Stanley Ogden
(c1796–c1877)

of

Union County, Arkansas, Louisiana, & Texas

Son of Rev. Benjamin Ogden & Susannah Moore

by Timothy Dean Hudson

Stanley Ogden was born about 1799, in either Wake or Montgomery County North Carolina, the second son of Benjamin Ogden and Susannah Moore to survive infancy [1]. After spending a few years in Tennessee, the Ogdens moved to Missouri or Arkansas Territory between 1816 and 1820. On 28 August 1830, Stanley married Harriett Randlett in Franklin Township, the sixth marriage to be performed in the newly created Union County [2]. Harriet's birth occurred about 1802 in Ohio or Indiana [3].

On Tuesday, 10 July 1838, the Union County Circuit Court ordered that Stanley and Isaac Ogden receive $4.00 for their services as Grand Jurors for the 1835 November Term of court [4]. Before January 1839, Stanley and Isaac began clearing adjoining 160-acre tracts of land about 8 miles south of their father's plantation. They settled there permanently in January of 1839, and they were listed in adjoining households on the 1840 Union County Federal Census. On 31 October 1844, Stanley entered (purchased) his land at the Little Rock Land Office [5]. On 14 July 1846, he sued the Estate of James Hill for a note of $6.19 dated 21 July 1845 and due 1 January 1845, which the court ordered paid [6].

On 9 March 1850, Stanley, *"…in consideration of the love and affection I bear towards my beloved wife Hariett Ogden…,"* Stanley donated all his property to her, including his 160-acre farm, his slave, Eliza, 6 cows and calves, 2 horses, farming utensils, households and kitchen furniture, Beds and bedding, and all of his stock of hogs [7]. The purpose of this document is unknown, but it shows that unlike his elder brother Isaac, Stanley could not read or write. This seems rather curious, since Isaac was only two years Stanley's senior and received sufficient education to be elected as a Justice of the Peace.

Stanley and his family were enumerated on the 1850 federal census of Jackson Township, Union County Arkansas. His real estate, including 50 acres of improved land and 110 acres of unimproved land, was worth $800, and he owned one black female slave aged 25. His farming implements and machinery were valued at $20, and he owned 2 horses, 6 milch cows, 10 other cattle, and 70 swine, all valued at $500. Stanley had produced 500 bushels of Indian corn, 10 400-

pound bales of ginned cotton, and 100 bushels of sweet potatoes the previous year, and the value of his homemade manufacturers was $20 and his slaughtered animals, $100 [8].

On 12 November 1851 Stanley and Harriett sold their plantation to his brother Isaac for $1200 [9]. The next month on December 12th, Stanley mortgaged his cotton crop in exchange for supplies, agreeing to have it harvested, ginned, baled, and delivered to nearby Champagnolle [10]:

> *...my Crop of Cotton now on hand consisting of about six bales more or less which said Cotton is yet in Seed...to the firm of Strasser & Ott on these conditions: I am to have the said cotton bailed and delivered at Champagnolle and the said Strasser & Ott is to Ship the Same to New Orleans and sell it and pay themselves or regain out of the net proceeds thereof what* [sic] *I am owing them on account and also what they may advance to me on the said cotton hereafter…*

On the 1853/54 Union County Tax List, Stanley was taxed for 1 poll, 2 horses worth $125, and 5 head cattle worth $50, for a total of $175. The tax collector noted that he went to Stanley's house, and *"$.50 x ten,"* probably meaning he traveled ten miles to Stanley's house at $0.50 per mile. On 18 January 1854, Stanley and Harriett's daughter Susannah, aged 21, married Harrison Teague, aged 30, of Union Parish, Louisiana [11]. At this time, they still lived in Arkansas, but soon afterwards, Stanley and Harriett moved south across the state line into Union Parish, Louisiana.

On 17 February 1856, Stanley purchased 39.35 acres south of Spearsville in Union Parish, Louisiana, about eighteen miles from his old plantation [12]. He only owned this land for one growing season, for on October 11th of that same year, he sold it to Thomas McCullen for $30.00 [13]. The low price for which he sold the land suggests that he had cleared very little, if any, of the tract for cultivation.

Between late 1856 and 1860, Stanley moved to Tyler County, Texas, where he was enumerated on the census with his family, living near Woodville [14]. Harriett died between 1860 and 1870, and in the latter year, the widowed Stanley lived in Milam County in 1870 [15].

In 1872, Stanley Ogden paid taxes in Burleson County, the last known record of him [16].

Stanley and Harriett had children Susannah born about 1832, Salina born about 1834, Eliza in 1836, Mary 1838, Elizabeth in 1840, Benjamin in 1843, Isaac in 1845, Malinda in 1846, and Stanley N. Ogden, born about 1848, all in Union County, Arkansas.

Stanley Ogden's life reflects the mobility and economic uncertainty of small farmers on the southern frontier.

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Notes

1. The 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Population Schedule, Jackson Township, 4 Oct 1850, p. 279, #429 Stanley Ogden 51, Farmer, cannot read or write, born North Carolina; Harriet 47, born Indiana; Susan 18; Salina 16; Eliza 14; Mary 12; Elizabeth 10; Benj 7; Isaac 5; Malinda 4; and Stanly N. 2, all born in Arkansas. \ Stanley's age here seems correct as he appears to be the younger of the two sons of Benjamin. The 1860 census gives his age as 64, while the 1870 age is 70 or 71.
2. Union County Arkansas Deed Book A, p. 9.
3. The 1850 census gives Harriett aged 47, born in Indiana and in 1860, she was aged 58, born in Ohio.
4. Union County AR Record Book A, p. 65.
5. Government Land entries for Isaac and Stanley Ogden. Stanley entered the NW¼ of Section 4, Township 19 South, Range 14 West, 159.31 acres at Little Rock, Arkansas on 31 October 1844, next to Isaac's track entered by him on the same day.
6. Union County AR Probate Book ABC, p. 167.
7. Union County AR Deed Book F, p. 52.
8. 1850 Union County AR Federal Census, Population, Slave, and Agricultural Schedules.
9. Union County AR Deed Book G, p. 141.
10. Union County AR Deed Book G, p. 154.
11. Union County AR Marriage Book B, p. 101.
12. Monroe, Louisiana Land Office Cash Entry #16362. Stanley Ogden bought the SE¼ of SW¼ of Section 15, Township 22 North, Range 2 West.
13. Union Parish LA Conveyance Record H, p. 153.
14. 1860 Tyler County TX Federal Census, Population Schedule, P. O. Woodville, 16 July 1860, p. 365, #287 Stanly Ogden 64, Farmer, cannot read or write, no real estate, personal estate worth $625, born NC; H. Ogden 58, female, born Ohio; E. Ogden 18, female; B. Ogden 17, male; I. Ogden 15, male; M. Ogden 13, female; and S. M. Ogden 11, male, with all the children born in Arkansas.
15. 1870 Milam County Texas Census, Population Schedule, Post Office Millertown, 22 August 1870, p. 311, #1419 Ogden, Stanley 70 or 71, Farmer, personal estate $100, born N. Carolina; Mary 26, Keeping House, born Ala; Stanley M. 19, Working on farm, born Ark. Mary was apparently Stanley's second wife, although he did have a daughter by that name (the age and birthplace for the Mary on the census do not fit those of Stanley's daughter Mary).
16. 1872 Burleson County TX Tax Assessment, p. 115, #4: Stanley Ogden. He paid taxes on a 132-acre tract of land valued at $160, one horse valued at $20, and miscellaneous property valued at $66.

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