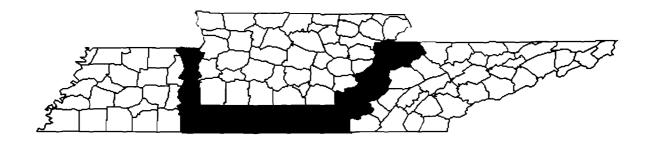
MIDDLE TENNESSEE



GENEALOGY

VOLUME IV, NO. 1 SUMMER 1990

AUGUST PROGRAM

Legal Terminology for the Genealogist Speaker: Cleo Hogan

August 18, 1990 - 1:00 P.M.
Auditorium, Ben West Library
Eighth Avenue, North & Union Streets, Nashville

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GENERAL: Neither the Editor nor the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society accepts responsibility for accuracy of material. All materials submitted become property of the Society.

SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION: Please do. We'd like to see Bible Records, Family Histories, County Records, Cemetery Records, "how-to" articles of general interest, historical anecdotes--any useful or interesting tidbits happened upon while researching that other members may never see. Material should be limited to a published length of 5 pages.

Please make sure hand writing is legible or the document is typed. If you are writing with a word processing program on your computer and can export to ASCII, a computer disk and hard copy is the easiest way for the editor to deal with material. If you happen to use WordPerfect 5.0 a simple disk copy or backup will work fine.

Please include documentation and, in the case of Bible records, written permission from the owner of the Bible. In addition to your name and address we'd appreciate your including your phone number. A final note--if you've got something you just can't quite, but can almost, pull together we'll be happy to work with you on a final edit.

ASK US: Specific research questions and problems will be discussed as space permits in the quarterly.

QUERIES: Will be included in order of receipt as space permits.

EDITOR

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Volume 4, Number 1--Summer 1990

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Editor's Thoughts

I can't tell you how heartened I was at the last society meeting when a member introduced herself and handed over an envelope containing both a computer disk and a hard copy of an article she wanted to submit--see page 12 of this issue. This was followed by receipt in the mail of the Bible records found starting page 14. We will happily use contributions from members, we NEED them. A journal can always be filled from end to end with records but the real life in genealogy, to me, will always be the bits and pieces--the ad or small article one stops to read in microfilmed newspaper, the sad or funny or disgraceful anecdote of an ancestor, what your husband or wife pithily remarked at an old cemetery, etc.

We stopped in at the National Genealogical Society Conference in Washington, DC, late June and were mightily impressed. Our Middle Tennessee Society ought to be impressed too--our past editor, Irene Griffey, spoke on "Resolving Problems in Early Tennessee Land Records" and Shirley Wilson, past president, on "Tennessee's Loose Court Papers, Finding and Using Them." Also present in an official capacity was Jeanne Bigger, Chairman, Project Preservation, Franklin Historical Society who accepted an award on behalf of the society recognizing the society's work--we had a most enjoyable visit in Winchester late May and can testify to the monumental job they have done.

It is such fun to turn loose at a computer to PLAY which is what I've been doing trying to get this first issue together. Taking over as editor has given me an excuse to install PageMaker and a filter/driver pack for WP50 and learn to use them. So I've been acting like a kid turned loose in a toy store at Christmas, slightly out of control. It is my opinion that I'm going to get really good and consistent and (for the sake of my marriage) FAST at all this. Meantime all we need to make life complete is an inexpensive source of "fancy" PCL softfonts, something on the order of Gothic and Script, for use on the HPLaserJet II--anyone out there in our membership have any in the public domain they'd like to share?

Information has recently crossed our desk concerning the opening of the 1920 census on March 2, 1992. For those of you interested in the details there is an excellent article in the Summer 1990 *FORUM*, published by the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

A final thought--I've always been intrigued by the editorial "we"--given enough time I'll learn to handle it. BJS

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

At the board meeting last week we welcomed two new members: Barbara Sistler, who is also our new quarterly editor, and Hugh L. Logan of Hendersonville. By the time you read this you will be experiencing the results of their expertise. We are indeed fortunate to have them work with us and we look forward to implementing ideas and suggestions which they, and others of you not currently on the board, may have.

BIRMINGHAM RESEARCH TRIP

The results of the May survey concerning the trip to the Birmingham Public Library were encouraging. We had about twenty who wanted an overnight trip, which is what we are currently working on. Transportation will be thirty dollars and hotel will run about one hundred dollars for a double. The trip will probably be on a Monday when their library stays open till eight with the return trip leaving at four on Tuesday. Meals are on your own. If you are interested and were not at the May meeting please call me (259-6125 work, 383-8989 home) or Nida Wheeler (832-1572) so we will have you on the list for receiving the specific information. Since we are now at mid-summer the trip will probably be in early September.

PROGRAM ATTRACTIONS--MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Don't miss our August 18 meeting if you want to be a legal eagle! For the ten o'clock event in the auditorium of the Tennessee State Library and Archives Pat Hastings will speak on "Legal Research for Genealogical Purposes." An attorney and business woman herself with lots of interest and expertise in genealogy, Pat will give a stellar performance.

At the general session at one o'clock which is held in the Nashville Public Library Auditorium, Cleo Hogan, an attorney from Clarksville, will speak on "Legal terms for the genealogist." Cleo was a co-compiler of the two volumes of cemetery records of Montgomery County, TN and the one volume of cemetery records of Cheatham County. He's listed in Who's Who in Genealogy and Heraldry and is a member of our own Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society. Some of you heard his beginning genealogy class at last year's workshop and praised it highly, so we are counting on another outstanding presentation.

On November 10, Lloyd Bockstruck of Dallas will present an all day workshop. Topics are already selected, since Pat took his class this summer at Samford, but will be announced later.

Budget cuts have struck the Nashville Public Library again. Last year you may recall it was the Archives which was hit hard. This year it is the Nashville Room which is receiving a forty percent staff cut. This must certainly indicate the lack of support for those departments whose holdings are of primary concern to the genealogists, local historians and students of Tennessee History.

The Tennessee Historical Society is furnishing copies of our current publication to their members who have requested it. We feel this expands the potential base of our membership and we hope all will be pleased.

Mary Glenn Hearne July 4, 1990

Petition for the Incorporation of LaVergne

Tennessee State Library & Archives, Rutherford County Roll No. 265, Book 20, Pages 120-121. The official certification at the end of the document has been omitted due to limitations of space. Ed.

LAVERGNE INCORPORATED

To the Honorable County Court of Rutherford County, Tenn

We whose names are hereunto annexed, Citizens & legal voters of Rutherford County & of The Town of Lavergne, would most respectfully Petition to your Honr. body that you appoint Inspectors to hold an election in said Town of Lavernge, for the purpose of allowing the voters thereof to vote for or against the incorporation of said place as provided by act of assembly.

Said Town or vilage contains about 160 Inhabitants & is bounded as follows: North by Nashville & Chattanooga RailRoad, West by J. B. Buchannans, - South by L. A. Mullins - East by Geo. W. Charlton & R. H. Bethell

Respectfully Submitted

F. C. Crider, G. P. Sanders, A. J. Fanning, F. E. Hoobery, W. M. Covington, J. H. Scales, J. M. Marables, W. M. Williams, J. M. Covington, C. C. Anderson, A. B. Sanders, W. W. Kimbro, A. T. Tenison, A. J. Wilson, J. W. Mitchell, J. A. Askins, W. E. Neblett, J. B. Barns, W. W. Bennett, W. G. Bishop, D. M. Vaughan, J. A. Marable, J. R. Hibbitts, Wm. Smotherman, C. W. Norvell, Jerry Scales, A. J. Green, John Burnett, Jas. Cook

L. K. Mullins

State of Tennessee

Rutherford County County Court, July Term 1859.

Ordered by the Court that G. P. Sanders, John Hill & John Burnett be and they are hereby appointed Inspectors for the purpose of opening and holding an Election in the Town of Lavergne - and said Commissioners be and they are hereby directed to open & hold said Election in such Town after advertising as the law directs, for the purpose of ascertaining whether a Majority of the Citizens of said Town are in favor of having the same Incorporated, said Inspectors will report the result of said Election to the Clerk of this Court--More than Twenty of said Citizens having filed their petition in this Court for the order.

Witness my hand at office, the 13th day of July 1859

Voters Names

	A. Tennison J. A. Marable		James Cook W. M. Covington	17. 18.	John Burnett G. P. Sanders		C. C. Anderson James Barns
3.	Brady Sanders	11.	W. E. Neblett		L. R. Mullins	27.	A. J. Fanning
4.	H. B. Sanders	12.	Isaac Marable	20.	C. W. Norvell	28.	A. W. Douglass
5.	A. J. Green	13.	J. H. Scales	21.	A. J. Nelson	29.	D. M. Vaughan
6.	Samuel Philpot	14.	T. E. Hoobery	22.	J. M. Askins	30.	Henry Williams
7.	John Newhouse	15.	J. Scales	23.	W. W. Burnett	31.	William Smothers
8.	J. R. Hibbitts	16.	W. M. Williams	24.	F. O. Crider	32.	W. G. Bishop

Corporation THI THI THI THI THI THI

no Corporation !!

To John Jones Clerk of the County Court of Rutherford in pursuance of an order made at July Term, of your Court we have opened & held an Election in the Town of Lavernge, to ascertain the sense of the citizens as to whether they wish said Town Incorporated. The result of said Election is that thirty voted for the Corporation and two for no Corporation as stated above.

Given under our hands August 3rd 1859

Jno. Hill

G. P. Sanders

TENNESSEE'S EARLY COURT SYSTEM PART 1--THE SUPERIOR COURTS

Patricia Gilliam Hastings
 Used by permission

There are few institutions that are more important to a society's values and lifestyle than its system of justice. The genealogist who wants to study that system of justice must overcome the twin hurdles of locating all the applicable law and interpreting what he finds. Both of these tasks can be very difficult for one not trained in legal research. However, many genealogists have ancestors who have participated in some manner or other in the early judicial system of Tennessee and would like to know how the early court system worked. The author of this article is actively pursuing research of the early law of Tennessee, as well as its subsequent amendments. This article will discuss the creation and operation of the Superior Courts of the territory of Tennessee as they were created in 1794, and a later article will examine the Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, often called county courts, and the justices of the peace who administered justice there.

ATTRIBUTES OF THE LAW CREATING THE SUPERIOR COURT

Some of the features of the early law which created the Superior Courts of the "Territory of the United States of America South of the River Ohio" that may particularly interest genealogists include the following:

- The direct addressing of specific problems in the system of justice. For instance, note how the legislature approached the problem of getting witnesses to attend court in a time when the roads were few and rough. Observe the attempt to surmount the obstacle of getting jurisdiction over debtors for whom bankruptcy was an expensive alternative to escaping farther onto the frontier, far from the authority of the Tennessee courts. Examine the relative importance of oaths in the courts, and the extensive use of security, or bond, to compel obedience to the court's decree.
 - Harsh and bloody penalties.
- Public officials who were held to high standards of performance and the heavy penalties against those who were derelict.
 - · The status of blacks, Indians, Quakers, and other minorities in the eyes of the law.
- How fines, which are now applied to the benefit of the state, were often a kind of bounty for whoever would report the offense.
- The complicated nature of legal procedure, which could often foreclose a participant's rights simply because his attorney made a mistake in procedure.
- The disorganized, often unclear, draftsmanship of the statute. It is clear from reading both the statute and the minutes of the First Territorial Assembly that the lawmakers struggled with this act.

THE FIRST TERRITORIAL SUPERIOR COURTS

The proceedings of the first Territorial Assembly were recorded for posterity by George Roulstone, a printer and the first Clerk of the Legislative Council, the upper house of the General Assembly. In addition, Roulstone printed, in 1803, the acts of the first (and later) conventions of the Territorial Assembly, the first book to be published in the state of Tennessee.¹ His preface to the volume underscores some of the inherent problems the genealogist encounters today in researching the early law. "Although several acts have been repealed, and others have had their effect, yet it was

¹ Samuel Cole Williams, <u>History of Codification in Tennessee</u>, (Johnson City, 1932), p. 10.

deemed advisable to print all the laws in the order they stand in the editions published under the authority of the state." The preface also notes, "The present undertaking has been very laborious and expensive to the editor--the stock for carrying on which, being brought many hundred miles at great expence...." The minutes of the first Territorial Assembly reveal that James White and William Cocke from the House of Representatives and John Sevier from the Legislative Council were appointed to work on the bill to create the new court system.² Apparently, the Governor, William Blount, worked on the bill as well, because the General Assembly passed a resolution of appreciation for "the application of his abilities and attention in forwarding their business as Representatives; more especially in the system of court law." The bill creating the court system was of considerably greater length than any of the other bills passed by the first Assembly. The clerks were allowed \$2.50 for drawing and engrossing each bill passed by the Assembly--except the court bill, for which they were allowed \$12.00.4

THE STATUTE

The first section of the seventy-seven section act created a Superior Court of Law "for the trial of causes civil and criminal" in each of the three districts of the state--Washington, Hamilton, and Mero.⁵ As before, three judges comprised the court, and those judges who were already "appointed, commissioned, and qualified" retained their positions. They were to have "cognizance and legal jurisdiction of all pleas, real, personal, and mixt, and also of all suits and demands relative to legacies, filial portions, and estates of intestates, all pleas of the government, and criminal matters of what nature, degree, or denomination soever, whether brought before them by original or mesne process, or by certiorari, writ of error, appeal from any inferior court, or by any other ways or means whatsoever...."

Section two of the act required the appointment of a clerk "of skill and probity" to each of the courts. He was compelled to post a \$10,000 bond "for the safe keeping of the records and the faithful discharge of the duties of his office." The third section prescribed an oath to be taken by a successor clerk. The clerk was required to swear that he had not given nor would he give any compensation in return for his office and that he would execute his duties to the best of his ability "without prejudice, favor, affection, or partiality." If any clerk were convicted of having done anything contrary to the intent and meaning of the oath, he was to be forever incapable of holding any office, civil or military.

The fourth section of the act regulated attorneys, who were required to have resided in the Territory for one year before being admitted to practice. They too were required to take an oath promising to perform to the best of their knowledge and ability.

Sections five and six of the act concerned the selection of the proper forum for the trying of a case. The actions of "ejectment, trespass, quare clausum fregit," suits on penal statutes, and pleas of the government" were to be brought in the district where the cause of action arose. Actions of "debt, detinue and replevin, accounts rendered, assault and battery, the unlawful taking of goods, actions on the case, and suits for legacies and for distributive shares of intestates estates" were to be brought in the district where both parties resided. If they resided in different districts, the action could be brought in either district. If the plaintiff lived "beyond seas or in a different state of government," the action was to

²George Roulstone, <u>Journal of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Territory of the U.S. South of the River Ohio, etc.</u>, (Nashville, 1852 reprint), p. 6. Hereinafter referred to as "<u>Legislative Council Journal</u>." Roulstone, <u>Journal of the Proceedings of the House of Representatives of the Territory of the U.S. South of the River Ohio, etc.</u>, (Nashville, 1852 reprint), p. 7.

³ Legislative Council Journal, p. 34.

⁴ Legislative Council Journal, p. 29.

⁵ While the area was under North Carolina jurisdiction, the Superior Courts had already been created in each of the three districts.

⁶ Original process is the first process that is issued in a lawsuit—in other words, process issued by a court with jurisdiction to take a case at its inception, try it, and pass judgment. Mesne process, certiorari, writ of error, and appeal are all avenues to appeal the judgment of a lower court.

⁷ Ejectment was an action for trying disputes over real property. Trespass was an action for recovery of damages to a person or his property. Quare clausum fregit was an action for unlawful entry onto the plaintiff's land.

⁸ An action in debt was for breach of contract or for money owed. Detinue was an action which tried the right of possession of property as well as damages resulting from its unlawful holding. Replevin was also an action to try the lawfulness of the defendant's holding property that the plaintiff claimed was his. The difference in detinue and replevin is that in detinue the defendant had acquired possession of the property lawfully, but refused to return it. Replevin implied that the defendant had acquired possession wrongfully. Additionally, replevin was the action used to force return of specific property, rather than compensation for the deprivation of its use.

be brought in the district where the defendant resided. The penalty for bringing the suit in the wrong jurisdiction was abatement of the cause of action. Additionally, the original jurisdiction of the court (as opposed to its appcllate jurisdiction) required that the matter in dispute be at least one hundred pounds where both parties lived in the same district, or fifty pounds if they lived in different districts. A couple of exceptions to this requirement were carved out, however.

Section seven dictated that the penalty for falsely swearing in order to obtain a recovery was the same as the penalty for perjury. In order to locate the penalty for perjury, it is necessary to refer to the most recent North Carolina statute, passed in 1791. The penalty was a "fine not exceeding five hundred pounds, and stand in the pillory one hour, both the ears of the person so offending to be cut off, and severed entirely from the head, and the ears so cut off shall be nailed to the pillory by the officer, and there remain until the setting of the sun; and the person so offending shall be thereafter rendered incapable of giving testimony in any of the courts of this state, or in any case whatsoever...."

Section eight provided that the death or inattendance of a judge would not "discontinue" the cause of action. Section nine required the attorney and sheriff to mark the complaint with the date--the attorney at the time he filed it, and the sheriff at the time he served it. The penalty for failure to do so was \$125.00, to be recovered by any person who should sue for it. Section ten required the sheriff to make return of writs and other process (except subpoenas) on the first day of the term of court and to serve them at least ten days prior to the beginning of the current term. Otherwise, a case was to be heard in the next term. Judges, justices of the peace, and court clerks could issue their process on criminal matters at any time.

According to section eleven, when the sheriff was "commanded to take the body of any person" (arrest the defendant), the condition of the prisoner's release before trial was posting bond with two sufficient securities, in double the sum for which the defendant was to be held in arrest. If the sheriff neglected to take the bail, he was deemed to stand as "special bail." In other words, if the defendant did not either pay or surrender himself, the sheriff was obligated to pay for him.

Section twelve required the sheriff to conditionally assign the bail bond, which was originally made out to him, to the plaintiff. A particular form is prescribed by the statute for the assignment. If the defendant were already in jail, the plaintiff was allowed to enter the defendant's plea as if the defendant had done so himself, because the defendant was not to be discharged from jail except after posting bail or pursuant to court rule.

Section fourteen of the act concerned the rights and responsibilities of securities, a very important matter in an era when one's relatives, friends, and neighbors were almost certain to be called upon to serve as security⁹ at some time. Bail taken by the sheriff was to be used to satisfy any judgment the plaintiff might obtain if the sheriff failed to find the defendant in the county in order to execute upon the judgment. The security did have procedural rights, however. He was entitled to a hearing to show cause why the bail should not be forfeited before final judgment on the forfeiture. His hope to escape forfeiture of the bond was to show either that he did not execute the bond or to have the defendant surrender or submit himself to personal jurisdiction by appearing in court before final judgment was given on the "show cause" hearing.¹⁰

Section fifteen gave securities the liberty of arresting "the body of his principal, and secur[ing] him until he shall have an opportunity to surrender him to the sheriff or the court." Section sixteen required the security to submit his case to the same term of court. The purpose of such a requirement was to prevent the security from delaying the plaintiff's recovery. The bail could, however, upon submitting a sworn affidavit detailing a sufficient need for delay, be granted a continuance. If the defendant were unlucky enough to be in jail already, he was to be retained until the plaintiff's judgment and court costs were paid.

⁹ The term "security" meant essentially the same thing that it does today. A security was a person who posted a bond of money or property to guarantee some event, such as the defendant's appearance for the trial. If the defendant did not appear, the bond was forfeited after certain procedural protections described in this paragraph were met. "Bail" means the same thing as "security." Both "security" and "bail" could be used to refer to the person who was posting the bond as well as to the bond itself.

¹⁰ The writ of scire facias was served upon the security, requiring him to appear and show cause why the plaintiff should not have advantage of forfeiture of the bond, once the defendant was not to be found within the county.

If the defendant were personally outside the jurisdiction of the court ("not to be found"), any property belonging to him located in the jurisdiction could be attached until he was arrested.¹¹ If the defendant did not make his personal appearance before the case against him had proceeded to final judgment, the plaintiff could ask the court at the next term to have the attached goods sold. If the price the goods fetched were not sufficient to satisfy plaintiff's judgment, any other of the defendant's property located in the jurisdiction could be subjected to the judgment. Foreign currency in the hands of the defendant within the jurisdiction could also be reached, in the same term of court.

If a sworn complaint were made that a debtor was "removing him or herself out of the county privately," or if he "so absconds or conceals him or herself that the ordinary process of law cannot be served on such debtor," upon plaintiff's filing of sworn testimony of the debt, property of the defendant could be attached. Before granting such an attachment, the judge was to take bond from the plaintiff for double the amount he claimed the defendant owed him, to satisfy all costs of the defendant if he were to prevail, as well as any judgment the defendant might obtain for wrongfully harassing him with the lawsuit.

For the convenience of creditors, section twenty expressly gave justices of the peace the power to issue writs of attachment.

Section twenty-one reveals another kind of jurisdiction over litigants--in rem jurisdiction, or jurisdiction over property located within the court's jurisdiction. In rem jurisdiction required the presence of the res, or property, within the borders, its seizure at the commencement of the action, and an opportunity for the owner to be heard. Any judgment was effective only against the attached property. The estates of nonresidents and deceased debtors who owned property within the jurisdiction were subject to attachment.

Once a nonresident's property was attached, justice required that there be some provision for releasing that attachment, even before the opportunity for a full hearing. Replevin was the proper legal process to require the property to be returned to the defendant upon his posting sufficient bond to satisfy any judgment and upon his submitting to personal jurisdiction. Section twenty-two also provided for the disposition of perishable goods where the defendant had not instituted action to repossess the attached property. Upon the certification by three justices of the county court that the attached goods were perishable, the sheriff was to sell the property, advertising the proposed sale at the courthouse and at other public places at least twenty days before the sale. The proceeds of the sale were deposited with the clerk to be available to satisfy any judgment against the owner of the property.

Section twenty-two also provided for garnishment proceedings to attach property belonging to the defendant in the hands of another person. If a person within the court's jurisdiction (the "garnishee") held property for "the party absconding, or residing out of the government," the property in the hands of the garnishee could be seized. Process was served on the garnishee, who was required to say under oath to what extent he was indebted to the defendant or what property belonging to the defendant he held. The court could then award execution against the garnishee to the extent he was indebted to or held property for the defendant. If the garnishee did not appear after being summoned, the court could award a conditional judgment for the entire amount of the judgment against the garnishee. The conditional judgment could be contested at the next term of court, but if the garnishee again failed to appear, the entire judgment and costs were to be entered against him.

Curiously, the next three sections of the act are omitted in Roulstone, in spite of his claim in the preface that "though several apparent errors may strike the observation of the reader, they will nevertheless be found to correspond with the originals...." The writer consulted a later compilation of the law, <u>A Revisal of all the Public Acts of the State of North Carolina and of the State of Tennessee now in Force in the State of Tennessee</u>, published in Nashville in 1809 by prominent North Carolina and Tennessee jurist John Haywood, for their text.

Section twenty-three extended in rem jurisdiction to real estate as well as to personal property--a plaintiff could attach, and if he prevailed in court, could recover real estate in the state belonging to the defendant. The sheriff was directed to attach first a defendant's "goods and chattels," and if they were not sufficient to satisfy a potential claim, the

¹¹ Personal jurisdiction over the defendant allowed a judgment of any size to be enforced against him. By contrast, if a court had jurisdiction merely over property belonging to the defendant, any judgment was limited to the value of the property. Obtaining personal jurisdiction over the defendant required that he be served personally with process. If he were not to be found within the jurisdiction, that was impossible. Clearly, it was desirable for a court to have personal jurisdiction over a defendant, and much of this statute was directed at obtaining that power.

"lands and tenements" as well. Before selling real estate, however, the sheriff had to give forty days' notice in the "most public place in his county" of the sale. The defendant had the option to bring an action for repossession of the land (replevin) if he submitted to personal jurisdiction. Section twenty-four gave the form that was to be used in issuing attachments and in taking bonds, though no attachment would be abated because the exact form was not used so long as all the essential parts were included.

Justice required that extra time be given to a nonresident defendant whose property was attached. Section twenty-five gave him not less than six months nor more than one year to answer the writ. Also, if convenient, the court was to notify the defendant personally. If he appeared, posted bond, and answered the suit, any attachment or garnishment was to be discharged. However, fairness to the plaintiff required that if he prevailed, he should receive

Section twenty-six is an extremely technical discussion of the time allowed for filing certain legal proceedings. Because of its length and its complex nature, it will not be discussed in this article.

Section twenty-seven continued the validity of the "Statutes of Jeofailes" of "England, Great Britain...enforced in this government by any act...of the General Assembly under the late government." The statutes of jeofailes allowed a party who perceived a mistake in the form of his legal proceedings, and who acknowledged the error, to be able to amend his complaint. Such a concept is so firmly entrenched in modern law that it is difficult for one who does not know the history of the common law to understand its necessity. Early courts of justice were very intolerant of mistakes in the form of a plaintiff's case, so much so that the authors of a modern first year textbook of procedure called the common law "[so] filled with special instances, inexplicable exceptions, arbitrary rules, and untraversable fictions...[resulting in] one of the most complex and snare-ridden creations ever devised by man." Even a minor procedural mistake might result in abatement of the plaintiff's cause, clearly an injustice.

Sections twenty-eight through thirty-six regulated taking the testimony of witnesses. The sheriff was directed to serve a subpoena personally on a witness requiring him to appear at a certain time and give testimony, or if the court were not in session at the time, the sheriff could leave the subpoena at the witness' usual place of residence. In a time when witnesses might have to travel a considerable length of time under unpleasant conditions to reach the courthouse, penalties for nonattendance were understandably high. For nonattendance, the witness had to pay \$125 to the party who had summoned him and was further liable to the party summoning him for any damages which his absence had caused. The witness who arrived at the courthouse to find that a suit in which he was to testify had been settled without notifying him was entitled to recover from the party who had summoned him but neglected to release him. A witness who falsely claimed not to have been released from the summons was, upon conviction, punished for perjury. A witness who showed sufficient reason that he was unable to attend did not immediately incur a fine, but he had to appear at the next succeeding term and give a sufficient reason for his absence or be fined. In order to take the testimony of witnesses who because of age, bodily infirmity, or other good cause would never be able to appear before the court, the court could order as many persons as necessary to take the deposition of the witness. The party asking for the deposition was to give notice to the adverse party of the time and place where the testimony was to be taken, and the adverse party had the right to cross examine any witness. Likewise, the testimony of a person who was "under the necessity of leaving this government before such cause is to be tried" could also be taken by deposition.

A witness refusing to testify was to be "committed to the common prison, there to remain without bail...until he shall be willing to give testimony in such manner as the law doth...direct." Quakers had the privilege of giving their testimony by solemn affirmation instead of under oath.

The testimony of some citizens was worth more than others, however. Section thirty-two declared:

Negroes, Indians, Mulattoes, and all persons of mixed blood, descended from Negro and Indian ancestors, to the third generation inclusive (though one ancestor of each generation may have been a white person) whether bond or free, shall be taken and deemed to be incapable in law to be witnesses in any case whatever, except against each other. And provided further, That no person of mixed blood in any degree whatsoever, who has been liberated within twelve months previously, shall be admitted as a witness against a white person.

¹²John J. Cound, Jack H. Friedenthal, and Arthur R. Miller, Civil Procedure Cases and Materials, (St. Paul, 1968), p. 280.

Witnesses who failed to appear in criminal proceedings were treated more harshly--a \$250 fine. An additional indication that the attendance of witnesses was a problem for the early courts is the fact that a witness was immune from service of any "writ or process, warrant, order, judgment or decree in any cause (summons for witness excepted)" while he was going to, returning from, and attending court. In order to determine whether a person was going to or returning from court, one day was allowed for every twenty-five miles a witness had to travel--a good indication of the difficulty of travel in that time.

A witness was compensated for his time. He was allowed for each day's attendance one dollar for the Superior Court and fifty cents for the county courts. He was also allowed one dollar for every thirty miles he traveled going to and from any court, except that no allowance was made for attending the county court in the county in which he resided. The clerk certified his ticket for his compensation.

Section thirty-seven conferred appellate jurisdiction on the Superior Courts. They were to "have power and authority to grant writs of error, for correcting the errors of any inferior court..." The party appealing had to give bond as well as perform the judgment which the lower court had awarded. In order "to prevent the obtaining of writs of error by surprize, the party praying such writ...shall give notice in writing to the adverse party, at least ten days before motion...."

The next two sections of the act demonstrate not only the disorganization that marks this first statute but also a major problem one encounters in doing legal research--that of how to interpret what law one finds. Section thirty-nine created the courts of pleas and quarter sessions (county courts), a subject which Part Two of this article will concern. However, the section immediately following apparently concerns the Superior Courts once again. The writer says "apparently" because, while there is nothing in the section indicating that it applied only to the Superior Court, section seventy-three of the same act dealt with the same subject, except that its provisions are somewhat different. Section seventy-three, however, expressly applied only to the county courts.

Section forty enacted a suspension of the statute of limitations. The time elapsed between 6 March 1773 and 24 December 1777 was not to be counted in the computation of the time allowed for "proving accounts under the act for ascertaining the method of proving book debts." Since Tennessee was a part of North Carolina during that time, it is necessary to refer to North Carolina law and history to try to discover the reason for such a provision. Comparison of the Tennessee statute to a 1777 North Carolina statute on which the Tennessee statute is partly patterned reveals suspension of the statute of limitations in North Carolina from 6 Mar 1773 to 19 March 1774 and from 10 September 1775 until the end of the November 1777 General Assembly. Disorganization of the government is very evident during that time. The North Carolina General Assembly met in only one session in 1773, passing very little legislation. Also during 1774, there was only one session of the Assembly, in March, at which very little was done. There was no legislation at all in 1775, and the next time the General Assembly met was 17 December 1776. At that session the General Assembly passed a Declaration of Rights and Constitution. Only a small amount of additional legislation was passed, all of which dealt with the revolution. The violations of George III with respect to justice are well documented.\(^{14}

The reason for the suspension of statutes of limitation in times of civil unrest is ably stated by the North Carolina General Assembly, which prefaced in a 1783 statute with the following: "And whereas great injustice and injury may arise to many persons who may have claims to property, or demands on debtors, by reason of the courts of justice being often stopped, the depreciation of paper currency, and the intrusion of a destructive war, creditors have been prevented from prosecuting for the same to any effect; that justice and equity may be done...."

Be sure to look for your kinfolk in the Superior Court minutes. The minutes of the Superior Court for Mero District beginning in 1788 have been transcribed by the WPA. They are very well indexed and are available at TSLA for research. Even if your family is not there, there is plenty of historical and genealogical interest. The sheriffs make return of their writs; juries are impaneled (and find ways to modify the harsh law), and criminals are prosecuted for everything from buggery to slander. Civil complaints are represented, too--debtors who haven't paid and businessmen who have breached contracts. A researcher can uncover a wealth of detail and a much better understanding of Tennessee's early judicial system through the study of the Superior Court minutes.

¹³ Book debts were accounts for such matters as goods sold and delivered or labor or other services performed, entered into a book of account.

¹⁴ See, for example, the Declaration of Independence.

My Last will and Testiment I Clare Singleton being in my same mind do give and bequeethe all my property.

To my father my blow bubble pipe and my twenty dollars in gold and my rubby ring, My ruberr doll Fred and the dolls clothes and as for my clothes I give him by [sic] blue [slally?] and shuck hat and one of my blue slippers and stockings and one of my gray slipers and one of my gray stockings (if they ever do come) and my oak doll table and chairr with the tidy on it. And my French Fary Tails and my little purse and half of my cards

To my mother I give my
One Dollar and seventy five
cents and if Martha (I dont
know her other name anyway
she sells clothes for mother)
sells my other dresses she can
have that money and she can

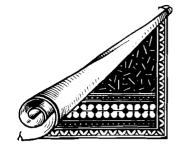
have my neckless and my moonstone ring and also my book called Alice in Wonder land and one of my blue slipers and stocking and my gray slippers and the stockings (if they ever come. and my little card case and half of my cards also my biggest doll and her clothes and my doll trunk and iron bed with bed clothes on it and the folding chair, and may [sic] black umbrella and my clothes--and by [sic] little lamp she broke the shade of

To my dear brother Robert I leave my Magic Lantern and the glasses (if they are not all broken) and my oak rocking chair

[This charming will was found by Greg Poole while processing the Chapman Family Papers in the Manuscripts Collection of the Tennessee State Library & Archives. The original is written in pencil on a school tablet measuring about 6" x 9".]

SAVING YOUR PAPERS AND PICTURES

Martha H. Colburn



Have you ever found an old family bible that probably has the information you need, only to discover the pages have faded or gone to crumbs? Have you ever found an old family photograph, only to see that it is faded, or bug-eaten? In what condition have you found the letters written by your grand parents? Less than readable? What are you doing now to insure that your records and pictures will be in readable condition by your great-grand children?

Your papers are vulnerable to attack from many fronts: the environment, chemicals and critters, as well as fire and flood.

Environment: Heat and humidity will cause your treasures to mold, fade and change color. These also hasten the damage caused by chemicals. Sunlight is bad for both people and documents.

Chemicals: The acid in paper, wood and cardboard will cause your papers to fade and crumble (remember that old Bible? High acid paper.) This acid content increases with age unless the paper is specially processed. Acid damages and fades photographs. Glues of most kinds will also leave their marks. A special demon is sticky tape. Most of us have seen the results of old cellophane or "Scotch" tape. Never allow tape near your papers.

Plastics can be very bad: polyvinyl chloride (PVC) emits Chlorine gas that will destroy prints and cause them to stick to it. (Sniff the plastic. If you can smell it, get rid of it.) Those marvelous magnetic photo albums destroy prints. It isn't long before that plastic cover sheet will stick to the photo, and destroy the colors. Rubber bands, paper clips, and white glue are all bad for your pictures.

Critters: 2 or more legs. We often think of keeping bugs and mice out of our papers. Use of proper boxes and storage sites will usually solve this problem. We fail to protect against the worst offender: people. They not only leave finger prints which create chemical changes over time, but people destroy our keepsakes after we leave, not knowing they are valuable. How often have you wished you had Grandma's old letters, but Aunty threw them out when she cleaned out the old home place?

What to do to preserve your documents.

Be sure someone knows what it is you have saved. Make it look organized and important by putting it in files with names on them. Put the data in your computer. Send a back-up disk to a relative for off-site storage, in case of fire or flood.

Buy low acid cardboard or metal boxes to store the things you are going to keep in a box anyway. Metal boxes should be covered with baked on enamel, not painted. Get archival quality envelopes to stuff things in, and write on the envelopes what is in them. Manila envelopes are high acid and have damaging glue on them.

Remove all your photos from plastic albums. Store your black and white photos in envelopes that have been buffered to counteract the acid. Color prints need to go in just low acid envelopes, as these prints naturally like just the bit of acid they have. Keep things dark and dry and cool. Keep the temperature from going over 75 degrees and the humidity from going over 50%. Never put your treasures in attic or basement. For pictures and documents you want to display in albums, get archival quality albums. Occasionally you can buy one in your local store, that has Polyester type plastic pockets instead of the smelly heavy vinyl. If you want to build a scrap book, you will need special papers and glues.

More information on archival techniques can be obtained from your local Museum, or from the following:

Light Impressions Archival Supplies, 439 Monroe Ave, Rochester, NY 14607-3717, Phone 800-828-6216. Their catalog is an education. They also have free folders on: Tips for Proper Negative Storage; Mounting Techniques; Care and Storage of Color Slides

Kodak Publication E-30: Storage and Care of KODAK Films and Papers- Before and After Processing.

The Preservation Emporium, PO Box 226309, Dept C, Dallas TX 75222-6309, Phone 214-331-8902



To Fix Pencil Marks.

Pencil marks may be fixed on paper, according to a correspondent of the *Scientific American*, in the following way: Make a size of isinglass dissolved in a saturated solution of alum, boil it after cooling, and add an equal quantity of alcohol. Put the liquid in a dish, and gently immerse the drawing therein, face downwards.

To Keep Gum Arabic from Molding.—

Solutions of gum arabic soon mold and sour, and finally lose their adhesive property. It is said that sulphate of quinine will prevent this, while it imparts no bad odor of its own. The addition of a solution of a few crystals of this salt to gum arabic will prevent the formation of mold quite as effectually as carbolic acid, and by analogy it is safe to suppose that the same salt could be used in writing ink, mucilage, and possibly glue.

Good Ink.—Common India ink, simply dissolved in water, is excellent for writing. Being composed of carbon, and little else, it will keep in any climate or place from year to year, perfectly sweet. Even freezing does not injure its good qualities, a simple cover is all that is required to prevent evaporation and keep the dust from falling into it. It flows from the pen with ease and freeness. The stroke of the pen made with it is quite black if desired, and will endure unchanged to all time, provided the paper of parchment remains sound; and even papers that have been burned and not fallen to pieces, with this kind of writing upon them, remain quite plain to read.

[Anne Blair Bond is the owner of A. C. Barbee's Bible. The title page shows it to have been printed in 1853 in New York by the American Bible Society. Mrs. Bond has had the Bible rebound including extra pages on which the records had been continued. She tells us A. C. Barbee's father, George, came to Robertson Co., Tn from Chatham Co., NC. Abner Cain was married Montgomery County, Tn.]

FAMILY BIBLE RECORDS -- A. C. BARBEE'S BOOK (1854)

MARRIAGES

A. C. Barbee was Married to Mary Ann M. Trice the 24th day December 1846

George William Solamon Barbee was born the 17 day of June 1848 Jane Thomas Barbee was born the 21 day May 1851 Jeams A. Barbee was born the 12 August 1853

William S. Barbee was maried to Maggie W. Wheatley the 10 day Feby 1874

Mary Ann Melissia Barbee was married to John W. Leigh Dec 6 1877 [second marriage, was married to A. C. Barbee]

Elizabeth Barbee to Milton W. Blair Mch-21-94

Lyda Barbee to Claude R. Hancock [no date]

Lida M. Barbee to C. R. Hancock Dec 22-1898

Frank R. Blair & Evelyn Shriver July-8-1920

Abner Campbell Barbee and Zela M. Hill married Dec 20th 1920

Margaret C. White & Wm. Lawrence Blair Sept. 3 1929

Evelyn Melissa Bond to William Vincent Parsons, Jr. May 30, 1970

Barbara Lanier Oliver to Walter Frank Bond June 9, 1972

Billie Susan Gibson to Charles Frederick Bond, Jr. 1 May 1976, Sanford, NC (divorced)

Urvashi Pitre (b. New Delhi India) to Charles Frederick Bond, Jr. 9 Oct 1987 (Ft. Worth, Texas)

Elizabeth Anne Bond to Michael Robert Bishop 16 Feb 1980, Nash., Tn

BIRTHS

Thomas Trice Was born on the tenth day of January 1798

Jane Trice Was born on the Second day of March 1800

A. C. Barbee was born the 15 day of May 1825

Mary Ann M. Trice was born the 12 day of february 1830

Jas. T. Trice Was born on the 25 Day of February 1834

James T. Jenkins Was born on the sixteenth of August 183?5

S. R. Trice Was born on the 28 of March 1838

Jas. D. Trice was bor the 2 of July 1826

George W. S. Barbee was beorn the 17 of June 1848

Jene T. Barbee was bornd the 21 day of May 1851

Jeams A. Barbee was Born the 12 day of August 1853

Maggie W. Wheatley was born the 14 day of August

Mary Elizabeth Barbee was borned 4th Feby 1875

Melissia Lida Barbee was borned 23rd Dec 1877

Abner Campbell Barbee was born Juy 3rd 1881

BIRTHS--Continued

W. Lawrence Blair Born Dec. 20 - '94	Anne Elizabeth Parsons born Feb 15, 1974
Frank Blair Nov. 22 - 1896	Elizabeth Lanier Bond Born Oct 20, 1974
Anne Elizabeth Blair July-16-1921	Corinne Oliver Bond Born Jan 24, 1978
Evelyn Melissa Bond born July 14, 1948	Catherine Taylor Parsons Born March 30, 1977
Walter Frank Bond born August 9, 1950	William Vincent Parsons, III Born May 9, 1978
Charles Frederick Bond, Jr. Born July 10, 1953	Caroline Blair Bishop Born May 3, 1983
Elizabeth Anne Bond Born Jan. 5, 1958	Steven Robert Bishop Born Oct 11, 1985
Sarah Barbee Parsons born Dec 14, 1971	Mark Arjun Bond b. 21 Dec 1989, Ft. Worth, Texas



In a section by themselves on the Births page are the following which we speculate to be slaves:

Elexandra was Borned December 5 1850 Elen M. was Borned Juli 27 1852 Chord? was Borned March 2 1854 Parolee was Borned December 4 1856 Sally was Borned Juli 22 1859 and Departed this lif Juli the 29 1859

DEATHS

A. C. Barbee Departed this life on the 28 of Nov 1854	Margaret W. Barbee Feb-12-1924
Thomas Trice Departed this life on the 6 of Sept 1846	Claude R. Hancock Aug-2-1922
Jane Trice Departed this life on the 27 July 1844	Milton William Blair Dec. 28-1940
Jane Thomas Barbee Departed this life the 10th of March 1867	William Lawrence Blair March 6, 1941
	Abner Campbell Barbee Jan 27, 1957
James Abner Barbee Departed this life the 14th of March 1871	Mary Elizabeth Barbee Blair Dec 29, 1958
Dr. S. W. Trice Departed this life September 27th 1871	Charles Frederick Bond Nov 15, 1963
John W. Leigh Departed this life Aug 14th 1882	Frank Runyon Blair August 25, 1967
William S. Barbee Departed this Life April 23 1886	Melissa Lida Barbee Dec. 7, 1967



Mrs. M. A. Leigh died June 1st 1897

SHRIVER FAMILY BIBLE RECORDS

[All that remains of the Shriver Bible is the Family Record Section which has been professionally preserved and is the property of Anne Blair Bond. She notes that Daniel B. Shriver was born Bedford Co., Tn and came to Davidson Co. between 1880 & 1883.]

MARRIAGES

- Daniel B. Shriver was married to Miss Mary J. Wortham on the 2d day of September 1856 by Rev. S. S. Moody
- James A. Shriver was married to Miss Mary N. Thompson on the 15th day of May 1877 by Rev. M? Wells
- A. W? McCord was married to Miss Lou E. Shriver on the 28th day of Feb 1878 by Rev. R. Haggard
- R. E. Howell was married to Miss L. L. Shriver Sept 7 1879
- J. A. Snell was married to Sallie Clay Shriver 1892, Dec. 1st 1892 by Rev. R. Len? Care
- John F. Shriver was m. to Sarah Crocker May 1890
- Benj. F. Shriver was married to Jessie E. Rolfe Dec. 21-1898 by Rev. W. E. Ellis
- Sallie Clay Snell was married to W. W. Wilson Sept 2, 1900

BIRTHS

Danl. Brooks Shriver was born January 26th, 1824

Mary J. Shriver, Wife of D. B. Shriver was Born Nov. 14th 1836

Fannie Kate Shriver Daughter of D. B. & M. J. Shriver was Born June 25 1857

James Abram Shriver was Born May 14th 1859, Son of D. B. & M. J. Shriver

Lou Ellen Shriver Daughter of D. B. & M. J. Shriver was Born Nov 16th 1862

Elizabeth Lee Shriver Daughter of D. B. & M. J. Shriver was Born Oct 16th 1864

Kittie Shriver Daughter of D. B. Shriver & M. J. Shriver was Born Oct 29th 1866

John Fountain Shriver was born Nov 9th 1869 Son of D. B. & M. J. Shriver

Benjamin Franklin Shriver was born Mar 16th 1872 Sons of D. B. & M. J. Shriver

[another Shriver Daughter listed at bottom of page but the information is destroyed]

James Willie Shriver was born May 30, 1878

BIRTHS (Continued)

A. B. Shriver was born Jan 17th 1880

Willie Summers McCord was born April the 4th 1879

Evelyn Shriver was born Sept 24, 1900 (1899)

Robert Edgar Howell June 29th-1880

Pearl Editha Shriver born _______

Franklin Brooks McCord was born Sept 8th 1881Cate May Shriver was born Jany 31th 188_

(Gla)dys Marion Snell was born ______ 1895

(Evelyn) Elizabeth Snell was born M?ay 7th 18____

DEATHS

Fannie Kate Shriver Departed this life Nov 28th 1859 - Aged 2 Years 5 Months & 3 Days

Kittie M. Wells Departed this life Nov 23rd 1866 aged

James Willie Shriver Departed this life July 10th 1878 aged 1 month & 11 days

Robt. Edgar Howell Departed this life April 26th 1881 Aged 9 mos & 27 days

Our Father Dan'l. Brooks Shriver Departed this life Oct 16th 1883 Aged 59 Years 8 mo. 20 Days

Kattie May Shriver Departed this Life August 16-85-age 2 yrs 6 mos.

J. A. Snell Died Dec 28th 1895

Joseph Asbury Snell Departed his life Dec 28th 1895 Aged 41 yrs 6 mo 4 da

In Loveing Remembrance--

J. A. Snell

He has gone from his dear ones, his children, his wife Whom he willingly toiled for and loved as his life; God: how misterious, and how strange are thy ways To take from us this loved one in the best of his days.

Mary J. Shriver - Departed this life Nov. 14 - 1913. On her 77th birthday--

[We recently spent a few hours in Winchester with the volunteers for the Franklin County Historical Society. While chatting with Howard A. (Pete) Hannah, County Historian, the subject of Franklin County's secession from the state of Tennessee during the Civil War came up. Following is an abridged transcription of an article by Mrs. James E. Thorogood published in the Chattanooga Sunday Times, Magazine Section, September 25, 1932. A copy of the article was supplied by the History Room of the Winchester Library. The following is nowhere near complete and is meant only as an overview of a fascinating snatch of the history. Ed.]

Franklin County Quit Tennessee

Franklin county seceded from Tennessee and sought to join the state of Alabama Feb. 24, 1861, according to a document recently discovered among official Franklin county records which survived the fires of the invasion of Federal troops in '63...The record, thought to have been destroyed, chronicles the only known instance of a county seceding from its parent state.

On Feb. 24, 1861, Franklin county passed ordinances of secession from the state of Tennessee, which was still a member of the Union, and united with the state of Alabama, which was a part of the Confederate States of America. It is the only county on record in the history of the United States that ever seceded from its mother state.

The account of this unique event and the story of its leader, Peter Turney, form one of the most stirring and colorful chapters in the history of Tennessee or the south. It is a story that has been little known and less told, for the invasion of the Federal troops in 1863 swept away almost all the records. Recently a copy of the Franklin county secession ordinances was found, almost surely the only one in existence. Its stirring language is typical of the fever-heat sentiment and impetuous spirit of those memorable times.

It might be said by some that Franklin county did not actually secede from Tennessee; that such a move was impossible. The same could be said of the southern states, which attempted to leave the Union, for this headstrong little county in the south-central part of Tennessee followed the same course as did the Confederate States.

These Confederate States passed ordinances of secession and then immediately organized armies to enforce the ordinances. That is what Franklin county did. Within two weeks after the ordinances of secession were passed, "with loud and protracted cheers and applause," fiery Peter Turney, 34-year-old Winchester attorney, had organized a company of soldiers to "resist, even unto death, the policies of the Federal government." These were the first men in the state of Tennessee to take up arms for the cause of the Confederacy.

Offered to Confederacy.

This company was offered to the Confederate government by Capt. Turney before the last of March, 1861, and he was immediately authorized by the war department under President Jefferson Davis to organize an entire regiment. This Turney did during the months of March and April, men flocking to his call from the coves and mountains of Franklin, Lincoln, Coffee and Grundy counties.

By the first week in April he had recruited eleven companies, 1,165 men. ... The call did not come at once, much to the chafing impatience of Turney and his first Tennesseans. On April 14, 1861, Fort Sumter, in Charleston harbor, fell under the bombardment of the South Carolina state troops. On April 19 President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers for the purpose of forcing the seceding states back into the Union. On April 24 the state of Virginia, insulted by Lincoln's demand that she furnish part of Lincoln's army of coercion, seceded from the United States and joined the Confederacy.

Turney and the regiment could not longer endure delay. On April 25 the eleven companies were ordered to assemble at Winchester, the county seat, prepared to march. On April 27 the permanent field officers were elected. Peter Turney was naturally chosen colonel.

Touching Farewell.

The troops camped at Winchester for three days. There was much parading back and forth, much marching around the courthouse. At night there were dances and parties and gay songs.

On the last day of April there was an assembly of the 350 girls of famous Mary Sharpe college for the purpose of bidding the colonel and the regiment farewell...

Secession Actual.

The next day, orders from the Confederate was department still failing to arrive, Turney's First Tennessee regiment marched to Decherd, which was located two miles east of Winchester, on the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroad, where a train was waiting to carry them to Virginia.

This was on May 1, 1861, while the state of Tennessee was still a member of the Union, only two weeks after the first shots of the war had been fired at Charleston and before the war department at Montgomery, fearful of offending a state which was a potential ally, had sent any orders to the Franklin regiment. Col. Turney's organization of 1,165 men, and his arrival with them in Virginia before Tennessee had left the Union proves conclusively that, even if the ordinances of secession passed at Winchester on Feb. 24 were somewhat tentative, the subsequent actions of Franklin countians were very final, indeed. Franklin county did, in fact, then secede from the state of Tennessee.

The question naturally arises as to how Franklin county was able to accomplish such an unheard-of move. Why did not Mother Tennessee take headstrong young Franklin by a political ear and march it back home? Tennessee had voted by a majority of 68,000 votes to remain in the Union, on Feb. 6, 1861; and yet within two weeks this willful county had passed ordinances of

secession, and within two months had an entire regiment ready to fight for the Confederacy, which was the deadly enemy of the same Union with which Tennessee had voted to remain...

The answer to these questions is in more than one factor. Probably first and foremost, Franklin county successfully seceded because she had the audacity to make a determined effort to do so. Secondly, Tennessee's sentiment as a whole was not favorable to the Federal union in spite of her vote of Feb 6; the state was merely waiting for events to develop, hoping that some exit from actual bloodshed might be found. Third, Isham G. Harris, Tennessee's governor, was an ardent southerner, and a native of Franklin county. Isham Harris was educated in Winchester and knew every one of consequence in the county. He had been a close friend of Hopkins L. Turney, United States senator and twice congressman, father of Peter Turney. In a word, Harris' sentiments were all with Franklin county and the Confederacy.

Stewart County Settlements & Bonds, Roll 52, Book A, p. 162

Milams Heirs to Lucy Pegrim

State of Tennessee Stewart County

Know ye Whom it may Concern that we the Undersigned Subscribers being Joint Heirs of the Estate of James Milam Deceased late of the County of-do agree that our Illegetimate Sister Lucy Pegrim Shall become a Lawful Heir with us to the Estate of our Father the said James Milam Decd. and that she is and shall in all Points be Justly Entitled to an Equal part of the said Estate and we do hereby Consider her the Said Lucy Justly E(n)titled to an Equal Part with us of the said Est which we agree She Shall Receive and no part be Retained from her the said Lucy but Shall be Delivered to Her When a Divison of the said Estate Shall take place given under our hands and seals this 14th Day of February 1817

John Milam Elam Milam Adam Milam William Dowdy James G. Dowdy **Uriah Tomlinson**

State of Tennessee

Teste

May Term 1817

Stewart County Court

the within Instrument of writing was proved in open Court by the Oath of William Dowdy & James Dowdy Subscribing Witnesses & hereto ordered to be Recorded

Robert Cooper Clerk of Teste **Stewart County Court**

CENSUS

-- ROBERTSON COUNTY 1840 --

[This transcription of Robertson County 1840 Census by Byron & Barbara Sistler is continued from previous issues. This issue will take you through names beginning with 'M'; the final section N-Z will be found in the Fall Quarterly. The number found after the name corresponds to the page number of the microfilm.]

CAMPBELL MARY 169	CHAMPITE TANEE 174	CLARK, DAVID 152	COLE, JAS. C. 181
00211-0101201	CHAMBLIS, JAMES 174 001000001-000010001	000001-0000200001	000001-00001
CAMPBELL, SAMUEL 131	CHAMBLIS, JOSEPH 174	CLARK, DAVID 197	COLE, JOHN 202
0000100001-00000001	20001-0001	0020001-01023001	00111001-01000001
CAMPBELL, WILLIAM 180	CHAMBLIS, MARK 207	CLARK, JAMES 119	COLE, MARTHA 181
000000001-010001	2100001-211001	0020001-01023001	22000011-110001
CANNON, ELISHA 189	CHANCE?, SAML. 206	CLARK, JESSEE 158	COLE, REUBEN G. 181
011001-311001	1010001-020001	20001-010111	1100001-20001
CANNON, GEORGE 163	CHANDLER, WM. 181	CLARK, JNO. 141	COLE, STEPHEN 202
0000100001-00010011	333001-001001	0000010001-0010100001	0031101-301001
CANNON, GEORGE 197	CHAPELL, JOHN 128	CLARK, JOHN M. 120	COLEMAN, REBECCA 144
0-320011	10001-11001	10001-10001	1001-102101
CANNON, JAMES 164	CHAPMAN, DAVID 152	CLARK, JOSHUA 200	COLGIN, CHARLES 173
10001-10001	00010001-0102201	121001-120101	000000001-000010001
CANNON, WILLIAM 163	CHAPMAN, DAVID 199	CLARK, LITTLETON 141	COLGIN, ELIZABETH 173
001001-110001	0001001001-00000001	000001-21001	300101-01001
CANNON, WILLIAM 174	CHAPMAN, GILES 199	CLARK, WALTER 119	COLLARTIN, ISAAC 164 101101-111101
0100001-10021	2000001-220001	000001-22001 CLARK WAA 110	COMER, ADAM 142
CAR, WILSON H. 136 00001-1001	CHAPMAN, JOHN 167 0111101-0013001	CLARK, WM. 119 2000001-10001	00000001-00000001
CARD, JAMES 194	CHAPMAN, JOHN 192	CLARK, WM. 139	COMER, GEORGE 139
100001-10001	101101-111001	10001-00001	000001-0
CARLTON, BENAJAH 144	CHATHAM, RICHD. 152	CLATON, WM. 126	COMINGS, ASA 172
0000001-00010001	1111201-101101	0000001-0001001	00001-01001
CARLTON, BLAKE 144	CHAUDOIN, ELI 159	CLATOR, WM. 127	COMINGS, EALIN 171
20011-00001	00001-100001	110001-1001	011130001-00020001
CARLTON, KENION 143	CHAUDOIN, JOHN 174	CLAYTON, THORNTON 192	COMINGS, MORDECAI 171
00001-1001	1121101-0101101	112001-21001	20001 -00001
CARMACK?, 176	CHEAK, JAMES 182	CLEMONS, MICAJAH C. 122	CONE, FRANCIS 173
121001-210001	0201001-0010001	000001-22001	0-0000110001
CARMACK?, 176	CHEATHAM, AND. 171	CLINARD, ANDREW 195	CONE, TAYLOR 154
00000001-00100101	1000001-0000011	211001-020001	010001-20001
CARNEY, LEGRAND 137	CHEATHAM, GEO. W. 205	CLINARD, LEWIS 179	CONNELL, GEO. W. 207
110001001-10002	001001-0010101	00011-000020001	000001-100100001
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MORE, JANE 134 01-010010001 MORE, THOMAS 140 20000001-100011 MORE, WALTER 143 00001-000001 MORGAN, RALEIGH 130 00001001-020001 MORGAN, THEO. 166 00010201-01200001 MORGAN, WM. 140 00101-0001 MORIL, UNDERHILL 189 00002-0 MORRIS, ARCHER 163 20001-10001 MORRIS, DEMPSEY 158 00000000001-0000000011 MORRIS, ELIAS P. 156 1120011-0110001 MORRIS, GEO. W. 154 210031-000000001 MORRIS, GUILFORD 156 10001-00001 MORRIS, ISAIAH 197 2110001-10101 MORRIS, JESSE 179 1110001-0000010001 MORRIS, JESSEE 199 01100001-001001 MORRIS, JOHN 191 1000001-000001 MORRIS, JOHN 199 0010000001-0000000001 MORRIS, JOHN M. 162 1130001-110001 MORRIS, LAWRENCE 188 0000000001-0002 MORRIS, NATHAN 156 1221001-110101 MORRIS, RACHEL 163 0101-0110001 MORRIS, WILLIAM 176 00001-1001 MORRIS, WM. P. 159 00001-10001 **MORRISS, DANIEL 140** 21101-110201 MOSIER, DAVID 162 2010001-0000001 MOSS, J. B. 202 11001-01001 MOSS, SPENCER A. 202 000010001-0000000001 MOSS, WM. W. 202 030020001-02001 MOWDY, ABRAM 199 210001-0 **MULLOY, DANIEL 182** 00010011-0000001 MULLOY, JAS. S. 181 20001-0 MURPHEY, EZEKIEL 134 111010001-111001 MURPHEY, GEO. 160 001010001-000020001001 MURPHEY, MARY 160 00111-0002001 MURPHEY, MILES 134 20000001-2111001 MURPHEY, MILLY 205 01011-1100001 MURPHEY, R. H. 160 00011-00001 MURPHEY, THOS. 162 20002-000011 MURPHRY, ELIAS 157 10001-10001 MURPHY, BENJA. 186 111001-120001

MURPHY, ED? G. 189 120001-01001 MURPHY, JAMES 151 202101-030001 MURPHY, JNO. 134 0000001-0000001 MURPHY, LUCY 173 0111-01100101 MURPHY, W. D. 154 10001-111111 MURRAH, BARBARY 158 0002-00122001 MYER, SION 186 010100001-000101

MINUTES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA AND MERO DISTRICT (PART ONE 1788-1798)

(Continued from last issue. Copied exactly as written in the WPA record)

[Editor's Note: The many **** used in these minutes indicate the original was in bad condition when first copied by the WPA. It is recommended whenever an item of particular interest is found that the microfilm for these minutes be consulted. The microfilm is filed with the Davidson County, TN records in the Tennessee State Library and Archives.] ... said Bosley had sustained in his suit brought by him against said Smith say the find for the Plaintiff and assess his Damage to one hundred ninety seven pounds sixteen shillings and 16 Pence Cost Judg L 197:16 16 p Costs Geo. Blacamore et al - Fined Nisi-Fine Remitted Ordered that Geo. Blacamore and Mitchall O'neal be fined the sum of five pounds (Nisi) for not attending this day as Constables agreable to their Sommons the parties having appeared & given reasons to the Court ordered that the fine be remitted (p-34) Tuesday DANIEL ROWAN Convenant, plea VS. JAMES BOSLEY Convenants performed Be it remembered that James Bosley was attached to answer Daniel Rowan of a plea of Covenants broken and at this term the Plaintiff and defendant appearing in Court by their attorneys and praying that a trial might be had thereon, therefore it was Ordered by the Court that they should proceed thereupon, wherefore the plaintiff by his attorneys Complained as followth (Viz.) Dan, I Rowan Complains of James Bosley in Costody S. C for that whereas the said James by his Certain Writing obligatory signed with his proper signature sealed with his seal and dated the 10th day of July 1788 did Covenant to and with the said Dan, I to make him the said Dan, I a Good and sufficient deed in fee simple for seventy five acres of land, lying, being & situate in the County of Davidson and state aforesaid, adjoining the place where the said Dan, I now lives Known by the Name of Denton's Lick, including a field Known by the Name of Molloys improvement also two hundred fifty acres of Sand on Mill Creek being part of a Tract of Land bought by said Bosley from James Ireson or the Law thereon to make the said Dan'l a deed in fee to two hundred acres more, adjoining the above mentioned Tract of declaration Seventy five acres at Dentons Lick aforesaid, nevertheless the said James in no wise regarding his said Covenants hath refused & still doth refuse to perform his the said Covenants or any part thereof the often required thereto, to the Damage of the said Dan'l one thousand pounds and therefore he brings his Suit to which Complaint the Defendant plead Covenants performed upon which the plaintiff and defendant Joined issue and thereupon * Good and lawful Jury (Viz Jury Sam, 1 Crockett, Thomas * Donalson, Josiah Ramsey, James Hall, William Wyer, Zebulon Hubbard, Thomas Taylor, Thomas Simson, Edward Swanson, Joseph Hanah, Martin Duncan, Who being impanneled and sworn truly to try the issue Joined the Witnesses being introduced (Viz) Wm. Crutch, Tho,s Molloy & John Buckhannon and Examined, the Counsills being heard on both sides, the - Jurors aforesaid, upon their oats as aforesaid say they find for the Plaintiff and assess his damage to one hundred & twenty eight pounds and 6p costs Declaration Jury Judg - L32:6 p costs

DAN, LROWAN

VS

Covenant Plea

JAMES BOSLEY Covenants performed -

James Bosley ws attached to answer Dan,l Rowan of a plea of Covenants broken damage three hundred pounds and at this term the parties appearing in Court and being ready for trail the plaintiff declared as follows (Viz.)

Dan,l Rowan Complians of James Bosley in Costody S. C. for that Whereas the said James by his Certain Writing Obligatory signed with his proper Signature, sealed with his seal (p-35) Tuesday - Seal and dated the tenth day of July 1788 did Convenant and agree to and with the said Dan,l to build for him the said Dan,l a certain House of the following dementions (to wit) twenty four feet long one story and half high, two floors sixteen feet wide & to put a shingle roof on the Same otherwise a Clapbord roof-Should not the Said Dan,l find nails for the porpose of Shingles nevertheless the said James in no wise regarding his said promise and agreement hath refused and still doth refuse to comply with his said promise and agreement or any part thereof, tho often times required thereto, to the Damage of the Said Dan,l three hundred pounds & therefore he brings his Suit S C to which Charge the Defendant Plead Covenants performed and for his trial put himself upon the Country thereupon came a Good and lawful Jury (Viz)

John Buckhanon, Williamm Lusk, Thomas Talbott, and Jonas Manifee, Jesse Martin, Sam,l Wilson, William Shaw, Seth Lewis, Frederick Stump, John Lane, John Campbell, Ralph Fleming who being impannelled & Sworn truly to try the issue Joined, the Councills - being heard on both sides, witnesses introduced & Examined, the Jurors aforesaid upon their oaths as aforesaid, say they fined for the plaintiff & assess his damage to thirty two pounds and six pence costs S. C. _____

Preamble ___ Declaration ___ Jury ___ Judg,t L4 9: 3.11 3/4

JAMES BOSLEY	
vs	Covenants Plea Gen,l
LEVI HAND	Issue & Cov.t performed

Be it Remembered that Levi Hand was attached to answer James Bosley of a plea of covenants Broken, and at this Term the parties appearing in Court and wishing a determination of their controversy, It was ordered by the Court that they should proceed there on, upon which the plaintiff by his attorney, Josiah Love Esquire declared as follows (viz)

James Bosley Complains of Levi Hand in Custody S. C. for that Whereas the said Levi by a Certain Writing

* _____ signed with his - proper signature and dated the * _____ 1789 did bend and oblige himself to pay unto the said James thirteen likely Cows and Calves on the value of them in tobacco at the market price and the said Levi being so indebted did promise and covenant to pay to the said James on or before the second day of Feby 1790 Nevertheless the said Levi his said promise has refused and still doth refuse to perform the said Covenant by or any part thereof, to the damage of the Said James 160 L and therefore he brings his Suite _____ to which Complaint the defendant plead the Gen,l issue and covenants performed and for the truth of his plea, put himself upon the Country therefore there came a Good and lawful Jury (Viz)

Shedsaac William, Josiah Paine, James McKain, Robert Nelson, Charles Snyder, Moses Shelby, Robert Barnett, John Childers, James Ford, John Cotton, John Dixon, Pleasant Lockett, who being impanelled and sworn trulyl to try the issue Joined the Councils being heard on both sides, the witnesses introduced (Viz) Bennett Searcey, and Examined the Jurors aforesaid upon their oaths as aforesaid say they find for the plaintiff and assesss his Damage to forty nine pounds eight Shillings and eleven pence three fathings and six pence costs

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(P 36)	Tuesday	7					
JOHN	BOYD						
VS							
FRED!	ERICK S	TUMP quita The f	m following	(Viz)			
					_		
1.		uckhannon	2.	William Lusk	3.	Thomas Talbott	
4.	Jonas M		5.	Jesse Martin	6.	Sam,l Wilson	
7.	William		8.	Seth Lewis	9.	John Lane	
10.	John Ca	ampbell	11.	Ralph Fleming	12.	John Bell	
being in	npannell	ed & Sworn No	on Suit				
Jane Be	olen					nly called and failed to app	ear agreable
fined		to Supena, it i	s ordered	that the forfeit agreab	le to act of	assembly	
	Declara	ation - Jury J	uda t l ct	6n Cost			
	Deciara	ition - July J	uug.t I <u>C</u> t	op Cost _			
DAVII	SHAFF	FER					
VS .			. – .	•			
ROBE	RT LAN	E Judg,	t by Deta	ult T. A. B.			
	and the	plaintiff as well	as Defer		<u>arin</u> in Cour	Shaffer of a plea of trespa t and being ready for trial, l as follows (Viz)	
said Da the stat	viz) With miel then e, and to iling *	Swords Stavis & there beat with Damage of	knives at wounded a f the Said	in the County of David and ill treated, so that I Daniel one thousand *	son made anis life was g	Whereas the said Robert n assault on * Said E greatly <u>dispaired</u> of against therefore he brings his suit nd thereupon came a Good	Daniel, and the the *, the defen-
truly to Council	try or ind being he	hilders, James I quire what dam eard, the Witne	Ford, Johnages the sses intro	n Cotton, John Dixon, Shaffer hat sustained in	Pleasant Lo his suit bro he Jurors af	- Charles Snyder, Moses Shockett, who being impannel bught by him against said Loresaid up9on their oaths a	led and Swori aine the
•	and being also Tho	ng solemly calle mas Brown and	ed and faid Thomas	-	that he for	lerick who was duly <u>Somme</u> feit agreable to act of Nisi ngly - Joyn	oned, date As Boyd
Smith f			_	ith be Released from t s not duly sommoned	he fine for r	not attending this Term as	a Juror

TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT RECORDS

(Contributed by Betsy Ragsdale and Gale Bamman, CG)

Supreme Court Records, Box 144, Middle Tennessee, 1860 G. W. Heard et al vs J. A. Pitman et al (Original Bill filed in Bedford County on 10 October 1856)

Orators Daniel Parker, S. H. Parker, G. W. Heard, R. P. Setliff, S. K. Whitson, Heard & Russell & Morgan & Company represent that they are are judgement creditors of one J. A. Pitman.... Recollection of Alexander Lee from his tax list of 1856: "District #25 - J. A. Pitman - 1 slave - \$800.00 - 1856."

Statement of J. A. Pitman, and Martha Pitman, respondents, that he and his wife were legally married in the State of Mississippi, during the minority of respondent Martha Pitman, where at the time she was residing, with the knowledge and consent of complainant Daniel Parker. That at the time of the marriage, it was understood by respondents that they were to reside in the State of Mississippi - and in accordance with that understanding they after their marriage went to housekeeping and kept house in Mississippi and had the slave Jane in respondent's possession, in the State of Mississippi, claiming her according to the laws of the State of Mississippi, and not according to the laws of Tennessee. Respondent James A. Pitman denies all fraud with which he stands charged, and expressly denies that the transfer by Sir James Pitman of the negro girl Jane to respondent Martha was made to hinder, delay or defraud any of the creditors of respondent J. A. Pitman. That after respondent's marriage, respondent J. A. Pitman believing at the time that he had the right so to do, sold said slave to his father Sir James Pitman...."

Deposition of Thomas L. Roberts: "I am acquainted with the parties to this suit and have known J. A. Pitman ever since he came from the State of Mississippi. I have known his wife Martha Parker for a number of years. She was raised in Bedford county, TN. I know the slave Jane in controversy. She was the property of Johnathan Parker, the father of Mrs. Pitman, at the time that Martha Parker was in the State of Mississippi. At the time of her marriage with her husband, J. A. . Pitman, said slave Jane was in Bedford County, Tennessee, and was never taken to Mississippi until after the marriage. Johnathan Parker had five children, and he left a number of slaves, Jane being one of them....

Supreme Court Records, Box 144, Middle Tennessee, 1860 Wyllie Parker vs L. W. Allen

(Original Bill filed in Sumner County on 18 February 1859)

The Bill of Complaint of Wyllie Parker a citizen of Sumner County filed against Francis S. Allen of Kentucky, Lewis Allen and wife Sophia and their children Sally Ann and husband John F. McMurry, Patsy and husband Thomas Day, Ann and husband Joseph Mary Allen (?), all of Sumner county including Archer Allen and Shelton Allen an infant without guardian and James H. Allen of Kentucky and J. J. Malone of Tipton County, W. Lee and Nathaniel M. Adams of Smith County.

Supreme Court Records, Box 144, Middle Tennessee, 1860Wilkinson vs Young (Original Bill filed in Davidson County on 18 October 1859)

Hansel T. Wilkinson, executor of Dan Young, vs Ellen Young, widow of John D. Young, Hyde and wife Eliza, Edmond Hyde and wife Mary, Andrew J., Henry T., Ellen M., Tazwell, Daniel, Ida H., Lemuel Young and Annette Young, also the Bank of Tennessee, and others creditors etc.

The Bill of Complaint of Hansel T. Wilkinson, executor of the last will and testament of Daniel Young late of Davidson County, filed against Ellen Young, the widow, William K. Hyde and his wife Eliza, Edmond W. Hyde and his wife Mary, John L. Young, Andrew J. Young, Henry T. Young, Ellen M. Young, Tazwell Young, Daniel Young, Ida H. Young, Lenora Young, Waddy Young, and Annette Young, the last named being minors without any general guardians, children heirs at law and legatees etc. Also against the Bank of Tennessee, Edwin H. Childress, N.? C. McNairy and the Nashville Building and Loan Association, creditors of said Daniel Young and all other creditors of said Daniel ...that in September 1859 Daniel Young died at his domicile in Davidson County seized and possessed of a large property consisting of lands, slaves, farming utensils, stock, etc.....Previous to his death he made and published his last will and testament, which was after his death presented to the County Court of Davidson County, by the persons therein mentioned as his executors, by Your Orators, Hansel J. Wilkinson and Napoleon B. Hyde and was then duly proven and admitted to record....

Supreme Court Records, Box 145, Middle Tennessee, 1860 Burksdale vs John Sevier, admr. of John Overstreet (Original Bill filed in Overton County on 17 July 1855)

The Bill of Complaint of John Burksdale, admr. of Rebecca B. Burksdale of Overton County in said State, against John Severe, admr. de bonis non and with the will annexed of John Overstreet, dec'd. and security in the administration bond of Absalom Holeman, dec'd, executor of the said John Overstreet and against Absalom B. Holeman heir and distributee of said Absalom Holeman, dec'd., administrator on his estate and security therefor in the administration bond aforesaid jointly with said John Severe, and also as husband of Joanna Overstreet - and against William Holeman joint administrator with Absalom B. Holeman on the estate of Absalom Holeman dec'd. - and against Overstreet and Saddler Hoelman minors under twenty-one years old, William P. Overstreet and William Dale, all citizens of said county, and against Henry in the Livingston Chancery Court against the above bound parties...

We, John Burksdale and E. L. Gardenhire acknowledge ourselves to owe and stand indebted unto John Severe, administrator de bonis non, etc., A. B. Holeman, Saddler Holeman and Overstreet Holeman, Henry and Martha Saddler, William Dale and Wilson Biggerstaff in the sum of \$250, but to be void on condition the said John Burksdale, administrator of Rebecca B. Burksdale shall well and truly prosecute with effect a suit ...

Henry and Martha Saddler (are) of Jackson County in said state, and William Biggerstaff (is) of Kentucky.

Your orator (John Burksdale) represents that he intermarried with Rebecca B. Overstreet in Overton County on the 31st day of August 1837, that she died in said county on the 15th day of October 1838 without

issue; that on the 2nd day of July 1855 he was appointed her administrator by the County Court of said county...

...that on 4th day of May 1834 John Overstreet a citizen of said state and county, made and published his last will and testament...

Exhibit A: Will of John Overstreet

"In the name of God, Amen, I John Overstreet of Overton County, State of Tennessee, being weak of body but in perfect and sound mind and memory, do make constitute and ordain this my last will and testament in form

following viz: 1st I recommend my Soul to God who gave it me, and my body to the dust from which it sprang to be decently interred. 2ly I give and bequeath to my beloved William P. Overstreet when he becomes of age one negro boy named Dave, one horse sadle and bridal worth one hundred dollars, one bed and furniture, one cow and calf. 3dly I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Joanah W. Overstreet one negro girl named Esther, one horse saddle and bridal worth one hundred dollars, one bed and furniture, one cow and calf. 4thly I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Rebecca B. Overstreet one negro girl named Nelly, one horse birdal and saddle worth one hundred dollars, one bed and furniture, one cow and calf. 5thly I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Martha Overstreet all my lands and tenements with all my other property that I may be possessed with at my death (except that specified above) to have and to hold the same during her life or widowhood, and in case she should marry that all except what she is entitled to by law to be equally divided among my three children. As respects my faithful slaves Jacob and Lucy as the laws of the land will not justify me in freeing them,my will and desire is that at the death of my wife they shall have the privilege of hiring themselves for a sum not exceeding \$1.50 per year.

Now revoking all other will or wills testament or testaments, do ordain this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 4th day of May one thousand eight hundred and thirty four. My will and desire is that my father-in-law Absalom Holeman and my brother-in-law Absalom Holeman and my brother-in-law Robert Nevins be and are hereby appointed executors to this my last will and testament. (signed) John Overstreet Signed sealed and delivered in presence of John Parrish and A. B. Holeman.

State of Tennessee, Overton County

August Session of the County Court 1834. Then was the within last will and testament produced in open court and the execution thereof proven by the oath of John Parrish and A. B. Holeman, subscribing witnesses thereto and the same was ordered to be certified. (signed) Wm. Geere[?], Clerk

Supreme court Records, Box 145, Middle Tennessee, 1860 Anthony vs Cryer

(Original Bill filed in Sumner County on 2 August 1858)

The Bill of Complaint of J. A. Anthony and wife Elizabeth Elenora, Edward R. Cryer, Precella R. J. Cryer William Angel and wife Martha Ann citizens of Sumner and Wilson Counties against James W. Cryer D. J. Anthony and wife Elizabeth C. minors whose guardian G. C. Crenshaw and Mary C. Cryer a minor guardian J. A. Anthony citizens of Wilson County Hardy M. and Chesley W. Cryer minors

whose guardians are John Bridgewaters citizens of Smith County and Carrol Martin and wife Emily citizens of Wilson County, Tennessee.

Middle Tennessee Genealo

Your orator and oratrix would shew unto your honor that Mary Foxall died many years since leaving a will which was admitted to probate by the County Court of Sumner County adjoining the lands of Frakes and others containing about 160 acres to her grandchildren, viz: James W. Cryer Thomas C. Cryer who has died leaving two children Hardy M. and Chesley M. and a widow Emily who has married Carrol Martin Elizabeth Elenore who has married J. H. Anthony Precella R. J. Cryer Edward R. Cryer, Martha Ann Cryer who has since intermarried with William Angel Elizzabeth C. who has intermarried with D. J. anthony, Mary C. Cryer, and John L. F. Cryer who has died leaving no children...

Supreme Court Records, Box 145, Middle Tennessee, 1860 Chesley Williams vs Henry M. Williams et al (Original Bill filed 10 September 1857 in Davidson County)

The Bill of Complaint of Chesley Williams of the County of Williamson in the State of Tennessee complainant against Henry M. Williams, A. G. Merritt (?) John M. Lea William F. Barry Mary Ann Austen and Hiram K. Walker and Mary Jane his wife of the County of Davidson in the State of Tennessee and Luke H. Hitchcock of [blank], Defendants.

Supreme Court Records, Box 145, Middle Tennessee, 1860 Young vs Watson (Onicinal Bill filed in White Courts on 2 May 1850)

(Original Bill filed in White County on 2 May 1859)

The Bill of Complaint of Caroline A. Young of White County, Tennessee, against Andrew J. Gamble of the same residence and Thomas T. Watson, executor of John Watson, dec'd. of Putnam County, Tennessee.

Your Oratrix would respectfully shew ...that on 12 August 1854 John Young departed this life and your oratrix is his widow. She would also state that at the September Term of the County Court for White County, Tennessee in 1854 she was qualified as executrix of the last will and testament of the said John Young, dec'd. She would also state that there was a suit then pending in the Circuit Court for White County, Tennessee in which Thomas T. Watson, executor of John Watson, dec'd. was plaintiff and John Young, dec'd, was defendant....that on the 8th of December 1857 she resigned her position as executrix of John Young, dec'd., which resignation was accepted by the County Court and R. G. Gleeson was appointed by said court administrator with the will annexed of John Young dec'd. Said R. G. Gleeson gave bond and security and was regularly qualified as administrator with the will annexed of John Young, dec'd....that some time after she resigned and said R. G. Gleeson was appointed and qualified as administrator, etc. said suit was decided in the Supreme Court of Tennessee in favour of said Thomas T. Watson as executor etc. and an execution was issued from said court against the estate of John Young, dec'd. Said execution 1858....that said R. G. Gleeson as administrator, etc., believing that said was issued on the day of judgment was unjust and owing to the srict and rigid rules of the law the estate of John Young, dec'd could not get justice in a court of law, on the day of 1858 filed a bill in the Chancery court at Cookeville, Tennessee against said Thomas T. Watson as executor of John Watson, dec'd. and A. J. Gamble, and enjoined the collection of said execution, and said Bill was sustained and the Defendants required to answer said bill....

Supreme Court Records, Box 145, Middle Tennessee, 1860 Stover vs Kindall

(Original Bill filed in Overton County)

Your petitioners state that Delila Kendall is the wife of John Kindall, and that she was the daughter and heir of Louis Stover, Sr., dec'd., that Lewis Stover, Jr. Hiram and Elijah Stover, Sr. produced in your court at the term 1857 a paper writing purporting to be the will of Lewis Stover, Sr. and caused the same to be established as the last will and testament of said Lewis Stover, Sr. who departed this life on 1857. Your petitioner [blank] Kendall is the wife of John Kendall and they state that said paper wrting is not the last will and testament of Lewis Stover, Sr., dec'd. because it is not equally executed and proven, 2nd because they say that the said Lewis Stover was not of sound mind and disposing memory when he signed said paper writing; 3rd because other influences were used upon him to procure him to sign and execute said paper writing ... they state they had no notion of the probate of said paper writingthey state that no administrator with the will annexed [has] been appointed by the County Court of Overton County....and that the legatees in said will are James, Elijah, Hiram, Lewis, Joseph, and Nicholas Lewis Stover are the principal legatees in said will and and are trying to set it up. Your petitioner states to your honor that they pray that said probate of said will be set aside and that the same be sent to the Overton Circuit Court to be tried and that the legatees in said will be served with copy of this petition and notice to appear at the next May County Court of Overton County and make themselves parties to establish said paper writing to be the will of Lewis Stover, Sr. dec'd. if they desire to do so. (signed) John Kendall and Delilah Kendall.



QUERIES

CORKRAN, WILLIAM: Rev. Soldier?? b. ca. 1760, Ireland; d. ca. 1839 Sumner Co. TN; m. Charity Spencer b. ca. 1770/75, VA, d. after 1841 Sumner Co? They had 15 children. Trying to prove my GGG Grandfather was Rev. Soldier. Supposedly Gen. LaFayette (while in Nashville) got out of his carriage & shook his hand. They served together Rev. War. Would appreciate any help. Mona Corkran Miller/217 Blue Ridge Drive/Belleville, IL 62223

SMITH, JOSHUA: b. 29 Feb 1784, d. Hickman Co. KY 1 Apr 1846, m. Elizabeth Searcy b. 19 May 1788, d. after 1860 probably Obion Co. TN. Who are Joshua's parents? Born where? Any brothers & sisters? Mona Corkran Miller/217 Blue Ridge Drive/Belleville, IL 62223

Middle Tennessee Genealogy
CUNNINGHAM, GEORGE WASHINGTON: Need info on my great grandfather George Washington Cunningham b. Coffee County, TN 1840, d. Moore County, TN 1912. His daughter, Louise Elizabeth Cunningham, b. 1872, Lincoln County, m. Zera John Sawyer, 1891, Moore County, d. 1904, Moore County. George Washington Cunniingham was in the Civil War. Who were his parents, any info appreciated. Joyce Wilkinson/314 Layne St./Tullahoma, TN 37388
STEVENS, ELIZABETH PINNAH: Seeking information on the parents of Elizabeth Pinnah Stevens b. 28 Feb 1861, d. 9 Jan 1942. Her father was James K. (also called King Peter or Peter King) Stevens. When was he born? Her mother was Tebitha Lambwhen was she born? Ola M. Vaughn/722 Edmondson Pk./Brentwood, TN 37027
BURCH, BYERS, BLALOCK, BULLOCK, COGGINS, MINCEY, RUSHTON: Need parents or family of Davy Byers and wife Nancy Bullock who came to TN after 1814. Had sons Anderson b. ca. 1814 in VA and Henry b. (? when or where), who never married. Nancy and son Anderson appear in Williamson Co, TN, in 1830's buying and selling property separately. Nancy b. in VA ca. 1793. Anderson first m. Mary ann "Polly" Mincey, dau of Phillip Mincey and Susan Catherine??? Also need info on Clayborn Burch and wife Letha Blalock both b. ca. 1813 in NC and came to Williamson Co., TN after 1844. Need info on Elijah Rushton and wife Rebecca "Betsy" Coggins, both born ca. 1805 in NC and came to Maury Co., TN, before 1830; Gail S. Tomlinson/ 204 Brookside Drive/Senatobia, MS 38668
HAYS & HUFF: Exchange Hays information prior 1826 in Greene, Jefferson, Jackson, White Counties, TN. Also on Huff in Jackson County are prior 1825 also CAPLINGER-KEPLINGER, FURLONG, HAWKINS, O'NEAL & McDONALD: Exchange information on all these families in Wilson and Smith Counties area prior 1850. Hawkins also Williamson County. Barbara Moore/Rt. 12, Box 378/New Braunfels, TX 78132
STACK, MILES, REED, BASFORD: Wish to correspond with anyone researching the surname Stack in TN and the Carolinas, and the surname Miles in TN and VA. Seeking information on the ancestors and other descendants of Benjamin Stack b. ca. 1837, TN, and Louisa Miles b. ca. 1838, TN, who married in Cheatham Co, TN Dec 23, 1859. Were Benjamin Stack's parents John and Elizabeth Stack from SC? Was Louisa's mother Elizabeth (b. ca. 1807, VA)? Who was Louisa Miles' father? Louisa's sister Mary A. Miles b. ca. 1828 m. B. F. Reed. Louisa's sister Elizabeth Miles b. 11-13-1840, m. G. W. Basford. Sue M. Travis/425 Warren Dr. #3/San Francisco, CA 94131

BIGGERS, DAVIS, HEATON: Seeking info on the Biggers family of Montgomery and Cheatham Counties, TN before 1900. Thompson Biggers b. 1793, TN or NC, d. 1865, Cheatham Co., TN, and Eliza David b. ca. 1811, TN, m. 1835. His parents were Robert Bigger b. ca. 1760-70, d. 1837, Montgomery Co., TN, and Katherine. Who were Robert's and Katherine's parents? Thompson Biggers' sister Katharine m. Robert S. Heaton ca. 1835. Sue M. Travis/425 Warren Dr. #3/San Francisco, CA 94131

MOSES STARRETT: m. 11 Aug 1810 Wilson Co. TN to SARAH WITHERSPOON. Who were their parents?

WYATT LINDSEY/LINSAY/LINSY: his wife probably Betsy Miller. After his death 1822 Wilson Co., TN, WILSON T. WATERS was appointed guardian for Betsy and the children; Mary Ann (Polly), Peggy (Margaret), John, Elisha, Wiatt,, Joseph. Was Wilson T. Waters a relative? Does anyone know anything about Wyatt or his wife Betsy? If so please let me know. Marjorie F. Garr/1505 Mistletoe/Mountain Home, AR/72653/501-425-0405

PEACE: Would like to correspond with anyone interested in or having knowledge of the PEACE family who were in Wilson County, or any other middle Tennessee PEACE family. Mary Gregg/3810 Valley View Road, Apt. No. 208/Austin, TX 78704

HINES: CATHERINE, OWENS, CALEB/WILMUTH, WILLIAM/ELIZABETH, PLEASANT, JOHN B., JOHN W., who came to Maury County ca. 1817 to 1820 from VA and subsequently lived in Maury, Lewis and Hickman Counties. C. T. Hines/700 Kendall Drive/Birmingham, AL 35226

JEAN: Would like to hear from descendants of DAVID JEAN and his brother JOHN JEAN. They lived in Lincoln County TN from 1817 on. Mrs. Royleta Malone/1097 W. Yarrow/Salt Lake City, UT 84123

VINSON: Seeking info on ADALINE VINSON b. ca. 1825 TN, d. Apr 1915 in Colbert Co., AL, m. Alex VINSON, date and place unknown. Children: Catherine (Frank King); Barbara (Sol Parker); Lizzie (Wash Daloney); Nancy (Pink Mullins); Sabra (Sam Hughes); Mahalia (Silas Vinson); Pollie (Andrew Hanins); Carol (?? Miles). All deceased and buried in AL. Need parents and b.p. of Adaline; why and when she left TN. Emma L. Ribbron/12005 Sorrento/Detroit, MI 48227

KINDEL, WEBB, REDUS, GIDEON, CRENSHAW, CRAIG, YOUNG, CARRINGTON: William Kindel b. 1781 VA d. ca. 1865 AR, m. 28 Jan 1800 Greene Co TN; Elizabeth Webb b. 1783 TN, d. ca. 1865 AR. Children & marriages: Richard W. Kindel m. Mary Redus, Giles Co. TN 1819; Mary Kindel (b. KY) m. James Gideon Monroe Co MS 25 Jan 1821; John Kindel m. Rebecca _____; Malinda Kindel m. John Crenshaw Maury Co TN 21 Jan 1828; Eliza Kindel m. (1) David H. Craig Maury Co TN 12 Dec 1831 (2) Dr. Wm. D. Young Yalobusha Co MS ca. 1837; Alabama M. Kindel m. Samuel W. Carrington Yalobusha Co MS ca. 1835; ____ Kindel (dau). Have thousands of Kindel's & kin on computer storage--will share & exchange. Fred Kindel/111 Shelley Court/Folsom, CA 95630

McKAIN: War 1812 pension papers of Samuel McKain of Sumner Co., TN. Name widow Jane Latimer and deceased wife Elizabeth Mayberry. Family papers show Houston McKain as son of Samuel McKain and Melissa Franklin. Need records supporting McKain-Franklin marriage ca. 1817 Sumner County. Celia W. Hudson/310 Lattawood/Dyersburg, TN 38024

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