

“RIVERWOOD”



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HAVING weathered the storms of over a century, “Riverwood” stands in undisturbed dignity one of the best of the fine old country houses around Nashville. Four miles on the Porter Pike, which was built and named for the original owner, lies “Riverwood” farm, belonging to the family of Colonel Duncan B. Cooper. The place was first owned by Alexander James Porter, a prominent wholesale merchant and land owner who came to Tennessee from Ireland in 1793. He built the house in the first years of the nineteenth century, and it was the home of three generations of Porters—Alexander James, son of the first owner; then James Alexander and his son, Alexander James.

The place was typically the Southern country home of generous hospitality, many slaves, fine horses, and lavish entertainment. Its white-columned entrance welcomed all the notables of the times.

Of particular interest is the original name of this place, “Tammany-Wood,” called for the old estate of

the Porters in Ireland, “Tammany Hall.” Long years before the “Tammany Boss” came into power in New York, a Tammany flourished in the fair groves of Tennessee, but in a more gentle, gracious way. The Civil War left its devastating mark upon this goodly estate, many of the great trees being demolished and the furniture chopped up for kindling wood by the soldiers of the invading army. In 1851 Captain Alexander Porter sold the place to Judge William Cooper, Tennessee’s most noted Chancellor. The name was then changed to “Riverwood,” but by many of the old residents, “whose yesterdays look backward with a smile,” it is fondly remembered as “Tammany-Wood.”



“Groves through whose broken roof the sky looks in.”



TILLMAN PLACE



Tillman Place

TILLMAN PLACE, the home of Hon. George N. Tillman, consists of 170 acres, situated east of the city on the Vaughn Road. The residence is on an eminence, in a grove of native forest trees. From the front porch, looking southwest, may be viewed one of the most beautiful landscapes in the county, terminating in the Overton Hills, eight miles away. The entire place is set in blue grass, Mr. Tillman not attempting to do any farming.



"O'er the soft lawn the shadows southward creeping."



