

BIOGRAPHICAL and
HISTORICAL
MEMOIRS of MISSISSIPPI

Vol. I

EMBRACING AN

AUTHENTIC AND COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNT OF THE CHIEF EVENTS IN
THE HISTORY OF THE STATE, AND A RECORD OF THE
LIVES OF MANY OF THE MOST WORTHY AND
ILLUSTRIOUS FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS



IN TWO VOLUMES

ILLUSTRATED



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Montgomery county was named in honor of Richard Montgomery, who fell at Quebec, Canada, while leading the American troops against the British fortifications. The river and creek bottoms are level and fertile; the upland undulating and only a small portion hilly. The Big Black and its feeders water the three southern tiers of townships and the feeders of the Yalobusha the two upper tiers. The total area is three hundred and ninety-five miles of which a little over a fourth is cleared and cultivated. The population in 1880 was six thousand six hundred and seventy-one whites and six thousand six hundred and seventy-nine negroes, or a total of thirteen thousand three hundred and fifty. In 1800 the total population was fourteen thousand four hundred and fifty-nine, seven thousand three hundred and seventy-two being whites and seven thousand and eight-five negroes.

The county was established May 31, 1871, and the first meeting of supervisors was held June 26, that year, at Winona, W. B. Perry being president, Eli P. Cartlidge, Thomas C. Curry and James Thomas, all appointed by Governor Alcorn, who also appointed John C. McKenzie, sheriff; Thomas C. Blackmore,

clerk of chancery court; Henry Harris, circuit clerk; T. B. Brown, assessor; F. M. Shyrock, treasurer, and W. H Parke, superintendent of education. In 1873 a frame building was created for courthouse purposes.

The postoffices of the county are Alva, Best, Duck Hill, population three hundred and seventy-five; Huntsville, population seventy-six; Kilmichael, Liddell, Lodi, population one hundred and twenty five, Mayfield, Minerva, Poplar Creek, population seventy-six; Rural, Stewart, Sweatman, Thrailkill, Walker and Winona, population twenty-one hundred.