

Sam "Uncle Sam" Jackson

An Old Kentucky Family Servant.

From the Maysville (Ky.) Eagle.

A remarkable negro—old Sam Jackson, or, as he is more familiarly known, Uncle Sam—resides in the town of Lewisburg, in this county. He was born in Maryland, as the slave of a family named Goldsborough, in the last century—when, he cannot tell. He remembers distinctly Drs. Physick and Rush, two of the most noted physicians of their day, and describes with minuteness an operation that Dr. Physick performed for cancer in his master's family, and at which Dr. Rush was present, and he (Sam) was detained to hold a bowl of water. About the commencement of the war of 1812 he was purchased by Thomas Marshall, of Kentucky, and his master receiving the appointment on Gen. Pogue's staff of aid-de-camp, with the rank of Major, he accompanied him throughout his term of service as a body-servant. His first presence in Kentucky was at Washington, in this county, on the night of its illumination in honor of Jackson's victory at New-Orleans. Soon after the war his master, Major Thomas Marshall, sent him on a perilous trip to Virginia with four fine horses. For two days he was followed by horse thieves, who were urgent in their proffers of aid, and at length he eluded them by stratagem, and reached Winchester, Va., and thence the end of his journey. Here he learned that he was to conduct seventeen slaves belonging to Major Marshall to Kentucky by the most practicable route which then lay through Ohio. This task he successfully accomplished. From thence to his master's death he continued his confidential servant. He sold his crops, and deposited his money in bank, carried his keys, his bank-book, and went with him wherever he went. He has been with him in nearly all the Northern cities, and never once desired to escape. At the breaking out of the Mexican war, Sam Jackson again accompanied his master (who soon after its commencement was appointed, by President Polk, a Brigadier-General) throughout his services in Mexico. There he frequently met, and delights to talk about, such men as Col. Alex. McClung, Jeff. Davis, Col. Bailey Peyton, and other distinguished men of that and subsequent times. He entertains a high opinion of the prowess of the Mexican game-cock, and, as he always accompanied Gen. Marshall, whether to the cock-pit or to the fandango, he gives interesting reminiscences of those places. Throughout his eventful life, neither his honesty nor veracity has ever been impeached, and in the sunset of life he enjoys the respect of the community in which he is living quietly and comfortably.