid, 237.
  - 45 <sup>Ibid</sup>, 241.
  - 46 <sup>Ibid</sup>, May 15, 1876, 357.
  - 47 Baucom and Sage, 1836-1936, 30.
  - 48 Land Deed Record #Q, 1877, 609.
  - 49 Weeks, Clarksdale, 61.
  - 50 US Postmaster's Registry.
  - 51 Gertrude Friedman Nelson, interview, 1995.
  - 52 Trust Deed Record #R: September 10, 1877, 75.
  - 53 Ibid, 77.
  - 54 Baucom and Sage, 1836-1936, 30.
  - 55 Weeks, Clarksdale, 57-58.
  - 56 Coahoma County Tax, Roll #29.
  - 57 Corinne Kerstine, interview, 1977.
  - 58 Corinne Kerstine, interview, June 3, 1989.
  - 59 Ibid.
  - 60 Land Deeds Record, #R, June 11, 1878, 355.
  - 61 Trust Deed Record, #R,. November 12, 1877, 493.
  - 62 Land Deed (#) October 16, 1878
  - 63 Weeks, *Clarksdale*, 58.
  - 64 <sup>T</sup>rust Deed Record, #S, April 18, 1879, 24.
  - 65 Ibid, 6.