this time he had built a home on Blair Creek and began to farm in summer and to teach in the winter time. He became a widower for many years. In 1922 he married Birdie McClure Miller of Pinelog. She had one son, Jolly F. Miller. Faye Fontella Evans was born March 8, 1924. Uncle Dow as he was called by everyone taught Sunday school for fifty years or more, as well as taking "The Asheville Citizen Times" his lifetime. He was a colorful figure as he rode his grey mule (Indy) on his teaching circuit. The Evans family were all caring citizens of Clay County, serving our country, farming and teaching.

The old original Evans home still stands on Tusquittee by the side of the road. The barns are slowly sinking into age. A place where five sons and five daughters grew up in the covered wagon days tilling their land, thus a part of our Clay County Heritage.


Sources: Original Family Bible, notes and memories collected through the years.

140 THE GEORGE FLEMING FAMILY

The George Fleming farm, once 200 acres, is located on the west end of Cherry Road. The first owner, Milas McConnell, bought 100 acres for $20.00 in 1856 from the state of North Carolina. The framed deed for that portion of the farm hangs in the house of a great, great, great grandson.

Standing: Lillie F. Green, Fannie and Charles Fleming, Bob Green, Seated: Sarah Jane, Clarence, Thomas, Ed and George Fleming 1888 or 89.

Milas McConnell (1806-1894) married 1825 Martha Scroggs (1794-1879). Their children were Miriam (1825-1865) married 1840, Thomas Fleming (1822-1906), Sons James (1828), Enos (1830), William Ross (1832), David Newland (1833), Alfred Leander (1837).

There is an old Bible in the family that Martha Scroggs brought from Ireland. It is the Celtic language using F for S. published 1821.

Thomas and Miriam Fleming had one son, George Marion (1849-1930) married 1867, Sarah Jane Carroll (1848-1938) daughter of Charles Henderson Carroll (1825-1863) and Martha Kimsey Carroll (1829-1891).

George Fleming was a Charter Member of Shady Grove Baptist Church. He was a Deacon, and Sunday School Superintendent for many years. George was a school teacher and County School Superintendent. He was Register of Deeds for sixteen years and elected Representative of Clay County in 1899. He was also a Mason.

Children born to George and Sarah Jane:

- James (1870-1932), married 1896, Eliza McSwain
- Sarah Jane (1872-1948), married 1900, Charles Kimsey Carroll
- Enos (1874-1953), married 1899, Mary Jane Newland
- William Ross (1876-1958), married 1903, Mary Jane Newland
- David Newland (1878-1954), married 1905, Mary Jane Newland
- Alfred Leander (1881-1960), married 1911, Mary Jane Newland

Dow attended Normal school in Hayesville getting his teaching credentials and taught school for many years in the one-room school houses in Tusquittee, Oglin, Fires Creek and Marble, North Carolina. He was a community leader and very advanced in his education. He greatly valued education and established a hot dinner for his students in the winter time by bringing Irish potatoes to school in a toesack and boiled them on the old Pot-bellied stove. He made a calisthenics course with saplings cut from nearby trees. A little school would gather around.

Thomas B. Fleming

Dow and Birdie Evans Feb. 16, 1922

Heritage of Clay County CA