



John & Mae

JOHN BENTON AND MAY NICHOLS

John Benton Nichols, son of Joseph and Mary Caldonia Nichols, was born in Travis County, Texas, March 5, 1886 and came to Throckmorton with his family in 1907. He married Clara May Ingram, born in Healdton, Oklahoma, in 1896, and moved to Throckmorton in 1907 with her parents. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Percy Young Ingram who were among the first settlers of the forty two community which was named for the forty two families who moved from Oklahoma and settled in that area.

John and May were married in the home of her parents and they bought one hundred twenty acres of land and settled in the forty two community. To John and May were born four children. Lillian Grace Nichols who married Wiley T. Talley, Christine Marie Nichols who married Dr. I.W. Fires, Elsie Louise Nichols married Hoyt Cole, and L.B. Nichols married Jaclynn Beach.

John and May farmed, the hard way, before tractors and modern machinery, and did all kinds of odd jobs until they reared their children. They belonged to Fairview Baptist

Church until it consolidated with First Baptist Church at Throckmorton. They were members there as long as they lived. They retired from farm and moved to Throckmorton in 1953. John worked as a butcher and in grocery stores until the Lord called him home on September 10, 1964.

John and May were honored in celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary in their home in Throckmorton, on December 25, 1962. After John passed away May continued to live in her home in Throckmorton until her health was failing and she moved to Seven Oaks Nursing Home in Olney, Texas until she passed away October 4, 1974. She was a great football fan and one of her greatest pastimes was watching the Dallas Cowboys. At present Lillian Talley lives in Olney, Texas, Christine Fires lives in Penfield, N.Y., Elsie Cole lives in Denton, Texas and L.B. lives in Yucaipa, Calif. They have 8 grandchildren, 14 greatchildren.

One of John's prized possessions was his dunn mules with which he worked his farm. Quite often they run away and tore up his plows, etc. Little Will Rector lived with John and May for several years and helped with the farming. Their children cried when he sold his mules and bought his first tractor. All the neighbors helped when it came time to kill hogs, work at Mr. Ed. Glenns thrasher, and all the ladies cooked for the men who worked at all the community jobs. In the early days community teamwork, borrowing, and lending was the only means of survival.

Certainly John and May loved people and they believed, "To have a friend you must be a friend."

by Tami Michelle Talley (Greatdaughter)