

during October, 1929. Since that time, I have seen no other Arkansas individuals of this species.

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John Wright Glenn (1836-92), Early State Geologist of Texas

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The first State Geological Survey of Texas (the "Shumard-Moore-Buckley Survey") owed its existence to an act of the legislature of February 10, 1858. Its operations extended intermittently over the years from 1858 to 1867. The second geological survey (the "Glenn-Buckley Survey"), established by legislative act of August 13, 1870, extended its work from 1873 to 1875. Under the first survey, Dr. B. F. Shumard (1820-69) was State Geologist, from August 28, 1858 to about November 1, 1860, when he was removed by Governor Sam Houston. In April, 1861, he was reinstated to complete his final report. To replace Shumard, Dr. Francis Moore, Jr., was appointed State Geologist of Texas about November 11, 1860. Five months later (on April 8, 1861) the survey, under Moore, was suspended, owing to war conditions. It continued in suspense during the War. In November, 1866, Governor James W. Throckmorton appointed as State Geologist one S. B. Buckley, former employee of Dr. Shumard and Dr. Moore. This was done over the protest of every man of competence who had been in any way associated with the early (Shumard) survey.¹

¹A. R. Roessler, "Reply to the charges made by S. B. Buckley, State Geologist of Texas, in his official Report of 1874, against Dr. B. F. Shumard and A. R. Roessler." [pamphlet, privately printed, New York, 1875.]

Buckley had no assistants. His "survey" was terminated in 1867, after about a year's duration. All of the foregoing surveys derived their authority by the Act of February 10, 1858.²

The second State Geological Survey of Texas (the "Glenn-Buckley survey") owed its establishment to an Act approved August 13, 1870 (*supra*). Over two years elapsed, however, before a state geologist was named. Finally, on March 31, 1873, Governor Edmund J. Davis appointed J. W. Glenn State Geologist. Charles Edward Hall of Albany, N. Y., was his assistant. This office Glenn held until March 6, 1874, when he resigned. Governor Richard Coke then appointed S. B. Buckley again as State Geologist; he held this office until the end of the fiscal year of 1875, when Coke, despairing of anything's of value coming out of the survey, terminated the survey by vetoing its appropriation. (From that time, until the establishment of the Dumble Survey [1892], Texas was without a geological survey. At one time, in the late 'seventies, some movement was on foot to secure the appointment of Jacob Boll, of Dallas, as State Geologist to succeed Buckley.³ Boll was then fossil-collector in northwestern Texas for Prof. E. D. Cope.) I have reason to believe that Governor Coke appointed Buckley State Geologist with the understanding that he should, in turn, appoint, as his assistant, Professor Richard B. Burleson, a friend and fellow-townsmen of Governor Coke, and a former student of Gerard Troost at the University of Nashville. Charles E. Hall was again employed, this time as "sub-assistant," under Buckley.

The work of Shumard and his brother on the first (1858) survey had been of a high degree of excellence; but little or no work of scientific value was accomplished by the surveys under Moore, Glenn, or Buckley. Science and scientific movements in early Texas were unfortunate. Many of the highest officials held science in low esteem. When the first survey was established (1858), there were scores of unqual-

²An excellent historical account of geological investigations in Texas before 1886, is contained in Robert T. Hill, "The Present Condition of the knowledge of the Geology of Texas" (U. S. Geological Survey, *Bulletin No. 45*, 1887.)

³N. A. Taylor, "[Obituary notice of Jacob Boll]," *Galveston Daily News*, Oct. 10, 1880.

ified applicants clamoring for the place.⁴ By good fortune, Texas at the time had an intelligent governor, H. R. Runnels, who sought nominations from Professor James Hall, famous geologist of Albany, N. Y., and Professor Joseph Henry, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. They nominated Dr. B. F. Shumard, recently of the Missouri Geological Survey.⁵ A better appointment could hardly have been made. Nevertheless, when Sam Houston came into the governor's chair (Dec. 21, 1859), he sought to displace Shumard, and to appoint Dr. Francis Moore, an enthusiastic amateur



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geologist and "old Texan". This purpose he finally accomplished in November, 1860. Houston, like most frontiersmen, had a distrust of the knowing specialist, so Moore's appointment was made. The War's coming on caused suspension of all geological work. After the War, S. B. Buckley received the appointment. His sole qualification was his amateur's in-

⁴Dr. Joseph H. Barnard to Dr. J. C. Brightman, Dec. 28, 1857. Brightman, quite without qualifications, had applied for appointment as State Geologist. Barnard wrote that applications were "as numerous as mosquitoes in the Brazos Bottom." Illustrative of the low estate of medicine in Texas as late as 1876, is the statement in Butler's directory of American physicians (1876, p. 766) that "Dr." John H. Warren, of Tyler, gave his qualifications to practice as "a diploma to practice medi[cine] from physiological med[ical] debating soc[ie]ty[ty]."

⁵John M. Clarke, *James Hall of Albany*, . . . , 1921, pp. 298, 396.

terest, without Moore's knowledge. Buckley adorned none of the numerous fields which he attempted to cultivate; and his name in Texas has not come to be associated with careful, painstaking, and fundamental work.

John Wright Glenn was appointed in 1873, and held office for little less than a year (*supra*). He was an engineer, a resident of Austin from 1859 to 1880. Glenn's geological work appears to have been of little value. Since none of his reports was published, he contributed nothing to our knowledge of the geology of Texas. The only member of Glenn's staff who was at all conversant with geology as a science, was Charles Edward Hall (1852-1915), a young man of twenty-one, fresh from geological studies at Munich. Hall was a son of the famous geologist of Albany. After two years in Texas, in which he worked on both Glenn's and Buckley's surveys, young Hall left for several years' work on the Pennsylvania State Geological Survey.

Glenn and Hall were in the field for about three months: from November, 1873 to January, 1874. They established a base-line extending through Blanco, Burnet, and Lampasas counties. Most of the work done seems to have been topographic, with identification of formations, and collection of fossils from the diverse horizons. They must have encountered much social disorganization and lawlessness in the region traversed;⁶ and this, coupled with "a lack of appreciation of the work of the Survey," and the political upheaval of the times, induced Glenn to resign his position soon after his return to Austin from the field. The reports made by Glenn to the governor appear to have been lost with the burning of the capitol at Austin on November 9, 1881. A study of the possible utilization of Texas sumac in tanning was made at Glenn's request by George H. Kalteyer, analytical chemist of San Antonio, during the summer of 1873. This work was published many years later, in a bulletin of the Dumble Survey, issued in 1892. Perusal of Glenn's letter to Dr. Robert T. Hill⁷ (then writing an account of the "present"—1886—knowledge of the geology of Texas) will demonstrate the inadequacy, both of Glenn's geological training, and his conception of what a geological survey should

⁶Cf. S. W. Geiser, *Southwest Review*, vol. 30, p. 374, 1945.

⁷Hill, *op. cit.*, 1887, pp. 39-46.

be. It is probable that the destruction of his reports in the Capitol fire was not the irreparable loss to Science that Glenn implied in his letter to Hill. Young Hall's later work with the Pennsylvania Geological Survey also raises the question in one's mind (and settles it) as to whether he were not the better qualified to head the Survey.

John Wright Glenn, son of Evan Glenn, banker, was born in Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, on July 23, 1836. He died in New York City, April 11, 1892. The facts of his early life and education are unknown, for the familial accounts are untrustworthy in details. On September 7, 1853, John was enrolled as a pupil (*aet.* 17) at Urbana University, a Swedenborgian school that had been founded in his hometown three years before.⁸ At that time, Urbana had a population of about three thousand; and the college an enrollment of about a hundred (chiefly of preparatory grade.) Two younger brothers, George Evan and Frank Wright Glenn (the latter of whom was in business in Austin, Texas, in 1892), were at the same time pupils of the college. The records of the college do not show how long Glenn was a student. In 1857, when he was twenty-one years old, he was treasurer of the public school fund of Urbana, and continued so "until he left for Texas". The date of his arrival in Texas is uncertain, but it seems to have been before the Civil War. John Wright Glenn was practicing as a civil engineer in Texas, according to my best information, in 1859.

He was a member of the Engineer's Corps, C.S.A., from about 1861 to 1865. He served as a lieutenant of engineers in Hood's Corps, Army of Tennessee (in Alabama and Georgia), where he was cited for "zeal, skill, and energy." He also served with General D. H. Hill. He was captured at Mobile, April 19, 1865, and paroled a week later. After the War, he returned to Austin, to enter again upon the practice of his profession. From February 1, 1871, to November 28, 1872, under appointment of Governor Edmund J. Davis, he served as mayor of Austin. During the years 1871 to 1874 he was vestryman of St. David's Protestant Episcopal Church in Austin. This was the period of his service as State Geologist, in the last days of the Radical rule in Texas.

⁸Myron H. Broomell to S. W. Geiser, Oct. 17, 1910.

Richard Coke was inaugurated governor of Texas on January 15, 1874; and with his advent, Davis's appointees were replaced by new men. Seeing the trend, Glenn resigned in March, 1874 (*supra*), and Coke almost immediately replaced him by the appointment of S. B. Buckley to the place. About this time, to eke out the family income, Mrs. Glenn entered the milliner's business in Austin, and was still so occupied in 1878.

Glenn seems to have contributed but little to the literature of his profession. The only paper on engineering matters that I have been able to find is his "The pneumatic process of sinking piles," which appeared in *Van Nostrand's Engineering Magazine*, volume 10, pages 513 to 515, (1874).

In 1880, Glenn removed to New Orleans, to continue his work as a civil engineer. Always keenly interested in city sanitation, he became active in quarantine matters in New Orleans, and established an auxiliary station on the River, under the State Board of Health. In 1882, a great fire nearly destroyed one side of the Custom House. Glenn rebuilt it, under appointment as superintendent of construction. He held this position until 1885. For a short time he served as Assistant Director-General of the New Orleans Cotton Exposition. He then returned to private practice as a civil engineer and architect, and continued in this profession until his death.

About 1889 he began work on the surveying and construction of railroads in Yucatan, then being built by New York capital. When this work was completed, he returned to New Orleans, and practiced there for a few months. In 1891 he began, for the Mexican government, harbor-construction work at Progreso, the port of Merida, in northern Yucatan. While thus engaged, with his son, John Percy Glenn, as assistant he became ill with malaria. So serious did his condition become, that he was sent back for medical treatment to New York City, arriving there about March 6, 1892; and six weeks later, on April 11, he died. Burial took place at New Orleans; and his son continued his father's work at Progreso.⁹

Glenn's life and career illustrates the low estate of Science on many frontiers.

⁹New Orleans *Times-Democrat*, Apr. 12, 1892. portrait: New Orleans *Daily Picayune*, Apr. 15, 1892, p. 4, c. 7.