

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

### OUR MEETING PLACE

Meetings will be held at the Brentwood Library  
beginning in March 2017.  
The Brentwood Library  
8109 Concord Rd., Brentwood 37027.

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

Saturday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>  
1:00 p.m.

**Tenn. State Library & Archives**  
403 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. North, Nashville

### Ancestors, Antiques and Artifacts

*\*Note change in meeting place to TSLA\**

Everyone has a favorite cherished heirloom –  
the fun part is talking about it and telling a  
family story. On Jan 17<sup>th</sup> bring your favorite  
family photo, document or artifact to share  
with the Society. Plan to share that one-of-a-  
kind heirloom that is such a strong link to  
your family's past with others who can  
appreciate it along with you..

Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 p.m. Brentwood Library  
MTGS Regular Meeting

**Topic to be determined.**

Members and visitors are always welcome.

Visit [www.mtgs.org](http://www.mtgs.org) for more information.

## Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History

Volume XXX, Number 3, Winter 2017

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### **Contributors in this issue**

Gale Williams Bamman  
Fletcher Coke  
Dr. Mitzi Freeman  
Shirley Wilson

### *From the Editor. . .*

If you've been anxious since the last issue, wondering what happens next in the story of the Allison murders and the Brassell brothers of Putnam County, you'll be pleased to find the next installment in this issue. Mitzi Freeman's article is a great example of using newspapers and court records together to tell a great story.

Nashville area readers will be familiar with Fletcher Coke, the indomitable advocate and tireless worker for the preservation of Davidson County cemeteries. Here you will find an article by Mrs. Coke about John Rains, an early and important settler of Nashville, and his family cemetery. Confusion about Rains' burial place has long been a "grave problem," as Fletcher says; read her article to see how she solved that mystery with thorough research.

Finding an interesting letter written in Winchester, Franklin County, in 1893 led your editor on a hunt for information about all the people mentioned therein. It also led to discovering more about Mary Corn Sharp, daughter of a Revolutionary War veteran and a big-time abolitionist, and the college she helped start. That article, along with a list of degree recipients from Mary Sharp College, is found in this issue.

Please keep in mind that the Journal is made better by the contribution of articles and tidbits from our members – send yours today!

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

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Yearly memberships include four issues of the *Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History*. Make check or money order payable to MTGS. Annual dues are \$25.00 beginning June 1 of each year. See back cover for details and application form.

Printing arranged by Bruce Woodard, Brentwood, TN. Cover design by Dorothy Williams Potter. Indexed in the *Periodical Source Index* (PERSI).

Visit our website at <http://www.mtgs.org>

# Where Have All The Rains Gone?

by Fletch Coke

During 2016, the restoration of a Davidson County cemetery opened the way for more investigation into the lives of some important early settlers.

Since November 1999, family graveyards have been surveyed throughout Davidson County. This project was initiated by twelve Nashville members of the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in Tennessee. To date, 375 community volunteers have participated and 505 cemeteries have been surveyed and another 100 cemeteries have been identified as “Lost or Destroyed or Removed.”<sup>1</sup>

One of these family graveyards, the John Rains Cemetery on Nolensville Pike (near present-day Old Hickory Blvd.), was surveyed on April 6, 2002. The first burial, in 1830, was John Rains’ daughter Fannie and the last burial, in 1874, was his son James.<sup>2</sup> This cemetery was identified in a Davidson County Deed on April 13, 1888, and was designated a “Grave Yard” in the county property records on December 10, 1900.<sup>3</sup> Thus the burying ground has been protected from encroachment or relocation.

In 2016, Rains descendants asked for assistance to restore the cemetery. Dan Allen, archaeologist and stone conservator, working with Metro Historical Commission, completed the restoration work in October 2016. Side slabs for box tombs were recreated, fallen tombstones were reset, unmarked graves were found and two tombstones were discovered two feet underground.<sup>4</sup> One of these newly discovered tombstones was for John Rains who died September 26, 1855, at age 82 years, on whose property the cemetery was located. The tombstone for his wife Fannie was repaired. The two tombstones were placed side by side.<sup>5</sup> Then many questions were raised, including this genealogical one: how did this John Rains relate to Captain John Rains, one of the original pioneer settlers of the Cumberland in 1779?



**Rains Cemetery before and after restoration**  
(photos by Dan Allen)

<sup>1</sup> “About This Project,” *Davidson County Cemetery Survey Project* ([www.davidsoncocemeterysurvey.com](http://www.davidsoncocemeterysurvey.com))

<sup>2</sup> “Rains, John Cemetery,” *Davidson County Cemetery Survey Project*

<sup>3</sup> Davidson County, Tenn., *Deeds* [1888], p. 303-304. Sale of John Rains’ land by his grandchildren, registered April 13, 1888. (Metro Planning Commission Parcel ID # 16112000100).

<sup>4</sup> Before & after photos of restoration. By Dan Allen at John Rains Cemetery

<sup>5</sup> Restored tombstones for John & Fannie Rains.

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Captain John Rains, an Indian scout and fighter, figured prominently in Paul Clements' book *The Cumberland Settlements 1779-1796*. Captain Rains brought his wife Christiana, his children as well as 19 cows, 2 steers and 17 horses to the Bluffs in 1779. He built Rains Station, a fort to provide safety during Indian attacks, south of Nashville, on what is today called Rains Hill. A Metro Historical Marker for Captain Rains and Rains Station is located at the corner of Rains & Merritt avenues.<sup>6</sup> Near the early fort, Captain Rains built his home. Captain and Mrs. Rains had eleven children. Their third child John Rains, born in Virginia, married Fannie Ogilvie in Davidson County in 1800. He wrote "Narrative History of John Rains," for the *South-Western Monthly*, Volume II, published 1852, in which he described his father's fort "stockaded with the spring inside of it."

The family Bible, owned by Jonathan H. Rains, Captain Rains' son, is in the Tennessee Bible Records at the State Library & Archives. Among the entries: "Christiana Rains, my mother, Departed this life on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March 1826" and "John Rains, my father, on 26<sup>th</sup> March 1834."<sup>7</sup>

*National Banner & Nashville Daily Advertiser* reported on March 28, 1834:

"Died in the vicinity of this city on the night of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant, Captain John Rains, aged upwards of 80 years. Capt. R., was one of the pioneers of the West – one of the earliest emigrants to this part of Tennessee; and as a soldier and citizen, bore an honorable and conspicuous share of all the toils and privations incident to the early settlement of the country."<sup>8</sup>

Captain John Rains died without leaving a will. On March 19, 1835, the Davidson County Court ordered the partitioning of Captain Rains' 651 acres south of town. The partitions were made for his eight living children and the offspring of his three deceased children. The acreage extended from what-is-today Humphreys Street, along both sides of Nolensville Pike, going south, including the present Tennessee State Fair Grounds.<sup>9</sup> Sally Rains Merritt drew the first Lot of 43 acres which was located "near the dwelling house of the deceased." Elizabeth Rains Dunn drew the second Lot of 43 acres, adjacent to Sally Merritt's Lot. At the same time the Court partitioned a town lot belonging to the Rains estate, Lot No. 105, on the corner of High Street (now 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North) & Broad, for his heirs. On July 11, 1835, the Court made a report on sales of Captain Rains' personal estate. Each of the eleven heirs received \$934, from the sales which included household furniture, tools, cattle and horses.<sup>10</sup>

Many writers have stated that Christina Rains and Captain John Rains were buried at City Cemetery. This would seem reasonable since City Cemetery, located just north of the Rains property, opened in 1822 and Christiana died in 1826 and Captain Rains in 1834. However, Captain John and Christiana Rains were never buried at City Cemetery. A photograph by Harriet Berry Jewell shows the Rains box tomb at Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Inscriptions for Captain John and Christiana Rains were carved on the monument.

Research into the Mt. Olivet Cemetery Index to Interments 1891-1995, found that Capt. John Rains (died 1834) "Removed from Hamilton place together with the remains of wife Christiana" were reburied on Mrs. Frank Hagan's lot.<sup>11</sup> A request was made to Mt. Olivet Cemetery to check for an original lot Interment record. The record was provided (see illustration below) and stated as follows:

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<sup>6</sup> Captain John Rains Metro Historical Commission Historical Marker

<sup>7</sup> "Family Bible Records Project," *Tenn. State Library & Archives*, ([sos.tn.gov/tsla](http://sos.tn.gov/tsla)), J.H. Rains bible.

<sup>8</sup> Capt. John Rains obituary, *National Banner & Nashville Daily Advertiser*, March 28, 1834.

<sup>9</sup> Doug Drake, et al. *Founding of the Cumberland Settlements* (Gallatin, TN: Warioto Press, 2009), vol. 1, p.F8. John Rains land grant map, 640 acres, D1119.

<sup>10</sup> Davidson County, Tenn., *Deed Book X*, Capt. John Rains estate settlement, March 5, March 19, and July 11, 1835. Records located at Nashville Metropolitan Archives.

<sup>11</sup> Mt. Olivet Cemetery Records, *Index to Interments 1891-1895*. Tenn. State Library & Archives, microfilmed manuscript #576. Entry for Capt. John Rains.



[LOT INTERMENT.]

MT. OLIVET CEMETERY,  
THOS. CALLENDER, Treas.

Nashville, Tenn., *Apr 6 - 1893*

To Superintendent Mt. Olivet Cemetery:

Open a Grave for the interment of the  
remains of *Capt John Rains*

On *East part* Lot No. *26* Section *13*  
Owned by *Frank Hagan*  
Ordered by *W. R. Cornelius*

Services — o'clock — M. *10 Day*  
Size Box *4 ft.* feet *3* inches.  
Charges, \$ *6*  
Undertaker *W. R. Cornelius*  
Remarks *Remains taken up on the Hamilton Place.*

*Thos. Callender* Treas.

**Mt. Olivet Reinterment Record for  
Capt. John Rains from Hamilton Place**

James W. Hamilton died in 1890. His wife Mary Dunn Hamilton died two years later at her home on Rains Avenue near South Cherry Street (4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South).<sup>17</sup> They were buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.<sup>18</sup> The Hamilton's two sons began planning for the sale of the Hamilton property. Their Rains cousin, Mrs. Christine Merritt Hagan, daughter of Gibson and Sally Rains Merritt, realizing that development was imminent, decided, in April

**Merritt-Hagan plot at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.  
John and Fannie Rains' relocated box tomb  
is in the foreground.  
(photo by Harriet Berry Jewel)**

*Mt. Olivet Cemetery Lot Interment Nashville, Tenn. April 6, 1893  
Open a Grave for the interment of the remains of Capt. John Rains  
East Part Lot No. 26 Section 13 Owned by Mrs. Frank Hagan  
Services today Charges \$6 Undertaker W.R. Cornelius  
Remains taken up on the Hamilton Place.  
Thos. Callender, Treas.<sup>12</sup>*

That discovery raised important questions: Where was Hamilton Place and who owned Hamilton Place? No local historian seemed to know. Taking another look at the names of Captain Rains' children who received portions of his land, there were definite clues.

- A year and half after Elizabeth Rains Dunn was named owner of Lot 2, she was killed, on November 11, 1837, in a carriage accident.<sup>13</sup>
- Elizabeth had a daughter named Mary Dunn. In the Dunn Cemetery (Dunn-Croft Cemetery today at "Grassmere"), two children of Mary and James W. Hamilton are buried.<sup>14</sup>
- Looking up the Davidson County Marriage records, it was learned that Mary Dunn married James W. Hamilton on August 8, 1838.<sup>15</sup>
- On the Nashville & Edgefield Map 1860 there are sketches for large houses and outbuildings on the Hamilton lot and the adjoining Merritt lot.<sup>16</sup>



<sup>12</sup> Original interment records located at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 1101 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, Tennessee.

<sup>13</sup> Elizabeth Dunn obituary, *National Banner & Nashville Whig*, Nov. 13, 1837.

<sup>14</sup> "Dunn-Croft Cemetery Grassmere," *Davidson County Cemetery Survey*.

<sup>15</sup> Davidson County, Tenn. *Marriage Book 2*, James W. Hamilton to Mary Dunn, Aug. 8, 1838, p.10.

<sup>16</sup> "City of Nashville and Edgefield (1860)," *Tennessee Virtual Archive (TeVA)*, *Tenn. State Library & Archives* (sos.tn.gov), map collection, item # 35483.

<sup>17</sup> James W. Hamilton obituary, *Daily American* (Nashville), October 13, 1890. Also Mary Dunn Hamilton obituary, June 22, 1892.

<sup>18</sup> Mt. Olivet Cemetery Records, *Index to Interments 1891-1895*. Entry for James W. & Mary Hamilton, section 8, lot 22.

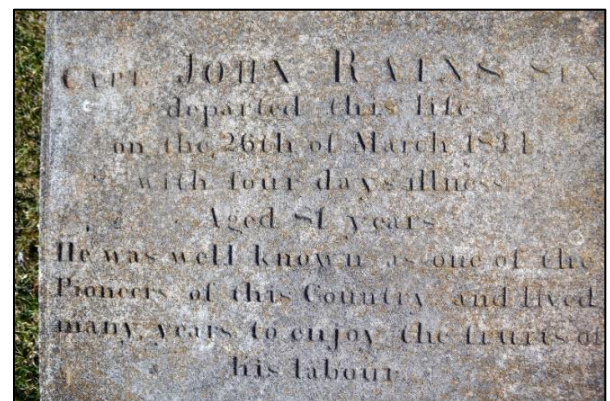
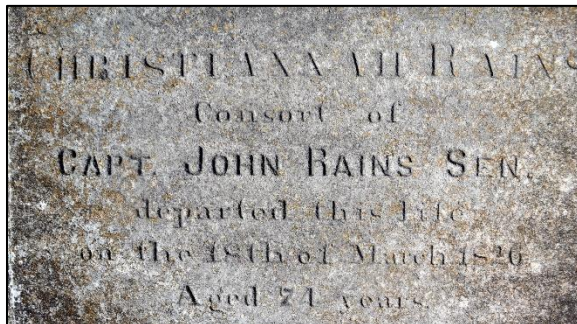
1893, to disinter and rebury her grandparents, Captain and Mrs. John Rains, in her lot at Mt. Olivet. Mrs. Hagan had purchased a lot at Mt. Olivet on August 26, 1890. Three days later she moved her parents from another lot in the cemetery to her lot.<sup>19</sup> The photographs above Gibson and Sally Rains Merritt, realizing that development was imminent, decided, in April 1893, to disinter and rebury her grandparents, Captain and Mrs. John Rains, in her lot at Mt. Olivet. Mrs. Hagan had purchased a lot at Mt. Olivet on August 26, 1890. Three days later she moved her parents from another lot in the cemetery to her lot.<sup>20</sup> The photographs above by Harriet Berry Jewell show the Hagan lot with Merritt & Hagan Markers and Rains box tomb.<sup>21</sup>



**This home was built about 1840 on the John Rains property, for his daughter Sally Rains Merritt. Beautifully preserved, it stands on Humphreys Street in Nashville today.  
(Metro Historical Commission)**

Hamilton Place was razed and many houses built in a new neighborhood. Today only a small building, possibly a kitchen or a smoke house, remains to remind onlookers of the once grand Hamilton Place. The Merritt-Hagan House on Humphreys Street, an Italianate brick mansion, with some logs from the original Rains cabin, was sold out of family hands in the 1920's. The house, beautifully restored by Patrick and Holly Murphy, won a Metro Historical Commission Preservation Award in 2008.<sup>22</sup>

During the past five years, there have been significant restorations of family cemeteries in Davidson County including Tucker-Hayes, Philips (Sylvan Hall), Hays-Rieves (Locust Hill), Morris Shane, Henry Compton and John Rains. Today the Metro Historical Commission Foundation accepts donations for cemetery restoration. Cemetery restoration projects often lead to the discovery of important family histories.



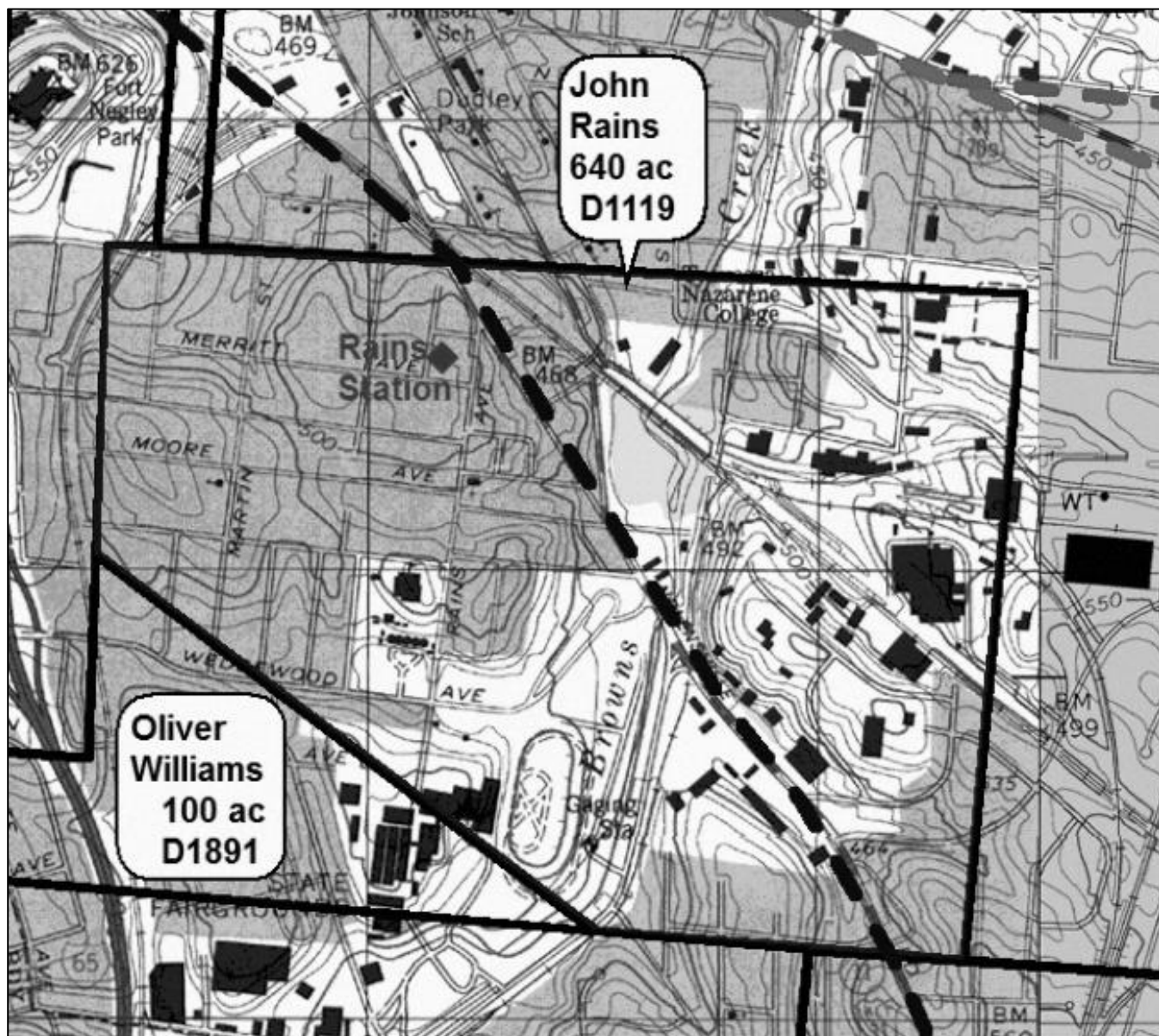
<sup>19</sup> Lot Owner Card File of Mount Olivet Cemetery, Nashville, 1851-1995. Tenn. State Library & Archives, microfilmed manuscript #1490. Hagan Lot Card, section 13, lot 26, bought August 26, 1890, includes burials with dates for Merritts, Rains and Hagans.

<sup>20</sup> Lot Owner Card File of Mount Olivet Cemetery, Nashville, 1851-1995. Tenn. State Library & Archives, microfilmed manuscript #1490. Hagan Lot Card, section 13, lot 26, bought August 26, 1890, includes burials with dates for Merritts, Rains and Hagans.

<sup>21</sup> Photograph Hagan lot at Mt. Olivet. Harriet Berry Jewell

<sup>22</sup> Ridley, Jim, "Merritt Mansion Survives," *Nashville Scene*, Oct. 23, 2014. ([www.nashvillescene.com](http://www.nashvillescene.com))





Map showing boundary of John Rains' land grant. Note location of Rains Station near top left, where today's Merritt Ave. meets Nolensville Pike (bold dashed line).

The Rains Cemetery was established at that spot, and the home called Hamilton Place later stood there.

*(Founding of the Cumberland Settlements)*

# Early Tennessee Land Records Open to Researchers

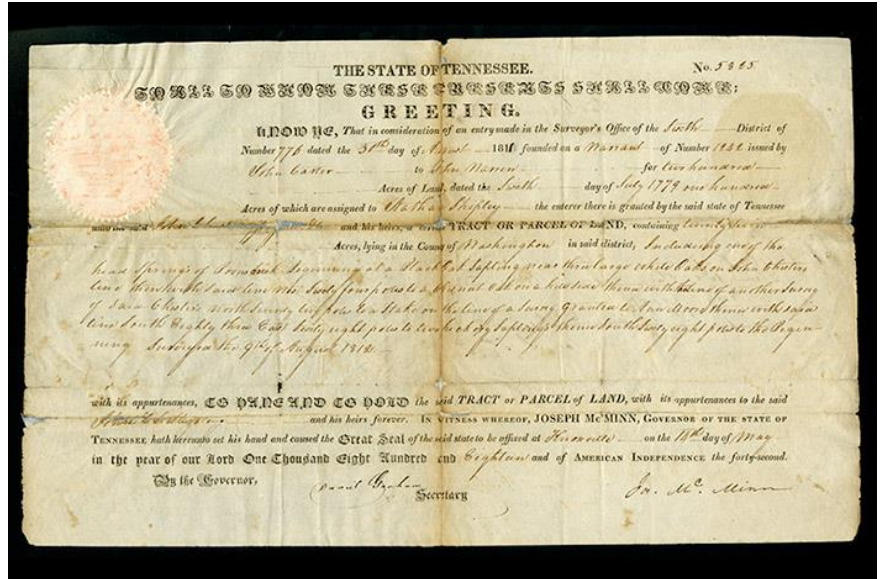
Many people who have used Tennessee's land grant records in the past have found the grant itself – the deed from the state to their ancestor – but have not been able to find all of the records related to that transaction. Now, with the completion of a major project at the Tennessee State Library & Archives, those interested in the land of their ancestors can dig much deeper.

In Tennessee's pioneer days, settlers often had access to one form of currency: land. With the scarcity of cash money, land was the most important form of wealth, commerce and entrepreneurial activity in early Tennessee, as well as the chief magnet that drew people to this area.

First as a territory and then as a state, virtually all of Tennessee's land passed from various governmental jurisdictions to private owners through grants of one sort or another. Politics and land speculation were closely intertwined and land issues were a leading concern of early government.

The entire collection of these early land records is now available to help people better understand the interactions between settlers, citizens, speculators and the public land system. This newly-processed collection of records, titled "Early Tennessee Land Records, Record Group 50," contains a huge volume of the early land records of Tennessee, many of them with the names of pioneer settlers who obtained land from North Carolina Revolutionary War veterans and their heirs.

Other Tennessee settlers purchased public lands from the State of Tennessee during the early decades of the 1800s. The different types of records — warrants, entries, survey documents, plats and the grants themselves — contain valuable clues as to when early Tennesseans came to this country, where they may have settled and how and from whom they obtained land.



"We are proud to finally make these important historical records from the dawn of our great state available," Secretary of State Tre Hargett said. "Tennessee was a major destination of many immigrants on the Southern frontier during the late 1700s and early 1800s. These original handwritten records reveal the complex workings of the system our ancestors used to obtain the land where they built their homes and communities."

Archival work on this collection has been ongoing for the past 20 years. Staff members Ann Alley, now retired, and David Sowell conducted the bulk of the work.

"The volumes and papers in this large collection have been in disorder for many years. Ann Alley once speculated that they had been dumped in the floor and stirred with a stick! We are pleased to open the full collection to the public at long last. I anticipate many research and publication projects will result from the rich historical information they contain," said State Librarian and Archivist Chuck Sherrill.

Staff at the Library and Archives are happy to help visiting researchers navigate this complex series of records. The Library and Archives is open from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. A limited amount of free parking is available around the building.

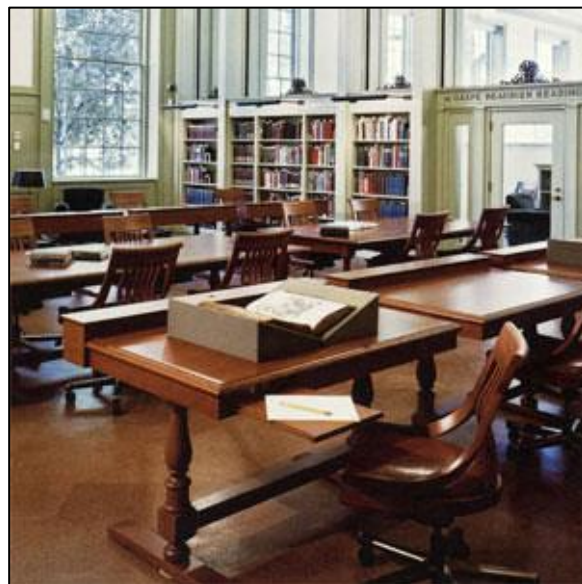


# Harvard University Houses Early Cheatham County Business Records

Ashland City entries 1850-1880

The R.G. Dun Company, forerunner of today's financial giant Dun and Bradstreet, was established by Arthur Tappan in 1841. By 1850 the company began taking an interest in small-town businesses in Tennessee and throughout the country. Using a network of correspondents (often small-town lawyers) they compiled information on businesses in order to determine whether to extend credit to them.

The reports submitted by these correspondents were summarized in large bound volumes, written in small tight script and using many abbreviations. Though deciphering the records can be painstaking work, they do yield interesting information about people and businesses across the country.



Rare Book Reading Room  
Baker Library, Harvard Business School, Boston

In some cases, more than one correspondent would report about the same business, sometimes with conflicting or contradictory information. The dates of reports are erratic. Some businesses were reported on several times in a single year, while others may only appear once with no further information. Evidently the entire operation was disrupted during the Civil War, as no entries appear from 1862 through 1864. Then followed a major effort to collect data in 1871, as many businesses formed since the war were first recorded at that time.

The home office occasionally asked the agent to find out more about a particular business. See, for instance, the entry on A.J. Dyas of Beersheba Springs, where the agent responds "We don't have any knowledge of his means or his business." This must have been in response to some question the agent had been asked. Dyas was evidently one of the well-to-do men who spent summers at the cool mountain resort in Beersheba.

In reviewing all of the entries from Grundy and Cheatham counties recently, I noticed several trends. First, the number of businesses that opened and closed within a year or less was very high. It appears that many young men came into a little money, decided to open a store or saloon or workshop, and ran it into the ground in a short period of time. The businesses were almost entirely operated by white males, though there are a few very sparse entries for women-owned businesses.

One notable exception was Benjamin Goodrich of Cheatham County, a "colored" man, who opened a blacksmith shop before 1871. The correspondent noted that Goodrich was a "good, steady, hard-working man" and that he "just about makes a living." A follow-up entry in 1872 states that the business was doing well, and that Goodrich had built himself a residence that year. In 1873 he took a trip to Texas, as reported in January, and by August he was out of business in Tennessee, having moved to Texas.

In quite a few entries where businesses would fail or simply stop functioning, the correspondent noted that the owner had returned to farming. Some of these businesses undoubtedly failed because the challenges of keeping up a farm and providing for a family left very little time or capital to dedicate to other pursuits.

The entire collection of R.G. Dun Company Credit Report Volumes fills 2,580 huge books. The material was donated to the Baker Library at Harvard Business School in Boston. The donor placed tight restrictions on the use of the

material, and no copying or photography is permitted. The Baker Library, being a private institution, sets its own restrictions on who can use their collections. They do not allow genealogical researchers access to this or other collections. Historians and scholars who are working on a project related to these records are admitted on an individual basis and must apply in advance.

A source of similar information more readily accessible to genealogists are the Manufacturing Schedules, taken along with the U.S. census 1850 through 1880. The first half (alphabetically) of Tennessee's 1860 schedules are missing, so Cheatham County is available for that year. But records from the remaining years can be found online at *Heritage Quest*, which is free to Tennessee residents through the Tenn. Electronic Library (<http://tnel.tnsos.org>), or on microfilm at the Tennessee State Library & Archives and other repositories. While the Manufacturing Schedules provide more detail in some cases than the Dun's registers, they do not include the personal analysis found in Dun's, and were much narrower in the scope of businesses surveyed.

The following records show all of the businesses reported in Ashland City. Information from the original entry is provided, with notes added from subsequent entries where there was information of historical interest. This is a rough abstract, and is not verbatim unless indicated by quotation marks. Most entries gave additional data about the amount invested in the business and the indebtedness of the owners. That data was often in an obscure code not easily deciphered, and is omitted here as not of particular historical interest.

The original order of the entries was not chronological. Although there must have been some reason for the arrangement, it was not immediately evident. The entries here have been rearranged to group all of the businesses from a particular town together. Additional entries pertaining to other businesses in Cheatham County is available, but due to time limits only those in Ashland City were transcribed.

**R.G. Dun & Co. Credit Reports**  
**Volume 4**  
*including*  
**Ashland City, Tenn. 1850-1880<sup>1</sup>**

Firm Name	Partner Names	Place	Type	Date first entry
J.H.F. Curfman		Harpeth River (Ashland City)		1865
1865: Business on a small scale, solvent. Considered good for his debts but rather slow. 1871: Is a married man of tolerably fair habits. Owns the 250 acres he lives on. Cash on delivery only as this is a very poor stand for a store. Considered shrewd and slippery, sober and industrious. Dec. 1871: Out of business as a merchant and gone to farming.				
John C. Haile		N. Ashland City	Farmer	1860
1860: He is a plain working man with no business except farming. He has endorsed his brother G.W. Haile and his name will make G.W. good. He will inherit considerable property if he survives his mother. 1865: has been greatly embarrassed by his brother George W., but is a man of means.				
Asa W. Carney		Ashland City		1865
Solvent in 1865. Out of business by 1871.				

<sup>1</sup> Tennessee, Vol. 4, R.G. Dun & Co. Credit Report Volumes. Baker Library, Harvard Business School.

A. Edwards	O. [sic] Edwards, -- Saunders	Ashland City	Dry Goods	1860
Both men raised as farmers with no business experience. They are men of considerable property and considered reliable. 1865: A.J. Bright has joined the firm. Solvent.				

Sanders & Co.	J.T. Edwards, J.W. Edwards, J.J. Lenox	Ashland City	Dry Goods	1867
Not much real estate, but men of good business qualifications. May 1867: One of the partners died in the last few days, but the principal character is still at the helm and their business should continue well. Both men are young but supposed to be doing a good business. 1871: this is the leading business here, have been in business since the war. They are building a new building which will cost \$2,000. J.T. Edwards is a married man and owns real estate. They carry a stock of goods worth \$4,000. Dec. 1871: J.F. Edwards is withdrawing from the firm. J.W. Edwards, son of Abner Edwards, is buying out his interest in the mercantile business. The understanding is that Abner Edwards is retiring from the firm and giving his interest to his son, J.W. Edwards. J.T. Edwards has sold his interest to Saunders & Edwards. The firm is doing more business than all the others in this place together. 1872: Abner Edwards has withdrawn from the firm and J.J. Lennox of this place has joined it. 1873: Partners are J.J. Lennox, J.T. Edwards and W.W. Sanders.				

Mrs. Stewart		Ashland City		1865
Very small concern, considered good. 1867: honest.				

Thomas N. Hooper		Ashland City	Hotel	1871

J.M.Satherly		Ashland City	Saloon	1871

Adam Binkley, Jr.		Ashland City	Grocer	1871
A clever young married man of good character, sober, has been in business here two or three years. Owns two houses and lots. Has an undivided interest in his father's estate. 1879: a good small business, considered reliable.				

S.A. Broyne		Ashland City	Hotel	1871
Has been here 5 months, not doing much business, prospects poor. Dec. 1871: married a woman with no estate, keeps a private boarding house. 1873: Amanda Susan [his wife?] keeps a boarding house but not responsible for his debts.				

J.J. Lennox		Ashland City	General Store	1871
Is a lawyer and farmer, also some real estate. Store stock valued at \$2,500, doing a fair business, is a money making man. He is an old citizen of very good habits and character and standing. Dec. 1871: Is engaged in farming, buying tobacco, practices law and is dealing in produce. In the tobacco and produce business he has for a partner J.T. Edwards, of W.W. Saunders & Co.				



Carney & Bro.	James Knox Polk Carney, Wm. M. Carney	Ashland City	Dry Goods and Grocers	1871
Both married, energetic business men of good habits. Own some real estate, mortgaged. 1872: stock not well selected or arranged. 1875: William is a farmer and takes no active part in the business.				
E.B. Carney & Son	E.B. Carney, J.W. Carney	Ashland City	Dry Goods	1871
Both married men of good character. E.B. owns some land, considered very close and money-making. Prospects of success are very fair. 1873: E. B. is about 65, and John W. is about 23. They own some timber. 1878: probably worth \$5,000 above debts. Prospects very good.				
G.P. Mallory		Ashland City	General Store	1871
Has been in business about a year. A single man, no real estate, good character and habits. Prospects good. 1873: formerly did a credit business, now selling mostly for cash. Owns 83 acres. Speculates some in other matters. Age about 30. 1874: out of business, farming.				
W.T. Mitchell		Ashland City	Store and Blacksmith	1873
No real estate. A very small concern, out of business by Aug. 1873.				
Alexander Stark		Ashland City	Saloon	1871
Age 42, married, good character and habits, attends to business and is remarkably sober for this line. Owns two lots where his dwelling and grocery are situated. Regarded as a clever, safe man who makes money. Is also Tax Collector. Has rather an expensive family, 4 daughters and 1 son.				
Dr. Jesse P. Cullum		Ashland	Drugs	1871
Has not much experience, only a few months in business. Good character, sober and attentive. 1872: age 25, married, of good habits. No real estate, no means. 1873: out of business, has a small remnant of drugs on hand.				
O.A. Stewart		Ashland City	Saloon	1873
Age about 22, single, just commenced. Drunk sometimes, owns nothing else but a horse. Sells on election days and Sundays and allows gambling in his house. Bought the house in which he is doing business and paid \$2,000. 1874: Out of business.				
Burns & Clandennan		Ashland City		1871
Not known here.				

M. Edwards		Ashland City	Agent	1871
Saddles, harness, boots and shoes manufactured and sold. Said to be doing business for his wife who has estate of about \$3,000. He failed in business in Nashville and is not expected to last long here. 1872: out of business here, moved to Springfield, Robertson Co., where he is in the same business.				
Wash Justice		Ashland City	Saloon	1871
Doing safe business, owns several lots in town. 1873: single man, age about 45, sober and thought to have money saved. Runs a quiet, safe business. 1879: no change				
James Ogles		Ashland City	Boots & Shoes	1871
Recently came from Nashville and commenced business; don't think it will pay as there are others in competition. 1872: Gone to Nashville.				
Alexander Work		Ashland City	Saloon	1871
W.T. Mitchell		Ashland City	Store and Blacksmith	1872
Lenox & Edwards	J.J. Lenox and J.T. Edwards	Ashland City	Tobacco	1872
M.L. Moore		Ashland City	Dry Goods	1873
Dr. George S. Allen		Ashland City	Physician	1876
Physician, farmer and ferry owner. Married man, commenced practice in 1864 and ferry in 1867. Raised in this county, temperate and of good character. Has a good deal owing to him as physician. Prospects fair. Stands well in community. 1879: no change.				
Wilson Maxey		Ashland City	Dry Goods	1875
Formerly of Maxey & Campbell. Age 23, married, good character and habits. No property. Prospects not good. 1877: out of business, insolvent.				
Tambrough & Smith		Ashland City	Saloon	1876
No real estate as a firm. Tambrough has a little real estate. The trade regards him good for small sums. 1879: played out some time ago.				

W.W. Sanders & Co.	W.W. Sanders, J.J. Lennox, J.T. Edwards	Ashland City		1875
Men of character and capacity. Their motto is to make money, and they do. Sanders and Edwards have real estate holdings. Lennox has "fine personal property" and a small law practice sufficient to fund his necessities. Prospects flattering. Lennox and Edwards deal in tobacco and putting in [hogsheads?]. Also deal in produce: wheat, corn, oats, bacon & etc. They supply a large number of farms with hay, corn, implements & etc.				

J.W. Smith			Shoemaker	1877
In business 1 year, married, age 45. No assets over exemption. Good character and habits. April 1877: is said he has gone into the saloon business with J.D. Tambrough. April 1879: played out some time ago.				

**Credit Reports for Cheatham County Businesses  
Other than Ashland City  
A Partial List**

The following were noted, but time ran out before all Cheatham County business entries were transcribed.

Firm Name	Partner Names	Place	Type	Date first entry
Benjamin Goodrich	"colored"		Blacksmith	1871
Doing a small business, good steady hard-working man, just about makes a living. Owns no real estate. Cash on delivery to be safe. Dec. 1871: has no means and is not doing a great deal of work. July 1872: doing a pretty fair business, considered prompt and reliable. Has built a residence this year. Jan. 1873: owns about \$600 in real estate, all paid for, which he has made in a few years. Doing a very good business. Is now on a trip to Texas. Aug. 1873: not in business, lives in Texas.				

W.P. Mayers		Dunn's Store	Dry Goods	1860
Considered safe, a small business. Out of business by 1865.				

Hutton & Hutton		Newsom's Station		1871
These men live in Davidson Co. and know nothing about them.				

H.M. Adkins		Thomasville		1873
No such man in the County.				

J.M. Talley		Henrietta	Grocer	1879
Age 35, married, commenced business in 1876, from Cumberland Furnace. Very good habits, good character, but trusts his business to others sometimes. Prospects fair. No insurance. Sometimes slow in paying. Nov. 1879: not in business here, reports at Kingston Springs. Is a very clever fellow and I think honest.				



W.L. Bainbridge		Pleasant View	General Store	1871
<p>A very clever man of fine habits and character, no real estate. Is doing a good business and considered reliable and worth of a fair line of credit.</p> <p>Dec. 1871: owns 95 acres, said to be closing business.</p> <p>April 1872: Succeeded by Bainbridge &amp; Justice. Justice owns part interest in a steam flour mill, which is about all he has. Think not doing much business.</p> <p>July 1872: out of usiness.</p>				

Joseph H. Henricks		Craggie Hope	General Store	1871
<p>Has been in business but a few months, married man, he drinks a little too much though he attends to business well. Prospects only fair.</p> <p>1873: pays taxes on 400 acres, value of stock not known, he bought out Hescock.</p> <p>1874: conditionally sold his farm at Craggie Hope for \$3,000 but the buyer defaulted. Owns some unimproved lots. I think he drinks too much to be reliable.</p> <p>1875: clear, capable in business, fair in every way.</p> <p>1878: sold out recently, but considered good.</p>				

Shaw & Bro.	J.W. Shaw, W.A. Shaw	Thomasville	Dry Goods & Tobacco	1871
<p>Both single men, sober, attentive, good businessmen worth \$3000. W. owns 102 acres.</p> <p>1879: John is 50 and married, William is 40. I think they commenced business before the war. They attend to tobacco and farm, merchandizing is secondary with them. Did remarkably good business until 1877 but the competition they have had since then has decreased store sales by 50%. Are looked upon by all here as good. We think they do their principal buying at Clarksville.</p>				

Sycamore Manufacturing Co.		Sycamore Mills	Lumber	1871
<p>Making powder, running saw and flour mills, manufacturing spokes, hubs and various implements, selling a fair amount of dry goods. Own 1,300 valuable acres.</p> <p>1873: W.P.W. Watson is the managng partner. He is about 25, good habits and sticks close to business. They sell dry goods in Nashville through agent McIver &amp; Co.</p> <p>1879: See also entry under Nashville for more information.</p>				

W. & C. Slayden		Cheatham		1860
<p>Formerly of Montgomery County where they became insolvent and still are. I was disposed to think more highly of Wm. Slayden than I find others think of him, but he paid all my clients claims in the old firm.</p> <p>Dec. 1860: sold out to Wesley Slayden, not in any business and not regarded as too honest.</p> <p>1871: Out of business.</p>				

J.N. Allen		Cheatham	Hotel	1877
J.H. Fulgiam		Chestnut Grove	General Store	1857
Cheatham, Scott & Co.		Sycamore Mills	Powder Mills	1854
Cheatham, Watson & Co.	E.S. Cheatham	Sycamore Mills	Powder Mills	1855
W. P. Watson & Co.		Sycamore Mills	Powder Mills	1871
G.W. Haile, Jr.		Sewanee		1860
J.J. Hinton		Mouth Harpeth		1861

H.R. Plummer		Pleasant View		1877
T.D. Hunter		Henrietta		1860
Harris Williams		Sycamore Mills	General Store	1860
J.W. Shaw		Thomasville	Tobacco & G.G.	1871
Rodger Bigham		Bigham Station	Farmer and General Store	1871



“New enlarged scale railroad and county map of Tennessee showing every railroad station and post office in the state, 1888.” (Chicago: Rand McNally and Company, 1882/1888).

Library of Congress: <https://www.loc.gov/item/98688560/>

# The Allison Murders in Putnam County (part 3)

by Dr. Mitzi P. Freeman<sup>1</sup>

Continued from the Fall 2016 issue (vol. XXX, no. 2)

## Introduction

On 30 June 1877, a jury found Jo and Teek Brassell guilty of Murder in the First Degree for the murder of Russell Allison in November 1875. The judge sentenced them to be hanged on 9 August 1877 in Putnam County. The defense attorneys immediately requested that the case be brought to the Tennessee Supreme Court. It was another nine months before Jo and Teek met their destiny.

## Third Escape Attempt

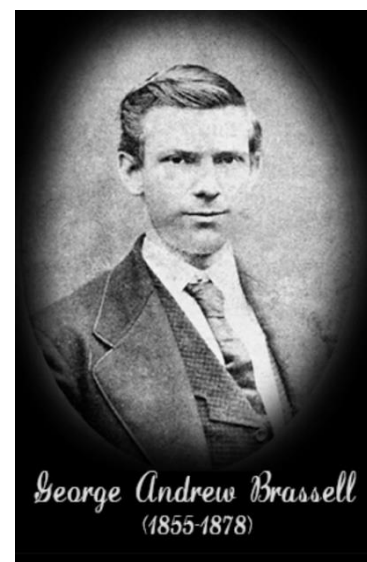
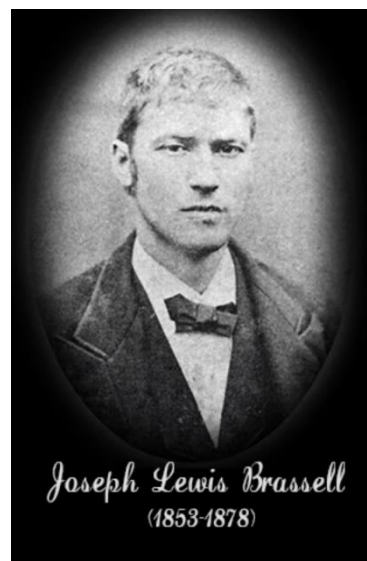
A short time before Christmas, Egbert H. Brassell sent his sons a gallon of bitters. Each day, the jailer dispensed a half pint of the liquid to Jo and to Teek. Instead of drinking their rations, they hid it in their cell. They hatched a plan to escape on Christmas Day and needed liquid courage to implement the plan.

On Christmas day, the jailer normally expected a large crowd of visitors. To make it easier on both staff and visitors, he allowed the prisoners to leave their cells and stand at the curtain bars while visiting with their company. Every prisoner was allowed this courtesy – except for the Brassells, who were to remain confined in their cells.

The Brassells assumed that Jailer Yarbrough would leave for the day and that the only other deputies on duty would be Jo R. McCann and Green Morrow. They plotted with other prisoners to grab Morrow through the curtain bars and hold him. While he was immobilized, the Brassells would break through the curtain door, rush McCann and make their escape.

On Christmas Eve, the Brassells quietly sawed through the chain on the inner door of their cell. Since they knew that the outer door would be left unlocked, all they had to do was to step out in front of the curtain. The next day, one of the prisoners called out to McCann, who then went in to check on him. As he opened the door, he heard the chain from the Brassells' cell hit the floor. The brothers walked out of their cell — bold and defiant. McCann cried out to Morrow, who immediately rushed in. As he entered, the Brassells asked him to shake hands, and he refused. The brothers were immediately subdued and returned to their cell — escape plan foiled.

As punishment for this escape attempt, Jailer Yarbrough placed both brothers in 23-pound ankle shackles. Teek, who was determined to break them, succeeded after a very patient and tedious struggle. He used one of the chain links to pry the shackles back and forth. Then, he used the bottom of iron bars on his cell door as a vise. To



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carry out his task, Teek laid down on the floor on his back. Then he would flop on his face. Each turn caused a twist on the shackles. He was so intent on freeing himself that he continuously twisted back and forth for nearly twenty-four hours.

In another escape attempt the day after Christmas, Teek trapped himself under the inner door of Cell One and had to be freed by the deputies. The space between the floor and the bottom of the door was only 4.5 inches, and rods from the door protruded .5 inches. Teek, somehow, managed to get his head and a good portion of his body through this tiny space. When he was finally discovered, the deputies had a difficult time extricating him. His head and shoulders were badly bruised by the rods. Upon being freed from his predicament, he tossed the shackles to one of the deputies telling him to present them to Jailer Yarbrough - *with his compliments!*

### ***Tennessee Supreme Court Hearing***

On 2 February 1878, Jo and Teek were to appear before the TN Supreme Court to learn the outcome of their appeal. Upon ascending the steps to the State Capitol, they asked Jailer Yarbrough to point out the location of the State



**At the time of the Braswell trial, the Supreme Court met in the State Capitol building, shown here about 1875.  
(TN State Library Photo Collection)**

Prison. When Yarbrough pointed to the prison, Teek remarked that they would have to go there and “serve out a sentence of 7-8 years to get rid of this little scrape we have gotten ourselves into, though you bet we are all right.”<sup>i</sup>

After Chief Justice John L. T. Sneed read the Supreme Court opinion, which upheld the lower courts conviction and sentence, he asked the prisoners if they had anything to say.

Jo: “I am an innocent man; I will have to suffer what someone else has done.”

Teek: “The witnesses against me have sworn positive lies, for the purpose of taking my life. I am able to show it, but am too excited now; I will have it written out by someone who understand how to fix up such thing and send it to the Court.”

Sneed: (interrupting him) “If you can make these matters plain to the Governor, there might be some hope for you yet.”

Teek: “The evidence of Mrs. Isbel and Johnson varied; Johnson was there, and he turned State’s evidence against us; in his evidence he said four railroad men came to the house and asked for supper; Allison himself swore falsely against me; it was all done through malice, for the purpose of taking my life, and they have accomplished what they aimed to do; this is all I have to say at present.”<sup>ii</sup>

Jo and Teek sat down, and Chief Justice Sneed pronounced sentence:

*“Prisoners, it is my sad duty to pronounce the judgment of the law, that dooms you both to an ignominious death. To you, it seems hard and cruel in the extreme; but Justice when most severe to him who has offended, is always most merciful to him who would offend. There are cases in which it is the severe duty of this court, upon a doubt or obscurity that arises upon the testimony, to see to it that executive clemency be invoked to the extent of a commutation of the death-penalty to*

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*imprisonment for life. But this is not one of them. The five Judges have each for himself anxiously and critically examined and considered your case and they are unanimously of opinion that your guilt is demonstrated beyond possibility of doubt. You are both upon the threshold of life – and we understand that the gentlemen of the jury who sat upon your case were also young men, whose sympathies would naturally dispose them to temper justice with mercy. But even such a jury has failed to discover any mitigating circumstances in your case. It is my duty to admonish you, then, that this is your last earthly appeal, and that you are utterly without hope now, except in the all pervading mercy of God. You will be wise if you will devote the few sad days that are left to you to penitence and prayer, prepare that part of your being that cannot die for the momentous change that awaits you. It is the judgment of the law that you be taken from this chamber to the jail of Davidson County, there to remain until Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March next when you will be delivered the sheriff of county of Putnam, by whom you will be committed to the jail of said county of Putnam, there to remain until Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1878, when you will be taken by said Sheriff to a gallows, to be erected within one mile of the court-house of said county, and there, between the hours of ten in the forenoon and two in the afternoon, you will be hung by the neck until you are dead. And may God have mercy on your souls.”<sup>iii</sup>*

At this point, they truly began to realize the gravity of their situation. Tears trickled down Jo’s cheeks, but Teek remained stoic.

As they left the courtroom, they said “All we want on this earth is to have a chance to kill the three God damned rascals that swore lies on us, and then the law can hang us as much as it please. Excuse us for swearing in your present, though a man can’t help but get mad and swear about a thing like this.”<sup>iv</sup>

Upon returning to the jail, the defendants told the other prisoners of their death sentences. They concluded by saying “but we guess we won’t hang.”<sup>v</sup>

### ***Petition to Governor Porter***

With all legal avenues exhausted, the Brassells and their lawyers began a petition to Governor James D. Porter to commute their sentence from hanging to life imprisonment in the state penitentiary. While the Brassell family and friends collected the required signatures, attorneys drafted the following application letter.

Cookeville Tenn

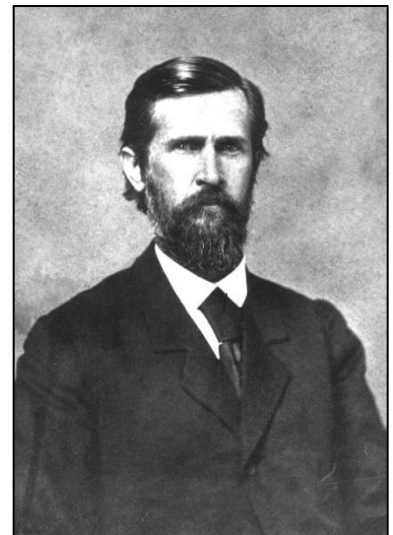
March 6<sup>th</sup> 1878

To His Excelency

James D. Porter Gov Etc

Permit me most urgently to commend to your favorable consideration the application of Joseph and George A. alias Teke Braswell for commutation of punishment from a judgement of the Supreme Court at Nashville at the December term 1878 (sic) of to be hanged on the 27 March 1868 (sic) for the murder of Russel Allison to imprisonment in the penitentiary for life.

These young men at the time of the commission of the alleged murder were not twenty one years old were mere instruments in the hands of one Dobson Johnson who concocted the scheme and whole history is not wanting in any

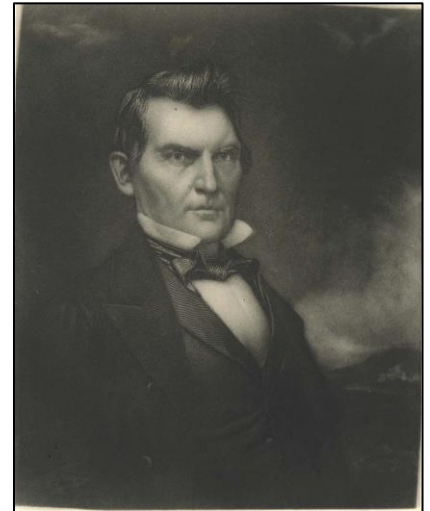


**Gov. James D. Porter denied the Braswell’s application for pardon. A native of Paris in Henry County, he served Tennessee as governor from 1875-1879 (findagrave.com)**



**Rev. John B. McFerrin (right) and  
the ladies of the Tulip St. Methodist  
Church in Nashville (left)  
ministered to the brothers in prison.**

(TN State Library Photo Collection)



circumstance to complete his infamy. He is by his own confession a Rober a murderer for money a thief and has committed perjury.

He was enlisted by the state to give evidence against the accused his accomplices one [*sic*, on] orders [of a] sentence of death for their first offence while he is turned loose on society without the slightest punishment.

The execution of these young [men] could not add to the dignity or respectability of the law [illegible words]. The other testimony was sufficient without his to the conviction. We refer you to the record on file in the Supreme Court Clerk's Office.

We correctly ask your honor to spare the life of these young men time will perhaps develop fact in their favor opportunity for when motion will be afforded. They would be punished sufficie[nt]ly by a life in prison.

I am yours  
John P. Murray  
E. L. Gardenhire<sup>vi</sup>

On 11 March 1878, Jim Brassell and Rev. John P. McFerrin, a pastor of the Tulip Street Methodist Church in Nashville, visited Governor Porter and presented him with the paperwork. The *Daily American* initially reported that the petition contained more than 400 signatures but later revised this report saying that the petition had received relatively few signatures.

Judge McConnell and Attorney General George H. Morgan heard a rumor that their names had been forged on the petition. Each man wrote a letter to Governor Porter indicating that they would never sign a petition for the Brassells. If their names appeared on this document, the signatures were forgeries.

Fearful that their names had been forged to the petition, many citizens of Putnam County went to William J. Isbell, who by now the Trustee of Putnam County, and asked him to obtain a list of names appearing on the petition. He wrote a letter to Governor Porter requesting a copy of the signatures so that he could reassure the concerned citizens that their names were not forged to the petition.

While awaiting the Governor's decision, Jo and Teek wrote a letter home to their family. The *Daily American* published their letter.



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Davidson County Jail, March 15, 1878

Dear Brother,

We will now write you all a few lines, as we promised you when you were hear. Rev. John P. McFerrin delivered that petition to the Governor last Monday.

We sent a note to the Governor to come and see us. We understood this evening that he has gone home and has our papers with him. He lives in West Tennessee. He will be back soon. As soon as we see him we will write to you. I think we will see him this week.

We have had a great many visitors to see us this week. It seems like everyone thinks our case is very doubtful.

Rev. J. P. McFerrin, of Tulip-street Church, Edgefield, and a number of ladies have been to see us several times. They come in our cell and sing and pray for us. We have the prayers of about 2,000 people here in the city and Edgefield, and we pray for ourselves all the time. We don't want you all to trouble and grieve yourselves about us. If we are hanged, it will only beat us out of a few days here in this troublesome world.

We hear that a large number of ladies and gentlemen will be here this afternoon from South Nashville to sing and pray with us.

We hear from Mrs. Mell, every few days. She seems to be a good friend of ours, and has sent us some nice presents.

W. E. Armstrong, the artist, sent one of his men down, the other day. I think his name was Patterson, and he took our photograph. I think they are very good. We will bring them up to you all when we come to Cookeville.

We will write to you again on Sunday. God bless you all.

Write soon,

Joseph L. and G. A. Brassell

On 18 March 1878, the reporter from the *Daily American* visited Governor Porter to ask if he had reached a decision on the Brassell Case. Governor Porter replied "Yes, I have. I have determined to let the law take its course. I have carefully read their statement in the *American*, the record, the opinion of the Supreme Court, together with the briefs of the lawyers for the State and defense, and find I can reach no other conclusion."<sup>vii</sup>

The next day, the Brassells were formerly informed that Governor Porter had refused to commute their sentences. Upon receiving this news, they were very disappointed and lost all hope of a reprieve.

### ***Last Days at the Nashville Jail***

After the Tennessee Supreme Court upheld the death sentence, public interest in the condemned men reached a fevered pitch – not only from the citizens of Putnam County, but also from the state of Tennessee and the rest of the country. At the Nashville jail, the brothers saw a continuous stream of newspaper reporters, members of religious organizations, family, friends, and just plain curiosity seekers.

Newspapers reported daily on their activities — particularly as the day of execution grew closer. From these newspaper accounts, we learn more about their final days.

**06 March 1878 - Wednesday:** A reporter from the *Daily American* spent the day at the jail with the Brassells and asked them if they would describe their "wild cat" experiences when they were distilling illicit whiskey.

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Jo: "I reckon I can; before we were arrested we made our living by it. I have made many hundreds of gallons of illicit whisky."

Reporter: "Please explain the process."

Jo: "Certainly. We take either a lot of meal or mashed corn, and scald it with boiling water, or beer, if we have it convenient, and after stirring it, let the same remain until it has cooled down – generally twenty-four hours. Then the tub is nearly filled with water, and it begins to ferment. After the fermentation takes place, it is skimmed and placed in the still for distillation. The first time it goes through it comes out as strong as alcohol, but becoming weaker each time it runs through the still, until the proper proof whisky is obtained."

Reporter: "What is the cost of making illicit whisky?"

Jo: "Every bushel of corn will produce two gallons and a half of whisky, and the price of corn in Putnam county very seldom reaches fifty cents a bushel. The whisky is usually sold for from \$1 to \$3 a gallon." [Note: the price in 2016 dollars would range from \$24 to \$72.50.]

Reporter: "What size stills are used by the 'wild cat' distillers?"

Jo: "The stills usually run by them are of one hundred gallon capacity."

Reporter: "Can you give some idea of how much money is made in the business?"

Jo: "Previous to our arrest my brother and myself would average \$25 a week."

Reporter: "How many illicit distilleries do you think there are in Putnam county?"

Jo: "I think there must have been at least two hundred when we were brought here. There were five in a circuit of one-half mile near the one we owned." <sup>viii</sup>

**15 March 1878 - Friday Afternoon:** Rev. Dr. William Madison Leftwich, pastor of Elm Street Methodist Church, accompanied by forty young ladies and several young men from his congregation, visited the prisoners to hold a religious service for them. Jailer Yarbrough brought seats out into the yard for the young ladies to sit.

After the prisoners came out, the services were opened with a number of gospel songs, followed by the reading of scriptures from St. Mark Chapter 5 and St. John Chapter 3. The young ladies sang *I am So Glad that Jesus Loves Me*. Dr. Leftwich offered a fervent prayer for the souls of the condemned men. The ladies then sang *Singing with Angels*, and another prayer was offered by P. L. Hedrick. The services were concluded with a benediction. <sup>ix</sup>

**16 March 1878 - Saturday Afternoon - Nashville Jail:** A reporter from the *Daily American* spent the afternoon with the Brassells locked in their cell. Around 3 p.m., the steward came to the cell and collected their tin plates. He returned shortly with platters of cornbread, potatoes, greens seasoned with bacon, and roast beef with rich gravy.

Teek said "It is three o'clock and that is our dinner time here." The brothers extended an invitation for the reporter to join them.

The reporter replied "Thank you, but I fear it may cut your rations somewhat short if they are attacked by three instead of two persons."

"Not at all," came the reply, "and if there is not enough we can get more; they give us plenty to eat here. It is plain, substantial food, but well cooked – as good a diet as a man could wish to have. Besides, we never eat all they give us. There are some prisoners in jail, however, who can dispose of a whole platter full, but we don't see how they do it."

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They spread copies of the *Daily American* on the floor and set the platters on the newspaper. All three men squatted around the food and used their fingers to eat. The Brassells offered the reporter a spoon – forks and knives were not allowed in the jail cell – but he declined wishing to partake in the meal in the same manner as the brothers.

As the conversation continued, the brothers described their lives before and since being incarcerated.

- Born in Barren County, Kentucky, Jo was 23 years old. Although he studied his alphabet in school, he actually learned to read and write during his incarceration. Since the Supreme Court decision, he had transcribed and indexed the entire court record.
- Also born in Barren County, Kentucky, Teek stated that he would be 21 years old on the 18<sup>th</sup> of next December. Unlike his brother, he attended very little school. He, too, had learned to read and write while in jail. With great pride, he revealed “I am a splendid cipherer, and there is not a sum in *Ray’s Arithmetic* but what I can work. I learned all this without any assistance and within the past five months.”

At one point during the interview, Jo said “Look ahere, Teek, you didn’t give him your poetry.”

Teek replied “No, I didn’t. Wouldn’t you like to have it?”

The reporter said that he would have no objection to hearing it.

Teek looked at the wall as if trying to remember the lines, “Bless me I don’t believe that I can dictate the lines. I had them written down on the slate, but they have been wiped out, like some people get wiped out from the face of the earth.”

Jo: “Can’t you write them out again?”

Teek: “Well, I reckon I can.”

Teek rubbed his left hand across his forehead, grabbed the pencil, and began filling up one whole side of the slate.

Teek: “It’s pretty dark up here and I don’t reckon you can very well read it, not being used to the place.”

Reporter: “Oh, yes, having been in here just seven hours, have got tolerably used to prison life.”

Teek: “But I’d better read it out to you.”

Reporter: “All right, drive away.”

With this, Teek began to recite his poem.

*Johnson is like Job’s war horse—  
To the sound of Maxwell’s trumpet  
He answered at a far off distance, ha! ha!  
There was something of pride in the peerless hour,  
Whatever may be the way in which death may lower,  
Fame is there to tell who bleeds*

*And honors I on daring deeds;  
Time alone sets all things even;  
There never yet was human power  
Could evade if unforgiven  
A faithful search with patience long  
Will show the men who did the wrong.  
How would such man before you stand  
With his stolen meat and bloodstained hand?<sup>x</sup>*

After his recitation was complete, he smiled and said “All those ideas are not mine. I read something of that sort in Prentiss work, and I borrowed a few of them to get off a good thing on Maxwell and Johnson. Maxwell, you know, prosecuted us, and we haven’t any very great affection for Maxwell. Johnson turned State’s evidence against us to save his neck, and that last verse is a swinger on him. It’s a two-edged sword, and it will make Johnson wince when he reads it.” Then both Brassells laughed at the imaginary image of Johnson being uncomfortable.

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After having spent the entire afternoon with the prisoners, the reporter left at 6:00 p.m.

When the reporter arrived at the jail earlier that afternoon, he stepped into the office and asked Sheriff Francis M. Woodall if the Brassells would be transported to Putnam County by steamer or by rail.

He laughed and replied "By a balloon."

"Engage me a seat then, for I could wish to take passage in no easier conveyance." responded the reporter, chuckling.<sup>xi</sup>

**17 March 1878 - Sunday Afternoon - Nashville Jail:** Around 3:30pm, a huge crowd assembled outside the front of the jail to witness the brothers' baptism. Noisy and tightly packed together near the jail yard door, members of the crowd jockeyed for the best position to view the ceremonies and to catch a glimpse of the condemned men.

At 4 p.m., Rev. John P. McFerrin and the prisoners appeared in the courtyard.

Rev. McFerrin line out the hymn *Amazing Grace*.

The Reverend preached from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy Chapter 4, verses 6, 7 & 8.

During his sermon, he said that the sins of the Brassells had found them out. If the sins of everyone in attendance had found them out, they might find themselves in a similar predicament as the prisoners.

After concluding the sermon, Rev. McFerrin baptized Jo and Teek. Although both brothers seemed deeply affected by the religious ceremony, only Jo was found openly weeping. Rev. John B. Hamilton offered a short prayer and the doxology. As the prisoners were returning to their cells, Jo told the Rev. Hamilton goodbye and said "I hope to meet you in Heaven."

The brothers told the reporter from the *Daily American* that this was the most solemn occasion of their lives and that they were grateful for the interest in their eternal welfare. It was reported that Teek slept very little that night.<sup>xii</sup>

### *To Be Continued*

### Endnotes

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<sup>i</sup> "The Brassells Hung."

<sup>ii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>iii</sup> "They Must Hang. Sentence of Death Passed Upon Two Putnam County Murders. March 27 the Fatal Day – Particulars of Their Atrocious Crime." *Daily American* [Nashville, TN] 03 Feb 1878: 1.

<sup>iv</sup> "The Brassells Hung."

<sup>v</sup> Ibid.

<sup>vi</sup> *Governor James Davis Porter (1828-1912) Papers 1875-1879* (1964), Tennessee State Library and Archives, Microform, Roll #10. Petition to Commute Sentence to Life in Prison Joseph & George A. Alias Teek Brasswell.

<sup>vii</sup> "No Hope for the Brassells – Governor Porter Refuses to Commute Their Sentence – Administration to the Rite of Baptism to Them, Sunday Afternoon." *Daily American* [Nashville, TN] 19 Mar 1878: 4, hereinafter cited as "No Hope for the Brassells."

<sup>viii</sup> "THE PROFITS OF WILDCAT – What the Brassell Brothers Know About Making Illegal Whisky." *Daily American* [Nashville, TN] 7 Mar 1878: 4, hereinafter cited as "THE PROFITS OF WILDCAT."

<sup>ix</sup> "Praying with the Brassells - Impressive Religious Services in the Jail Yard – A Letter from the Condemned Men." *Daily American* [Nashville, TN] 16 Mar 1878: 4.

<sup>x</sup> "THE PROFITS OF WILDCAT."

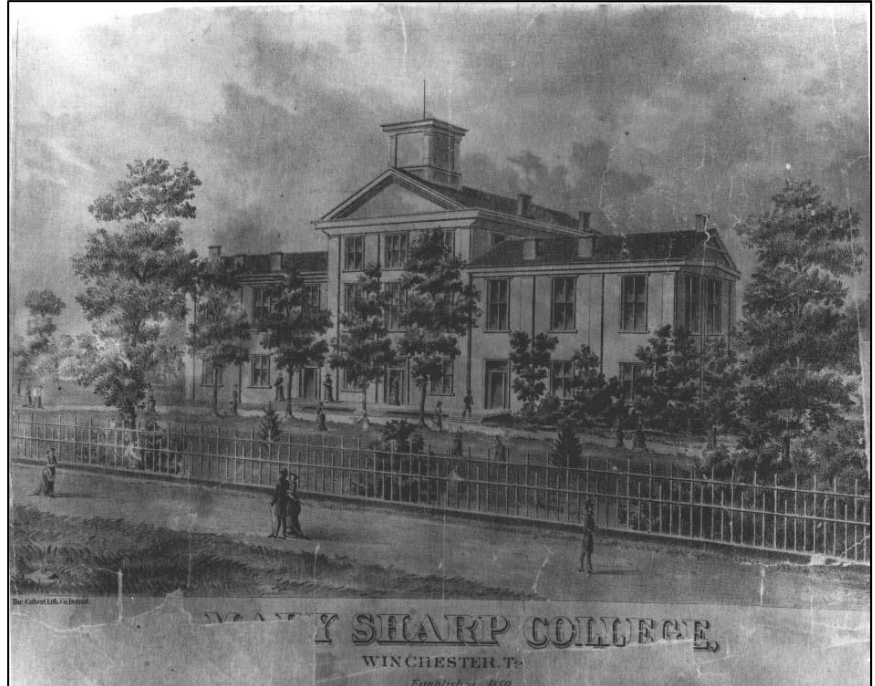
<sup>xi</sup> "Dining with the Brassells – A Reporter's Test of the Prison Cuisine – Hospitality of the Brothers – Sheriff Woodall's Plans – The Jail Yard Services Today." *Daily American* [Nashville, TN] 17 Mar 1878: 4.

<sup>xii</sup> "No Hope for the Brassells."

# Educating Tennessee Belles with Brains

## Mary Sharp College in Winchester, 1850-1895

The discovery of an 1893 letter written from Mary Sharp College in Winchester provided clues about many people tied to a rich history of education for women in Middle Tennessee. From its inception in 1850, Mary Sharp was the first school in the nation to offer a true Bachelor's degree to women. Mary Sharp provided a rigorous academic education, including Greek and Latin, for females. The school was the brain-child of an innovative Baptist preacher from Vermont, whose idea came to fruition through teaching talents of his brother and the generosity of an elderly Franklin County abolitionist. Over the next 45 years, women from across Tennessee and every southern state attended Mary Sharp College.



We will begin with the letter, which comes almost at the end of the story, and track the college and its associated families back from there. This letter is found in the Z.C. Graves Papers at the Tennessee State Library and Archives.<sup>1</sup>

Winchester, Tenn.  
July 28, 1893

Mrs. Loulee Jones Johnson,  
Dearest of friends,

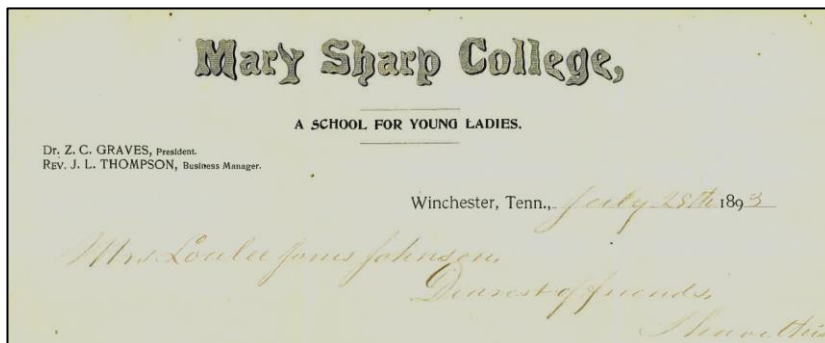
*I have this day received yours of the 22 inst and to convince you of my appreciation of your kindness in expressing your feelings to me I answer, then then comply with your request at once. You say that you expressed your desires in the matter of my accepting the presidency of Mary Sharp again, last fall, but I did not answer. I must ask your pardon for my negligence. I could not conceive that it was possible at that time, that the dear old College to which I had given my life, my all, to establish and sustain for 40 years could be revived. Winchester was in such a condition, both pecuniary and socially, that I could not advise parents to send their daughters to board in private families. The college was out of repairs. The Normal School under Prof. Clark had taken possession of the place from which M.S. could not expect any patronage, and Terrell at Dechard [sic] had*

<sup>1</sup> Zuinglius Calvin Graves Papers, 1850-1980. Microfilm 1352, box 1, folder 5. Tennessee State Library and Archives.



executed a \$35.00 college, surrounding it with boarding houses. Poor M.S. was without every thing in comparison.

*It seemed to me impossible that the “dry bones” could be made to live, but what a mysterious Providence has brought about the present movement! The pastor of the Baptist Church, Elder*



*Cattlin Smith, mourning over the ruins and desolation of the college, shut up, and decaying, left to the vandals and Goths of the place, weeping and praying for divine guidance, having a large family of seven children to support, with a megar salary of \$600, has*

*given himself, like Nehemiah of old, to the rebuilding of its walls. He inlisted [sic] after great exertions Rev. J.L. Thompson, in the undertaking to restore the College.<sup>2</sup>*

*Smith was all the time writing to me his desire, saying he was convinced all his efforts would be abortive if I would not consent to take the presidency again. I told him that I conceived it my duty, at my age, to not give up a cert[a]inty of a support for my family, for an uncertainty. That the money could not be obtained to repair the college and build a Student's Home which must be done in order to satisfy patrons, or to have any patronage[.] Hence, last April I entered into a contract with Prof. Paty to remain in Boscobel another year and wrote to Mr. Smith & Thompson that I had thus contracted.*

***Winchester was in such a condition, both pecuniary and socially, that I could not advise parents to send their daughters to board in private homes.***  
***Z.C. Graves***

*But Smith, knowing Mrs. Graves' condition which she had kept from me as much as she possibly could, fearing that my knowledge of it would disqualify me from discharging my duties in Boscobel, [spoke to my wife]. When Mrs. Graves learned that I had contracted for another year's absent [sic], she let me know*

*of her sufferings, that she was certain that she could not live another year, and she could not be separated from me any longer. That her spine and heart were both affected, and she was living expecting every week would be her last, that she slept very little nights, and beg[ged] me to remain at home with her.*

*As soon as the year closed, the first part of June I hasten[ed] home and had her physician examine her carefully and he gave me his written opinion that it would be cruel in me not to stay with her,*

<sup>2</sup> Catlett Tombs Smith (1851-1934) was a Missionary Baptist preacher in Alabama, and later in Texas. J.R. Thompson is perhaps James Langu Thompson (b.1855) who was pastor of the Baptist church in Huntsville, Alabama (not far from Winchester) in 1891-92. George W. Lasher, ed., *Ministerial Directory of the Baptist Churches . . .*, (Oxford, Ohio: Oxford News, 1899), p. 729.

*and she could not be moved to Boscobel without increasing her sufferings and shortening her life. He – Dr. Murrell – submitted his opinion narrating the condition of Mrs. Graves to four other M.D's of Winchester and they all coincided [sic] with him, and signed his statement to me. I sent this Dr. M. statement to Prof. Paty demanding of him to release me from my contract telling him no money would tempt me to violate it, but my marriage vows [sic] compelled me to do it. Now no money could induce me to be separated from Mrs. Graves[.] She is such a sufferer, both mentally and physically.*

*Now, dear friend, do you not see that there is the hand of Divine Providence in this? Prof. Bledsoe was induce[d] to give up his presidency to take his old position. Winchester subscribed \$1,500 to repair the College, and the fine Hotel right front of the College was purchased for a Students Home. It cost two years ago \$12,000 to build it. It is described in Catalogue now. If all the old Alumnae will work in their vicinities for their Alma Mater, I trust that we can succeed in recusitating [sic] it.*

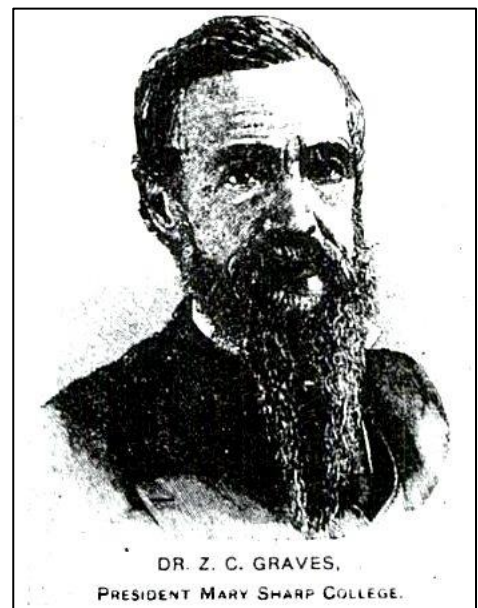
*I have written in haste a long letter but is is to[o] hot for me to revise it. You will excuse it as it is. Prof. Bledsoe joins me in sending many thanks and our warmest regards to you, once our beloved student and now our sincere friend.*

#### *Z.C. Graves*

Dr. Graves was a remarkable man, as attested by the devotion felt by so many of his former students even into their old age. In 1925 the Mary Sharp College Club of Nashville published *Dr. Z.C. Graves and the Mary Sharp College* to memorialize the man and his work.<sup>3</sup> Born in Vermont in 1816 he was given the same peculiar name as his father; his mother was Lois Snell and the family was of German descent. Educated in Vermont and ordained in the Missionary Baptist Church, Graves began his career in Kingsville, Ohio. There he established an academy and married Adelia Spencer, a former student. The couple and their four children came to Tennessee about 1850. Dr. James Robertson Graves, Z.C.'s brother, had come to Nashville some years earlier, serving as a Baptist preacher and teaching school.<sup>4</sup> The Graves brothers had one sister, Louisa Maria, the wife of Warren P. Marks of Kingsville.<sup>5</sup>

#### **Adelia Cleopatra Spencer Graves**

Mrs. Graves, whose illness is described in the letter, was a woman of considerable accomplishments. She was from a family of educators, the most famous of whom was her brother Platt Spencer, who invented Spencerian Script – the form of handwriting taught in virtually all American schools from 1850 to 1925. She was the author of children's literature for the Sunday School movement before the Civil War, and at Mary Sharp became a professor of Latin, *belles lettres* and rhetoric. She edited the "Child's Book," published in Nashville, under the pen-name Aunt Alice, and in later life published two novels under her own name. She died Nov. 6, 1894.



<sup>3</sup> *Dr. Z.C. Graves and the Mary Sharp College, 1850-1896.* (Nashville: Mary Sharp College Club, 1925).

<sup>4</sup> "Hall of Biography - J.R. Graves," *Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals* (<http://www.wheaton.edu>).

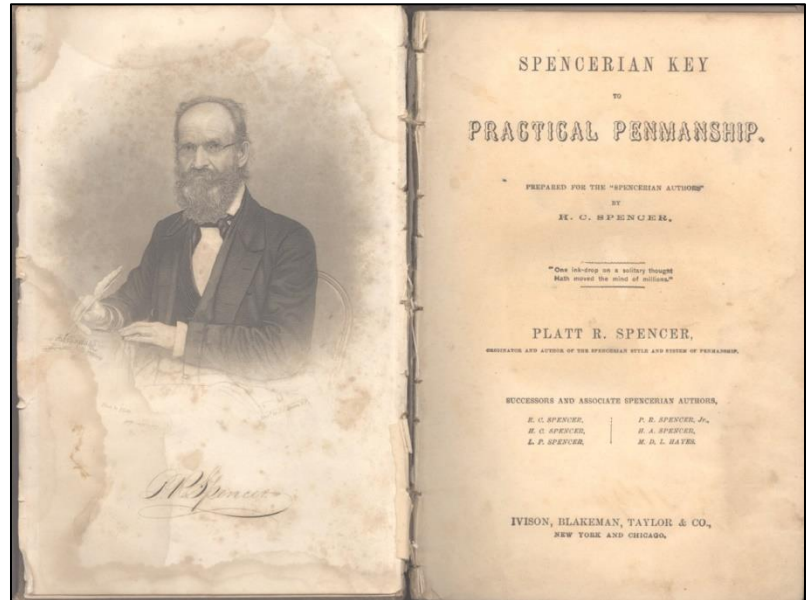
<sup>5</sup> 1850 U.S. census, Ashtabula Co., Tenn., Kingsville, Dist. 7, p. 240B (stamped), family 136, Warren P. Marks household, digital image, *HeritageQuest.com*. Household includes Louisa M. age 30, and Lois Graves, age 59.

In addition to her work as college president's wife, writer and mother, Mrs. Graves also handled most of the financial business of the school. According to one former student, "She was a good business manager, and Dr. Graves being so absorbed in his school work, left most of the financier-ing in her hands, and Mary Sharp College owed its long and thrifty life to her as well as to Dr. Graves."<sup>6</sup>

Louisa and Z.C. Graves had three sons and a daughter, all of whom died before their father.<sup>7</sup> The oldest, James, was killed in the Civil War. Daughter Florence married Henry Green of Columbus, Georgia. Zuinglius D. was single and living at home in 1880 at the age of 30.<sup>8</sup> Hubert A., is the only male listed in the catalog of Mary Sharp graduates with the A.B. degree, which he earned in 1877. Hubert married and had two children. In 1900, Z.C. Graves was living with Hubert and his family.<sup>9</sup>

### Winchester in 1893

Dr. Graves' reference to the financial and moral weaknesses of Winchester in the 1890s is rather strange, as society in Winchester was not very different from that of any other town. He may have been troubled by a plan being pursued at the time by the State Penitentiary, to establish a branch prison in Franklin County. Although some 1,500 acres were purchased, the project was subject to a politically-charged controversy and was eventually dropped.<sup>10</sup>



Louisa Graves brother, Platt Spencer, developed the Spencerian method of handwriting, which was a standard in American education for several generations.

### Terrell College in Decherd

Terrell's college is mentioned as a competing influence. Graves does not indicate any censure of Terrell by this remark, but seems distressed at the competitive tuition of \$35 charged by Terrell. Graves and Terrell were old associates, and perhaps friends. According to the 1900 census, James W. Terrell was born in Missouri in 1837. His family included a wife and seven children, along with 23 students ranging in age from 15 to 13 who were boarding at the Terrell home in Decherd.

James Duffield, a wealthy commission merchant from New Orleans, settled in Winchester before the Civil War and joined the board of trustees of Mary Sharp College. He served as president of that board for many years. He determined that a Normal School (teacher's college) was needed at Winchester, and in about 1883 recruited Professor Terrell to run it.<sup>11</sup> Like it's neighboring school, Mary Sharp, it quickly became successful and attracted several

<sup>6</sup> "Historic College." *Nashville American* 29 Apr. 1900, p.10.

<sup>7</sup> *History of Tennessee from the earliest time to the present : together with an historical and a biographical sketch of Giles, Lincoln, Franklin & Moore Counties . . .* (Nashville: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1887). Biographical sketch of Z.C. Graves.

<sup>8</sup> 1880 U.S. census, Franklin Co., Tenn., Winchester 1<sup>st</sup> district, page 22, enumeration district 85, family 178, Z.C. Graves household, digital image, *HeritageQuest.com*.

<sup>9</sup> 1900 U.S. census, Franklin Co., Tenn., Winchester 1<sup>st</sup> civil district, enumeration dist. 18, sheet 13, family 252. Household of Hubert Graves, age 40, farmer.

<sup>10</sup> "The Prison Site," *Daily American* [Nashville], 21 Aug. 1893.

<sup>11</sup> "Winchester," *Daily American* [Nashville], 13 Dec. 1888, p.7. The article contains an obituary for Duffield.

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hundred students each year. Professor Terrell hired as one of his teachers Miss Matt Estill, member of a prominent Franklin County family and an 1875 graduate of Mary Sharp.<sup>12</sup>

Although the reason for the change is not clear, by 1890 Terrell had left Winchester and established Terrell College at Decherd, just a few miles away.<sup>13</sup> Winchester Normal continued under the leadership of Rufus Clark, as mentioned in Graves' letter.<sup>14</sup> It is interesting to note that in 1892 Terrell and Graves were both on the program of Tenn. State Teachers Association meeting, taking opposite sides in a debate about co-education of men and women. Graves defended the principles of the female-only institution, while Terrell argued for mixed normal schools like his own college.<sup>15</sup>

Terrell was evidently possessed of masculine charms. In 1893 he married Matt Estill, a teacher at his school who was nearly 20 years his junior. In marrying Terrell, she took on not only his many children, but the many students who boarded at his home. According to a post by a descendant on Rootsweb, Terrell had 15 children by three wives; Matt Estill was his fourth wife. They later moved to Texas, where he died in 1918.<sup>16</sup>

### Origin of Mary Sharp College

When Graves arrived from Ohio in 1850, only very preliminary plans had been made to start a girl's school in Winchester. "Not a map, chart, black-board or seat was ready for use; . . . and the school was advertised to commence a week from the next Monday." Graves used his own money to supply the school and began seeking contributions. A building was constructed, and the first class of two graduated in 1855. By the time the Civil War came to Tennessee, 321 students were attending the school, from eleven different states.<sup>17</sup>

The amount given by Mary Sharp to help establish the school is not recorded, but she is referred to as the largest donor and the one who was given the privilege of naming the school. By that time Mary Sharp was a widow of sixty-plus years, with no children of her own, and she allowed Graves to name the school "Mary Sharp." A letter from her



**Mary Sharp College**

**The original building was soon outgrown, and wings were added at each end.**

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<sup>12</sup> "Personal," *Daily American* [Nashville], 21 May 1884, p.8.

<sup>13</sup> "At Terrell College," *Daily American* [Nashville], 18 June 1891, p.6.

<sup>14</sup> Rufus Clark, b. 1846, son of James A. and Millie (Wilkinson) Clark of Coffee County. *History of Tennessee from the Earliest Time to the Present; Together with an Historical and a Biographical Sketch of the Counties of White, Warren, Coffee, DeKalb, and Cannon . . .* (Nashville: Goodspeed Pub. Co, 1887). Biographical sketch of Rufus Clark.

<sup>15</sup> *Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction* (Nashville: Marshall & Bruce, 1893), p. 51.

<sup>16</sup> James Wilson Terrell entry "Our Family Heritage" Entry 110610 at [wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com](http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com)

<sup>17</sup> "The Mary Sharp College," *The College Courant* volume 7, Sept. 24, 1870, page 182

great-niece written many years later provides a glimpse of this generous woman.

Austin, Texas, December 8, 1925

Dear Nora:

A letter from Rebecca March, enclosing a card from Mamie Matthews, reached me this morning, and I am hastening to reply in order that you may have the desired information concerning my great aunt, Mary Sharp.

Aunt Mary was a Miss Corn, a sister of my grandmother. She married my grandfather's brother, James Sharp. When Uncle James died my Aunt Mary freed eighty Negroes and paid their way to Liberia, Africa, that colony having been recently established for Americans slaves of the Negro race who were liberated by their masters. Later, she gave the bequest out of which, as a nucleus, the Mary Sharp College grew, again evincing her profound belief in freedom – this time, not of the body but of the mind. Not of the body of slaves – but of the minds of women.

My earliest recollections of home are mingled with memories of Aunt Mary, tiny, blind and carefully dressed in black silk, with soft lace fichu and cap. She died poor, in my mother's home, in 1864, the war having swept away the remainder of her fortune. My father passed on the year before.

Aunt Mary never had any children, but she reared my father, his brother and sisters. She adopted Aunt Sue, my father's baby sister, who later graduated from Mary Sharp College, and taught Latin there before the civil war.

A large monument marks the grave of Uncle James and Aunt Mary, at the old homestead of the Sharps, a few miles from Winchester. A part of this stone had blown down when I visited the graves four years ago.

Any of the Estill family at Winchester, Miss Beulah Wallace or Henry might visit the grave for a look at the monument, and supply information which I may have forgotten.

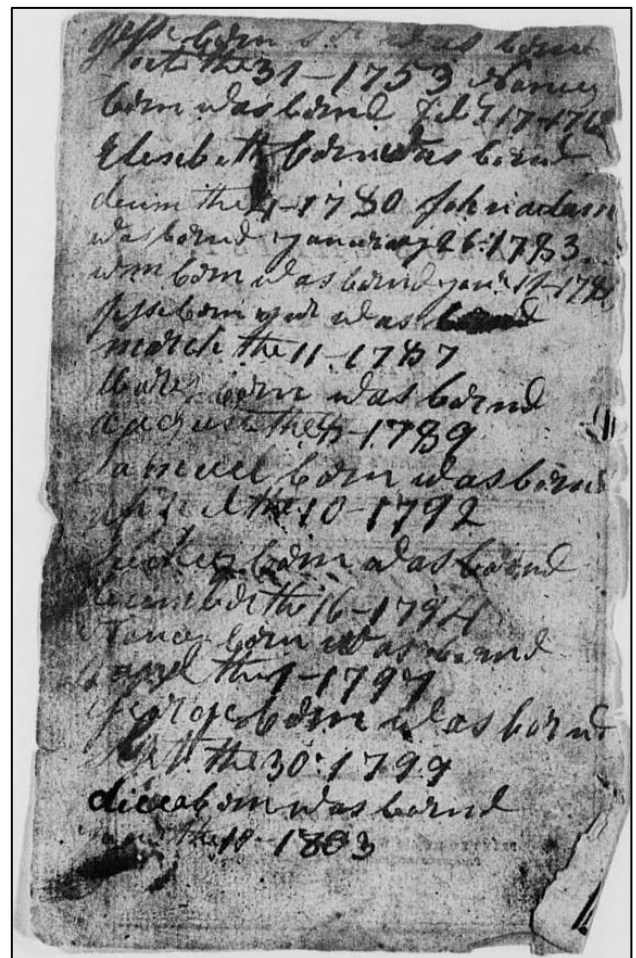
Love to 'The Girls.'

Affectionately,

Mrs. Mary Sharp Mullins

Historical records bear out the relationships described by Mary Sharp Mullins. The Revolutionary War pension application file of widow Nancy Corn shows that she and her husband, Jesse, were the parents of Mary Corn Sharp.<sup>18</sup> The file even includes Jesse Corn's original record of the births of his family members, as recorded on

Jesse Corn family record,  
from his widow's pension file.



<sup>18</sup> Charles A. Sherrill, *Revolutionary War Pension Applications from Franklin County, Tennessee* (n.p., 1982), p.14. Also digital copy of Nancy Corn's pension file W909, Fold3 online database.



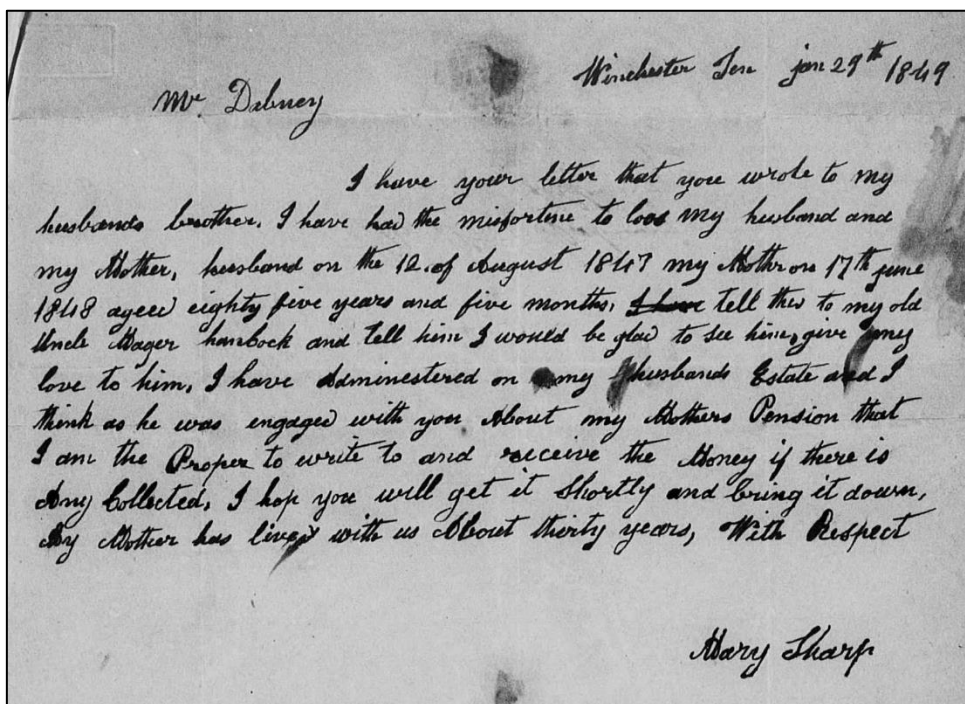
the flyleaf of a small New Testament volume (see illustration).

Mary was born in 1789 in Patrick County, Virginia. Her father, who had lost a leg in the Revolution and was a preacher, died in 1809. A few months after his death, Mary married James Sharp in Patrick County.<sup>19</sup> Two of Mary's sisters married two of James' brothers. The Sharps and Corns moved to Franklin County, where they are found on the 1812 tax list.<sup>20</sup> James and Mary Sharp settled in the area now known as Sharp Springs, and accumulated considerable wealth. James died in 1847, and in the 1850 census Mary is listed as having real estate valued at \$7,600 and owned 47 slaves.<sup>21</sup>

As stated by Mary Sharp Mullins in her 1925 letter, Mary Sharp emancipated her slaves. The number she gives – eighty – is probably not correct. The author was unable to find any historical documentation of this highly unusual and generous gift, but perhaps other researchers will delve into that interesting topic. From the records of the American Colonization Society, we do know that 34 slaves from Franklin County were sent to Liberia by the American Colonization Society in 1854, and 15 more in 1857.<sup>22</sup>

Mary Sharp's will is recorded in Franklin County. The will is not dated, but it was filed for probate in July 1865, just a few months after the close of the Civil War. In the will, Mary left shares of railroad stock to her niece, Susan Frances Sharp, a gold watch to W.W. Sharp, and a secretary to John Chitwood, her executor. She stipulated that her servant, Allen, should live with Michael Custer and his wife, paying them \$4 per month for his care. She left the residue of her estate to two neighborhood schools, Bethel School (near John Chitwood's) and Woodland Institute (near Estill Springs), "for the purpose of educating the children around each school." She did not mention Mary Sharp College.<sup>23</sup>

One other glimpse we have into Mary Sharp's life is from a letter she sent to the attorney in Clinton County, Kentucky, who took a deposition from her uncle, R. Major Hancock, in support of Nancy Corn's pension application.<sup>24</sup> It appears here, written in her own hand.



Mr. Delaney

Winchester Tenn Jan 29<sup>th</sup> 1849

I have your letter that you wrote to my husbands brother. I have had the misfortune to lose my husband and my Mother, husband on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 1847 my Mother on 17<sup>th</sup> June 1848 aged eighty five years and five months. I have tell this to my old Uncle Wager Hancock and tell him I would be glad to see him give my love to him. I have administered on my husbands Estate and I think as he was engaged with you about my Mothers Pension that I am the Proper to write to and receive the Money if there is any collected. I hope you will get it shortly and bring it down. My Mother has lived with us About thirty years, With Respect

Mary Sharp

<sup>19</sup> "Virginia Compiled Marriages 1740-1850," *Ancestry.com* online database. James Sharp to Polly Corn, 23 Nov. 1809, Patrick County.

<sup>20</sup> "Tennessee, Early Tax List Records 1783-1895," *Ancestry.com* online database. James and Richard Sharp, 1812, Franklin County.

<sup>21</sup> 1850 U.S. census, Franklin Co., Tenn., 1<sup>st</sup> district, page 12A (stamped), family 143, Mary Sharp household. Also 1850 U.S. Census – Slave Schedules, Franklin Co., Tenn., 1<sup>st</sup> district, page [413?] (written), digital image, *HeritageQuest.com*.

<sup>22</sup> Selena R. Sanderfer, *For Land and Liberty: Black Territorial Separatism in the South . . .*, Ph.D. diss., Vanderbilt University, 2010. <http://etd.library.vanderbilt.edu>.

<sup>23</sup> Franklin Co., Tenn., *Wills*, vol. 1 (1808-1876), p.426. Will of Mary Sharp., undated.

<sup>24</sup> Nancy Corn's pension file W909, "Revolutionary War Pension Application Files," *Fold3* online database.

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### More About Mary Sharp College

In the 1925 book published by the Mary Sharp College Club, much credit is given to Dr. James R. Graves, brother of Z.C., for his progressive ideas about women's education. According to that source, the curriculum used at Mary Sharp to establish a baccalaureate program was written by Dr. Graves. It seems likely that he recruited his brother to come to Tennessee and establish the school. The same source provides information about the success of the school and its eventual demise:<sup>25</sup>

In 1861, only ten years after it opened, there were between 300 and 500 girls attending Mary Sharp College from 12 states. This can be largely accounted for when we realize that his honored brother, Dr. J. R. Graves, then editor of *The Tennessee Baptist* in Nashville, as he traveled over the Southern states, went everywhere pleading for the higher education of women and gathering up the daughters for Mary Sharp College.

During the Civil War, after the fall of Fort Donelson, the Federal Troops on their way toward Chattanooga stopped in Winchester. They used the college building as a hospital and either destroyed or marred about all that had cost those years of labor and heartaches to build up.

After about two years of suspension, Dr. Graves with heroic faith and strength and courage, opened the doors of the school again, and taught for several years without a salary . . . He lived to see his beloved college building once more filled with hundreds of girls from every state of the South."

[Graves] was induced in 1891 to take the presidency of Soule College in Murfreesboro, and in 1893 to accept a teaching position in the new Baptist college for women at Nashville, called "Boscobel." The senior class of Boscobel, most of whose mothers were Mary Sharp graduates, followed Dr. Graves to Mary Sharp and matriculated there.

Plans were perfected in 1893 to reconstruct the old Mary Sharp College. The building was thoroughly renovated. A strong faculty was secured, with Dr. Graves again as president. . . . But that long-to-be remembered financial crisis of September 1893 swept over the country . . . So in June 1896 the old Mary Sharp College, so dear to the hearts of the old president and thousands of women over the Southland, ceased its activities and closed its doors for all time."

When Professor Graves left Mary Sharp, another Baptist preacher and educator was recruited to fill the presidency of Mary Sharp College. John Lipscomb Johnson came from Oxford, Mississippi, to Winchester to take up Graves' mantle. Johnson had recently been dismissed along with four other professors at the University of Mississippi, following a feud with the chancellor.<sup>26</sup> He stayed only two years at Mary Sharp, and evidently was often at odds with the board of trustees. From his memoirs the following incident is recounted:<sup>27</sup>

The session of 1890-91 was not marked by many occurrences of great interest. The Trustees had not pleased me by their conduct in some things, and I made an optional lease of the College for ten years, I agreeing to keep the property insured at a stated figure and they to make certain improvements. I was to have absolute control of everything and to take my salary out of the receipts of the College. Heretofore the Trustees had been responsible to me for a salary of \$2,000 a year.

Winchester men, some of them Trustees, had a passion for playing cards, and Winchester girls, for dancing. One of my teachers had a passion for both, danced with the girls in their fathers' houses,

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<sup>25</sup> Dr. Z.C. Graves and the Mary Sharp College, 1850-1896. (Nashville: Mary Sharp College Club, 1925), pp. 26-28.

<sup>26</sup> "John Lipscomb Johnson Papers," *Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina* (<http://finding-aids.lib.unc.edu/03060>). See the biographical section of the online finding aid for the collection.

<sup>27</sup> John Lipscomb Johnson, *Autobiographical Notes* (privately printed, 1958), p.285-6.

some of them Trustees, and played cards with the men in their own houses, some of them Trustees. The teacher had the misfortune to out-play the Trustees. Whether because of this fact I cannot say, but the Trustees had a meeting and reported to me the teacher as not a fit person to be in the faculty of a college for women, the disqualifications being dancing and card-playing. They demanded the removal of the teacher and intimated some drastic measures in case this were not done.

I called a meeting of the Board and reviewed the terms of our contract. This done, I asked for the authority to take any action whatever and assured them I could not reflect upon the Trustees by dismissing a teacher for doing what the Trustees did habitually or allowed their daughters to do, that if they insisted upon violating our agreement, I would see to it that they too should undergo an examination to show that as many of them as did things for which they wanted a teacher summarily removed, were unfit to hold the office of Trustees. They swallowed but left me to manage my affairs.



**John Lipscomb Johnson (1835-1915)**  
**made an unsuccessful attempt to fill**  
**the shoes of Z.C. Graves.**  
(<http://confederatechaplain.com>)

When Z.C. Graves left Mary Sharp, it was to take up the presidency of Soule College in Murfreesboro. He then went to Boscobel College in Nashville, a school which had been recently founded as the Nashville Baptist Female College by the Tennessee Baptist Convention. John Galen Paty was the president there from 1892 to 1897, except for 1893 when Z.C. Graves held the post. Graves' letter indicates that Paty was not happy when Graves left Boscobel, insisting on certified medical information about Mrs. Graves' illness. Patty, born in 1860, was 44 years younger than Graves.<sup>28</sup> Paty appears to have left the ministry and gone into real estate in later years. Differences in views between those two men must have made for interesting times.

In his letter, Graves mentions that he first consulted with Dr. Murrell, who then consulted with three colleagues. All four signed the document which Graves took to Paty at Boscobel. According to the Goodspeed history of the county published in 1887, the physicians in Winchester at that time were Shapard, Murrell, Grisard and Blalock. Dr. Murrell seems to have left Winchester prior to 1900, as he is not listed in the census.

After Mary Sharp College closed its doors for the last time, Dr. Graves went to live with his son Hubert and family. A nearly illegible listing in the 1900 census shows Hubert's family, including Z.C. Graves, along with daughters aged 5 and 6, both born in Kentucky.<sup>29</sup> The Mary Sharp College Club book states that Hubert died before his father, and his widow took care of Professor Graves until his death in 1902 at the age of 82. Only one grandchild survived to 1925, Mrs. D.W. Harris of Tullahoma.<sup>30</sup>

A tombstone for Dr. Graves stands in the Winchester City Cemetery, erected by the Mary Sharp alumnae.<sup>31</sup> It is interesting to note that there are no recorded graves in Franklin County for his wife, Louisa, or either of his sons. Perhaps, as he wrote in his 1893 letter, he had indeed given to the college "my life, my all" with little left over for material things.

<sup>28</sup> "Boscobel College," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boscobel\\_College](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boscobel_College)).

<sup>29</sup> 1900 U.S. census, Franklin Co., Tenn., Winchester 1<sup>st</sup> civil district, enumeration dist. 18, sheet 13, family 252. Household of Hubert Graves, age 40, farmer.

<sup>30</sup> *Z.C. Graves and the Mary Sharp College*, p.29.

<sup>31</sup> "Dr. Z.C. Graves," *Findagrave.com*. The tombstone gives his death date as May 18, 1901, but he actually died on that day in 1902, as attested by several newspaper accounts.

# Graduates of Mary Sharp College, Winchester, Tenn., 1850-1895

The Mary Sharp College for women in Winchester, Franklin County, began in 1850 as the first college in the nation to offer a baccalaureate degree to females. Thousands of women attended the school during its 45 year history, but not all earned the penultimate degree.

The following list of degree recipients is taken from a volume published in 1925 by the Mary Sharp College Club, a copy of which is found at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. Entitled *Dr. Z.C. Graves and the Mary Sharp College, 1850-1896*, it includes this list of 342 graduates earning the A.B. degree. The book's authors admitted that the list was incomplete, but accurate to the best of their ability.

The places of residence noted in the list appear to refer to the woman's home in 1925. Footnotes giving the county name for obscure towns have been added, using D.R. Frazier's helpful volume, *Tennessee Postoffices and Postmaster Appointments* (Dover, Tenn., 1984).

## Mary Sharp College Alumnae Upon Whom Have Been Conferred the Degree of A.B.

Maiden Name	Married Name	Residence <sup>1</sup>	Graduation Year
Abercrombie, Mary L.	Finch	Huntsville, Texas	1879
Adkerson, Sallie	Gaines	Smyrna	1874
Allen, Quixana	Sneed	Cainsville <sup>2</sup>	1866
Andrews, Maggie		[blank]	1889
Arledge, Annie P.		Crockett, Texas	1885
Arnold, Louisa M.		Trenton, Ky.	1859
Arnold, Lucy J.		Trenton, Ky.	1859
Barnes, Mary		Suelson, Ga.	1885
Beall, Frances S.	Brama	Cartersville, Ga.	1862
Beasley, Annie L.		Shuqualak, Miss.	1879
Beasley, Mamie C.	Edwards	Shuqualak, Miss.	1878
Beasley, Mary Ida	Elliott	Mandalay, Burma	1879
Bell, Luella		Atlanta, Ga.	1872
Bennett, Jane E.	Bennett	Canton, Miss.	1858
Black, Josephine	McKinsie	Winchester	1860
Blalock, Laura B.		Quitman, Ga.	1879
Bledsoe, Mary J.	Gaines	Redlands, Calif.	1874
Boone, Ida M.	Landess	Booneville <sup>3</sup>	1874
Borders, Georgia A.		Oxford, Ala.	1870
Bowen, Lula	Moncrief	Greensboro, Ga.	1878
Bowers, Lucy E.		Trenton, Ark.	1878
Bozeman, Sallie G.	Davis	Union Springs, Ala.	1874
Brazelton, Nannie E.	Pryor	Nashville	1869

<sup>1</sup> Residence is in Tennessee unless otherwise indicated.

<sup>2</sup> Cainsville was a post-office in Wilson County from 1830 to 1903.

<sup>3</sup> Booneville was a post-office in Lincoln County from 1869-1905.

<b>Maiden Name</b>	<b>Married Name</b>	<b>Residence<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Graduation Year</b>
Bridges, Josephine G.	Morris	Nashville	1871
Bringhurst, Mary		Clarksville	1888
Brittain, Ida		Pembroke, Ky.	1887
Brooks, Frances V.	Russey	Winchester	1858
Brown, Ada	Polhill	Hawkinsville, Ga.	1890
Brown, Rosa S.	Davis	Haynesville, Ga.	1871
Brown, Sallie H.	Taylor	Haynesville, Ga.	1870
Bryan, Amelia W.	Fisher	Carthage	1875
Bryan, Laura N.	Patton	Shop Springs <sup>4</sup>	1871
Buckley, Olive	Webb	Fort Smith, Ark.	1884
Bunn, Dollie A.	Griffith	Cave Springs, Ga.	1872
Burke, Mattie .		Dyersburg	1882
Bush, Lucy		Helena, Ark.	1879
Cain, Mary F.	Cain	Madison Sta., Ala.	1874
Callaway, Mattie L.		Marshall, Texas	1878
Campbell, Minnie Z.	Damerson	Jackson, Miss.	1879
Campbell, Pattie Lou		[blank]	1887
Canfield, Octavia C.		Columbus, Miss.	1859
Carmack, Nannie G.	Carter	Winchester	1879
Carothers, Kate		Oxford, Miss.	1874
Carter, Fannie C.	Ledra	Friendship, Ky.	1874
Chamberlin, Frances J.	Leland	Waco, Texas	1863
Chamberlin, Mary A.	Hubbard	Ascutneyville, Vt.	1862
Champion, Ora		Eddyville, Ky.	1888
Chandler, Ella		Eldorado, Ark.	1872
Cheney, Beulah M.		Rome, Ga.	1872
Cheny, Lily		[blank]	1889
Clayton, Ida M.		Tupelo, Miss.	1876
Clements, Elma		Trenton	1888
Coffey, Elizabeth N.	Jacobs	Stevenson, Ala.	1880
Coker, Maude E.	Thomas	Edwards, Miss	1877
Cole, Josie L.	Patterson	Norris Creek <sup>5</sup>	1869
Collier, Mary		Dickson	1888
Cook, Nannie		Bowling Green, Ky.	1888
Cook, Sallie B.		Bowling Green, Ky.	1880
Cosner, Sarah J.	Word	Decherd	1861
Cox, Lulie		[blank]	1887
Curry, Mary E.	Johnson	Cartersville, Ga.	1873
Dancy, Minnie C.	Pickett	Clarksville	1881
Darby, Mary E.		Lennsville, S.C.	1878
Davidson, Alethea		[blank]	1886
Davidson, Althea		Greenville, Ga.	1884
Davidson, Annie M.		Greenville, Ga.	1885
Davidson, Genie		Georgia	1888
Davis, Florence	Ligon	Franklin	1888

<sup>4</sup> Shop Spring was a post office in Wilson County from 1850 to 1972.

<sup>5</sup> Norris Creek was a post-office in Lincoln County from 1844 to 1891.



<b>Maiden Name</b>	<b>Married Name</b>	<b>Residence<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Graduation Year</b>
Davis, Georgia		Cave Springs, Ga.	1873
Davis, Nell		[blank]	1889
Davis, Sallie F.	Robinson	Nashville	1861
Dayton, Laura	Eakin	Shelbyville	1861
Dean, Mary E.	Towers	Rome, Ga.	1877
Deupree, Mary E.	Patty	Macon, Miss.	1871
Dickerson, Charlie E.	McComb	Nashville	1885
Dodson, Fannie J.		Bryan, Texas	1884
Doyle, Jennie	Walker	Dyesburg	1882
Dufield, Nina L.	Drake	Winchester	1868
Dulin, Ida E.		Winchester	1883
Echols, Fannie E.		Jacksboro, Texas	1884
Elkins, Willie	Buchanan	Lebanon	1886
Elkins, Willie C.		Gallatin	1885
Ellett, Eliza	Gunn	Tuscumbia, Ala.	1859
Embrey, Julia H.		Winchester	1877
Estill, Mattie L.	Terrill	Texas	1875
Ewell, Neppie E.		Evergreen, La.	1872
Farmer, Mary A.	Forbes	Winchester	1855
Farrar, Frances C.	Tower	Chester, Vt.	1862
Farris, Lizzie A.		Terry Depot, Mich.	1861
Farris, Sallie D.		Ferry Depot, Miss.	1862
Farrow, Marian A.	Tenny	Ft. Smith, Ark.	1874
Fears, Kate E.		St. Louis, Mo.	1879
Finch, Grace		Ft. Worth, Texas	1877
Finley, Martha A.		Canton, Miss.	1861
Finney, Mary O.		Unionville <sup>6</sup>	1869
Fletcher, Cornelia		Forsyth, Ga.	1879
Garlock, Asenath C.	Millard	Athens	1869
Garner, Lou	Waller	Winchester	1863
Garrett, Martha I		Tyro, Miss.	1872
Gaskill, Cora L.	McKenny	Chattanooga	1877
Gaut, Annie E.	Manlove	Nashville	1861
Gaut, Mary L.		Cleveland	1860
Gill, Mary B.	Evans	Shelbyville	1859
Gillam, Mary J.		Dadeville, Ala.	1876
Gordon, Mary J.	Boone	Winchester	1858
Graves, Hubert A.		Winchester	1877
Graves, Lois M.	Crutcher	Memphis	1884
Graves, Lou	Wood	San Antonio, Texas	1886
Graves, Nora S.	Bailey	Nashville	1876
Graves, Rube-Enoch	Reed	Murry, Ky.	1896
Gray, Jessie L.		Plantersville, Texas	1884
Gray, Lillie A.	Gray	Graysville, Ga.	1882
Green, Florence		Atlanta, Ga.	1888
Green, Georgia W.	Venable	Winchester	1877

<sup>6</sup> Unionville post-office in Bedford County opened in 1837.

Maiden Name	Married Name	Residence <sup>1</sup>	Graduation Year
Green, Lucy E.C.	Sims	Shelbyville	1870
Green, Mary C.D.	McLemore	Winchester	1869
Green, Myrtle L.		Winchester	1876
Greer, Catherine A.	Dashiels	Augustine, Texas	1856
Greer, Effie A.		Shelbyville	1883
Gregory, Bernice		[blank]	1889
Griffin, Florence J.	Whitaker	Chattanooga	1882
Griffith, Margaret L.		Summit, Ala.	1874
Grimmet, Emma L.	Phillips	Green Vale <sup>7</sup>	1877
Grisham, Agnes W.	Berry	Pontotoc, Miss.	1860
Grizzard, Roberta H.		Decatur, Ala.	1872
Guthrie, Lide		[blank]	1889
Hake, Mary A.	Smith	Nashville	1885
Hammond, Priscilla S.	Scruggs	Collinsville <sup>8</sup>	1859
Hardy, Irma H.	Randolph	Pulaski	1861
Harvey, Emma B.	Joiner	Sherman, Texas	1876
Henderson, Nannie P.		Winchester	1883
Hester, Joella E.		Rover <sup>9</sup>	1883
Hester, Mary E.		Rover	1883
Higgins, Frances A.	Larkin	Bellefonte, Ala.	1856
Hill, Emma		[blank]	1889
Hines, Elvie		Bowling Green, Ky.	1888
Hinton, Lorena V.		Greenville, Ga.	1884
Hixon, Eolia A.		Crawfordsville <sup>10</sup>	1880
Hodge, Elizabeth	Smith	Adairsville, Ga.	1875
Hoke, Josie L.	Pulver	Winchester	1881
Hollingsworth, Mary E.	Hollingsworth	Bryan City, Texas	1868
Holman, Mecca J.	Whitaker	Fayetteville	1871
Hooper, Warnie		[blank]	1889
Hopper, Amanda		[blank]	1889
Houk, Mary E.		Chattanooga	1858
Houston, Kate J.		Mulberry	1874
Huff, Nannie	Skelton	Bell Buckle	1886
Huffman, Sallie A.		Normandy <sup>11</sup>	1883
Hunt, Addie B.	Nelson	Corinth, Miss.	1873
Hunter, Annie	Smith	Macon, Miss.	1873
Hutchings, Laura A.		Cedartown, Ga.	1872
Jackson, Jennie V.		Winchester	1880
Jarman, Jennie		Jackson	1882
Jarman, Magdalen F.		Jackson, Miss.	1879
Jarnagin, Aurelia		Beans Station	1876
Johnston, Celeste	Patterson	Tenn.	1883

<sup>7</sup> Greenvale was a post-office in Wilson County from 1870 to 1905.

<sup>8</sup> Location not determined.

<sup>9</sup> Rover was a post office in Bedford County from 1850 to 1907.

<sup>10</sup> Location not determined.

<sup>11</sup> Normandy was established as a post office in Bedford County in 1854.

<b>Maiden Name</b>	<b>Married Name</b>	<b>Residence<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Graduation Year</b>
Jones, Annie	Robinson	Nashville	1886
Jones, Lizzie D.	McDonald	Shelbyville	1878
Jones, Loulie A.	Jonston	Boonesville, Miss.	1883
Jones, Mattie		Mulberry	1875
Jordan, Adeline E.	Beasley	Murfreesboro	1871
Jordan, Martha J.	McCullough	Eagleville <sup>12</sup>	1862
Jordan, Nettie C.	Frazier	Murfreesboro	1873
Jordon, Mary L.	White	Nashville	1862
Keeny, Lizzie H.	Edmondson	Jackson, Miss.	1860
Keep, Florence		Yazoo City, Miss.	1861
Keller, Daisy	Hoffman	Texarkana, Ark.	1888
Keller, Mittie		Waycross, Ga.	1886
Kimbrough, Elizabeth C.	Holman	Mulberry <sup>13</sup>	1859
Landess, Fannie E.	Holman	Nashville	1861
Landess, Mattie A.	Terry	Norris Creek <sup>14</sup>	1859
Larkin, Maymie		Larkinsville, Ala.	1885
Lauderdale, Jennie E.		Dyersburg	1882
Law, Clara A.	White	Tracy City	1871
Leatherman, Mary	Pits	Murfreesboro	1896
Ledbetter, Fannie	Hurt	Scottsboro, Ala.	1878
Lefeber, Ida R.	Sewell	Decherd	1875
Lusk, Amanda T.		Oak Grove, Miss.	1874
Lusk, Josephine	Williamson	Longtown, Mis.	1880
March, Elizabeth		Fayetteville	1874
March, Margaret E.		Winchester	1860
Marks, Kate	Davis	Winchester	1869
Marks, Maggie	Fitzpatrick	St. Augustine, Florida	1868
Martin, Elizabeth P.		Coffeetown, Miss.	1859
Martin, Isabelle	King	Winchester	1858
Mason, Mattie E.		Loudon, Tenn.	1878
May, Carrie M.	Morris	Monticello, Fla.	1878
May, Susie F.		Monticello, Fla.	1883
Mays, Mary E.	Hammond	Anderson, Texas	1859
McAdo, Etta	Horn	Orlando, Fla.	1895
McCall, Sallie I.		Lownesboro, Ala.	1873
McDermot, Louise A.	Mee	Athens	1857
McDonald, Sarah B.	Kimbrough	Ashland, Miss.	1873
McGrew, Mary E.	Mathews	Nashville	1874
McKellar, Mattie	Townsend	Hot Springs, Ark.	1876
McLaughlin, Eleanore F.	Mumford	Talbotton, Ga.	1871
McLendon, Ella		Atlanta, Ga.	1872
McLendon, Mattie	Long	Mt. Pleasant	1873

<sup>12</sup> Eagleville post office in Williamson County opened in 1836.

<sup>13</sup> Mulberry post-office in Lincoln County opened in 1828.

<sup>14</sup> Norris Creek was a post-office in Lincoln County from 1844 to 1891.

<b>Maiden Name</b>	<b>Married Name</b>	<b>Residence<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Graduation Year</b>
Meredith, Nannie	Embrey	Winchester	1855
Metcalf, Emma A.		Winchester	1861
Miller, Nancy G.T.	Wood	Chapel Hill <sup>15</sup>	1862
Miller, Nannie C.	Tillman	Shelbyville	1871
Minnis, Mary S.		Utica, Miss.	1875
Mitchell, Alice C.	Ivey	Sherman, Texas	1870
Moore, Eliza C.		Holly Springs, Miss.	1878
Moorman, Marie G.	Phillips	Winchester	1878
Murrell, Bell	Pinson	Nashville	1881
Murrell, Mollie	Biddie	Winchester	1875
Neal, Mary W.		Waverly Hall, Ga.	1876
Newman, Ione		Atlanta, Ga.	1873
Newsom, Parasina	Elliott	Shelbyville	1862
Norris, Fannie S.		Columbus, Miss.	1860
Nunn, Martha A.		Chestnut Bluff <sup>16</sup>	1878
Omohundra, Minnie		Shannon, Texas	1887
Orr, Martha F.		Brooksville, Miss.	1870
Orr, Mary E.	Troup	Brooksville, Miss.	1869
Osborne, Frances M.	Moore	Wartrace	1861
Overall, Mary J.	Headley	Murfreesboro	1862
Overall, Sophia A.	Crockett	Murfreesboro	1861
Owen, Florence A.	Scales	Crawfordsville, Miss.	1877
Payne, Lucy J.		Dickson, Ala.	1859
Pearson, Carrie	Jones	Montgomery, Ala.	1871
Pendleton, Fannie	Waggoner	Austin, Texas	1862
Pendleton, Kate	McCallum	Decatur, Ga.	1874
Pendleton, Letitia T.	Waters	Murfreesboro	1858
Pennington, Ella M.	Days	Winchester	1875
Pennington, Willie T.	Petty	Los Angeles, Calif.	1872
Powell, Emma C.		Brownsville	1863
Pruden, Rosa W.	Smith	Dalton, Ga.	1872
Pryor, Bessie		San Antonio, Texas	1887
Pryor, Nell		San Antonio, Texas	1890
Ransom, Nannie	White	Chapel Hill	1870
Ratliff, Alma	Gray	Raymond, Miss.	1879
Ray, Annie S.	Parker	Shelbyville	1879
Reed, Harriet A.		Decatur, Ill.	1860
Reed, Mary		Pontotoc, Miss.	1883
Reed, Mary S.	Askew	Decatur, Ill.	1858
Richey, Alice D.	Ashcraft	Whitesboro, Texas	1873
Roach, Sarah T.	Timberlake	Bellefonte, Ala.	1857
Roberts, Elizabeth H.	Shannon	Franklin	1859
Roberts, Medora M.		Franklin	1860
Robertson, Victoria F.	Williams	Winchester	1859
Robinson, Julia T.	Hurd	Ascutneyville, Vt.	1862

<sup>15</sup> Chapel Hill post-office in Marshall County opened in 1836.

<sup>16</sup> Chestnut Bluff was a post-office in Crockett County from 1870 to 1915, and in Dyer County from 1837 to 1870.

<b>Maiden Name</b>	<b>Married Name</b>	<b>Residence<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Graduation Year</b>
Roddenbery, Bertha		Cairo, Ga.	1883
Rogers, Emma F.	Tillman	Knoxville	1870
Rogers, Harriet N.	Cravens	Chattanooga	1857
Roper, Sarah F.	Harris	Kingston, Ga.	1872
Ross, Mattie F.	Golden	Fort Valley, Ga.	1876
Rountree, Mattie E.		Quitman, Ga.	1878
Rowzee, Medora A.	Wiley	Arkabutler, Miss.	1873
Royston, Mary L.		Cypress, Ark.	1861
Rucker, Bettie M.	Winstead	Nashville	1883
Russey, Annie E.	Beemer	Dallas, Texas	1868
Sampson, Kate	Hall	Nashville	1887
Sanderson, Gertrude		[blank]	1889
Sandidge, Emma		Okolona, Miss.	1861
Sandidge, Fanny	Webb	Okolona, Miss.	1861
Sasser, Annie		[blank]	1889
Scales, Nancy C.D.	Scales	Triune <sup>17</sup>	1858
Schoffner, Hattie E.	Landess	Mulberry <sup>18</sup>	1868
Schoffner, Mary E.	Reese	Mulberry	1869
Shapard, Leonora		Winchester	1877
Sharp, Mary V.	Mullins	Brandon, Texas	1875
Sharp, Sallie P.	Hopkins	Nashville	1874
Sharp, Susan F.		Winchester	1858
Shields, Fannie M.		San Antonio, Texas	1879
Skeffington, Florence		Dyersburg	1887
Slackhouse, Frankie A.		Crystal Springs, Miss.	1877
Slatter, Daisy E.	Butler	Winchester	1878
Slatter, Mary		Atlanta, Ga.	1870
Slaughter, Bessie	Harred	Jackson, Miss.	1895
Slaughter, Dana	Miller	Shanghai, China	1888
Slinger, Sophia		New Orleans, La.	1878
Smith, Florinda H.	Alexander	Fayetteville	1862
Smith, Minnie		Winchester	1895
Smythe, Sallie J.	Smythe	Carthage, Miss.	1876
Sneed, Mary I	Worrell	Sweetwater	1858
Stewart, Kate		Chattanooga	1873
Stewart, Kate V.	Herman	Goodlettsville	1873
Stewart, Lillian		Woobury	1895
Stiles, Louisa C.		Artesia, Miss.	1875
Stuart, Mary J.	Lattimer	Pylant Springs <sup>19</sup>	1871
Susong, Addie		[blank]	1889
Taylor, Carolyn M.		Helena, Ark.	1877
Taylor, Catherine A.	Hill	Morristown	1871
Templeton, Jennie K.		Winchester	1874
Templeton, Mary D.	Jarrett	Winchester	1874

<sup>17</sup> Triune was a post-office in Williamson County from 1847 to 1916.

<sup>18</sup> Mulberry post-office in Lincoln County opened in 1828.

<sup>19</sup> Location not identified.



Maiden Name	Married Name	Residence <sup>1</sup>	Graduation Year
Terry, Eva		[blank]	1889
Terry, Mary		[blank]	1889
Thomas, Bettie S.		Bell Buckle	1878
Thomas, Clyde		Bowling Green, Ky.	1888
Thomas, Harriet B.	Hines	Bowling Green, Ky.	1860
Thomas, Margaret M.	Gordon	Bowling Green, Ky.	1859
Thomison, Ella C.	Cartwright	Fayetteville	1871
Thomison, Susie		Fayetteville	1881
Thornton, Elizabeth W.	Comer	Midway, Ala.	1873
Thrower, Neva		Scottsboro, Ala.	1895
Tickel, Emma W.	Simmons	Texas	1870
Tillman, Amelda	Brannan	Nashville	1873
Trimble, Ada A.	Johnson	Galveston, Texas	1871
Trimble, Ella N.	Patterson	Winchester	1873
Turman, Belle B.	Avera	Winchester	1879
Turman, Ella	Bledsoe	Winchester	1875
Turman, Ida R.	Turney	Chattanooga	1873
Turman, Lizzie	Grizard	Winchester	1868
Turney, Mary V.	Ellis	Winchester	1860
Turney, Tede	Wells	Rushville, Ill.	1877
Turney, Virginia C.	Elkins	Tulahoma	1872
Turnley, Annie		Dyersburg	1888
Tyler, Heart M.	Clark	Owensboro, Ky.	1876
Uzzell, Annie E.		Golden Lake, Ark.	1882
Uzzell, Nina W.	Carleton	Golden Lake, Ark.	1882
Van Hoose, Lauria Lee		Senoia, Ga.	1884
Vanable, Grace		Tulahoma	1875
Vanhoose, Elizabeth G.	Glover	Gainesville, Ga.	1879
Vann, Mary E.	Dyer	Thomasville, Ga.	1859
Vaughn, Susan M.	Robinson	Chattanooga	1856
Waller, Susie E.		[blank]	1883
Walmsley, Marie A.	Baugh	Dora, Ala.	1878
Walters, Minnie		Watertown	1877
Warren, Bettie A.	Edwards	Oregon <sup>20</sup>	1869
Waters, Telete	Kerr	Modesta, Calif.	1878
Watson, Lucy	Matthews	Atlanta, Ga.	1888
Weaver, Annie P.	Tarver	Turnersville, Ga.	1877
Whitaker, Alice W.	Allen	Fayetteville	1869
Whitaker, Kate	Frost	Mulberry	1878
White, Josephine A.	Westbrook	West Point, Miss.	1863
Whitman, Bettie C.	Ansley	Kansas City, Mo.	1859
Whitman, Frances F.	Grigsby	Winchester	1869
Wilkins, Lula L.		Duck Hill, Miss.	1883
Wilkins, Madie E.		Duck Hill, Miss.	1883
Wilkinson, Anna	Walmsley	Tampa, Arizona	1877
Wilkinson, Ella C.	Temple	Nashville	1873

<sup>20</sup> Oregon was a post-office in Lincoln County from 1845 to 1904.

Maiden Name	Married Name	Residence <sup>1</sup>	Graduation Year
Williams, Fannie		[blank]	1889
Williams, Fannie W.	Savage	Jackson	1869
Williams, Julia J.	Moore	Memphis	1860
Wilson, Annie	Cooper	Nashville	1888
Wilson, Evie	Gerth	Trenton, Ky.	1887
Wilson, Kate		Trenton, Ky.	1888
Winford, Matilda	Frizzell	Nashville	1855
Wood, Eva	Haynes	Decherd	1888
Wood, Virginia E.	Brown	Scottsboro, Ala.	1871

## David Brock Korean War Photos Added to Library & Archives Online Collection

The Tennessee State Library and Archives has launched a new digital collection featuring the Korean War images of David Franklin Brock. Brock was a 20-year-old Van Buren County farm boy when he reported for the draft in Nashville in January 1952. He was soon deployed to Korea, where he used photographs to chronicle adventures during his military experience. To view the new collection, go to: <http://bit.ly/BrockKoreanWar>

The new online exhibit is part of the Tennessee Virtual Archives (TeVA). It features 120 images and an interactive story map, tracking Brock's progress from combat engineer training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, to his time with the famed Second "Indianhead" Infantry Division in the vicinity of the Iron Triangle and the 38th parallel in Korea.

Brock's photos capture the heartbreak of leaving behind a sweetheart and the challenge of mastering military engineer techniques and infantry weaponry. The photos document the camaraderie of soldiers during the first American war with racially integrated units and their interactions with Republic of Korea soldiers in the squad tents of the Second Division.

Brock's pride in serving as a "tomahawk warrior" is evident in these photos as well. His unit built roads, bridges and bunkers near the front while often under enemy fire. As a demolitions specialist, Brock detonated explosives and laid and cleared mines. He also served as an infantry soldier when needed.

Also a part of this online collection is a transcript of an oral history recording Brock's Korean War experiences that he contributed to the Library and Archives' ongoing commemoration project "Tennessee Remembers," which honors the men and women who served in Korea and Vietnam by preserving the history of their wartime experiences. The goal of this project is to collect original documents, photographs and memorabilia related to the in-country experiences of these veterans to be preserved for future generations and made accessible for research and educational purposes.



David Franklin Brock pictured in 1953 with other soldiers in the 2nd Infantry Division's 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion  
(Tenn. State Library & Archives – TeVA) [ON](#)

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

## Trousdale and Van Buren Counties

*Abstracted by Gale Williams Bamman*

*Certified Genealogist Emeritus<sup>SM</sup> Copyright © 2017*



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
- County and district where enumerated in population schedule
- County of residence when at home

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/or 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 included.

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

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

**Paupers and Indigent:** if supported wholly or partly at cost of city, county, or state; or at cost of institution; whether able-bodied; whether habitually intemperate; if epileptic; if ever convicted of a crime; if disabled; if born in the institution, or date of admission; whether others of the family were also in that establishment; if also blind, deaf and dumb, insane, idiotic. Paupers living in individual homes but supported partly or fully at county cost were referred to 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 reply to "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 do 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.

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## *Trousdale County*

**Barksdale, Mary:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; melancholia; inmate, Tennessee Asylum, [stay illegible]. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.8,ln.8] **Pop.Sch.:** age 50, black, mother, in household of Martha Barksdale.

**Filson, Ennis:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; dipsomania; confined day and night; restrained with rope; inmate, Tennessee Asylum [ stay illegible]. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.32] **Pop.Sch.:** age 43, white, brother, in household of Owen Filson.

**Corley, Pearce:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; dementia. [s.d.3,e.d. 227; see Pop.Sch. p.12,ln.7] **Pop.Sch.:** age 32, black, son, in household of Orvie Corley.

**Lowe, Henry:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; large head. **Also:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; semi-mute, semi-deaf. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.7,ln.3]

**Vineyard, Amanda:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; semi-deaf. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.10,ln.2]

**Dice, John Sr.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; semi-deaf. **Also:** Blind Schedule; self-supporting; supposed cause, burned out. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.37] **Pop.Sch.:** age 77, white, male, head of household.

**Dice, Andrew:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; supposed cause, Typhoid Fever; inmate, Knoxville Institute, 27 [duration not specified ], discharged 1880. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.18,ln.40]

**Johnson, W.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; supposed cause, cut with knife; semi-blind, [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.1,ln.16] **Pop.Sch.:** Wm. A. Johnson, age 28, white, son, in household of J. C. Johnson.

**Jackson, Caroline:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; supposed cause, neuralgia, semi blind. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.44] **Pop.Sch.:** age 46, white, wife, in household of Green Jackson.

**Bowers, Green:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; not self-supporting; supposed cause, knocked out; semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.11,ln.26] **Pop.Sch.:** age 74, white, uncle, in household of Sallie Carroll.

**Belcher, Dartha:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting, semi-blind. [s.d.3, e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.37] **Pop.Sch.:** age 46, white, female, head of household.

**Ward, Joe:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting, semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch. p.14,ln.28] **Pop.Sch.:** age 56, black, male, in household of Porter Averitt.

**Barksdale, Sophia:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; not self-supporting, supposed cause, old age, totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.14,ln.46] **Pop.Sch.:** age 80, mulatto, mother, in household of Harriett Barksdale.

**Dice, Tuck:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting, supposed cause, put out by cinders, blacksmith's shop.[s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.17,ln.12] **Pop.Sch.:** age 48, white, male, head of household.

**Bolton, Brittin[?]:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.29] **Pop.Sch.:** age 10, white, son, in household of Ned Bolton.

**Norton Fannie:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of county; not able-bodied; disability, old age. **Also:** Blind Schedule; not self-supporting; supposed cause, neuralgia; totally blind. [s.d.3,e.d.227; see Pop.Sch.p.9, ln.22] **Pop.Sch.:** age 70, white, mother-in-law, in household of Stephen Page.

**Hutchins, Nonie:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; duration of present attack, 6 years; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 30. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.12,ln.18] **Pop.Sch.:** age 35, white, sister-in-law, in household of W. J. Hale.

**Murry, William:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; partly self-supporting, afflicted at birth; small head. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.45]

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**Potts, Howard:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at age 4/12, falling out door; semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.6,ln.35] **Pop.Sch.:** age 2, mulatto, son, in household of Vallie Potts.

**Gifford, Thomas:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at 24; neuralgia, semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.12,ln.21] **Pop.Sch.:** age 65, black, male, in household of Phonie Gifford.

**Reese, Eliza:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.17,ln.26] **Pop.Sch.:** age 29, white, female, head of household.

**Burrow, Jack:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at 49; struck with hammer. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.25,ln.27] **Pop.Sch.:** age 62, black, male, head of household.

**Bass, J. D.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at 32; semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.39, ln.42] **Pop.Sch.:** age 56, white, male, head of household.

**Goodall, Jerry:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; afflicted at 14; put out with knife, semi-blind. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.6,ln.38] **Pop.Sch.:** age 40, black, male, head of household.

**Burnley, Dick:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at 20, knocked out. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.10] **Pop.Sch.:** age 29, black, male, head of household.

**Smith, Geo.:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at age 12; knocked out cutting wood, semi-blind [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.44,ln.2] **Pop.Sch.:** age 23, white, male, in household of Henry Reese.

**Tinsley, A. M.:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of city and county; not able-bodied, crippled. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.35] **Pop.Sch.:** Alfred Tinsley, age 59, white male, head of household.

**Tinsley, Lizzie:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of city and county; able-bodied. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.5, ln.36] **Pop.Sch.:** age 56, white, wife, in household of Alfred Tinsley.

**Tinsley, Nannie:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of city and county; able-bodied. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.5, ln.37] **Pop.Sch.:** age 18, white, female, daughter, in household of Alfred Tinsley.

**Tinsley, Penetta:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of city and county; able-bodied. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.5, ln.38] **Pop.Sch.:** age 15, white, daughter, in household of Alfred Tinsley.

**Tinsley, George:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of city and county; able-bodied. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.39] **Pop.Sch.:** age 14, white, son, in household of Alfred Tinsley.

**McClanahan, Nancy:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of city and county; not able-bodied, old age. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.40] **Pop.Sch.:** age 78, white, mother-in-law, in household of Alfred Tinsley.

**Baskerville, William:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; melancholia; duration of present attack, 28 [not specified] ; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 39, ; not confined, not restrained; inmate, Nashville [remainder illegible]. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.14, ln.48] **Pop.Sch.:** age 67, white, brother, in household of John A. Baskerville.

**Hasty, Patsy:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; duration of present attack, 5 [not specified]; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, [illegible]. **Also:** Idiots Schedule; afflicted at age 7.[s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.24,ln.50] **Pop.Sch.:** Patsy Husty, age 43, white, sister, in household of Judithan M. Jones.

**Winston, Litha:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; duration of present attack, 12 [not specified]; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 12; not confined, not restrained. **Also:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule, supported at cost of county; able-bodied; admitted to institution, March 1880. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.25,ln.50] **Pop.Sch.:** Litha Winston, age 24, black, female, pauper, in household of James W. Pierson.

**Carney, Kate:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.5,ln.26]

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**Henry, Ellis:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; small head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.226; see Pop.Sch.p.26,ln.48]

**Browning, Nancy:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; supposed cause, fright of mother; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.21,ln.46]

**Green, Hans J.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; inmate, School Knoxville; length of time, 2 [not specified]; discharged 1851. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.6,ln.34]

**Green, John J.:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth; inmate, School Knoxville; length of time, 3 [not specified]; discharged 1865.[s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.15,ln.46]

**Smith, Elizabeth:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at age 74; supposed cause, general debility, totally blind, never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.10,ln.47] **Pop.Sch.:** age 23, black, female, servant, in household of Robert H. M. Smith.

**Henry, Ellis:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co. asylum; supported at cost of county; able-bodied; admitted to institution January 1875. **Also:** Homeless Children Schedule; mother deceased; admitted to institution, 1865; illegitimate. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.25,ln.48] **Pop.Sch.:** age 18, black, male, pauper, in household of James W. Pierson.

**Henry, Sarah:** Henry, Sarah: Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co. asylum; supported at cost of county; able-bodied; admitted to institution, October 1879. **Also:** Homeless Children Schedule; mother deceased; admitted to institution, 1879; illegitimate. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.25 ,ln.49] **Pop.Sch.:** age 9, black, female; in household of James W. Pierson.

**Winston, Ballard:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co. asylum; supported at cost of county; not able-bodied; admitted to institution, March 1880. **Also:** Homeless Children Schedule; mother not deceased; parents surrendered control to the institution;

admitted 1880; illegitimate. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.36,ln.1] **Pop.Sch.:** age 1, black, male, pauper, in household of James W. Pierson.

**Tyree, Dalton:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co. asylum; supported at cost of county; not able-bodied; crippled; admitted to institution April 1879. [s.d.3,e.d.225; see Pop.Sch.p.25,ln.47] **Pop.Sch.:** age 70, white, male, pauper, in household of James W. Peirson.

**Whitico, Melethia:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; partly self-supporting; small head, never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.224; see Pop.Sch.p.7,ln.27]

**Kardwell, King,,:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; partly self-supporting; semi-blind; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.224; see Pop.Sch.p.[12],ln.9] **Pop.Sch.:** age 90, black, male, boarder, in household of Henry Lyles.

**Mitchell, Isabell:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at age 10; supposed cause, scrofula; semi-blind; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.224; see Pop.Sch.p.1, ln.17] **Pop.Sch.:** Aage 12, black, female, servant in Jno. H. Ligon household.

**Duffy, Billie:** Blind Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co. [s.d.3,e.d.224; see Pop.Sch.p.11,ln.50] **Pop.Sch.:** age 101, black, male, boarder, in William Rouse household.

**Beasley, Buck:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; not self-supporting; afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.223; see Pop.Sch.p.30,ln.4]

**Alexander, Kittie:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.3,e.d.223; see Pop.Sch.p.20,ln.31]

**Grubbs, Elizabeth:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; self-supporting; afflicted at birth, by a fall of the mother; inmate, in Ky., Institution name not known, 6 mos.; discharged 1853. [s.d.3,e.d.223; see Pop.Sch.p.13,ln.25]

**Massey, Nancy:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; partly self-supporting; afflicted at birth [s.d.3,e.d.223; see Pop.Sch.p.224,ln.46]



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**Step, Betsy:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of county; not able-bodied; old age. [s.d.3,e.d.223; see Pop.Sch.p.17,ln.31]  
**Pop.Sch.:** age 68, white, female, head of household.

**Clariday, Sallie:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Trousdale Co.; supported at cost of county;

not able-bodied; rheumatism. [s.d.3,e.d.223; see Pop.Sch.p.4,ln.25] **Pop.Sch.:** age 50, white, aunt, in Harriet Clariday household.

*End of Trousdale County*

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*Van Buren County*

**McElhany, Lizzie:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.2,e.d.129; see Pop.Sch.p.4,ln.28]

**Huson, Burton:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at birth; supposed cause, fright of mother; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.2,e.d.128; see Pop.Sch.p.9,ln.9]

**Phillips, Lucinda E.:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co.; not self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.2,e.d.128; see Pop.Sch.p.22,ln.11]

**Clenney, Susan:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co.; mania; duration of present attack, 3 – [illegible]; number of attacks, 1; age at first attack, 45; not restrained, not confined; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.2,e.d.127; see Pop.Sch.p.7, ln.8]  
**Pop.Sch.:** Susan Cleney, age 50, white, wife, in household of W. Cleney.

**Simmons, Carney:** Insane Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co.; mania; duration of present attack, 4 \_\_\_\_ [illegible]; number of attacks, 11, age at first attack, [illegible]; not confined, not restrained; inmate, Tenn. and Ky., 2 yrs.; date discharged [illegible]. [s.d.2,e.d.127; see Pop.Sch.p.6,ln.43] **Pop.Sch.:** C. Simmons, age 49, white male head of household.

**Page, Robert:** Idiots Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at birth; natural head; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.2,e.d.127; see Pop.Sch.p.10,ln.45]

**Sitze, Margaret:** Deaf-Mutes Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co.; self-supporting, afflicted at age 5; supposed cause, scarlet fever; semi-blind, semi deaf; never an inmate of an institution. [s.d.2,e.d.127; see Pop.Sch.p.25,ln.38]

**Areignbaugh, Jas. [?] \_\_[initial illegible]:** Prisoners Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co. county jail; state prisoner; incarcerated April 1880; alleged offense, \_\_\_\_ [illegible], number of days in jail, 182. [s.d.2,e.d.127; see Pop.Sch.p. 30[?], 10[?], ln. \_\_\_\_ [blank]. **Pop.Sch.,** p.23, ln.6, [blank] Areignbaugh, age 32, white, male, head of household.  
**Davis, Matty:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co. poor house; at cost of county; not able-bodied; form, \_\_\_\_ [?] of measles, and age; admitted 1879. [s.d.2,e.d.127; see Pop.Sch.p.30,ln.4] **Pop.Sch.:** age 60, white, female, pauper, in J. K. Walker household.

**Mayfield, Betsey:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co. poor house; at cost of county; not able-bodied; palsy and age; admitted [illegible date]. [s.d.2,e.d.127; see Pop.Sch.30,ln.5]  
**Pop.Sch.:** age 56, white, female, pauper, in J. K. Walker household.

**Durham, Betsey:** Pauper and Indigent Schedule; enumerated Van Buren Co. poor house; at cost of county; not able-bodied; paralysis and age. [s.d.2,e.d.127; see Pop.Sch.p.27,ln.6]

*End of Van Buren County*

<p><b>Coming up in the next issue:</b> <b>Warren County</b></p>
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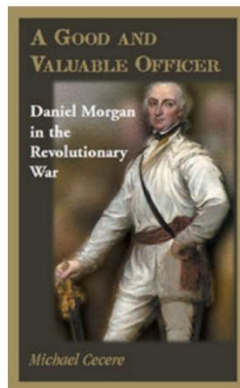
## Book Reviews *by Shirley Wilson*



— ❧ —

***A Good and Valuable Officer, Daniel Morgan in the Revolutionary War*** by Michael Cecere, paperback, 2016, 278 pp., bibliography, index, maps, portraits. \$25 plus shipping from Heritage Books.com, 5810 Ruatan Street, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740.

Daniel Morgan was probably born in Pennsylvania or New Jersey, but not much is known his early life. He went to Virginia as a young man and developed a reputation as a brawler. He became associated with Frederick County, Virginia, and his reputation changed for the better after he married Abigail Curry of that county



Daniel answered the Continental Congress's call to arms with a company of rugged Virginia riflemen who marched to Boston (nearly 600 miles) in just three weeks time.

His heroic exploits during the American Revolution are many and interesting to read.

Maps, portraits, and an every name and place index enhance the book's value.

— ❧ —

***Where Liberty Dwells, There is My Country*** by Suzanne Meredith, paperback, 2016, 283 pp., illustrations, photographs. \$28 plus shipping from Heritage Books.com, see above.

The subtitle, American Civil War Letters, Photographs and News Reports, is an accurate description of this offering. For the most part, the material covers the time period 1861 to 1865.

Something unknown to your reviewer is that a sutler is a civilian merchant who supplies its country's soldiers. William C. Gridley of Candor, New York was one such

man. His personal correspondence to and from his future wife Francis Augusta Keeler provided much of the book's material. Interspersed throughout the book are newspaper clippings containing snippets of information relating to the war. Many vintage photos enhance the quality of the book.

For the many genealogists who very much appreciate an index to a book like this, alas, there is only a list of names without page numbers in approximate alphabetical order.

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***Stafford County, Virginia Court Record Book 1749-1755*** by Jerrilynn Eby, paperback, 2016, 358 pp., index. \$34 from Heritage Books.com, 5810 Ruatan Street, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740.

Stafford County has suffered considerable record loss over its many years of existence.

The story of how this particular volume of records managed to survived is fascinating in itself.

Included in the day-to-day happenings were slaves and crops bought and sold, deeds recorded, estates and wills probated naming wives and children, guardianships were established, and bastard children were born.

There is no question that this is an excellent source of historical and genealogical material in a time when just reading the handwriting is extremely difficult for most people. What a treasure for those with ancestors in Stafford County!

The index to this book deserves special mention. Not only is it an every name index, but it also includes businesses and places. In addition, slaves and servants have a separate index, as do several types of businesses such as ordinaries and tobacco warehouses.