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CHARLES BRUCE RICHARDSON — AN EAST TEXAS EXAMPLE OF
DIVERSIFIED FARMING IN THE 1865 — 1886 PERIOD

by Irvin M. May, Jr.

A revolution occurred in Southern agriculture following the Civil War. The old plantation system disappeared, and free labor replaced slavery. Mechanization of agriculture accelerated in the post-war period and a marked change in farm tenure with an increase in tenancy and the crop-lease system resulted.¹ Farmers did not have currency and needed credit to exist during the period when crops were not harvested. The solution to this agrarian dilemma, the crop-lease system, bound the Southern farmers to one crop: cotton.

Cotton became the essence of the Southern agricultural economy for cotton almost served the purpose of money. Many Southern farmers were forced by the merchants to raise cotton. As the historian John D. Hicks has observed, it was easier and expedient for farmers in need of credit to accede to the merchant's wishes and plant cotton only as a cash crop. These farmers then were bound to the merchant for most of their groceries and supplies.² Besides, cotton was the crop which most Southerners could raise best.³

Many Southern farmers during the Reconstruction era became slaves to the merchant. C. Vann Woodward contended that "by submitting to the one-crop system (and there was no choice) the farmer further depleted his lands and became more dependent upon the merchant's high priced fertilizer and feed, and further increased the surplus and decreased the price of the very product upon which he staked it all." Thus, Southern farmers sold their cotton as raw material at low prices and purchased their needs in processed form at high prices.⁴ The poverty of the post-Civil War Period produced a reliance upon cotton.⁵

East Texas farmers encountered this basic problem in conjunction with their contemporaries.⁶ Farm leaders endeavored to find solutions to it. Usually recommendations advocated that farmers practice thrift and scientific farming, work harder and diversify their crops.⁷ Crop diversification was advocated by agricultural organizations like the National Grange⁸ and newspaper editors as diverse as Henry W. Grady of the Atlanta (Ga.) *Constitution*⁹ and Robert T. Milner of the Henderson (Texas) *Times*. Milner, a Rusk County editor, advocated that crop diversification was the correct prescription for the ills of Southern agriculture. He called for East Texas farmers to "rise-up, ye noble yeomanry, diversify your crops, raise plenty to eat, keep out of debt and be slaves no longer."¹⁰ Already when Milner became editor, farmers were considering crop diversification in Rusk County as an alternative to the one crop system. Charles Bruce Richardson of Henderson was a living example of Milner's sentiments. He had already freed himself of dependence upon the crop-lease system through his scientific farming.¹¹

The outbreak of the Civil War had found Charles Richardson, a native of Spotsylvania County, Virginia, operating a 569 acre farm in Carroll Parish, Louisiana near Vicksburg, Mississippi. The siege of that city by Union forces resulted in Richardson's decision to go west for his family's safety. He recorded in his diary that as of March 13, 1863 "most of the Negro men have Either run off to the Yankees, or been sent off to Monroe for safety."¹² In May he was ordered to "destroy all cotton which may be subject to be secured by the Enemy." In accord with this policy of Confederate general P. G. T. Beauregard, Richardson destroyed his crops to prevent seizure by the Union troops.¹³

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The Richardson family fled with other refugees and reached Marshall, Texas in July, 1863. The town was crowded with refugees, and Richardson decided to push westward in search of good farm land. On November 9, 1863 he purchased a 230 acre farm near Henderson, Texas from Charles Lewis, paying \$4,000 Confederate currency. The next month his family arrived at the new farm.¹⁴

Richardson's original intentions were to temporarily locate near Henderson and return to Louisiana following the war. However, the devastation of the war and the collapse of the Confederacy raised doubts as to whether Richardson would return home. The future looked bleak as he recorded in his diary, "Oh God! Lee Has Surrendered! We are lost!"¹⁵ In October, 1865, Richardson visited his former home and found the house wrecked. Pecan groves were growing where once he had planted cotton. Richardson concluded that a brighter future lay in Texas. Reluctantly he rented the farm and returned to Texas for at least another year. It had not been easy for Charles Bruce Richardson, now 57 years of age, to start a new life in Texas. Despite infrequent visits to his former residence, Richardson's permanent home would remain in Rusk County, Texas.

Richardson was a pioneer horticulturalist and scientific farmer who believed in crop diversification. Possessing a knowledge of botany, physiology, geology and meteorology,¹⁶ he kept a day-by-day account of weather information and agricultural conditions in his diary and day book. This information was used to plant crops the next year and to anticipate unfavorable weather conditions.

In 1864, Richardson began recording, planting and harvesting crops. Cotton, to be sure, was a predominant crop, but Richardson highly diversified his agriculture. He wanted to experiment with as many crops as possible in order to determine which crops could grow best on his new farm. In 1865, strawberries, tobacco, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, onions, radishes, corn, beans, squash, okra, potatoes, pumpkins, watermelons, peas, indigo, musk melons, sugar cane, turnips, rice and Black Mustard were planted. Additionally Richardson's orchard contained varieties of pears, apples and peaches. His barnyard contributed poultry to the family table, and livestock and swine were raised on the farm. Richardson had a great variety of produce.

The Rusk Countian maintained an interest in grain from the start of his life in East Texas. An interest, no doubt resulting from his Virginia boyhood and Louisiana experiences, Richardson experimented with various types of wheat. In 1865 Harris white wheat, Cumby white wheat, Phillips red wheat, barley and rye were planted and harvested. During that winter, Richardson planted these grains again for winter pasture for his livestock. Included in this operation were the practices of winter plowing and use of manures.¹⁷ As few Rusk County farmers were interested in soil conservation, Richardson's actions were exceptional.

Richardson's curiosity with plants led to further crop diversification. In 1866 he planted asparagus for the first time and added Weaver plums, Early June Soft peaches and August plums to his orchard. The next two years, crop diversification continued and Cataba grapes, mulberries, Tappahanock wheat and two varieties of apples were planted on the farm. The results of these efforts were successful. At the Rusk County Fair of 1868, Richardson received awards for the best ham, sugar, sorghum, peaches, Cataba grapes, rice and preserves.¹⁸ His agricultural prowess was recognized throughout the county, and beyond. District Judge Mathew Ector wrote Richardson requesting samples of his "superior quality of watermelon seed" and "a few of your superior tomato seed if you have any on hand."¹⁹ Richardson became President of the Rusk County Fair Association and served as a member of its board of directors for many years.

The horticulturalist did not rest on his laurels. In 1869 he experimented with various varieties of peaches.²⁰ In the vanguard of the emphasis upon peach culture

which swept East Texas in the 1870's, Richardson constructed a greenhouse where he planted various varieties of peach seeds. These were transplanted to the orchard and grafted during the spring. The agriculturalist hoped to find the best variety of peaches for his soil and climate.

However, this quest for knowledge was not limited to fruit. Throughout 1869, Richardson planted a great variety of crops. That year he recorded in his diary for the first time planting collards, raspberries, Silverskin onions, Prolific cotton, Diekel wheat, lespedezaa and Australian Prairie Grass Seed.²¹

From Richardson's agricultural records for 1870, a harvest chart can be constructed. The new year's planting began with the cultivation of oats in late January. Cranberry plants from the greenhouse were set out in February, and that month saw the planting of peas, corn, potatoes, sugar cane, turnips, radishes and lettuce. The cultivation of cucumbers, watermelons, snap beans, squash, peppers, tomatoes and clover followed in March. The next month planting continued with the introduction of mullet and cotton. All crops were harvested upon maturity. Richardson's diary does not reveal the harvesting of all crops. Many crops were intended as food for the family table, and the records of harvesting these are inconsistent. However, the major crops of cotton, potatoes, and watermelons were usually recorded. It was from these crops that Richardson derived his income. His diary furnished him weather information and enabled him to determine the best planting date. Also Richardson used the technique of the harvest chart to determine the length of the growing season.²²

The years of the 1870's were years of intermittent drought for Rusk County farmers. Richardson's diary reveals the scarcity of rain, and the farmer's dilemma from the harshness of the weather. On August 14, 1874, Richardson wrote, "Temp. 104. Cotton is drying up. Not a cloud to be seen. The air is *hot* and *stiffling*." Eight days later, on his trip to a meeting of the Grange in Waco, Richardson wrote, "Crops of corn on the route ruined by the Excessive hot & dry weather. Some of the prairies are burnt over. Water scarce for Stock & bad to drink. We suffered much from the hot weather."²³

Richardson actively participated in the Patrons of Husbandry. He became the first master of the Rusk County chapter of the Grange, and with Motley Johnson represented the Rusk County chapter at the 1874 state meeting in Waco.²⁴ Throughout his life, Richardson maintained an active interest in the Grange and frequently attended local, regional and state meetings.

Throughout the 1870 decade, Richardson continued his scientific experiments. He wrote letters to horticulturalists and government agencies seeking information. He subscribed to farm journals like the *Southern Cultivator* and saved clippings and articles of interest from magazines and newspapers. Inserted within the pages of his diary, he kept these tidbits of information. These included advertisements for Early Rose Potatoes at \$2.50 per bushel from J. A. Ryrie of Alton, Illinois, and Norway oats at \$3.00 per bushel from C. C. Phelps of Vernon, New York. The two page pamphlet, "The LeConte Pear" by J. T. Chastain of Thomasville, Georgia, and the undated article by A. J. DeVoe of Hackensack, New Jersey, entitled "Wind and Weather: Ten Short Rules by the Use of Which a Farmer May Become Weather-Wise"²⁵ undoubtedly influenced Richardson's agricultural practices. The Rusk Countian benefitted from this information; yet, he was not afraid to share his research with other farmers.

Charles Richardson reported his scientific findings to the local population and to the United States Department of Agriculture. For example, in 1878 he reported a cholera epidemic to the federal government. Richardson recalled:²⁶

Before the war [Civil War] I lived near the Mississippi River in Carroll Parish, Louisiana. A disease called cholera broke out among the hogs. It was the first epidemic ever seen by the planters in that area. . . . Every form of treatment was used without marked success. . . . I . . . got my family physician to assist me in making a post-mortem examination. The bowels were constipated, and the inflammation of the bowels and stomach were very great. I kept the hogs in a dry inclosure, under the gin-house and cotton-shed. I put tar in the troughs, and fed with corn boiled in lye and copperas water, and pokeroot decoction to drink, and used various other nostrums in vogue without success. I burned the hogs that died. . . .

I have lost some large hogs and pigs this summer [1878] with this epidemic here. The disease appears to be a violent fever, and kills the animals in a very few days. I put one fine hog in a lot where it had a good dry shelter. I tried to doctor it with liquids, but could not tempt it to drink anything. I tried to give it a dose of calomel on a piece of beef, but could not induce it to eat anything at all, and finally gave it up to die. It lay there three or four days in its bed, and after awhile it got up and ate a few mouthfuls of corn, and on butchering it I found the lungs and intestines adhering strongly to the sides, and the intestines also tied in lumps with fine ligaments. On the intestines was a large ball four inches in diameter, filled tight with thick matter like dough.

Richardson concluded that "many nostrums published as cures have been tried with such little success that the farmers now let the disease take its course without attempting to do much of anything; when a hog once refuses to eat, little can be done for him."²⁷ His efforts to find a successful cure for cholera had been unsuccessful.

Richardson's experimentation was not limited to livestock. Possessing a curious and inquisitive mind, the pioneer horticulturalist decided to improve his pastures. He corresponded with George H. Hogan of Ennis and from him obtained Texas Blue Grass seed.²⁸ Experiments were conducted and their results reported to the Department of Agriculture. Richardson discovered that Texas Blue Grass seed was very troublesome to plant. For this reason, he recommended that the best growth of the grass could be obtained from plants originally grown in a greenhouse. In the spring, the farmers could transplant the Blue Grass sets around February 20. He recommended that farmers first plow the ground, then with a narrow shovel, lay off the rows 2-½ feet apart. The sets should be planted about 10 inches apart. In this way, a firm foundation could be established. The result would be a good pasture in a short time.²⁹

These reports brought Richardson recognition beyond the borders of his state. He furnished seed to Mark W. Johnson of the Georgia Department of Agriculture. Johnson experienced successful results. Additionally, Richardson received requests for seed and praise for his efforts from numerous farmers in the state.³⁰

Richardson joined with Dr. J. D. Woodward of Overton in reporting agricultural conditions in Rusk County for the 1880 census. Woodward and Richardson observed that "the chief crops of this region (Rusk County) are cotton, corn, small cereals, Irish and sweet potatoes, sugar-cane, pease (sic) and a great variety of fruits and vegetables." By this date, Rusk County had started becoming a truck farming area. However, cotton remained the dominant cash crop, as the agricultural observers noted that "all (crops) succeed well on this soil, but about one-half its cultivated area is planted in cotton."³¹ This last statement is incorrect, as Richardson's experiments revealed. Not all crops flourished in Rusk County, yet such information could deter migration to the county. No agricultural observer wanted to inform the nation that farm lands in his county were inferior to those of other counties. Local pride produced an understandable bias.

Throughout his remaining years until his death in 1886, Richardson continued his agricultural experiments. For example, he observed that the growth of corn during the day was double the growth at night. He unsuccessfully attempted to cultivate tea plants on a commercial scale. He published his research on the LeConte pear in "The Le Conte Pear Blight in Texas" which appeared in the October 15, 1884, issue of *Texas Farm and Ranch*.³² Richardson continued his interest in soil conservation in great contrast to the majority of Rusk County farmers who rather than improve their land purchased additional acreage instead.

Richardson was an expert ribbon cane syrup maker. He harvested his cane in the fall, and during November manufactured the cane into syrup. His syrup was sold locally, usually averaging about 75 cents for a gallon. Additionally he made syrup for other Rusk County farmers who did not own a syrup mill. Without doubt, Richardson received some consideration for these services, but he did not record the amount in his diary.³³

In 1882, he recorded in his diary a record of fresh garden produce consumed during the winter of 1881-1882. That season the Richardson family enjoyed yellow butter, "rich milk," turnips, salad and winter collards, cabbage, eggs and poultry products. Combined with beef, pork, canned vegetables and preserves, the family enjoyed a balanced and nutritious diet. In April, 1882, Richardson observed that I "have had nice yellow butter and nice milk all winter. Every farmer can do likewise, if he will only appreciate good fare."³⁴

Throughout the spring months, the Richardson family enjoyed fresh vegetables in abundance. Their diet consisted of cabbage, leeks, lettuce, onions, turnips, asparagus, various varieties of peas, potatoes, beans, beets, early corn, squash and cucumbers. Of course, the family was not vegetarian. Meat was often served on the family table. Richardson was justly proud of these achievements, however, it must be added that many Rusk County families had nutritious diets, but with less variety.³⁵

Richardson's income came from the sales of his agricultural produce, his syrup mill and cotton gin. Throughout his life, cotton was raised as a "cash crop," and Richardson usually received the average state-wide price per pound.³⁶ Additionally, he sold surplus food to other Rusk County residents. The introduction of the International and Great Northern Railroad in 1872 furnished the county with a principal shipping point in Overton. Five years later, a sixteen mile spur line was completed to Henderson, called the Henderson and Overton Branch Railroad.³⁷

The introduction of the iron horse to Rusk County benefitted all Rusk County farmers. Now they had modern transportation to market their produce and in turn

received finished products quickly from industrial centers. Richardson shipped cotton to Houston, Shreveport and St. Louis.³⁸ Fruit was also shipped to these markets and to individuals like J. W. Price of Fort Scott, Kansas.³⁹ Transportation provided Richardson with the means to acquire finished products for his home and farm. Accordingly he purchased a corn mill, a sewing machine for his wife and Cotswood Sheep for his farm. The railroad aided Richardson by providing better transportation for his produce and his family, especially for his son Porter, who was studying medicine at Bellvue College, New York City.⁴⁰

From 1882 until his death, Charles Richardson experienced ill health. Beset with malaria and declining eye sight, Richardson spent long periods of time in bed. Physical deterioration occurred as his weight fluctuated from 143 pounds to 114 pounds. Nonetheless, with the help of his sons and family, he managed to supervise the operation of his farm. Especially valuable during this time was the help of his son, Randolph Macon Richardson. Following a long illness, Charles Bruce Richardson died on February 10, 1886.⁴¹

Richardson's life serves as an example of an early pioneer in East Texas horticulture. He carefully kept records concerning planting conditions. Like many farmers he used this information for planting and harvesting crops.

Unlike many of his contemporaries, Richardson was not a slave to the system of one-crop agriculture based on cotton. The Rusk Countian possessed too much scientific interest to limit his interests solely to cotton. Fruit and melons were sold on a regional basis as well as locally. His ribbon cane syrup manufacture was limited to a county-wide basis, however.

Richardson's experimentation with various types of crops stamps him as an extraordinary farmer in his era. An advocate of crop diversification, Richardson's career does not reflect a practitioner of "a-live-at-home-program" of agricultural self-sufficiency,⁴² nor was Richardson a cotton specialist who raised corn and other crops solely for home or local use.⁴³

Richardson was a pioneer horticulturalist, who was instrumental in developing Texas Blue Grass and making agricultural observations in his area. He was an advocate of crop diversification, practicing his belief through personal example and with a pre-arranged plan of diversification on his farm. An active participant in the local chapter of the Grange and Rusk County Fair Association, he exerted a county-wide influence. His influence spread outside his county through his prize-winning produce at fairs in East Texas. He was a pioneer scientist who experimented with various varieties of fruits and vegetables in East Texas. For these efforts, his reports to the United States Department of Agriculture afforded him a little nation-wide recognition. Certainly, in the realm of Rusk County, Richardson was unsurpassed as a scientific farmer and perhaps as the Henderson *Times* observed "in the sciences of agriculture and horticulture, he had no superior in East Texas and very few equals."⁴⁴

FOOTNOTES

¹Bell I. Wiley, "Salient Changes in Southern Agriculture Since the Civil War," *Agricultural History*, XIII (April, 1939), 65-76.

²E. Merton Coulter, *The South During Reconstruction, 1865-1877*, Vol. VIII of *A History of the South* (Baton Rouge, 1947), 212; see also C. Vann Woodward, *The Origins of the New South, 1877-1913*, Vol. IX of *A History of the South* (Baton Rouge, 1951), 182.

³John D. Hicks, *The Populist Revolt: A History of the Farmers' Alliance and the People's Party* (Minneapolis, 1931), 45-46.

⁴C. Vann Woodward, *Tom Watson: Agrarian Rebel* (New York, 1938), 130; Theodore Saloutos, *Farmer Movements in the South, 1865-1933* (Berkeley, 1960), 28-29.

⁵Robert A. Calvert, "Nineteenth-Century Farmers, Cotton and Prosperity," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, LXXIII (Apr 1, 1970), 509-521.

⁶For Texas agriculture see William Bennett Bizzell, *Rural Texas* (New York, 1924), 122-124; Vera Lee Dugas, "A Social and Economic History of Texas in the Civil War and Reconstruction Periods," (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, University of Texas, 1963); Samuel Lee Evans, "Texas Agriculture, 1865-1880," (Unpublished Master's thesis, University of Texas, 1955); Samuel Lee Evans, "Texas Agriculture, 1880-1930," (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, University of Texas, 1960); W.C. Nunn, *Texas Under the Carpetbaggers* (Austin, 1962), 135-147; John S. Spratt, *The Road to Spindletop: Economic Changes in Texas, 1875-1901* (Dallas, 1955), 37-185.

⁷Saloutos, *Farmer Movements in the South*, 27; International Harvester Company of New Jersey, *Diversified Farming in Texas* (Chicago, 1915).

⁸Salon J. Buck, *The Granger Movement: A Study of Agricultural Organizations and Its Political, Economic and Social Manifestations, 1870-1880* (Cambridge, 1913), 296. For Texas Grange activities see Spratt, *The Road to Spindletop*, 151-185 and Ralph A. Smith, "The Grange Movement in Texas, 1873-1900," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XLII (April, 1939), 298-315.

⁹Henry Woodfin Grady, *The New South and Other Addresses, Biography, Critical Opinions and Explanatory Notes*, ed. Edna Henry Lee Turpin (New York, 1969).

¹⁰Rosalind Langston, "The Life of Colonel R. T. Milner," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XLV (July, 1941), 420-421.

¹¹W. H. Roane, Magnolia, Miss., to Charles Bruce Richardson, November 28, 1866. The Charles Bruce Richardson Papers are in the personal possession of Miss Bess Richardson of Henderson, Texas. The author of this article gratefully acknowledges Miss Richardson's permission for him to examine the Charles Bruce Richardson Papers.

¹²Robert [Charles] Bruce Richardson Diary and Day Book. mss. The original is in the possession of Miss Bess Richardson. A microfilm copy is in the E. C. Barker

Texas History Center of the University of Texas at Austin. Hereinafter referred to as Charles Richardson diary.

¹³Thomas A. Stowe to C. B. Richardson, May 13, 1863.

¹⁴Charles Richardson Diary. For a family history of the Charles Bruce Richardson family see Garland Farmer, *The Realm of Rusk County* (Henderson, 1951), 160-165. For a similar account of migration across Louisiana into Texas during the same period see John Q. Anderson (ed.), *Brokenburn: The Journal of Kate Stone, 1861-1868* (Baton Rouge, 1955).

¹⁵Charles Richardson Diary, April 12, 1863.

¹⁶Samuel Wood Geiser, *Horticulture and Horticulturalists in Early Texas* (Dallas, 1945), 74.

¹⁷Interview with Miss Bess Richardson, August 29, 1970; Charles Richardson Diary.

¹⁸Charles Richardson Diary; J. Allen Clark, John H. Martin and Carleton R. Bell, "Classification of American Wheat Varieties," United States Department of Agriculture, *Bulletin*, No. 1074 (Washington, 1922), 205. The Department of Agriculture observed that Tappahannock Wheat, discovered in Tappahannock, Essex County, Virginia, has not been identified. Perhaps Richardson acquired the wheat seed from Virginia relatives.

¹⁹M. D. Ector to Col. Charles Richardson, March 30, 1868.

²⁰Charles Richardson Diary. These varieties were Health Cling, Crawford's Late, Walter's Early, Early Tillotson, Morris Red, Bergen Yellow and October Soft. For further information concerning peaches see James Alexander Fulton, *Peach Culture* (New York, 1912), 194-197; 185-186.

²¹Charles Richardson Diary.

²²*Ibid.*

²³*Ibid.*

²⁴*Ibid.*

²⁵*Ibid.*

²⁶Farmer, *The Realm of Rusk County*, 164; U. S. Department of Agriculture, *Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for the Year: 1877* (Washington, 1878), 454.

²⁷U. S. Department of Agriculture, *Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for the Year: 1877*, 454.

²⁸U. S. Department of Agriculture, *Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture*

for the Year: 1881 (Washington, 1882), 231-232, 252. Texas Blue Grass (*Poa arachnifera*) was first described by Dr. John Torrey in the report of William B. Marcy's expedition into the headwaters of the Trinity River in 1852. The grass was named by George Hogan of Ennis, Texas. The grass blooms in late March with seeds ripening by April 15th. The seeds are very small and very difficult to sow because they cling together by means of lint or the covering of webby hairs. The grass produces an abundance of radial leaves about 4 to 8 inches long and 2 inches wide. The culms are 2 to 3 feet high, each with about 2 leaves, with long sheaths and blade.

²⁹*Ibid.*; George Vasey, "Grasses of the South: A report of Certain Grasses and Forage Plants for Cultivation in the South and Southwest," United States Department of Agriculture, Botanical Division, *Bulletin*, No. 3 (Washington, 1887), 3.

³⁰John S. Wise, Atlanta, Georgia, to CBR, December 18, 1883, June 13, 1884; John Bond, Beaver, Louisiana, to CBR, October 20, 1886; D. F. Burns, Norwood, Missouri, to CBR, August 11, 1885; Austin Robinson, Reagan, Texas, to CBR, January 23, 1885; R. E. Bradford, Troup, Texas, to CBR, 1885; E. H. Hightower to CBR, April 6, 1885; J. S. Kilbourne to CBR, March 23, 1885.

³¹U. S. House Miscellaneous Documents. *Report on the Cotton Production of the State of Texas*. 47d Cong., 2d Sess., 1884, 729-730, 813-831.

³²Charles Richardson Diary; Geiser, *Horticulture and Horticulturalists in Early Texas*, 74. For additional information about the LeConte Pear see L. H. Bailey (ed.), *The Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture*, Vol. III (New York, 1947), 2505-2515.

³³Charles Richardson Diary.

³⁴*Ibid.*

³⁵*Ibid.*

³⁶Texas. *Sixth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture*, November 1, 1913 (Austin, 1913), 53; Charles Richardson Diary.

³⁷Dorman Winfrey, *A History of Rusk County, Texas* (Waco, 1961), 55-58, 62-63. Winfrey's study of Rusk County is the best general study of the county. Another noteworthy study is Cecil Richey, "A History of Rusk County," (Unpublished Master's thesis, Stephen F. Austin State College, 1950).

³⁸Hiram R. Lott, St. Louis, Missouri, to CBR, August 23, 1875.

³⁹Charles Richardson Diary.

⁴⁰*Ibid.*

⁴¹Farmer, *The Realm of Rusk County*, 163-164. Other sons included Dr. David Porter Richardson, William B. Richardson and John Samuel Richardson.

⁴²Salutos, *Farmer Movements in the South, 1865-1933*, 27.

⁴³Richardson does not fit the stereotype portrayed by John Spratt in *The Road to Spindletop*, 70.

⁴⁴Geiser, *Horticulture and Horticulturalists in Early Texas*, 74.