

*The Giddings Star*

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Minerva Green, who reached her 102 birthday last May 5, is assumed to be the oldest person living in Lee County at this time. She was born in Alabama in 1853 and came to Lee County as an orphan in 1861 at the age of 8 years. She has lived in Lexington for the past 57 years.

## Minerva Green, 102, Lexington Negress, Said to Be Lee County's Oldest Citizen

Minerva Green reached her 102nd birthday last May 5. She was born on that date in 1853 at Talladigia, Ala., the daughter of Polly Anna Minerva Crook.

At the age of 8 years she was moved with her family, consisting of her mother, two brothers and a sister, from Alabama to Texas.

En route as they reached the Mississippi River in Louisiana the message that all slaves had been liberated was announced to them.

Shortly after their liberation from slavery, the mother died and Minerva, the youngest of the children was raised by her older sister Martha.

Martha, accompanied by her brother Selious Crook, and the 8-year-old Minerva, came on to Moab to make their home.

Martha later married a Milligan, and lived in Lee County until 1922 when she died. Selious Crook lived in Bastrop County until his death.

An older brother, John Crook, must have remained east of the Mississippi, since nothing is known about him except that he was a driver of the coach on his master's plantation that transported the master's children to church and to parties and dances.

Minerva married Nathan Green at the age of 16 in 1869 at Moab. They lived on a farm now owned by a Mr. Brade between Fedor and Moab.

They moved to Lexington in 1898 to a farm out of the old Captain James Shaw league near the Lexington City Cemetery.

She continues to live in this home with her son Sidney Green. It was here that her husband, Nathan Green, died in 1929.

Minerva had 14 children, six of whom died in infancy.

The living children are Randall Green, 84, Selious Green, 80, Mittie Mitchell, 78, Emma Hardeman, 76, William Green, 75, Pearl Simpson, 64, Sidney Green, 63, and Tonseta Boulden, 59.

Minerva has 32 grandchildren, 99 great-grandchildren, and 77 great-great-grandchildren.

Aunt Minerva, as she is known, enjoyed good health and a good

memory until a few months ago, when the frailties of old age began to make themselves felt. She still knows people who call at her bedside, but is surer of those whose acquaintance she made many years ago.

A high percentage of her descendants live in Lee County. They are found in Moab, in Lexington, in Doak Springs, in Leo, in Post Oak, in Giddings, at Antioch, under many family names today.

Minerva's own family name, Crook, has ended, as far as is known.

But the family name of Green will continue for a long time. Her son Selious has a son who has eight sons.