

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

For more information about events, visit  
the MTGS web site or contact  
Virginia Watson at [ginnyology@comcast.net](mailto:ginnyology@comcast.net)

### OUR MEETING PLACE

Knowles Senior Center  
174 Rains Ave., Nashville

From I-65 exit 81 East and follow  
Wedgewood Ave. into the State Fairgrounds.  
Turn left inside the gate in the black fence.

Check our website for last-minute changes:  
[www.mtgs.org](http://www.mtgs.org)

Saturday, July 19, 2008

### Restoration and Preservation of Manuscripts and Documents by Amber Barfield, Conservationist

The Knowles Center  
1:00 p.m.

Amber Barfield, who heads the document conservation lab at the Tennessee State Library & Archives, will share the tricks of her trade. Her presentation on how to clean, de-acidify, and store valuable documents will be of interest to all. A display of products and equipment used in the preservation process and information on where to get them will be featured. Members may bring old letters or other documents that they have specific questions about.

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2008

### Court Records Workshop

Chuck Sherrill, M.A., M.L.S.  
The Brentwood Library  
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Join us for a hands-on workshop using original court records to learn more about your ancestors. Pre-registration is required, but the session is free. For more information see the last page of the journal!

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008

### Annual Seminar Researching Military Records Craig R. Scott, C.G.

From the Revolutionary War to World War I, Craig Roberts knows everything YOU need to know about finding ancestors in military records. Don't miss this exciting all-day workshop! Watch your mail and the MTGS web site for registration information and details.

# Middle Tennessee

## Journal of Genealogy & History

Volume XXII, Number 1, Summer 2008

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**Contributors in this issue**

Bart Bartleson	Linda Barnickel
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Shirley Wilson	Robert Weathersby III

Gale Williams Bamman  
Contributor and Editorial Assistant

*From the Editor . . .*

Dear Readers,

This issue launches our 22<sup>nd</sup> year of publication. We are fortunate to have received two very interesting articles based on military letters, one from the Mexican War and one from World War I.

The last letter from Bart Bartleson's ancestor before his death at Buena Vista is moving to read, and Bart puts the letter in context of both history and modern patriotism. The letters written by young Dr. Pickering from the Dental Corps during World War I remind us of the earnestness with which our ancestors went to war, and the difficulties under which all soldiers labor in the field.

A petition to the State Legislature from 1841 shows us how Thomas Durham of Sumner County got himself into trouble lending money at high rates of interest. State Historian Walter Durham, a Sumner man himself, claims his family came from elsewhere and he has "no interest" in the dispute.

Gale Bamman's series on the Defective, Delinquent and Dependant census of 1880 continues, making records of those in our families who were ill, poor and even criminal available for our inspection and consideration.

New hope may be engendered by the article about Delayed Birth Certificates, which bring nearly a million "hidden" Tennessee birth records to light. These records were just released within the past few years, and may not be familiar to many of our readers.

*Chuck Sherrill*  
*Journal Editor*

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Yearly memberships include four issues of the *Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History*. Make check or money order payable to MTGS. Dues are \$25.00 per membership year, beginning of fiscal years on June 1. See back cover for details and application form.

Printed by Miami Systems, Nashville, Tennessee 37209. Cover design by Dorothy Williams Potter. Indexed in the PERiodical Source Index (PERSI).

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# Dr. Charles Pickering Does His "Bit" for World War I

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by Robert W. Weathersby, II

When Charles Frost Pickering, D.D.S. (Doctor of Dental Surgery), received his World War I draft notice on June 26, 1917, he was on a fishing trip with his family and friends at "Camp Pickering," a fishing camp on White Oak Creek near Stewart, Tennessee, in Houston County.

He had known for some time that U.S. involvement in the war was most probable, but, after registering for the draft on June 5, he clearly did not expect to be called so quickly. Elizabeth Wyatt, sister of his sweetheart Nancy Priscilla Wyatt, brought the telegraphed order to him about noon as he fished.<sup>i</sup>



French identity card issued to Dr. Pickering as a member of the American Expeditionary Force in the Great War.

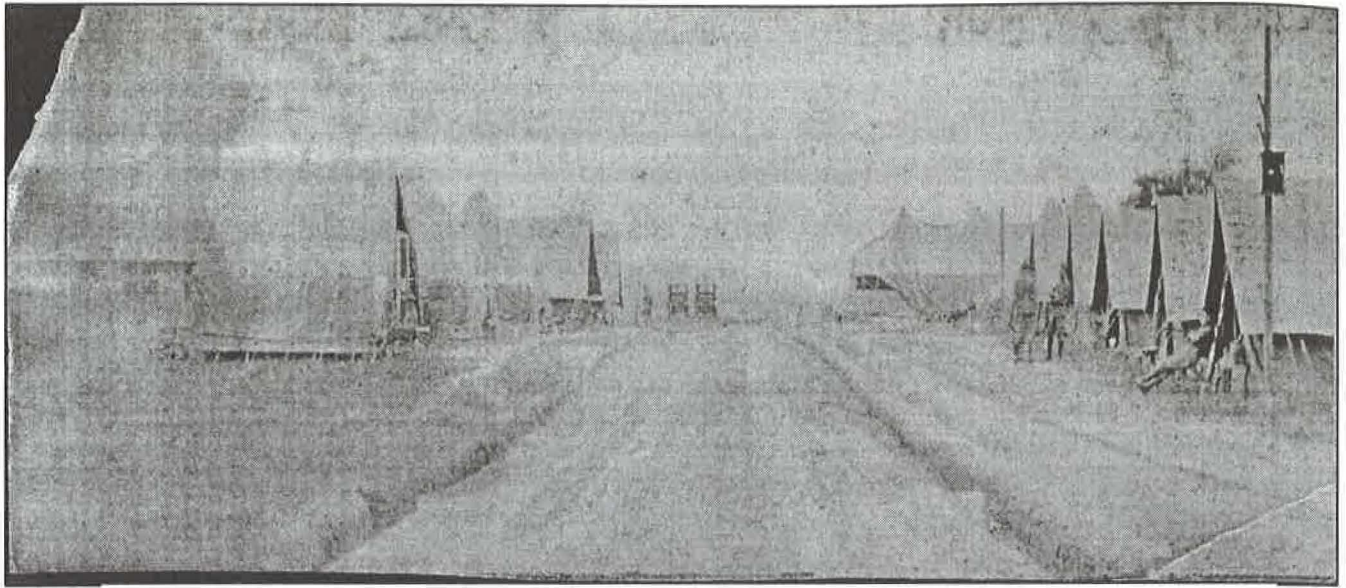
Dr. Pickering, who had been born and reared in Clarksville, Montgomery County, Tennessee, was the middle-born of three sons of Jesse Geraldus Pickering, the Marshall of Clarksville, and his wife Minnie Pearl Frost. Dr. Pickering was a member of the fourth generation of Pickering families to live in Tennessee. His great-grandfather Garaldus had come to the state from Virginia to teach near Adams, Tennessee, and had attained some minor fame as "The Man Who Kicked the Witch Out of Bed" in M. V. Ingram's *Authenticated History of the Famous Bell Witch*<sup>ii</sup>; Garaldus' encounter with the Bell Witch was recalled by his son Robert Henry Pickering, a Clarksville businessman.

Since Dr. Pickering's 1915 graduation from the dental school of Vanderbilt University, he had worked for the University in "charge of the X-ray apparatus, conductive anasthesia [sic] and was chief assistant to the Superintendent of the Operatory."<sup>iii</sup> This summer fishing trip was a regular summer vacation highlight for the Pickering family; but, Dr. Pickering's world was about to change. He was quite eligible for the draft at twenty-seven years of age and single, with a medium build (about five feet, six inches tall), blue eyes, and dark brown hair. He had indicated on his draft registration card that he should be eligible for an exemption to the regular draft because he had "been recommended [to the] Adj. Gen'l for [a] Commission in [the] Dental Reserve Corps."<sup>iv</sup>

When he received that June 26 telegram to report for active service, Dr. Pickering returned to Clarksville, packed, and left for the first of several assigned stations before he was to be shipped to Limoges, France, for active duty there as a member of Base Hospital 13, which was headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. Newly-commissioned First Lieutenant Pickering of the Dental Reserve Corps reported for active duty at Camp Gettysburg on the grounds of the Gettysburg National Park on June 30, 1917.<sup>v</sup> He was beginning one of the greatest adventures of his life, an adventure he chronicled in over three hundred letters written over twenty-one months to his recently affianced

<sup>i</sup> Dr. Robert W. Weathersby, II, was born, reared, and educated in Tennessee, though he has lived and worked in Georgia for the past thirty-four years. He is Professor Emeritus of English and Chair Emeritus of the Division of Humanities of Dalton State College in Dalton, Georgia, where he worked for thirty of his thirty-six year teaching career. He writes here of his maternal grandfather, the single most influential male on his life. He can be reached via e-mail at [rwwii@alltel.net](mailto:rwwii@alltel.net).





Lt. Pickering's photo of a street of tents in the military camp at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Nancy Priscilla Wyatt, a schoolteacher in Clarksville.

These letters were written from July 1, 1917, through March 28, 1919, when Lt. Pickering was honorably discharged as Captain Pickering from Camp Dix, New Jersey. Though he never saw front-line duty, he performed surgery on many people who did, and he assisted other surgeons when necessary. His support of the troops and the war effort was surely typical of medical officers during World War I. What is still appealing about the letters is their description of how unprepared the United States was for World War I and how people coped. This young lieutenant performed no great deeds of wartime valor, but his incisive and occasionally quirky comments on army life still educate and amuse twenty-first century readers. Not everything he wrote is interesting to modern eyes, particularly what his first-born daughter Priscilla called "the mushy stuff," but that problem is easily handled by omission.

It is surprising to many that the Gettysburg Civil War Battlefield was taken over for the training of several Army divisions, but so sudden was the entry of the U.S. into the war that there were few bases that could handle the preparations, not to mention the additional manpower. Camp Gettysburg, which covered about twenty-five square miles, was quite literally a camp of tents. "We [dentists] are in the center of 10,000 men," Lt. Pickering wrote; "all around are troops & where our tents are is where Pickett made his famous charge. I can look out to the South & see General Lees statue" (July 4, 1917). Most soldiers slept on the ground in their tents unless they had a cot. Lt. Pickering telegraphed home and had his father send a cot and blankets to him. Until it came, he slept, like others, on the ground.

An additional evidence of the lack of preparations was that there was no dental equipment in camp when Lt. Pickering arrived, and the equipment, which he had to order, was slow in coming. He requested that a carpenter make him a wooden dental chair (July 12, 1917). By July 4, there was a second dentist in camp to serve the ten thousand-man population. Lt. Nelson, who hailed from Philadelphia, had brought his complete dental outfit with him, and he planned to sell it to the government (July 4).

Lt. Pickering had a wonderfully positive attitude. He was glad to be "doing my bit" (July 1, 1917) because he knew that "my work here is counting for something, even with such poor facilities" (July 12, 1917). In addition to little equipment initially, the camp had no electricity to light dental or any other kind of surgery. Transportation was also





Soldiers in World War I were sometimes entertained by open air movies. Perhaps the 1914 hit *Perils of Pauline* was one that Lt. Pickering saw.

abscesses and pulling diseased or problem teeth. Many of the men had never even seen a dentist before, and the health of their mouths was frequently “bum.”

Lt. Pickering worked in rubber gloves most of the time because the men had “all sorts of diseases” (July 12, 1917). He and Lt. Nelson, the only other dentist at first, worked from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. at their homemade “rustic” chair (July 12, 1917), and they had to take turns working, for there was only one chair and only one set of dental equipment (Lt. Nelson’s). With this arrangement, the two dentists could take turns working, and Lt. Pickering had time to write his nearly daily letters to Nancy. He wrote her on July 10 that he had also been

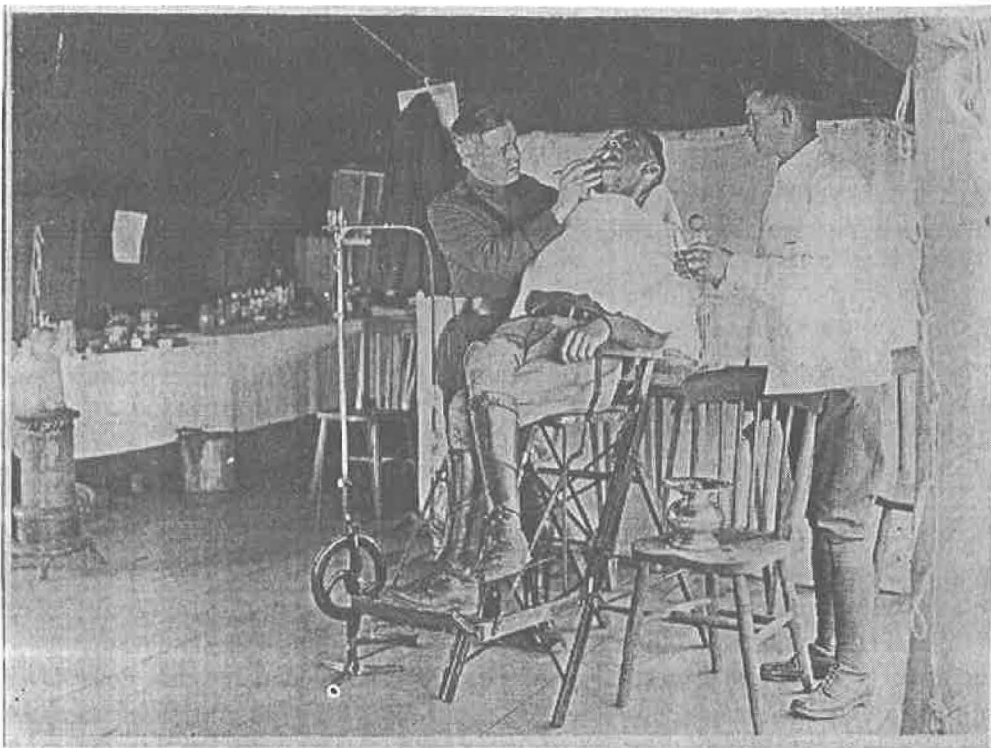
writing his mother a postcard each day; none of the postcards survive.<sup>vi</sup>

Officers in World War I were responsible for censoring their own mail, and Lt. Pickering put fewer details about camp life in his letters than we might wish to read today. But he put in enough detail to give us an accurate feel for life on the fifty-four-year-old battlefield. He wrote on July 12 that “even the papers here in Gettysburg do not publish anything concerning our camp.” All of the letters from Europe carry a censor stamp, but none of Lt. Pickering’s letters give any hint of any material being censored; he apparently did his personal job of censoring well. “We ... censor our own mail. You read over all that is on the subject, what you can’t write, etc. & after having read the rules we write” (June 4, 1918).

The new lieutenant wrote his Nancy that I have not “yet seen 1 good-looking Yankee girl” and that people often asked him questions twice to hear his Southern accent (July 9, 1917). Gettysburg was “not much town” he wrote, though the presence of the camp was bringing improvements for leisure hours. Lt. Pickering was all his life a man who enjoyed the outdoors – fishing, hunting, hiking – and he was quite happy hiking after supper, alone and with others. He was not yet required to drill, so walking became his exercise outlet. A daily ten-mile hike after supper was his idea of fun (July 4, 1917). He would then retire to his tent and write his letters by lantern light (July 13, 1917). He attended an occasional open-air movie, and each regiment had a band, so he occasionally went to an evening concert (July 17, 1917). Taps blew at 11 p.m. (July 23, 1917).

On July 9, Jesse Pickering wrote to his son that he would be assigned to Dr. Dean D. Lewis’ unit; this unit was Base Hospital 13 headquartered in Chicago. Because of his thorough education in anatomy, Lt. Pickering served the Gettysburg Base Hospital in many capacities. “We have at present six wards,” he wrote, “about 25 cots to the ward” (July 11, 1917). He did not mention everything he did, but he did write on July 20 that he had just “Pumped [the] stomach of [a] fellow” who “had taken varnish with the intent of killing himself because his mother had just died.” He helped with an appendix operation (July 21, 1917). On July 22, he reported that he stood at the operating table that day for four and a half hours, though he did not specify how he assisted. It may sound strange that a trained dentist would help with other types of surgeries, but Lt. Pickering, as a dental student, had dissected and learned about entire corpses as part of his training. Modern dentists, he told the present writer in the 1960s, dissect only the shoulders and head while training.<sup>vii</sup> So while he was licensed as a dental surgeon, he did have a thorough knowledge of anatomy and how a body worked; therefore, he was useful to other specialized surgeons.

By July 17, a third dentist joined the camp, but all three still worked in an 18' x 20' tent with the one homemade dental chair. On July 21, the dentists got another tent, so now they could work in one tent and live in the other. More progress was reported July 27: “We had a floor put in our [sleeping] tent today & it certainly is nice. Now every thing is on the level where before ground being so soft the legs of my cot would sink in the ground....[At]



Field dentistry in World War I.  
Courtesy of the National Museum of Health and Medicine

Chicago, "most of the staff are in different parts of the country in camps....[The unit is composed of] two or three hundred counting physicians, nurses, interns, dentists & others—is quite a bunch you see....[The unit] is complete in every way & every thing is ready, ready to move at any time" (August 9, 1917). He also wrote that there "Must be around 15,000 [men in Camp Gettysburg]. Wooden walls are being erected; there is no doubt that preparations are being made for winter" (August 9, 1917).

By August 10, the camp boasted four dentists, and they now had two dental tents, easing the space crunch. "Our equipment is very complete" now he wrote.

"We have enough medicines cement alloy (amalgam) to last a year....Went to town yesterday & bought me a mosquito bar.... Mosquitoes are mighty bad here at times ... we have a number of cases of malaria here in camp. Day before yesterday a bunch got into a scrap in one of the other regiments ... [and] an officer was beaten up by four or five [men]. This is quite serious.... The punishment always is ... either life imprisonment or death" (August 10, 1917).

Lt. Pickering noted that his Army salary was \$166.67 a month (August 7, 1917) and that "If I'm in the Army say eighteen months, I'll have enough to equip a modern up to date office which will cost no less than two thousand dollars" (undated mid-November letter, 1917). He was concerned about having enough money saved to equip his dental office and marry. His father had told him he could live at home for a while, but that was not what Nancy wanted to do (August 7, 1917).

On August 22, the now five dentists moved from their two tents into a wooden building "that was put up for us." Though the dentists continued to sleep in tents, the building was a nice addition for them and their patients, for fall was coming earlier in Pennsylvania. "I like to froze [in bed] Saturday night," Lt. Pickering wrote in one of the two

times [it] has been difficult to keep from rolling off cot out in the wet." He wrote positive comments about the food in camp as well; "in fact, I'm gaining weight, now 112½" (July 30, 1917). By the end of his first month in camp, intensive training began for all—"practice of arms, horsemanship, drills, setting up exercises, etc" (July 30, 1917).

Lt. Pickering's dental equipment arrived August 3; his office now also had a wooden floor. He was studying war tactics, court martial, military etiquette (August 3, 1917). He wrote a bit more about Base Hospital #13. Though the Hospital was based in

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letters penned on August 27. "I got up, put on my sweater, socks, overcoat & went back to bed." A week later he was the only dentist left in camp; the other four dentists "were sent to regiments" (August 29, 1917). He was now working for the 60<sup>th</sup>, 61<sup>st</sup>, and 59<sup>th</sup> regiments, still a patient load of thousands.

Lt. Pickering got a ten-day pass on September 1, and he went home to Clarksville where he celebrated his twenty-eighth birthday on September 6 and gave Nancy an engagement ring (September 13, 1917). He was back in camp on September 12 and resumed his letters. The continuing cold weather plus rain was hard on the men because such weather "always, never fails to bring them [men] in suffering from toothache or abscesses" (September 15, 1917). By September 19, there were nine dentists in camp, but the old problem resurfaced -- "we have nothing to work with." The cold remained a problem. Lt. Pickering slept in his clothes under all his blankets. There was no source of heat. "Stoves have been requisitioned ... [but] there is no telling when they will reach here" (September 25, 1917).

On October 2, Lt. Pickering wrote that he had "Worked like a son of a gun. This morning we....two of us extracted fifty-one [teeth] before 12: o'clock ....quite a bloody job." He now had a warm stove in his office but nothing in his sleeping tent.

"I broke the ice in my bucket to wash my face & hands," Lt. Pickering wrote on October 7. It is "A very difficult thing to throw the cover back & put your feet on a wood floor that the wind has been blowing over & under all night. Yet in the dressing out you lose no time & soon awake, full of energy & glad of life." The arrival of more dentists, now numbering ten in camp, represented progress, but there was equipment for only two. Personal hygiene was also a problem. Just "imagine taking a bath under a shower [in this bitterly cold weather] with cracks in the wooden building you can throw a good size hat through.... Soon I think," he wrote, "I'll make a trip down town to the Hotel for a bath" (October 7, 1917).

Lt. Pickering finally got orders to leave Gettysburg on October 16, but the orders sent him not overseas but to the newly-built Camp Greene near Charlotte, North Carolina. He was assigned to the 60<sup>th</sup> Infantry, but "You never saw the like of 'red tape' to everything that happens here" (November 5, 1917), and he did not move to Camp Greene until November 12. One improvement in North Carolina was that he had "quarters & an office in the regimental infirmary which is a wooden building & quite nice - so I have a room and office to myself" (Undated mid-November letter, 1917). Camp Greene was four miles from the city of Charlotte. But Lt. Pickering did not get away from winter by his move; his combination office and sleeping quarters had no heat. He requested a stove, for "my hands get so cold & [I] cannot work" (November 17, 1917). But at least the food was "excellent," even though he had to pay for it himself (November 22, 1917). He anticipated paying thirty or forty dollars a month.

Lt. Pickering still preferred to be overseas. "[I] won't feel like I've been in it unless I can get to France." He wrote that the men at Camp Greene "are worked hard, all getting training in trenches, throwing grenades & self-preservation against gas attacks. I myself will get a course with the other officers in pistol work & gas" (November 22, 9:30 a.m., 1917).

The frigid weather was affecting the health of all the dentists. "I have a little cold, but that's due to the ice house I'm living in....[We] are trying hard to get stoves & they say we will before long" (undated late November letter, 1917). The camp housed "about 25,000 men," (November 12, 1917) but "Sanitary conditions are not as good here as they were in Gettysburg" (November 26, 6:30 p.m., 1917); conditions were not adequate in Gettysburg.

In an undated letter from mid-November, 1917, Lt Pickering reported that the dentists finally got so cold that he decided to bypass the Army red tape, and "I went to see our Supply Officer & told him how I was handicapped etc. He immediately sent us over a stove & we put it up & made a fire in it.... She burns pine & [it] has been a real treat to back up against it & get warm." Now he could "start tomorrow on the different companies & extract all bad teeth



Lt. Pickering had written before that rumors of all kinds circulated around Camp Gettysburg and Camp Greene about nearly anything, including when they would go overseas, but he didn't share many of the rumors. He did write one rumor from this mid-November period that expressed his frustration with Army red tape and lack of organization in the Dental Corps.

I heard today that an inspection was soon to be made of the Dental Corps here. I certainly hope it is so & that whoever comes will stir up something—our Dental Corps is bum, very bum. We have no meetings, no system & very bum authority from the fellow I wrote you of who finished school only in June—this past June. He being in the Regular Army [out]ranks the rest of us. One of the fellows here has been out of school eight years & you must see it's hard to put up with it all. (Undated, mid-November, 1917)



But patriotic young men continued to sign up as well as get drafted for the service. Nancy wrote she was concerned that her younger brother Paul Wyatt was signing up; she was worried about his being away from home. Lt. Pickering had been raised in Clarksville's Madison Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and his moral point of view was clear.

A fellow away from home when all his life he has been use[d] to a Christian home can't go wrong when he gets away. I truly believe this for ....[I] have listened & been a witness in any number of court-martials & trials, not here but in Gettysburg where they occurred every day—the Camp Hospital was the place where they all were tried & every time no matter whether it was whisky women or what, one could always see & pity the fellows back home. Home, the place a fellow loves, keeps him out of all kinds of scrapes & it is mighty rare in my limited experience of life that a fellow who has a mother, sisters & such like . . . have slips....I've seen more sins & more men with no morals than ever before in all my life & you have to ....give me credit . . . [for living a straight life]... Do not hinder Paul when he can go. (November 22, 1917)

In late November, Lt. Pickering wrote of putting in an application for Christmas leave so he could be with his family and Nancy over Christmas. Such a leave, however, was not to be. December 5 brought an order from the Surgeon General directing him to go to St Louis for "a course of instruction at the school for Plastic and Oral Surgery....You will report to the Dean . . . [of] Washington University Medical School....You are requested to provide yourself with a set of dissecting instruments."<sup>viii</sup> So he began to understand he could not get home for Christmas, and he wrote that I "am due to return to Camp Greene upon completion of my course" (December 14, 1917). He arrived in St Louis sick with a cold and tired. The train had been delayed because of snow. His course, he learned, would last three weeks, and it was to be delivered primarily through the faculty of Washington University and other guest lecturers assisted by surgeons at City Hospital.

From St Louis, Lt. Pickering wrote "I spent the entire morning at the City Hospital witnessing operations" (December 16, 1917). He also listened to lectures, and worked in labs. "I am working in my laboratory each day from 8 to 12 o'clock & making splints of all kinds. Splints that will restore lost parts of the jaws & splints for a fracture of either jaw." Beginning "Thursday night for ten days, I'll have night work" (December 18, 1917). He continued that next week "we will see all kinds of operations on the human & cadaver head (body)—also am dissecting & studying Anatomy again the hardest thing on earth to learn" (December 14, 1917). We "will learn how to remove parts of either jaw....Will do this on the cadaver (dead body) & will have to do it over there. So when my service is finished I'll

not only be able (I hope) to do dentistry of all kinds, but surgery of the face" (December 18, 1917. He was working every day and many nights. The only day he had off was Christmas. And then Lt. Pickering really began "night work."

I worked all the evening on cadavers. The Surgeon who is instructing us would take a knife or chisel . . . & inflict wounds of all kinds [on] the face. We had eight takes (8 dead men) & after the wound was made we repaired the tissues. Before Monday sometime bodies will be carried down in the basement & shot-gun shot wounds of the face-then we repair-we dentists restoring with splints, appliances etc. the lost shot away portions, the physicians & surgeons taking care of the soft tissue that doesn't come under our line - however we (dentists) do a great deal of the soft tissue work to. We are down for all day tomorrow Saturday & probably Sunday doing this work & all of next week. Its kinda horrible to write you of it, but pardon me. Its very interesting & instructive. (December 20 [?], 1917)

Human cadavers were not the only sources of instruction. "We [dentists]," Lt. Pickering wrote, "worked on poor little doggies. The dogs are anesthetized of course," and we do "bone grafting" on them. When we are finished the dogs are "taken good care of....I hate like the dickens to put a little pup to sleep & experiment on him" (December 28, 1917), but he also knew the knowledge gained would help him assist human beings in France.

### *To Be Continued*

#### *Notes*

i. Letter from Lt. Chas. F. Pickering, D.R.C., (Fort McPherson Ga., Base Hospital # 13) to Miss Nancy Wyatt, 19 April 1918 (Madison St., Clarksville, Tennessee). All referenced letters are in the possession of the present author; future references are parenthetical. The letters were saved by the addressee Nancy Wyatt, then given to her first-born daughter and namesake Nancy Priscilla Pickering, who passed them to this author, her first-born child.

The letters were written primarily with a fountain pen on now quite yellowed medium weight paper, and many of them display a bleeding through of the ink after ninety years. Pencil was used when ink was not available. Dr. Pickering's handwriting could charitably be called crabbed, and it came in two sizes, small and smaller; a sample letter accompanies this article. His sentences are sometimes elliptical, with irregular underlining and occasionally idiosyncratic spelling. He was also irregular in his use of the ampersand, sometimes using it and sometimes writing and. Sometimes he spelled numbers out; sometimes he wrote numerals. He occasionally wrote more than one letter a day; these are easily spotted because cancellations included the time of posting.

The letters were saved folded, in their original envelopes; Nancy Wyatt opened the letters by tearing the envelope open from the stamp corner down. Several envelopes are so damaged that the postmark was removed. Dr. Pickering did not date his letters; the dates come from the envelopes and the fact that they were bundled in lots of one month. He did number most of his letters from France so that his fiancée would know if any were missing; most of his letters from France are also dated.

ii. M. V. Ingram, An Authenticated History of the Famous Bell Witch (1961; Clarksville, Tennessee: N.P., 1894), 294-296.

iii. Letter of Recommendation by Dr. Henry W. Morgan, Dean of Vanderbilt University, 19 November 1917.

iv. Charles Frost Pickering, Registration Card [for World War I], June 5, 1917. His letter of November 17, 1918, states his height; the draft registration card says only "Medium" for build.

v. Memo from 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Charles F. Pickering, Officers Res. Corps. (Dental Division) to Surgeon General U.S. Army, Washington, D.C., June 30, 1917.

vi. The letters Lt. Pickering received from his Nancy do not survive either. He wrote that he burned them after reading them over and over for five days or so (January 31, 1918).

vii. On June 11, 2008, Andrea Matlak, Archivist in the Library of the American Dental Association (A.D.A.), e-mailed Dr. Dale Harrison, dentist, in response to an inquiry from me, that current "Dental students are required to learn anatomy but as far as I know they are no longer required to dissect bodies and now use models. Dental school anatomy classes emphasize the head and neck area but a dentist has to have an understanding of . . . general anatomy." Further, "The ADA does not promulgate dental school curriculum requirements."

viii. Letter from V. P. Blair, Major, M.R.C., U.S.A. (War Department, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington) to Lt. Charles F. Pickering, 5 December 1917 (D.R.C., through Regimental Surgeon, Regimental Infirmary, 60<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Camp Greene, N.C.).

ix. "Lt. Chas. Pickering Wins Distinction," [undated newspaper article, certainly early March, 1918].



## Old News is Good News

### Newspaper Sources for Middle Tennessee Genealogy

#### The *Peoples' Paper* in Manchester, 1860

Only two issues survive of the *Peoples' Paper*, published weekly in Manchester, County, Tennessee. Dated July 7 and August 25 of 1860 they are issue numbers 3 and 10 of the first volume. How many more issues may have been published is not known. The items below are taken from the July 7 issue. Copies of these two rare newspapers are available on microfilm from the Tennessee State Library & Archives.

#### Publisher and rates:

"Alfonzo Bettersworth" is the name given as publisher of this paper, though that sounds suspiciously like a pseudonym. Perhaps in this highly-charged political environment (after acrimonious conventions, candidates had just been selected for the presidential election in November) the publisher and editor thought it best to remain anonymous. Subscriptions rates were \$1.50 per year.

#### Politics

A large meeting of Democrats was held in Manchester

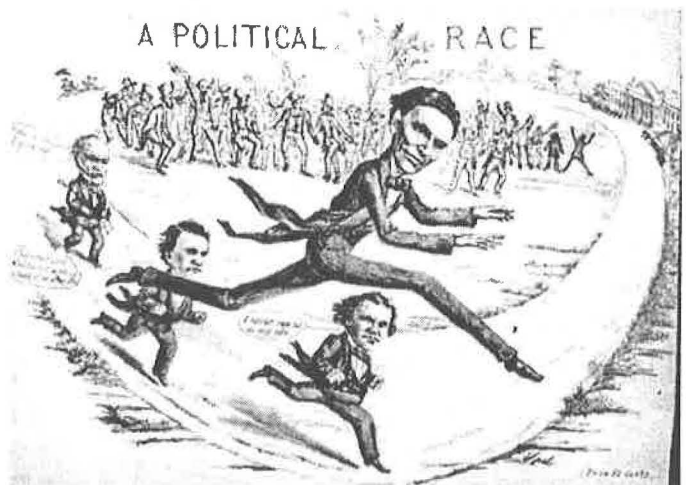


John C. Breckenridge

on July 2. Willis Blanton was chairman and Calvin C. Brewer was secretary. They resolved to support the current Vice President, John C. Breckenridge, for President and Joseph Lane for Vice President, endorsing a conservative and Union ticket. James M. Sheid was approved to act as an elector for Coffee

County. S.N. Burger and James A. Moore both addressed the meeting, drawing cheers in support of Breckenridge & Lane as the best candidates to preserve the Union.

A meeting of the Union constitutional men of Coffee County was held on the same day (July 2). H. Shackleford was chair and T.C. Goodner, secretary. The following delegates were appointed to attend the District Convention at Smithville in support of John Bell for President and Edward Everett for Vice President: John McGill; Johnathan S. Webster; Dr. John Ganaway; William Davidson; R.F. Hunt; Tom Jones; W.A. Woods; Dr. A.B. Davis; B.J. Thompson; W.W. Putnam; M. Hill; T.C. Goodner; A. Powers and F.H. Ragsdale.



John Bell says "Bless my soul, I give up," as Lincoln leaps ahead in this 1860 political cartoon. ([www.indiana.edu/~liblilly](http://www.indiana.edu/~liblilly))



### Advertisements:

A.F. Vincent advertised his medical practice in Manchester.

Robinson & Pittman, Saddlery and Harness. Products include saddles, bridles, martingales, buggy and wagon collars and saddle bags.



R.E. Garrett announced that he had established a wagon shop ¼ mile north of the Manchester town square, on the Nashville road.

A.O. Snow announced that his boot and shoe manufactory was open in the house next to Lasater's store on the corner of the Public Square in Manchester. "Convinced from past experience that the credit system is ruinous, his terms will be strictly cash."

P.C. Isbell offered ten tracts of land for sale, located on a "mountain bench," all well watered and timbered.

W.M. Brewer, attorney at law, advertised his services in collecting debts in a four-county area.

P.C. Isbell and T.C. Goodner, attorneys, offered to practice anywhere in the area including the Supreme and Federal courts in Nashville. Their offices were on West Depot Street, second door from the Public Square.

S.P. Brantley, attorney, was located on the west side of the Public Square.

L.P. and T.D. Fite, now doing business as Fite, Shepherd & Co., were selling dry goods on the Public Square, #3 Hicks' Buildings.

Morgan & Co. offered a great stock of Spring Goods in various styles, and offered to purchase wool at the highest market price in cash.

Alfred Buss, Boot and Shoe Maker, had just opened up shop one door north of the Post Office.

Bell & Burroughs, Undertakers, offered their elegant hearse for funerals on short notice, along with a supply of caskets in stock at Nashville.

### Legal notices:

R.W. Casey warned that a note made by himself payable to F.M. Boyd would not be honored if transferred to any other person.

### Lost & Found

D.W. Rucker advertised a reward to any person who would return a collection of notes (I.O.U.s) he had lost. The notes were rolled up with a string tied around them.

### "A Shooting Affair"

This item was copied from a Murfreesboro paper. "James Burnette, a son of Thomas Burnette, a young man about twenty-two years of age, residing near Readyville in Rutherford County, got into an affray Monday evening, the 18<sup>th</sup> of June, with a Mr. Tucker of Coffee County, and was dangerously and probably fatally wounded by the latter, who fired two pistol balls through his body. Burnett also seriously wounded Tucker with a rock. Burnett was still living at the latest accounts, though in a precarious position. Burnett was entirely the aggressor in the affair; and no blame whatever attached to Mr. Tucker, who is represented as a quiet peaceable man. Burnett has the character of a desperado."

### Education

An essay titled "Woman, A Mission" was presented by Miss Nannie Emerson during the recent examination of the students at Manchester Academy.

A flowery and poetic "Address to the Girls of Manchester Academy" by "Fannie" filled a whole column on the front page of the paper.



### Sheriff's sales

J.A. Carden, sheriff of Coffee County, published notices of upcoming forced sales of property to be sold at auction.

Manchester town lot #5, the property of H.J. Taylor, was to be sold to satisfy his creditors J.S. Lasater and Wm. T. Brixey.



# 1862 Letter from Walter Keeble to his Children

The letters of Walter and Fanny Keeble, written while he was serving in the Confederate army from 1861 through 1863, give many wonderful pictures of camp life, home life, and the struggles of separated families. In this particular letter, Walter writes directly to his four young children aged 11 and under.

The Keeble letters were transcribed in 1987 by Mary Ann Burkholder of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, but have not been published.<sup>1</sup>



Walter Guinn Keeble in later years. He would have been 42 when he wrote this letter to his children.

Camp Trousdale<sup>2</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1862

My Dear Children<sup>3</sup>

As Dr. Davis<sup>4</sup> did not get off today & I have a little piece of candle I have concluded to write you a short letter. Well now can you guess how I am writing? No I know you cant, so I will tell you. I am sitting on the ground on a little straw with the top of my camp chest on Uncle Sams trunk. You will think it is not very pleasant writing so situated – well it would not be if I were not writing to my dear little children at home. That would be a pleasant task in any situation.

Your Father my dear little ones is now alone in his tent except [for] Adelbert Smith<sup>5</sup> who is sick & asleep, yet he is surrounded by all sorts of people while he is writing. Some are playing the violin in one tent. Some are singing hymns in another, in another some are singing comic songs, and in others some are upon beds of sickness, while others are laughing and talking and a few swearing, irreverently taking the name of our Heavenly Father in their polluted lips. I would be much grieved if I thought my little George & Sam would grow up to be such men.



George T. Keeble

Geo my son you are old enough to understand how ugly and wicked it is for men to swear and take the name of our Father in Heaven in vain. I almost know you would not do so, for your Mama & Papa have always taught you how ugly and wicked it was. Try to remember always, He has said "Thou shalt not take my name in vain." Papa can say that he truly believes his children will never so far disregard the counsel and admonitions of their parents as to fall into such ugly ways. Were you here my son you would see how disgusting it was.

And my little daughters I know will never be so unlady-like as to use language unbecoming to ladies. Are you, Anna and Kate, trying to learn? Are you attentive to your music? And are you trying to be good and obedient children. Papa hopes so – you know your Mama has a great deal more to bear now that I am away, and you should try to relieve her of as much trouble as possible and not to worry her by dissensions or quarrels among yourselves or little school maters, or by any misconduct whatever. I am proud of my daughters and hope to live to see them the possessors of all that is good and beautiful in woman. You must be kind & courteous to all around, and particularly, respectfully to old age. You must tell your school mates that I would like to





see them all very much, and give my love to Eliza and Bennie.<sup>6</sup> Tell Benj. Uncle Wat did not send him any word in his letter to your Mama but he did not intend to slight him. He and Geo. Must be good boys & not have any disputes.

Well, the drum has beat to put out the lights, and I will have to do so soon. You must write to me sometimes, for besides the pleasure it would give me to receive your letters it would be improving to you. Papa sends his love to his little chicks and others and kisses to them all.

### **Stony Lonesome The Keeble Family Home**

On Jefferson Pike at Walter Hill, Rutherford County Tenn.

Walter Keeble (1733-1816) came from Cumberland County, Virginia, to the Nashville area. In 1811 he purchased a 427 acre tract on the West Fork of Stone's River in Rutherford County for the princely sum of \$2,562 cash. Keeble bought the place from William P. Anderson, but it had originally been part of Joseph Martin's land grant from North Carolina. The tract criss-crossed the Jefferson Pike, the road running to Nashville.

The home was built about 300 feet south of the road, within half a mile of the settlement at Old Jefferson. Walter Keeble<sup>3rd</sup>, grandfather of the letter-writer, and his son Walter Keeble<sup>4th</sup> built the structure together as a home for their extended family. Family tradition records that no rain touched the home during construction, due to an extended drought in the year 1811.

Of unique design, the home featured a 2-story porch made of stone on both levels, recessed under the roof line. Facing north with a view out to the Jefferson Pike, the home had double chimneys on the eastern and western ends.

The elder Walter Keeble died in 1816 and was buried in the Keeble family cemetery on the property. The house was demolished and the graves were removed to Mt. Juliet when the Percy Priest Dam was under construction.

This older Keeble home preceded Stony Lonesome. It was built in 1811 and was the home in which letter-writer Walter Guinn Keeble was born.

Your affectionate Father, W. Keeble

Notes

<sup>1</sup> "Stony Lonesome" Letters, compiled and annotated by Mary Ann Burkholder, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, 1987. MTGS member Virginia Gooch Watson is a Keeble descendant and loaned the editor her copy of the transcribed letters.

<sup>2</sup> Camp Trousdale was located near Portland in Sumner County, Tennessee. Walter Keeble was a private in the 45<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry, which was organized at Camp Trousdale in Nov/Dec. 1861. Shortly after the writing of this letter the unit marched to Murfreesboro (perhaps Walter was able to visit his home briefly?) and on to Corinth, Mississippi. *Tennesseeans in the Civil War* (Nashville: Civil War Centennial Commisison, 1965).

<sup>3</sup> Walter Guinn Keeble born June 27, 1819, fifth in a line of Walter Keeble's stretching back. Born in Jefferson, Rutherford County, Tennessee, to Walter "Blackhead" Keeble and wife Sarah Jane Hudson. Walter, a 30-year-old widower without children, married Frances Matilda Rucker in 1849. Their plantation, called Stony Lonesome, was on the Jefferson Turnpike at Walter Hill in Rutherford County. At the time of this letter Walter and Fannie had four children: Ann Eliza (born 1850); Catherine (born 1851); George (born 1853) and Samuel (born 1860).

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Burkholder's annotations state that this reference is to Dr. Joe Davis of Rutherford County who, while not related to Sam Davis, was the doctor who delivered him. She states further that Dr. Davis' surgical instruments are displayed in the Sam Davis museum.

<sup>5</sup> Like Walter Keeble, Adelbert Smith was a private in the 45<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry. He is referred to in a subsequent letter in the Burkholder transcription as "Cousin" Adelbert Smith.

<sup>6</sup> Probably referring to Elizabeth and Benjamin Rucker, niece and nephew of Walter's wife. In the following sentence, Walter refers to himself as their "Uncle Wat."



Photographs courtesy of Virginia Gooch Watson  
MTGS officer and Keeble descendant

# Mexican American War Stories – John Bartleson, A Volunteer

*By Bart Bartleson*

**Although the following story is about an Illinois soldier, it shines light on the attitudes and fates of many young Tennesseans who joined John Bartleson in the great western adventure that became known as the Mexican War. Author Bart Bartleson, a resident of Brentwood in Williamson County, is a descendant of John Bartleson.**



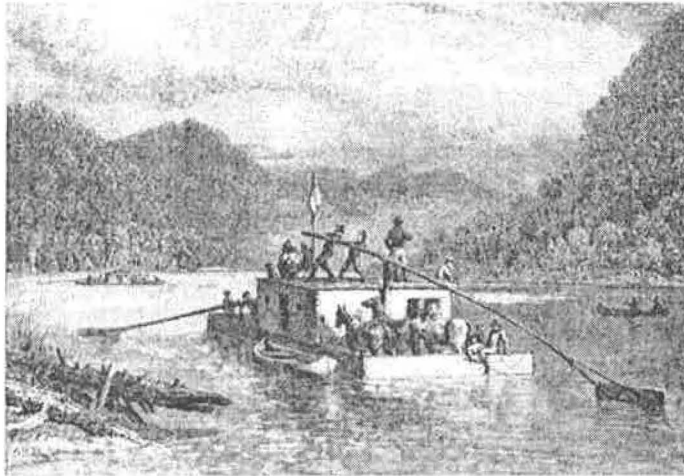
*John Bartleson*

I was approached by Virginia Watson, an able and dedicated volunteer at the Brentwood Martin Center of Fifty Forward, to write an article for the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society's journal on my ancestor's involvement in the Mexican-American War of 1847. I have known Virginia since she began facilitating a genealogical group that meets monthly at the Center. One of the recent topics dealt with Tennessee's involvement in that War. Tennessean's should have a speaking knowledge of this conflict because it defined our State's moniker – The Volunteer State. Contrary to local hearsay, the title does not emanate from a superior football tradition! As the reader knows, its roots are in the fact that a disproportionate number of volunteer soldiers in the expeditionary campaign into Mexico came from Tennessee. President James K. Polk, a Tennessean himself, is said to have commented that his home state was indeed – "The Volunteer State". I would certainly rather be known by that slogan than the one attributed to my home state – Missouri – "The Show Me State."

My interest in the Mexican War is quite personal and speaks to a wonder of genealogical research. Much of the time we spend in tracing the trail of our - or others' - ancestors results in a bland landscape along the road. Births, deaths, marriages, land transactions, and – of course – census records do not inspire us to stop and smell the roses. However, some of us are privileged to find ancestors who defined their life by service to our country.

Some times that service is so painful they leave no history of it other than official military records. The family and descendants have no knowledge of their experience because the veteran never discussed it. I had an uncle who served in WWII and with whom I was very close while growing up. He had a facial scar which he explained to me came from being "kicked by a mule." Today I think it was a wound suffered in battle. My direct ancestor who served in the Mexican-American War did not live to tell about it, however, his children had a tradition of writing their memories. A wonderful compendium<sup>1</sup> was written by Prof. Marvin Layman of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and is in the Williamson Co., Tenn., Library under the watchful eye of Dorris Douglas, Archivist. Having a written history makes a bland trail become a personal vista. My wish is that all who travel the genealogy trail may come upon a "vista" at least once.

I would not have written this piece had I not believed that it is our sacred duty, maybe our God-given responsibility, to honor and remember those who serve and served our country. I did not serve. The majority of my ancestors



The Bartlesons traveled to Illinois in a flatboat, not unlike this one shown on the Mississippi River. (Abraham Lincoln iNet Project)

did serve one great-great-grandfather and six great-great-uncles in the Civil War and many others in subsequent wars.

Only one died in battle. That was John Bartleson, my great great-great-grandfather, who died at the age of 46 on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1847 at the hand of General Santa Anna during the battle of Buena Vista, Mexico, in the command of General John Ellis Wool, USA.

This is his story.

### Mexican-American War Stories – John Bartleson: A Volunteer

John Bartleson spent most of his adult life in Grand Chain, Illinois (70 miles Northeast of Cairo, Illinois) on the banks of the Ohio River. He literally “landed” there with his wife, Mary Wilson Chapman Bartleson, when their “houseboat” couldn’t overcome the Chain of Rocks in the river. Where they were heading no one knows. He established a farm, practiced his trade as a tailor, and helped found the Christian Church. He was able to read and write and became a pillar of the small farming community. His family grew and by 1839 he had ten children, three girls and seven boys. My great-great-grandfather, John Wool Bartleson, their last child, had not yet been born.

While farm and family life in the Midwest proceeded apace, events in the Southwest and Washington in the 1840’s placed war clouds over a nation not really looking for war. Texas was admitted to the Union and cried for revenge against Mexico and Santa Anna for the Alamo and other grievances. President Polk was balancing these requests against a possible war with Britain over Oregon. He was diligently trying not to fight anybody. It didn’t work out. Without any preparation or consultation with the Army, Polk ordered Zachary Taylor to move a force to the Rio Grande and “sit tight.” Soon Taylor was attacked by – or attacked the – Mexican army and the war was on.

Polk issued a call for volunteers to join Taylor and Winfield Scott on the first expeditionary force to invade a sovereign foreign country. The regular Army was a modest group and to send ten to twenty thousand troops across the border would require a massive enlistment. The call was answered in the Fall of 1846 from all the states. Southern states, followed by Midwestern and Northern states provided the needed troops and enlistment centers opened across the country. One opened in Cairo, Illinois. Back on the farm, John was being pestered unmercifully by his two twenty-year-old sons, Edwin and Gus, to allow them to enlist. His other sons were old enough to work the farm and therefore he allowed it. Here’s where irony takes this story to the next level. Remember, John was a part time tailor. Somehow he convinced his wife that he needed a “road trip.” He decided to go along with the two boys to Cairo to make sure their uniforms fit. Just a few days down and back and he would return to run the farm. Well, when John got to Cairo, he got “jingoed” up and enlisted as an officer. He had the credentials – a horse and the ability to read and write. No matter he was a farmer who had never been in the military –or the militia – for that matter! Maybe he signed on to be the battalion tailor. Anyway, John’s wife was left with the farm, eight children, pregnant with



ZACHARY TAYLOR,  
10th President of the United States.



my great great grandfather, and who knows what other travails. In my hometown of Kansas City, there is a statue to "The Prairie Woman." She is Mary Wilson Chapman Bartleson!



Zachary Taylor at the Battle of Buena Vista.  
(Library of Congress American Memory Project)

They left in the Fall of 1846 and with General Wool began a river/overland trek to Mexico. Meanwhile, Taylor and a reluctant Scott were heading to New Orleans and from there by boat to the east coast of Mexico to land at the mouth of the Rio Grande. The plan was a classic pincer movement with Taylor going west to Monterrey and Wool coming overland through Texas and entering Mexico somewhere west of Laredo. It all came together with Taylor taking Monterrey and Wool having an unimpeded trek through some rough country. Guess who obliged the Americans? Santa Anna was kind enough to bring his 10,000 person army up from Mexico City through the back door to Monterrey – the small town of Auga Nueva and the even smaller town of Buena Vista. These towns are northwest of the current major industrial city of Saltillo. I have personally visited the site and it is today – barren.

So on the evening of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1847 Taylor and Wool had joined forces at Buena Vista, with Santa Anna just over the hill at Auga Nueva. Santa Anna accommodated the Americans again by force - marching his troops for 48 hours to get near the Buena Vista valley. Military historians have no explanation for this march, but all agree it cost him the battle. Some skirmishing occurred in the afternoon, but Santa Anna did not make his charge until the morning of the 23<sup>rd</sup>. John and his sons were in the thick of it. An Indiana company in front of the Illinois troops broke and ran. Edwin and Gus literally headed for the hills – foothills surrounding the valley. Meanwhile, John, armed only with a sword, perished on the blade of a lancer.

The battle was over in a matter of hours when Taylor brought up his Mississippi Rifles. These troops had the latest cartridge rifles which devastated the Mexican forces. The Americans regrouped and drove Santa Anna back into central Mexico. Shortly, Mexico City was taken and the war ended. The United States acquired from Mexico what is today our Southwest and California. Other than the casualties of the War, the land was free.



Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana

### Epilogue

Edwin and Gus returned to Grand Chain without their father's body. They relayed that he was buried with other Americans in a mass grave on the battlefield. My great great grandfather was born posthumously in April, 1847. Mary Wilson Chapman Bartleson lived until 1868, running the farm and raising her family. The Bartleson family held family reunions in Grand Chain yearly until 1940. Recently the living descendants of John and Mary (some 200 strong) have renewed that tradition.

One of the documents discovered in the National Archives as a part of Mary's widow's pension records was a hand written letter from John written to her a few days before the battle. I have included the transcription, not because it is from my ancestor, but because too many of these letters exist in family heirlooms across this nation. They represent the answer to the unanswered question raised by families who have lost loved ones. Why did they do it? I hope you will take another moment and read it – especially the highlighted sections.

### John Bartleson's Last Letter<sup>3</sup>

February 7th 1847

Saltillo Mexico

*Dear wife and children I am just Relieved from guard duty it is a butyfull morning though I feel reither bad from the loss of sleep I am in good health Edwin is well Augustus is a little indisposed this morning He had a chill last night and is taking medicine our company is generally well and in good spirrits we had an alarm last Sunday night 8 oclock Jan 31st and in 2 minits after the alarm we had our Regiment formed in Line of battle ready for the attact but it proved to be a false alarm occationed by some mexican prisoners breaking out of their prison and was fired on by their guards*

*General Wool applauded us very high for our promptness in performing our duty. General Taylor arrived hear on the same evening of the alarm and on monday he visited our camp he is a vary plane looking man vary much Resembling a plane looking old farmer he has marched about 20 miles from hear on the road to San Louis Potosio a distance of 4 hundred miles from this place we exspect to join Taylor in a few days and then prosede to that place with this command which is about a thousand strong and thare Join General Scott and spedily end the contest **and if it is my lot to fall in battle I exspect to die fighting for my country but if I chance to get in battle I do not exspect to fall if the war continues it is quiet uncertain when we will return therefore I wish the boys to put in as much crop as they can tend well by their industry and by hireing I wish you plant 3 acres in irish potatoes and select the Largest and best Seed you can get and plant them whole I hope you will all use industry and economy and you will prosper***

*I reed your John 23d dated Sept. 15th which afforded me much pleashure in hearing you ware all well I should have ritten sooner but I hav ben waiting for an answer to a letter which I sent by Capt. Webb from Monclova which I hav not yet reed Capt. W. A. Hughs reed one from Webb last night and I do exspect one from you soon write to me at least once a month and I wish the boys and girls to write to me to Direct your letters to John Bartleson 1st Liet. 2d Reg. Ills voll General Wool division mexico I remember my respects to you all and all inquirring friends I remain your affectionate Husband and father.*

[signed] J Bartleson

#### Notes

1. *Bartlesons of Grand Chain*, Marvin V. Layman © 1998
2. *Climax at Buena Vista: The Decisive Battle of the Mexican-American War*, David Lavender, Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, 2003 (ISBN 0-8122-1860-4)
3. Reprinted with permission from *Bartlesons of Grand Chain*, pp. 24-25.

# Davidson County Civil War Claims

## *Allowed for Payment by the Southern Claims Commission*

### Part IV of a Series



Following the Civil War, many residents of Middle Tennessee attempted to get compensation from the Federal government for damage done to their property by the Union Army as it marched through their towns, raided their barns and camped in their fields. The Southern Claims Commission was established in 1871 to review the claims of Southerners. Only those deemed to have been loyal to the Union throughout the war were eligible to receive payment for damages.

More than 20,000 people filed claims with the commission; the records show that fewer than one-third recovered anything. The records of these "allowed" claims are located at the National Archives. Files pertaining to those who were rejected have been microfilmed and are available at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. The files of those claimants who were allowed some payment have not been filmed and

can be viewed only at the National Archives branch in College Park, Maryland.

The following abstracts are based on the claims of Davidson County residents who were deemed loyal Unionists and allowed payment by the Commissioners for Southern Claims.

#### **James W. Goostree**

Age 70; filed 1871; file consists of 76 pp. Claimed \$393 for lumber and corn.

#### **Commissioners' Remarks:**

"In 1860 the claimant moved from Gallatin Tenn., where he had been keeping a hotel, to Nashville. He leased the hotel at Gallatin. The proof shows that he was loyal.... He was once arrested by the confederates, never by the federals. He had sons in the confederate army and one in the Union army. He filed a claim for commissary stores before the Driver Board at Nashville and was then found loyal. In 1862 or 1863 the Union troops at Gallatin took down an "L" annexed to and forming part of the hotel at Gallatin and a smokehouse and board fence around the hotel premises, and used the materials for the erection of soldiers' quarters. A cow was taken for the use of the Union army about the same time.... In tearing down buildings the full quantity of

lumber required in their construction cannot be made available for further use — probably one-half is destroyed or rendered worthless and that used is second hand and much less valuable than new lumber. For the army, the cow was not worth more than one-half the amount charged. The high prices of the war were not reached when this property was taken. We recommend the payment of \$197."

#### **Notes:**

Goostree left Gallatin in 1860 and rented out his hotel. When the Federals occupied the town, Gen. Payne ordered them to take possession of the hotel, where they remained about 18 months. The part they tore down was the kitchen. During the war he lived in Edgefield, Davidson Co., where he kept a boarding house. From April 1861 to Feb. 1862 he had no regular home, was sometimes at Gallatin, Lebanon and Nashville, and had no regular business. He was arrested in Bowling Green

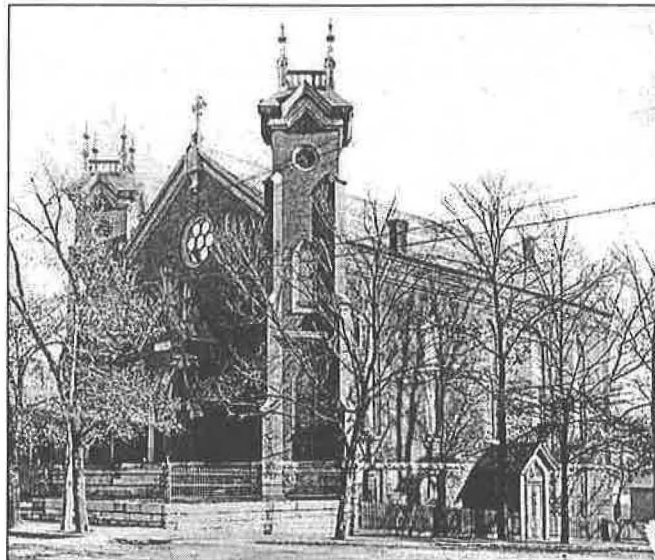
late in 1862 by Maj. Williams of the Confederate Army, was there one day before friends got him released. His sons R.J., R.C. and M.V. Goosetree were in the Confederate Army and T.W. Goosetree was in the United States Army.

#### Witnesses

- A.B. Shankland, age 56, has known claimant 10 years. "Throughout the dark days of treason and rebellion he stood forth as an uncompromising friend of the Government of the United States."
- W.C. Blue, age 47, house carpenter and furniture dealer, of Gallatin, lived across the street from claimant during the war. Saw the kitchen, smokehouse and fences torn down.
- Samuel P. McKoin, age 49, cabinet workman and carpenter, saw the buildings torn down. Soldiers also took the windows and glass out of the main building and doors off the hinges, and carried them away.
- W.D. Haggard, age 40, lived in Gallatin from 1851 through the war, has known claimant since 1851.
- James O'Donnell, age 32, boarded with claimant's son in Edgefield and saw claimant's cow taken from the commons. At that time Gen. Smith's command was encamped on the river about a mile from where the cow was taken. The command stayed there about 16 months.
- G.B. Wright, age 36, coal merchant, of Gallatin, has lived there 25 years, has known claimant since 1855, was postmaster at Gallatin from 1863-1870. When he visited Nashville he boarded with claimant. When Goosetree left Gallatin for Nashville his sons were grown and were not with him.
- W.J. Weakley, age 55, of Edgefield, dry goods and grocery business, has known claimant 15 or 18 years. Claimant lived on Main Street opposite Weakley's store in Edgefield for a year before moving into Nashville to run a boarding house.
- W.D. Haggard, physician, was a member of the firm of Haggard & McKinley, claims agents in Gallatin, and has a record of Goosetree's 1865 claim for lumber taken by the Union army.

#### Joseph W. Griffin

Age 56; filed 1871; file consists of 30 pp. Claimed \$246 for a horse, timber, weather boarding, lumber, board fencing, cedar posts.



The Edgefield Baptist Church was built in 1873 near where James Goosetree lived.  
([www.nashvillewebreview.com](http://www.nashvillewebreview.com))

#### Commissioners' Remarks:

"The claimant resided at Nashville before and during the war. He voted no convention and no separation. Was a member of the Union Club at Nashville in Feb. 1863. He aided union soldiers and refugees. Was threatened in 1861 by the rebel Vigilance Comm. and ordered to leave the country. Was occasionally a scout and guide for the federal forces. Helped recruit colored troops for the U.S. Army in 1864. Loyalty proved. The horse was taken in 1862. Cedar timber and fencing also proved. Other items not satisfactorily proved."

#### Notes:

Griffin is a stone mason and lived in Nashville for 12 years prior to the war. During the war he was a lumber dealer. He was arrested by Gen. Morgan twice in 1862 and 1863, but was only detained a few hours. All his relatives were in the Union Army, none nearer than cousins. Griffin estimates he spent \$1,400 feeding federal soldiers. His Union Club membership card is in the file, dated Feb. 21, 1863, and signed by Jno. Henry Smith, President; on the verso it is inscribed "J.M. Griffin per A.B. Shankland." File also contains Griffin's appointment as a recruiting agent for U.S. Colored Troops, dated in Nashville 18 Jan. 1864, signed by Maj. Jno. H. Cochran.

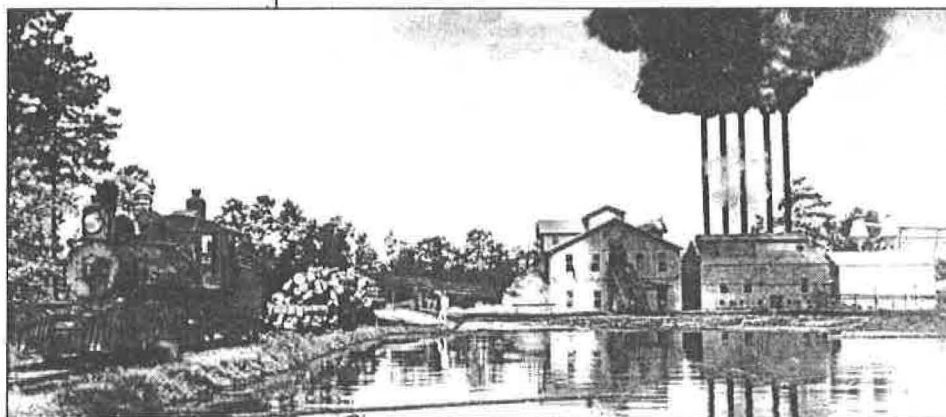
#### Witnesses:

- P.G. Green, age 37, merchant, has lived in Nashville 19 years, has known claimant 15 years.



- Thomas Scribner, age 57, sawyer in sawmill, has lived in Nashville 24 years, has known claimant 20 years or more. They both belonged to the Union Club before the United States Army arrived in Nashville. Saw the troops take the lumber at the claimants house.

Civil War era sawmill  
([www.texasbeyondhistory.net](http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net))



### Samuel Larkin

Age 31; filed 1872; file consists of 29 pp. Claimed \$400 for a mule and three horses.

#### Commissioners' Remarks:

"The claimant, a colored man, lived at Huntsville, Ala. He was a slave. In 1862 he left Huntsville and came with Col Chapin's (Union) regiment to Nashville and worked in the regiment for some months and earned money. In '63 he began work for himself, bought 3 horses and a mule, obviously rather poor animals, and began hauling goods and property for merchants and others; ran what he calls an Express. He appears to have been industrious, intelligent and thrifty. Three witnesses testify that to their knowledge he owned the property and used it as he says in hauling. Two are whites, and one of them sold him one of the horses. The other witness is colored. The evidence is satisfactory to show ownership. The taking is fully proved and the use of the mule and horses by the army. No doubt of his loyalty. The animals were of rather a poor quality and fit only for hauling and we allow for them \$350."

#### Notes:

He lives near McWhirtersville, ten miles from Nashville on the Lebanon Turnpike, has lived near there since 1864. He kept his animals in a stable on Vine St. near Church. In Aug. 1863 a squad of soldiers took his animals, wagons and dray and took them to a government yard on the corner of Broad and Spruce streets. One of his drivers came to him where he was working on Cedar St. and informed him of the taking. He pursued them out Franklin Pike and asked the officer to return his stock. The officer refused, but did allow him to take his wagons and the blind horse that had been left in the yard. He saw his animals many

times afterward being driven in government teams. He was previously the slave of Geo. W. Drake at Huntsville. Since the war has been farming part of the time and carrying on a barber shop.

#### Witnesses:

- Richard Liarson, has lived in Nashville all his life. Sold Larkin one of the horses. Saw Larkin every day during the war.
- William Peters, age 26, lives 11 miles from Nashville on Lebanon Pike, has lived in Davidson Co. all his life. During the war he worked for the government's Medical Purveyor's office under Surgeon Fletcher. Has known claimant since 1862.
- James Mahan, age 38, colored, has lived in Nashville since Dec. 1852. Has known claimant since 1862.

### Lopp Lewis

Age 37; filed 1872; file consists of 37 pp. Claimed \$2940 for 42 head of cattle.

#### Commissioners' Remarks:

"The claimant was a German butcher in Nashville during the war. The proof of loyalty is satisfactory. We refer to the evidence and the report of Enos Richmond, Special Agent. The claimant had 72 cattle in a pasture about 2 ½ miles from Nashville. A body of Union soldiers came along by the pasture with a herd of cattle and took down the fence and turned the cattle into their drove. Claimant reclaimed 30, the other 42 were taken for Army use. This was in the fall of '63. In '62 such cattle were estimated at about \$15 per head – see allowances of the Driver Board. In 1863 they were somewhat higher. One witness says they were estimated

at 5 cents per gross weight. The estimated weight is no doubt much exaggerated. As they were cattle purchased as a butcher in his trade, they were worth perhaps more than the average. We allow \$25 per head. We allow \$1050."

**Notes:**

His cattle were pastured on land rented from Horace Scales. He made an effort to get them all back but only succeeded in getting 30 before the soldiers threatened to shoot him. He went to the officer in command asking for a voucher, but was told "he had no instructions to issue receipts.... They treated me with insolence and threatened to shoot me if I did not leave." Lopp lived in Nashville on a 95' lot with two residences on it. Before Ft. Donelson fell he was threatened with violence by a Capt. of the Rock City Guards., so he went into hiding. In 1862 he worked for the Union Army and was paid \$45 per month.



Hume R. Field,  
Colonel of Nashville's  
Rock City Guards,  
C.S.A.

**Witnesses:**

- George Acklin, age 25, was employed by Col. Charles H. Irwin, Quarter Master at Nashville under Gen. Rosecrans in fall 1863, and was sent out to help herd a lot of cattle on the Harding Pike. The cattle were being sent out to feed until they could be shipped to the front for army use. He saw Lopp's cattle taken and was there when Lopp protested. Among the soldiers and workers he remembers these black men: Jim Gorden; Ike Pittman; Henry Bilbow; Ben Pittman.
- Augustus Miller, age 31, butcher, brother-in-law of claimant, knew him previous to the war. "He was one of the first men to join the Union Club at Nashville...." Miller was present at the taking. When they tried to get the cattle back the soldiers "said the cattle were taken to feed the soldiers upon and they cursed us for damned rebels and threatened to shoot us.... I was not a Union man."
- William H. Wilkinson, age 59, justice of the peace, has known claimant 12 or 15 years, spoke to him nearly every day during the war.

- Robert Weidnuller, age 61, merchant, has known claimant 15 years.
- Enos Richmond, Special Agent, stated in 1875 that he examined the books of the Union Club of Nashville for 1863 and found Lopp was a prominent member and well vouched for when admitted to the club. Leading Union men vouched for his loyalty, though his brother was in the Confederate service.

**Lucas R. Washington (estate)**

Filed 1872; file consists of 40 pp. Claimed \$1,162 for rails, cordwood, smoke house, frame house.

**Commissioners' Remarks:**

"The father of claimants, a farmer, lived on his farm in Davidson Co. Mr. A.B. Shankland, a well-known and respectable Union man, testifies strongly to the claimant's loyalty. Three other witnesses also prove his loyal reputation. In the awards made by the Driver Board upon this claim it is said by the Board, "Mr. Lucas is an undoubted Union man." This testimony all refers to W.R. Lucas, deceased, who died in 1868 and on behalf of whose heirs this claim is presented. The two heirs were minors at the close of the war, not over 16 years old. We find loyalty fully proven. The property was taken by Gen. Buell's command in 1862 and in 1863, while they were encamped near claimant's farm. The claim was submitted to the Driver Board at Nashville and was allowed for Quarter Master's stores at the sum of \$797 and \$200 for damage to the estate. The damage we cannot allow, but the proof is ample to sustain the allowance of \$797 ... as this allowance was made at the time and on the spot by a tribunal established to settle claims, and seems now fully confirmed by the proofs. We allow in all \$797."

**Notes:**

Claimants are John and Foster G. Lucas, heirs of Washington R. Lucas. They were minors during the war. Their mother died in 1857 and their father died 8 Jan. 1868. Foster Lucas, age 23, is a fireman on the Tenn. & Pacific Railroad. His father's home and 157 acre farm was 3½ miles from Nashville on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad. The federal army camped on their place three different times in 1862 and 1863. His father complained to the authorities about the property taken and they agreed he was a loyal man and

should be paid. There was no administration of his father's estate. John Lucas, age 25, has lived in Davidson County all his life. The soldiers gathered the articles up and burned them there on the premises for firewood. The bricks from the smokehouse were used to make chimneys for their tents.

#### Witnesses:

- W.G. Lyle, age 27, resides eight miles from Nashville since 1869, previous to that lived 20 years adjoining Lucas place.
- Lewis Lucas, age 38, colored, lived on the W.R. Lucas farm all his life until 1864 when he moved to Nashville. The smokehouse was brick and measured 16' x 18', the frame house was about 18' x 20'.
- A.B. Shankland, age 56, has lived in Nashville for 29 years, he has "always been a known Union man, known as such by everyone in the County." Knew W.R. Lucas from 1858 to his death, lived near him and was with him frequently. Believes the only reason the rebels allowed Lucas to remain at home "was because he was born here and known to be an honest man in all his convictions." He died leaving little or no property "and his boys are poor and deserving."

#### D.A. McGreedy

Age 43; filed 1873; file consists of 42 pp. Claimed \$1,656 for potatoes, carrots, hay, corn, horse, cattle, flour, ham, salt, sugar, coffee, candles, scantling, cedar boards and cedar pickets.

#### Commissioners' Remarks:

"Claimant's loyalty is established by his own statements and the testimony of his witnesses. He was a native of the north of Ireland and resided some time in Cincinnati, whence he moved to Nashville where he became a naturalized citizen before the war. He voted no convention and was in principle and feeling against secession and rebellion. Two witnesses testify to his loyal conversation and reputation. He was in no way complicated with the rebellion and there seems no reason to question his loyalty. Claimant's premises included 9 acres devoted in part to vegetable gardening in the suburbs of Nashville. A division of the army under Gen. Stanley camped there early in Dec. 1864 and remained a week or so, using and destroying in the meantime all claimant's property, even burning his

Page No. 447.

HOUSEHOLDS 1- Free Inhabitants in 10 District in the County of Davidson State of Tennessee enumerated by me, on the 26 day of June 1860. (See Return) South Western Post Office Nashville

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No.	Name	Sex	Age	Color	Profession, Occupation, or Rank of Soldier, Sailor, Merchant, or other	Years in House		Value of Real Estate	Value of Personal Estate	Value of Stock, Horses, Cattle, Swine, or other	Value of other property, or goods
						Married	Single				
1	David McCrady	M	30	W	Gardener						
2	Hannah	F	20	W							
3	Ana	F	2	W							
4	William Sickard	M	35	W	Gardener						
5	William Sickard	M	35	W	Gardener						
6	William Sickard	M	35	W	Gardener						
7	William Sickard	M	35	W	Gardener						
8	William Sickard	M	35	W	Gardener						
9	William Sickard	M	35	W	Gardener						
10	William Sickard	M	35	W	Gardener						

The 1860 census of Nashville's 10<sup>th</sup> District shows David McCrady age 30 with Hannah (20) and Ana (2). David and Hannah were both born in Ireland. David and his neighbor William Sickard, from Saxony, were both Gardeners. On the previous page is found Ivana McCrady, also age 30 and born in Ireland, whose occupation is clearly recorded as "Prostitute."

dwelling to get range[?] for their guns. The claimant made a memorandum at the time of things taken as well as things destroyed, which is on file with the papers in the case. The carrots and potatoes were in the field and in the ground, and it is said he raised 10 acres of corn

also in the field and no evidence that it was taken as supplies. There is evidence as to the taking of the other items, and we allow therefore the sum of \$623.50."

#### Notes:

McGreedy is a nursery man and florist he resided and still lives on nine acres two miles from the square on the Hillsboro Turnpike, where he settled in 1856. "On one occasion I had been in Nashville and had drank too much beer and as I was going out the provost guard arrested me and carried me before Col. Stanley Mather whom I knew in Cincinnati before I came to Tennessee. He at once recognized me and ordered my release." Patrick Cleary, now dead, told me I had been spotted as an abolitionist and would have to leave the state. A week before the Battle of Nashville the outer line of the federal fortifications ran along the southern line of his 9 acres, the earthworks were right before his picket fence. The 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Division camped along there by his spring. A colonel came to his house, at breakfast with him and said, "Mr. McGreedy, I am afraid we will have to take from you whatever you have for man or beast,

and we will have to take your fences, lumber and whatever you have that we have need of to fix up our fortifications, camp & etc." "I knew that if the army needed the property they would take it, and so I made no objections. There were upwards of 500 men there with him." An ambulance passing by had a lame horse, and they took McGreedy's horse out of the lot in its place. The examiner asked, "Did these troops not have plenty of rations of coffee, sugar, sale, meat & etc.?" McGreedy: "The Colonel said not. The fact was when the army first came there they were pretty hard ran or said they were. They said they had great difficulty in drawing rations, there was such a crowd of soldiers here. Most nearly all of my things were taken the very next day after they came...." Three days after they army came the rebels made an advance and the US line fell back to the north side of his lot, while the rebel skirmish line came up near to the south side. They remained there until the battle, sharp-shooting at each other across his farm. "The U.S. forces set fire to my dwelling house to prevent the rebels from using it or a hiding place.... Nothing of that is included in this claim." He came to America in 1849, and was naturalized in Nashville in 1853 or '54. Andrew Logan, now dead, was present when his property was taken.

#### Witnesses:

- R.S. Tuthill, Special Commissioner, inserted this parenthetic remark after claimant's statement that the weather was cold when the soldiers burned his fences: "I was there myself a soldier in the USA and I know it was cold." He also wrote in the summary "He is a man of standing and good education, a fine florist."
- John Martin, age 62, carpenter, builder and draughtsman, met claimant when he first came to Nashville. They were both from the north of Ireland and became friends, and worked together. He wrote a list of property taken from McGreedy's at the time of the taking, the original dated 12/10/64 is attached to his statement.
- A.J. Tynes, age 41, merchant, brother-in-law of claimant, they having married sisters. Lived on adjoining lots.
- Andrew Gregory, age 56, farmer.
- John Thompson, age 46, clerk in Dixie Oil Factory, has known claimant 17 years. Claimant hid at his house when he was driven from home by the rebels.

*To Be Continued*

## Mabry Sampler Corrected

The editor regrets that an error was made in "Clues in Stitches: Genealogical Records in Tennessee Samplers" by Janet S. Hasson, published in the Fall 2007 issue (p.48).

The correct information from the Mabry sampler, pictured here, follows.



Mabry family register, c. 1834. Knox Co. 20 1/4" V x 20 3/4" H. Mabry-Hazen House, Knoxville. TSS 182.

#### A. REGISTER

Joseph. A. Mabry. Was born.	March. 19. 1796
Alse. H. Scot. Was born.	APril. 30 1800
They. Was. Married.	Dec. 5. 1820
	<b>Births Deaths</b>
George W. Mabry	July 21 1823
Joseph. A. Mabry	Jan. 26 1825
Polly. P. Mabry	March. 13. 1827
Margaret. P. Mabry	Dec. 21. 1828
CalPhurna. Mabry	April. 12. 1831
Rowena. G. Mabry	July. 23. 1833 Jan. 13, 1834



# A Million Tennessee Birth Records prior to 1908

## Mining the Delayed Birth Certificate files at the Tennessee State Library and Archives



"Birth and death registration in Tennessee did not begin until 1908," the cheerful staff at the Tennessee State Library and Archives must say many times each day. "With a few exceptions," they may add, thinking of the brief period in 1881-1882 when some counties registered births, and the early records maintained in the cities of Memphis, Nashville, Knoxville and Chattanooga. And it's all true, and frustrating for the beginning genealogist who suddenly realizes that a trail of birth records back to 1796 is not available to link them to that Cherokee Chief or Princess ancestor.

However, there are nearly a million delayed birth records on file for people born in Tennessee prior to 1908. These were filed with the state as Delayed Birth Certificates by people born before 1908 who wanted or needed to prove their birth. The records dating 100 years old or older have been released for public inspection, as state law provides, and can be used at the State Library and Archives.

Files for applicants with birthdates prior to 1900 are compiled on 114 reels of microfilm. Files for applicants born 1901 and later are arranged year-by-year. The total collection numbers more than 900,000 (not quite a million, but nearly so!). Men and women applying for Social Security or railroad pensions, people who needed to prove their births in order to apply for jobs, and others who simply wanted to set the records straight all filed information to obtain a delayed birth certificate.

A single alphabetical index to all these records makes searching easier. The index is a great tool in itself, as it provides name, birth date, county of birth, and mother's first name and initial. Although records later than 1907 are still confidential under state law, the index includes the entire collection, showing some birth dates as late as 1913. The names on the index are grouped by the Soundex coding system.

Here are the index entries for the surname Abernathy for births in Grundy County. This group of records is representative of those which might be found on any other surname in any Tennessee county.

Surname	Given Name	County	Mother	Date	Certificate
Abernathy	Omalee	Grundy	Myrtle L.	8/29/05	29243
Abernathy	Tennessee Franklin	Grundy	Mary E.W.	8/9/82	62764
Abernathy	William Clayton	Grundy	Mary E.W.	6/27/78	272661
Abernathy	Mary Louise	Grundy	Sallie D.B.	10/7/01	447473
Abernathy	Clara Louise	Grundy	Clara L.J.	4/19/01	475380
Abernathy	Edgar Firth	Grundy	Sallie D.B.	5/11/04	545103

The certificate numbers provided on the index lead the researcher to more information. Most files will contain a copy of the newly-minted Delayed Birth Certificate for the individual, the current name and residence of the applicant, a summary of the evidence used to prove the birth date, and at least one statement by someone who was present at the birth or has known the individual since childhood.

The following summaries of the Abernathy files will provide the reader with a good idea of the kind of information they may find when looking in the Delayed Birth Certificate records for their own relatives.

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### **William Clayton Abernathy – 1878**

Filed Jan. 24, 1944. His residence is not given. He was born 27 June 1878 to Thomas Coke Abernathy (born in Mississippi) and Mary E Walker (born in Tenn.). The certificate was issued Feb. 15, 1944. Items of proof:

1. Family Bible record of births, undated. (The present owner of the Bible is not given.)
  2. U.S. Census record dated June 1, 1880.
  3. Affidavit of J.V. Walker, uncle, age 77, of Tracy City. He stated "I have known registrant from his birth. Lived near them at the time of his birth. His mother was my sister."
  4. Affidavit of T.L. Cannon, not related, age 78, of Tracy City. "I have known registrant from his infancy."
- 

### **Tennessee Franklin Abernathy – 1882**

She was born 9 Aug. 1882 in Tarlton, Grundy County, to Thomas C. Abernathy (born in Ripley, Miss.) and Mary E. Walker (born in Tarlton). The parents were married, and she was the eighth child born to her mother. The certificate was issued July 1, 1941. Items of proof:

1. Affidavit of sister, Mrs. Della Roberts, age 69, of Tracy City.
  2. Affidavit of W.G[?] Warren, age 81, of Tracy City, who was not related but had actual knowledge of the facts of the birth at the time it occurred.
  3. Grundy County Clerk & Master, W.C. Abernathy, wrote "The original Bible record of birth of the children of Thomas C. and Mary Abernathy was presented to me, which shows that Tennessee Franklin Abernathy was born August 9, 1882."
- 

### **Clara Louise Abernathy – 1901**

Filed 24 Apr. 1956 by Clara Louise A. Smith of 213 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. She was born 19 April 1901 in Tracy City, Grundy County, to James Greenwood Abernathy and Clara Lily Johnson. The parents were both born in Tennessee. The certificate was approved and issued 21 Aug. 1956. Items of proof:

1. Family Bible owned by Clara J. Abernathy; the first date recorded in the Bible was 1900.
  2. Birth certificate of Frank Hughes Smith, son of the applicant, issued in 1927 in Tennessee.
  3. Affidavit of her mother, Clara Abernathy, age 78, a resident of Ft. Lauderdale.  
Affidavit of "non-relative" Mrs. Kaspar Banholzer, of Tracy City, Tenn., who stated "I saw her shortly after she was born. I have known her mother for over 70 years." Notarized by Oma Lee Garthwaite, Tracy City.
- 

### **Mary Louise Abernathy – 1901**

Filed 25 Mar. 1955 by Mary Louise Abernathy Scruggs, 1840 Overbrook Dr., Clearwater, Florida. She was born 7 Oct. 1901 in Tatesville, Grundy County, to Zedekiah Firth Abernathy and Sallie Dixie Brashear (both born in Tennessee). The certificate was approved and issued 13 Apr. 1955. Items of proof:

1. Family Bible. "A very old Bible belonging to Zedekiah F. Abernathy and Sallie Dixie Brashear Abernathy," not dated. (Present owner of the Bible is not given.)
2. Registration Certificate #428 issued in Pinellas Co., Florida, in 1944.
3. Affidavit of her aunt, Franklin Abernathy, age 73, of Tracy City. "I had actual knowledge of this child's birth. I have been closely associated with her all of her life."
4. Affidavit of non-relative E.W. Cheek, age 80, of Tracy City. "The family lived in Grundy County at the time. I knew the family well."

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### Edgar Firth Abernathy – 1904

Filed June 8, 1962 by Edgar, a resident of Dunedin, Florida. He was born 11 May 1904 in Tracy City, Grundy County, to Zedekiah Firth Abernathy and Sallie Dixie Brashear. The parents were both born in Tennessee. The certificate was approved 5 July 1962. Items of proof:

1. Family Bible owned by Frank Abernathy of Clearwater, Florida; the Bible is dated 1896.
2. Life insurance policy with New York Life Insurance Co., dated 1934.
3. Affidavit of his aunt, Franklin Abernathy, age 79, of Tracy City. She stated, "I knew about this birth when it occurred. I have been in touch with and have known him all of his life."
4. Affidavit of Mrs. Della Roberts, age 90, of Tracy City. "I knew when this birth occurred. I have known him all my life." Both affidavits were notarized by Oma Lee (Abernathy) Garthwaite in Tracy City.

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### Omalee Abernathy – 1905

The current name and residence of the applicant are not stated, nor is the filing date. She was born 29 Aug. 1905 in Altamont, Grundy County, to Wm. Clayton Abernathy (born in Grundy Co.) and Myrtle Lasater (born in Salem, Oregon). She was the first child born to her mother. The parents were married. The certificate was issued Jan. 16, 1941. Items of proof:

1. Affidavit of mother, Myrtle Abernathy, age 58, of Tracy City.
2. Affidavit of Mrs. A.L. Lockhart, age 70, of Altamont, who "had actual knowledge ... of birth at the time ... I am not related to this person." Notarized by W.C. Abernathy.

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These examples make it easy to see how the Delayed Birth Certificate records can help genealogists piece together information about families. In addition to providing data about previously unrecorded births, they may also help track down family Bibles, show relationships between individuals, prove how many children were born to certain mothers, and provide many other details and clues that whet the appetites of family historians.

For more information, or for assistance in searching these records, contact the staff in the Microfilm Reading Room of the Tennessee State Library and Archives, or consult them by e-mail at [reference.tsla@state.tn.us](mailto:reference.tsla@state.tn.us).

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## A Political Appointment for B.S. Tappan

Vicksburg, Oct. 31, 1851

[To] His Excellency, W.B. Campbell.

My Dear Sir,

*Although I do not solicit appointments of any kind for myself, I sometimes do, for my friends when I know they are worthy. And it is now my purpose to solicit from you the appointment of B.S. Tappan, Jr., of New Orleans, as a Commissioner for Tennessee to take depositions, probate of deeds & etc. in the State of Tennessee. Mr. T. is the son of Genl. B.S. Tappan of this place & formerly of Franklin, Tennessee. I know Mr. Tappan Jr. well. He is a young man of fine promise, undoubtable integrity & good business habits. He may be confidentially relied on. His appointment would be gratifying to me & to his many friends at this place.*

*We expect on next Monday & Tuesday to carry the Union Ticket by 10,000 majority.*

Truly Yr Friend,  
Geo. S. Yerger

Page 2 (below) contains the affidavit of a family member and an "non-relative."

7-3-41  
 This is a LEGAL CERTIFICATION TO FACTS OR UNKNOWN FACTS IS PUNISHABLE BY FINE.  
 SIGNATURE OF THE ACTUAL ATTENDANT AT BIRTH SHOULD BE OBTAINED IF POSSIBLE. AFFIDAVIT IS RE-  
 QUIRED OF THE ATTENDANT.  
 CERTIFICATION BY OTHERS MUST BE MADE BY AFFIDAVIT, USING FORMS BELOW. ALL INFORMATION REQUIRED  
 IN THE AFFIDAVIT MUST BE COMPLETE.

I, STATE OF Tennessee  
 COUNTY OF Greney } 89.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, ON OATH, THAT I AM AT PRESENT 69 YEARS OF AGE AND THAT I HAD POSITIVE KNOW-  
 EDGE OF THE FACTS AS STATED IN THIS RECORD OF BIRTH AT THE TIME THE BIRTH OCCURRED AND WISE THERE-  
 TO BE TRUE; AND THAT I AM RELATED TO THIS PERSON AS Sister.

SIGNATURE Miss Della Bowers  
 PRESENT ADDRESS Tracy City, Tennessee

SUBSCRIBED TO, AND SWEAR, BEFORE ME THIS 25th DAY OF April, 1941  
W. A. Weaver  
 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES May 1, 1943

SEAL

I, STATE OF Tennessee  
 COUNTY OF Greney } 89.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, ON OATH, THAT I AM AT PRESENT 69 YEARS OF AGE AND THAT I HAD POSITIVE KNOW-  
 EDGE OF THE FACTS AS STATED IN THIS RECORD OF BIRTH AT THE TIME THE BIRTH OCCURRED AND WISE THERE-  
 TO BE TRUE; AND THAT I AM RELATED TO THIS PERSON AS Sister.

SIGNATURE W. A. Weaver  
 PRESENT ADDRESS Tracy City, Tennessee

SUBSCRIBED TO, AND SWEAR, BEFORE ME THIS 25th DAY OF April, 1941  
W. A. Weaver  
 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES May 1, 1943

SEAL

Page 1 provides citations to each type of proof presented.

P-15-64  
 Mrs. Mrs. L. A. Harrison  
 1840 South Main St., W. 35  
 STATE OF Tennessee COUNTY OF Greene  
 I HEREBY CERTIFY, ON OATH, THAT I AM AT PRESENT 73 YEARS OF AGE, THAT I AM RELATED TO THE PERSON REPRESENTED BY THIS CERTIFICATE AS WIFE AND THAT I HAVE ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACTS AS STATED IN THIS CERTIFICATE AT THE TIME THE SAID COVENANT WAS MADE AND KNOW THEM TO BE TRUE BECAUSE I had actual knowledge of this child's birth. I have been closely associated with her all of her life.  
 SIGNATURE: Linda Chemnitz PRESENT ADDRESS: Tracy City, Tennessee  
 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PERSON PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, THAT I READ THE ABOVE STATEMENTS TO HIM, AND THAT HE MADE OATH THAT SAID STATEMENTS ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.  
 THIS DAY 25th DAY OF March A.D. 1958  
 BY John L. P. Harrison NOTARY PUBLIC  
 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES August 11, 1958  
 STATE OF Tennessee  
 COUNTY OF Greene  
 I HEREBY CERTIFY, ON OATH, THAT I AM AT PRESENT 80 YEARS OF AGE, THAT I AM NOT RELATED TO THE PERSON REPRESENTED BY THIS CERTIFICATE, AND THAT I HAVE ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACTS AS STATED IN THIS CERTIFICATE AT THE TIME THE BIRTH RECORD WAS MADE AND KNOW THEM TO BE TRUE BECAUSE The family lives in Greene County at that time. I know the family well.  
 SIGNATURE: Emil Chelp PRESENT ADDRESS: Tracy City, Tennessee  
 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PERSON PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, THAT I READ THE ABOVE STATEMENTS TO HIM, AND THAT HE MADE OATH THAT SAID STATEMENTS ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.  
 THIS DAY 25th DAY OF March A.D. 1958  
 BY John L. P. Harrison NOTARY PUBLIC  
 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES August 11, 1958





# To The Honorable... Petitions to the State Legislature

## Usury and Forgiveness in Sumner County

Based on Petition Number 51,  
Legislative Records of 1841<sup>1</sup>  
Record Group 60, Tennessee State Library & Archives

Although most Americans today understand that “ignorance of the law is no excuse,” this apparently was not so in Sumner County in 1841. At least the 81 neighbors of Thomas Durham didn’t think it should apply in his case. It appears that Durham was violating the usury laws – prohibiting lenders from charging exorbitant interest to borrowers. The Legislature took a different view, apparently, as there is no indication in the records that an act was passed relieving Durham of responsibility for repaying the money.

*To the Hon. Members of the Legislature of the State Tennessee, now in Session.*

*The undersigned citizens of the County of Sumner and State of Tennessee who petitions [sic] for and in behalf of on Thomas Durham<sup>1</sup> also a citizen of the County & State aforesaid.*

*Your petitioners would respectfully state that at the June Term 1841 held in and for the County of Sumner by Judge M.A. Martin, that James K. Polk, Governor & c. of the State of Tennessee by the Attorney General for this Judicial Circuit obtained judgment against Thos. Durham for Five Hundred Dollars for a violation of one of the statutes of the State of Tennessee – which he was totally ignorant of –*

*Your petitioners would farther [sic] state that the said Durham is a man of a very large family, dependent altogether upon his exertions for a support, that his circumstances in life are very moderate. That also the amount of Capital employed in violation of said Law could not have exceeded Eight Hundred Dollars.*

*Your petitioners would further state that they confidently believe that said Durham was totally ignorant that he was violating [page 2] the law of his state – and they would state that with the accompanying evidence that so soon as he knew that the was violating the Laws of the State that he would not receive from his Debtors any extra Interest.*

*Your petitioners pray that the money collection from the said Durham by the Sheriff of Sumner County for the violation of her Laws be refunded to him and as in duty bound they will ever pray –*

### *Subscribers Names*

William Aspley  
John Paterson Jr.  
Sollomon Davis  
Samuel Senter

[?] Senter  
T.H. Barton  
Moses Gaines  
John Carden  
William M. Carter

Russel Whiteside  
[bottom of page cut off]

[Page 2, column 2]  
*Subscribers Names*

W. Hall[?]  
 Jas. H. Patterson  
 C.B. Malone  
 H. Malone  
 Reuben D. Brown  
 John Byrn  
 John Booker  
 John Lauderdale  
 Josh Byrn  
 Allen Byrn  
 John Meadow

[page 3, column 1]

Joseph W. Carter  
 P.W. Key  
 Henry Gains  
 James Carter  
 John H. Henry  
 Henry White  
 James Fleming[?]  
 Jno. Patterson Jr[?]  
 Thos. Saunders  
 Washington Killbuck  
 Joseph Corzen[?]  
 James Alexander  
 G. T. Brown  
 D. Chenuritt  
 J.G. Webb  
 Daniel Ezell  
 L.H. Bate  
 C. [?] Morgan  
 H. Bate  
 J.H.[?] Lauderdale  
 Robert Hanes  
 David May  
 Wm. Johnson[?]  
 Ben Johnson  
 Nelson Johnson  
 Benjamin Matin[?]

[page 3, column 2]

John Patterson Jr[?]  
 Peter Trinsens[?]  
 Charles J. Goodall  
 James Stovall  
 John Walsh  
 James M. Whiteside  
 Robert C. Ellis  
 Jeremiah Fisher[?]

Benj. Griffin  
 Chisholm Davis  
 John Gregory  
 Wilson Y. Weatherred  
 John B. Willson  
 Peter Bryon  
 Jacob Gillespie  
 Andrew Taylor  
 David P. Byrns  
 W.M. Austin  
 Allen Carter  
 Wm. Little  
 E.J. Bracken  
 John L. Bugg  
 W.W. Weatherred  
 R.W. Hay[?]  
 Astell<sup>o</sup>[?] Daniel  
 Vius[?] L. Collier

[page 4]

H.C. White  
 John Marlin  
 Chas. Wright  
 A.M. Tristy[?]  
 Joseph D. Turner  
 N.B. Turner  
 G.B. Harris

[page 5]

[top line cut off]

John Grooms  
 Stephen May  
 Nathaniel Harper  
 John W. Manning  
 Joel Harper  
 James Strother, Jun.  
 Wm. Moore  
 Thomas D. Martin  
 H.W. Bogg  
 W[?] Schell  
 J.W. Carter  
 David Manning  
 D.W. Pierson  
 Daniel M. Blythe  
 H. Douglas  
 W. Di[cker?]son  
 Addison Wilson  
 T. Darnall  
 A. Wallace

Tho. G. Moss  
 James Franklin, Jr.  
 W.E. Douglass  
 G.W. Gillert  
 E.C. Davis

[page 5, column 2]

Jas. F. Love  
 J.A.H. Trigg  
 R.W. Riggs  
 C. Lewis[?]  
 H.F. Cotton  
 J.W. Gambling  
 Elmore Douglass  
 Orville L. Cage  
 John B. Foster  
 Wm. Prince  
 David F. Douglass  
 S. Hurmans  
 N.A. Harder  
 B.R. Howard  
 Rob[?] J. Thomson  
 Green M. Garnett  
 D.W. Mentlo  
 Ruben Turner  
 Jacob Turner  
 A.E. Tyree  
 Frances Yourie  
 B.W. Ireland  
 E.P. Tyree  
 Charles Spins[?]  
 W.F. Bowen  
 Carrol Brown  
 C.T. Holly

[page 6]

Beverly Miller  
 J.S. Carn  
 J.B. Robertson  
 King Kerly  
 Wm. A. Fleming  
 John M. Taylor  
 John W. Dinkins  
 S.C. Taylor  
 Pleasant Bell [Bellor?]  
 Elihu Smothers  
 Benjamin Parrish  
 James A. Malone  
 Jos. McNeill

---

Thos. C. Cryer  
John M. Gardner  
Wm. H. Hall  
William A. Saunders  
Saml. Johnson  
William Atkerson  
William Spradlin  
A.C[?] Tinsley  
W.C.. Huffman  
John Senter

John W. Pogue  
Reuben Stone  
Ruffin Key  
P[?] M. Martin  
Richard Parker  
Francis Rogan  
Fielding Bryson  
P.P. Parker  
Khleber Miller  
Thos. C. Beard  
John Stalcup  
Jesse Allerd[?]

T.W. Fitts  
James E. Readick  
F.B. Wilson  
John Morris  
Isaac Bradley  
Zach Fleming[?]  
D[?] C. Key  
W. Esenshare  
Thomas Crenshaw  
Dr[?] H. M. Neely[?]  
John A. Reddick

[page 6 column 2]

Notations on the petition show that it brought before the Judiciary Committee on Oct. 8, 1841. Six days later it was "reported by Committee for the relief of petitioner" indicating approval.

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This additional petition was also filed.

*State of Tennessee        ))*  
*Sumner County            )) September 27, 1841*

*We the undersigned citizens of Sumner County would respectfully state that we were part of the Jurors that gave the Judgement against Thomas Durham at the June Term of the Circuit Court of the said County of Sumner 1841, for a violation of the Revenue Law of our said state.*

*We would also state that in our belief, the judgement was in accordance with the Law and Evidence. But nevertheless we are constrained to believe, that the said Durham violated the Law ignorantly and in fact, some of the Evidence of respectable & responsible men introduced on his behalf, proved to our minds that he did deduct the unlawful per centum from his claims so soon as he was aware that he was violating the Laws of our said state.*

*We think that said judgement, against said Durham is very oppressive & calls for redress by our Legislature.*

Benj. Edwards  
J.A. House  
R. Bell  
Joseph Miller  
Wesley Malone

Wm. R. Saunders, A.M.  
John Byram  
James Dinning  
Benjamin Romey[?]

[verso] Joseph McGlothlin  
Peter Wynne[?]

---

The following letter is also in the file with this petition.

*State of Tennessee        ))*  
*Sumner County            )) 1841*

*I John Henry do hereby state that I executed my notes and obtained from Thos. Durham monies to the amount of about \$25 Dollars for the use of which I was to pay more than the Legal*

---

interest.-- I further state that when said notes became due and payable that said Durham would not receive more than the money that I obtained from him with the Lawful interest upon the same.  
-- The reason that he alledged [sic] for not receiving the full amount was that he had learned that it was unlawful to use money as he had been doing.

[signed] John H. Henry

An undated letter in the file addressed to Hon. Thos. Barry and signed by Attorney General John Trimble expresses Trimble's belief that Mr. Durham "had no knowledge of the existence or provisions of the revenue bill. I became thus satisfied from conversations with him and from his character."

A two-page document titled "Report of the Judiciary Committee on petition of sundry citizens of Sumner for the release of a forfeiture incurred by Thos. Durham" refers to an act passed in 1835 providing that any person lending more than \$500 at a rate greater than 6 per-cent must report to the County Court and pay a special tax. Failure to do so would result in a penalty of \$500. Thomas Durham was proved to have loaned about \$800 at a rate of 12 ¼% without filing the required report. "That at the time he used the money ... he was wholly ignorant of the provisions of the act aforesaid, and that upon the same being made known to him he refused to receive more than 6 per-cent." The committee agreed that Durham was not at fault and that his money should be refunded, but stated that there was no provision in the law allowing for such a "cure." They recommended that the law be amended to allow the Circuit Courts to order a refund in such cases.

<sup>1</sup>This is probably the same Thomas Durham whose will was probated in Sumner County in July 1843. He left a life estate to his wife Polley, with the remainder to his son Wyatt with instructions to support the other children until the youngest (Julia) came of age, then to divide the estate equally. One of the witnesses to his will was John A. Reddick, who also signed the petition above. (Wilson, Shirley. *Sumner County, Tennessee, will abstracts, 1788-1882*. np., c.1987). A tombstone at Mt. Vernon Methodist Church provides his dates: born 13 May 1791, died 7 May 1843. Mary (Polly) Durham (1799-1883) lived another forty years after his death. (Snider, Marjorie and Yorgason, Joah. *Sumner County, Tennessee, cemetery records*. McDowell Publications, 1981.)

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## Another Usury Case in Sumner County

*Esselman v. Wells* 24 Tenn. 482

The case of *Esselman v. Wells* was heard in the Tennessee Supreme Court in December 1847. The report of the case indicates that it had been heard in the Circuit Court of Sumner County and in the Chancery Court at Nashville, and finally appealed to the Supreme Court.

In this case Thomas Wells, of Davidson County, was indebted to Esselman for \$25,400. The money had been loaned to Wells in various quantities over a period of time from 1838 to 1846, and Wells had signed notes promising to pay 12 ½% interest per year on them. The report does not show why Wells borrowed so much money, or why he was willing to pay such a high (and illegal) rate of interest. O. Ewing was somehow involved in the transactions along with Wells.

In 1846 Esselman became concerned that Wells was not able to pay his debts, and began pressing him to turn over some real estate in payment. Wells owned two valuable warehouses on the Public Square in Nashville, and Esselman persuaded him to convey these properties in order to discharge the debt.

The Supreme Court ruled that the original debt had been illegal because of the high rate of interest, making the real estate transaction illegal as well, and ruled in Wells' favor.



# The Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Schedules of the 1880 Tennessee Census



Nurses tending to smallpox victims.  
from ScienceClarified.com

## Davidson County (continued)

Abstracted by  
Gale Williams Bamman, CG<sup>SM</sup>

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The DDD Schedules, as they are often called, were part of the non-population schedules supplementing the 1880 federal census, and were created to help the government decide on funding appropriations for institutions and health programs. On each of the following schedules of the DDDs, the census-takers

were instructed to give an account of the location and condition of persons who met these descriptions:

The following questions were asked on all seven of the DDD schedules:

name of the afflicted person; county and district where enumerated; county of residence; and location in the population schedule.

The remainder of the questions pertained to each particular class of persons:

**Insane Inhabitants:** form of disease; duration of current attack; age at first attack; if requires restraint; if ever institutionalized and for how long; if additional features, such as epileptic suicidal, or homicidal. Distinction was to be made between persons with deterioration of mental power, such as dementia and those born defective; the latter were to be classified as Idiots.

**Idiots:** supposed cause; age of occurrence; size of person's head [at that time considered as significant]; if self-supporting or partly so; if ever in training school and for how long; and if additional illnesses present (insane, blind, deaf, paralyzed).

**Deaf-Mutes:** supposed cause; age of occurrence; if semi- or totally deaf and/or mute; if ever institutionalized; if also insane, idiotic, or blind. Enumerators were instructed to inquire about deaf-mutes and their residences from physicians in the area and also from schoolteachers.

**Blind:** if self-supporting; age at occurrence; form; supposed cause; if totally or semi-blind; if ever in an institution for the blind; length of time there; date of discharge; if also insane, idiotic, deaf-mute. Those who could see well enough to read were not to be placed on this schedule.

**Homeless Children:** whether father and/or mother were deceased; whether abandoned or surrendered; whether born in an institution, or year admitted; whether illegitimate; if separated from his/her mother; if ever arrested, and why; if origins were "respectable;" whether removed from criminal surroundings; if blind, deaf-mute or idiotic.

**Inhabitants in Prisons:** place of imprisonment; whether awaiting trial, serving a term, or serving out a fine; if awaiting execution, or transfer to higher prison, or if held as a witness; if imprisoned for debt, or for insanity; date incarcerated; alleged offense; fine; number of days in jail or workhouse, or years in penitentiary; whether at hard labor, and if so, whether contracted out. Enumerators were also to ask these questions of wardens or keepers of any prison, "station-house, or lock-up in their respective districts."

**Paupers and Indigent:** if supported wholly or partly at cost of city, county, or state; or at cost of institution; whether able-bodied; whether habitually intemperate; if epileptic; if ever convicted of a crime; if disabled; if born in the institution, or date of admission; whether others of the family were also in that establishment; if also blind, deaf and dumb, insane, idiotic. Paupers living in individual homes who were supported partly or fully at county cost were referred to by the Census Office. as "outdoor paupers." to distinguish them from paupers in institutions.

For a more-detailed discussion of the DDD Schedules and this abstracting project, please see Part I, in the Summer 2005 issue of this journal (Volume XIX, no. 1), pp. 32-40. The additional data in these abstracts comes from the population schedules and does not appear on the DDD Schedules themselves. The interpretation of the records may contain deciphering errors. The reader is encouraged to view the originals on microfilm. If any mistakes are noted, please contact the compiler with that information.

## *Davidson County (continued)*

**Robinson, James:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 4th Civil District. [s.d.3,e.d.64; see Pop.Sch.p.26,ln.34]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 27, male, black, single, born Tenn.; in household of Sophia Epps, age 70.

**Bondurant, H.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 4th Civil District. [s.d.3,e.d.64; see Pop.Sch.p.37,ln.46]

**Pop.Sch.:** Bondurant, Henry, age 32, male, black, widowed; in household of William McGuire, age 34.

**Huggins, Robt.:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., dementia; duration of present attack, 25 years; one attack; age at first attack, 50; not confined, not restrained, inmate of county asylum for 7 years; discharged 1868. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.42]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 38, male, white, single, boarder, born Tenn.; in household of Dutch Grubbs, age 45.

**Harn[?], John:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., dementia; duration of present attack, 25 years; one attack; age at first attack, 30; not confined, not restrained; inmate of county asylum 5 years, discharged 1868. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.26]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 52, white, male, single, brother, born Tenn.; in household of Joseph Harn[?], age 54.

**Johnson, Henry:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.6,ln.49]

**King, Andrew:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., self-supporting; afflicted at birth; small head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.10]

**Dove[?], James:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; large head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.43]

**Ellis, Pleasant:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., self-supporting; afflicted at birth; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.12,ln.48]

**Kimbro, Cora:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., not self-supporting; afflicted at age 5; [cause] bad use of bluestone; inmate of Nashville Blind Asylum for 4 years. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.32]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 14, white, female, single, born Tenn.; in household of Jno. Kimbro, age 40.

### From The Family Doctor, Oct. 1, 1881

"Sulphate of Copper (Bluestone, or Blue Vitriol) - Bluestone possesses powerful germ-destroying and anti-putrefactive properties. It instantly removed the odour of sulphuretted hydrogen, and may be applied to foul sewage. This salt is poisonous."

**Johnson, E.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., not self-supporting; afflicted at age 1 with smallpox; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.7,ln.45]

**Pop.Sch.:** Johnson, Evaline, age 59, white, female, wife, born Tenn.; in household of Allen Johnson, age 60.

**McClendon, F.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., not self-supporting; afflicted at age 50; cataract; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.63; see Pop.Sch.p.11,ln.34]

**Pop.Sch.: McClendon, Francis**, age 65, white, female, wife, born N.C.; in household of Thos. McClendon.

**Hite, Margaret:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 2nd Civil District; melancholia; duration of present attack, 3 years; one attack; age at first attack, 69; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.62; see Pop.Sch.p.8,ln.40]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 70, white, female, wife, born Va.; in household of Horatio Hite, age 71.

**Dabbs, Martha:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 2nd Civil District; self-supporting; afflicted at age 1; by being beaten; average head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.62; see Pop.Sch.p.6,ln.43]

**Boyd, Mary:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 2nd Civil District; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; antenatal; small head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.62; see Pop.Sch.p.19,ln.7]

**Blair, William C.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., resident McWhirterville, Davidson Co., 2nd Civil District; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.62; see Pop.Sch.p.36,ln.12]

**Blair, Martha A.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., resident McWhirterville, Davidson Co., 2nd Civil District; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.62; see Pop.Sch.p.36,ln.13]

**Gillim, Jenny J.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 2nd Civil District; self-supporting; afflicted at age 4 ½, scarlet fever; inmate in American Institute in Conn., 3 years; discharged 1878. [s.d.3,e.d.62; see Pop.Sch.p.37,ln.40]

**Elliott, Alfred:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 2nd Civil District. [s.d.3,e.d.62; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.21]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 41, black, male, born Ala.; head of household.

**Murray, William:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., self-supporting; afflicted at age 2; cause: quincy; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.61; see Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.15]

**Merriman, Jesse:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 14th Ward; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.60; see Pop.Sch.p.8,ln.49]

**Bryant, Elizabeth:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 14th Ward; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 7; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.60; see Pop.Sch.p.29,ln.31]

**Locken, William:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 14th Ward. [s.d.3,e.d.60; see Pop.Sch.p.1,ln.1]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 62, white, male, bookbinder, born Pa.; head of household.

**Bowen, George:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 14th Ward. [s.d.3,e.d.60; see Pop.Sch.p.12,ln.11]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 56, mulatto, male, shoemaker, born Ga.; head of household.

**Cannon[?], Sarah:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.11,ln.23]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 60, white, female, wife, born Ireland; in household of Patrick Cannon[?]

**Crutcher, Jno.:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.47,ln.20.]

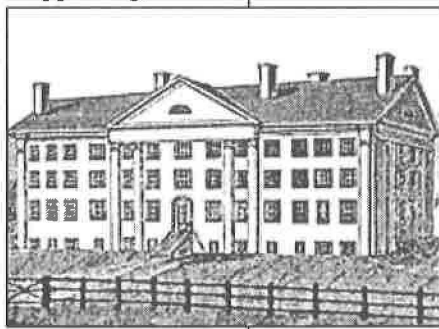
**Pop.Sch.:** age 35, mulatto, male, born Tenn.; in household of Daniel Webster, age 25.

**Watterson, Narcissa:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.17]  
**Pop.Sch.:** age 24, black, female, wife, born Tenn.; in household of Peter Watterson, age 26.

**Mullens, Mary:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.50; see Pop.Sch.p.28,ln.13]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 42, black, female, born Tenn., living alone.

**Shuttle, Willie:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; also deaf-



The American Institute for the Deaf was founded in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1817. Jenny Gillim of Nashville had been a student there.

mute. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch. p.17, ln.9]

**Williams, Martin:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.8,ln.12]

**Ellis, Eliza:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.43]

**Easton, Minerva:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.[s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.37]

**Perkins, Runnel:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.3,ln.41]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 100, black, male, born Va.; in household of Hardy Crutcher, age 65.

**Graham, Con[?]:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.4,ln.24]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 27, black, male, born Ala.; in household of Peter Henderson, age 50.

**Spence, William:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.37]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 45, mulatto, male, wood sawyer, born Tenn; head of household.

**Fulger[?], Elizabeth:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.13,ln.14]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 26, black, female, daughter, born Tenn; in household of Matilda Fulger[?], age 42.

**Shuttle, Alfred:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.17,ln.8]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 17, black, male, son, born Tenn.; in household of Tobe Shuttle, age 52.

**Miller, Tinnie:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.13]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 19, black, female, daughter, born Tenn.; in household of Nancy Miller, age 42.

**Brow[?], Amanda:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.19]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 65, black, female, widowed, born Va., living alone.

**Patton, Landon:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.19,ln.7]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 71, black, male, married, born Va.; head of household.

**Parker, Laura:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.20,ln.35]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 8, black, female, daughter, born Tenn.; in household of Abetha Parker, age 30.

**Edmonson, Rosa:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p. 21,ln.40]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 105, black, female, widowed, mother, born Tenn.; in household of Adam Davis, age 62.

**Norfley, Elvira:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.22,ln.12]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 55, black, female, mother-in-law, born Va.; in household of James Jones, age 36.

**Saffarens, Walter:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.59; see Pop.Sch.p.28,ln.4]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 21, white, male, boarder, music teacher, born Tenn.; in household of C. C. Marable, age 33.

**Wilbert, Henry:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.57; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.11]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 13, black, male, boarder, born Tenn.; in household of James Williams, age 62.

**Lovell, William:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth. [s.d.3,e.d.57; see Pop.Sch.p.13,ln.43]

**Vaughn, Mack:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; inmate, Tennessee Institute. [s.d.3,e.d.56; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.4]

**Hudson, Alice M.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; inmate, Tennessee Institute. [s.d.3,e.d.56; see Pop.Sch.p.22,ln.16]

**Williams, J. L.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.55; see 14,ln.7]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 69, white, male, married, born Tenn.; head of household.

**Jones, Emma:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head. [s.d.3,e.d.54; see Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.30]

**Byrom, Fannie:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 11th Ward; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 2 1/2; Diphtheria. [s.d.3,e.d.54; see Pop.Sch.p.27,ln.22]





Lester McFarland of Kentucky and Robert Gardner of Oliver Springs were blind singers of sweet harmonies. They met at the Kentucky School for the Blind and were popular radio performers in the 1930s. ([www.richsamuels.com](http://www.richsamuels.com))

**Patterson, Artemisia:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 11th Ward; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 59; neuralgia; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.54; see Pop.Sch.p.11,ln.6]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 65, white, female, mother-in-law, widowed, born Tenn.; in household of Thomas Raymer, age 29.

**Overbee, Rhoda:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 11th Ward; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.54; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.17]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 28, white, female, daughter, born Ga.; in household of Jane L. Wheeler, age 53.

**Bencke, Anna E.:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; mania; duration of present attack, 1 year; 1 attack; age at first attack, 30; confined at night, requires attendant; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.53; see Pop.Sch.p.32,ln.47]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 31, white, female, wife, born Prussia; in household of William Bencke, age 49.

**Fitzpatrick, J.:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.53; see Pop.Sch.p.33,ln.23]

**Pop.Sch.:** Fitzpatrick, Jack: age 26, black, male, married, born Tenn.; head of household.

**Freeman, J. H.:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution.

**Also:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; [cause] fright to mother previous to birth. [s.d.3,e.d.53; see Pop.Sch.p.28,ln.40]

**Wayne, Thomas H.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at age 1; mumps; inmate, Knoxville Deaf Mute Asylum, 9 years; inmate, National College, Washington, D.C. 1 year; discharged 1878. [s.d.3,e.d.53; see Pop.Sch.p.16,ln.24]

**Walker, Emma:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.e.3,e.d.53; see Pop.Sch.p.23,ln.26]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 14, white, female, niece, born Tenn.; in household of Joseph H. Miller, age 35.

**Trimble, Alex:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; pay patient at Tennessee Hospital for Insane; age at first attack, 66; confined; restrained by handcuffs; inmate, 4 months. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.13,ln.23]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 7, mulatto, male, son, born Tenn.; in household of Alex Trimble, age 62.

**Wright, Martha J.:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; melancholia; 3 months; 3 attacks; age at first attack, 36; not confined, not restrained, inmate, Tennessee Hospital for Insane, 2 years; discharged 1880. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.10,ln.23]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 51, white, female, daughter, born Ky.; in household of Alethea Wright, age 76.

**Cash, Ellen:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; form of disease: cramps and falls; duration of present attack, 1/2 day; age at first attack, 28; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.12]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 35, mulatto, female, daughter, epilepsy; born Miss.; in household of Mary Glover, age 100.

**Fletcher, Davis:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; form of disease: cramps and falls; age at first attack, 15; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.19,ln.34]

**Pop.Sch.:** Davis Fletcher: age 53, mulatto, male, widowed; epilepsy; born Va.; head of household.

**Frazier, Hardin:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.30,ln.22]

**Hagan, Hugh:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; afflicted at age 5; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.17,ln.19]

**Fletcher, Rebecca:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; afflicted at age 5; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.19,ln.26]

**Mitchell, Glaciers[?]:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; afflicted at age 1; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.27,ln.30]

**Sheeran[?], Catherine V.:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; afflicted at age 1; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.20]

**James, Willie:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 3, meningitis; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.29,ln.24]

**Wiggins, Lillie:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.10,ln.10]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 1, black, female, daughter, born Tenn.; in household of Cain Wiggins, age 35.

**Trabue, Maggie:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at age 19, neuralgia; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.51; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.11]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 19, mulatto, female, granddaughter, semi-blind; born in Tenn.; in household of Maria Trabue, age 72.

**Russell, Mary M.:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; mental aberration; age at first attack, 64; inmate, Edgefield, Tennessee Poor House, 1½ years; discharged November 1879. [s.d.3,e.d.52; see Pop.Sch.p.26,ln.38]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 69, white, female, widowed, born New York; in household of J. S. Blanchard, age 38.

**Craighead, T. V.:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., [s.d.3,e.d.52; see Pop.Sch.p.3,ln.39]

**Green, Ophelia:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 9th Ward; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 13, kicked in head by mule; natural head; never

an inmate of an institution; epileptic. [s.d.3,e.d.50; see Pop.Sch.p.2,ln.49]

**Hawkins, Henry B.:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 6, meningitis; small head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.50; see Pop.Sch.p.11,ln.5]

**Mingpfeil, Fredick [sic]:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting afflicted at age 3, scarlet fever; inmate, Tennessee Institution, Knoxville, 9 months. [s.d.3,e.d.50; see Pop.Sch.p.14,ln.11]

**Yarbrough, Wm.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.50; see Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.7]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 40, white, male, son, unstraps lumber; born Tenn.; in household of Ellen Yarbrough, age 66.

**Brown, Lee:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.50; see Pop.Sch.p.8,ln.33]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 14, black, male, son, born Tenn.; in household of Harriet Brown, age 52.

**Ridder, Samine[?]:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.49; see Pop.Sch.p.20,ln.8]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 8, white, male, grandson, born Tenn.; in household of Saml.[?] J. Starkey, age 65.

**Lingner, Eliz.:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.49; see Pop.Sch.p.21,ln.21]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 52, white, female, born Germany; head of household.

**Piffen[?], Chas.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 9; smallpox; inmate, Tennessee School for the Blind, discharged 1877. [s.d.3,e.d.49; see Pop.Sch.p.27,ln.5]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 23, white, male, musician, born Tenn.; head of household.

**Haley, Susan:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co. [s.d.3,e.d.49; see Pop.Sch.p.20,ln.15]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 81, white, female, widowed, blind 3 years; born Ky.; head of household.

**Green, Peter:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co., 8th Ward; duration of present attack, 6 years; 1 attack; age at first attack, 49; confined, restrained;

inmate, State Asylum, 6 years. [s.d.3,e.d.48; see Pop.Sch.p.2,ln.7]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 55, black, male, born Tenn; head of household.

**Lanier, Sallie:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; duration of present attack, 2 years, 1 attack, age at first attack, 30; not confined, not restrained; inmate, Tennessee Mental Asylum, 2 years. [s.d.3,e.d.48; see Pop.Sch.p.47,ln.7]

**Pop.Sch.:** age 30, black, female, sister, born Tenn.; in household of Henry Driscoll, age 43.

**Tisdell, Clara:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; age at first attack, 32; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.48; see Pop.Sch.p.2,ln.24]

**Pop.Sch.:** age [illegible], black, female, single, born Ala.; in household of Thos. Goodwin, age 64.

**Washington, Phillip:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.48; see Pop.Sch.p.3,ln.14]

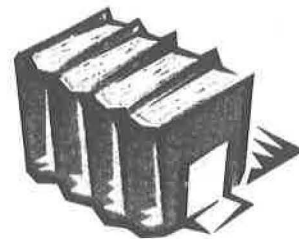
**Cook, George:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.48; see Pop.Sch.p.40,ln.22]

**Bolling, A. F.:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 13; sunstroke; inmate State Asylum, 4 years. [s.d.3,e.d.48; see Pop.Sch.p.8,ln.46]

**Buchanan, Lotta:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Davidson Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 12; skull fractured; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.48; see Pop.Sch.p.46,ln.29]

*To Be Continued*

## Book Reviews



by Shirley Wilson

*Rutherford County, Tennessee, Land Grants* compiled by Ernest K. Johns and Susan G. Daniel, no pagination, no publication date [2008?], spiral bound, illustrations, index. \$25 plus \$5 shipping from Rutherford County Historical Society, PO Box 906, Murfreesboro, TN 37133-0906.

Containing 2,254 land grants issued by the State of Tennessee, this book lists all pertinent grant information including the legal description of the land. Adjoining neighbors are often listed in the grants. In many cases there is a reproduction of the actual survey. The authors say that many of these grants were not recorded in the deed books in Rutherford County making the information in them especially valuable.

There is an every name index that includes places and appears to be excellent. Without pagination, the index directs the reader to the artificial number of the grant. Three pages at the front contain a glossary of terminology used in land records.

*North Carolina Revolutionary War Land Grants for Rutherford County, Tennessee, Land Grants* compiled by Ernest K. Johns and Susan G. Daniel, no pagination, spiral bound, illustrations, index, no publication date [2008?]. \$25 plus \$5 shipping from Rutherford County Historical Society, PO Box 906, Murfreesboro, TN 37133-0906.

The 596 North Carolina grants all include a drawn survey of the land plus the pertinent information in the grant. The grants are primarily for military service provided in the Revolutionary War although there are also a few preemption grants. Again, the index is an every name index that includes places which takes readers to the artificial number of the grant; a three page glossary at the front defines terms.

Together, these two books are a great contribution to historical and genealogical research in Rutherford County and both are a must-have for folks searching in that area.

# White-Campbell Family Records

Submitted by Linda Barnickel<sup>1</sup>

The following information appears on what are most likely pages from a family Bible. These items are included in the Kate Pickett Campbell Papers in the Special Collections Division of the Nashville Public Library.

Other materials in the Kate Pickett Campbell Papers include two of her autograph books from the 1880s and 1890s; Mother's Day, birthday, and Christmas cards from the 1930s she received from her daughter, Ann Campbell Kilby; and a journal, compiled by someone else, which refers to "Old Lady Kate" and other women employees at McQuiddy Printing in Nashville from the 1920s to 1930s, providing a yearly report on "What We Are Doing" which lists women's names and their tasks – such as sewing, binding, cutting paper, or other work they were doing at the printing company. In addition, this journal also serves as a weather diary, mentioning floods, storms, and other weather-related information. It also includes occasional news clippings and a few obituaries of McQuiddy employees and other individuals. The family records cited below were found folded inside a journal. They are extremely fragile, and are missing much information.

Kate Pickett was born around 1861. It is unclear when she married Charles H. Campbell, but it is assumed that he was the same Charles H. Campbell who appears in the following family record as having died in 1891. Kate was a widow by the time of the 1900 census, at which time she was living, along with her 9-year-old daughter Ann, in the household of the James A. Childress family in Ward 15 of Nashville. City directories show Kate was employed at McQuiddy from at least 1900 into the 1930s. Her name disappears from the city directories in 1938. It is not known when or where she died.

Although no geographic locations appear in the journal, a search for matching information in other records shows that E.B. White was married to E.A. Hughs in Sumner County on July 30, 1939. The 1850 census for Civil District 9 of Davidson County lists the family of 32-year-old farmer Ezra B. White—Eliza A., age 28, and children Eudexia (10), Thomas P. (8), Margaret (5) and Lucy B. (3); the family were all born in Tennessee.<sup>2</sup> In addition, neighbors of the Whites in 1850 included Patterson and Hughes families, surnames which also appear in the following record.

<sup>1</sup> Linda Barnickel works in the Nashville Public Library's, Special Collections Division, and keeps a sharp eye out for interesting items for readers of the *Journal*. Contact her at [linda.barnickel@nashville.gov](mailto:linda.barnickel@nashville.gov).

<sup>2</sup> Porch, Deane. *Davidson County, Tennessee 1850 Census* (American Reference Publishers, 1969), p. 124.

## Front, page 1 - "Family Record – Marriages"

Mr. Ezra B. White was born May 2<sup>nd</sup> [23<sup>rd</sup>?] 181[?].  
Miss Eliza. A. Hugh [tear] was born June 20<sup>th</sup> 18[?].  
They were married July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1839.

## Back, page 1 - "Births"

Eudoxy E. F. White was born Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> 1840.  
[--?--]as K. P. White [was] born March 6<sup>th</sup> 1843.  
M[ar]garett A. R. White Was born March 4<sup>th</sup> 1845.  
Lucy C.B. White was born Jany. 16<sup>th</sup> 1847.  
Lee Allen White was born March 29<sup>th</sup> 1849.

(Thomas M. Patterson was born March 15<sup>th</sup> 1812)  
[Enclosed in parenthesis at the bottom of the page.]

## Front, page 2 – only the bottom half of the page survives

[--?--]da Malvina Campbell was born the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1859.

Charles H.A. Campbell was born the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of April 1861.

W.A. Yeargin and Lucy C.B. White were married on the 7<sup>th</sup> Day of Feby 1867.

## Back, page 2 – only the bottom half of the page survives

[--?--] died July [illegible; tear in page]  
Eudoxy E. F. Whit[e] died August 8<sup>th</sup> 185[5?].  
Eliza A. Campbell Died Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> 1878.  
Charles H. Campbell Died April 30<sup>th</sup> 1891.





# Index to Pardons and Paroles from Tennessee State Prisons, 1904-1925

## Part 9 of a Series

Part 8 was published Spring 2008 (vol. XXI, #4)

The following list indexes pardon and parole files available for research at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. It was prepared by Archivist Julia Rather Hammers. Each file may contain a number of items relating to the imprisonment, or there may be very little. The typical file contains the inmate's discharge papers, including a copy of the pardon or parole document. Letters from prison officials, government officials, and family members may also be found. A file often contains petitions sent by members of the inmate's community in order to help the prisoner obtain early release. Trial statements within the file give a summary of the crime committed and the reasoning behind the conviction and sentence. In many files there are newspaper clippings concerning that particular inmate's case. Newspaper clippings can particularly be found in the file of an inmate whose sentence was death.

The index lists the name of the inmate, whether the inmate was pardoned or paroled, the inmate's prison number, the county in which the crime was committed, the length of the sentence served, the prison that housed the inmate, and the crime committed. It is well worth the time of an interested genealogist to view the file. Most files contain information that may prove useful. The type of information depends on the prison where the inmate was institutionalized. Most files for inmates housed at Brushy Mountain prison, for instance, include a copy of a chaplain's report giving the inmate's native state and parents' names, ages, and nativity along with other information.

These records have been microfilmed and can be viewed at the Tennessee State Library & Archives, or the microfilm can be borrowed on interlibrary loan. Additionally, the archives staff can provide copies by mail for a fee (see [www.state.tn.us/tsla](http://www.state.tn.us/tsla) for details). Refer to Record Group 261, Pardons & Paroles, and the box number given in the index.

Name	Pardon or Parole	File No.	County where Convicted	Sentenced	Released	File Location & Notes
Petty, John	Parole	7030	Davidson	1916	1917	Box 27; Assault to commit 1st degree murder
Phelps, Charlie	Pardon	10227	Gibson	1918	1920	Box 28; Forgery; petitions
Phelps, Ira	Parole	11882	Weakley	1922	1924	Box 28; Petit larceny
Phelps, J.L.	Pardon		Davidson	1919	1919	Box 28; Violated Bone Dry Law
Phillips, Bernard	Parole	11864	Shelby	1924	1924	Box 28
Phillips, Gus	Parole	8668	Dyer	1916	1918	Box 28; Housebreaking & larceny
Phillips, J.P.	Parole	7269	Shelby	1913	1918	Box 28; Robbery
Phillips, John	Parole	12088	Knox	1922	1924	Box 28; Petit larceny
Phillips, Robert	Parole	11165	Lauderdale	1921	1925	Box 28; Attempted 1st degree murder
Phillips, Sam and Oliver Hamilton	Pardon		Davidson	1920	1920	Box 28; Violated Bone Dry Law

Phillips, William	Parole	12323	Shelby	1922	1924	Box 28; Attempted felony
Philpot, Everett	Pardon	10709	Davidson	1920	1921	Box 28; False pretense
Pickens, Gus	Parole	11582	Hamilton	1921	1924	Box 28; Murder
Pickett, Dan	Parole	3571	Campbell	1907	1920	Box 28; Murder
Pierce, C.H.	Parole	11676	Shelby	1922	1923	Box 28; Attempted felony
Pierce, Jim	Parole	10414	Dyer	1919	1920	Box 28; Petit larceny
Pierce, John M.	Parole	12291	Davidson	1922	1923	Box 28; Attempted carnal knowledge
Pigues, Bud	Parole	8185	Madison	1915	1918	Box 28; Housebreaking & larceny
Pinkerton, Jim	Parole	8058	Cannon	1914	1917	Box 28; Housebreaking
Pinson, Curtis	Parole	11271	Dyer	1921	1923	Box 28; Petit larceny
Pippin, Boll	Pardon		Putnam	1919	1919	Box 28; Public drunkenness
Pippin, Willis			Putnam	1922		Box 28; Public drunkenness
Pirkey, James	Parole	9823	Jefferson	1918	1921	Box 28; Burglary
Pitman, Will	Parole	9333	White	1917	1919	Box 28; Obstructing railroad
Pitts, Arthur	Parole	9720	Hamilton	1917	1920	Box 28; Grand larceny; 2 files
Pitts, Charlie	Parole	8899	Shelby	1916	1920	Box 28; Larceny
Pleasant, Will		10732	White	1920	1920	Box 28; Assault to commit murder
Plummer, Vaughn	Parole	8621	Stewart	1916	1918	Box 28; Voluntary manslaughter
Pocus, Thomas	Parole	10026	Hamilton	1918	1920	Box 28; Larceny
Poe, Etta	Pardon		Hamblen	1919	1919	Box 28; Petit larceny
Poindexter, Raymond						Box 28; letters
Polk, Clarence	Parole	7164	Maury	1913	1923	Box 28; Murder
Polk, Eugene	Parole	10283	Shelby	1919	1922	Box 28; Housebreaking & larceny
Polk, George	Parole	8576	Obion	1916	1917	Box 28; Voluntary manslaughter; Parole # 973
Polk, Irene	Parole	11822	Maury	1922	1924	Box 28; Voluntary manslaughter
Polk, Jake	Parole	9250	Montgomery	1917	1918	Box 28; Owner of gambling house
Poor, Bill		10113	Fentress	1919	1920	Box 28; Voluntary manslaughter
Poor, Orion	Pardon	10114	Fentress	1919	1920	Box 28; Voluntary manslaughter
Porter, Andy	Parole	10634	McMinn	1920	1921	Box 28; False pretense
Porter, Arthur	Parole	8302	Hamilton	1914	1921	Box 28; 2nd degree murder
Porter, Sweet	Parole	9468	Shelby	1918	1923	Box 28; Involuntary manslaughter
Porter, Tom	Parole	11423	Anderson	1921	1923	Box 28; Petit larceny
Porter, Will	Parole	7793	Davidson	1914	1924	Box 28; Burglary & petit larceny
Porter, Will		9838	Hamilton	1918		Box 28; Larceny
Posey, Frank		8795	Davidson	1916		Box 28; Larceny; died 3-2-22
Poss, Sam	Parole	9214	White	1917	1921	Box 28; Housebreaking
Postell, Dave	Parole	11991	Shelby	1922	1923	Box 28; Murder
Powell, Albert	Parole	9388	Madison	1914	1918	Box 28; Petit larceny
Powell, J.L.	Parole	11850	Shelby	1922	1924	Box 28; Robbery
Powell, Powatan	Parole	8949	Haywood	1916	1918	Box 28; Voluntary manslaughter
Powers, B.C.	Parole	11865	Shelby	1922	1923	Box 28; Petit larceny
Powers, Deb	Pardon	10620	Rhea	1920	1921	Box 28; Burglary & larceny
Powers, O.A.			Davidson	1919		Box 28; Violated Bone Dry Law
Presley, Ben	Parole	8703	Davidson	1916	1920	Box 28; Petit larceny
Price, HerlinParole	Parole	10640	Wilson	1920	1924	Box 28; Petit larceny
Price, Larice	Parole	9326	Montgomery	1917	1921	Box 28; Housebreaking
Price, Savannah	Parole	11723	Shelby	1922	1924	Box 28; Attempted 2nd degree murder; 2 files
Price, Tom			Pickett	1921		Box 28; Manufacturing whiskey
Pride, Homer		10277	Knox	1919	1920	Box 28; Assault to rape
Prince, Floyd	Parole	9658	Hamilton	1917	1920	Box 28; Robbery; escaped
Pritchett, Clarence	Parole	8463	Shelby	1915	1918	Box 28; Voluntary manslaughter
Privett, Joe	Parole	9545	Shelby	1918	1920	Box 28; Assault to murder
Prosser, Tom	Parole	11936	Coffee	1922	1924	Box 28; Assault to murder
Pruett, Joe	Pardon	10812	Hamilton	1920	1921	Box 28; Transporting liquor
Pruitt, Charles	Parole	9780	Knox	1915	1923	Box 28; Housebreaking & larceny

Pruitt, Eugene	Parole	8094	Shelby	1915	1921	Box 28; Housebreaking
Pruitt, Jack	Pardon	11172	Hamilton	1921	1922	Box 28; Forgery
Pryor, Will	Pardon	10220	Roane	1919	1921	Box 28; 2nd degree murder
Puckett, J.G. (Grover)	Pardon	8122	Davidson	1922	1923	Box 28; Murder
Puckett, W.T.	Pardon	11041	Marion	1921	1922	Box 28; Voluntary manslaughter
Pulliam, Harry		10105	Hamilton	1919		Box 28; Larceny
Purcell, C.A.	Parole	9209	Henry	1917	1919	Box 28; Forgery
Puryear, Cora	Parole	9402	Fayette	1917	1919	Box 28; Involuntary manslaughter
Puryear, Harvey	Parole	9031	Lauderdale	1916	1917	Box 28; Assault to murder
Qualls, W.B.	Pardon		Putnam	1919	1919	Box 29; Violated Bone Dry Law
Queen, Hardy			Monroe	1921		Box 29; Carrying a pistol
Queener, Charlie	Parole	11000	Campbell	1921	1924	Box 29; Bigamy
Quick, Cleve	Pardon	10562	Davidson	1920	1920	Box 29; Larceny
Quinn, Melvin	Pardon			1920		Box 29
Quisenberry, Clyde	Pardon	10211	Sullivan	1919	1920	Box 29; Grand larceny
Rader, James			Greene	1920		Box 30; Larceny
Rader, Will		9348	Greene	1916	1923	Box 30; Burglary
Raford, Will	Parole	10087	Blount	1919	1922	Box 30; Attempted robbery
Raine, C. Hunter	Pardon		Shelby	1921	1921	Box 30; Fraud; petitions
Raines, Arlie	Parole	9962	Sevier	1918	1921	Box 30; Petit larceny
Rainwater, Jim	Parole	11413	Shelby	1921	1922	Box 30; Housebreaking
Ralsh, J.R.	Parole	10024	Hamilton	1919	1921	Box 30; Bigamy
Ramsey, Byron			Hardeman	1922		Box 30; Transporting liquor
Randle, George	Pardon	11952	Shelby	1922	1925	Box 30; Burglary
Randolph, Ed	Parole	11547	Shelby	1921	1924	Box 30; Larceny
Randolph, James	Parole	11699	Monroe	1922	1924	Box 30; Petit larceny
Randolph, Joe	Parole	11334	Cumberland	1921	1923	Box 30; Petit larceny
Randolph, Joe	Pardon	11657	Fentress	1922	1922	Box 30; Voluntary manslaughter
Rankin, Finis		11636	Hamilton	1921		Box 30; Petit larceny
Rankin, Roy	Parole	9780	Rutherford	1917	1923	Box 30; 2nd degree murder
Raper, Wick	Pardon	10620	Meigs	1921	1921	Box 30; Petit larceny; 2 files
Rarrick, Walter	Parole	12103	Gibson	1922	1923	Box 30; Petit larceny
Raspberry, Tom	Parole	8836	Madison	1916	1919	Box 30; False pretense & larceny
Ratis, Pete	Parole	11916	Franklin	1922	1923	Box 30; Petit larceny
Ratler, Pomp	Parole	8948	Haywood	1916	1921	Box 30; Violated age of consent
Rawlings, J.C.	Pardon	10162	Hamilton	1919	1919	Box 30; Housebreaking
Ray, George	Parole	846	Giles	1902	1920	Box 30; Murder
Ray, M.C.	Parole	7531	Shelby	1914	1919	Box 30; Robbery
Rays, Hays	Parole	8342	Shelby	1915	1917	Box 30; Housebreaking & larceny
Ready, Wilburn	Parole	9857	Wilson	1916	1920	Box 30; Forgery
Reagan, Frank	Parole	8445	Knox	1915	1919	Box 30; Housebreaking
Reagan, George	Pardon	10039	Sevier	1919	1923	Box 30; 2nd degree murder; 2 files
Reddick, Owen	Parole	12137	Crockett	1922	1923	Box 30; Wife desertion
Reddick, Pete		10307	Gibson	1919	1920	Box 30; Petit larceny
Redley, George	Pardon	10060	Rutherford	1919	1920	Box 30; Violated age of consent
Redmond, Percy	Parole	8158	Montgomery	1915	1917	Box 30; Assault & battery to kill
Redmond, Will	Parole	9474	Davidson	1916	1919	Box 30; Petit larceny
Reed, Charles		9796	Hamilton	1916	1921	Box 30; Burglary
Reed, Ernest	Parole	10071	Overton	1919	1922	Box 30; Horse stealing
Reed, Henry	Parole	10808	Weakley	1921	1924	Box 30; Larceny
Reed, James	Parole	11483	Dyer	1921	1923	Box 30; Felonious assault
Reed, Ross	Parole	11268	Dyer	1921	1923	Box 30; Grand larceny
Reed, Sam	Parole	9051	Franklin	1917	1920	Box 30; Petit larceny
Reed, Will	Parole	8045	Shelby	1915	1924	Box 30; Forgery
Reed, Will	Parole	9369	Lawrence	1917	1921	Box 30; Housebreaking
Reed, Will	Parole	12146	Madison	1922	1924	Box 30; Attempt murder
Reed, William	Parole	8924	Obion	1916	1917	Box 30; Petit larceny
Reeves, Ed	Pardon		Wilson	1919	1919	Box 30; Felonious assault



Reeves, Joe	Parole	10749	Knox	1920	1922	Box 30; Petit larceny
Reeves, Tim	Parole	11597	Shelby	1921	1924	Box 30; Petit larceny
Reid, James		8871	Grundy	1916	1920	Box 30; Larceny
Reinhart, Katy	Pardon		Washingtn	1919	1919	Box 30; Lewdness & adultery; petition
Reinhart, Marcellus	Parole	5455	Montgomery	1910	1925	Box 30; 1st degree murder
Remine, Raymond	Pardon	10778	Greene	1922	1923	Box 30; Robbery
Renfro, D.C.	Parole	9735	Carter	1917	1920	Box 30; 2nd degree murder; petitions
Revel, Ben	Parole	8977	Knox	1916	1921	Box 30; Grand larceny
Reynolds, Frank	Parole	12093	Shelby	1922	1924	Box 30; Petit larceny
Reynolds, Herbert	Pardon	10683	Montgomery	1920	1921	Box 30; Forgery; petition
Reynolds, Jesse	Parole	8536	Bedford	1915	1921	Box 30; Forgery
Rhodes, Frank	Parole	9259	Dyer	1916	1922	Box 30; Grand larceny
Rhodes, J.T.			Chester			Box 30; Carrying a pistol
Rice, Aring		13447	Unicoi	1924		Box 30; Voluntary manslaughter
Rice, George	Parole	7911	Hawkins	1914	1922	Box 30; Burglary
Rice, Mary	Pardon	10843	Hamilton	1920	1922	Box 30; Larceny
Richards, Robert	Pardon	11162	Knox	1921	1921	Box 30; Felony
Richardson, G.H.	Pardon	10225	Davidson	1919	1920	Box 30; Petit larceny; 2 files
Richardson, James	Pardon	10138	Davidson	1919	1919	Box 30; Petit larceny
Richardson, Walter	Parole	9578	Davidson	1916	1918	Box 30; Assault to murder; Parole # 1029
Richman, Roy	Parole	11341	Trousdale	1921	1923	Box 30; Assault to murder
Richmond, Bob	Parole	7836	Robertson	1914	1922	Box 30; 2nd degree murder
Ricketts, Glenn	Parole	9587	Dyer	1917	1920	Box 30; Grand larceny
Riddle, Bert		12480	Blount	1923		Box 30; Forgery
Rideout, Oscar	Parole	9110	Davidson	1917	1919	Box 30; Voluntary manslaughter
Ridge, Will	Pardon	11035	Loudon	1921	1921	Box 30; Transporting liquor
Ridgeway, Avery	Pardon	11082	Lawrence	1920	1921	Box 30; Attempted manslaughter
Ridley, Costella	Parole	10701	Carroll	1920	1924	Box 30; Forgery
Riggs, Essie	Pardon	9921	Roane	1915	1916	Box 30; Larceny
Rigsby, Joseph	Pardon	9793	Campbell	1917	1919	Box 30; Housebreaking & larceny
Riley, James F.	Parole	9016	Hamilton	1916	1919	Box 30; 2nd degree murder
Rively, Willie	Pardon		Hamilton	1913	1920	Box 30; Petit larceny
Rizzo, Tony	Pardon	12052	Shelby	1922	1922	Box 30; Larceny
Roach, Frank	Parole	10672	Sumner	1920	1922	Box 31; Petit larceny
Roach, William	Parole	10671	Sumner	1920	1924	Box 31; Petit larceny
Roark, H.B.	Pardon		Macon	1916	1919	Box 31; Public drunkenness
Roberge, Hubert	Parole	12698	Shelby	1923	1924	Box 31; Petit larceny
Roberson, Ed	Parole	11149	Williamson	1921		Box 31; Voluntary manslaughter; died 9-23-22
Roberson, Fred	Parole	10335	Hamilton	1919	1922	Box 31; Burglary
Roberts, Claude			Jackson	1922		Box 31; Public drunkenness; petitions
Roberts, Etta	Parole	9370	Shelby	1917	1922	Box 31; Forgery
Roberts, Henry		8555	Fayette	1916	1918	Box 31; Murder; killed by officer 4-16-1919
Roberts, Herman	Pardon		White	1916	1920	Box 31; Manufacturing liquor
Roberts, Hobart	Parole	10476	Putnam	1920	1923	Box 31; Voluntary manslaughter
Roberts, J.F.		9643	Unicoi	1917		Box 31; Burglary; escaped
Roberts, Vance	Parole	10684	Bledsoe	1920	1922	Box 31; Petit larceny
Robertson, Charles		7467	Sevier	1913	1921	Box 31; Assault to commit rape
Robertson, Joe	Pardon		Shelby	1919	1921	Box 31; Violated Bone Dry Law
Robinson, Benny			Shelby	1922		Box 31
Robinson, Bolton	Pardon		Henderson	1922	1922	Box 31; Involuntary manslaughter
Robinson, Charles	Parole	11851	Shelby	1922	1925	Box 31; Petit larceny
Robinson, Dave		8881	Shelby	1916	1919	Box 31; Breaking car seals



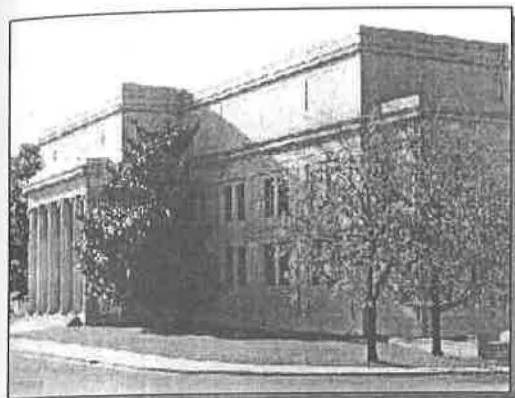
Robinson, Ed	Parole	9225	Shelby	1917	1921	Box 31; Grand larceny
Robinson, Fred	Pardon		DeKalb		1919	Box 31; Carrying a pistol
Robinson, Henry	Parole	1562	Madison	1911	1919	Box 31; 2nd degree murder
Robinson, James	Pardon	11820	Lincoln	1922	1923	Box 31; Aiding prisoner to escape
Robinson, James		12963	Hamilton	1924		Box 31; Larceny
Robinson, Jody			Lawrence			Box 31; Forgery
Robinson, John Lee	Parole	11425	Cannon	1921	1923	Box 31; Petit larceny
Robinson, Odis	Parole	10346	Crockett	1919	1922	Box 31; 2nd degree murder
Robinson, Robert	Pardon		DeKalb	1919	1920	Box 31; Violated Bone Dry Law
Robinson, Will		8562	Knox	1912	1916	Box 31; Robbery; died 9-5-17
Roby, Bud		8198	Madison	1915	1923	Box 31; Rape
Rodgers, Charles C.	Parole	10214	Shelby	1919	1921	Box 31; Petit larceny
Rodgers, Otis	Parole	9168	Hickman	1917	1918	Box 31; Petit larceny
Roerts, Jim		9642	Unicoi	1917	1925	Box 31; Burglary; escaped
Rogan, Edmond						Box 31
Roger, Robert		9476	Bedford	1916	1920	Box 31; Attempted felony
Rogers, Charles	Parole	8973	Loudon	1916	1922	Box 31; Forgery
Rogers, Claude C.			Madison		1921	Box 31
Rogers, Eugene	Pardon	10254	Shelby	1919	1920	Box 31; 1st degree murder
Rogers, Henry		8797	Henderson	1916		Box 31; 2nd degree murder; petitions
Rogers, John	Parole	10600	Hamilton	1920	1923	Box 31; Grand larceny
Rogers, John	Parole	10916	Shelby	1920	1922	Box 31; Assault to commit rape
Rogers, Walter	Pardon	11105	Shelby	1921	1922	Box 31; Voluntary manslaughter; 2 files
Rogers, Will	Pardon		Anderson	1919	1919	Box 31; Transporting liquor
Rollins, Ned	Parole	9255	Madison	1917	1921	Box 31; Voluntary manslaughter
Rollins, Osacr	Pardon		Davidson	1919	1919	Box 31; Burglary
Rollins, Sammie	Pardon		Davidson		1921	Box 31; Petit larceny
Romines, Frank	Parole	9628	Knox	1917	1921	Box 31; Forgery
Rooke, Elmer	Parole	9646	Madison	1917	1921	Box 30; Grand Larceny
Rooks, George		10363	Fayette	1919		Box 31; 2nd degree murder; died 11-24-24
Rose, Arthur	Parole	11545	Shelby	1921	1923	Box 31; Auto theft
Rose, Essie	Parole	10195	Roane	1919	1922	Box 31; 2nd degree murder; petitions
Rose, Jack		11373	Claiborne	1921		Box 31; Larceny
Rose, Joe		10702	Shelby	1920	1923	Box 31; Larceny
Rose, W.W.	Pardon	10549	Blount	1920	1921	Box 31; Malicious stabbing; 2 files
Ross, Clad	Pardon	10787	Gibson	1920	1921	Box 31; Transporting whiskey
Ross, Dan	Parole	10173	Hamilton	1919	1922	Box 31; Burglary
Ross, Willie			Davidson	1919		Box 31
Rosser, Thomas			Davidson	1921		Box 31; Transporting whiskey
Rowlett, Clarence	Parole	11706	Madison	1922	1924	Box 31; Bigamy
Royster, Hobert	Parole	11391	Weakley	1921	1923	Box 31; Petit larceny
Rucker, Jim	Parole	9787	Hamilton	1917	1922	Box 31; 2nd degree murder
Rucker, John	Parole	8777	Hamilton	1918	1920	Box 31; Burglary
Rucker, R.B.	Parole	11416	Coffee	1921	1923	Box 31; Petit larceny
Rucker, Sam	Parole	11101	Knox	1921	1923	Box 31; Housebreaking & larceny
Rudd, Thomas		12785	Hamilton	1923	1924	Box 31; Transporting liquor
Rude, O.H.	Parole	10898	Shelby	1920	1924	Box 31; Receiving stolen property
Rushing, Tim			Cannon			Box 31; Transporting liquor
Russell, Clyde	Pardon	11702	Unicoi	1922	1922	Box 31; Grand larceny
Russell, Floyd	Pardon	10404	Loudon	1919	1921	Box 31; Assault to murder
Russell, Howard	Parole	9786	Knox	1915	1924	Box 31; Housebreaking
Russell, Jim	Parole	7745	Marshall	1914	1921	Box 31; Murder
Russell, Will	Parole	9124	Knox	1915	1918	Box 31; Petit larceny
Rutledge, Lee	Parole	10646	Knox	1923	1924	Box 31; Larceny

Rutledge, Edd	Pardon	11632	Coffee	1922	1923	Box 31; Petit larceny
Ryan, Charles Alexander	Pardon		Knox	1910	1922	Box 31; Housebreaking & larceny
Ryan, John	Pardon	9271	Shelby	1917	1920	Box 31; Forgery
Ryan, Mat.			Clay	1920		Box 31
Ryan, Oscar	Pardon	11973	Wilson	1921	1923	Box 31; Robbery
Sanders, A.V.			Fayette	1922		Box 32; Manufacturing whiskey
Sanders, Arch	Pardon		Hamilton	1918	1920	Box 32; Petit larceny
Sanders, Ernest	Parole	7379	Shelby	1916	1918	Box 32; Petit larceny
Sanders, Will	Pardon		Coffee	1919	1920	Box 32; Violating liquor laws
Sanlin, R.J.	Parole	10021	Hamilton	1919	1921	Box 32; Petit larceny
Savage, M.M.	Pardon		Overton	1919	1920	Box 32; Contempt of court
Sawyer, F.O.	Pardon		Davidson	1919	1919	Box 32; Larceny
Scanlon, T.E.	Parole	8477	Davidson	1915	1918	Box 32; Petit larceny
Scarbrough, Bill	Parole	11587	Anderson	1921	1923	Box 32; Voluntary manslaughter
Severly, George	Parole	6161	Davidson	1911	1919	Box 32; 2nd degree murder
Sharp, Jesse	Pardon		Rhea	1919	1919	Box 32; Carrying a pistol
Sharpe, Albert	Parole	7622	Shelby	1914	1917	Box 32; Assault, 1st degree murder
Shawhan, J.M.	Parole	11825	Davidson	1922	1924	Box 32; Forgery
Shelton, Calvin		2759	Davidson	1905		Box 32; 1st degree murder; Shelton died 9-30-23
Shelton, Dave	Parole	9806	Harriman?	1917	1920	Box 32; Malicious shooting
Shepard, Carl	Parole	9323	Washington	1916	1918	Box 32; Larceny
Shepherd		10023	Hamilton	1919		Box 32; Grand larceny
Sherwood, Luther	Parole	9372	Shelby	1917	1920	Box 32; Housebreaking & larceny
Shirks, Bob	Pardon	2423	Roane	1905	1919	Box 32; 1st degree murder
Short, Pete	Pardon		Lawrence	1920	1921	Box 32; Bootlegging
Shorter, Robert		12895	Knox	1923		Box 32; Larceny
Sidwell, Herman Dr.	Pardon		Clay	1918	1920	Box 32; Public drunkenness
Sikes, H.M.		10412	Overton	1921		Box 32
Simerly, John			Blount	1921		Box 32; Assault & resisting arrest
Simmons, Bud	Parole	6780	Davidson	1912	1918	Box 32; 2nd degree murder
Simmons, Virgil			Davidson	1919		Box 32; Bootlegging
Simmons, Will	Parole	9764	Davidson	1916	1918	Box 32; Involuntary manslaughter
Simonton, Albert	Parole	9054	Lawrence	1916	1918	Box 32; Petit larceny
Sims, George	Parole	7977	Knox	1914	1917	Box 32; Housebreaking & larceny
Sims, Joe	Pardon	1650	Shelby	1903	1920	Box 32; Murder
Sims, Phillip			Shelby	1919		Box 32; Violating liquor laws
Sims, Sam	Parole	9818	Hamilton	1917	1920	Box 32; Voluntary manslaughter
Sims, Will	Parole	9636	Shelby	1917	1921	Box 32; Assault, 2nd degree murder
Sinclair, Mack	Parole	9648	Crockett	1917	1919	Box 32; Petit larceny
Sively, Charlie	Pardon		Hamilton	1920	1920	Box 32; Storing liquor
Skelton, Cully	Parole	9210	Shelby	1917	1918	Box 32; Petit larceny
Sloan, Andrew	Parole	4955	Smith	1909	1921	Box 32; Assault & Battery for rape; 2 files
Sloan, Bennie	Pardon		Giles	1921	1921	Box 32; Murder
Sloss, Mary	Parole	9022	Davidson	1916	1917	Box 32; Petit larceny
Smiley, H.O.	Parole	8142	Davidson	1915	1918	Box 32; Forgery
Smith, Alonzo	Parole	7735	Benton	1914	1921	Box 32; Murder
Smith, Avie	Pardon	10725	Knox	1920	1922	Box 32; Larceny
Smith, Ben	Parole	8438	Hamilton	1913	1919	Box 32; Grand larceny
Smith, Bill	Parole	5691	Davidson	1911	1918	Box 32; 2nd degree murder
Smith, Bud	Parole	9362	Lincoln	1917	1922	Box 32; Grand larceny
Smith, Charles	Pardon	8974	Sullivan	1916	1919	Box 32; Felonious assault
Smith, Clayton	Parole	8575	Obion	1916	1917	Box 32; Conspiracy
Smith, E.A.			Cumberland			Box 32; Violating Bone Dry Law

*To Be Continued*

# News from the State Library & Archives

by Trent Hanner and Stephanie Sutton,  
Reference Librarians



patrons, are also available as a souvenir of your visit to TSLA.

Many patrons will also have noticed the model of the future TSLA building which is on display in Memorial Hall. The new state-of-the-art facility will sit at the corner of Bicentennial Mall and Jefferson Street. Although groundbreaking is likely still a few years away, we invite you to study the plans for the new building. Noteworthy aspects of the proposed structure are its green design and the Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS) robotic technology that it will utilize. This high-density storage system will allow TSLA to transition into the 21<sup>st</sup> century while providing space for growth in an especially efficient manner.

In late May, we added the 1925 Tennessee Death Index to the TSLA website (<http://state.tn.us/tsla>). This index has proven to be a helpful and popular tool for our local patrons, but even more so for researchers around the country. Death Indexes are now available online from 1908—1912 and 1914—1925.

Visitors to the TSLA website are probably already familiar with the Tennessee Virtual Archive (TeVA) and the Photograph and Image Database. The archivists and librarians at TSLA continue to add new collections to TeVA, complementing the collections with essays to place the images in a historical context and to explain their provenance. Recently the Historical Maps of Tennessee collection was uploaded to TeVA. The five maps in this mini-collection are but a tiny sampling from TSLA's impressive holdings.

While TeVA currently holds twelve thematic collections, the TSLA website also features other online exhibits (in tandem with rotating in-house exhibits) and a new stand-alone feature: Tennessee's Landmark Documents. This feature allows off-site patrons to virtually access some of the most precious pieces from the state's history. Patrons may view rare documents such as the Cherokee Nation's Constitution, the Cumberland Compact, and the Tennessee Constitutions of 1796 and 1834. The Landmark Documents collection will function as a dynamic feature on the TSLA website; look for additional items to appear in this collection in the future.

The microfilm collection at TSLA is growing as well. The Carey Edward Waldrip Papers Addition (Mf. 1838) contains over 400 eclectic items, from correspondence and biographical sketches to maps and photographs.

The Kimbro Family Papers (Mf. 1879) will be of interest to genealogists researching the Kimbro, Hibbett, Pearson, Gooch, Sharp, Eskridge, Cannon, Davis, and Kinnard families. This collection of 182 items spans the years 1819-1984 and contains a variety of pieces integral to family research: Bible records, deeds, correspondence, marriage records, newspaper clippings, photographs, and historical and biographical sketches, among other materials.

The Thorpe Genealogical Collection, 1780-1995 (Mf. 1839) was a gift of Mrs. Richard Y. Thorpe of Nashville. The over 1,000 items in this collection relate to a variety of families, including the May, Overton, Thomas, Thorpe, and York lines.

Mrs. Patricia B. Kirkeminde of Crossville, Tennessee donated the collection that bears her name (Mf. 1842). The materials in this collection relate mostly to her research for the book, *History of Veterinary Medicine in Tennessee*. The papers contain a rich collection of ephemera relevant to the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association and the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association Auxiliary.

Descriptions of the collections above, as well as the hundreds of other manuscripts collections available on microfilm, are available on the TSLA website at <http://tennessee.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/mssguide.htm>.

Lastly, TSLA continues its occasional Seminar Series in July with an already-booked presentation by TSLA regulars David Britton, Paul Clements, Doug Drake, Irene Griffey, Jack Masters, and Bill Puryear. The late July event is entitled "Pioneer Land Grants, Traces, Roads, and Pioneer Stations in the Central Valley of the Cumberland River." If you didn't already make a reservation for this exciting seminar, you are welcome to contact us at [workshop.tslda@state.tn.us](mailto:workshop.tslda@state.tn.us) to place your name on the waiting list. Stay tuned to the TSLA website for forthcoming announcements on future events.

## Using Original Court Records A Hands-On Genealogy Workshop

Sept. 20, 2008  
The Brentwood Library  
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Instructor  
Chuck Sherrill (M.A., M.L.S.)  
Author of *Tennesseans in Court and Tennessee Convicts*  
Director of the Brentwood Library

Court records contain vast amounts of interesting information about our ancestors. They can provide a window into the lives and times of our ancestors. However, many genealogists avoid searching these records or, when using them, fail to find the gems hidden there.

This workshop is designed to introduce readers to the types of court records commonly found in southern and Midwestern states in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Participants will work through a packet of original documents to determine what the records are, why they are valuable, how they can be found, and how to use them effectively.

Join us for interesting and informative workshop. It's free, but registration is required.

Open to the Public  
Contact Brenta Davis, Registrar, at [bdavis66@comcast.net](mailto:bdavis66@comcast.net)  
or call (615) 661-9775 to reserve your seat by Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>