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## **DR. B. F. LIDDON**

One of the first physicians to settle in old Tishomingo County was Dr. Benjamin Franklin Liddon, and for over thirty years he successfully practiced his profession throughout the county. He was a man of rugged constitution and untiring energy, and a call to attend the bedside of a fellow mortal was always responded to with alacrity, no difference at what time of the day or night he was summoned, nor how great the distance. Looking back from this day of advanced therapeutics, it is wonderful to contemplate the universal success attending the practice of Dr. Liddon, a failure to assist nature in restoring to health a patient being a rare exception. This success, coupled with the doctor's personal popularity, kept him constantly on the move throughout each succeeding year. Dr. Liddon was also a preacher of considerable note and unusual power, and carried the message of the lowly Nazarene into all sections of the county. By continued labor and fruitful habits, Dr. Liddon accumulated considerable property, but his fortune was partially swept away by the civil war, although he was in easy circumstances during the latter years of his life.

Dr. Liddon was born near Murfreesboro, Tennessee, on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1802. He attended the schools of his section until a young man, and then joining the Methodist Episcopal church, studied for the ministry. He was attached to the Memphis conference in 1821, and for several years was a circuit rider within the jurisdiction of that

conference. He married Miss Mary Ann Merrill, who was born in June, 1809, and on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1826, and shortly thereafter began the study of medicine. Attending college in Philadelphia for a time, he then entered the Louisville, Ky., medical college, from which institution he was graduated, and after practicing a few years in Tennessee, removed to Tishomingo County, Mississippi, in 1836, settling near Farmington, where he remained a short time, going thence to one mile south of old Danville, where he resided until the time of his death, June 11, 1871. The death of Mrs. Liddon occurred on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March, 1892. After settling in Tishomingo County, Dr. Liddon continued to preach and practice his profession until a short time before his death, and was ever regarded as an acceptable and worthy citizen. Eight children were born to Dr. Liddon and wife, only two of whom are now living: J. O. Liddon, president of the Citizens' Savings Bank of Corinth, Mississippi, and W. A. Liddon, a prominent and prosperous planter, residing in Shelby County, some fifteen miles from Memphis.