28.

Notes furnished by Mr Primrose
of Mobile
early settlement of Alabama

Joseph E. Collins born in Philadelphia 1757
was a Captain in Wayne's Army was with
that distinguished Hero through all his
Military Career after the disbandment of the
army Collins settled in Marietta Ohio followed
surveying purchased various tracts of Land
and in 1791 Engaged in the tobacco trade with
Gov. Gayoso In 1795 he came to Mobile and
followed surveying was Spanish Deputy surveyor
under the Spanish Gov. - In 1800 he improved
a tract of Land obtained a Grant for
the same [illegible] Aspens planted it in
Cotton and Corn built a comfortable
house ~~[illegible]~~ Continued the Culture
of Cotton & Corn till 1804 - Employed
8 or ten slaves which he purchased
from Gent John Adair of Kentucky
while Engaged in surveying at Pascagoula
he became acquainted with ~~Dr James White~~
Elizabeth Wilson a Young Lady residing in
the family of Dr James White The
Spanish Ayudante ~~Commandant~~ and father of the
late Gov. Edward D. White of Louisiana
In 1805 they were married and resided
one year in the house of Dr White
in the mean time Collins had acquired
various tracts of Land at Pascagoula
removed a farm on Pascagoula River

where he remained till his death in June
1811 Collins left two sons two of whom
are dead Sidney E the second son
now resides in Liberty County Texas
received a large and valuable tract of
Land recently in the City of Mobile
~~[illegible]~~ granted to his father by the
Spanish Govr In 1807 Dr White
was appointed Judge in Louisiana
and Collins Commandant of
Pascagoula — Collins lost all of his
slaves taken off by an armed Mob
during the disturbances in the County
between the Americans & Spaniards in
1810 — he decided with the Americans
during his residence near Mobile
~~and~~ he for several years was a
Captain in the Spanish Army
Commanded the Fish River Draggoons
was a bold spirited [illegible]
than highly Esteemed among the
people and was the first regular
Cotton Planter in all the sections
of Country known as Alabama
[illegible] Louisiana and Mississippi
from the time he first came to Mobile
till his death done all the surveying in
the Country known then as West
Florida

Book A Page 1

The Hon County Court of Jackson County met according to Law 23d of May 1813 — Present Thomas Bilbo Chief Justice Benjamin Young Blood and Robert Williamson

Motion by Edwin Lewis to prove the will of Joseph E Collins dead and the letters testamentary be granted to Benjamin Lewis on which the will was proved in open Court by the oath of E Lewis one of the subscribing witnesses and Benjamin Lewis appointed in open Court and took the oath of Executor to the will of Joseph E Collins deceased

Signed Wm Harwell Clerk

Memorandum annexed to Collins's will

Pascagoula

West Florida } Memorandum of my property

Collins } out of which my Executors are to pay my just debts and apply the overplus to my will the legacies of my will of the 12th inst In the summer of 1798 I put in the hands of Nicholas Governeur of New York a bond of $1200 to collect of Samuel Sargeant of Curras and

There is a tract of Land that I improved jointly with Col Dunning McNair of Pittsburgh four thousand Acres to my Shore lying near Pasquet Lake Erie & of a large tract of Land at Fishing Rivers which I owe jointly with John Forbes & Co he offered me $2500 — for my half before we built the saw Mill in 1800 —

There is an Attachment in the hands of Genl Adair for a Bill of 2200 and damages protested interest & the amount attached in the hands of Andrew Holmes Merchant Lexington Kentucky said Bill accepted Whiting & Miller of Philadelphia put in the hands of Genl Adair in 1798

There is a tract of Land at Mobile Point of 36 Arpens point & 15 deep which I settled in 1800 January 1800 — built a houses and cleared a part put one hundred Acres in in Corn and twenty Six in Cotton Built a house with four rooms and other out houses

In the Town of Mobile are large Lot painting on the River 34 pieches and on Royal Street the same and in depth 20 pieches Also ten Acres in the vicinity Mobile

which Move Dost Kennedy's obligation to Carry dated 26th Oct 1806

Also 1/2 of 800 Arpens about 3 miles from Mobile which Gower as will be seen by my agreement with said Kennedy

800 Arpens on the East side of the Pascagoula River Not from Simon Cumbrest near Mills

Also 800 Arpens Not from Madam Josefa Kirkbs East side of Pascagoula River - 2000 Arpens Not from Mr Lynd and John Forbes 460 lies on both sides of Pascagola about Cedar Creek

Diego McBoy's obligation 4th May 1808 1/4 800 Acres half mile south Mobile Fort fronting on the River

Move due me from the King of Spain my pay from the 10th June 1804 until the 1st April 1810 - at the rate of Sixty two dollars per Month as will appear by the vouchers in my ~~possession~~ trunk left in the hands of John Lynd Esqr Notary Public New Orleans Exclusive of my prequisites as Commadant of Pascagoula during three years and Eleven Months of said time

done at this place 14th June 1811

Joseph E. Collins

The Commandants in their absence the Syndic administered all kinds of Justice both civil & criminal under the Spanish govt —

Genl

E. P. Gaines was Judge of the Court at Pascagoula in 1812 There is a Book of Records commencing May 1812 he signed the official proceedings as follows

Edmund P. Gaines
Judge of Probate
Parish of Pascagoula
Orleans Territory

In 1813 the Laws of Mississippi Territory Extended over the County seat of Justice Removed to Jackson Court house and Judges appointed by the Legislature of the Territory