

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

For more information about events, visit
the MTGS web site or contact
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OUR MEETING PLACE

Knowles Senior Center (Fifty Forward)
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

Saturday, Nov. 16
Brentwood Library 8:15am-4:00pm

Struggling on the Homefront: Civil War Families

An All-Day Genealogy Seminar

This year's seminar features four local speakers
presenting these topics:

*Good News about Old News: Civil War
Newspaper Research in the Digital Age*
by Chuck Sherrill

*The Taxman came, then changed his mind: Direct
Federal Taxes and the Rebate Ledgers*
by Darla Brock

*Help Me Please? Government Claims and other
Unusual Requests*
by J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA

*Footsteps of the Fourteenth, or
Look Everywhere – Then Look Everywhere Else
A Case Study*
by Jim Long

Registration required. See centerfold.

Middle Tennessee

Journal of Genealogy & History

Volume XXVII, Number 2, Fall 2013

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***Journal Policy and Information
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Contributors in this issue

Gale Williams Bamman
Jim Long
Shirley Roach Thompson
Shirley Wilson

From the Editor. . .

The MTGS volunteer corps has been hard at work preparing for the annual Genealogy Seminar. Registration is already well underway and we look forward to seeing many of our members at the Brentwood Library on November 16th. The theme is Struggling On the Homefront: Civil War Families, and more information can be found in the centerfold of this issue.

Jim Long's work on the fascinating Brigham Family letters from Stewart County continues in this issue. Following some heart-wrenching Civil War letters are two sweet personal letters from prominent Nashvillian Eugene Lewis, who was the brains behind the famous Tennessee Centennial Exhibition of 1897.

Also in this issue you'll find a helpful article on research in Trust Deeds – which I will confess I have often ignored when visiting courthouses – by Shirley Roach Thompson.

The Southern Claims records from Rutherford County, continued in this issue, reveal much new information about the impact of the Stone's River battle on both black and white families in the area.

And don't miss the news from Lawrenceburg – old news, that is – taken from an issue of the *Lawrenceburg Academist* of 1846.

Chuck Sherrill
M.T.G.S Journal Editor

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Trust Deeds Books:

Finding Unexpected Clues in an Underutilized Source

by Shirley Roach Thompson

ALL genealogists know that deed research is a critical part of their work. No thorough genealogist would dare to think that his research on a family surname in a county is complete unless he had examined published books of land deed abstracts and deed indexes for that county as well as the microfilm of the deed indexes. Much of the documentation for our lineage comes from information gathered from these deeds and the other types of documents which were often also recorded in these deed books, such as power of attorney, leases, etc. This same research approach should be taken with trust deed books as well.



Deed books are some of the earliest records maintained by the counties. Later, as time progressed, many Tennessee counties began making entries in another set of ledgers, called Trust Deed Books. These books obviously record deeds of trust, but they also contain many types of documents which relate to transactions for other than real estate, just as did early deed books.

Before proceeding to a more detailed discussion of trust deed books, some brief definitions from Black's Law Dictionary will be helpful to understand what documents should be recorded in trust deed books rather than in deed books.

Most genealogists have a basic understanding of deeds and how they work. A deed is defined in Black's Law Dictionary as "a conveyance of realty; a writing signed by grantor, whereby title to realty is transferred from one to another." And for most people purchasing a home or other real property to be paid for over time, a mortgage will be given on the property, which Black's Law Dictionary defines as "an interest in land created

by a written instrument providing security for the performance of a duty or the payment of a debt." This is what we think of that would typically be recorded in the trust deed books. However, many of the deeds of trust are not just mortgages for the purchase of land or homes.

A deed of trust, as defined by Black's Law Dictionary is "an instrument . . . taking the place and serving the uses of a mortgage, by which the legal title to real property is placed in one or more trustees, to secure the repayment of a sum of money or the performance of other conditions." So a mortgage or a deed of trust may be given to secure payment on a debt for other than only the purchase of real estate, such as in earlier days, to buy a horse, a car, etc., or to just borrow cash outright for current needs.

One other pertinent definition is that of a chattel mortgage, defined by Black's as "a pre-Uniform Commercial Code security device whereby a security interest was taken by the mortgagee in personal

property of the mortgagor. A transfer of some legal or equitable right in personal property or creation of a lien thereon as security for payment of money or performance of some other act, subject to defeasance on performance of the conditions.” Now, this is like a automobile loan in which the auto itself serves as security for the automobile loan, and the purchaser receives clear title to the auto after all payments have been made.

Counties record documents in somewhat different manners, which is one of the reasons that research can be confusing until time is devoted to understand how each county’s records are arranged and indexed. A search of the Tennessee county records on microfilm at the TSLA website shows that the counties began segregating these trust deeds from the regular deeds at various points in time and recorded them in separate ledgers with separate indexes. This new recording process may have resulted as the volume of trust deeds generated increased when more people moved into the areas and more people began to borrow money to buy land, particularly when the money was borrowed from third parties who were not family members or the sellers of the land.

These trust deed books contain a whole body of recorded legal documents, for which there may be no other reference found in the regular deed books. And as with earlier deed books, the types of documents that the trust deed books contain are surprising and can yield a great deal of information which is valuable to genealogists.

Sumner County Tennessee is a good example of the importance of using the Trust Deed Books in research. Trust Deeds were recorded in a separate book beginning in January of 1887 for Sumner County. A separate General Index of Trust Deeds is available (Trust Deeds Index, Volumes 1-2, A-Z, 1887 – 1919, on Microfilm Roll 189), arranged similarly to a regular deed index, both by grantors and grantees, alphabetically. The general index is in a ledger book format listing in columns, alphabetically, the grantor’s name, the grantee’s name, the nature of the instrument recorded, the date of the filing of the instrument giving the month, day, and year as well as time of day of the

recording, and the book and page number in which the instrument is recorded. There is a reverse index, just as in a regular deed index, which lists the instruments alphabetically by the grantee’s name, giving the same information in each column.

The “Nature of the Instrument” column was intriguing. In briefly scanning the early volumes of General Index of Trust Deeds, the following types of instruments were listed: note, deed, charter, mortgage, deed of trust, agreement, release, title bond, bill of sale, lien, assignment, power of attorney, contract, lease, judgment, map or plat, obligation, process, transfer, mortgage transfer, deposition, chattel mortgage, decree, and amendment. In the Trust Deed Books, many documents relate to transfers of property other than land. And as in earlier regular deed books, many types of documents are recorded which are not deeds.

As in regular deed research, the objective is to find family and collateral surnames listed, giving special attention to the names listed with the added identifiers of et al, and others, guardian, executor, administrator, etc., which may provide details of family relationships.

A few examples of the diversity of the information found in these Trust Deed books demonstrate the value to researchers. This is especially helpful in Sumner County Tennessee research as the Trust Deed Books begin in 1887. Since there is no surviving federal general population census for Tennessee in 1890, the trust deed books provide important information for those individuals listed therein during the 1890’s.

Depositions Regarding Competency of Obediah Stone

Recorded in Sumner County, TN Trust Deeds Book 1, pages 89 through 91, are four depositions which were taken on June 18, 1888; Received for registration June 29, 1890; registered and examined July 4th 1890.

1. Deposition of G. T. Stone of Murray (sic) County, TN; age 41, son of O. B. Stone. G. T. Stone has lived in Murray (sic) County for 22 years. O. B. Stone has lived on G. T. Stone’s premises since October, 1887.

2. Deposition of G. W. Stone of Sumner County, TN; age 62; no relationship specified. G. W. Stone lived "about one mile" from O. B. Stone "up to the time he left in the fall 1887."

3. Deposition of Dr. T. L. Lanier of Sumner County, TN; he has known Obediah Stone for eight years and been his "fision" for 'the last six years before he left here."

4. Deposition of Milton Carver of Sumner County, TN; he lived "one half mile" from "O. B. Stone until the time he left here in the fall of 1887." No relationship was given, but Milton Carver did "right (sic)" up contracts for O. B. Stone. Among the questions and answers are:

"Qu: Did you right (sic) up any contracts for O. B. Stone's croppers for the last two or three years, up to the time he left here
Ans: I did for the last three years"

Perhaps the validity of contracts of Obediah Stone with his sharecroppers had come into question or other documents that Obediah may have executed during this time period.

All those giving depositions stated that they considered O. B. Stone to be "competent to transact his business mentally."

All four of these depositions were taken before G. H. Burney, J. P. On the deposition of G. W. Stone and Milton Carver, the "State of Tennessee" identifier is followed by "Rob. County", so a connection to Robertson County, TN was indicated. The 1850 and 1860 federal censuses list Obediah Stone in Robertson County; the 1870 and 1880 federal censuses list him in Sumner County. On the 1850 census, there are several members of the Birney family listed following the household of Obediah Stone, which could explain the depositions being taken by G. H. Burney, J.P., Robertson County, who may have been a neighbor to the family in earlier years. The two year delay between the times the depositions were taken and the time they

were recorded could be an indicator of a significant family event occurring in 1890.

Charter of Incorporation of the Christian Love Society of Number One

There were many corporate charters entered in the trust deeds book, and several are for non-profit or charitable type organizations. In Sumner County Trust Deed Book 3, pages 403 and 404, a charter of incorporation is recorded for the "Christian Love Society of Number One . . . for the purpose & object of taking care of the sick & burying the dead members of said association by collecting sick or death benefits from the members of the said association." This society is being

formed by Wm. M. Howell, Joe (later listed as James) Harper, Milton Kirk, Simon Franklin, Mat (later listed as Madison) Taylor, William Douglass, Boston Lewis, Le_ Wilson, and their associates. The document is dated 30 December, 1893 and has signatures or marks indicated for Howell, Lewis, Harper, Taylor and one name not listed in the body of the document, Robert Hockett, marks being made for the last four. Although the term "non-profit" is not used, the charter states that "The general welfare of Society not individual profit is the object for which this charter is granted." An initial membership fee and annual dues were to be set by the board of directors.

From an initial search of federal census records for Sumner County, TN for 1880 and 1900, the original incorporators appear to have been a group of black citizens, mostly living in District 5 or Saundersville of Sumner County. The "Number One" in the name of the society probably refers to the Number One Community in Sumner County, located between Gallatin and Hendersonville.

Contract for Lease of Farm

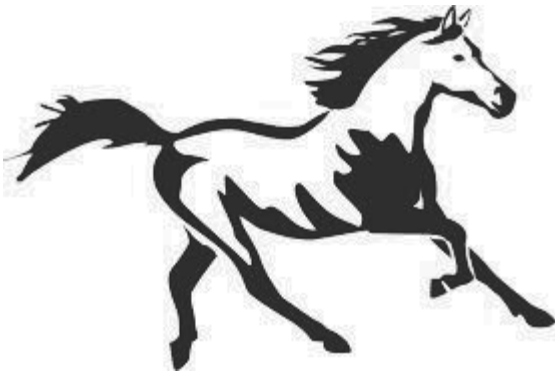
In Sumner County Trust Deed Book 1, on page 4, a contract for the lease of a 390 acre farm owned by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad near South Tunnel is recorded to J. W. C. Bryant for the year 1887. Details



of the rental agreement are set forth, as well as the boundaries of the leased farm, bounded by Dr. W. R. Tomkins, Henry Braswell, Hardin, Wallace heirs, George Taylor, George Rodemer, G. N Brinkley and "others," who are not listed in the contract. The contract is dated January 13, 1887.

Procession and Survey

In Sumner County Trust Deed Book 1, on page 27, the report dated February 26, 1887 from a procession and survey by J. M. Link, surveyor for Sumner County is recorded. This procession and survey had been performed at the direction of A. B. Murry, Adm. of William Murry, Dec'd. The land was in Civil District No. 5 of Sumner County, bordered by Harry Smith, William Weisiger, and Mrs. A. M. Turner.



Purchase of Horse

Secured by Mortgage on Land

In Sumner County Trust Deed Book 1, on pages 201 and 202, a mortgage on land belonging to John Bell, Sr., and his wife Margaret A. Bell is given to William Stringer to secure a note they issued to Stringer for the purchase of a sorrel mare for \$60.75 on April 19, 1888. The land is in the 16th Civil District and contains ten acres and includes the house that son Henry Bell did live in. The land is bordered by Mortecky[Mordechai?] Cummings lands and Mrs. Mary Wickware.

Purchase of Bay Mare Secured by Lien on Black Horse

In Sumner County Trust Deed Book 1, on page 554, a note and liens are recorded when C. H. Mayes purchases a bay mare "about 12 years old and 15 hands high" from J. C. Hill on November 9, 1889. C. H. Mayes issues J. C. Hill a note for \$100. Mayes also

gives Hill a lien on the bay mare that he has purchased from him and a lien on "one black horse about 8 years old and about 15 hands high . . ."

Power of Attorney

Also in Sumner County Trust Deed Book 1, on page 554 and 555, "the heirs of W. G. Pond, Sr., Dec'd, in order to facilitate the settlement of the estate of said W. G. Pond, Sr., Dec'd, doth hereby appoint, constitute, and empower W. G. Pond, Jr., our true and lawful attorney . . ." executed on Sept. 19th, 1889 by M. J. Pond, Jno. L. Pond, Fannie Butler, W. F. Butler, and C. T. Pond.

Bill of Sale

In Sumner County Trust Deed Book 3, on page 340, a bill of sale is recorded in which J. H. Working has sold one field of 30 acres of corn on September 4, 1893, to R. C. Harris and others. The field of corn is located in the 11th District of Sumner County on the east fork of Bledsoe Creek. This bill of sale was made to secure the payment of a \$250 note.

As the above examples demonstrate, many different types of documents are included in the trust deeds book, and many are not specifically trust deeds. A brief continued search of trust deed books for Sumner County in later years also illustrated even more good examples of the different uses of trust deeds.

Lien on Household Items

Salvaged from Trousdale House in Gallatin and Business Equipment located on Gallatin Square to Secure Note

In Sumner County Trust Deed Book 7, on pages 308 and 309, a document is recorded which contains unusual information. In order to secure a note for \$150 in which W. J. Hancock has indebted himself to J. T. Durham, Hancock has given a lien on May 10, 1901, on two sets of assorted personal property to Durham. The items from Trousdale House appear to be miscellaneous household goods that would have been sold at an estate sale or moving sale. Those items at the location situated in the "Pond or Examiner Building on the east side of the square of Gallatin" appear to be business type equipment, including barber's

equipment. A detailed list of items at both locations is included in the lien document.

Purchase of Automobile secured by House and Land

In Sumner County Trust Deed Book 14, on page 395, F. L. Harrington and wife Alice Harrington of Sumner County, give a mortgage on their land and house on the public square in Gallatin to The Tennessee Automobile Company of Nashville, Davidson County to secure a note of \$1,400, dated August 25, 1909, appearing to be a note issued for the purchase of an automobile.

The Trust Deeds Books merit the same degree of scrutiny as the regular deed books for genealogists' research. Begin by checking the list of county records available on microfilm at the Tennessee State Library and Archives to determine if and when the county of interest began using trust deed books, next check the card catalogue for possible trust deed indexes published in book form, and then proceed to the microfilmed copies of the trust deed indexes and from there, finally to the microfilmed documents as recorded in the trust deed books. Also, contact the local county archives to see what trust deed



1909 Model-T Ford

records might be preserved at the county level and not available on microfilm.

Research is not complete until a search of the trust deeds books has been made for your family surnames. These records may not only provide genealogical data which helps in proof of lineage, but also provide information giving more insight into your ancestor's lives and business dealings.

The Story of an Arkansas Tooth-Pick

A formidable bowie knife, in a leathern case tipped with tin will be presented to the Historical Society at its next meeting. This knife was taken from the battlefield of Fort Donelson by P. G. Warford, of Stewart county. On the Saturday evening before the surrender, and on Sunday morning, there was very hard fighting on the right and for a few moments it was hand-to-hand struggle.

It was here that the gallant soldier and owner of the knife lost his life. On coming to close quarters, he drew his knife and defended himself with it until shot down. He was supposed to have belonged to that heroic Confederate regiment known as "The Bloody Tenth Tennessee."

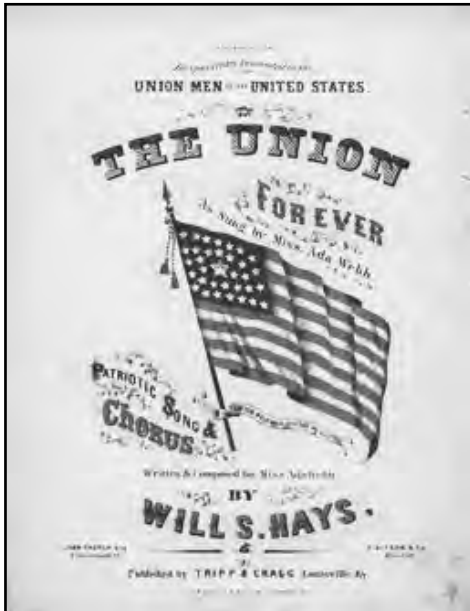
The morning after the surrender, Mr. Warford, while walking over the field, came upon this dead soldier, lying where he had fallen, the knife still grasped in his hand. With some difficulty he took it from the brave fellow's fingers and bore it home as a memento of the battle. Quite recently it was turned over to Anson Nelson, Secretary of the Historical Society. [It] was presented through W. T. Quarles, and bears the marks of hard service.

From The Nashville American, Aug. 11, 1876

Middle Tennessee Civil War Claims

From Rutherford County (continued, part 5)

Allowed for Payment by the Southern Claims Commission



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 can be viewed at the National Archives and digital versions are accessible on *Footnote.com*.

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

SUSAN RUCKER (file #1)

Rucker is a resident of Rutherford County, age 72; claim filed in 1872; file consists of 40 pp.; claimed \$2,379 for corn, fodder, mules, sheep, hogs and cattle.

Commissioners' Remarks:

"The claimant is quite an old lady, and very much of an invalid; was feeble during the war. Her husband was insane and died in 1861. She, and her sister and several witnesses – neighbors of hers, testify to her loyal conversation and reputation during the war. She seems very candid and sincere. She took the oath of allegiance in 1863, was furnished protection papers and receipts for part of her property taken. She also furnished slaves to work upon the Union fortifications at Murfreesboro. She had two sons grown who went into the Confederate service, but she did not

sympathize with the cause for which they fought. The testimony establishes her loyalty as well as the taking of the supplies by Genl. Rosecrans' army in 1863. There is but one witness who testifies to the circumstances attending the taking of 1,000 bushels of corn. The other witnesses all seem to confine themselves to about 200 or 250 bushels.... We are not satisfied by the testimony that 200 barrels were taken.... If such had been the fact, surely the witnesses would have remembered the 200 barrels as readily as the 200 bushels.... Part of the hogs taken are chargeable to depredation. We allow the sum of \$899."

Notes:

Susan is the widow of William R. Rucker who died in 1861. Her children are: William, 34; Joel, 31; and Sharon[?], 30. She lived about three miles from Murfreesboro. The army came there immediately after

the Stone's River battle to gather food. Her colored man Ishmael had charge of the livestock. Her sons William and Joel were in the Confederate Army, as were several nephews. William and Joel now live with her.



Susan Childress Rucker (1801-1888).
This portrait, ca. 1830, hangs in the James K. Polk home in Columbia.

Witnesses:

- Sarah Polk (Mrs. President Polk), age 70, of Nashville, sister of claimant. Was frequently at her house during the war. "She was well provided for when the war commenced, but during its progress her losses were very grate and she is now in much need...."
- Thomas C. Black, age 63, physician, has known Mrs. Rucker since her girlhood, has been one her nearest neighbors for 25 years. "Mrs. Rucker's social, moral & religious standing is not inferior to any ones in the country; is the sister of Mrs. President Polk, has been an exemplary member of the church for forty years or more, and any statement she may make is in my opinion entitled to the fullest credit."
- David Mitchell, age 69, farmer, has known Susan Rucker since about 1818. "She is a very prudent woman, does not talk a great deal. She is a very sensible lady." Her husband died about the time the war started.
- Ishmael Rucker, age 50, farmer. Was born a slave of the late W.B. Rucker and has "lived in & with the family" up to the present time. During the war he frequently drove Mrs. Rucker in her carriage

through the federal lines into town. She had a pass and protection papers from Gen. Rosecrans.

- Isaac Rucker, age 61, carpenter, saw the mules taken. The soldiers told him where he could go to find some sheep hides and the remains of the hogs they had killed.

SUSAN RUCKER (file #2)

Rucker is a resident of Rutherford County, age 63; claim filed in 1871; file consists of 12 pp.; claimed \$1,130 for horses, mules, a heifer, sheep, corn, cattle and a hog.

Commissioners' Remarks:

There is no separate commissioners' report for this claim. The commissioners appear to have erroneously considered both Susan Rucker claims as two copies of one claim.

Notes:

An application of Susan Rucker is filed with the Susan Rucker papers above, but appears to be a different person of the same name. The application is dated 1871. This Susan Rucker is the widow and administratrix of the estate of Joseph B. Rucker. "My husband was insane and had been so for 25 years before his death in 1869." Her sons Benjamin and Panten[?] Rucker were in the Confederate Army. She signed with an X.

"I told him that I would see them in Hell before I would vote for Isham G. Harris or Jeff Davis either." Claimaint Joseph R. Thompson, speaking of the 1861 vote to hold a secession convention.

Witnesses:

- James E. Wendel, age 59, physician. Joseph Rucker was insane and incapacitated from 1850 until his death 20 years later.
- H.H. Clayton, age 45, physician, agrees with Dr. Wendel's statement.
- Jack (also Jackson) Rucker, age 37, laborer, resided in county 37 years. Saw the property taken directly after the battle of Stone's River
- Butler Rucker, age 21, farm laborer, resided in county 21 years. Saw the property taken.



Sarah Polk poses at center with the President, flanked by her niece Joanna Rucker, future First Lady and President Harriet Lane and James Buchanan at left while former First Lady Dolley Madison stands beside the President. (Eastman House)

JOSEPH R. THOMPSON

Thompson is a resident of Rutherford County, age 54; claim filed in 1873; file consists of 40 pp.; claimed \$1,012 for hogs and corn.

Commissioners' Remarks:

"This claimant is about 61 years of age and a farmer. He resides six miles from Murfreesboro where he resided when the war broke out, and up to the first of Apr. 1863, he opposed secession. He voted against it at both the elections in Tennessee. On the latter occasion, in June 1861, he went to the election with his gun and voted "no separation" in defiance of threats against him. He was interested with one Inqua[?] in a saddlers shop. Inqua took a contract for the making of cartridges for the Confederates. Claimant refused to have anything to do with it and withdrew from the business. He was threatened and denounced for his Union sentiments, which he always professed, and never in any way aided the Confederacy. We have no doubt his sympathies were at all times on the side of the Federal Union. The supplies were taken by Federal forage trains from Murfreesboro in Jan. 1863. The

Federals were then supplied by foraging upon the country. The proof shows about 75 small hogs taken from the claimant ... [and] 30 barrels of corn.... We recommend the payment of \$341."

Notes:

Claimant lives six miles from Murfreesboro on the Hall's Hill Turnpike, and rents the place from his brother John M. Thompson. For a short time he moved to another tract across the East Fork of Stone's River, rented from Joseph S. Smith. "I have always been engaged in farming & distilling liquor." Union Army colonels from Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Ohio came with their troops to his farm. "Parties of Federal soldiers would stay behind and kill the hogs & have them ready on the pike for the trains as they came back." He bought the corn that was taken from his brother, John, who was moving to Illinois. His partner in saddle-making was John F. Iuqua [later spelled Fuquay]. "He went to making cartridge boxes for the Confederate army. I disapproved of this and quit the shop." Claimant's nephew Samuel F. Thompson was pressed into the Confederate army and now lives in Illinois. Claimant once received a pass from the

Confederate Provost Marshal at Murfreesboro to get back to his home and family. His old friend Benjamin Horton got the pass for him. "A few days before the election came off I was notified that no Union man would be allowed to vote in that Civil District. That made me angry & excited. I had never been deprived of my right to vote any way I pleased and I never intended to be. I did not know but I might have trouble and therefore took my gun with me to the polls. At the door of the house where the election was being held I met one of my neighbors, a strong secessionist, and he said to me 'Joe, how are you going to vote?' I said 'I am going to vote as I d—m please.' He then inquired if I wasn't going to vote for Isham G. Harris and I told him that I would see them in Hell before I would vote for Isham G. Harris or Jeff Davis either."

Witnesses:

- Thomas H. Hays, age 43, farmer, has known claimant "a long time." Thompson told him that the "Rebellion was a curse to the land.... He was always a straight out Union man."
- John S. Thompson, age 29, constable and son of claimant. On 5 July 1864 witness was sworn in as Deputy Register of the county. Maj. Wm. Arnett, an old man who lived within 100 yards of Thompson's corn crib, saw the soldiers take the corn. He believes Arnett has died since but does not know for certain. His uncle John M. Thompson is now dead (testimony from 1879).
- John Northcott, age 63, lives four miles from Murfreesboro near the Milton Pike, a farmer. Witnesses' first wife, who died more than 20 years ago, was Thompson's sister. He lived with Thompson from 1855 to 1866 and fed his hogs. The Union forage-master at the time the hogs were taken was John A. Broland or Brolin.
- Edward L. Jordan, age 56, banker and railroad director, has known claimant for "many years." Thompson's brother was a Union man and went to Illinois "to get away from the Rebellion and to keep his sons out of it."
- Marvel D. Dill, age 64, farmer, has known claimant all his life. When the Rebels threatened to hang Thompson, "I went and told him so, to be on his watch and mind how he talked."
- W.M. Fitzgerald, claims examiner, wrote, "I could learn of no disloyal act ... but ... he was making and selling liquor, and ... the rebel soldiers would get some from him occasionally in their canteens."

This does not appear in his testimony but he told it to me after I had taken his deposition."

- M.H. Sanders, whom Thompson had planned to call as a witness, died before his testimony could be taken.



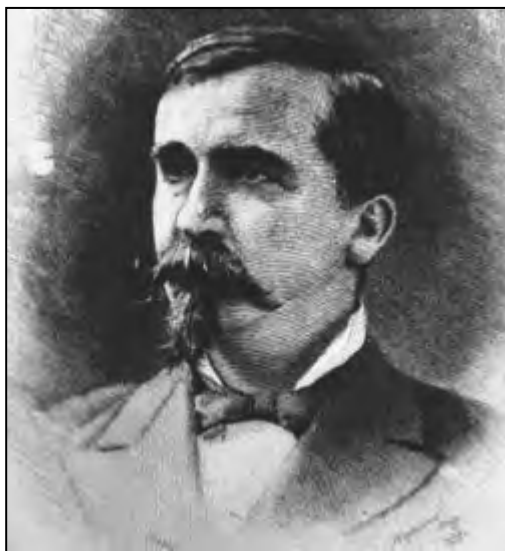
SAMUEL B. WATKINS

Watkins resides in Rutherford County; age 60; claim filed in 1874; file consists of about 50 pp. Claimed \$4,816 for cordwood, timber, hay, corn, sheep and beef.

Commissioners' Remarks:

"The claimant is 60 years old. He swears to his loyal sentiments and that he adhered to the Union cause throughout the war. He voted against calling a convention for considering the question of seceding from the Union but was afraid to go to the polls and vote against separation and representation in the Confederate Congress. His son ran away and joined the Rebel Army and was killed at Stone's River. Claimant took the oath of allegiance ... in June 1863, and had previously taken a similar oath on receiving a pass in July 1862. He also received protection papers from the Union officers. He associated with Union men about Murfreesboro, and was generally regarded by them as a Union man. The U.S. Marshal Wm. Spense, Edward Jordan & John Jones confirm the statements of the claimant and testify to his loyal conversation, associations and reputation. The first item charged ... is for fence rails.... As to green timber, second item, we are not satisfied as to the quantity or value taken by our troops.... There is proof that two very large cribs of corn was taken.... Two cows and heifers were killed, but one of the cows was left on the ground[;] she was worth nothing and it was not used for supplies ... but wanton destruction. We ... allow the sum of \$1,781.

"I have seen I suppose 5,000 U.S. soldiers on his & my place at one time.... They just took everything there was on our farms. Corn, hay & etc., the soldiers were everywhere shooting sheep, hogs, etc."
Witness John Jones, speaking on behalf of Samuel Watkins' claim.



Richard Stanley Tuthill (1841-1920), a young lawyer from Illinois, was living in Nashville and working for the Southern Claims Commission after the war. His sensitivity to people of color he interviewed shows in some of his comments in the Rutherford County files. That was unusual for the time, even for a "Yankee."

Special Examiner Richard Tuthill wrote:

"Claimant is a gentleman of intelligence & character.... [He] had to be cautious in his utterances, but was ... regarded as a reliable Union man all during the war.... His own testimony & that of his two negro men Hillary & James – more than commonly intelligent black men – seems to be all the proof of a definite character claimant can produce."

Notes:

During the war Watkins lived 3 ½ miles from Murfreesboro on the Lebanon Turnpike Road, where he has lived for 30 years on his farm of 183 acres. He owned two additional farms of about 300 acres jointly. One of the farms was on the battlefield but he has no witnesses to the taking of the property there and is, therefore, not claiming it. His dwelling house burned down in Oct. 1862 and he believes it was burned because of his Union sentiment and to test Gov. Johnson's proclamation that "for every Union man's house burned, five rebels should be burned...." His son James Elwood Watkins was 19 at the time of the battle of Stone's River and ran away from home to join the Confederate army. He was killed early in the fight. Watkins' nephew Thomas S. Watkins, a son of his half-brother, was in the rebel army. Thomas S. now lives in Gibson County, Tenn. Witness sent his negro

men Hillary & James Watkins to see what had been taken from his second farm. St. Clair Morton of the Engineer Corps and his men took Watkins' fence rails to where they were building a fort, and used them for fuel.

Witnesses:

- Hillary Watkins, age about 50, lives on Esq. Wade's land, and is a farmer. He was formerly a slave. He belonged to Watkins and lived on his homeplace during the war.
- James Watkins, age about 26, formerly Watkins' slave, still works on his farm.
- William P. Sharp, age 69, resides in Carroll County, and is a farmer. He has known the claimant for 20 years. During the war he lived near Watkins.
- John Jones, age 60, commission merchant and grocer, has known the claimant for 30 years and lived near him during the war on an adjoining farm. "I have seen I suppose 5,000 United [States] soldiers on his & my place at one time, and a hundred or more wagons. They just took everything there was on our farms. Corn, hay & etc. & the soldiers were everywhere shooting sheep, hogs & etc...."
- Edward L. Jordan, age 57, banker and railroad director, has known claimant many years.
- William Spence, age 57, farmer and U.S Marshal, has known claimant 25 or 30 years.

AARON WENDELL

Wendell resides in Rutherford County and was 74 years old at the time of his application in 1873. His claim file is about 30 pp. in length. He claimed \$475 for horses, a cow and calf, and corn.

Commissioners' Remarks:

"The claimant is a "venerable" old colored man, over 75 years of age. Has been free from 1836. Of his devotion to the Union army during the war there is no doubt. He was a mattress maker and by his industry had acquired considerable property. Every item of the claim is fully proved. The property was taken in 1863. The cow for the use of the hospital. All taken in Rutherford Co. Tenn. At that time (Jan. 1863) but few horses could be found worth \$165 or even \$150. No vouchers were given and no payment made. We recommend the payment of \$370."

Notes:

In about 1836, David Wendel, the claimant's master, set him free by his will. He then worked at wagoning and draying and gas[?] making. "My old master always

treated [me] like a free man. I was his body servant. I live on my own land and owe no man for it." Wendell lived in the town of Murfreesboro during the war, on a lot measuring 100 x 60 feet at the corner of Spring and State streets. The rebels took from him eight or ten mattresses and several hogs. The first day the Union soldiers came to Murfreesboro his wife had the mare in a spring wagon and they took the horse away from her. A month later he had loaned his horse to Mr. Jewett, a man from Indiana. Jewett left the horse at a blacksmith shop to be shod and the soldiers took him away. "I told the man I was a poor man and it was hard to take my horse from me. They said they had orders to take horses and that I would get pay for him." Benjamin Jones went to the camps and got Wendell's cow back, but then "a doctor and some other man came after her again. The Doctor said he was compelled to have her for the benefit of the Hospital. My old woman (wife) set up a crying but I told her 'that man is a man in authority and had a right to do as he pleased.'"

Remarks by Special Commissioner Richard S. Tuthill: "Claimant is a venerable old colored man who has been free since about 1836. By industry economy and sobriety he has supported a family and made and saved money. I have no sort of questions but that his witnesses – mostly colored people of the most respectable character – have told the truth about the taking of the property and its value. Of his loyalty there is "no shade of a shadow of a doubt." The success of the Union army was the liberation of his children and his race from slavery, the dearest objects in this life to him. The appearance of the old white headed man as well as his witnesses was excellent. I hope the claim may be promptly paid. I am sure law and justice will be thus subscribed."

"

Witnesses:

- Charles Wendel, age 29, blacksmith and engineer for stationary engines, is the son of the claimant. One of his father's horses was taken from John D. Vaughn's blacksmith shop on the Shelbyville pike

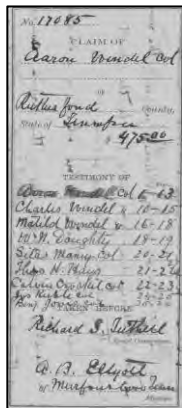


in Murfreesboro. "I told them that the horse belonged to my father a colored man and that I wanted to know how he was going to get pay for him. They told me that I would have to look to Uncle Sam for pay, that there was a horse shot in the leg & that I could have him. I told them that was a U.S. horse and that I had no business with him. The soldier that took my father's horse rode him off a little piece and turned around and came back and said 'Young man, this is a good horse & if I had any way, I would give you a voucher for him.' Just after Gen. Rosecrans' army got into town a soldier took another horse of his father's, removing it from a spring wagon. Charles was on his horse nearby and asked the soldier why he was taking their horse. The soldier was a cavalryman and said he was going to ride her, because his horse had been killed in the fight at Stone's River. Charles objected, and was arrested and taken to Rosecrans' headquarters. They also took the horse he was riding, which belonged to Mr. Duffer. A friend, Mr. Ashburn of Georgia, got him released. Charles went with the army when they left for Chattanooga, working as a cattle drover. He was in government service two years and six months. He was then shot and returned home, disabled.

At about the same time, soldiers came to their house early one morning "just after we had milked the cow." His little brother, Jim, saw them taking the cow and ran in to tell their sister. She told Charles he had better go down and see about the cow. The soldiers said they needed the milk for sick and wounded soldiers. They took the cow and her calf out to the camp of the 4th U.S. Regiment of regulars, three miles from town on the Shelbyville road.

Charles was also present when his father's corn was taken. "I asked Mr. Cotton, a wagon master, how did he expect my father to get pay for his corn

if he carried it off that away.” Mr. Cotton said, “You know as well as I do that our supplies are cut off and we must have feed for our stock.” Cotton assured him that the government never took anything without paying for it. After taking all the corn they tore down the big rail crib and took it,



too. His brother Jim was “about 12 or 13 years of age, and well grown into his age.” Capt. Emery got Jim to go with him and wait on him, and he served for about three years.

• Matilda Wendell, wife of

the claimant, aged “67 years the 18th of next February.” Her husband had driven the spring wagon out to Mrs. Bivens’ to pick up some trunks for Matilda’s “old mistress” Mrs. Brady. She was standing with the wagon in front of Mrs. Brady and Mrs. Thompson’s house when the soldiers came and took the horse from the wagon. Matilda protested that the horse belonged to her. The soldiers asked whether she was a freewoman, and she said, “No sir, but my husband is a freeman.”

- W.N. Doughty, U.S. Commissioner for Bankruptcy, came to Murfreesboro with the army in March 1862 and remained through most of 1864 on detached duty commanding artillery. He was Captain of the 37th Indiana Volunteers, Company I. He knew Aaron Wendell as a loyal man, and heard David Wendell, Jr., son of Aaron’s old master, say that Aaron was loyal.
- Silas Maney, age 45, of Murfreesboro, is a teamster. He saw Matilda Wendell standing in

front of Mrs. Thompson’s house talking with the soldiers who had taken the horse from her wagon.

- Thomas H. Hayes, age 43, is a farmer living two miles from Murfreesboro on the Liberty, Las Cassas and Milton turnpike. Aaron Wendell has been a freedman since they first met in 1859. Wendell was quite well off before the war, as he owned a house and lot, and cows and teams. “There was no better Union man than Uncle Aaron.” He gave freely of all he had to the soldiers, and took care of the sick. “He thought the freedom of his people was involved, and his whole heart was with the cause of the Union.”
- Calvin Crockett, age about 45, is a farmer living in Murfreesboro. On the first Monday in January, 1863, just after the army arrived, he was on Lytle Street between Lebanon and Church streets. He saw a dozen soldiers and six wagons getting the corn out of Aaron Wendell’s crib. He went to tell Wendell, who said “Let them alone, they are men of authority.”
- Joseph Keeble, age 26, is a shoe and boot maker living in Murfreesboro. He is related to the claimant by marriage. He saw the mare taken from Matilda Wendell and frequently saw it with the army later.
- Benjamin Jones, age 38, is a rock mason living in Murfreesboro. He went out to the camp of the 4th U.S. at Wendell’s request and brought back the cow and calf. The doctor came the next day with an escort and took them back. “He got very mad with me for bringing her in.”

To Be Continued

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

Marshall and Maury Counties



Abstracted by
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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 question "Residence when at home" is not abstracted unless it differs from the place enumerated. 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.

Marshall County (continued)

Blacknall, Wm.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; inmate at institution in Knoxville, Tenn., 25 months; discharged 1861. [s.d.3,e.d.135; see **Pop.Sch.**p.8,ln.43] **Pop.Sch.:** age 45, white, brother, in household of Jo. Blacknall.

Haistings, Geo. W.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 11 mos.; caused by bruising head; inmate at institution in Knoxville, 40 months; discharged 1865. [s.d.2,e.d.135; see **Pop.Sch.**p.21,ln.22] **Pop.Sch.:** age 36, white, brother, in household of R. H. Haistings.

Talley, Elizabeth: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 57; totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.135; see **Pop.Sch.**p.34,ln.5] **Pop.Sch.:** age 62, white, wife, in household of Wm. Talley.

Dozier, Jno.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at age 10; totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.135; see **Pop.Sch.**p.21,ln.46] **Pop.Sch.:** age 14, black, male, servant, in household of W. M. Dozier.

Broadaway, Jas.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at age 13; supposed cause, brain fever; totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.135; see **Pop.Sch.**p.28,ln.40] **Pop.Sch.:** age 20, mulatto, son, in household of Bettie Broadway.

Bell, M. A.: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.134; see **Pop.Sch.**p.1,ln.16]

Davis, Walter: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at 2 years; supposed

cause, fright; large head; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.134 see **Pop.Sch.**p.23,ln.27]

Russell, C. B.: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; supposed cause, fright; natural head; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.134; see **Pop.Sch.**p.24,ln.38]

Dodd, Kessie: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. [s.d.3,e.d.134; see **Pop.Sch.**p.13,ln.36] **Pop.Sch.:** Kylie Dodd, age 47, white, wife, in household of J. J. Dodd.

Sullivan, Palina A.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. [s.d.3,e.d.134; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.49] **Pop.Sch.:** age 49, white, wife, in household of S. Sullivan.

Findley, Major M.: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; small head; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.133; see **Pop.Sch.**p.3,ln.50]

Shaw, Robert W.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 2; semi-mute and semi-deaf; inmate, Knoxville

Deaf & Dumb Institution, 3 years. [s.d.3,e.d.133; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.9]

Thomson, Bedford: Insane Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; age at 1st attack, 20; inmate, Nashville Lunatic Asylum, 18 years; discharged 1875. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.4,ln.26] **Pop.Sch.:** age 43, white, brother-in-law, in household of Doolin Cochran.

Larkin, Caldonia: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.3,ln.24]



Cooper, Eddie: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 3 mos.; form, dilation of pupil; supposed cause, measles; totally blind; inmate in an institution 10 months; discharged May 1879. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.13,ln.50] **Pop.Sch.:** age 19, white, son, in household of Pinckney Cooper.

Taylor, Benford: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 92; supposed cause, old age; totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.16,ln.4] **Pop.Sch.:** age 98, white, father, in household of Waddy Taylor.

Woods, Anderson: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 30; supposed cause, syphilis; totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.43] **Pop.Sch.:** age 45, black, male, pauper, in Poor House.

Isley, William: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 65; form, dilation of pupil; supposed cause, explosion of powder; totally blind. **Also:** Pauper & Indigent Schedule; supported at county cost. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.42] **Pop.Sch.:** age 74, white, pauper, in Poor House.

Cooper, Anna: Blind Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.14,ln.1] **Pop.Sch.:** age 8, white, daughter, in household of Pinckney Cooper.

Eachols, Madora: Homeless Children Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co.; parents not deceased; control of child surrendered to the institution; born in the institution; illegitimate; not separated from living mother. **Also:** Pauper & Indigent Schedule; supported at county cost. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.35] **Pop.Sch.:** age 2, white, female.

Stinson, Nancy: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; not able-bodied; disabled from old age. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.32] **Pop.Sch.:** age 70, white, female, pauper, in Poor House.

Copeland, Zelpia: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; not able-bodied; disabled



Study of the brain, ca. 1909

from old age. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.33] **Pop.Sch.:** age 68, white, female, pauper, in Poor House.

Eachols, Elizabeth: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; able-bodied. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.34] **Pop.Sch.:** age 30, white, female, pauper, in Poor House.

Johns, Mary: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Asylum Co. for the Poor; supported at county cost; able-bodied; lying-in; admitted Feb 1877[?]. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.36] **Pop.Sch.:** age 20, white, female, pauper, in Poor House.

Fuller, Edmund: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; disabled by old age. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.40] **Pop.Sch.:** age 80, white, male, in Poor House.

Nois, Nancy: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; able-bodied; epilepsy; admitted 16 February 1874. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.38] **Pop.Sch.:** age 40, white, female, pauper, in Poor House.

Williams, Jane: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; able-bodied. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.37] **Pop.Sch.:** age 30, female, white, pauper, in Poor House.

Woods, Anderson: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; not able-bodied, blind; admitted 16 March 1873[?]. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.43] **Pop.Sch.:** age 45, black, male, pauper, in Poor House.

McClure, Phil: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; disabled by old age, admitted 7 October 1879. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.44] **Pop.Sch.:** age 80, black, male, pauper, in Poor House.

Harroll, William: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; able-bodied; has stricture. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.41] **Pop.Sch.:** age 39, white, male, pauper, in Poor House.

Dotson, Fannie: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; disabled by old age; admitted 23 February 1874. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.39] **Pop.Sch.:** age 82, white, female, pauper, in Poor House.

Fowler, Albert: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Marshall Co. Asylum for the Poor; supported at county cost; able-bodied. [s.d.3,e.d.132; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.45] **Pop.Sch.:** age 81, white, male, pauper, in Poor House.

Marshall County concluded

Maury County

Cyrus, Sallie: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; small head; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.173; see **Pop.Sch.**p.12,ln.3]

Akin, Thomas: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; small head; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.173; see **Pop.Sch.**p.14,ln.41]

Dixon, Flora: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; supposed cause, fever; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.173; see **Pop.Sch.**p.11,ln.17] **Pop.Sch.:** age 50, black, female, mother-in-law, in household of Henry Hoge.

Ball, Priscilla: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; supposed cause, fever; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.173; see **Pop.Sch.**p.11,ln.38] **Pop.Sch.:** age 55, black, wife, in household of George Ball.

Goodlow, Anna B.: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; form, dementia; duration of present attack, several years; number of attacks, several; confined. **Also:** Prisoners Schedule. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see

Pop.Sch.p.28,ln.1] **Pop.Sch.:** age 30, black, female, confined in prison.

Cox, Martha: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; form, monomania; duration of present attack, since Emancipation; number of attacks, "all the time"; age at 1st attack, 25; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. **Also:** Prisoners Schedule; residence Lawrence Co.[s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.**p.28,ln.2] **Pop.Sch.:** age 45, black, female, in household of Anna B. Goodlow.

McCrary, Wm.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.**p.48,ln.18] **Pop.Sch.:** age 40, black, male, head of household.

Phillips, E. W.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.**p.60,ln.26] **Pop.Sch.:** age 51, white, male, head of household.

Grimes, Wm. M.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.**p.24,ln.26] **Pop.Sch.:** age 45, white, male, prisoner, in jail.

Jamerson, R. B.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.27**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 30, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Ratcliff, S. R.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.28**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 23, male, white, prisoner in jail.

Hopwood, R. M.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.29**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 40, male, white, prisoner in jail.

Pillow, Jean: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.30**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 37, black, male, prisoner in jail.

Moore, Alfred: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.31**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, mulatto, male, prisoner in jail.

Stockard, Frank: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.32**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 31, black, male, prisoner in jail.

Webster, Jim: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.33**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 21, black, male, prisoner in jail.

Blewing, John: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.34**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 54, mulatto, male, prisoner in jail.

Bell, John: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.35**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Southall, James: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.36**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 24, black, male, prisoner in jail.

Kincade, George: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.37**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 24, black, male, prisoner in jail.

Neeley, R.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.38**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, black, male, prisoner in jail.

Webster, Sam: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.39**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 16, black, male, prisoner in jail.

Fleming, Walter: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.40**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 30, black, male, prisoner in jail.

Peake, Marton: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.41**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 34, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Linsey, A. J.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.42**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 47, white, male, prisoner in jail.

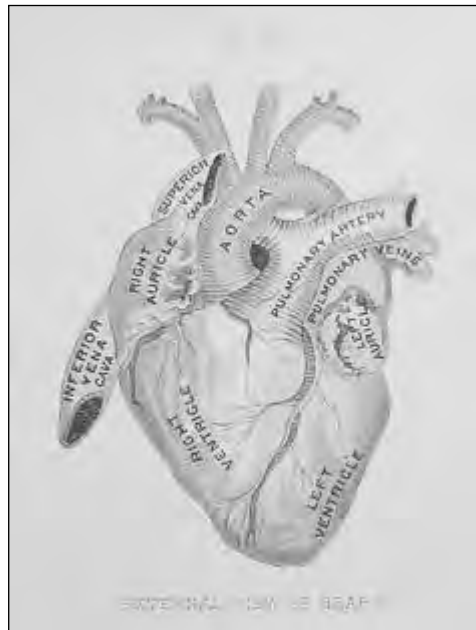
Ratcliff, N. W.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.43**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Ratcliff, E. W.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.44**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 58, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Anderson, Wm.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.46**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Cantrell, C. B.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.47**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 57, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Cook, M. D.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.48**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 35, white, male, prisoner in jail.



Kennedy, Sam: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.49**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 35, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Williams, J.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.50**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 22, black, female, prisoner in jail.

Barzinger, J.: Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Jail. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.45**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 29, white, male, prisoner in jail.

Alexander, Jane E.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 36; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.150; see **Pop.Sch.p.8,ln.26**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 45, white, wife, in household of James Alexander.

Chaplell, Peter: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 40; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.150; see **Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.44**] **Pop.Sch.:** Peter Chaplell, age 59, black, male, head of household.

Steele, Angaline: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; form, mania; duration of present attack, 2 weeks, number of attacks, 4, age at 1st attack, 19; never in an asylum. [s.d.3,e.d.171; see **Pop.Sch.p.21,ln.44**] **Pop.Sch.:** Angeline Steel, age 25, black, wife, in household of Henry Steele.

Smith, Josey: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; small head; never in an institution. **Also:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule. [s.d.3,e.d.171; see **Pop.Sch.p.10,ln.7**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 23, black, daughter, in household of Maria Smith.

Baker, Clarissa: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.171; see **Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.35**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 35, black, sister, in household of Robert Baker.

Sanford, Rosabel: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.171; see **Pop.Sch.p.14,ln.25**]

Kennedy, Jas. W.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 12, by

brain fever; semi-mute; inmate at Knoxville, 26 mos., discharged 1880. [s.d.3,e.d.171; see **Pop.Sch.p.26,ln.18**]

Tyler, Flora: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at age 18; form, amaurosis ; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.171; see **Pop.Sch.p.17,ln.50**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 21, black, step-daughter, in household of George Cathey.

Wilson, G. W.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; form, opacity of the cornea; totally blind; inmate, Nashville, 2 years, discharged 1875. [s.d.3,e.d.171; see **Pop.Sch.p.30,ln.26**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 23, white, nephew, in household of M. A. Lusk.

Lusk, Sykes: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 78; form, cataract; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.171; see **Pop.Sch.p.32,ln.44**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 80, black, in household of Burrell Cathey.

Easley, Walter: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.170; see **Pop.Sch.p.20,ln.46**]

Armstrong, J.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.170; see **Pop.Sch.p.16,ln.40**] **Pop.Sch.:** Jennie Armstrong, age 24, black, niece, in household of Jacob Fleming.

Fleming, Mrs. C. L.: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; mania; duration of present attack, 10 years; number of attacks, 1; age at 1st attack, 44; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.p.12,ln.3**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 56, white, mother, in household of S. W. Fleming.

Spain, Sarah J.: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; mania; duration of present attack, 4 years, number of attacks, 3; age at first attack, 36; inmate, not a pay-patient, inmate at Tennessee Insane Asylum, 6 years. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.p.14,ln.20**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 50, white, wife, at asylum, [enumerated] in household of A. N. Spain.

Ellett, Ophelia A.: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; mania; duration of present attack, 6 months, number of attacks, 2; age at 1st attack, 36;

confined at night; inmate, Tenn. Insane Asylum, 3[?] mos. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.**p.19,ln.28] **Pop.Sch.**: age 37, white, wife, in household of John N. Ellett.

Bailey, Eliza: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; mania. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.**p.34,ln.9] **Pop.Sch.**: age 24, black, female, servant, in household of Martin Jordan.

Dicus, Robert: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at age 1 year; small head. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.**p.28,ln.31]

Nolan, Rufus L.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 13; supposed cause, typhoid fever; semi-mute, semi-deaf; inmate, Asylum at Knoxville, 2 years. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.**p.15,ln.15]

Watkins, Tenie: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 4; semi-mute, semi-deaf. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.**p.20,ln.27]

Cecil, Rebecca: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.**p.14,ln.10] **Pop.Sch.**: age 85, black, wife, in household of Jerry Cecil.

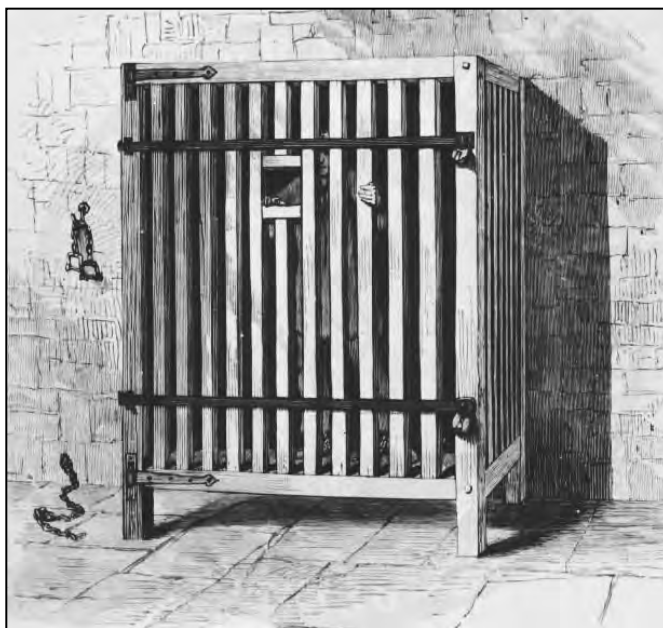
Cecil, Mary: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 49; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.169; see **Pop.Sch.**p.17,ln.44] **Pop.Sch.**: age 50, black, mother, in household of W. M. H. Cecil.

Dixon, Jane: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; dementia; age at 1st attack, 15; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.**p.12,ln.46] **Pop.Sch.**: age 41, white, daughter, in household of W. T. McLain.

Williams, J. R.: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.**p.31,ln.29] **Pop.Sch.**: age 37, white, male, head of household.

King, E. A.: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; small head. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.**p.23,ln.8]

Gibson, M. A.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; inmate, Knoxville, 5 mos.; discharged 1880. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.**p.10,ln.20]



The "Belgian Cage" was used for solitary confinement of mental hospital patients in the 1800s.

Gibson, Z. A.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; inmate, Knoxville, 5 mos., discharged 1880. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.**p.10,ln.22]

King, Susan M.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; inmate, Knoxville, 6 years; discharged 1878. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.**p.23,ln.3]

Price, James: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.**p.33,ln.30]

King, J. B.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.**p.41,ln.43]

White, Reubin: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 62; cause, cataract; totally blind; never in an institution.

[s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.28**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 64, white, male, head of household.

Pickard, Milly: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 81; cause, old age; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.p.11,ln.18**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 84, white, female, in household of J. H. Jones.

Daley, Martin: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.168; see **Pop.Sch.p.31,ln.6**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 60, black, male, in household of Wiley Daley.

Frierson, Harry: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.166; see **Pop.Sch.p.19,ln.16**] **Pop.Sch.:** Harvey Frierson, age 53, black, brother, in household of Manton Frierson.

Joyce, Mary E.: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; age at 1st attack, 4; restrained with rope. [s.d.3,e.d.165; see **Pop.Sch.p.4,ln.1**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 21, white, daughter, in household of Eliza Joyce.

Joyce, Jerry: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head. [s.d.3,e.d.165; see **Pop.Sch.p.12,ln.34**]

Howell, Brinkley, Jr.: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 46; supposed cause, exposure; semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.165; see **Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.1**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 56, white, male, head of household.

Brown, Mary: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; cataract; semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.165; see **Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.8**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, white, daughter, in household of Jeff Brown.

Brown, John: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; cataract; semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.165; see **Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.12**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 17, white, son, in household of Jeff Brown.

Foster, Nathan: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 84; old age; totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.165; see **Pop.Sch.p.13,ln.42**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 85, black, father-in-law, in household of Benjamin White.

Lester, Manerva: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.164; see **Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.5**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 60, white, female, head of household.

Lewis, Martha: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [**Note by enumerator:** Mrs. L. was once married and is now a widow. Her husband was of weak mind, but self-supporting. Mrs. L. has a small lot near Columbia, by rents of which & errands and begging, makes a meager support. She is harmless and has many friends. {signed} John B. Hamilton, enumerator.] [s.d.3,e.d.164; see **Pop.Sch.p.51,ln.4**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, white, sister, in household of James Lewis.

Haley, Charles W.: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 4; supposed cause, an attack of fever at 4 years old; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.164; see **Pop.Sch.p.1,ln.21**] [**Note by enumerator:** Mr. Haley is a pretty fair mechanic (wagons made and mended) and makes an ample support. {signed} John B. Hamilton, enumerator.] [s.d.3,e.d.164; see **Pop.Sch.p.1,ln.21**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 52, white, male, head of household.

Lawson, Henry: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; form, amaurosis; supposed cause, fever; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.164; see **Pop.Sch.p.29,ln.36**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 48, black, male, head of household.

Engle, William: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; dementia; confined; never in an asylum. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.65,ln.31**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 32, white, son, in household of John A. Engle.

White, Lucie: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.39,ln.12**]

Myers, Jack: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting; supposed cause, paralysis; large head. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.41,ln.27**]

Brown, Maynel: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; partly self-supporting. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.p.43,ln.22**]

Hardison, George: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.**p.46,ln.32]

McGruer, Mary: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.**p.55,ln. 24]

Reaves, Dan: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.163; see **Pop.Sch.**p.62,ln.14]

Estes, Mary: Idiots Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head. [s.d.3,e.d.162; see **Pop.Sch.**p.25,ln.6]



Early effort to diagram the brain (Vesalius, c.1543)

Barker, Willis: Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting. [s.d.3,e.d.162; see **Pop.Sch.**p.19,ln.26]

Kittrell, John: Blind Schedule, enumerated Maury Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 15; gradual loss of sight; totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.162; see **Pop.Sch.**p.3,ln.5] **Pop.Sch.:** age 40, black, male, head of household.

Pillow, Jane: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.161; see **Pop.Sch.**p.5,ln.29] **Pop.Sch.:** age 26, mulatto, wife, in household of Rufus Pillow.

Pierce, Mary: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.161; see **Pop.Sch.**p.20,ln.39] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, white, sister, in household of Charles Pierce.

Hadox, John: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.11,ln.45] **Pop.Sch.:** age 25, black, male, head of household.

Abernathy, Sarah: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.12,ln.27] **Pop.Sch.:** age 49, mulatto, female, head of household.

Abernathy, Joseph: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.12,ln.28] **Pop.Sch.:** age 18, mulatto, son, in household of Sarah Abernathy.

Abernathy, Caricy: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.12,ln.29] **Pop.Sch.:** age 10, female, mulatto, daughter, in household of Sarah Abernathy.

Moore, Sam: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.14,ln.27] **Pop.Sch.:** age 60, black, male, head of household.

Moore, Emily: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.14,ln.28] **Pop.Sch.:** age 52, mulatto, wife, In household of Sam Moore.

Moore, Edmond: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.** p.14,ln.29] **Pop.Sch.:** age 18, black, son, in household of Sam Moore.

Moore, Frank: Insane Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.14,ln.31] **Pop.Sch.:** age 11, black, son, in household of Sam Moore.

Galbreth, Washington: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Asylum for the Poor; at county cost; able-bodied; habitually intemperate; admitted January 1878. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.28,ln.12] **Pop.Sch.:** age 71, white, male, in Poor House.

Bailey, Jessee: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Asylum for the Poor; at county cost; not able-bodied; admitted April 1878. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.28,ln.13] **Pop.Sch.:** age 86, white, male, in Poor House.

Greenaway, Wm.: Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Maury Co. Asylum for the Poor; residence, North Carolina; at county cost; not able-bodied; admitted July 1878. [s.d.3,e.d.160; see **Pop.Sch.**p.28,ln.14] **Pop.Sch.:** age 86, white, male, in poor house.

To Be Continued



*The Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society,
The Tennessee Historical Society &
The Brentwood Historic Commission*

Present

The 25th Annual Genealogical Seminar

Saturday, November 16, 2013

8:15 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

At the Brentwood Library, Brentwood, TN

“Struggling on the Homefront: Civil War Families”

If your ancestors were in the United States during the Civil War, they had stories to tell. The seminar will explore a wide variety of records about people on the home-front during the war: those with Union sympathies, those who supported the South, and those who just tried to keep out of the way. Whether you want to verify stories that were passed down, or find those that have become lost, the sessions in this series will lead you to fascinating historical records. Join us to learn how to find your ancestors among the records of private claims, pension records, taxes, newspaper articles, maps and letters home.

Morning Sessions

Chuck Sherrill- Good News about Old News. Civil War Newspaper Research in the Digital Age.

Newspapers helped fire the imagination of Americans to get the Civil War started, and during the war reported extensively on events. In this session attendees will learn the value of newspaper research for home-front news, how to glean and evaluate genealogical information from news accounts and how to find and use new digital libraries of newspapers online.

Darla Brock – The Taxman Came, then Changed his Mind: Direct Federal Taxes and the Rebate Ledgers.

For years Tennessee records of the Civil War Direct Tax Assessment have provided genealogists with several types of useful information. Genealogists can now couple these records and those of the refund of the Civil War direct land tax that occurred in the 1890, with the possibility of supplying genealogical details lost with the destruction of Tennessee's 1890 Federal Census.

Afternoon Sessions

J. Mark Lowe– Help Me Please? Government Claims and Other Unusual Requests.

A request for recognition or payment for services rendered typically related to damages created by war or government intervention. Learn what exists and what might exist for your family.

Jim Long– Footsteps of the Fourteenth, or Look Everywhere—Then Look Everywhere Else: A Case Study.

Follow a Civil War regiment through its travels just as the families back home did, using newspapers, service records, maps, letters home and more. See how the records can fill gaps in your Civil War ancestor's story.

This year we are so fortunate to be able to feature some of our "own". All belong to one or more of our sponsoring organizations and are recognized authorities in genealogy circles.



J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA, a full-time professional researcher and educator, formerly APG President and FGS officer. You will find him researching for clients including *Who Do You Think You Are?*, *African American Lives* or *uneXplained*. With his love for teaching, you will see him at SLIG, IGHR, numerous webinars or at your local society. Mixing humor with expertise he is sure to delight you with his unique style detailing his subject.



Charles A. (Chuck) Sherrill, is the State Librarian and Archivist of Tennessee. Born in Ohio to Tennessean parents, he graduated from Case Western Reserve University with a master's degrees in History and Library Science. He became fascinated with genealogy and local history as a teenager, and has compiled or edited more than 20 books of Tennessee records. Notable among them are *Tennessee Convicts*; *Early Records of the State Penitentiary* and *A Reconstructed 1810 Census of Tennessee*, along with numerous books about Grundy County, where many of his ancestors lived.



Darla Brock has shared her knowledge of Tennessee State Library and Archives holdings at the FGS 2010 conference, history fairs, libraries, historical societies, public schools, and universities. During her thirteen years as a Manuscript Archivist at TSLA, she has developed areas of expertise in state records, Civil War sources, modern war records and military sources, and Tennessee Supreme Court records. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in History from Tennessee Tech University and her Master's degree in History from the University of Memphis. Her research has been published in *The West Tennessee Historical Society Papers* and in a college text book on Tennessee history.



Jim Long has been an avid genealogist for over 30 years and has deep roots in Tennessee. He is a regular volunteer at the Stewart County Archives and has written 8 books of Tennessee genealogical records, in support of his goal to increase access to original records for fellow researchers. A graduate of Vanderbilt University, he serves on the Executive Board for MTGS and maintains its web site. He also maintains the web site for TSLAFriends and the USGenWeb county web site for Stewart County. When he's not doing genealogy, Jim manages the IT department at the General Motors plant in Spring Hill.

Register Today!

MTGS/THS/BHC Genealogical Seminar, November 16, 2013

Complete the form below and mail it with your check or money order

Please make check payable to MTGS

Space is limited, so please pay attention to the deadline and do not send your registration form to the PO Box as there will be a delay getting it to the Registrar.

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REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 8, 2013

(Please print)

Registrations received after deadline of November 8th will be returned and you must register as a "walk-in" on the day of the seminar.

Name _____

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Registration fee includes a box lunch and handouts.

\$40 members _____

\$45 non-members: _____

NOTE: \$60 walk-ins welcome if space is available (no lunch or handouts)

ENCLOSED is my check or money order payable to MTGS \$ _____

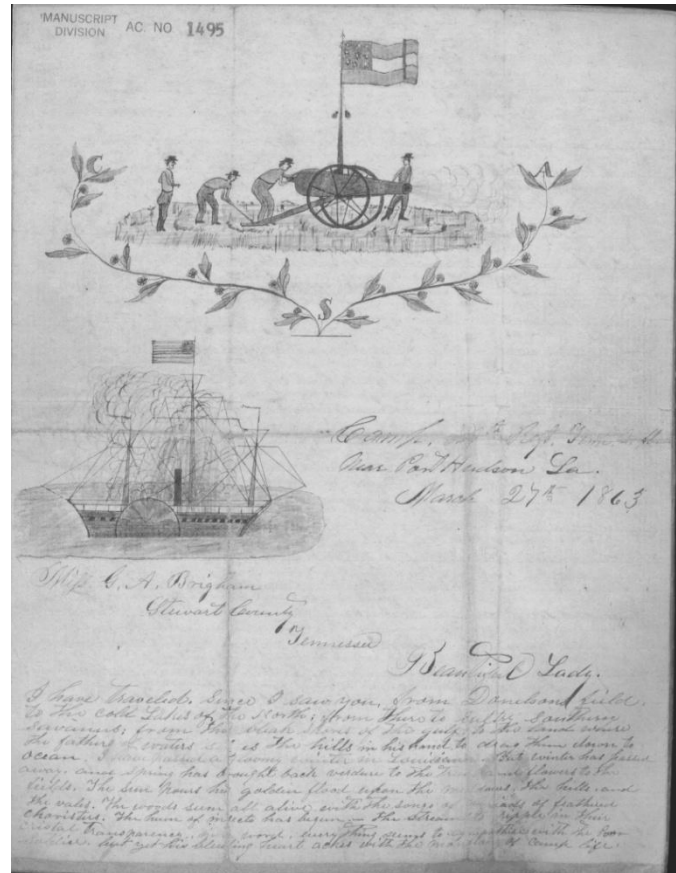
Letters of the Brigham Family of Stewart County

by Jim Long

Part 2 of 2

The Tennessee State Library and Archives holds a collection of letters written by, and to, members of the John H. Brigham family of the Wells Creek area of Stewart and Houston counties during the second half of the 19th century.²⁴ The letters were likely donated to TSLA by a descendant of Georgia Ann (Brigham) Kerr (1842-1930), a daughter of John H. Brigham who was the recipient of many of the letters and who was the last surviving member of her family by age 35.

All but a few of these letters were written during the Civil War, and most were written by William Joseph “Joe” Brigham (1844-1864), a son of John H. Brigham, who served in the 50th Tennessee Infantry, CSA. Joe’s letters give a remarkable glimpse into the life of a very young Civil War soldier. Joe Brigham was 16 years old when he enlisted and 17 when he was captured at the surrender of Fort Donelson. His letters home also convey information about his fellow soldiers – an important way for families back home to keep in touch with their faraway loved ones.



J. Wes Broom to Miss Georgia Ann Brigham, Port Hudson, LA, 27 March 1863

John Wesley Broom was born about 1835 in Tennessee. He grew up near Cumberland City, Stewart County. He enlisted in the 49th Tennessee Infantry regiment in December 1861 at Palmyra and was soon elected 1st Lieutenant.

His regiment was captured at Fort Donelson on 16 February 1862. Broom was imprisoned at Camp Chase and Johnson's Island, Ohio, until exchanged in September 1862 near Vicksburg. At the time of the writing of this letter, his regiment, the 49th Tennessee, was stationed at Port Hudson, Louisiana, just like the 50th Tennessee in which Joe Brigham was serving. His letter is directed to Joe's sister, Georgia Ann, who was obviously a very special friend.

Miss G.A. Brigham²⁵
Stewart County, Tennessee

Camp, 49th Regt. Tenn. Inf.
Near Port Hudson, La.
March 27th, 1863

Beautiful Lady,

I have traveled since I saw you, from Donelson's field,²⁶ to the cold lakes of the North; from there to sultry Southern savannas; from the bleak shores of the Gulf, to the land where the father of waters seizes the hills in his hand to drag them down to ocean. I have passed a gloomy winter in Louisiana. But winter has passed away, and spring has brought back verdure to

the trees and flowers to the fields. The sun pours his golden flood upon the meadows, the hills, and the vales. The woods seem all alive with the songs of myriads of feathered choristers. The hum of insects has begun. The streamlets ripple in their crystal transparency. In a word, everything seems to

"The above drawing I made one day with my pencil while sitting in the rifle pits waiting for the Yankees to advance upon us."

J.W. Broom's beautifully illustrated letter can be seen in color by searching "Port Hudson" at <http://teva.contentdm.oclc.org>

sympathise with the Poor Soldier, but yet his bleeding heart aches with the monotony of camp life. O were it possible for me to go forth (with one of the nature's loveliest flowers by my side) beneath the green foliage of the venerable Tennessee oak. Then could I appreciate the vernal beauties of the opening spring.

We have just witnessed the fiercest ordeal through which one could pass unscathed. On Saturday March 14th from dinner time until night, the mortar fleet, stationed below during the preceding night, indulged in a promiscuous and almost harmless shower of bomshells, not affecting the eager boys, who welcomed the demonstration as the harbinger of an approaching engagement. They were not disappointed. General Banks seems to have made up his mind for an earnest effort to carry out the orders of his master Abe, and the fleet was ordered to strike a brilliant blow to wash out the shame of their late naval disasters.

At eleven o'clock, when it was supposed the Rebels would be bathing in a profound sleep which knits up the raveled sleeve of care, the enemy thought they would pass our batteries with six vessels of war, but for which they were doomed to disappointment. In each battery lay silent, men watching with gleaming eyes the dark forms of the Yankee ships gliding slowly and silently over the placid water. On they came, exultant and sanguine of success. The batteries as they were laid on our right remained silent. Still onward they creep, until the desired point was reached. At 800 yards an eight inch gun opened fire and a loud huzza greeted the crashing sound of the shell striking the ships sides! This was the signal, and from above and below in front and in rear, our batteries poured their deadly missiles in the devoted ship and her consorts who followed close in her wake. They then attempted, but with little success, to make a bold dash at our batteries, pour

broad sides at point blank range, and drive our gunners from their post, but our brave cannoniers were prepared for this, and their grape and canister either bury itself in the soft earth, or pass harmlessly over the parapets.

Ship after ship advanced and poured their broad sides at a distance of 150 yards, our batteries replying to them in more than thunder tones. The night was very dark and the flashes of lightning belched forth from the bowels of the dreadful cannon became more frequent, followed with terrific peals of thunder, till at length they grew so rapid in succession, that one could not attach the roar to the flame. The roar was awful, it seemed as if rocks and mountains were pouring in a stream, make the verry solid walls and foundations shake.

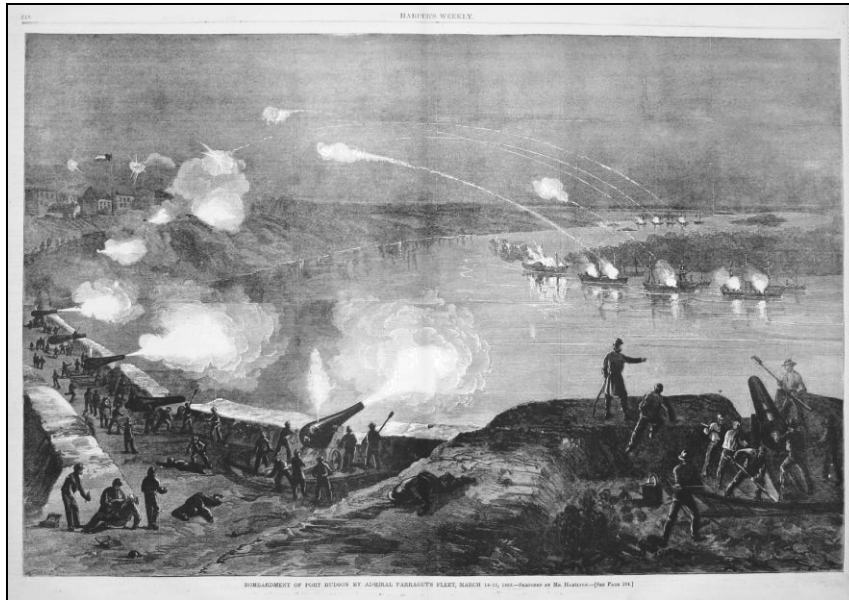
Pandemonium let loose would only give a faint idea of the terrific roar that shook the earth for two dreadful hours. In the meantime, the smoke visited the river, causing our men to withhold their fire until the flash of the enemy's guns would reveal their position. By this two ships, the *Hartford* and *Monongahela*, were enabled to pass us, but not unscathed. The *Hartford*, mounting 26 guns, was laid up by *Monongahela*, who carries 16 guns. The *Richmond*, carrying 26 guns, reached our center and battery commanded by Capt. Slankburch's 1st Lieutenant. She cried for quarters that she was in a sinking condition, and was answered by twelve double charges of grape and cannister. Two more, *Kineo* and *Gennessee*, who did not reach so high, drifted with the current, helpless.

The *Mississippi*, who was the first to stand our fire, was a first-class frigate carrying 24 guns, was fired by hot shot from our battery, and ran ashore on the other side. Before she could reach the landing she was completely disabled, and shot after shot struck her as she lay powerless and silent. She had a crew of 300 men; and the loss of life on board was truly painful: 30 was killed, 75 wounded, who perished beneath the flames of the burning ship. 46 was captured next morning and brought over by our cavalry, the balance made good their escape. Among the killed was her captain (Melanchton Smith).

The burning ship presented a grand and fearful scene, lighting up the whole river and enabling us to see clearly the position of the enemy. Finally she swung around and drifted with the current, causing the entire fleet at the mooring below to beat a precipitate retreat, lest a general conflagration should result. Her guns and shells would burst as the fire would reach them, adding to the grandeur of the scene by their loud explosions.

At half past four o'clock in the morning, the fire reached her magazine, and she blew up with such a crash that shook the verry ground round Port Hudson, and at that time she must have been ten miles down the river. Besides the six who tried and failed to pass, the enemy had the *Brooklin*, *Pensacola*, *Essex* and nine gunboats and five mortar boats, who remained below, giving us a splendid pyrotechnic display of hundreds of bombs, many of which bursted high in the air whilst others fell to the ground perfectly harmless, illuminating the heavens like so many falling stars. It really was a most magnificent scene. In the action we lost 3 men killed and 5 wounded, and not a gun was hit and but verry little damage done to our parapets. This splendid achievement has fully demonstrated that open mud forts can fight gun boats with an advantage, when defended by stout hearts and cool heads.

The enemy has received severe chastisement, and they will derive but little advantage in the passage of the two boats named. They have already found a *Lyon* in their path. The *Indianola* was far more powerful, and she lies a wreck at the bottom of the river. The *Queen*



Seige of Port Hudson
(Harper's Weekly)

of the *West*, who passed Vicksburg before the *Indianola*, makes us quite a formidable ram, and officiated in the destruction of the *Indianola*.

The destruction of the enemy's vessels since the beginning of this year seems a providential omen of our future success. At all events, Port Hudson is not taken, and our batteries were fully prepared

for any new plan of Comadore Faragut's. (General Banks' official report admits of a loss of three vessels). Twice they landed troops on this side, some a mile below, and as many times did our pickets cause them to retreat in disorder.

However our brigade had a hand in this (to some extent). They found out that we were marching upon them, which caused them to abandon quite a lot of commissary stores, which was quite a treat to our poor fellows, whose rations long since have grown short and verry inferior.

The enemies vessels is still lying off the point in sight, yet the distance is five miles, and with long-range guns they continued to shell us six days in succession after the fight but the distance being so great, they effect nothing.

And my opinion is they have entirely abandoned the idea of attacking us by land, though some think a bloody conflict is not far distant. But be it so, the boys who defends the mud forts of Port Hudson know what they are about, and fully intend to avenge at least some of the wrongs and insults that was offered them, whilst armless and penniless within the walls of an abject Yankee prison.

Miss George Ann: Whilst at home listening complacently to the howling of the tempest and the pattering of the rain and sleet when housed, and the shutters closed and the curtains snugly drawn, and the fire burns cheerfully and crackles and sparkles merrily, and the lighted candles add to the comfortable aspect of the room, and all your daily wants are supplied, and you have not to look anxiously forward to tomorrow uncertain whether you shall find means to obtain a meal. There do you ever give vent to an expression of pity for the poor soldier who is contending not only for home and fireside, but for every high and noble sentiment of our nature. For man's faith, and woman's purity, for which he hath sleep many dismal nights on no better blanket than the moon, and no warmer coverlid than the grey skies. And for which his tramp is heard upon his beat, when night comes with Egyptian darkness, and the rain falls in torrents; or when the snow and sleet patters upon his head, and the earth freezes beneath his feet.



Suffer me to give you a thought, while standing at his post, as the storm arises, when the flashes of lightning grow thick and rappid, followed with loud peals of thunder and the wind and rain, mixing in a perfect hurricane, sweeping the earth as it onward speeds. He surveys the angry clouds, with a sad heart, and thinks of his far off home – of sweet content, where all things alike engaging prove. He thinks of the peaceful streams soft and slow, flowing amid the verdant landscape, where his young heart often led him to fish or to sport. He knows when he is there, his breath no longer labors in his bosom; it comes and goes without his knowing it; his heart no longer beats against his aching sides. The thought of the green fields and blue hills of his native land, where his youthful hands were first taught to labor, causes his pulse to quicken and his cheeks to glow. He can imagine he sits once more beneath the shade of some dear familiar tree, and feels the same

gale that fanned his infant brow, rushing through its leaves.

Thus through the dangers of the tinted field he roams, his soul tossed with various tempests, his hopes o'turned, his projects crossed, and wondering where

this war will end. But there is a lovely star that lights his darkest gloom, and sheds a peaceful radiance over his prospects. It is hope's illustrious star, more precious and more bright than all the dogless mockery. The world esteems delight, and by which he looks forward with sweet anticipation to one day going home, where alone he can rest his long divided heart. Fixed on this blissful center, he finds a noble part, where human pleasures fill his breast, causing affliction's winter gloom to brighten in to vernal day, his hopes and joys, afresh to bloom as the fragrant blossoms of spring. There his tears can be healed by a mother's

gentle hand. There his anguish can be soothed by the sweet murmurings of a sister's soft low voice. It is well said in the following lines:

"O what are all our contrivings, and the wisdom of our books.

When compared with their caresses and the gladness of their looks.

Could I like Daguerre command the pencil of the sun,

And have Lawrentice show me how to render my thoughts eternal,

And Locke to teach me the secrets of my own mind,

And Linnaeus to spread before me the beauties of leaf and flower,

And Lyell to clip the crust from the ancient rock and read the earth's autobiography,

Newton and Laplace to bear me softly along the starry pavement of the Milky Way,

And Galileo to hold to my eye the magical mechanism that draws within its range

The rings of Satturn and the sattellites of Jupiter,

And Torricille to make the heavy mercury the
prophet of the storm,
And Harvey to tell me why the crimson mounts to
my cheek,
And Jenner to panoply me against his most direful
foe.”

Perhaps in those treasured resources I might find
language sufficient to extend my encomium as they
merit. But time and space both fail at once.

Present my highest regards to Uncle Jack and Aunt
Mary,²⁷ and Miss Nancy and Miss Mary,²⁸ also to all
enquiring friends, reserve a large share to yourself.
Excuse bad writing and spelling, my knee is my desk
upon which I write. The above drawing I made one day



with my pencil while sitting in the rifle pits waiting
for the Yankees to advance upon us. I close by
requesting you to write to me.

I am yours very respectfully
J. Wes Broom
1st. Lieut., Co. E, 49 Regt. Tenn. Inf.

William Joseph Brigham to Dr. John W. Lewis, Port Hudson, LA, 4 April 1863

*While still at Port Hudson, Louisiana, Joe Brigham wrote this letter to his uncle, Dr. John Wilson Lewis of
Humphreys County, Tenn., husband of his mother's sister, Frances "Fannie" (Ellis) Lewis.*

Dr. J.W. Lewis,

Camp, 50th Tenn. Regt., Port Hudson, La.
April 4th 1863

Dear Uncle, your very kind and welcome letter of Feb.
8th came safely to hand and found me in good health
and in fine spirits. Also, I was much pleased to hear
from you & family, for I had come to the conclusion
that you all cared nothing for me as you did not write.

I had rather spend money for paper and ink to write to
all of you than to spend it for something to eat. Dear
Uncle, if you only knew the pleasure and comfort it
affords me to read a letter from you or any of the
family. I think you would all write oftener than you do.
I had rather read a letter from you than anybody else
(over). I have written to Sis²⁹ and Tad³⁰ and Mary and
Aunts Fanny³¹ and Nannie and never have received a
word from any of them but Mary.

As to news, I have nothing that is interesting at present,
and as far as our little fight is concerned, I will say
nothing about it, as I told Mary all the particulars of it. I
merely write this to find out whether I can get letters

home by the way of Shelbyville, Tennessee and by
sending them to Guss Jamison.³²

Mr. Carter³³ is well and harty and sends his respects to
you and family. Frank Sullivan³⁴ is detached for a
wagoner but was well the other day. Billy Bateman³⁵ is
on the [puny?] order and has been so ever since we
came here. The two McCauley boys³⁶ are in tolerable
good health. Bob Boon³⁷ is puny. Jim Tomlinson³⁸ is
well and Bram and Mrs. Pollard³⁹ is still at Grenada
Mississippi. They was mending the last account I had.
In fact all the boys that concerns us anyway are
enjoying fine health. Charlie¹⁴ is so fat you would not
know him.

You said you was going to the Army in a short time. I
want to know if you intend staying. If you do go to the
Army to stay, what will all the people do for a surgeon?
That won't never do for you to leave home. Uncle
Wilson, please don't join the Army, for you aren't able
to stand the camp life, even if you had a position.

I was sorry to hear of the death of cousin [Dimmona?] Brigham.

I suppose that Laurie Brigham⁴⁰ is married to Mr. Wagoner, and all the trash of Wells Creek is married. I am in hopes that they may all suit them selves in the way of marrying, as there is so many young men that is at home.

Tell all my acquaintances to write to me soon. When you write, give me all the news you can (please write soon).

Your Nephew,
W. J. Brigham

P. S. Tell Aunt Fannie if she don't write to me oftener than she does, there will be a furse [fuss] in the family when I get home. That is, if the Yankees don't catch me. Joe B.



William Joseph Brigham to sister Georgia Ann Brigham, Mississippi, 1863

The first pages of this letter are missing. In it Joe Brigham writes to his sister Georgia Ann, likely from somewhere near Enterprise, Mississippi after the removal of the 50th Infantry away from Vicksburg.

[...]Sis, I forgot to tell you about wading in the mud and water when we was at Vicksburgh. While we was on pickett duty it rained two days and nights. We had to stand and take it without any tents or much of anything to eat, though we get plenty now, and did before the fight. While we was out at the battlefield, we did not get anything, hardly nothing but beef and corn bread, and it not sifted, and not half anough [sic] of that. You can guess what kind of fare we had in time of the fight. You know they don't feed soldiers good when they are fighting.

As I was going to tell you, about the mud and water, it was from ancle to knee deep for about one mile and a half. We was leaving the battle ground and going to

camp. The Yankees had left our line and we was [illegible...]

So you may read that letter I sent to Mariah, and if you don't think it is written right, don't send it. She wrote to me first and I thought I would answer her letter. Tell all the folks howdy for me, for there is so many I can't call all their names this time. Tell Uncle Wilson⁴¹ I saw his boy that he thought so much of. He is at this place and has been all the time. He never went to [illegible]. He came to Jackson and then down here.

Write soon. Your Bro.,
Joe Brigham



William Joseph Brigham to father John Brigham, near Enterprise, Mississippi, 31 July 1863

After the fall of Vicksburg on July 4, the 50th Tennessee retreated east and south through Mississippi. Joe Brigham writes to his father of their engagements with the Union army.

Mr. John Brigham

My Dear Father,
As Lt. R. E. Thomas⁴² is coming home, I will send you a few lines to let you know that I am well at present, and hope this may find you and all the family well. I have no news that is very cheering to me, and would be less so to you.

Near Enterprise, Miss.
July 31st 1863

I presume you are aware of the present condition of our Army. We have run and run until we can't go much further. We are now not far from Mobile, and do not know how long we will remain here. I suppose we will stay here until the Yankees moves on us, and then as to where we will go I cannot say. The Miss. Soldiers that are with us are the worst whipped men I ever saw, and

all the citizens of Miss. come out plainly and say that it isn't worthwhile to fight any longer. There is a great many of our soldiers running away. I don't think that it will be a great while before we will all be at home.

Father, after the downfall of Vicksburg our Army fell back to Jackson and prepared for a fight. They moved on in pursuit rapidly and did not give us much time to fix for them. On the 8th we taken our position in the rifle pits, and sent out skirmishes about a half-mile in advance of the works. On the 9th, the morning pickets commenced firing occasionally and it continued for 7 days. Sometimes they would make a small charge, and they would have to fall back. One day while we was laying in the pits, a piece of a shell struck me in the back. It was about the size of a hen egg. It never heart [sic] me any. The bombshell burst it up in the air and a piece happened to strike me one evening. They made a charge on our pickets and drove them in, and Company A and B and some 10 or 12 of the First Tenn. Battalion went out and made a charge on the Yankees. Our no. was 32 and the Yankees had one Regiment. I was in the charge with our company. We never lost a single man. *The Yankees outrun wild turkeys when we fired into them.* We taken several prisoners and that night we evacuated the place.

I will quit the war subject and write something about my coming home. They furlough one man out of every twenty-five. We all drew a ticket this morning and mine was blank. Sam Cross⁴³ of our company got it. I expect to die with old age before I get a furlough in



Civil War Artillery
(Harper's Weekly)

that way, for I never would be so lucky as to draw to go.

Father, tell Mother I would like to see her very much, and tell Sis and Aunt Nannie all to write to me soon and often, and tell Uncle Wilson and Aunt Fannie to write, and tell everybody to write. Tell Mary Jane and all of Uncle Abbot's⁴⁴ folks howdy. I want to see them so bad.

Father, I would send you some money but we have not drawn any in some time. Write soon and often.

Your Son,
W. J. Brigham

Direct your letter to me, Co. B, 50th Tenn. Regt., Gregg's Brigade and Walker's Division, Enterprise, Miss.

William Joseph Brigham to sister Georgia Ann Brigham, near Chattanooga, Tennessee, 24 November 1863
Joe Brigham writes to his sister about camp life at Lookout Mountain and interaction with the "Yankees." The 50th Tennessee fought in the Battle of Missionary Ridge the day after this letter was written.

My Dear Sister,

Camp, 50th Tenn. Regt. near Chattanooga, Tenn.
Nov. 24th 1863

I send you this to let you know that I am still in the land of the living, and hope it may find you and all the folks well. I have come to the conclusion that none of my home folks cares anything for me, as I have not heard from any of you since last May until about three weeks ago. Mary wrote Charlie⁴⁵ and I broke open the letter and read it and found out some news that I did not like. I suppose that Mary McCauley⁴⁶ is married and Laurie Brigham is likely to go at any time. (I shall have to make a claim against the Lockhart estate for Mrs. Lockhart gave Mary to me) and she has gone and married. And tell Mary Satterfield and all my cousins not to marry until the War ends: there is too many nice young men in the Army fighting for the girls and their country for any of the girls to marry a man that is playing out of the War.

Sis, I will quit my foolishness and give you a few items of the times. We ain't expecting a fight at this time. Our pickets and the Yankees exchange papers every day and our boys trade them tobacco for canteens and blankets. We are camped near Lookout Mountain. The height of it is about 1700 feet. From the top of it you can see five or six states. Also you can see the Blue Ridge in North Carolina. I saw all the Wells Creek folks last Sunday and waved my hat at you, but

received no sines [sic] in return.

Sis, I want you to send me some socks the first chance, for I can't get any for love or money. You know that comfort you sent me by Lt. Moore.⁴⁷ I carried it all my rounds and lost it when I got wounded on the cars.⁴⁸ I lost everything I have, and like to got killed in the bargain. I would not taken a fifty dollar bill for that comfort because you sent it to me. If there was any possible chance to get anything from home, I would like to have a good overcoat for this winter. I am ashamed to ask for anything from home, but such things as overcoat and yarn socks cannot be got here. Sometimes you may see some socks and coat for sale and the price of socks is from 8 to 10 dollars, a coat from 150 to 175 dollars. I have some money but not enough to supply myself with such articles.

I want to know if Mr. John Warden⁴⁹ gave father 50 dollars for me. I sent him 50 \$ by Warden and now have heard nothing from him. You would not think I am going to desert for I am not. Mary said she was afraid to look up for fear of seeing me or Charlie coming home with the stain on our character as a deserter. I would not feel worth of the fond embraces of my Father and Mother if I was a deserter.

Kiss Ida⁵⁰ for me and tell Mother and Father I will write to them. So no more at this time. Write soon to your affect. Bro.

W. J. Brigham

William Joseph Brigham to aunt Nannie Ellis, near Chattanooga, Tennessee, 28 November 1863

Joe Brigham writes to his mother's sister Nannie about the train wreck that involved the 50th Tennessee near Cartersville, Georgia on September 13, 1863.

Miss Nannie Ellis
My Dear Aunt,

Camp, 50th Tenn. Regt. near Chattanooga, Tenn.
Nov. 28th 1863

As Lieut. Thomas has leave of absence to visit his home in Stewart County, I write you a few lines to let you know that I am well, and hope they may find you enjoying the same. This leaves all the boys of your acquaintance in good health, and in fine spirits, except Charlie: he's at the hospital yet from wounds received in the battle of Chickamauga. I suppose he acted very gallantly in the scene of action. He pressed forward all the time. His wounds are not very serious. I received a

letter from him a short time since, and he was improving very fast and would be up with the command in a few days.

I got wounded on the cars at the time of the collision between Chattanooga and Atlanta, Ga. The cars was running at full speed when the accident happened: sixteen killed and sixty-six wounded. Some of them have had their arms or a leg amputated on account of

being mashed up so badly. I like to been killed. I was for eight or ten days I couldn't raise up in bed by myself. I was asleep when they run together. It killed the young man that was laying by my side. It rolled him across my hand and breast and a large piece of timber was on him and I was midway under the timber, hung. I got loose by some means and run up a steep bank before I knew I was hurt. They had to carry me off on a blanket. It was an awful sight to see, so many laying mashed up and hear them groaning and calling for help. Some was dying and denied being hurt until the last.



Joe Brigham was nearly killed in a troop train wreck in Georgia
(Harper's Weekly)

A young man by the name of Mathers⁵¹ was riding on the platform in front of the cars as a guard, and was caught between the two engines and was burnt to death. He lived about three hours and begged the doctors to amputate his legs and get him out. It was impossible to get him loose any other way. Charlie was lucky enough to escape getting wounded. Columbus McAuley got his ankle sprain very bad, and Roderick got his shoulder hurt but is in the command again.

We are camped near the foot of Lookout Mountain, which is about 1700 hundred feet high. From the top of it you have a nice view for many miles around. The Blue Ridge is north and is visible from the top of the mountain. Several mountains can be seen in Virginia. Five or six states can be seen also. *I was on the top last Sunday and I imagined seeing you all at the Camp Ground, and I waved my hat at you but I could not see that you noticed me.*

Aunt Nannie, I have not heard from home since last May until some 3 or 4 weeks ago. Mary wrote to Charlie and I read the letter. She said our folks was all well, and speaking of deserters, she said that she was afraid to look up for fear that Charlie or I would step in, with a stain on our character as a deserter. I did not think that any of my connections even thought of such a thing, and especially my dearest cousin. I don't expect to come home until next October. My time is up then and I am coming then shure.

Tell Mother and Father I will write to them. Kiss Ida and also Willie and

Lou and Little Toppin and Dora. Tell Mary and Sis and George and yourself not to marry until the war ends. There's a great many nice young men in the Army and never, for my sake, marry a man that is playing out of the war. I suppose that Laurie Brigham is about to marry. Tell her that I say not to go until the boys all get home.

My respects to all my friends and relatives. Write soon to your nephew.

W. J. Brigham

P. S. -Tell all Uncle Abbot's family to write to me soon, also Uncle Wilson's folks. Be sure to tell Aunt Fannie and Uncle Wilson to write. Joe B.

Direct your letters to me, Co. B 50th Tenn., care C. A. Sugg, Col. Adj., Maney's Brig., Walker's Division

Have you ever got fashion from the Yanks, and has Father ever got [Kity?] yet - I don't know anything about the home affairs and would like to know.

This is the last surviving letter from Joe Brigham in the Brigham Family Papers collection. His Civil War service records indicate that he was killed July 22, 1864, at which time his regiment was in Atlanta, Georgia. His burial location is unknown.

Eugene C. Lewis to Georgia Ann Brigham, Louisville, KY , 29 Jul 1867

Eugene Castner Lewis was born in 1845 in Stewart County, and may have been a cousin of Georgia Ann Brigham, as he refers to her parents as "Uncle Jack and Aunt Mary." His father was George T. Lewis from Pennsylvania, co-owner and General Manager of the Cumberland Iron Works in Stewart County, which was destroyed by the Union army after the fall of Fort Donelson. Lewis was sent to Pennsylvania for the remainder of the war.

He wrote this letter three days after the death of Georgia Ann's father, John H. Brigham.

At the time, he was Assistant Engineer for the Louisville & Nashville Railroad.

Louisville, KY, July 29th / '67

Miss George A. Brigham,

My dear Miss George,

"The last end of the good man is peace;

How calm his exit.

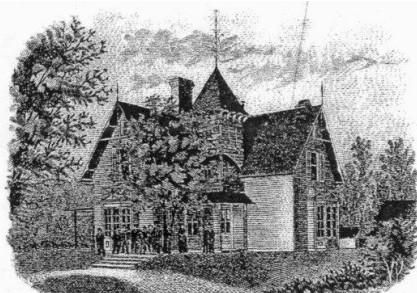
Night dews fall not more gently to the ground.

Nor weary worn out winds expire so soft."

It is but human nature that we should all be shocked at the mournful intelligence of the death of one of our near and dear friends. The first thought that is suggested to our minds is that they are gone from us forever, but when we reflect that the separation is not eternal, but before long we too will all be called away to that "far off home" to join our "many friends gone before," we can feel some consolation, still sorrowful yet so soothing to the stricken and at times broken heart.

Uncle Jack is dead!! How those simple words, so few in number yet so awfully sad in meaning, shocked me as I read them in mother's letter! Uncle Jack, with whom I had passed so many happy cheerful days, with bright smiles ever playing about and lighting up his face, and so earnest in his endeavors to make all around him happy. So hospitable, so generous, so warmhearted and so kind. Uncle - Jack - dead! Gone to that bourn from whence no traveler ever returns. Dead to us for a time but living eternally in the heavens, for,

"This truth how certain, when this life is 'ore,
Man dies to live and lives to die no more."



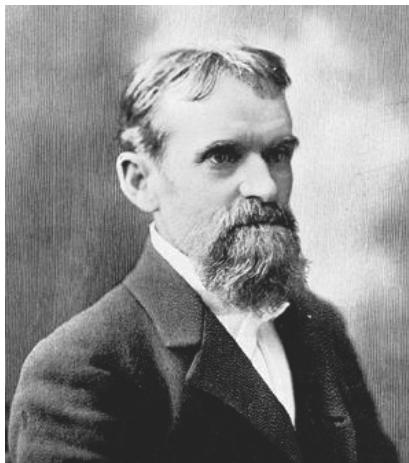
**Sycamore Cottage,
home of Eugene Lewis and his family
at the time of his 1897 letter.**

To you my dear Miss George, whose tender feeling and loving heart is so deeply touched, to Aunt Mary, so heavily and so sadly does the blow fall upon her, and to little Ida, whose young heart is so soon made to feel the pangs and sorrows of this world, to you all do I most fervently offer my most heartfelt sympathies in this the hour of your sad bereavement. The husband and the father has been called from you. The warmhearted, loving head of your little family has gone to his last rest. He sleeps in peace!

We must remember this world is not a place to live in, but to die in, and no one is exempt. We must all sooner or later surrender ourselves to him who gave this earthly life and who has power to take away. "Be ye resigned." And with all due reverence to the memory of your dear departed Father, and to my equally dear Friend, let us cheer up, for the parting will not be for always. The troubles of this world are over with him now. Having fought the good fight, having died the death of the righteous, he has gone to reap his reward. Be assured it will be bright. Console as much as is in your power. Aunt Mary and Little Ida, bid them take the blow as coming from him "who careth for us all." So as when you come to kneel around your family altar or in your little church, you can with true Christian resignation say "Thy will be done."

You have many sympathizing friends to whom your heart can turn and receive that consolation the human soul so longs for. Without sympathy, the world would be harsher and more unfeeling than ever.

It is one of the few blessings poor man has upon this world, and one for which he should never cease to be thankful. How pleasant it is to feel that when stricken by sorrow, you can turn to some true friend who will share your trouble with you, and thus make it so much lighter. And there is another divine favor given to us here below. If our friends are parted from us forever in this world, there is a bright hope that in our hereafter we



Eugene Lewis

may meet again. This thought is so pleasant, so cheering, it wipes away half the sting. Do you remember those lines I wrote for you once at your home? I will repeat them - I know you will recall them then.

“Sweet is the memory of departed friends,
Like the last mellow rays of the setting sun.
Sadly yet so tenderly it falls upon the soul.”

And this is the feeling we must make to come over our souls as our friends are parted from us. While a sadness must come still, let it fall tenderly and gently, even as the winds of summer on the lily's bloom.

My best love to your Mother and little Sister. And to you, Miss George, with whom I have been so happily and intimately associated even as a Sister dear to me, I send a brother's love.

Your good friends around you will help to console. Good “Uncle Davie” will make the burden much lighter and others will do their share. Again Aunt Mary, Ida, George, receive my earnest, deepest condolence and love.

Very aff. & truly,
Eugene



Eugene C. Lewis to Georgia Ann Brigham Kerr, Nashville, TN , 28 Dec 1897

Eugene Castner Lewis (1845-1917) raised his family in Nashville where he was a famous citizen – operating the Sycamore Powder Company in Nashville and the Sycamore Mills in Cheatham County. He was Director General of the Tennessee Centennial Exposition in 1897, and the first to propose the building of a replica of the Parthenon. He was also responsible for the building of Union Station. The letter was written from Sycamore Mills, then his summer home in Cheatham County, at a time during which he was owner and publisher of the Nashville American newspaper. Georgia Ann Brigham was married to John D. Kerr Sr. and they lived in Houston County.

Sycamore, Dec. 28, '97

My dear Georgie,
You made our little fellows, as well as the older ones, very happy with your Christmas box. We all enjoyed it very much. We had some of the sausage for breakfast the morning we left for Sycamore. It reminded me of old times. Everything was very much enjoyed. Anita, Floy, Dudley & Bug⁵² came down with me to spend a Christmas week here.

Morgat & Louise do not have holiday this week, so they could not come, & Pauline⁵³ had to stay to take care of them. And the baby we thought might catch cold on the trip, though his nurse came along with us to take care of Milton.⁴⁴

I hope you had a nice Christmas too. I would very much have liked to have spent the Christmas week around about you – seeing the old friends.

I hope Jackie Boone has fully recovered by this time. My best wishes to him.

I could have gone over to see Miss Helen too if I had been down with you. But it could not have been, as Uncle Jack used to picture, “her long arms wound all around me.” That's what Uncle Jack used to say, and Aunt Mary would laugh over the probabilities.

Well, well, that was a good many years ago – and many changes have taken place since, as many more to

pass by. We will give our places to those who are not thinking of the future.

Mother is right sick. She spent her Christmas in bed – something like pleurisy. She is better now, Miss Blanche writes.

My kind regards to Mr. Kerr & your boys, and love to you from all of us.

Some summer time when you come to Nashville, we must run down to Sycamore & enjoy this place with us. The little lithograph at head of this letter is our Sycamore home. With best wishes to you all for a happy New Year.

Affly., Eugene

²⁴ *Jim Long, an MTGS member, is a volunteer at the Stewart County Archives and has compiled several books of Stewart County records. He is not a Brigham descendant, but, since discovering these wonderful letters, wishes he were.*

NOTES ON the BRIGHAM FAMILY LETTERS

²⁴ Brigham Family Letters. Small Collections III-D-2, Tennessee State Library and Archives.

²⁵ Georgia Ann (Brigham) Kerr (1842-1930), sister of Joe Brigham

²⁶ A reference to Fort Donelson, evidently.

²⁷ John H. and Mary (Ellis) Brigham, parents of Georgia Ann (Brigham) Kerr.

²⁸ Reference to Nancy Ellis and Mary Satterfield. Nancy Ellis (born 1825), was a sister of Mary (Ellis) Brigham who lived with the Brigham family. Mary Satterfield's exact relationship to the Brigham family is not known, although Joe Brigham refers to her as a cousin. In the 1860 census, she is living with Joe Brigham's aunt and uncle, Fannie and Dr. John W. Lewis, in Humphreys County. Her father was Joseph Satterfield, who lived on Dyers Creek, Stewart County. It is possible that her mother was an Ellis, making her a first cousin to Joe Brigham.

²⁹ "Sis" Lewis may refer to either Mary C. Lewis (1851) or Florence L. Lewis (1854), Joe Brigham's first cousins.

³⁰ Possibly the writer's first cousin, Edwin T. Lewis (1849-?).

³¹ Frances (Ellis) Lewis (1822-?), wife of Dr. John Wilson Lewis and sister of Mary (Ellis) Brigham and Nancy Ellis.

³² P. Gustavus Jamison (1837-1915), a Methodist clergyman before and after the war, and a Confederate Chaplain in the 11th Tennessee; he is buried at Anniston, Missouri.

³³ Mr. Carter's identity is not certain; there were eight Carter men in the 50th Tennessee, but none in the same Company as Joe Brigham

³⁴ Frank Sullivan (1830-), a Private in Company K of the 50th Tennessee.

³⁵ William T. Bateman (1827-1897), a Sergeant in Company I from Humphreys County.

³⁶ Columbus E. McAuley (1843-1922) and his first cousin Roderick R. McAuley (1844-?); the McAuleys were neighbors of the Brighams along Wells Creek.

³⁷ James Robert Boone (1843); he was discharged in June 1863 due to a medical disability.

³⁸ Jim Tomlinson's identity is unknown; we find no one in the 50th Tennessee by that name.

³⁹ Bram and Mrs. Pollard are unidentified; there was a James J. Pollard who served in the 50th Tennessee Infantry.

⁴⁰ Mary Laura Brigham (1845-1910), one of his cousins, who did marry Calvin J. Waggoner, but not until 1864.

⁴¹ Dr. John Wilson Lewis (1813-1876), husband of Frances "Fannie" Ellis and uncle of Joe Brigham. He was a physician in Humphreys County. His sister Dialpha Minerva Lewis (1819-1891) was married to William Barber Brigham (1810-1861), Joe Brigham's uncle on his father's side.

⁴² Robert E. Thomas (1839-1912), from one of the prominent families at Cumberland City.

⁴³ Samuel S. Cross (1842-1913); he died at the Soldier's Home in Hermitage.

⁴⁴ The identify of Uncle Abbot and family is unknown.

⁴⁵ Charlie C. Satterfield (1842), son of Joseph Satterfield, who lived on Dyers Creek, Stewart Co. He survived the war and received a pension. He may have been a cousin of Joe Brigham.

⁴⁶ Mary McAuley (1845-1919), whose mother was a Lockhart. Indeed, she had already married, on May 16, 1863 in Stewart County to J. Wiley Richardson.

⁴⁷ Either William A. Moore or Virgil B. Moore, both Lieutenants in the 50th Tennessee.

⁴⁸ Railroad cars; a reference to the September 13 railroad accident in which he was injured.

⁴⁹ John Warden (1826-1880), a fellow Private in Company B, who was due to be discharged from Port Hudson in March 1863.

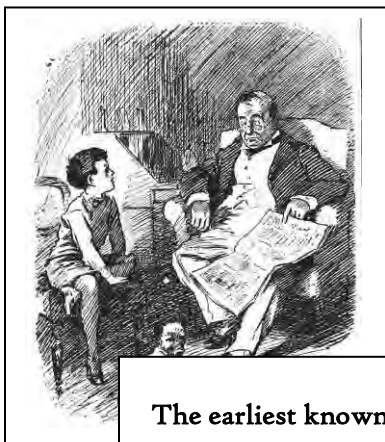
⁵⁰ Joe Brigham's sister, Ida Toppin Brigham (1857-1877)

⁵¹ Corp. Drury N. (Drew) Matthews, Co. A, 50th Tennessee, one of 16 men killed in the accident.

⁵² Children of Eugene C. Lewis.

⁵³ Pauline (Dunn) Lewis, wife of Eugene C. Lewis.

From the Memphis Commerical Appeal, Sept. 16, 1863



Old News is Good News

Newspaper Sources for Middle Tennessee Genealogy

The Lawrenceburg Academist of 1846

The earliest known issue of a Lawrenceburg newspaper provides a glimpse of life in this bustling town in 1846. According to Goodspeed's 1886 history "The halcyon days of Lawrenceburg were in about 1850. It was then a place of great industrial activity."

This issue, and others from the same year, are available on microfilm at the Tennessee State Library & Archives.

The information extracted is from an issue dated Wednesday, March 18th, 1846, Volume I, Number 18.

The Newspaper

The *Academist* was published weekly on Wednesdays, and had evidently opened publication late in 1845. Its motto was "Neutral in politics, and solely devoted to the news of the day, and to the interests of the manufacturer and mechanic arts." Only a few issues have survived, and it evidently ceased publication after a year.¹ Cost was \$2 per year, in advance. A notation on the first page reads "Post Masters are allowed, by law, to remit money for subscriptions, free of postage. We hope they will act as Agents in getting subscribers." This issue carries the resignation of editor W.P. Rowles, and introduces S.E. Rose, Esq., and Dr. M. Deavenport as the new editors. The publisher was

¹ According to Goodspeeds History of Tennessee (1886), in the Lawrence County: "The first newspaper published in Lawrenceburg was in 1846, and was called the *Academist*, and edited by Dr. William P. Rowles. This paper was purchased in September by Horne & Harrison; the latter sold his interest to A. Stribling in a short while. About 1853-54, the paper was bought by Hatcher & Jarrett. It soon passed into the hands of a man named Anderson, and the whole was destroyed by fire about 1857 or 1858." (p.757)

W.T. Harrison & Co. Rose and Deavenport "plead unpracticed pens," never having been editors before.

Smallpox?

The *Columbia Observer* reports that the Small Pox is still in Nashville. We advise everyone to be vaccinated. Rumors of someone in Franklin dying of the vaccine, and someone else losing an arm, should be put down to exaggeration. A post-script was added: "Since the above was in type, we see it stated in the *Orthopolitan* that there is no Small Pox in Nashville."

Methodist Report

George W. Winn and Henry Brown report that the Quarterly Meeting at Lawrenceburg has just closed. "Although there was no great excitement..." it was "an interesting meeting" and well-attended. Rev. P.P. Neely will preach next Sunday.

Doctors

Dr. W.P.A. Hall can be found at his office on the south side of the square, or at his home near the Farmers' Inn. "He wants it distinctly understood that his charges

will not exceed the charges of the neighboring doctors.”

Dr. James P. McDougal informs the public that he has “located himself” at his mother’s residence at the mouth of Schism’s For of Shoal Creek, and is available to make calls both night and day.

Dr. M. Deavenport “has settled in Lawrenceburg” and offers his professional services. He has been a regular practitioner of medicine since 1835. His office and residence are at the Lawrenceburg Hotel.

Dr. J.P. Henderson “considers himself permanently located in Lawrenceburg, and will give his undivided attention to the practice of Physic, Surgery and other branches of his profession. His office is in the new brick building recently erected on the west side of the public square by Wm. A. Edmiston, Esq.

J.J. Gibson, having practiced medicine in this county 5 years, requests those he has served “day and night, in all weathers” to pay their bills. “In order to pay my debts, I *must* collect.”

Merchants

J.H. Griswold welcomes farmers, mechanics and laborers to his New Cash Store for all manner of fashionable goods.

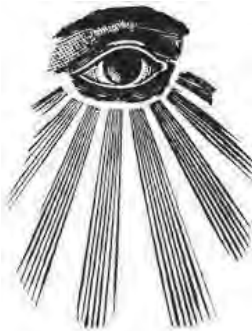
W.F. Stewart announces a new stock of goods ranging from linseed oil to figs to mackerel.

George W. Richards has sold out and intends to remove from the state; he requests all persons indebted to him to settle their accounts. “I hope my old friends, whom I have long served to the best of my ability, will not think the laborer unworthy of his hire.”

Help Wanted

W.H. Kirksey, Cabinet Maker, seeks a good cabinet maker and turner for his shop in Lawrenceburg. To such a person will be given either good wages or a share in the business.

MASONIC MISCONDUCT



Cavel B. McLean, Secretary of Benton Lodge #III, reports that Master Mason William Gray of this lodge has been expelled “for highly immoral and unmasonic conduct, viz: the seducing and running away with a young (and hitherto supposed to be) innocent girl, and by marriage his own *neice*; leaving a wife in great mental as well as pecuniary distress. Said Gray weighs about 175 lbs., is 23 years of age, fair complexion and about 6 feet high.” Papers in Missouri and the Southwest generally are encouraged to print this message to “guard the public against an unprincipled man.”

\$20.

The American Bible Society, by their agent Rev. F.H. Hatcher, offer an agency for the distribution of bibles and testaments “to some competent person.”

LaGrange College

Reports that the fall session recently closed was “remarkable for good order and close application.... No extravagance or dissipation.” Tuition is \$25 per session, plus \$1 for the hire of a servant and \$10 per month for board and laundry. Faculty: Rev. Robert Paine; Henry Tutwiler; Carlos G. Smith; and Joseph M. Towler.²

Lost & Found

Lawrence County Ranger W.E. Dancy reports that Mrs. N.N. Kidd of the 10th district has found a dark bay horse, 8 years old and 15 hands high. F.J. Williams of the 13th district has found a white mare pony appraised at \$20. George Taylor of the 6th district, on Big Shoal Creek nine miles south of Lawrenceburg, has taken up a black “horse poney” about 9 years old, appraised at \$13.

Deputy Ranger Thos. M. East reports a gray horse found by Charles Riner in the 2nd district, also appraised at

²This appears to have been a Methodist institution. *Minutes of the Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1842*, show that R. Paine and R.H. Rives were preachers appointed to LaGrange College (p.305).

County Officials

Sheriff – John Fondrin
Clerk of Circuit Court – Jno. H. Beeler
Clerk & Master of Chancery Court – W.F. Stewart
Clerk of County Court – S. [A? Ca?]rrell
Chairman of County Court – [P?] M. Hayes
Coroner – Wm. A. Edmiston
Register – Franklin Hughes
Trustee – Wm. B. Hall
Entry Taker – John B. Stribling
Surveyor – Daniel McDougal
Ranger – W.E. Dancy
Aldermen – Thos. D. Deavenport, M.F. Hughes, A.S.
Alexander, R.D. Parrish
Recorder – S.A. Carrell
Mayor – W.P. Rowles
Town Constable – Thos. J. Ferguson
Magistrates – Wm. Edmiston, John Field, F.M. Hayes

Married

On Tuesday evening the 10th inst., by the Rev. Wm. H.
Jordan, William P. Horne (Editor of the Florence
Enquirer) to Miss Mary M. Stribling of this county.³

Land For Sale

Charles Hicks wishes to sell 200 acres four miles west
of Lawrenceburg, a mile from Big Shoal Creek,
containing six of the best springs “that ever was seen.”
Includes a good framed house with a stone chimney.

1840 Census of Lawrence County

Total white population: 6,370
Adults over 20 who cannot read or write: 1,007⁴
Employed in agriculture: 1891
Employed in commerce: 14
Trades and Manufacturers: 160
Learned Professions: 11
Number of Schools: 40
Number of Scholars: 313⁵

Bankruptcy Notice

Jacob McGavock, Clerk of the Federal District Court
of Middle Tenn., gives notice that Archibald Patterson
has declared bankruptcy.

Unclaimed Mail

Letters remaining at the Post Office in Lawrenceburg as of January 1, 1846.
If not claimed they will be sent to the General Post Office.

Branson, Jonathan	Field, John	Nelson, Jane Mrs.
Braly, W.G.	Gower, Nicholas	Prince, James
Bumpass, R.W.	Hill, Mary Miss	Pope, Squire H.
Bailey, Joseph M.	Hammond, Willis	Rountree, Mrs. E.
Boon, James	Hale, A.B.	Sparkman, James
Bumpass, A.W.	Haynes, Z.R. Miss	Spreight, Jos. W.
Bartley, Jonathan	Hill, William W.	Stewart, W.F.
Billingsly, Jacob	James, Bennet (or E Gower)	Smith, John
Ball, Pleasant	Lucas, Siney Mrs.	Simonton, Wm.
Blue, Archibald	McLaren, Reuben	Tutts, Alex
Bawcom, C.	Morton, Benjamin	Troop, Richard
Bishop, W.G.	Morcum, Reuben	Turner, James A.
Cobb, J.W.	McCracken, John	Underwood, John B.
Chincutt, Jesse (or Clayton)	McLean, Charles	Voorhies, John
Cleag, Edward	Morphis, Wiley	Voss, James
Davidson, Peter	McNeal, Archibald	Vandiver, J.V.
Dancy, John A.	McCannaly, Wenston	Walden, W.P.
Evans, John	Moor, Gray	Whitley, Benjamin
		Walker, Henry A.
		Williams, Dr. J.B.

John Thompson of Bedford County

Doctor, Politician, Surveyor ... and perhaps Schoolmaster?

Thompson, John (1777-1857)

HOUSE, 12th General Assembly, 1817-19; representing Bedford County. Born in Orange County, North Carolina, March 16, 1777, son of Thomas and Margaret Thompson. When thirteen years old, came with parents to Tennessee, locating first in Nashville ... before moving to Bedford County. Described as having a very good education; studied medicine. Married ... to Mary Snell, daughter of Roger Snell; children – Lawrence Carr, Pinckney, Joseph, Ann, Matilda, Minos and William Thompson. Engaged in farming while practicing medicine and surveying. Justice of the peace. Was Democrat to 1835 and Whig thereafter. Communicant of Lutheran Church at Thompson's Creek. Died in 1857; buried in Crowell's Chapel Lutheran Cemetery, Bedford County. Great-grandfather of T. Leigh Thompson, sometime member of Tennessee General Assembly.

This biographical sketch appears in a volume of published biographies of Tennessee legislators. It appears to be a good summary of the life of an active and interesting pioneer of Middle Tennessee. A search of internet genealogy sites shows that his descendants have struggled to piece together more information about John Thompson and his family.

However, much more can be learned about John Thompson and his family from a little-known collection at the Tennessee State Library and Archives titled "T. Leigh Thompson Family Papers."¹ This collection fills only two folders, but contains a wealth of information. The documents in the first file represent a wide variety of family papers over a span of 100 years, and many appear at first to be unrelated to one another. For instance, what could these items possibly have in common

- A barely literate letter from John R. Smith of McNairy County in 1867 to his brother in Marshall County
- An agreement made in 1806 by Alexander Forbes of Buckingham County and John Fowler of Cumberland regarding the plantation where William Hughes lives
- A handwritten speech filling 18 pages decrying the evils of the North and calling Southerners to arms

The answer isn't immediately clear, but when all 200 or so pages of material in the folder have been thoroughly reviewed, there is little doubt that a careful genealogist will be able to determine how each of these items pertains to John Thompson of Bedford County. The challenge lies waiting in the Archives for some curious researcher to discover and to solve.

The second of the two folders in the Leigh Thompson papers contains pages which evidently fell out of a small bound book. In cramped handwriting, these pages are filled with recipes, medical cures, folk sayings and generally useful information. Scraps of this sort are also found in the first folder. For example:

To Kill Bed Bugs

*take one ounce of corrosive sublimate in powder dissolve in a pint of whiskey
put this on the frequented places with a brush and they will disappear.*

¹ T. Leigh Thompson Family Papers, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Small Manuscript Collections, Accession #91-098.

To stop Puking
Stew leaves of mint and apply to the pit of the stomach as hot as can be bourn

One of the many curious items found in the Thompson collection is a little booklet made of folded paper, containing in all about 44 pages. The booklet's main purpose was evidently to keep track of the number of students attending a school. Various receipts and other notes are found scattered among the pages. The earliest school record is dated May 31, 1837, and continues through September 8:

It was common in those days for the families of a neighborhood to take up a collection and hire a teacher for a set period of weeks. A leading citizen or group held the funds and dispersed them to the teacher, perhaps according to the number of students present. In this case, the teacher kept specific track of which parents sent their children, how many children they sent, and on what days they attended. The record provides information about the following families, most of whom can be identified on the 1840 census of Bedford County.

School Term May – September 1837	
Parent	Attendance Record
Archilus Turrentine	5 children; attended consistently at first, then became irregular with only 3 attending, and by the middle of the term no longer came.
James Turrentine	8 children; by the end of the term only four were regularly present.
Calvin Thompson	1 child; missed only two days in the whole term.
Michael Fisher	2 children; attended consistently.
Saml. Crowel	2 children; stopped attending after a few weeks.
George Capley	3 children; only one child attended in the first few weeks, and some or all were frequently absent thereafter.
George Parson	1 child; frequently absent.
George Fisher	2 children; one or both were frequently absent.
Benjamin Barnhill	3 children; all three came only once. After a few weeks all stopped attending and did not return.
William S. Wade	1 child; irregular at first but improved thereafter.
Elizabeth Capley	2 children; only attended the first several weeks.
James Thompson	1 child; attended consistently.
Elizabeth Thompson	1 child; attended infrequently.
John Capley	1 child, attended irregularly.

The name of the teacher is not clear from the record. At first examination, it was thought the teacher might be old John Thompson himself, as the teacher's handwriting and John's were similar. At the bottom of one of the first pages the name John Thompson was written, indicating this might have been his record book. However, the name of Minos F. Thompson (one of John's sons) appears at the bottom of another page. Noting that the book continued into the late 1840s, it seemed more likely that some younger man must have been the teacher. John Thompson would have been 70 years old in 1847, and though it is possible that a man of that age could be a teacher, a successful physician would probably not have chosen to mind a room full of children week after week.

The booklet contains records of four terms of this teacher's records, ranging from 1837 to 1848. In each term there were children of one or more Thompson families, and those children tended to be more regular in attendance than the others – this lends credence to the theory that someone in the Thompson family was the instructor. At the back of the booklet was found a page with numerous repeated signatures of Joseph P. Thompson, in a hand resembling that of the rest of the manuscript. Looking further, the following notations were discovered:

A portion of the 1840 census of Bedford County showing the neighborhood where several families involved with the school were living. Note that some of the families with small children did not them to the school. This could have been for economic or social reasons.
(1840 U.S. Census, Bedford County, Tenn., p. __, ditigal image, *Ancestry.com*)

School Term March – July 1845	
Parent	Attendance Record
Thomas Bullock	1 child; attended irregularly
Daniel Cass [Caps?]	1 child; attended regularly.
James Claxton	6 children; this family only appears in the last week, with one child on Monday and Tuesday, three on Wednesday and six on Thursday.
Sion Damron	2 children; attended at beginning and end of term only.
Thos. Foster	1 child; had almost perfect attendance.
John H. Featherston	1 child; attended only one week.
George Fulmore	2 children; started late in the term and attended irregularly.
Israel Harris	2 children; attended only in the last week.
Henry Harris	1 child; attended only in the first week.
Jane Nash	2 children; started mid-term but attended regularly.
William Pate	1 child; attended only in the first week.
Abner C. Potts	3 children; attended irregularly.
William Presgrove	2 children; numerous absences in the second half of the term.
William Reeves	1 child; attended only in the last several weeks.
L.B. Still	1 child; attended only in the last week.
Robert Terry	2 children; started late and were often absent.
Lucy Thomas	1 child; nearly perfect attendance.
Joseph P. Thompson	3 children; two attended regularly.
Wilson Turrentine	1 child; attended only in the first two weeks.
William B. Wheeler	3 children, though 5 attended in the final week; at least one attended regularly.
Jesse M. Wheeler	1 child; started late but attended regularly afterwards.
Joseph Williams	4 children; one or two attended frequently.

It seems odd that if Joseph P. Thompson were the teacher, he would have kept track of his own children attending the school (they appear on the 1845 list). And surely the purpose of the book was mainly to track attendance in order to receive the appropriate amount of pay, as it includes no grades or student details. However, as a scrupulous record-keeper he may have listed his own children.

School Term March – May 1848	
Parent	Attendance Record
John Feaser	2 children; attended regularly.
John Fisher, Sr.	2 children; one attended regularly.
John Fisher, Jr.	1 child; attended regularly.
G.W. Gregory	3 children; joined late, one attended sporadically.
Thomas Gregory	1 child; attended regularly.
Ben Lents	2 children; joined late and left before the end of term.
M.F. Parsons	4 children; three attended regularly.
Abe Parsons	1 child; joined late and left before the end of term.
Margaret Parsons	1 child; attended one week in mid-term.
Mrs. Rackley	1 child; attended one week in mid-term.
Isaac Rust	2 children; attended regularly.
Christina Thompson	2 children; one attended regularly.

John F. Thompson	2 children; attended regularly.
Lewis Thompson	1 child; joined late and left before the end of term.

The 1850 census of Bedford County shows the Joseph P. Thompson family, listing the 38-year-old man as a schoolteacher. He and wife Mina (actually Myra) had six children at home in 1850, and his property was valued at \$500. Of the children listed, Harriet would have been 11 in 1845, Robert would have been 9 and May 5. This corresponds with the school record indicating that three children in the family attended school that year.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
52	52	Michael Thompson	21	m		Sch			Teacher		
		Maria	24	f					"		
53	53	Joseph Thompson	38	m		School teacher	500		Value		
		Mina	33	f					Virginia		
		Harriet	16	f					"		
		Robert C	14	m					"		
		May C	12	f					"		
		Maria Ann	10	f					"		
		Malinda	4	f					"		
		John J	1	m					"		
54	54	George Thompson	27	m		Farmer	600		Value		
		Mary	24	f					"		

(1850 U.S. Census, Bedford County, Tenn., p.156B (stamped), family 53, Joseph Thompson household; ditigal image, Ancestry.com)

The following biographical sketch tells us more about Joseph P. Thompson, and answers any remaining misgivings about how he connects to Dr. John Thompson. Interestingly, however, the sketch does not mention that he ever followed any profession but that of a farmer. It does mention his son Robert C. born in 1836, which matches the census record.

JOSEPH PERCIVAL THOMPSON is a son of John and Mary (Snell) Thompson, who were born in North Carolina. The father came to Tennessee with his parents when Nashville was a mere village. He spent the greater share of his life in Bedford County, where he farmed and practiced medicine. He served as surveyor and magistrate and represented his county one term in the State Legislature. He was a Democrat up to 1835 and then became a Whig. He died in 1857 and the mother in 1861. Joseph P. was born in Bedford County January 16, 1812. At the age of sixteen he began working as salesman, and in 1833 wedded Prudence Allison, by whom he had five children. She died in 1844 and the following year he married Myra Wallis. To them were born four children, two of whom lived to be grown. In 1850 his second wife died and two years later Margaret E. Fowler became his third wife. Since his first marriage Mr. Thompson has farmed. He is conservative in politics. Robert C. Thompson, his son, was born to his first marriage. He was born June 30, 1836

(From *The Goodspeed History of Maury, Williamson, Rutherford, Wilson, Bedford, Marshall Counties of Tennessee*. (Columbia, Tenn.: Woodward & Stinson Printing, 1971) originally published 1886, p. 1229.

These school records are just one of many fascinating items in the Blair Thompson collection. Other examples will be featured in future issues of the *Journal*. ■

Book Reviews *by Shirley Wilson*



Coffee County, Tennessee, Marriage Records, Volume 1 Book A 1853-1862 by James L. Douthat, 71 pp., index, 2013. \$15.50 plus postage from Mountain Press, PO Box 400, Signal Mountain, TN 37377-0400. A CD in PDF format is available at \$10 plus postage. www.mountainpress.com

Coffee County was created in 1836 from portions of Bedford, Warren and Franklin Counties in Middle Tennessee. The original courthouse burned and presumably some records were lost since the marriages begin in 1853.

The entries provide the names of the couple applying to marry, the date of the license and the date the marriage was solemnized along with the name of the person officiating (when given).

The records are in chronological order and the bride and groom every name index is thus essential and much appreciated.

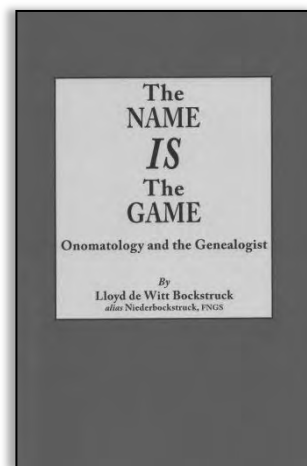
Genealogy at a glance: Old Southwest Genealogy Research by Dorothy Williams Potter, 4 pp., 2013. \$8.95 plus postage from Genealogical Publishing Company www.genealogical.com

It's important to know that the "Old Southwest" is actually the territory east of the Mississippi River, including Georgia west of Flint River, Alabama, Mississippi, and parts of Louisiana and Florida. Much of this was Indian land (Creek, Cherokee Choctaw and Chickasaw).

This is a guide to the records of that area and time period (late 18th and early 19th century) covering such topics as Spanish occupation, Indian relations, territorial organization, earliest migratory paths, main travel routes, American State papers and passport records. It includes listings of major

document collections, books, libraries and on-line sources.

There is an abundance of excellent research information contained in these Genealogy at a glance publications. This one is especially helpful since finding such sources for this area of research in one place is not an easy task.



The Name IS the Game: Onomatology and the Genealogist by Lloyd de Witt Bockstruck, 87 pp., bibliography, 2013. \$16.95 from Clearfield Company, 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260, Baltimore, Maryland, 21211, www.genealogical.com

Onomatology is the study of names, including forenames (first, second and middle) and surnames as well as nicknames and even place names.

Bockstruck addresses a myriad of naming situations that could either confound or assist the genealogist. For example, the name Doctor was often given to the seventh son in a family because it was believed that the seventh son had innate

knowledge of the use of herbs. It also addresses the issue of one man having more than one child by the same name. Icabod was often given to a son born after his father's death.

This is an enormously helpful book, giving first-hand accounts of naming problems that surely

inspired him to write the book. He specifically addresses Spanish, German, Jewish, American Indian, and African American naming patterns. Name changes were also discussed and the author points out that the ancestor who simply "disappears," may have simply changed his name.



The Tennessee Virtual Archive: Making History Visual

The Tennessee State Library and Archives gathers images and documents from its vast collections to create online display on Tennessee history topics. Each display is composed of dozens of images, and all can be searched by keyword. If you haven't explored this virtual archive, known as TeVA, you'll find a link on the Digital Resources page at: www.tn.gov/tsla/resources

The TeVA displays currently on line are:

19th Century Agricultural Resources
19th Century Native American Prints
Alvin C. York
Andrew Johnson Collection
Arts, Crafts & Folklife Photos
Bernhardt Wall Etchings (Andrew Jackson)
Christopher D. Ammons Collection (Vietnam War)
Civil War Maps
Civil War Military Records
Civil War Soldier Photographs
Civil War Visual Culture
Civilian Conservation Corps
Civilian Life in the Civil War
Dr. Harry Mustard Photo Album
Early 20th Century Schoolhouses
Fisk University Scrapbook
Hardy A. Michener, Jr., Journal (World War II)
Historical Maps of Tennessee
Looking Back: The Civil War in Tennessee

Miers River Photo Collection
Quilts
Reconstruction and the African-American Legacy
in Tennessee
Rose Music Collection
Ryman Auditorium
Tennessee Centennial Exposition
Tennessee in World War I
Tennessee Postcard Collection
Tennessee School for the Deaf
Tennessee State Guard
Tennessee's Landmark Documents
The Beautiful Jim Key Collection (Horses)
The Scopes "Monkey" Trial
Throwaway History: The Broadside
in American Culture
War and Reunion: The Lost Cause in Southern Memory
William Strickland Sketchbook