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# Middle Tennessee

## Journal of Genealogy & History

Volume XXVIII, Number 2, Fall 2014

### Table of Contents

From the Editor .....	50
Case of the Prosperous Prostitute: Mary Wooten's estate in Davidson County.....	51
The Mystery of Gov. William Hall's Death Date by Merry Anne Pierson .....	65
What Has Happened to the Hall Cemetery? Castalian Springs Burying Ground.....	71
MTGS Annual Seminar Registration .....	72
The Forgotten Wife: Annie Smith and John Robert Kizer of Sumner County, 1902 .....	75
Early Nashville Photographers, 1853-1891 (pt. 1) by Jay Richiuso .....	83
Book Reviews by Shirley Wilson.....	94

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***Journal Policy and Information  
Inside Back Cover***

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# The Case of the Prosperous Prostitute: Mary Wooten's estate in Davidson County

With an openness that is surprising to modern sensibilities, prostitution flourished openly in Nashville before and after the Civil War. In Nashville's Second Ward, at the heart of town near the Public Square, the 1860 census records no less than 52 women who gave "prostitute" as their occupation. These women lived in working-class neighborhoods near clerks, policemen, ministers, washerwomen, lawyers, doctors, carpenters and tradesmen of all types. The largest of these establishments appears to have been that kept by Rebecca Higgins, a 41-year-old Tennessean who kept a stable of sixteen working girls with ages ranging from 16 to 36.

Heading a smaller house of prostitution at that time was Mary Jane Wooten. She appears in the earliest Nashville City Directory in 1853, as Miss Mary Wooten of 122 College St. (her occupation was tastefully omitted).<sup>1</sup> According to the 1860 census, Mary said she was 27 (she was really 38) and plied her trade along with Martha Brown from Ohio, age 28, and Amanda Smith, a 24-year-old Tennessee native. Dick Stratton, a black man aged 38, also lived there and was evidently was Mary Wooten's hired man. The census shows that Mary Wooten owned real estate valued at \$9,500 and \$600 worth of personal property – a considerable sum for the time. Evidently living next door was Pastor Sebastian Barth, a Methodist clergyman originally from Hesse (Germany). Barth and his wife, Elizabeth, and their seven children, were Mary's near neighbors.<sup>2</sup> The 1866 City Directory lists Miss Mary J. Wooten residing at 130 North College St..<sup>3</sup>



Mary Wooten evidently expanded her establishment during the war years. By 1870 she was heading a house where five other prostitutes were living and working, though Mary's occupation is listed as "Housekeeper." These women ranged in age from just 15 to 25. The oldest of them was Amanda Smith, who had been with Mary in 1860 as well. Both Mary and Amanda aged only one year during the decade – remarkably. Mary is listed as 28 and Amanda as 25. Minnie Hall, a black woman of 55, was also living there and working as a servant. The entire page of the 1870 census on which they are listed is filled with houses of prostitution. In this postwar era, Mary's real estate was valued at \$8,000.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Nashville, State of Tennessee and General Commercial Directory (Nashville: Daily American, 1853), p.21

<sup>2</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Davidson Co., Tenn., Nashville 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, p. 60 (written), p. 349B (stamped), family 351, Mary Wooten household, digital image, *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>3</sup> *King's Nashville City Directory . . . January 1866*. (Nashville: E. Doug. King, 1866), p. 308.

<sup>4</sup> 1870 U.S. census, Davidson Co., Tenn., Nashville 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, p. 36 (written), p. 210B (stamped), family 289, Mary J. Wooten household, digital image, *Ancestry.com*.

The 1880 census shows her still on North College St., still openly working as a prostitute and admitting to the age of 37. Mandy Smith, apparently the same woman listed with her in 1860 and 1870, was still there, though she had only aged from 24 to 30 in the past twenty years. Alternately, Amanda Smith may have been a pseudonym by which different women in Mary's house were called. The third prostitute sharing the house was Nellie Jackson, a New York native of 30. Living with them was Emily Hunter, age 40, listed as a mulatto, who was the cook and household servant. Many other houses of prostitution appear in the neighborhood.<sup>5</sup> The City Directory of 1880 continued to list simply "Miss Mary J. Wooten" at 181 North College St., with no additional information.



1908 insurance map of Nashville showing Mary Wooten's home at 442 North College St.  
At its rear was the new county jail.

By 1900 Mary Wooten had evidently retired, but remained in her home on North College St. with a boarder, Sadie SinClaire, a 30-year-old woman of German parentage. The unusual way in which the enumerator wrote Sadie's last name (with a capital C in the middle) leads one to imagine that perhaps prostitution was still going on in Mary's house. At this period, public censure and legal changes had largely driven the "oldest profession" underground. The neighborhood listing does not include anyone identified as a prostitute. Mary claimed to be 45 at the time of this census.<sup>6</sup>

In January of 1904 a small item appeared in the *NashvilleAmerican*, announcing the death of Miss Mary Jane Wooten, age 82, at her residence on College Street. Funeral services were scheduled that afternoon at the residence, and the body would be taken to Mt. Olivet. Perhaps this death notice did not stir much interest, though there were probably men in Nashville who were relieved to see it. Mary Wooten took many secrets to her grave, and most people would have agreed that those secrets were better left untold.

Mary Wooten's death was recorded by Nashville officials, showing that she had been born 15 Sept. 1821 and died 7 Jan. 1904. In death, her pretense of being much younger was demolished. Dr.[C.V.?] Briggs[?] reported that she

had suffered for "a long time" with heart disease and intestinal problems.<sup>7</sup> Her father's name was unknown, but her mother's name was given as Elizabeth Ray. The information was given by Mrs. Martha Hudson of Azusa, California.

<sup>5</sup> 1880 U.S. census, Davidson Co., Tenn., Nashville, enumeration district 36, stamped page 37, family 102, Mary Wooten household, digital image, *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>6</sup> 1900 U.S. Census, Davidson Co., Tenn., Nashville, enumeration district 80, sheet 5, stamped page 196A, family 147, Mary J. Wooten household, digital image, *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>7</sup> Death record of Mary Wooten, Nashville, Jan. 7, 1904. *Tennessee City Death Records* digital image, *Ancestry.com*.



A Salvation Army funeral in 1909.  
(Archives of Canada)

The “remains,” as the newspaper preferred to say, were kept in the vault at Mt. Olivet until Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, when another small notice in the *American* informed readers that the Salvation Army would officiate at Mary Wooten’s burial in “the family plot.” Evidently no church or clergyman would consent to consign Miss Wooten to her eternal home.

On January 15<sup>th</sup>, the *Nashville American* announced:

**HIDDEN ABOUT HOME  
PERSONAL ESTATE OF MISS  
WOOTEN WILL EXCEED \$75,000<sup>8</sup>**

The *American* reporter explained that J.R. Sneed, executor under the will, was making

an inventory of the property belonging to the estate, and discovered about \$40,000 in bonds, plus jewelry and gold and silver coin valued at a similar amount.

In the little old-fashioned but cosy brick dwelling at 442 North College street Miss Mary Wooten lived for years. It is a quiet, unpretentious establishment in a neighborhood which does not boast of wealth, nor yet of comfort . . . .

Miss Wooten was generally supposed to have amassed a fortune during the early part of her life – she was 75 [*sic*] at the time of her death – but it was always supposed that the money was invested in real estate. She dressed plainly and lived frugally.

“Last week Miss Wooten died, and J.R. Sneed, who for many years has been a close friend, was appointed executor...

“When search was made by Mr. Sneed the result astounded him. Every drawer opened gave up its gold; a box here contained United States bonds, a closet held more . . . . One closet contained diamonds and jewelry, and gold and currency would be found hoarded in another. It was impossible to keep accurate count of the treasure and it was all gathered into heaps and then placed in sacks and conveyed to the Fourth National Bank. . . .

Under the will of Miss Wooten, her half-sister, Mrs. Martha E. Hudson, of Azusa, Cal., inherits the entire personal estate.

Mary Wooten’s will was recorded by the Davidson County Court. Dated in June of 1903 and brought to probate on Jan. 9, 1904, the will was contested almost immediately.<sup>9</sup> As the newspaper reported, most of the estate was left to Martha Hudson, but there were other provisions of interest. After commending her “spirit to Almighty God,” Mary’s first



<sup>8</sup> *Nashville American* Jan. 15, 1904, p. 8

<sup>9</sup> Davidson County, Tenn., Will Book vol. 36, p.133-138, will of Mary Wooten probated 9 Jan. 1904.



direction to her executor was that a monument “costing not less than one thousand dollars” be erected at her grave. Evidently this was a woman who intended to be remembered.

She left a farm of 140 acres, located near where Brentwood Middle School now stands, to her nephew Augustus Wooten and his children, along with instructions that her executor spend \$500 to improve and stock the farm. To her niece Lula Whitus [sic], she left \$200 to be used for the education of



1878 map of Williamson County showing location of the farm owned by Mary Wooten.

Lula’s daughter, Blanche. Nellie Hudson of California was to have her gold watch neck chain. She also left \$200 each to a great-niece in California and a nephew, Thomas Wooten, of Williamson County. Why these particular young people were selected out of a large family of nieces and nephews is not evident. To Augustus Wooten’s other siblings she left the pointedly insulting amount of \$5 each.

Beyond family, Mary wanted to make provision for a man named W.H. Atwell. She gave him the rent revenue from her storehouse at 705 North College Street for his lifetime. Atwell was also to select his choice of a bedstead, dresser, washstand, wardrobe, french lounge, carpet, mantle mirror, two rocking chairs, and a picture of Mary. We will hear more of Mr. Atwell later.

J.R. Sneed of Nashville was named as executor of the will, and told to “pay himself liberally out of my estate for all services performed . . . .” An odd additional instruction was that Sneed should employ and pay W.H. Atwell “who is familiar with all of my affairs and business” to assist him in settling the estate.

The family didn’t waste any time in contesting Mary’s will. The *Nashville American* reported on January 26<sup>th</sup> that a petition had been filed to set aside the will “on the ground of fraud in procurement” and on the further ground that the testatrix was of unsound mind. The names of the family members who contested the will are recorded inconsistently. An effort to identify all of the relations is found at the end of this article.

The legal process which followed was long and complicated. Determining who the heirs were was, in itself, a challenge. Martha Hudson, the closest living relative, said that her sister Lottie (Charlotte) Ray was deceased and had only had one child, an imbecile who did not live past the age of 16. But then Frank Edwards of Carmi, Illinois, showed up to say that his wife, Charlotte Ray, was a granddaughter of Lottie. The other heirs were suspicious that Edwards and his wife were impostors. Thomas Wooten, in particular, petitioned the court claiming that “said sister left no heirs.” Frank Edwards stayed in Nashville for two weeks attempting to press his wife’s claim, but Mrs. Edwards was ruled out by Tennessee law, which limited the heirs who could inherit in such cases to siblings and their children and did not extend the right to later generations.<sup>1011</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Shannon’s Tenn. Code Sec. 4173 Rec. p.80

<sup>11</sup> Although only Charlotte Ray Edwards appears in the surviving record as a Wooten descendant, census records of White County, Ill., indicate that Sidney Ray and his wife Susan Greer had several children. None of them is named Charlotte.

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With sister Charlotte's progeny excluded, the number of full shares went from four to three, one for each of Mary Wooten's siblings: Adaline Buttrey; Andrew Wooten and Martha Hudson. Adaline Buttrey and Andrew Wooten were deceased, but had living children who were eligible to inherit. Andrew, the only sibling who had remained in Tennessee, left ten children who would divide his share. The record is not as clear about the Buttrey heirs. The Nashville American reported on July 28, 1904, ". . . if the will is set aside there are 32 persons who will have an interest."

Shortly after the will was contested the executor, John R. Sneed, died. In his place, attorney P.H. Shelton was appointed administrator *de bonis non* (with the will annexed). The will was "set aside" on August 22 and County Judge W.M. Pollard dismissed Shelton and instead appointed Charles Frizzell administrator *pendente lite* (pending the litigation). Mrs. Hudson had already taken furniture and jewelry back to California, but the following property was turned over to Frizzell:



\$50 gold piece

- \$50.00 gold coin
- \$26,000 in cash
- \$38,000 in case from the sale of bonds
- Bank accounts ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 each at the 4<sup>th</sup> National Bank, City Savings Bank, American National Bank, Nashville Trust Company and Merchants Bank.
- Process of a note on Wm. Rich, B. Rich and M. Rich \$9,000
- Note on Wm. Rich and J. Sneed \$1,000
- Note on Wm. Rich (trust deed) and six interest notes \$11,000
- Notes on L.H. Davis \$4,000
- Note on J.W. Turner \$564.
- Receipts from Haynie, Sharpe, Gear & Davis, rents for realty \$300

The heirs became alarmed when they realized that Frizzell would charge the estate \$2,000 for the small amount of legal work required of him to temporarily hold the assets of the estate. They protested to the County Court, where the clerk overruled their objections and Judge Pollard raised Frizzell's fee from \$2,000 to \$6,000. The angry heirs then filed a complaint against Judge Pollard in the Circuit Court of Davidson County.

The Circuit Court case began in May 1905, with P.H. Shelton acting on behalf of the heirs, who proposed that Judge John T. Allen be appointed instead of Frizzell. Allen was a respected attorney and former mayor of Pulaski, and had served temporarily on the Supreme Court.<sup>12</sup> The attorneys for the various factions of Wooten heirs became exasperated with the case, and submitted this request to the Circuit Court:

We hereby agree to lay aside all personal interests . . . and to discontinue all litigation. . . . All the heirs of Mary J. Wooten, deceased, are poor people, and are in sore need of the money that will be due them upon a distribution. Some of them are very old, and some of them are minors. We cannot afford, therefore, to delay the settlement and distribution of this estate, and use the money that rightfully belongs to these poor people in further litigation, just in order that the successful candidate for the position of administrator may receive commissions for his services.

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<sup>12</sup> Tennessee the Volunteer State (Nashville: S.J. Clarke, 1923), John Tidwell Allen entry, vol. IV, pp. 172-173.

Among the considerations in the Circuit Court was whether one of the heirs might be appointed administrator. The law favored such a choice. However, no one could be found that the court deemed “qualified.” The out-of-state heirs were ineligible. James Wooton was honest but illiterate, and Thomas Wooton was “illiterate and probably immoral.” It was alleged that Tom Wooton, living on the farm near Brentwood which belonged to his aunt, had two wives living in separate houses on the same property. After some wrangling, the Circuit Court determined in December 1905 that Shelton had missed a filing deadline and therefore his clients’ claim was denied. The decision



JOHN T. ALLEN.

JOHN T. ALLEN, NASHVILLE, TENN.  
Lawyer.

John T. Allen, prominent attorney of Nashville, was born in Maury county, near Hampshire, February 17th, 1852. His parents were B. S. and Mary Allen. He has one brother, Dr. A. M. Allen, of Burford Station, Giles county, Tenn. He received his education in the country schools and under Dr. William Stoddard, of Giles county, as private instructor. He then read law under Hon. W. C. Whitborne and Hon. Houston Thomas, of Columbia, Tenn., and worked in the law office of Thomas & Barnett until he was licensed to practice law by Judge William P. Martin and Chancellor W. S. Fleming in January, 1875. In the spring of 1875 he located in Waynesboro and started the practice and in the fall of 1876 he moved to Lawrensburg where he engaged in law practice in Lawrence and Wayne counties. In 1880 he became associated with the Hon. E. T. Taliaferro, of Pulaski, Tenn., where he practiced law until 1899 when he removed to Nashville. He is now doing a general practice in all courts of this city. Mr. Allen was married to Miss Ellen E. Wilkinson, on Nov. 2nd, 1876, of Aspen Hill, Giles county. Six children were born of this union, three sons and three daughters. Each of his sons was graduated in law. Houston T. Allen, the elder son, after practicing law a few years, joined the Tennessee M. E. Conference, South, and lately was transferred to the New York Conference and has charge of the M. E. church in Jordan, N. Y. The second son, Clifford B. Allen, quit the law to take up life insurance business and is president of Our Home Life Insurance Company, of Jacksonville, Fla., with executive offices in Washington, D. C. John T. Allen, Jr., is attorney for the Guaranty Title and Trust Company, of New York. The eldest daughter, Mary Lou, is the wife of Maj. J. T. Robb, formerly of New Orleans, La., who is general sales manager for the firm of Smith, Cline & French, of Philadelphia. The second daughter, Mildred, is the

(Continued on page 648).

#### Judge Allen attempted to avoid lawsuits between the Wooten heirs.

From *Men of the South* (New Orleans: Southern Biographical Assn, 1922) p. 642

Although they were acting as a unit in bringing these suits, the heirs were far from united. Originally Martha Hudson wanted to support the will as it stood. But when she found that the other heirs were willing to give her a third, instead of the fourth she expected, and that this third would be hers absolutely, without requiring the remainder be left to her children, Martha decided to switch sides.<sup>13</sup> Hudson’s attorneys were John E. Turney and E.S. Ashcraft. They consented for the will to be set aside on July 25, 1904, “on the grounds of insanity . . . and on the grounds that said will was procured to be made by fraud and undue influence, contrary to the former expressed wishes and intentions of said Mary J. Wooten...” Mrs. Hudson asked permission to keep Mary’s household furniture which had already been shipped to her home.<sup>14</sup>

Determined to uphold the wishes of his testator, executor John R. Sneed “renewed his efforts and zeal in the case, as well as his strength, and from that time for three or four weeks [engaged] in the hottest sort of a fight.”<sup>15</sup>

of Judge Pollard and the appointment of Frizzell were affirmed. Shelton complained, without success, that Frizzell had left town to attend a meeting of the Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias in Knoxville and could not be reached in time to file the required document.

By this time, thoroughly outdone with the court system, the heirs appealed the Circuit Court decision to the state Supreme Court. As Shelton pointed out, “The Court will observe that this [missing a filing deadline] is an exceedingly technical ground on which . . . to rest an unjust and exorbitant and illegal demand [Frizzell’s fees] which naturally a man of good conscience would be disposed to waive . . . [Frizzell] should only have been allowed nominal compensation and no more.”

<sup>13</sup> Tennessee Supreme Court Case File, *In the Matter of the Administration of the Estate of Mary J. Wooten, deceased*. (Tenn. State Library and Archives, Middle Tennessee Box Numbers 1629 and 1700). These files include partial transcripts of the County Court and Circuit Court activity which preceded the Supreme Court case.

<sup>14</sup> Tennessee Supreme Court Case File, *op. cit.*

<sup>15</sup> Tennessee Supreme Court Case File, *op. cit.*

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Attorneys describe in their briefs how complicated it was to keep track of which heirs sided with which others. Their interest in the case waxed and waned. “It was sort of like a foot ball game, sometimes [we would] have a good attendance and sometimes wouldn’t have but two or three,” wrote one.<sup>16</sup>

It is not clear how Judge Allen originally became involved, but one of the attorneys stated that the heirs in Illinois decided to contest the will, and “held a meeting ... a convention or something ... and decided upon what they would do in regard to the matter ...” and they determined that Judge Allen should represent them. As Allen testified later, “We were satisfied ... that we had a hard fight before us and we wanted every man to his post and every fellow to his gun. Our intention was to set aside that will, if possible . . . I represented ... the heirs of two sisters in Illinois, and half of the Andrew Wooten heirs. ...[I]t was a common fight, I felt in the fight that we were representing everybody that was making a contest of the will; we all lined up and made the fight together – Mr. Stokes, and Mr. Byrns and myself, all of us; it was a common fight.”<sup>17</sup>

The record indicates that Allen worked diligently as a negotiator among the heirs. At one point, he finally had them all in agreement. Allen said “I had a good deal of trouble to get my clients to sign it [the agreement]; Mrs. Hudson signed it first; then Mr. Stokes and his clients; then our clients higgled a good deal about it, some of them; Mr. Green and his wife thought . . . we could win without Mrs. Hudson, and Green’s wife . . . was the last to sign it . . .”<sup>18</sup> In the end this compromise fell apart, with Tom Wooten, Lula Whitehurst, and three of their siblings objecting. The renegade five Wooten siblings were represented by young attorney Harry Stokes and his partner Joseph Byrns.

Witnesses were brought to court to testify about Mary Wooten’s mental condition at the time she wrote her will. In particular, the influence of her friend Capt. Atwood was investigated. Many things not included in the surviving court records (the Circuit Court case file, said to approach 3,000 pages, has been destroyed) were gleefully reported in the newspapers.

The reading public first learned that Mary Wooten’s wealth was ill-gotten six months after the news of the large estate was reported. In an article about the Circuit Court trial it was revealed that “The deceased was for a number of years conspicuous in the red-light district, but for many years before her death had lived quietly on North College street, having the bulk of her fortune in her house in gold and securities.”<sup>19</sup>

On the following day, the testimony of Mary’s niece Minerva Cunningham supported the claim that Mary was not mentally competent. Minerva, about 40 years old at the time of the trial, reported that she had visited her aunt five years earlier “and found her under the impression that he had been poisoned.” Mary told Minerva that “the rascals” wanted her money. Conveniently, Minerva also recalled that Mary said she wanted her money to go to the children of her brothers and sisters.<sup>20</sup>

Mary’s sister, Martha Hudson, had come to Nashville at various times to help Mary in her later years. Martha testified that she did not believe Mary was aware of the contents of the will. Mary was “old and childish” and “of unsound mind,” in her sister’s view.<sup>21</sup> This testimony, of course, came after Martha had been persuaded to join in breaking the will. Martha must have been quite convincing, as “court officials say that Mrs. Hudson is one of the

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<sup>16</sup> Tennessee Supreme Court Case File, *op. cit.*

<sup>17</sup> Tennessee Supreme Court Case File, *op. cit.*, from brief filed by J.T. Allen.

<sup>18</sup> Tennessee Supreme Court Case File, *op. cit.*, from brief filed by J.T. Allen.

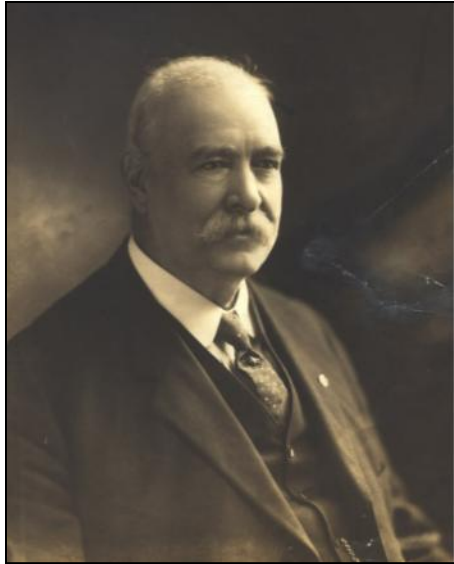
<sup>19</sup> “Large Estate is Involved.” *Nashville American* 28 July 1904, page 10.

<sup>20</sup> “Rascals Wanted Her Money.” *Nashville American* 29 July 1904, page .

<sup>21</sup> “Mrs. Martha Hudson Testifies,” *Nashville American*, 30 July 1904, page 8.



most remarkable witnesses they have ever seen on the stand, the contestees not having succeeded in the slightest in breaking down her testimony during the many hours of cross-examination.”<sup>22</sup>



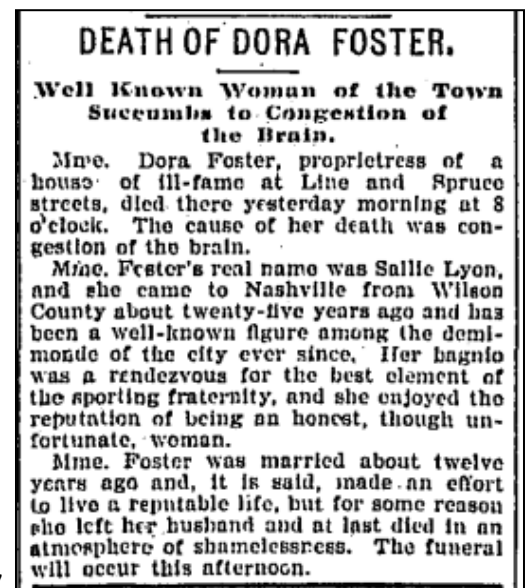
**Dr. Duncan Eve, Sr. (1853-1937)**  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Digital Archive  
[www.mc.vanderbilt.edu](http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu)

As the trial continued into early August, Amanda Burns was called to testify. Mandy, as the newspaper called her, was “a colored woman who was a servant at the house of Mary J. Wooten for eight or ten years before her death.” The 1900 census shows that Burns was then 64 years old and living not far from Mary at 928 College Street with her married daughter, Lena Crosby.<sup>23</sup> Mandy testified that Capt. Atwell had been a frequent visitor at the house, and that Mary had gotten so weak that she could hardly hold her head up. On the night of Mary’s death, Mandy and Martha Hudson were at Mary’s house, and J.R. Sneed was there as well – perhaps along with Atwell, though the newspaper doesn’t specify that. Mandy reported that Mr. Sneed was moving around the house and, after he left, she and Martha found the window open in the room where the safe was kept.<sup>24</sup>

Dr. Duncan Eve, a respected Nashville physician, testified that he had treated Mary Wooten for senile dementia for several years and “regarded her as a self-willed, determined and forgetful person.” He did not think she was capable of dictating the will or understanding its provisions.<sup>25</sup> Clara Coles, who worked as a servant in the house during Mary’s illness, stated that “Miss Wooten . . . was a neat, clean woman in person and dress.”<sup>26</sup>

John R. Sneed, the executor appointed in the will who therefore testified in support of it, stated that he regarded Mary Wooten as a clear-headed woman. He had known her since borrowing money from her 20 years prior, when he and Atwell were in the furniture business together. Sneed also told the court that “for 30 years he had been working among people of Mrs. Wooten’s class, endeavoring to strengthen them morally and spiritually.” Sneed and William Turner had paid the expenses of a mission they conducted in the neighborhood. He had visited Mrs. Hudson in her California home, and when she came to Nashville he invited her to his home, “cautioning her, however, not to mention the name of Capt. Atwell lest they associate it with Mary Wooten.”<sup>27</sup>

The fact that Atwell had such influence with the ailing Mary Wooten, and that he and Sneed were former business partners, led to



*Nashville American*, 11 Mar. 1889

<sup>22</sup> “Wooten Will Case,” *Nashville American*, 3 Aug. 1904, page 10.

<sup>23</sup> U1900 U.S. Census, Davidson Co., Tenn., Nashville, enumeration district 77, household, digital image, *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>24</sup> “Wooten Will Case,” *op. cit.*

<sup>25</sup> “Forgetful Woman was not Strong Mentally,” *Nashville American*, 10 Aug. 1904, page 10.

<sup>26</sup> “She Couldn’t Write So J.R. Sneed Signed Mary Wooten’s Name to Will,” *Nashville American*, 12 Aug. 1904, page 8.

<sup>27</sup> “Forgetful Woman,” *op. cit.* “J.R. Sneed Continues Evidence in Wooten Will Case,” *Nashville American*, 11 Aug. 1904, page 10.

suspicion about the propriety of Sneed being named executor of Mary's will. During the trial the attorneys for the family attempted to tarnish Sneed's reputation by pointing out that he also transacted profitable business with "abandoned women." Asked if he sold furniture to "sporting houses" Sneed replied that he sold to customers if they were good payers, regardless of the business they were in. He admitted having sold furniture to Dora Foster and that he had loaned a "sporting woman" named Snowden \$1,500, which she could not pay and finally he had to sell her place out. Dora Foster had, in fact, declined to deal with Capt. Atwood and would only purchase from Sneed, because "she would not deal with men who frequented immoral resorts."<sup>28</sup>

Another witness was called to damage Sneed's reputation further. Clara Coles, a servant who had worked in the Wooten home, testified that Sneed had been at the home as late as midnight on one occasion. Questioned about his relationship with Capt. Atwell, Sneed "admitted also that for 24 years he had been in partnership with Capt. Atwell and admitted knowing that Capt. Atwell was a gambler and lived with Mary Wooten. He had tried, however, to reform Atwood and lead him to a life of Christianity."<sup>29</sup>

The week after the Circuit Court trial closed, Sneed suffered a stroke and died shortly thereafter. As a result of "this most tiresome trial," Sneed had become exhausted and left the city to recuperate. Mr. Ashcraft, one of Mrs. Hudson's attorneys, also died shortly after the trial.<sup>30</sup> J.R. Sneed was a well-known Nashville furniture retailer, aged 60, with a wife and four children (John, Robert and Annie Sneed and Mrs. G.M. Slaughter). His mother, Betsy Sneed, was 95 years old when her son died. Nevertheless, she traveled at night from her home on Franklin Pike near Brentwood to Diamond Springs, Kentucky, to be at his bedside. His

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**PHILLIPS & BUTTORFF**

**J.R. SNEED SUCCUMBS**

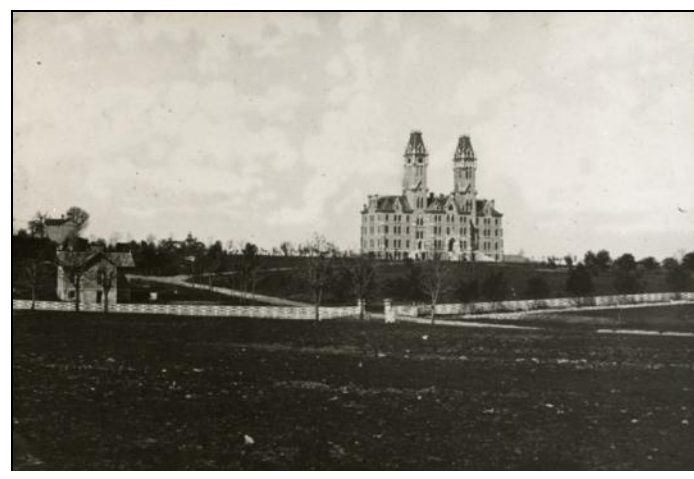
AT DIAMOND SPRINGS TO RECENT STROKE OF APOPLEXY.

**AGED MOTHER WITH HIM**

His Death is Second in Noted Contest Over Will of Mary Wooten, E. S. Ashcraft, an Attorney, Having Died Saturday.

J. R. Sneed died at Diamond Springs, Ky., at 10:50 o'clock Thursday morning, aged 60 years. Mr. Sneed succumbed to an attack of apoplexy suffered about ten days or two weeks ago. The remains will be brought to this city this morning to his residence, 803 South Summer street, and the funeral arrangements will then be made.

His mother, Mrs. Betsy Sneed, of the Franklin turnpike, near Brentwood, was with her son when the end came. Mrs. Sneed is 95 years old, but despite her advanced age went immediately to the bedside of her son when she learned he had been stricken. She drove twelve miles to this city and left on the train leaving Nashville about 3 o'clock on the morning following the stroke sustained by Mr. Sneed.



Atwell & Sneed furnished *The Vanderbilt* in 1874.  
(Tenn. State Library & Archives)

page 8.

<sup>29</sup> "She Couldn't Write . . .," *Nashville American*, 12 Aug. 1904, page 8.

<sup>30</sup> Tennessee Supreme Court Case File, *op. cit.*, from brief filed by J.T. Allen and J. Percy Rains.

<sup>31</sup> "J.R. Sneed Succumbs," *Nashville American*, 9 Sept. 1904, page 6.

<sup>32</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of William Henry Atwell, 1915, Davidson County certificate #66.

obituary stated that he was a prominent member of the Elm Street Church "and a worker among abandoned women. He conducted a mission for the fallen in the red light district up to a short time ago."<sup>31</sup>

The revelations about William Henry Atwell's character fed the imagination of the news-reading public. To learn that a well-known businessman not only gambled and visited houses of prostitution, but had actually lived in such a house with Mary Wooten, would have been a great scandal in 1904. Atwell was born in Virginia in 1838, the son of John B. and Mary (Smithson) Atwell.<sup>32</sup> He was one of a large family of

children, and moved with his parents to DeKalb County, Tenn., while still young.<sup>33</sup> He evidently served in the Civil War, as he was consistently referred to as “Captain.” After the war he settled in Nashville, obtained work as a clerk, and eventually went into the furniture business. In partnership with J.R. Sneed, he provided the furniture for the original Vanderbilt University building in 1875.<sup>34</sup> There is no indication that he ever married, though he maintained ties with family as evidenced by the pall-bearers at his funeral in 1915, which included J.K. Atwell and I.G. Atwell.<sup>35</sup>

Atwell himself was called to the stand on Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, and “detailed his relations with the woman.” He had first met Mary Wooten at a “local sporting house” and then lived with her in a marriage-type relation for “upwards of twenty years.” After she moved to her new house they no longer lived together but he continued to visit her. He claimed never to have taken any of Mary’s money, but rather had spent \$20,000 on her over the years. He admitted that his partnership with Mr. Sneed, which lasted 24 years, had netted him \$40,000, but said he was now “a poor man without means.”<sup>36</sup>

**STATE OF TENNESSEE**  
**DEATH CERTIFICATE**  
 COUNTY: DAVIDSON  
 CIVIL DIST.: 1st  
 REGISTRATION DISTRICT NO.: 24901  
 PRIMARY REGISTRATION DISTRICT NO.: 5  
 FILE NO.: 1241  
 REGISTERED NO.: 1241  
 (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)

**1 PLACE OF DEATH**  
 City: NASHVILLE, TENN.  
 (No. 1146, Fourth North St., 5 Ward)

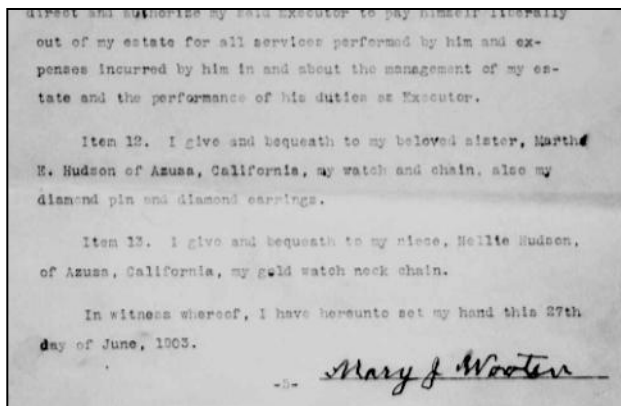
**2 FULL NAME**  
 Capt. William H. Atwell

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**  
 3 SEX: Male  
 4 COLOR OR RACE: white  
 5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED: Single  
 6 DATE OF BIRTH: July 25, 1888  
 7 AGE: 27 yrs. 0 mos. 1 ds.  
 8 OCCUPATION: Retired Merchant  
 9 BIRTHPLACE: Va.  
 10 NAME OF FATHER: John B. Atwell  
 11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER: Va.  
 12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER: Martha F. Smith  
 13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER: Va.  
 14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant: J. P. H. Atwell, Address: 301 Jackson Bldg.)

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**  
 15 DATE OF DEATH: July 24, 1915  
 16 I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I attended deceased from July 15, 1915, to July 23, 1915, and that I last saw him alive on July 23, 1915, and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 11 P.M.  
 The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: Heart failure  
 17 CONTRIBUTORY: Arteriosclerosis  
 18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRANSIENTS, OR RECENT RESIDENCE): 10 yrs. 0 mos. 0 ds.  
 19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL: Mt. Olivet Cemetery  
 20 UNDERTAKER: J. K. Atwell  
 21 ADDRESS: 301 Jackson Bldg.  
 22 DATE OF BURIAL: July 25, 1915  
 23 SIGNATURE: J. K. Atwell  
 24 PRINTED NAME: J. K. Atwell  
 25 PLACE: 301 Jackson Bldg.

Captain Atwell's death certificate, 1915.

Atwell described Mary Wooten as a woman “of good sense with an exceptional memory.” He assisted her with her correspondence, opening her letters and reading them to her, and writing replies to her dictation. (Why she was unable to read for herself is not stated; census records consistently report her as literate.)



J.R. Sneed admitted to signing Mary’s name to her will

Further damning Atwell and Sneed was the omission coaxed from the latter during cross-examination that, although he was not present when she died, he had signed Mary Wooten’s name to her will. She, evidently, was too ill to do so.<sup>37</sup> This fact alone must have been sufficient to overturn the will, although the trial continued. She was, Atwell said, “nervous and unforgiving, but a devoted daughter, highly respecting her mother.” Atwell had assisted her in purchasing a lot at Mt. Olivet cemetery, and moving her mother’s remains from the City Cemetery there. He said further that Mary “hated her Illinois sister for having slammed the door

<sup>33</sup> 1860 U.S. census, District 9, DeKalb County, Tenn., page 154, family #1036.  
<sup>34</sup> “Furniture for the Vanderbilt,” *Republican Banner* [Nashville], 25 Aug. 1875, page 4.  
<sup>35</sup> “Obituary Notices. Capt. W.H. Atwell,” *Nashville American*, 25 July 1915, page 2.  
<sup>36</sup> “Capt. Atwell Heard,” *Nashville American*, 13 Aug. 1904, page 10.  
<sup>37</sup> “She Couldn’t Write . . .,” *Nashville American*, 12 Aug. 1904, page 8.

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in her face when she went to visit her, and she declared she would never forgive her for this act.”<sup>38</sup>

A lengthy list of witnesses appeared before the Circuit Court. On Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> interesting testimony about Mary’s personal quirks was given. As reported in the *Nashville American*:

Emeline Hunter, a negress about 84 years old, who testified that she was a cook at the public house of Mary J. Wooten on North College street fifteen years before the Civil War, was one of the principal witnesses of the day. Judge Cartwright overruled the motion to remove Mrs. Martha Hudson as one of the proponents to set up the will and place her on the side of the contestants. The sessions of the court will be one hour longer in order to hasten the tedious trial, and court will adjourn at 3 o’clock instead of 2 o’clock.

Emeline Hunter . . . was the first witness. Witness testified to the peculiar conduct of the deceased. Witness said Atwell was at the home of deceased a few days before her death, and was told by the latter that she could not read and write, and was not able to have anyone else to read to her, and did not want to be worried until her sister arrived. Witness said this scene had been repeated in her presence. Witness had lived with deceased some months before her death, and said Miss Mary would feed her parrot and dog before she would allow her sister to eat.

Note: Emeline Hunter is listed in the 1880 census as a mulatto servant and cook, aged 40.<sup>39</sup> If she did indeed work for Mary Wooten for 15 years before the Civil War, Mary’s establishment must have been operating long before we can find any record of it.

Mrs. Kate Overstreet was the text witness, testifying that she lived with the aged woman in 1890, and did not think her mind was sound. Witness said she believed that if she had remained . . . she would have been as crazy as she (Mary Wooten) was. Witness said at times the deceased cursed God, and at other times would curse her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Shuster, who live in the rear of the Wooten home, on North College street, corroborated other witnesses on important points. Witness stated that Capt. Atwell visited the Wooten home about 365 days in the year.<sup>40</sup>

As one might expect, the outcome of this litigation was complex. The Supreme Court merely returned the case to the County Court, ruling that the Circuit Court had no jurisdiction in estate matters. They instructed the County Court to allow the next of kin their right to administer, or to nominate and select some other suitable person to be their administrator. P.H. Shelton, who was the original administrator *de bonis non*, was reappointed. Various additional suits were filed by attorneys (including Frizzell and the widow of Ashcraft) who felt they should receive larger compensation, further delaying settlement. Then the heirs filed suit against the attorneys claiming the fees were excessive. In late 1907 the *American* reported that attorney fees had already been paid to the sum of \$40,000.<sup>41</sup> The ten children of Andrew Wooten got tired of waiting for a settlement, and sold their interest to W.S. Morgan and J.C. Franklin, who reported in 1908 that they had received payment of about \$25,000 but were due

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<sup>38</sup> “Capt. Atwell Heard,” *op. cit.*

<sup>39</sup> 1870 U.S. census, Davidson Co., Tenn., family 289, Mary J. Wooten household, *op. cit.*

<sup>40</sup> “Years Before War Aged Negress who cooked for Mary Wooten on Stand,” *Nashville American*, 6 Aug. 1904, page 10.

<sup>41</sup> “Mary Wooten Estate,” *Nashville American*, 10 Dec. 1907, page 10.





another \$4,700, and filed yet another suit.<sup>42</sup> One hopes that Martha Hudson received a similar amount for her share, but the record is not clear on that.

How Mary Wooten came to be one of Nashville's "fallen women" may never be known, and many questions remain about her genealogy (who was her father?) and her estate (was the will legitimate after all?). Those are questions which further research may shed light on. But for now, it must be enough that the woman who wanted to be remembered by a tombstone "costing not less than one thousand dollars" has once again appeared in the annals of Middle Tennessee history.

### Mary Wooten's Family

Elizabeth Ray<sup>43</sup> born in North Carolina ca. 1809 (1860 census) married \_\_\_\_ Wooten, died Nov. 5, 1884, originally buried at Nashville City Cemetery,<sup>44</sup> removed to Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Nashville, Tenn.<sup>45</sup>

1. Mary J. Wooten, b. in Tennessee 15 Sept. 1821, died 1904 in Nashville, buried at Mt. Olivet.<sup>46</sup>
2. Adaline Wooten, b. in Tennessee ca. 1822, married ca. 1838 Emery Buttrey (b. ca. 1811, died 1870-1880), lived White County, Illinois, 1850-1870, died before 1904.<sup>47</sup>
  - a. Henry, b. ca. 1839, living in 1904.
  - b. Rebecca Jane, b. ca. 1841, married Alexander Brockett in 1856,<sup>48</sup> died before 1904 leaving heirs Elmer, James and Oscar Brockett and (probably) a daughter Fannie Brockett Batchlor.
  - c. Nicie, b. ca. 1842, married Zad Holland,<sup>49</sup> died before 1904 leaving heirs Henry, Otis, John William and Orlando Holland, Margaret Holland Durham, Rebecca Holland Procter and Annie Belle Holland Poole.<sup>50</sup>
  - d. John F., b. ca. 1845
  - e. Sarah Ann, b. ca. 1848, married G.W. Clark, living in 1904.

<sup>42</sup> "Wooten Estate" *Nashville American*, 14 May 1908, page 10.

<sup>43</sup> Tennessee City Death Records, Death record of Mary Jane Wooten, 7 Jan. 1904 naming mother Elizabeth Ray. *Ancestry.com* online database.

<sup>44</sup> Historic Nashville City Cemetery Interments, *DataNashville.gov*.

<sup>45</sup> Tombstone of Mary and Elizabeth Wooten, Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Nashville, Tenn. digital image, *Findagrave.com*.

<sup>46</sup> Death record of Mary Jane Wooten, *op. cit.*

<sup>47</sup> U.S. census 1850, 1860, 1870, White County, Illinois.

<sup>48</sup> White County Illinois marriage records, <http://genealogytrails.com/ill/white/marriages.html>.

<sup>49</sup> 1880 U.S. census, Bear Creek, Gallatin County, Illinois, enumeration district 17, page 471A, family #241, Zad Holland household, digital image, *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>50</sup> These heirs are grouped together in such a way in the court record that they appear to be siblings. "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

- f. William M., b. 1850, living in 1904.
  - g. Margaret, b. ca. 1852, married Homer Kelly, living in 1904.
  - h. Robert, b. ca. 1856, probably marr. Martha Ann Austin in 1878,<sup>51</sup> died before 1900 leaving heirs Clarence, Gilbert, Vay and Lola Pear Buttrey.<sup>52</sup>
  - i. Amanda, b. 1859, married \_\_\_\_ Brown, living in 1904.
  - j. Jesse D., b. ca. 1861, living in 1904.
  - k. unknown daughter, married \_\_\_\_ Barnett, died before 1904 leaving heirs Ambrose and James Barnett.<sup>53</sup>
3. Charlotte Wooten, b. in Tennessee, ca. 1826,<sup>54</sup> married \_\_\_\_ Ray; died prior to 1904.<sup>55</sup>
    - a. (possibly) Sidney Ray, b. in Tennessee ca. 1842, married Susan A. Greer, died prior to 1900, buried in Powell Cemetery with a Union Veteran's tombstone, undated. <sup>56</sup> <sup>57</sup> Charlotte Ray, born 1881, married Frank L. Edwards and claimed Charlotte Wooten Ray's share in the estate. <sup>58</sup>
  4. Martha E. Wooten, b. in Tennessee ca. 1841, died 1927 in Los Angeles County, California, married Henry T. Hudson (b. ca. 1839).<sup>59</sup>
    - a. Emily E. Hudson b. in Texas c. 1876<sup>60</sup>
    - b. Nellie L. Hudson, b. in California, ca. 1885<sup>61</sup>
    - c. Irene, married W.P. Barnes. Mother of Blanch P. Barnes b. ca. 1893<sup>62</sup>
    - d. T.M. Hudson<sup>63</sup>
    - e. Jimmie Hudson<sup>64</sup>
    - f. T.P. Hudson<sup>65</sup>
    - g. Jimmie Hudson<sup>66</sup>
    - h. (daughter), married W.P. Barnett<sup>67</sup>
    - i. (daughter), married Barnett Griswold<sup>68</sup>

<sup>51</sup> White County Tennessee marriage records, <http://genealogytrails.com/ill/white/marriages.html>.

<sup>52</sup> 1900 U.S. census, White County, Illinois, enumeration district 116, sheet 11, family 227, family of Martha A. Butry, widow.

<sup>53</sup> 1900 U.S. census, White County, Illinois, enumeration district 115, sheet 5B, family 96, family of Sibbiann Barnett, widow, with grandsons Ambrose (b.1885) and James (b.1889) Barnett.

<sup>54</sup> 1870 U.S. census, Carmi, White County, Illinois, Stamped p. 332A, family #656, Sydney Ray household, digital image, *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>55</sup> Tennessee Supreme Court Case Files, Tenn. State Library and Archives, "In re Mary Wooten estate," Middle Tenn. box 169.

<sup>56</sup> 1870 U.S. census, Sydney Ray household, *op. cit.*

<sup>57</sup> White County Illinois marriage records, <http://genealogytrails.com/ill/white/marriages.html>. *Findagrave.com*.

<sup>58</sup> Listed in "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904. 1900 U.S. census, Emma Twp., White County, Illinois, enumeration district 111, sheet 6, family #124.

<sup>59</sup> 1900 U.S. census, Azusa City, Los Angeles County, California, enumeration district 93, sheet 6, family #193, Henry T. Hudson household. California Death Index, 1905-1939, [familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/California\\_Death\\_Index\\_1905-1939](http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/California_Death_Index_1905-1939).

<sup>60</sup> 1900 U.S. census, Henry T. Hudson household, *op. cit.*

<sup>61</sup> 1900 U.S. census, Henry T. Hudson household, *op. cit.*

<sup>62</sup> Davidson County, Tenn., Will Book vol. 36, p.133-138, will of Mary Wooten probated 9 Jan. 1904. Husband's name from Husband's name from "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>63</sup> Heir, represented by Martha Hudson in "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>64</sup> Heir, represented by Martha Hudson in "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>65</sup> Heir, represented by Martha Hudson in "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>66</sup> Heir, represented by Martha Hudson in "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>67</sup> W.P. Barnett was an heir, represented by Martha Hudson in "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>68</sup> Barnett Griswold was an heir, represented by Martha Hudson in "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

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5. William Andrew Wooten b. in Tennessee ca. 1835,<sup>69</sup> married Mary Sawyer 11 Sept. 1856, Williamson County.<sup>70</sup> Died prior to 1904.<sup>71</sup>
- a. Cora Emma Wooten (1858-1921), married Ellis Cartwright, 1874,<sup>72</sup> married second C.H. Miller, buried at Calvary Cemetery, Nashville<sup>73</sup>
  - b. Mary, married \_\_\_ Cartwright.<sup>74</sup>
  - c. Ida Wooten (1859-1926), married W.S. Carter, buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Nashville<sup>75</sup>
  - d. Minerva "May" Wooten (1863-1919), married Robert M. Cunningham, buried at Mt. Olivet<sup>76</sup>
  - e. Owen Wooten (1864-1940), married Sally Jane \_\_\_, buried at Wooten Cemetery, Brentwood<sup>77</sup>
  - f. James Henry Wooten (1865-1924), married \_\_\_, buried at Mt. Olivet.<sup>78</sup>
  - g. Augustus Brown Wooten (1875-1955), married \_\_\_, buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Franklin<sup>79</sup>
  - h. Mattie L. Wooten (1875-1936), married (1) Lewis C. Green,<sup>80</sup> (2) \_\_\_ Clark, buried at Mt. Olivet<sup>81</sup>
  - i. Thomas W. Wooten (c.1878-1934), married Lou Barnes, buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery<sup>82</sup>
  - j. Michael O. Wooten (1883-1953), married \_\_\_, buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery<sup>83</sup>
  - k. (possibly) Lula Ella, b. ca. 1874, married Robert Whitehurst, daughter Blanche mentioned in Mary Wooten's will.<sup>84</sup>

### *Concluded*

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<sup>69</sup> 1860 U.S. census, 1<sup>st</sup> District, Franklin, Williamson County, Tenn., p.160 (stamped), family #817, Elizabeth Wooten household, digital image *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>70</sup> Tennessee County Marriages, 1790-1950, Williamson County, marriage record of William A. Wooten and Mary Sawyers by R.S. Ballow, J.P., 11 Sept. 1865, digital image, *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>71</sup> Will of Mary Wooten, *op. cit.*

<sup>72</sup> Tennessee County Marriages, *op. cit.*, Ellis Cartwright and Cora Wooten married Dec. 20, 1874 by Jno. K. Simpson, J.P.

<sup>73</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Cora Emma Wooten Miller, 1921. Second husband's name from "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>74</sup> Mary Cartwright was an heir, named in a group with other children of W. Andrew Wooten, in "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>75</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Ida Wooten Carter, 1926. Husband's name from "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>76</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Minerva Wooten Cunningham, 1919. Husband's name from "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, from transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>77</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Owen Wooten, 1940.

<sup>78</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of James Henry Wooten, 1924.

<sup>79</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Gus Brown Wooten, 1955.

<sup>80</sup> "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904.

<sup>81</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Mattie Wooten Clark, 1936.

<sup>82</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Thomas W. Wooten, 1934.

<sup>83</sup> Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Mike O Wooten, 1953.

<sup>84</sup> Will of Mary Wooten, *op. cit.* Husband's correct name from "In re Mary Wooten estate" *op. cit.*, transcript of Circuit Court trial Oct. 1904. Tennessee Death Records 1908-1958, digital image *Ancestry.com*. Death record of Robert Whitehurst, 1943.

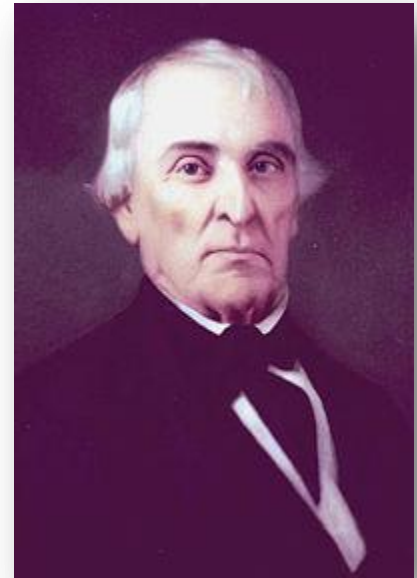
# The Mystery of William Hall's Death Date

## Which Sources Should You Trust?

by Merry Anne Pierson

Governor William Hall served as Tennessee's governor for less than six months. His term as acting governor lasted from the time Gov. Sam Houston abandoned his post until a successor, William Carroll, was elected -- 16 April 1829 until 1 October 1829. After his service, Hall returned to his plantation, Locust Land, near Castilian Springs in Sumner County. There he supposedly died and was buried on 7 October 1856.

This date of death is found in the standard reference work *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*.<sup>1</sup> It is repeated in the records of the Tennessee State Library and Archives as part of the biographical note in his gubernatorial papers. It also appears on the web site of the National Governors Association with a short biography of William Hall, and even in his *Wikipedia* entry.<sup>2</sup> Any quick check of such resources would lead a researcher to feel quite certain that Governor Hall died on 7 October 1856.



Tennessee Governor  
William Hall  
(1775-18??)

Portrait by Washington Cooper

In 1968 the Sumner County Public Library reprinted Hall's fascinating account of the Indian Wars of 1787-1795. In the little volume is included a photograph of Hall's tombstone. With considerable squinting, one can read the death date engraved upon it -- 7 Oct. 1856. Moreover, the *Christian Advocate* published his obituary at that time.

However, while I was working on a project on Women of Tennessee, I stumbled across a peculiar discrepancy in the records relating to William Hall's death date.

William Hall's will was recorded in Sumner County, Will Book 3, 1842-1870, pages 240-243. It is transcribed in full, as follows:

Know all men by these presents that I William Hall of Sumner County and State of Tennessee being of sound mind and disposing memory but knowing the uncertainty of life and Certainty of death, and wishing to make such disposition of my property while in a proper state of mind as may seem best Calculated to promote the happiness of (my) wife, my children and my grandchildren, I make this my Last Will and Testament

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Merry Anne Pierson is a longstanding member of the MTGS, and can be reached by email at [merryanne@bellsouth.net](mailto:merryanne@bellsouth.net)

<sup>1</sup> *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774-2005* (Washington: Govt. Printing Office, 2005).

<sup>2</sup> "Tennessee Governor William Hall," *National Governor's Association*, ([http://www.nga.org/cms/home/governors/past-governors-bios/page\\_tennessee/col2-content/main-content-list/title\\_hall\\_william.html](http://www.nga.org/cms/home/governors/past-governors-bios/page_tennessee/col2-content/main-content-list/title_hall_william.html))



## GOVERNOR HALL'S GRAVESTONE

William Hall  
Born the eleventh  
of February A.D.  
1775. Died the  
seventh of October  
A.D. 1856. Aged  
Eighty one years  
Seven months and  
Twenty six days.

—

This gravestone is  
located at Hall's  
Station, Castalian  
Springs on land presently  
owned by Stokley Hilton  
in the old Hall Family  
Cemetery.



*From the Early History of the South-West by General William Hall (Nashville: Parthenon Press, 1968)*

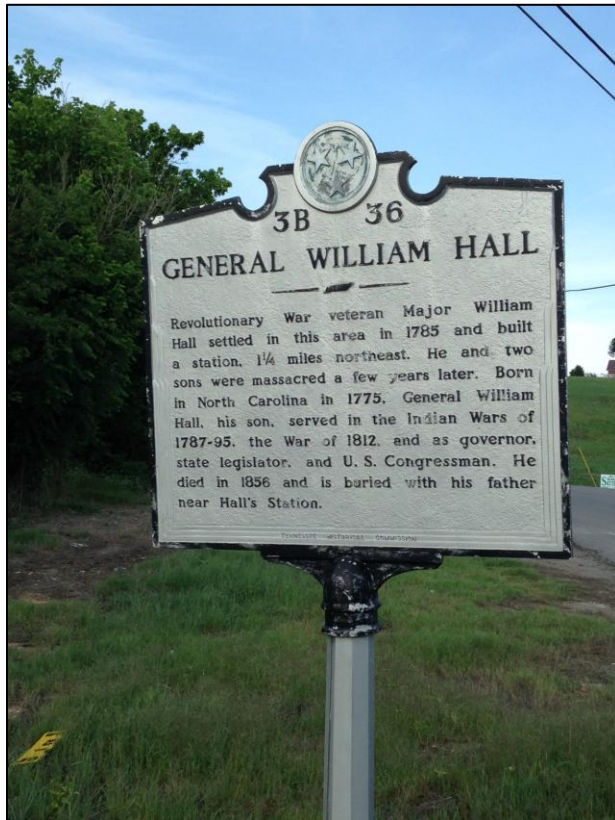
It is my desire that my just debts including my funeral expenses be first paid out of the first monies which may come into the hands of my executors.

I give to my wife Mary Hall the whole of my household and Kitchen furniture also an equal share or child's part of my estate including lands, negroes, stock & I also direct that after the negroes belonging to my estate are valued that my wife select such as she may think proper from the whole of them, not to exceed the portion to which she may be entitled.

To the children of my son Richard A Hall should he have any living at the time of his death I give an equal portion of my property including lands, negroes stock but should my son Richard have no living child or children at the time of his death nor living wife at the time of his death then the property to go to and be equally divided between his brothers and sister or their children (should any of them died before him) shall and share alike but should my son Richard leave a widow at his death in that case one half of the estate hereby given his children including any increase of Slaves are to go to the widow of my son Richard and the other half to his brothers and sisters as heretofore provided and further more there is no account or deduction to be made from my son Richard's portion for any monies or property which I may have advanced him in as much as he is unable to labor for a support on account of his being disabled.

And I do hereby appoint my son John A Hall Trustee to take charge of the property money which I have given to the children of my son Richard should he have any at the time of his death and in the event he should have no living child at his death, to go to his brothers and sisters or to their children

or in part to them and his widow (should he leave any) as above provided and my said Trustee is to manage and control the properties and moneys so devised as aforesaid, payment to my son Richard annually or oftener should he think proper the proceeds, of the hire of negros and the interest or the moneys which may Come into his hands during my son Richard's lifetime and at his death the same to be payed [sic] over by such Trustee or his successor to the children of my son Richard should he have any living at his death and is he have no child or children at his death the said property & moneys to be delivered to said Richard's Brothers & Sisters or their children , or one half to his Brothers & Sisters and the other half to the widow of the said Richard should he leave any , as been here provided for



**Even the State's Historical Marker  
At Castalian Springs gives the 1856 death date.**

To my sons William and John I give one equal portion of my property including lands, negros, stock & deducting from my son John A Hall portion the amount advanced him in property and money an account of which will be attached to the will over my signature but no deduction is to be made for my son William's portion for any moneys or property advanced him-or moneys paid for him

To the children of my daughter Thankful Jane Jenkins should she have any at the time of her death I give an equal share or portion of property both real and personal or the proceeds of the same but negros the use and benefit of the same to my daughter Thankful during her natural life and should she die without leaving any living child at her death or without leaving any husband the property and money to be equally divided between her brothers and sisters or their children should any of them die leaving children, But should my daughter Thankful die without leaving

any living children but leave a husband then and in that case the property and money to be equally divided between her husband and her brothers and sisters or their children in case of the death of any of her brothers & Sisters leaving a child or children the amount of property advanced my daughter Thankful to be deducted from her portion the account of which is hereunto annexed

To the children of my daughter Mary B Cassady, I give an equal portion of my property both real and personal or the proceeds of the same deducting the amounts of property advanced my daughter Mary as per statement hereunto annexed.

---

And I hereby appoint my son William H Hall trustee to take care of the property and moneys hereby given the children of my Daughter Mary B Cassady and hire or dispose of the property as he may think fit and loan the moneys and apply the proceeds of the hire of the negros or give my daughter Mary the use of them as he may think best and apply the proceeds of the hire and Interest of the moneys for {them?} and the benefit of my daughter Mary during her natural life and at her death divide the same amongst her children which may be living at the time of her death share and share alike

To my daughter Martha Ann Sharps dec'd children I give an equal share or child's portion of my estate including the proceeds of my land, negros, stock etc. And should any of her children died before they are of age the property and money to be equally divided between the surviving child or children share and share alike- the property heretofore advanced my sd daughter, Martha dec'd to be first deducted from their share or portion, the negros, land and money then given the children of my daughter Martha dec'd to be handed over to their father Doct'r Sharp for their benefit only

My executors here in after appointed is hereby authorized and directed to sell the whole of my lands and other property except the negros household & kitchen furniture on a credit or for cash as may seem to them best for the Interest of my legatees – the land to be divided and sold in lots or the whole together as they may think best And my executors are further authorized to appoint three commissioners to value them as early as may [?] at the process which I have charges my children for such as I have given them heretofore, which process may be seen by refferance [sic] to the amount which I have made out against my children for property & advanced them which is heretofore annexed- And the said account against my children is to govern my Executors in their settlement with my children and grandchildren to which there is to be no addition or deduction whatever nor no charge against any other of my children not therein charged-

Lastly I do hereby appoint my son William H Hall and my friend David Burford of Smith County my executors to carry out , execute this my last Will and Testament and should any vacancy occur as to either of the Trustees appointed herein my said executors r either of them are hereby authorized to fill such vacancy or vacancies by new appointments Nor is my Executors herein appointed required to give bond and security as required by law but to Settle with the County Court on the final closing of their duties as Executors Interlined and errand[?] Before signed

Signed and Sealed in our presence this 1oth day of August 1854

W Hall

John M Watkins, A.B. Dickenson pro  
D. Burford John Wilks pro

Included with the will is the following account prepared by Hall, showing the property he had already given to some of his children. Hall was a wealthy man and large slaveholder. The 1850 census enumerates 49 slaves on his plantation, and gives the value of his real estate at \$17,500, a very large sum for the time.<sup>3</sup> Many of those enslaved persons are listed in the following account:

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<sup>3</sup> 1850 U.S. census (agricultural schedule) Sumner Co., Tenn., District 3, p. 171 (handwritten), line 36, William Hall entry; 1850 U.S. census (slave schedule), Sumner Co. Tenn., District 3, p. 241, line 43. Digital images, *Ancestry.com*.

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### William Hall's Probate Record

An account of the property etc. advanced a part of my children and by which my Executors are to be governed in the settlement of my estate with my children deducting from each the account herein after charge them

Mary B Cassady	
Sina and Child 4 yrs old	900.00
Emaline 10 yrs old	500.00
One horse	<u>125.00</u>
	\$ 1525.00

Martha Ann Hall	
Negro woman Clarissa 18 yrs old	600.00
Ditto Cynthia 18 yrs old	600.00
Ditto Elizabeth 15 yrs old	600.00
One horse	<u>125.00</u>
	\$ 1925.00

Thankful Jane Hall	
Negro woman Jane 25 yrs old	500.00
And her 3 children (viz) Louisa, Manerva & Maria	1300.00
Negro girl Harriet 13 yrs old	600.00
One horse	<u>100.00</u>
	\$ 2500.00

John A Hall	
Negro man John 21 years old	750.00
Negro girl Harriet 19 yrs old	600.00
Negro girl Ann 12 yrs old	500.00
Cash furnished you	500.00
Wagon and two horses	<u>300.00</u>
	\$ 2650.00

The within charges against my daughter	
Mary B Cassady	\$1525.00
And against my daughter	
Martha Ann Hall amounting to	\$1925.00
And against my daughter	
Thankfull Jane Hall	
Amounting to the sum of	\$2500.00
And the charges against my son	
John A Hall Amounting to	\$2650.00



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Are to be deducted from each of their share or portion or from the portion or share of their children respectively when the property is given by me in my will to my grandchildren and is to be the guide for and govern my Executors in carrying out my will

Witness my hand this 10<sup>th</sup> August 1854

John Wilks pro

A.B.C. Dickerson pro                      Wm. Hall

The following official entry is found in the County Court minutes:

State of Tennessee. Sumner County Court November Term 1854

The last Will and Testament of Wm Hall

The last Will and Testament of WM Hall dec'd was this day

Produced in open court for probate and was duly proved by oaths of AB Dickinson and John Wilks subscribing witnesses there to and ordered to be recorded and Wm H Hall and David Burford the Executors named in said Will appeared in open court and accepted the Execution of same there being no bond required by the Will

John L Bugg Clerk

There you have it! The will was probated November term 1854 indicating that William Hall had died since the previous term of court. He must have died in 1854 rather than 1856.

**Primary Source**  
A document or physical object  
which was written or created during  
the time under study.

You might ask whether this could be the will of a different William Hall of Sumner County. The 1850 census only lists two men by that name in the county, William Hall age 77, and his son William H. Hall, age 37. The family members in that census entry match those named in the will. The wealth of the man in the census compares with what we know of Gov. Hall. The evidence indicates that this is, indeed, the Governor's will.

Further evidence is provided by the will of Mary Alexander Hall, recorded in Sumner County, Wills Vol. 4, p. 59-60. Mary refers to herself as the widow of General WM Hall dec'd of Sumner County, TN. In her will she names her daughter Mary B. Cassady, her daughter Thankful Jenkins, and appoints her son William H Hall as her executor, the same as did her husband. Her will was proven April term 1873.<sup>4</sup>

No newspapers from Sumner County in 1854 or 1856 have survived. A check of Nashville newspapers from those years did not turn up a notice of the former Governor's death in either year. In fact, the newspapers of that day did not print death notices as a rule – they were interested only in advertising and politics.

After a lengthy examination of the records, we determined that the Sumner County Court Clerk had gotten his dates mixed up. Dates on pages adjoining the record of William Hall's probate jump between 1854 and 1856. In the final analysis, the 1856 death date was supported by the *Christian Advocate* obituary, as well as all of the secondary sources. This example illustrates the importance of comparing evidence and viewing even primary sources with healthy skepticism in genealogical research.

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<sup>4</sup> Will of Mary Hall, Sumner Co, TN, Wills Vol. 4, p. 59-60.

# What Has Happened to the Hall Cemetery?

## Historic Family Burying Ground at Castalian Springs

### 1-27 HALL CEMETERY

8/10 mi. north of Castalian Springs on Gov. Hall Road to Stokley Hilton farm.  
Cemetery is 2/10 mi. east of the road surrounded by a rock fence.

HALL, William Maj. NC Militia Revolutionary War 1740 - 1787  
HALL, Thankful Doak Born 1743 - Died after 1790 Marr Maj. Wm. Hall 1774  
HALL, James Killed by Indians 3 Aug 1787  
HALL, Robert P. Son of William & Mary Hall 28 Mar A.D. 1823 - 25 Jun 1829  
Aged 6 yrs 2 mos 27 days  
BARR, Kate H. Dau of Col. W.H. & Katherine Hall Wife of B.B.M.L. Barr  
27 Dec 1839 - 2 Jan 1863  
HALL, Katharine Wife of Col. Wm. Hall 1 Jun 1820 - 27 Apr 1840  
SHARP, Martha Ann Dau of Gen. Wm. & Mary Hall Wife of Dr. B.F. Sharp  
25 May 1821 - 4 Oct 1852 Aged 31 yrs 4 mos 10 days  
HALL, William 11 Feb A.D. 1775 - 7 Oct A.D. 1856 Aged 81 yrs 7 mos 26 days  
HALL, M. C. Dau of W.H. & S.W. Hall 22 Sep 1846 - 10 Apr 1897  
HALL, W. H. 13 Jan 1813 - 29 Oct 1883  
HALL, S. W. McDaniel 8 Jan 1828 - 26 Feb 1882 Marr to W.H. Hall Sep 1845  
McDANIEL, Lydia R. Winchester 29 Apr 1806 - 5 Apr 1870  
Was in early womanhood married to Winston McDaniel  
HALL, Virginia C. Walsh Wife of Richard A. Hall Mammy 3 Dec 1825 - 18 May 1914  
HALL, Richard A. 28 Apr 1811 - 6 Jul 1883  
HAYNES, John L. S. 21 Oct 1835 - 23 Jan 1840 Aged 5 yrs 8 mos 2 days

From *Sumner County Tennessee Cemetery Records* by Margaret Snider and Joan Yorgason  
(Owensboro, Kentucky: McDowell Publications, 1981)

In the late 1970s and early 1980s Margaret Snider and Joan Yorgason surveyed the cemeteries of Sumner County and published a huge and valuable volume of their findings. It includes this list of the Hall Cemetery at Castalian Springs. Undoubtedly the cemetery was on the grounds of what was once Locust Land, the Hall plantation.


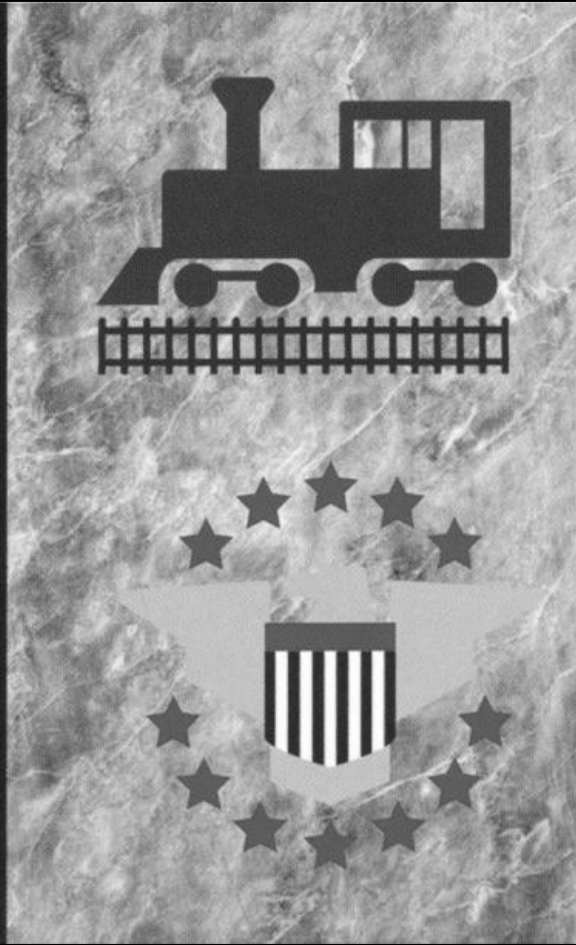


In this cemetery, surrounded by a rock wall, were the graves of former Governor William Hall and his family. Most notably, the graves of his father and brother who were killed and scalped on the site by Indians in separate incidents in 1787. Young William Hall, just 13 years old at the time, witnessed both killings. Hall's monument is shown here in a 1950s photograph.

Following the directions given by Snider and Yorgason, and asking directions from several neighbors, I found the lane back to the cemetery's location. The rolling hills block any view of the site from the road or from any neighboring house. At the reported site, however, I found only churned-up dirt and debris, and two metal buildings. No evidence of the rock wall, tombstones or graves could be seen. Was I in the wrong place, or has the cemetery been destroyed?

If any reader has information about the Hall cemetery, please contact the editor at  
[casherrill@bellsouth.net](mailto:casherrill@bellsouth.net)

*Don't Miss the 2014*  
***Annual MTGS Genealogy Seminar***

<p><b>Transportation, Education, &amp; Government Programs: Records for My Family Story</b></p> <p>Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society 26th Annual Seminar</p> <p><b>Saturday, Nov 22, 2014</b></p> <p>Brentwood Library Brentwood, TN</p>  <p>Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FMGS, FUGA</p>	
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**Our Distinguished Speaker**

Paula Stuart-Warren is an internationally recognized genealogical educator, researcher and consultant focusing on unusual resources, manuscripts, methodology, and analyzing records. She has researched onsite at major libraries and archives across the country. She coordinates the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and lectures at National Genealogical Society and Federation of Genealogical Societies conferences. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

Paula is descended from eight ancestral countries and has researched family connections across the U.S. and Canada including the Southern lines of her father-in-law.

# ***Seminar Schedule***

Doors open for registration at 8:15

First session begins 9:00. Lunch provided. Conclude by 4:00.

## **Morning Sessions**

### **The WPA Era: What it Created for Genealogists**

During tough economic times in the 1930s and 1940s, government programs put many people to work. The Works Progress/Projects Administration created a goldmine of records that are useful for today's genealogists. WPA record transcriptions, courthouse and manuscript inventories, indexes, city/county histories, and histories of businesses and families may exist for your ancestral locale. We will discuss many of those WPA creations and where they may be found today – in print and online.

### **The Three Rs: Reading, ‘Riting, and Research in School Records**

Census records, military files, courthouses, cemeteries. . . these are the common resources that genealogists regularly use in tracing their ancestors. But consider this: the census taker only came around every five or ten years, and each ancestor may leave behind only one birth, christening, marriage, and death record. Did your ancestor or a sibling attend or teach school at some point? School records are kept every day, every month, every year. In these records you may find your elusive ancestors.

This lecture will describe many of the school records you may be able to locate. These include all levels of education, and both public and private institutions. The bulk of the lecture covers the records of primary schools, but touches on those for high school, college, and specialty or institutional type schools. The material covered in this lecture will also be helpful if you are involved in organizing a school reunion, or in writing a school or community history.

## **Afternoon Sessions**

### **Railroad Records and Railroad History: Methods for Tracking**

How many genealogists have heard that great-grandpa traversed this nation as he worked for the railroad? For which railroad did he work? Where did it run? Are there railroad records which may tell us something about his ancestry or where he later went? This lecture addresses these questions. Visuals and references demonstrate the wealth of historical materials available. Learn where to turn to find out more about the railroad, its records, and how to determine current day access to the records.

### **Controlling Chaos: Organizing Genealogical Materials**

How tall are the stacks of your genealogical materials and in how many rooms are your papers and books stored? Is it time you made sense of your materials, organized them so they can be found, and determined what is important to keep handy? How should you store your important materials? Just starting your research? Why not organize sensibly from the beginning? This session will help you deal with these questions, and also provide easy tips to help keep you on top of your organization. Specific examples will help the understanding of how common sense organizing actually can be. We'll even discuss some “lazy day” methods to keep you on top of your filing.

# ***Register Today!***

MTGS/THS/BHC Genealogical Seminar, November 22, 2014

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

Please make check payable to MTGS

**Space is limited**

**Deadline: Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Send your registration form to the  
PO Box listed here  
(not the Society PO Box)**

## **Mail checks to:**

**Kathryn Hopkins, Registrar**

**P. O. Box 222**

**Tullahoma, TN 37388-0222**

**e-mail: [registrar@mtgs.org](mailto:registrar@mtgs.org)**

**Phone: 931-455-4603**

REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 14, 2014 (Please print)

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member of: MTGS? \_\_\_\_\_ TN Historical Society? \_\_\_\_\_**

**Registration fee \$40 for members of either Society; Non-Members \$45**

**Registration includes boxed lunch and handout packet**

**Enclose check or money order made out to MTGS**

**Walk-in registrations \$60 if space permits. (No lunch or handouts for walk-ins.)**



# The Forgotten Wife: Annie Smith and John Robert Kizer of Sumner County, 1902

John Robert Kizer, a widower, was a Sumner County farmer in comfortable circumstances in 1902 when he married his neighbor, Annie Smith. Kizer, who had been born into an established Sumner County family in 1847, was the son of Philip and Sarah (Perry) Kizer. He and his brother, Addison, inherited from their parents a farm of 260 acres near Long Hollow Pike.

John Robert had married at the age of 23 to Sarah Ida Bell Willis. They had six children, three sons and three daughters, before Sarah's death in 1886. Sarah was buried at the Old Beech Cemetery nearby, where older generations of Kizers were interred.

A look at the 1900 census shows the Sumner County neighborhood where widower John Robert Kizer and his family lived. It is a close community of related families where, no doubt, everyone knew everyone else's business (see sidebar).

All of the Kizers and most of their neighbors were landowners and nearly all of them were literate. Their young children attended school while the parents and older siblings operated their farms. In the middle of this community was a family of strikingly different circumstances. Thomas Smith was an illiterate day-laborer who rented a home. He had a large family of children that was still growing, and only the oldest daughter, 15-year-old Annie, was literate. The others were not even attending school.

John Robert Kizer had three teenaged children at home, and three older children already married. He had been a widower for 16 years by 1902. Perhaps he saw potential in his young neighbor Annie Smith, hoping to rescue a smart girl trapped in a life of drudgery caring for her brood of young siblings. Or perhaps he merely spotted a pretty young woman in such destitute circumstances that she could not afford to refuse him. Either way the farmer offered marriage, and Annie accepted.

When John Robert went to the courthouse to get a marriage license, he was accompanied by his son-in-law, Jesse Garrett, who served as bondsman. Perhaps this indicates that Mittie Garrett and some of John Robert's other children were aware of the match and did not object. Or perhaps Jesse, closer to John Robert's age than to Mittie's, helped his father-in-law make secret arrangements. But there is no question that the prosperous 57-year-old widower took as his bride the 17-year-old daughter of his poor neighbor.

Census Notes  
Sumner County Tennessee, 1900  
Civil District 7  
Enumeration District 115

Family 185

John Kizer, 69, farmer, literate, owns farm

Margaret P., wife, 69, mother of 12 children (7 living)

Adison B., son, 27, farmer

Lizzie, dau-in-law, 17, literate

Maggie, daughter, 29, single, illiterate

*John Barnet Kizer was a cousin of John Robert Kizer*

Family 186

Mary Garrett, 42, single, landlord, literate, owns farm

Fannie, sister, 37, single, literate

*The Garretts and Kizers intermarried in at least two instances*

Family 187

Arthur L. Kizer, 24, farmer, literate, owns farm

Lula E., wife, 20

*Arthur was the oldest son of John Robert Kizer; his wife was Lula Grimm.*

Family 188

Sarah Ralph, 63, widow, illiterate, owns farm

Wm. A., son, 42, farm laborer, literate

Elizabeth, daughter, 33

James T., son, 31, farmer, literate

Frank T., son, 27, farmer, illiterate

*Sarah Ralph was the widowed sister of John Barnet Kizer*

Family 189

David S. Ralph, 38, farmer, literate. owns farm

Mary S., wife, 24

Tenny E., daughter, 3

Tyree W., son, 1

*David Ralph was probably Sarah's married son*

Family 190

Thomas Smith, 42, day laborer, illiterate, rents house

Louisa, wife, 37, mother of 8 living children, can read but not write

Annie E., daughter, 15, literate, not attending school

Willie E., son, 13, farm laborer, can read but not write

Mary T., daughter, 12, can read but not write, not attending school

Thos. A.Y., son, 10, illiterate, not attending school

Robt. A., son, 6

Edgar M. son, 4

Floyd L., son, infant, born May 1900

*The Smith family does not appear to have been related to the Kizers*

Family 191

John R. Kizer, 51, widower

Ida B., daughter, 17, literate

Clarence C., son, 16, farm laborer, attending school

Robert G., son, 14, attending school

*This is the widower, John Robert Kizer, with three unmarried children*

Family 192

Orvill Kizer, 44, farmer, literate, owns farm

Ella N., wife, 39

*Oliver was a son of John Barnet Kizer.*

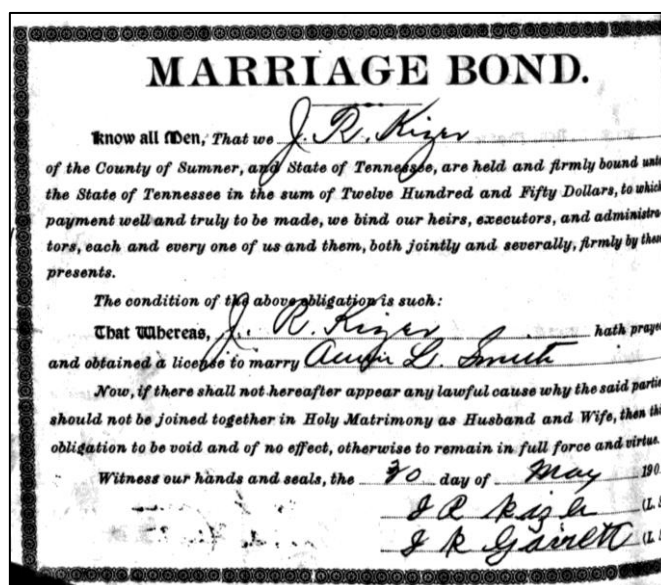
Family 193

Jesse K. Garrett, 40, famer, literate, owns farm

Mittie M., wife, 28

Frank E., son, 4; Leslie A., son, 11 months

*Jesse Garrett married Mittie Kizer, and was the son-in-law of John Robert Kizer.*



It is not quite clear what the composition of the Kizer household was when Annie entered the scene as stepmother. Clarence Kizer married at about the same time, and may have moved away. His sister, Laura, was widowed for the second time and came home with her three children at about that time as well. Whatever the circumstances, it is clear that the family was not happily gathered about their hearth.

To the embarrassment of the Kizers, a story published in the *Nashville American* on Aug. 13, 1904, made private matters public.

### YOUNG WIFE AND HER STEP-DAUGHTER CLASHED

"Mrs. Annie Smith Kizer has filed a Circuit Court petition seeking divorce and alimony from John Robert Kizer, a farmer of Sumner County, near Gallatin. The petition recites the familiar story of a stepmother eight or ten years younger than her stepdaughter and marital unhappiness resulting.

"The petitioner shows that June 1, 1902, when but 17 years old she married her husband, who was then 57 years of age. She went to live at him at his home, where three of his children also lived, one being a widow 26 years old who had two children. She asserts that her widowed stepdaughter would not yield to her the management of the household. Fusses and quarrels followed and, she shows, her husband took the part of his daughter as against his young wife. He finally, she alleges, forced her to

leave him and to return to her people in Nashville . . .

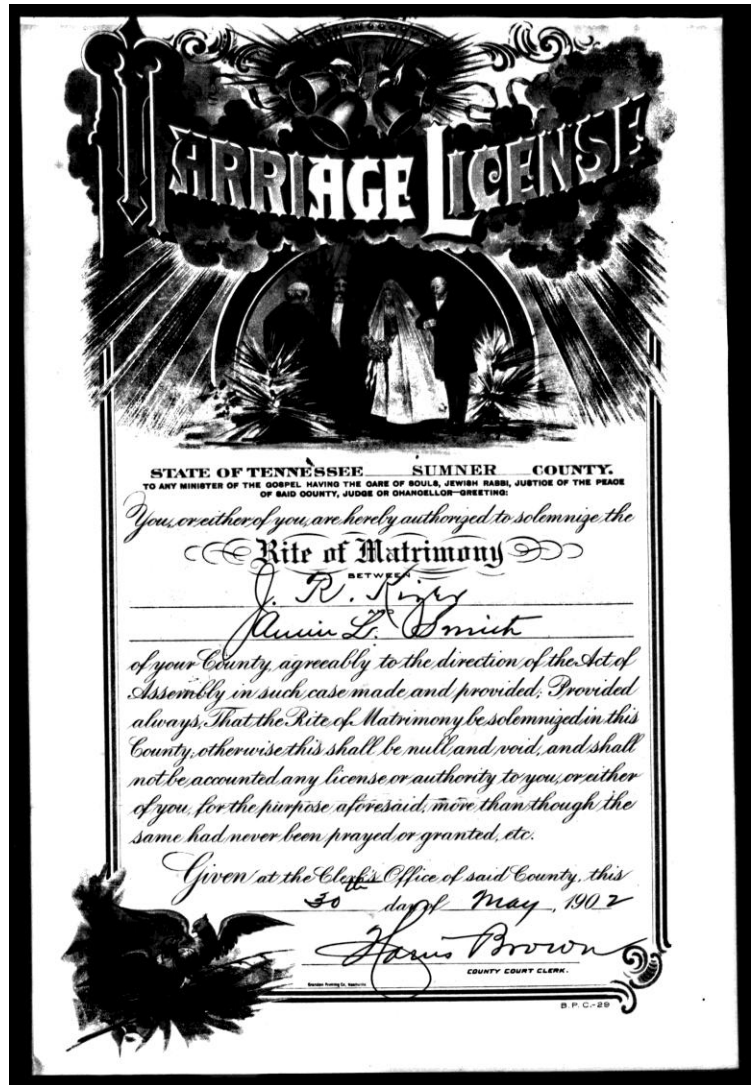
"She asserts that she is in most destitute circumstances, without a copper in the world and is wholly without means of support. She states that the defendant is in affluent circumstances, having considerable realty and

personalty and in his own right owns a valuable farm in the Seventh District of Sumner County, well stocked with horses, cows, hogs, farming machinery, buggies, wagons, etc. and has much ready money. She seeks alimony . . . and the restoral of her maiden name, Smith."

By the time of the 1910 census, John Robert Kizer was living in the household of his son, Clarence, which also included his widowed daughter Laura and her children. John Robert died in 1922 and was buried at Old Beech Cemetery. Although no less than eight genealogists have posted information about John Robert Kizer and his family on Rootsweb, none of them acknowledge his second marriage.

The Smiths had moved to Nashville prior to the divorce, and the 1910 census shows five of Annie's brothers living with their widowed mother in a working-class neighborhood near downtown. No trace of Annie after her divorce has been found. We can hope that she found happiness.

**Granted a Divorce.**  
Mrs. 'Annie Smith Kizer has been granted a divorce by Judge Taylor from John Robert Kizer. Cruel and inhuman treatment was the ground upon which the divorce was granted. Mrs. Kizer is 18 years old and her husband about 55. They lived near Hendersonville in Sumner County. Mrs. Kizer is granted an absolute divorce and \$120 alimony.



#### Sources:

1900 U.S. Census, Sumner Co., Tenn., Civil District 7, enumeration district 115, sheets 10 and 11 (stamped pages 99A and 99B), Kizer and related households; digital image, *Ancestry.com*.

1910 U.S. Census, Davidson Co., Tenn., Nashville Ward 20, enumeration district 70, page 17A, family 358: Household of Lula Smith, age 48, with sons Willie, Thomas, Robert, Edgar and Claud.

Death certificate of John Robert Kizer, June 14, 1922. Sumner County certificate #122. Tennessee Death Records (Tennessee State Library and Archives microfilm), 1922.

"Granted a Divorce," *Nashville American*, Nov. 12, 1904, page 10. (Historical Nashville Newspapers database, Proquest.)

"Philip Kizer of Tennessee and Descendants," *Family Tree Maker* (<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/o/w/e/Tamra-K-Owen/FILE/0001text.txt>).

"Young Wife and her Stepdaughter Clashed," *Nashville American*, Aug. 13, 1904. (Historical Nashville Newspapers database, Proquest.)

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

## Overton County



Abstracted by  
Gale Williams Bamman, CG<sup>SM</sup>  
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The DDD Schedules, as they are often called, were part of the non-population schedules supplementing the 1880 federal census, and were created to help the government decide on funding appropriations for institutions and health programs. On each of the following schedules of the DDDs, the census-takers were instructed to give an account of the location and condition of persons who met these descriptions:

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

- name of the afflicted person
- county of residence
- county and district where enumerated
- 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

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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.

## *Overton County*

**Garretts, Elvira:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.94; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.48] **Pop.Sch.:** age 23, white, granddaughter, in household of Rolan Storie.

**Graham, Jno.:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.94; see **Pop.Sch.**p.23,ln.24] **Pop.Sch.:** age 70, white, male, head of household.

**Roberts, Millard C.:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; form, fright; duration of present attack, 20 years; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.93; see **Pop.Sch.**p.16,ln.38] **Pop.Sch.:** age 28, white, brother, in household of George P. Roberts.

**McFarlen, Marion:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; form, unknown; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.93; see **Pop.Sch.**p.2,ln.24] **Pop.Sch.:** age 14, white, male, servant, in household of Samuel W. Neeley.

**Garrett, Tillman:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; afflicted at birth; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.93; see **Pop.Sch.**p.28,ln.25]

**Cooper, Wesley:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; afflicted at birth; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.93; see **Pop.Sch.**p.31,ln.43]

**Armstrong, Pleasant S.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; self-supporting; supposed cause, yellow jaundice. [s.d.2;e.d.93; see **Pop.Sch.**p.26,ln.40]

**Hill, Catherine:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; self-supporting; old age; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.93; see **Pop.Sch.**p.7,ln.48] **Pop.Sch.:** age 88, white, mother, in household of John Hill.

**Stout, Louisa:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.92; see **Pop.Sch.**p.13,ln.34]

**Phipps, J.F.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.92; see **Pop.Sch.**p.1,ln.11]

**Hargis, J. N.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.92; see **Pop.Sch.**p.12,ln.11]

**Thompson, Alvin:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head. [s.d.2;e.d.91; see **Pop.Sch.**p.4,ln.49] **Pop.Sch.:** age 24, white, son, in household of Nancy Thompson.

**Hampton, James:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; rather large head. [s.d.2;e.d.91; see **Pop.Sch.**p.5,ln.34]

**Cates, Samuel:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head. [s.d.2;e.d.91; see **Pop.Sch.**p.3,ln.12]

**Phillips, Moses:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; small head. [s.d.2;e.d.91; see **Pop.Sch.**p.8,ln.31]

**Harris, Martha:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head. [s.d.2;e.d.91; see **Pop.Sch.**p.8,ln.41]

**Johnson, Stephen:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; chronic opthalmia; semi-blind. **Also:** Idiots Schedule. [s.d.2;e.d.91; see **Pop.Sch.**p.14,ln.4] **Pop.Sch.:** age 22, white, son, in household of William Johnson.



**Harward, Maxey:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; dementia; duration of present attack, 15 years; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 43; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.90; see **Pop.Sch.p.4,ln.6**] **Pop.Sch.:** Maxey Howard, age 58, white, wife, in household of J. T. Howard.

**Marcom, G. A.:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; dementia; duration of present attack, 10 years; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.90; see **Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.23**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 52, white, male, head of household.

**West, L.:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.90; see **Pop.Sch.p.29,ln.32**]

**Brown, Martha:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; inmate, Knoxville, 1 year, discharged 1879. [s.d.2;e.d.90; see **Pop.Sch.p.11,ln.20**]

**Hill, Newton:** Prisoners Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; incarcerated State Penitentiary; State prisoner, serving a term; incarcerated January 1880; alleged offense, petit larceny; 1 year in penitentiary; cabinet work. [s.d.2;e.d.90; see **Pop.Sch.p.20,ln.27**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 31, white, male, head of household.

**Pitman, John:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; form, melancholia; duration of present attack, 3 years; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 24; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.46**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 31, white, son, in household of Margrett Pitman.

**Pritchett, Mary:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; melancholia; duration of present attack, 2 years; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 77; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.p.25,ln.35**] **Pop.Sch.:** Mary Pritchett, age 79, mother, in household of Thomas Pritchett.

**Richardson, Clem:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; melancholia; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 40; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. **Also:** Pauper & Indigent



**"Religious melancholia and convalescence"**  
In: *Case studies from John Conolly's "Physiognomy of Insanity"*  
(<http://library.brown.edu/cds/melancholy>)

Schedule; supported at county cost; crippled; admitted Nov. 1860. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.p.7,ln.18**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 65, white, female, pauper, in household of Please Prior, manager of Overton Co. poor house.

**Masters, Marena:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; melancholia; duration of present attack, 2 years; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 20; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. **Also:** Pauper & Indigent Schedule; supported at county cost; demented; admitted Feb. 1879. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.p.7,ln.19**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 48, white, female, pauper, in household of Please Prior, manager of Overton Co. poor house.

**Honeycut, Caroline:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; melancholia; duration of present attack, 30 years; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 30; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. **Also:** Pauper & Indigent Schedule; supported at county cost; disability, melancholia. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.p.7,ln.20**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 39, white, female, in household of Please Prior, manager of Overton Co. poor house.

**Honeycut, Thomas:** Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; supported at county cost; child, born in institution. **Also:** Homeless Children Schedule; parents not deceased; illegitimate; not separated from living mother. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.p.7,ln.21**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 1, white, male,

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pauper, in household of Please Prior, manager of Overton Co. poor house.

**German, Geneva:** Homeless Children Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; parents deceased; parents surrendered control of child to institution; admitted 1880. **Also:** Pauper & Indigent Schedule; supported at county cost; child, admitted Jan. 1880. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.**p.7,ln.22] **Pop.Sch.:** age 6, white, female, in household of Please Prior, manager of Overton Co. poor house.

**Huddleston, Violet:** Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; supported at county cost; able-bodied; admitted Jan. 1880. **Also:** Idiots Schedule; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.**p.7,ln.23] **Pop.Sch.:** age 50, black, female, pauper, in household of Please Prior, manager of Overton Co. poor house.

**West, Miranda:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.**p.33,ln.33] **Pop.Sch.:** age 50, white, wife, in household of John West.

**Hunt, Parrish:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.**p.36,ln.27]

**Hart, W. C.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 15; scarlet fever; semi-deaf, semi-mute; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.**p.30,ln.25]

**Jones, Roba:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.89; see **Pop.Sch.**p.34,ln.14]

**Smith, Larkin:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; melancholia; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 20[?]; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. **Also:** Blind Schedule; self-supporting; afflicted at age 71; supposed cause, tending a mill; totally blind. [s.d.2;e.d.88; see **Pop.Sch.**p.13,ln.18] **Pop.Sch.:** age 90, white, male, head of household.

**Grag, Fanny:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head. [s.d.2;e.d.88; see **Pop.Sch.**p.1,ln.30]

**Eldridge, Jefferson:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 1; supposed cause, whooping cough. [s.d.2;e.d.88, see **Pop.Sch.**p.2,ln.6]

**Bilbrey, Mariah:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth. [s.d.2;e.d.88; see **Pop.Sch.**p.16,ln.11]

**Lankford, M. J.:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 9 mos.[?]; supposed cause, inflammation; totally blind. [s.d.2;e.d.88; see **Pop.Sch.**p.1,ln.26] **Pop.Sch.:** age 26, white, daughter, in household of M. Lankford.

**Flanagan, Elizabeth:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.87; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.9] **Pop.Sch.:** age 38, white, wife, in household of G. W. Flanagan.

**Hall, Frances T.:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.87; see **Pop.Sch.**p.9,ln.34] **Pop.Sch.:** age 19, white, daughter, in household of W. L. Hall.

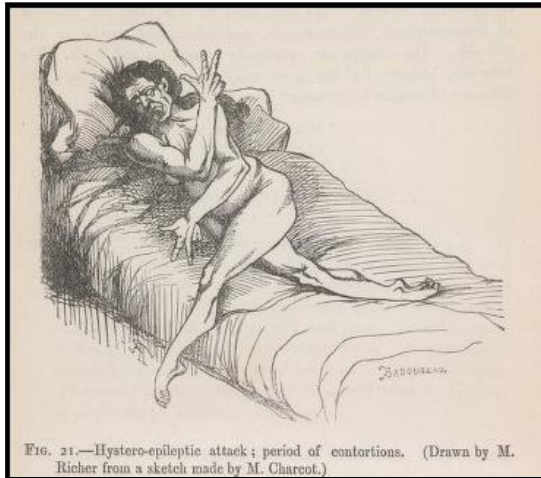
**Bond, Paralee:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; dementia; number of attacks, 1. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.**p.26,ln.29] **Pop.Sch.:** Paralee Boyd, age 36, white, daughter, in household of James Boyd.

**Davis, Mary:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; dementia; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 20[?]; confined. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.**p.28,ln.35] **Pop.Sch.:** age 50, white, sister, in household of Golden Davis.

**Terry, Lucinda:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; form, mania; duration of present attack, 11 [mos.?]; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 29; restrained with strait jacket; inmate, Tennessee Asylum; [length of time and date discharged illegible]. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.**p.30,ln.25] **Pop.Sch.:** age 32, white, wife, in household of Wm. L. Terry.

**Flatt, David:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.**p.3,ln.40] **Pop.Sch.:** age 13, white, son, in household of David K. Flatt.

**Coffman, John:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; afflicted at birth; semi-deaf; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.**p.12,ln.29]



**r88i Depiction of Epileptic Attack**  
(<http://library.brown.edu/cds/melancholy>)

**Fisk, Barlow:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; afflicted at age 1 year; supposed cause, pneumonia; inmate, Knoxville, 34 [?] mos.; discharged 1880. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.p.23,ln.25**]

**Fisk, Leonard:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule, enumerated Overton Co. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.**p.23,ln.24]

**Quarles, Eliza:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; afflicted at birth; totally blind. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.p.27,ln.34**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 26, white, daughter, in household of Caroline Quarles.

**Franklin, Jane:** Pauper & Indigent Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; supported at county cost; able-bodied; epileptic. **Also:** Insane Schedule. [s.d.2;e.d.86; see **Pop.Sch.**p.3,ln.12] **Pop.Sch.:** age 31, white, sister, in household of Thomas Franklin.

**Crawford, Jonathan:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; duration of present attack, 20 years; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 40 years; inmate Nashville Asylum, 6 mos.[?]. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.p.23,ln.3**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 60, white, nephew, in household of A. Crawford.

**Hood, Sarah:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; form of disease not known; duration of present attack, 8 years; number of attacks, 1; confined at night; never in an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.p.3,ln.44**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 21, white, daughter, in household of Bryson Hood.

**Cleek, Adline:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; epileptic; duration of present attack, 13[?] years; number of attacks, 1; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.p.25,ln.41**] **Pop.Sch.:** Adline Cleek, age 13, white, granddaughter, in household of William Harden.

**Loftis, Rachel:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; melancholia; duration of present attack, 1 year; number of attacks, 1; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. **Also:** Idiots Schedule; afflicted at age 1 year; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.**p.30,ln.32] **Pop.Sch.:** age 40, white, sister-in-law, in household of John Franklin.

**Matlock, Polly:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; melancholia; duration of present attack, 40 years; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 30 years; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.p.30,ln.36**] **Pop.Sch.:** age 70, white, mother, in household of James Matlock.

**Johnson, Benjamin:** Insane Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; melancholia; duration of present attack, 12[?] years; number of attacks, 1; not confined, not restrained, never an inmate of an asylum. **Also:** Idiots Schedule; afflicted at age 1 year; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.**p.26,ln.35] **Pop.Sch.:** age 14, white, son, in household of Benjamin Johnson.

**Hussy, Lucille:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 1 year; supposed cause, fright; small head; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.**p.3,ln.34]

**Barnes, William:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at age 1 year; cause not known; very large head; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.**p.66,ln.11]

**Johnson, Celina:** Idiots Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; afflicted at birth; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.**p.26,ln.37]

**Copeland, James:** Blind Schedule, enumerated Overton Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at age 4 years; supposed cause, scarlet fever; totally blind; never in an institution. [s.d.2;e.d.85; see **Pop.Sch.p.23,ln.50**]  
**Pop.Sch.:** age 19, white, son, in household of Matthew Copeland.

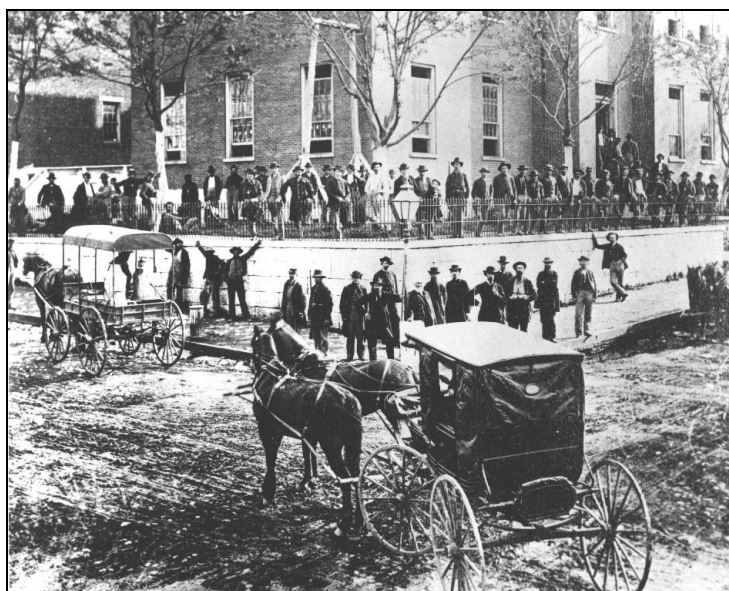
*End of Overton County*

# Early Nashville Photographers, 1853-1891 (part 1)

by Jay Richiuso

Much has been written about the well-known Nashville photographers, such as the Calverts, the Giers, the Thuss's, and several other such photographic artists. But this study reveals that there were a great number of other lesser known practitioners who worked along with, and for, the better known and more established photographers.

Genealogists are often confronted with family photographs that are difficult to date. Where the photographer is identified on the image case, this guide will be of help in narrowing the scope of years during which the photo was taken.



**Nashville Civil War Photograph  
Showing Union Army Hospital 15**  
(Tenn. State Library and Archives)

Nashville's population in 1860 was just over 10,000. The transition from daguerreotype to photograph occurred around 1851 when Frederick Scott Archer announced the wet plate or collodion process, which he had developed in 1848. The changeover from daguerreotype to photograph in Nashville occurred between 1854 and 1855, as individuals started to be identified in the *Banner* and in city directories as photographers, rather than daguerreotypists.

This list of photographers in Nashville, 1853 to 1870, is derived from research in the Nashville city and business directories, which begin in 1853. Names of photographers are given, along with those of helpers such as "printers," "artists," "photo printer," etc.. Listed after an individual's name are these facts: occupation; work address or location; employer (if included); home address and/or location; and the page number of the directory on which the entry was found.



**From the Nashville City Directory, 1853/4**  
(Tenn. State Library and Archives)

The first section is an alphabetical list of all identified daguerreotypists, photographers, their helpers and the dates they were active in Nashville. The following section provides business locations. Arranged chronologically, this list indicates where they were located, the years in business at a particular location, with whom they may have joined together in business, and identifies other individuals who worked as staff or students. There were a handful of photographers that could not be placed at a particular location because the directory listing for them referred to them as

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“photographer” and provided only their home address or where they boarded.

**ALPHABETICAL LIST OF NASHVILLE DAGUERREOTYPISTS,  
PHOTOGRAPHERS, and HELPERS, and THEIR ACTIVE DATES**

**1841-1891**

**Adams, Daniel (Dan; D.)** (engraver and daguerreotypist) June 14, July 12, August 16, November 8, 17, 1847, June 5-December 20, 1848, January 4, May 1-11, 1849, January 5-November 27, 1850, August 20, 1852, 1855-1856, (engraver and photographer) 1857, 1860-1861

**Allen, George R.**, (photographer) 1890, 1891

**Anthony, Edward** (Anthony, Edwards & Co., later E. & H. T. Anthony Co.) April 11-24, 1845, October 10, 1845-February 28, 1846

**Armstrong, William E.** (photographer) 1878, 1879, 1880, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883

**Armstrong, W. E., Photographic Art Gallery**, 1880, 1881

**Arnold, A.** (photographer) 1866

**Ball's, Miss Mary, Ambrotype Gallery**, 1860-1861

**Barnard, Edward E.** (photo-painter) 1878, (photo-printer) 1879, 1880, (photograph printer) 1881, (photographer) 1882, 1883

**Batsai, August** (photographer) 1890

**Bates, David W.** (photo-printer) 1878

**Baugh, Cadwell D.** (photographer) 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890

**Bernard, Edwin** (photographic printer) 1874, 1875

**Braid, James W.** (photographer) 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, (becomes electrician 1882, page 136).

**Bratten, Homer C.** (photographer) 1883

**Brook, M. F.** (photographer) 1883

**Brooks, Hannibal P.** (photographer) 1875

**Bruce, Jackson H.** (photographer) 1890

**Byington, H. (A.?) S.** (daguerreotype artist) 1855-1856, 1857

**Calvert, Ebenezer (Eben)** (artist) 1880, 1881, (Calvert Bros.) 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891

**Calvert, Peter R.**, 1876, (photograph artist) 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, (artist) 1881, (Calvert Bros.) 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891

**Catlin, Miss S.** (photographer) 1876

**Chrisman, \_\_\_\_\_, (and Lewis)** (miniature daguerreotype likenesses) May 22-May 29, 1841

**Church, \_\_\_\_\_, Dobyns and Church**, December 22, 1853

**Colby, William F.** (photographer) 1890

**Collet, John H.** (photographer and ferrotypist) 1876

**Cook, Wesley** (photographer) 1866, 1867

**Corbitt, (Corbett?) Edward F.** (photographer) 1885, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891

**Corbitt, Ephriam F., Jr.** (photographer) 1886

**Corbitt, (Corbett?) Walter D.** (photographer) 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889

**DeAnquinos, Alex** (photographer) 1876

**DeAnquinos, Alex (Alexander)** (photographer) 1877, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, (in Murfreesboro in 1888; printer 1889)

**DeAnquinos, Lawrence L.** (photographer) 1885, 1886



**Decker, John F.** (photographer) 1884, (photo artist) 1885, (photographer & artist) 1891  
**Dobyns, \_\_\_\_\_, Yearout & Richardson** (daguerreotypists) January 19-December 14, 1853, 1854, January 1855  
**Dobyns and Church**, December 22, 1853  
**Doge, \_\_\_\_\_, (& Wenderoth)** (photographers) December 30, 1855  
Duncan, Amelia, Miss (photo-finisher) 1882  
**Dury, John** (photographer) 1867  
**Eckel, Henry** (Longhurst & E) 1871  
**Edwards, William S.** (photographer) 1888  
**Embusch, William H.** (photographer) 1869-1872, (photograph printer) 1874, (photographer) 1878, 1879  
**Emery, (Emory) Edgar L.** (photographer) 1884, (photo printer) 1885, (photographer) 1886, 1887, 1890, 1891  
**Endsley (Ensley), Chas.** (photographer) 1866, 1867  
**Ferdinand, Harry** (photographer) 1866  
**Field, D. W.** (photographer) 1867  
**Forfey, Frank H.** (photographer) 1883, 1884, 1885, (artist) 1886, (photographer) 1890  
**Freeman, R. M.** (Nashville Daguerreotype Gallery) November 30-December 16, 1846, January 13, 1847  
**Frost, Charles D.,** (photographer) 1888  
**Fuller, Harry** (Mahon & Fuller) (photographer) 1885  
**Fuller, Harry O.** (photographer) 1884, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Gault, William M.** (photographer) 1885  
**Giers, The Art Gallery**, 1878, (W. E. Armstrong, proprietor) 1879  
**Giers & Byington** (daguerreotypists) 1857  
**Giers, Carl (Charles) C. (C. C.)** (daguerreotypist) 1857, (photographer) 1859, (photographic artist) 1860-1861, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877  
**Giers & Northern** (daguerreotypists) 1855-1856  
**Giers, Charles C., Southern Photographic Temple, Fine Arts**, 1860-1861  
**Giers, C. C., National Portrait Gallery**, 1865, 1868  
**Giers, C. C., Photographer**, No. 45 Union Street, 1876, 1877  
**Giers, Otto B.** (assistant photograph printer) 1875, (photographer) 1876, (photo printer) 1877, (photographer) 1879, (artist) 1880, (photo printer) 1881, (photographer) 1882, 1883, (Thuss, Koellein, & Giers) 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, (Giers & Koellein) 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Gorff, John** (photographer) 1884  
**Gorff, Julius** (photographer) 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Graves, Ezra J.** (photographer) 1877  
Haley, James T., Rock City Photo Copying Co., 1886  
**Hall, H. M.** (photographer) 1865, 1866  
**Hall & Co., Photographic Establishment**, 1866  
**Hankins, Thomas** (daguerreotypist) October 6, 1851-December 31, 1851  
**Hastings, Frank S.** (photographer) 1891  
**Hatton, Liberty L.** (photographer) 1890



**19<sup>th</sup>-century Photography Studio**  
 (University of Iowa, [wiki.uiowa.edu/](http://wiki.uiowa.edu/))

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**Hearn, Rufus** (photographer) 1889  
**Hearn, Rufus E.** (Reeves & Hearn) 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Herstein, Jacob** (ferrotype gallery) 1874, (prop'r Gem Gallery) 1875, 1876, (photographer) 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, (Herstein & Mahon) 1882, (and photographer) 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891  
 Hough, Miss F. (photograph colorist) 1872  
**Hubbart, Jno. E.** (daguerrean artist) 1853-1854  
 Huff, Miss Frank M. (photograph painter) 1874, 1875  
**Hughes Art Gallery**, 1859  
**Hughes, C. C, Art Gallery**, 1860-1861  
**Hughes & Brother** (daguerreotypists) October 26-November 22, 1855  
**Hughes Brothers** (photographers and daguerrean artists) 1855-1856, 1857  
**Hughes, C. C.** (photograph gallery) 1857, 1859, 1860-1861, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, (artist) 1874  
**Hughes, Cyrus (Cyrel, Cyril)** (photographer) 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881  
**Hughes, F. N.** (photographer) 1857  
**Hughes, F. N. & Saltsman Art Gallery**, 1866  
**Hughes, Ellis L.** (photographer) 1869, 1875, 1876, 1878, 1879, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1890  
**Hughes, Frank P.** (photographer) 1885  
**Hughes, Frederick P. (R.)** (photographer) 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, (Frank) 1885, 1886, 1887, 1889  
**Hughes, Pierre A.** (photographer) 1877, 1878  
**Hughes, T. H.** (photograph artist) 1860-1861  
**Husband, H.** (daguerreotype miniatures) October 3-December 22, 1845  
**Jenkins, G. W.** (daguerreotypist) July 23-September 1, 1847  
**Jonnard, A.** (daguerreotypist) 1855-1856  
**Judd, Spencer C.** (photographer) 1885, 1886  
**Jungermann, Jacob** (photographer) 1883  
**Kennecke, H.** 1872  
**Knox, Charles L.** (photographer) 1891  
**Koellien** (Keollin; Koelin; Koellen; Koellin; Koellein) **Emile** (Emil) (E.) (photograph printer), 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, (photographer) 1876, (artist) 1878, 1879, (photographer) 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, (Thuss, Koellein, & Giers) 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, (Giers & Koellein) 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Kosanke, (Kosanki?) Charles** (photographer) 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887  
 LaCroix, Miss Julia (artist, works at Van Stavoren's) 1868  
**Larcombe, A.** (ambrotypist) 1857, (photograph rooms) 1859, (ambrotypes and photographs) 1860-1861, (photographer) 1866, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872  
**Larcombe's Photographic Rooms**, 1859  
**Larcombe, A., Rock City Photographic Gallery**, 1868, 1870  
**Lehr, Edward F.** (photographer) 1883  
**Lewis, Charles E.** (photographer) 1886, 1887, 1888  
**Lewis, Edward** (photographer) 1889, 1890  
**Lewis, \_\_\_\_\_, and Chrisman** (miniature daguerreotype likenesses) May 22-May 29, 1841  
**Loiseau, Joseph** (photographic artist) 1860-1861  
**Loiseau & Tardiff** (photograph artists; Joe Loiseau, Jno. Tardiff) 1859  
**Loiseau & Tardiff, Parisian Gallery of Arts**, 1859  
 Longhurst, L. (photograph colorist) 1873  
**Longhurst, Lawrence (L.)** (photographer) 1866, 1874, (R.) 1875

**Longhurst & Eckel** (photographers) 1871  
**Lowry, Leo** (photographer) 1890  
**Maguire, James** (daguerreotypist of New Orleans) August 23-September 29, 1847, August 9, 1848  
**Mahon, William S.** (artist) 1880, (photographer) 1881, (Herstein & Mahon) 1882, 1883, 1884, (Mahon & Fuller) 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Marks, Byron H., Vanderbilt Photograph Gallery** (photographer) 1884  
**McDaniel, John D.** (photographer & artist) 1891  
**McGill, W. A.** (photographer) 1866, 1868, 1869, 1872  
**McLain, R.** (daguerrean artist) 1855-1856  
**McWhinney, Goldston W.** (photographer) 1890  
**Merritt, T. J. & Co.,** (photographers) 1865  
Meseck, Miss Martha (photo printer) 1868  
**Moore, J. E.** (daguerreotypist, of Philadelphia) November 12-December 25, 1841  
**Morse, A. S., Gallery of the Cumberland,** 1865, 1866  
**Murphy, William D.** (photographer) 1867  
**Noel, Clarence,** (photographer) 1867  
**Northern, J. W.** 1855-1856, 1857  
**Overland, Anton P.** (photographer) 1881, 1882  
**Parrish, Elderidge** (photographer) 1890  
**Pena, A. Diaz (A. D.)** (daguerreotypist) April 28-November 22, 1848  
**Paret, Charles A. (C. A.)** (photographer) 1866, 1868, 1869, (Paret?) 1870, 1871, (artist) 1872, (photograph painter) 1873, (artist) 1874, 1875, (photographer) 1876, (artist) 1877, (photographer) 1878, 1879, (artist) 1880, 1881, (Paret & Thuss) 1882, (artist) 1883, 1884, 1885  
**Paret, Wm. L.,** (photographer) 1866



**Female Photographers appeared in Nashville as early as the 1860s**  
 (University of Iowa, [wiki.uiowa.edu/](http://wiki.uiowa.edu/))

**Patterson, James L. (?), Eureka Photographic Gallery,** 1860-1861  
**Patterson, James S. (J. S.)** (ambrotypist) 1859, (artist, Eureka Gallery) 1860-1861, (photographer) 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, (photo operator) 1873, 1874, 1875, (photographer) 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, (Koellein & Patterson) 1883  
**Perry, Frederick** (photographer) 1876  
**Phillips, Frederick H.** (photographer) 1888, 1889, 1890  
**Phillips, Frederick, Jr.** (photographer) 1891  
**Poole, Rodney (R.)** (photographer) 1870, 1871, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Poole Art Co.,** 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889  
**Poole's Photograph Gallery,** 1872, 1873, 1874  
**Poole's Photographs,** 1875  
**Potter, James H.** (photographer) 1890  
Porter, Anthony (photo printer) 1869  
**Pratt, Charles A.** (photographer) 1867  
Precht, Charles, (wks Giers' Gallery) 1875  
**Prior, (Dr.) C. W.** (photographer) 1866, 1872  
Proir, Gertrude (photograph printer) 1866

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**Quimby, F. J.** (photographer) 1881  
**Raymer, Felix** (photographer) 1891  
**Reeves, John** (photographer) 1889  
**Reeves & Hearn (W. Reeves & R. E. Hearn),** (photographers) 1889  
**Reeves, Walter R.** (photographer) 1886, 1889, 1891  
**Reisman, Mark** (photographer) 1881, 1882  
**Richardson, \_\_\_\_\_, (Dobyns, Yearout &)** (daguerreotypists) January 19-December 14, 1853, 1854, January 1855  
**Robertson, George R.** (photographer) 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888  
**Root, Melville E.** (photographer) 1887, 1888  
**Root, William J.** (artist) 1880, (photographer) 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886  
**Russell, Andrew J.** (photographer) 1888  
**Ruth, William** (photographer) 1884  
 Sadler, Lula, Mrs. (artist) 1890, 1891  
 Saltsman, T. F., (dealer in photograph goods) 1871  
**Saltsman's Star Gallery,** 1860-1861  
**Saltsman, (Saltzman) Thomas F. (T. F.)** (artist) 1857, (ambrotypist) 1859, (photographic artist) 1860-1861, (photographer) 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1884, (salesman) 1885, (photographer) 1886  
**Saltsman, T. F., Photographic Artist, Etc.,** 1859  
**Schardt, John** (assistant photographic operator) 1874, (photographer) 1875  
 Schieb, Miss A. W. (photo printer) 1869  
 Schleier, Miss Mattie (artist) 1887  
**Schleier, Theodore M. (T. M.)** (photographic-operator) 1860-1861, (photographer) 1865, 1866, (photograph artist) 1880, (photographer) 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889)  
 Schmidt, Agnes C. (E?), Miss (retoucher) 1890, (artist) 1891  
**Sebert, \_\_\_\_\_,** (photographist) 1860-1861  
**Seeley, Joseph F.** (photographer) 1891  
**Shaw, S. L.** (Shaw's Daguerreotype Rooms) October 9-November 25, 1846, July 23-December 20, 1847, June 5-October 20, 1848, April 12-30, May 1-12, 1849  
**Sigler, Charles W.** (photographer) 1886, 1887  
**Slyer, J. D.** (photographist) 1859  
 Smith, C. Agnes, Miss (artist) 1890 (See also, Schmidt, Agnes C., Miss)  
**Spier, Al** (photographer) 1882  
**Staples, William F.** (photographer) 1890  
 Staples, William, Jr. (photo printer) 1890  
**Suttle, Elijah T.** (photographer) 1880  
**Taylor, C. Samuel A.** (photo printer) 1880, 1881, 1882, (artist) 1883, (photographer) 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Tichenor, Prof. G. H.** (operator in oriental and positive pictures) 1860-1861  
**Thuss, Andrew J.** (photographer) 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1888, (W. G. & A. J. Thuss) 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Thuss, Mary Miss,** (photographer) 1889, (artist) 1890, 1891  
**Thuss, William G. (J. M. Ozanne & Co.)** (and photographer) 1882, 1883  
**Thuss, William G., Photographer, Gallery,** 1879, 1880  
**Thuss, William G., (W. G. T. & Co.),** (ferrotypes/photographer) 1875, 1876, 1877  
**Thuss, William G., (Thuss, Koellein, & Giers)** (photographer) 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888  
**Thuss, William G., (W. G. & A. J. Thuss)** 1889, 1890, 1891

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**Thuss, William J., (Paret, Thuss & Co.),** 1878  
**Thuss & Koellien, Photographers,** 1880, 1881  
**Underhill, Michael** (photographer) 1885  
**Van Stavoren, J. H.,** 1870, 1871  
**Van Stavoren, J. H., Metropolitan Photograph Gallery,** 1865, 1866  
**Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of Fine Arts,** 1867, 1868, 1869  
**Wagner, Paul F.** 1869, 1871  
**Warren, George E.** (photographer) 1888, 1889  
**Weisel, John W.** (photographer) 1888  
**Wenderoth, \_\_\_\_\_, (& Dodge)** (photographers) December 30, 1855  
**Williams, \_\_\_\_\_,** (daguerreotype likenesses) March 14, 1845  
**Wrye, Henry** (photographer) 1890, 1891  
 Wuille (Wuile?), Delia, Miss (artist) 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891  
 Wuille (Wuile?), Minnie, Miss (artist) 1883, 1884, 1885, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891  
**Yearout, \_\_\_\_\_, (Dobyns & Richardson)** (daguerreotypists) January 19-December 14, 1853, 1854, January 1855

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**CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF NASHVILLE PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
**with addresses and associated names 1853-1891**

**Nashville Business Directory, 1853-54**

Dobyns, Yearout & Richardson, Daguerreotypists and Stock Dealers, 59 N. College St. upstairs (p. 69).  
 Hubbart, Jno. E., Daguerrean Artist, 30 Union St.—upstairs (p. 69).

**Nashville Business Directory, 1855-56**

Adams, D., Engraver and Daguerreotypist, 25 Public Square, res. City Hotel (p. 12).  
 Byington, H. S., daguerreotype artist, 48 N. Front St. (p. 25).  
 Giers & Northern, daguerreotypists, cor. Deaderick St. and Public Square; Giers, C. C., above firm, res. 44 S. Summer St. (p. 48).  
 Hughes Brothers, Photographers and Daguerrean Artists, 59 N. College St. and 26 Union St.; Hughes, F. M., above firm, res. W. Nashville; Hughes, C. C., above firm, res. W. Nashville (p. 61).  
 Jonnard, A., daguerreotypist, 25 Public Square (p. 66).  
 McLain, R. daguerrean artist and engraver, 38 N. College St. (p. 87).  
 Northern, J. W., firm of Giers & Northern, res. 26 Public Square (p. 91).

**Nashville Business Directory, 1857**

Adams, D., Engraver and Daguerreotypist, 25 Public Square, res. City Hotel (p. 23).  
 Byington, A. S., daguerreotype artist, 48 N. Front St. (p. 47).  
 Giers & Byington, daguerreotypists, cor Deaderick St. and Public Square (p. 90).  
 Giers, C. C., above firm, res Spring St., near N & C Railroad depot (p. 90).  
 Hughes Brothers, Photographic Artists and Dealers in all the Articles Pertaining to the Ambrotype, Melainotype, Photographic and Daguerreian Process, address Hughes Brothers, Nashville, Tenn. (p. 113-114, index page 352).  
 Hughes, F. N., above firm, res Summer St., S. Nashville (p. 114).  
 Hughes, C. C., above firm, res W. Nashville (p. 114).





**Earliest Photo of Nashville, 1853**  
**Showing the Public Square, near where many photographers had their studios.**  
**Giers studio can be seen on close examination of the original.**  
(Tennessee State Museum)

Larcombe, A., ambrotypist, 40 N. College St. (p. 127).

Northern, J. W., res 26 Public Square (p. 163).

Saltsman, T. F., artist, Hughes & Bro's. (p. 182).

#### **Nashville City and Business Directory, 1859**

Giers, C. (Carl) C., photographic gallery, cor Deaderick and Square (p. 67).

Hughes, C. C., photographic gallery, 23 Union St. (p. 84).

Hughes's Art Gallery, corner Union and College Streets (p. 252).

Larcombe, A., photograph rooms 30 N. Cherry St.. up stairs (p. 96).

Larcombe's Photographic Rooms, Cherry Street, corner of Union (p. 251).

Loiseau & Tardeff, photographic artists, 33 Union St., up stairs (p. 99).

Loiseau & Tardiff, Parisian Gallery of Arts, Joe, Loiseau, Jno. Tardiff, 33 Union Street (p. 253).

Patterson, J. S., ambrotypist, 23 Union, Hughes' gal'ry (p. 122).

Saltsman, T. F., ambrotypist, 23 Union St. (p. 133).

Saltzman, T. F., Photographic Artist, Etc., 44 Union St., next door to Wessell & Thompson's, (Up stairs), (p. 253).

Slyer, J. D., photographer, 23 Union St. (p. 139).

#### **Nashville City and Business Directory, 1860-61**

Adams, Dan., engraver and photographer, 25 Public Square (p. 116).

Adams, Daniel, Daguerreotyping and Engraving, Daguerreotypist and Engraver, Rooms, over Gowdy's Jewelry Store, Public Square (p. 181).

Ball's, Miss Mary, Ambrotype Gallery, No. 53 College Street, over McClelland's Store (p. 183).

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Giers, C. C., photographic artist, corner of college and Deaderick Sts., res Church St., near N & C Railroad (p. 176).

Giers, Charles (Carl) C., Southern Photographic Temple, Fine Arts, cor. Public Square and Deaderick Street (p. 181).

Hughes, C. C., Art Gallery, cor. College and Union Streets (p. 183).

Hughes, C. C., Photograph Gallery, cor. College and Union Sts. (p. 198).

Hughes, T. H., photograph artist, cor. College and Union Sts. (p. 198).

Larcombe, A., ambrotypes and photographs, corner Cherry and Union Sts. (p. 210).

Loiseau, Joseph, Photographic Artist (p. 214).

Patterson, James L., Eureka Photographic Gallery, No. 33 Union St., over McClure's Music Store (p. 183).

Patterson, J. S., artist, Eureka Gallery, Union St. (p. 240).

Saltsman's Star Gallery, Ambrotypes, Melainotypes and Photographs, No. 44 Union Street (p. 181).

Saltzman, T. F., Photographic Artist, 44 Union St., upstairs (p. 252).

Schleier, T. M., photographic-operator, at C. C. Gier's (p. 254).

Sebert, \_\_\_\_\_, Photographer, 25 Public Square (p. 252).

Tichenor, Prof. G. H., operator in oriental and positive pictures, 53 College Street (p. 183).

#### **Singleton's Nashville Business Directory, 1865**

Giers, C. C., National Portrait Gallery, 42 and 44 Union St. (p. 194).

Hall, H. M., Photographer, s w c Cedar and Public Square (p. 189).

Merritt, T. J. & Co., Photographers, s s Church b Summer and Cherry (p. 217).

Morse, A. S., Gallery of the Cumberland, 25 Cedar Street (p. 5).

Schleier, T. M., Photographer, cor. Union & Cherry Sts. and 27 Public Square (p. 224).

Van Stavoren, J. H., Metropolitan Photograph Gallery, No. 53 College Street (p. 148).

#### **King's Nashville City Directory, 1866**

Arnold, A., photographer, 42 and 44 Union (p. 85).

Cook, Wesley., photographer, h w s Vine, b Cedar and Gay (Cook, W. photographer, h 40 N. Vine) (p. 138).

Endsley, Chas., photographer, wks s w c Cedar and Public Square (p. 158).

Ferdinand, Harry, photographer, bds Commercial Hotel (p. 161).

Giers, C. C., Photographer, 42 and 44 Union, h e s S. Summer nr Mulberry (p. 174).

Hall, H. M., Proprietor Photograph Gallery, s w c Cedar and Public Square (p. 183).

Hall & Co., Photographic Establishment, corner of Cedar St. and Public Square (p. 2).

Hughes, F. N. & Saltsman (formerly Hughes Bros.) Art Gallery, Corner College & Union Sts. (p. 3).

Hughes, F. N. & Saltsman, (F. N. H. & T. F. S.), Ambrotypes & Photographs, 26 Union (p. 199).

Larcombe, A., photographer, wks 25 Public Square (p. 218).

Longhurst, L., photographer, wks 47 Church (p. 223).

McGill, W. A., photographer, wks 53 N. College (p. 230).

Metropolitan Photograph Gallery, 53 College, J. H. Van Stavoren, Proprietor (p. 242).

Morse, A. S., proprietor Gallery of the Cumberland, bds Commercial Hotel (p. 247).

Paret, Chas., photographer, wks 42 and 44 Union (p. 257).

Paret, Wm. L., photographer, bds w s Spruce nr Church (p. 257).

Prior, Dr. C. W. photographer, s w c Cedar and Cherry (Prior, Gertrude, photograph printer), (p. 262).

Schleier, T. M., Photographer, s e c Union and Cherry, res country (p. 274).

Van Stavoren, J. H. Metropolitan Photograph Gallery, No. 53 College St. (p. 7).

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Van Stavoren, J. H., Proprietor Metropolitan Photograph Gallery, 53 N. College (p. 296).

**King's Nashville City Directory, 1867**

Cook, W. photographer, wks Public Square (p. 115).

Dury, John, photographer, wks T. F. Saltsman's (p. 131).

Ensley, Charles, photographer, wks C. C. Giers (p. 135).

Field, D. W., photographer, wks Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of fine Arts, bds Commercial Hotel (p. 141).

Giers, C. C., photo 43 Union, h 366 S. Summer (p. 151)

Hughes, C. C., photographer, h w s Ewing av b Wetmore and Fogg (p. 177).

Murphy, William D., photographer, wks Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of Fine Arts, bds Stacey House (p. 225).

Noel, Clarence, photographer, wks Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of fine Arts (p. 230).

Patterson, James S., photographer, bds 40 S. Cherry (p. 238).

Pratt, Charles A., photographer, h N. Vine b Madison and Monroe (p. 242).

Saltsman, T. F., Photographs and Ambrotypes n w c Union and College, h s w c South Union and Summer (p. 252).

Van Stavoren, J. H. (facing title page—missing, page 21).

Van Stavoren, J. H., Proprietor Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of Fine Arts, s e c Union and Cherry (p. 277).

Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of Fine Arts, s e c Cherry and Union; J. H. Van Stavoren, proprietor (p. 277).

**King's Nashville City Directory, 1868**

Giers, C. C., Photographs and Ambrotypes, 43 and 45 Union, up stairs, h 366 S. Summer (p. 126).

Giers, C. C., National Portrait Gallery, 43 & 45 Union Street (p. 176).

Hughes, C. C., h 69 Ewing av, Nashville (p. 142) [appears to be the C. C. Hughes cited in the 1867 directory, but not identified as a photographer].

LaCroix, Miss Julia, artist wks Van Stavoren's photograph gallery (p. 152).

Larcombe, A., Rock City Photographic Gallery, 49 Union, h 34 S. Cherry (p. 153).

McGill, W. A., photographer bds Sewanee House (p. 161).

Meseck, Miss Martha, photo printer wks C. C. Giers (p. 167).

Paret, Charles, photographer wks C. C. Giers, h 327 N. High (p. 178).

Patterson, James, photographer wks C. C. Giers (p. 179).

Rock City Photograph Gallery, 49 Union, A. Larcombe, Proprietor (p. 189).

Saltsman, T. F., Photographs and Ambrotypes n w c Union and College, h s w c S. Union and Summer (p. 191).

Saltsman, T. F., Photographer, Corner of College & Union Streets (p. 267).

Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of Fine Arts, South-East Corner Cherry and Union Streets (facing page).

Van Stavoren, J. H., Proprietor Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of Fine Arts, s e c Union and Cherry (p. 211).

Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of Fine Arts, s e c Union and Cherry; J. H. Van Stavoren, Proprietor (p. 211).

**King's Nashville City Directory, 1869**

Embusch, William, photographer wks 43 Union (p. 120).

Giers, C. C., Photographer, 43 and 45 Union, h 366 S. Summer (p. 133).

Hughes, C. C., photographer h 69 Ewing Ave. (p. 153).

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Hughes, Ellis, photographer bds 69 Ewing Ave. (p. 153).  
 Larcombe, A., photographer 49 Union, h 34 S. Cherry (p. 165).  
 McGill, W. A., photographer, bds Commercial Hotel (p. 174).  
 Paret, Charles, photo, wks 43 Union (p. 193).  
 Patterson, James S., photo, wks 43 Union (p. 194).  
 Porter, Anthony, photo printer, s e c Union and Cherry (p. 198).  
 Saltsman, T. F., Photographer, etc., n w c Union and College, h 283 S. Summer (p. 201).  
 Schieb, Miss A. W., photo printer wks T. F. Saltsman, h 105 N. Market (p. 208).  
 Van Stavoren, J. H., Proprietor Van Stavoren's Photographic Gallery of Fine Arts, south-east corner of Union and Cherry (p. 224).  
 Wagner, Paul, photo wks 43 Union (p. 224).

### King's Nashville City Directory, 1870

Embusch, Wm., photographer wks 43 Union (p. 117).  
 Giers, C. C., Photographer 43 and 45 Union, h 366 S. Summer (p. 126).  
 Hughes, C. C., photographer h 69 Ewing avenue (p. 142).  
 Larcombe, A., Photographer, 49 Union, h 34 S. Cherry (p. 152).  
 Patterson, James S., photographer wks 43 and 45 Union (p. 178).  
 Peret, Charles (Paret ?), photographer wks 43 and 45 Union (p. 179).  
 Pool, R., photographer s e c Union and Cherry (p. 182).  
 Rock City Photograph Gallery, 49 Union, A. Larcombe, Proprietor (p. 188).  
 Saltsman, T. F., Photographer, n w c Union and College, h 283 S. Summer (p. 191).  
 Van Stavoren, J. H., Photographer s e c Union and Cherry (p. 208).

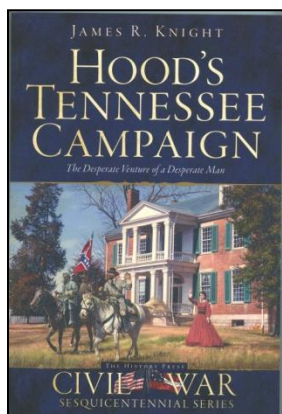
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### Remembering Grandma's Clothesline

A clothesline was a news forecast, To neighbors passing by,  
 There were no secrets you could keep,  
 When clothes were hung to dry.  
 It also was a friendly link, For neighbors always knew  
 If company had stopped on by, To spend a night or two.  
 For then you'd see the "fancy sheets", And towels upon the line;  
 You'd see the "company table cloths", With intricate designs.  
 The line announced a baby's birth, From folks who lived inside,  
 As brand new infant clothes were hung, So carefully with pride!  
 The ages of the children could, So readily be known  
 By watching how the sizes changed, You'd know how much they'd grown!  
 It also told when illness struck, As extra sheets were hung;  
 Then nightclothes, and a bathrobe too, Haphazardly were strung.  
 It also said, "On vacation now", When lines hung limp and bare.  
 It told, "We're back!" when full lines sagged, With not an inch to spare!  
 New folks in town were scorned upon, If wash was dingy and gray,  
 As neighbors carefully raised their brows, And looked the other way.  
 But clotheslines now are of the past, For dryers make work much less.  
 Now what goes on inside a home, Is anybody's guess!  
 I really miss that way of life, It was a friendly sign  
 When neighbors knew each other best... By what hung on the line.



## Book Reviews *by Shirley Wilson*



***Hood's Tennessee Campaign*** by James R. Knight, paperback, 2014, 204 pp., endnotes, index, source list. \$19.95 from The History Press.

[www.historypress.net](http://www.historypress.net)

Subtitled *The Desperate Venture of a Desperate Man*, this is the story of the Confederacy's last

significant offensive operation of the Civil War. General John Bell Hood of the Confederate Army launched an attempt to capture Nashville. The leader of the Union force was Major General George Henry Thomas who was also Hood's former West Point instructor.

Knight chronicles the last real hope at victory through the battles at Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville leading to the freezing retreat to the Tennessee River and ultimate failure.

Of particular interest to Civil War buffs are the listings of division and brigade leaders for the Franklin Order of Battle (the Army of Ohio and the Army of Tennessee) and the Nashville Order of Battle including the Army of the Cumberland, Thomas commanding and the Army of Tennessee with Hood commanding.

***Land of Hogs and Wildcats: People and Places of Lower Stafford County, Virginia*** by Jerrilynn Eby, paperback, 2013, 788 pp., bibliographies, footnotes, index. \$57 plus \$7 shipping from Heritage Books, Inc.

[www.HeritageBooks.com](http://www.HeritageBooks.com)

Arranged in three sections (Potomac Creek Area, Rappahannock River and Falmouth), there is a table of contents of geographic locations in alphabetical order for each section. The article on each location is compiled from original sources and enhanced with diaries, letters, personal recollections and oral histories. Each includes extensive footnoting and a bibliography.

For example, the Spotted Tavern in the Potomac Creek Area provides the landowners from 1741 until 1931 and elaborates on the tavern and its owners as it changed ownership over the years.

This huge collection of information is a must-have for anyone with roots in this area.

***Unionists in the Heart of Dixie*** by Glenda McWhirter Todd, paperback, 2013, 1<sup>st</sup> Alabama Cavalry USV, 4 volumes, each about 300 to 355 pp., photographs.

Volume I A-G \$42, Volume II H-M \$45, Volume III N-S \$45, Volume IV T-Z \$40 plus \$7 postage for first book and \$2.50 thereafter from Heritage Books, Inc. [www.HeritageBooks.com](http://www.HeritageBooks.com)

This series includes a vast amount of material on the men of the 1<sup>st</sup> Alabama Cavalry in the Civil



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War. Each soldier is listed along with his military record, muster rolls and sometimes his pension and Southern Claims on the soldier. At the back of each volume, there is a large section of photographs (some are scattered throughout the book as well). The information is arranged alphabetically by the soldier's surname, so you can purchase the volume of particular interest.

Each book has various articles on the war. For Example, Volume III has chapters on Prison, the USS Sultana and John R. Phillips After the War, among many others. Volume IV has some entries for soldiers other than S-Z who were missed in the earlier volumes.

This series is truly a labor of love on the author's part and is packed full of information. If ever books begged for an index, these do. Rumor has it that there may be a Volume V that would be an index. In the meantime, the books are available in PDF format for somewhat less cost and could presumably be searched for surnames or geographic places.

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***Johnson County Tennessee Death Record***

***Abstracts 1908-1941*** by Eddie M. Nikazy, paperback, 2007, 482 pp., every name index. \$38.50 plus postage from Heritage Books, Inc. [www.HeritageBooks.com](http://www.HeritageBooks.com)

This book includes about 6500 records, all that were available to the public at the time of publication. Entry information includes place and date of birth, parents' names, date and cause of death, if given. The occupation is sometimes listed as well as the cemetery and the informant.

Nikazy also includes the original certificate number for those who want to examine the original. The index is a thing of joy for genealogists as it includes not only the parents of the deceased, but the informant who provided the information.

This is a world of information for those with roots in Johnson County.

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***Abstracts of Tennessee Death Records for Carter County 1908-1925*** by Eddie M. Nikazy, paperback, 2007, 481 pp., every name index. \$38.00 plus postage from Heritage Books, Inc. [www.HeritageBooks.com](http://www.HeritageBooks.com)

Using the same basic format as his book on Johnson County, Nikazy has provided another excellent book of death abstracts for an early East Tennessee county.

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***Loudoun County, Virginia Criminal Indictments 1801-1843*** by Patricia B. Duncan, 2013, paperback, 245 pp., index. \$25.50 plus postage from Heritage Books, Inc. [www.HeritageBooks.com](http://www.HeritageBooks.com)

A criminal indictment is a formal accusation initiating a criminal case and is usually required for felonies and other serious crimes. The entries provide the date of the proceeding, details of the offense, name of the accused (and the slave owner, if the accused is a slave), plus the victim, justices, attorney, witnesses and security. The court's ruling in the case is also included.

Entries are fully abstracted and a full name index is a helpful addition.

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***Jefferson County, Virginia (later West Virginia) Will Book Abstracts Volume 1 and 2, 1801-1816*** by Patricia B. Duncan and Elizabeth R. Frain, paperback, 2013, 286 pp. \$28 plus \$7 shipping from Heritage Books, Inc. [www.HeritageBooks.com](http://www.HeritageBooks.com)

Jefferson County was formed in 1801 from Berkeley County, Virginia, and remained a part of

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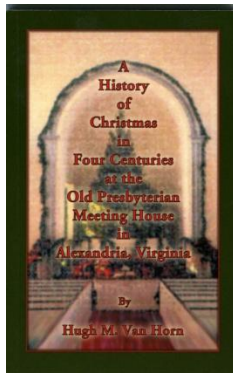
Virginia until 1863 when it ultimately became part of West Virginia.

In addition to wills, the book includes inventories, estate sales, administrators and executors reports, sales of slaves and other miscellaneous items relating to the settlement of estates. A full name index is a nice addition to the text which also includes capitalization for surnames.



***A History of Christmas in Four Centuries at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Alexandria, Virginia*** by Hugh M. Van Horn, paperback, 2014, 56 pp., footnotes, index, photographs. \$15.50 plus postage from Heritage Books, Inc.

[www.HeritageBooks.com](http://www.HeritageBooks.com)



A timely book for this issue, the author explains daily life, the meeting house, and how Christmas was celebrated over four centuries.

Constructed in 1777, the Presbyterian Meeting House survived tumultuous times during the Revolutionary War and changed in many ways over the years, particularly in its observance of Christmas.

Photos and names of the early ministers enhance the value of the book.



***Muster Rolls of the Soldiers of the War of 1812 Detached from the Militia of North Carolina*** by Maurice Toler, paperback, 2014, 160 pp. index. \$22 plus \$7 postage from Heritage Books, Inc.

[www.HeritageBooks.com](http://www.HeritageBooks.com)

This is a complete muster roll of North Carolina's 12,000 active wartime participants. Arranged by company and county regiment, it includes hundreds of lists with the names of both officers and men. It is presented in two separate sections, one covering the detachments of 1812 and the other the detachments of 1814.

An every name index is an appreciated addition to the book.



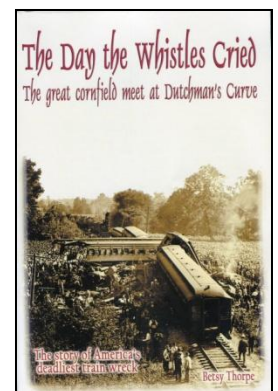
***The Day the Whistles Cried: the Great Cornfield Meet at Dutchman's Curve*** by Betsy Thorpe, paperback, 2014, 235 pp. \$26.00 includes shipping from author at 113 Lindy Murff Court, Antioch TN 37013

<http://www.thedaythewhistlescried.com/>

This is the true story of the great train wreck at Dutchman's Curve on July 9, 1918 near Nashville, Tennessee. Two fully loaded passenger trains collided head-on in a shattering explosion.

With a death toll of over 100, it is billed as the deadliest train wreck in American history. Although the impact on Middle Tennessee families was profound, little has been known about it until now.

The author tells the story of what happened and who was blamed for the accident. The ensuing court case went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court before it was settled and apparently not to everyone's approval.



Of special interest to the genealogist will be the names of those who died in the wreck. This is a great story that makes interesting reading from many social aspects.

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**Contributors in this issue**

Gale Williams Bamman  
Jim Long  
Debbie McConnel  
Jay Richiuso  
Shirley Wilson

***From the Editor. . .***

Cold winter days are conducive to genealogy – if you can't get out, you can always dig out the files and books, and puzzle over family history connections. This issue of the *Journal* will, we hope, provide clues for solving such puzzles.

Those of you who attended the Fall Seminar with Paula Stuart-Warren learned about many potential new places to look for information on your ancestors. Those of you who missed it will want to ask a friend, and make sure you come next year! See some Seminar pictures in the center-fold.

In this issue you'll find some familiar series as well as some new material. I enjoyed providing an article about my troublesome Armstrong ancestors – and perhaps that will stimulate some of you to contribute an article on the skeletons in your own family closet. Can yours top mine?

Debbie McConnel, familiar to many readers as a World War I expert, helps kick off the World War I centennial with an article about a Nashville parade. We also have an interesting petition from the women of Montgomery County dated 1837, which our President Jim Long transcribed for the *Journal*.

I'm always looking for new material, so if you have a good story to tell, please write it up and send it in.

***Chuck Sherrill***  
***M.T.G.S Journal Editor***

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