Name ---Martha Redmond Ayred Present address--2617--Ave.Q.
Age-79years---Date--Feb.14,1856. Birthplace--Saint Joseph ,Missour.

As a very small girl I was being trained to be a maid.It seened to me that we had plenty and all of us were happy when all of a sudden my Master ordered all hands to go to the shop and build wagons.I was just turning seven then;while the wagons were being made the women were busy packing in sacks all our clothes and all the things at the Big house.The men packed these things and the farm things in these wagons.When we were all packed in with the Master and his family in the lead we started for the Southland where the Masters did not have to free their slaves.

These covered wagons were our homes for many days,untill we finally came Bastrop ,Texas,where land was purchased for our new plantation.The men were then ordered to pitch camp until quarters could be build.Just about the time our plantation was well under way and beginning to look like "the old home" as the old ones remembered it ;and we were settling down to our second years crop, the emancipation proclamation was read to us and were became as free as the white folks.

I I do not remember very much as I was too young;but myMother came to Galveston with her six children because Reedy Chapel Church was offering a learning to the freedmen.A Miss Ellwood was my teacher and the preacher a Rev.Ruben taught the bigger children.All of my sisters and brothers are dead except a brother who lives in Calif. and writes seldon.

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