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## William Rucker, Slave, Dies at 111

William Rucker, a former slave who lived most of his life in Saline county and much of that time in the west part of the county at Blackburn and at Mt. Leonard, died Sunday morning in the home of his step-grandson, Jewell Johnson, at Richmond.

Rucker had said the date of his birth was October 7, 1850. That date would make him 111 years old when he died.

He related that his mother was a slave named Lucy, owned by the C. J. Menager family, and his father a slave by the name of Louis, who was owned by the Aaron Bruce family. The couple was given the name of Rucker.

The old Aaron Bruce farm is about a mile northwest of Marshall on 65 highway. The farm now is owned by Frank M. Mitts. The large brick house is in good condition and still occupied.

William Rucker was the eldest of 15 children and the last of his family. He had three wives and was the father of four children, only one of whom survives. She is Mrs. Odessa Starks of Richmond, now 30 years old.

Funeral services will be at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon in

the North Street Methodist church here conducted by the Rev. J. S. Spriggs. Burial will be in Fairview cemetery at the eastern edge of Marshall. ✓