

April 6<sup>th</sup> 1937

Memories of Mrs Emma Dowling Speaks

February 18, 65, 72, years ago.

General Sherman's army marched from Atlanta through Georgia to Savannah, and on to Columbia & marching from Savannah to Columbia the army passed through our home. We were living then in St. Peter's Parish Blount County but that county now is Horripton County but here one evening several men came to our home came in our yard & lot, caught our horses, out of our lot saddled them, caught our chickens & geese, tied them by loads and threw them across the horses back & galloped away. Others of them went to our hog pen killed our fat hogs out of the pen, dressed the meat & carried the meat, I suppose to their camps, they left the hogs heads & my little brothers dressed the heads & put them in a sack, & Sherman's soldiers I suppose they were dressed in blue came in & took the heads & carried them away. They knocked our bee gums to pieces, & took all the honey they wanted & turned the bee gums over & wasted what was left. This was all done late one evening. The next morning at sunrise Sherman's army said to be 17 thousand soldiers began to pass in either side of the road and

wagons in the road one right after the other, loaded with cannons & provisions & other things, they took from people. Some of them came in our home, broke in our smoke house, took all our nice smoked meat, and every thing they could find that was in there to eat, & what they couldn't use they destroyed. They just took possession of my father & mother's hard earned property. Mother stepped to the back door said to Sherman's soldiers please don't take all our bacon. one of them said a curse word to her, and went right on taking every thing they could find to eat & destroying what they didn't want to take with them. One called himself a captain he told we little children any thing we could get in our dwelling house, after every thing was gone except a little corn left in the barn, & a few sheep left after driving away high bines, cows, & etc. we caught 4 sheep got about 2 bushels of corn and put in one of our rooms. but this isn't as bad as some of our neighbours were treated not a knife fork or spoon was left them to eat with if they had had any thing left to eat. Now 4 sheep and about 2 bushels of corn was all that Sherman's army left for a family of ten to live or die on, I was a young child 9 years of age, but remember as well as it is. it had happened today.