

# The MIDDLE TENNESSEE Journal of Genealogy & History



Bedford County • Cannon County • Cheatham County • Clay County • Coffee County • Davidson County • DeKalb County  
• Dickson County • Fentress County • Franklin County • Giles County • Grundy County • Hickman County • Houston  
County • Humphreys County • Jackson County • Lawrence County • Lewis County • Lincoln County • Macon County •  
Marshall County • Maury County • Montgomery County • Moore County • Overton County • Perry County • Pickett County  
• Putnam County • Robertson County • Rutherford County • Smith County • Stewart County • Sumner County • Trousdale  
County • VanBuren County • Warren County • Wayne County • White County • Williamson County • Wilson County •  
Bedford County • Cannon County • Cheatham County • Clay County • Coffee County • Davidson County • DeKalb County  
• Dickson County • Fentress County • Franklin County • Giles County • Grundy County • Hickman County • Houston  
County • Humphreys County • Jackson County • Lawrence County • Lewis County • Lincoln County • Macon County •  
Marshall County • Maury County • Montgomery County • Moore County • Overton County • Perry County • Pickett County  
• Putnam County • Robertson County • Rutherford County • Smith County • Stewart County • Sumner County • Trousdale  
County • VanBuren County • Warren County • Wayne County • White County • Williamson County • Wilson County •  
Bedford County • Cannon County • Cheatham County • Clay County • Coffee County • Davidson County • DeKalb County  
• Dickson County • Fentress County • Franklin County • Giles County • Grundy County • Hickman County • Houston  
County • Humphreys County • Jackson County • Lawrence County • Lewis County • Lincoln County • Macon County •  
Marshall County • Maury County • Montgomery County • Moore County • Overton County • Perry County • Pickett County  
• Putnam County • Robertson County • Rutherford County • Smith County • Stewart County • Sumner County • Trousdale  
County • VanBuren County • Warren County • Wayne County • White County • Williamson County • Wilson County •

Volume XVI, Number 2  
Fall 2002



**Middle  
Tennessee  
Counties**

Bedford  
Cannon  
Cheatham  
Clay  
Coffee  
Davidson  
DeKalb  
Dickson  
Fentress  
Franklin  
Giles  
Grundy  
Hickman  
Houston  
Humphreys  
Jackson  
Lawrence  
Lewis  
Lincoln  
Macon  
Marshall  
Maury  
Montgomery  
Moore  
Overton  
Perry  
Pickett  
Putnam  
Robertson  
Rutherford  
Smith  
Stewart  
Sumner  
Trousdale  
VanBuren  
Warren  
Wayne  
White  
Williamson  
Wilson

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*All meetings*  
(unless otherwise noted)  
1:00 P.M.

at

**Green Hills Branch Library**  
3701 Benham Avenue  
off Hillsboro Pike and Glen Echo Rd.  
behind the post office

*Check our website for any changes*  
[www.mtgs.org](http://www.mtgs.org)

*November 16, 2002*

**Annual Fall Genealogy Conference**  
A full day of classes with genealogical  
tips for beginners, intermediate and  
advanced family historians, with a  
variety of speakers. Lunch included.  
At Donelson Fellowship Church.  
See pp. 72-73 details.

*January 18, 2003*

**Genealogical Tales and Treasures**  
**an open forum**

All who have a genealogical tale, truth  
or artifact to share are welcome. Share  
your tales, show your treasures!

*March 15, 2003*

**Family History Centers:**  
**Doorway to a World of Data**  
Tom and Liz Allman

An illustrated presentation of Family  
History Center branch facilities and  
resources as well as the vast  
genealogical collection at LDS  
headquarters in Salt Lake City

MTGS meets on the third Saturday of  
January, March, May, July, September  
and November, unless otherwise  
announced.

# Middle Tennessee

## Journal of Genealogy & History

Volume XVI, Number 2, Fall 2002

### Table of Contents

From the Editor .....	50
Rose Mont and Josephus Conn Guild by Juanita Patton .....	51
Harshaw of Sumner County Found in Missouri .....	53
Fourteenth Tennessee Regiment, CSA .....	54
Old News is Good News: <i>Columbia Herald</i> , 1871 by Susan Wilson .....	55
Five Families for Secession (concluded) by Thomas K. Potter, Jr. ....	58
Until Death or My Other Wife Do Us Part by Mark Lowe .....	65
1836 Indian Fighters Mount Up in Davidson County by Mary Sue Smith .....	67
Early Tennessee Academies by T. Vance Little .....	69
African-American Newspapers by Julia Otey Lee .....	71
Genealogy Seminar 2002 .....	72
Middle Tennessee Supreme Court Records by Betsy Ragsdale & Gale W. Bamman .....	74
William Washington Seay of Smith County (part 1) by Robert Polk Thompson .....	80
Insurance Records of Nashville, (continued) by Mary Sue Smith .....	86
Moke - Perry - Pruett Families of Sumner County by Joan Pruett .....	91
Book Reviews, by Shirley Wilson .....	93
Sweaney & Pack Bible - Cheatham County by Martha Cooke .....	93
Bylaws of the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society .....	48
Journal Policy and Information .....	Inside Back Cover

**Middle Tennessee  
Genealogical Society, Inc.**

***Board Members***

**President**

Mary Sue Smith

**Vice President**

Thomas K. Potter, Jr.

**Recording Secretary**

Virginia (Ginny) Davis

**Corresponding Secretary**

Nancy Morgan

**Directors**

Marsha Campbell (2001-03)

Julia Otey Lee (2001-03)

Helene Pellett. (2002-04)

Martha Gerdeman (2002-04)

**Treasurer**

T. Vance Little

**Past President**

Patricia G. Daley

**Webmaster**

Kathryne Cowan

**Mail Master**

Juanita Patton

**Middle Tennessee Journal  
of Genealogy & History**

**Editor**

Charles A. Sherrill

**Contributors in this issue**

Gale Williams Bamman Charles R. Clark

Julia Otey Lee T. Vance Little

Mark Lowe Juanita Patton

Thomas K. Potter, Jr. Joan Pruett

Betsy Ragsdale Mary Sue Smith

Robert P. Thompson Shirley Wilson

Susan Wilson

***FROM THE EDITOR . . .***

This issue of the Journal brings you a wide variety of articles and research material submitted by members and friends of MTGS. Among other things, you will learn about the "science" of phrenology, and about state-sanctioned lotteries of nearly 200 years ago.

Concluded in this issue is Thomas Potter's study of five families of the Upper Cumberland who were instrumental in promoting the Confederate cause in that area. After you finish that interesting story, be sure to turn to the story of William Washington Seay. The details of his life make for interesting reading, but the article also serves as an excellent example of the results genealogists can extract from careful, detailed research in every available record.

A new series starting in this article is *Old News is Good News*. This debut article is based on an issue of the Columbia Herald (Maury County) and shows how genealogical and historical facts can be gleaned from closely reading old newspapers.

Have you been thinking about writing an article for the *Journal*? Do you have a fascinating document or family story you would like to share? If so, please send it to us. And please let me know what suggestions you have for improving the editorial quality of the *Journal*. I am just learning, and will appreciate your patience!

I hope to see each of you at the Conference on November 16<sup>th</sup>.

***Chuck Sherrill***

Formerly **Middle Tennessee Genealogy**. Published quarterly by the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, Inc., a not-for-profit society, P.O. Box 330948, Nashville, TN 37203-7507. © 2002. All rights reserved. Opinions expressed in the *Journal* are of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Society or the editor. See inside back page for *Journal* submission instructions.

Yearly memberships include four issues of the *Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History*. Make check or money order payable to MTGS. Dues are \$20.00 per membership year, beginning of fiscal years on June 1. See back cover for details and application form.

Printed by Miami Systems, Nashville, Tennessee 37209. Cover design by Dorothy Williams Potter. Indexed in the Genealogical Periodical Annual Index (GPAI) and PERiodical Source Index (PERSI). Our website: <http://www.mtgs.org/>

# Rose Mont and Josephus Conn Guild

by Juanita Patton



**Rosemont**

The stately red-brick home of Josephus Conn Guild known as Rose Mont occupies five tree-filled acres on South Water Street (in earlier times called Wood's Ferry Pike), a mile south of the square in Gallatin, Tennessee. Rose Mont was built during a six-year period in the late 1830s and early 1840s. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the house and out buildings that included a kitchen, carriage house, icehouse, slave quarters, and stables for the thoroughbred horses were on a 500 acre plantation.

The unusual design of the house consists of three two-story sections connected by verandas in which the stairways are located. At the center front a two-story portico with fluted columns on each level is considered by many to be the focal point of the house. The portico on the northern side of the house with two tall fluted columns is another unusual feature. Downstairs rooms in the middle and south sections include two parlors, a dining room, and a family room. The bedrooms for these two sections are on the second floor. Large bedrooms are located on both levels of the north section.

Six generations of the Guild family have called Rose Mont home. In 1993, the house and five acres became the property of the Rose Mont Restoration Foundation, Inc., a local non-profit organization for the preservation of this historic home. Mrs. Joan Brown Guild, wife of the late Josephus Conn Guild, great grandson of the family patriarch, continues to live there in a private apartment while the Foundation maintains the other areas of the house.

According to the writers of *A Celebration of Houses*, "The house was known as much or more for its master as it was for its own attributes."

Attorney. Politician. Soldier. Josephus Conn Guild was successful at all three. From a modest beginning in rural Stewart County, Tennessee, he rose to prominence in Middle Tennessee. In his memoir he wrote "I was a boy among the pioneers who laid here in the wilds of an almost unbroken wilderness, the foundations of a great and populous State.... My earliest memories are associated with the county of Stewart, for it was in that county I was born [1802] and where I spent several years of my early boyhood."

His father, Maj. Walter Guild, a Scottish immigrant, settled in Virginia where he met and married Elizabeth Conn. Following the failure of his business there, the Guilds moved to Stewart County. In 1812, they moved to Sumner County on the headwater of Bledsoe Creek. Jo Conn Guild's education began here "... three miles down the creek to a log cabin....". Tragically, the next year both parents died from milk poisoning. Josephus and his brother, James, then went to live with their uncle Maj. Josephus H. Conn of Cairo, also in Sumner County. The Guild brothers attended school in Cairo, at an academy in Gallatin, and at the academy of Thomas Craighead.

Following an apprenticeship in Gallatin, Guild read law in the office of Ephraim Foster, a Nashville attorney. Several months later, at the age of twenty, he applied for a license to practice law. Having his license, he then "returned to Gallatin in November, 1822 and hung out my shingle as a practicing lawyer." His successful career was just beginning.

Guild affiliated with the powerful Jacksonian Democrats and was elected to the State House of Representatives in 1833, 1835, 1845, and 1851. He was elected to the State Senate in 1837 where he served one term. His only race for a Congressional seat [1857] was lost by only 290 votes. In 1859, Guild became a judge of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division of the Chancery Court where he remained until the Union army occupied Sumner County and closed the court. Afterward he moved to Nashville to practice law where, in 1870, he became a judge of the Nashville court.

In 1836, during the Jackson administration, volunteers were called to fight the Seminoles in Florida. Jo. C. Guild; William Trousdale, future Governor of Tennessee; and John H. Henry volunteered and raised a company in Sumner County. Trousdale was elected Colonel and Guild was elected Lieutenant Colonel. After organizing and making preparations, the brigade left Sumner County in July and arrived in Tallahassee in September. The Tennesseans were involved in numerous skirmishes as they moved deeper into Florida, often with very low supplies, in what Guild described as a treacherous area covered with "stretches of pine woods, lakes, swamps . . . infested with insects, alligators, and venomous reptiles." By December, 1836, the surviving members of the Tennessee brigade

were enroute home. Although Guild was in many skirmishes, he arrived home without injury or illness. In *Old Times in Tennessee* he wrote, "Although the campaign had not been a brilliant one, . . . a more patriotic, courageous brigade never left the State of Tennessee."



During the Civil War, Guild, who was outspoken in defense of the Confederacy, angered his friend, Andrew Johnson, who had become Military Governor of Tennessee. Johnson ordered Guild's arrest and had him sent to the Union prison in Fort Mackinac, Michigan. In his book, Guild commented on this incident: "I had the honor of being a guest of that place for several months during the 'unpleasantness' of a few years ago, together with a number of gentlemen from Tennessee . . . The crime of which we were guilty was that we sympathized with the people among whom we lived."

Josephus Conn Guild was married to Catherine Blackmore, also of Gallatin, 19 December 1826. On 19 December 1876, they celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at their home in Edgefield, a fashionable 19<sup>th</sup> century neighborhood of Nashville. An article about the event appeared in the *Nashville Commercial* newspaper, which Guild included in his book. The reporter wrote, "I found the Judge dressed in an elegant suit of black, white satin vest, white kid gloves, and an elaborately embroidered cravat, plain shirt bosom and standing collar, the whole constituting the outfit of a bridegroom of fifty years ago.... Mrs. Guild was attired in an elegant black silk, with a flowing

polonaise, a beautiful cap and bridal veil, with pearl ear rings and breast pin, the same she wore at her marriage, and white necktie and white kid gloves....” The guest list included prominent people from Nashville and Gallatin whom the Guilds had known for many years. Also present were their five living children, their spouses, and sixteen grandchildren. A grandson, Guild Smith, was away at school.

A tribute to Guild was included in Goodspeed's *History of Tennessee*, in the chapter on the legal profession: “No member of the Nashville bar is remembered with a feeling of greater kindness and respect than Josephus C. Guild.... He was a man of

strong and vigorous intellect and at the bar, especially before a jury, he had but few equals.... He was a close observer of human nature and possessed a fund of practical knowledge.... As a judge he was distinguished for his strong sense of justice and his deep love of natural equity.... There was also a natural cheerfulness and liveliness of his disposition.... He died January 8, 1883, after sixty years of active professional life.” ■

*Photo Credits:* Rosemont photo by James W. Thomas, Courtesy of the Sumner Co. Archives. Guild portrait from Clayton's *History of Davidson County* (1880).

#### Sources

Walter T. Durham, James W. Thomas, John F. Creasy, *A Celebration of Houses* (Gallatin, Tennessee, Sumner County Historical Society, 1995), pp. 66, 117  
Telephone conversation with Mrs. Joan Brown Guild, 10 September 2002  
Jo. Conn Guild, *Old Times in Tennessee*, pp. 10, 16, 18-19, 23, 76, 78, 80, 122-139, 346-353, 361.  
Tennessee Historical Society, *Tennessee Encyclopedia of History & Culture* (Nashville, Tennessee, Rutledge Hill Press, 1998) 390-391  
*History of Tennessee* (Nashville, Tennessee: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1887; reprint, Easley, South Carolina, Southern Historical Press, 1979) p. 399  
Bible Record, “Guild” Vertical File, Tenn. State Library & Archives.  
Margaret Snider & Joan Yorgason, *Sumner County Cemetery Records* (Owensboro KY: McDowell, 1981)

#### Children of Jo Conn Guild and Catherine Blackmore

James, 1828-1829  
William, 1830-1831  
Josephus, 1832-1833  
George B., 1834- ?  
Bettie, 1835- ?  
Victoria, 1838-1867  
Florence, 1840- ?  
Walter Jo., 1843-1879  
Katherine “Kittie” 1856-1927

## Harshaw of Sumner County found in Missouri

### From the History of Cass County, Missouri, Austin Township

H. Harshaw, harnessmaker and dealer in harness and saddles, was born in Sumner County, Tennessee, June 11, 1849, and was a son of Hugh Harshaw, a farmer by occupation, and a native of South Carolina. His mother, formerly Jane Curry, was a Tennessean by birth. Young Harshaw was reared on a farm, receiving his education in the common schools. In 1857 he moved to Simpson County, Kentucky, where he farmed until 1858, then going to Bates County, Missouri. In 1875 he engaged in the harness business at Johnstown, that county, and also worked at his trade from 1875 to 1880, when he came to Archie. He now owns a large business house and has a good stock of harness and saddles, and is enjoying a liberal patronage. He is the present treasurer of the town of Archie. He fought four years with George Parsons during the war, and was in the battles of Carthage, Springfield, Lexington, Prairie Grove, Helena, Pleasant Hill and Mansfield, gaining an enviable record as a soldier. ■

Source: *History of Cass and Bates counties, Missouri*. (St. Joseph, MO: National Historical Company, 1883.)

# Fourteenth Tennessee Regiment, CSA

From the *Confederate Veteran* magazine

August 1896, volume IV, p. 263

Contributed by Charles R. Clark

"An extra of the Clarksville Chronicle, dated Saturday, July 22, 1862<sup>1</sup>, preserved and kindly lent the VETERAN by Miss Blanche Lewis, contains the casualties of the Fourteenth Tennessee in the Seven Days battles, June 26<sup>th</sup> to July 2<sup>nd</sup>, and of Seven Pines. The following are notes:"

Company A. <sup>2</sup> – R.D. Duke and J.M. Hatton were killed and nine were wounded. Names of the wounded are given in every instance.

Company B. <sup>3</sup> – W.J. Martin killed and eighteen wounded.

Company C. <sup>4</sup> – Jos. Gambol, J.M. Jones, B.F. Anderson, James and Titus Powell killed and thirteen wounded. Of the wounded, Richard Pike and Wm. Erwin had died.

Company D. <sup>5</sup> – Capt. C.L. Martin, Johnathan Cherry and W.E. Largin were killed and nine wounded.

Company E. <sup>6</sup> – Lieut. Grice, Joseph Burns and F. Warford were killed and four were wounded.

Company G. <sup>7</sup> – Dallas Booth killed, and of the twelve wounded, T.H. Collins and Wm. Hamilton had died.

Company H. <sup>8</sup> – C.C. Tilley and W.H. Reagan were killed and thirteen were wounded. T.M. Broaddus of the list had died. Of the severely wounded was the esteemed and faithful Veteran of to-day, Capt. J.J. Crusman.

Company I. <sup>9</sup> – W.T. Baber and Richard Chandler were killed (the former on picket) and seven wounded.

Company K. <sup>10</sup> – J.W. Gunn was killed and fourteen were wounded. G.A. Tompkins, who was among the wounded, died soon afterward.

The circular contains an error as it names "Company L," when there was no such. Under that letter, however, J.H. Slaughter is reported as killed and the names of eight wounded. <sup>11</sup>

The closing note reports that Gen. R.J. Hatton was killed and that Adjutant R.C. Bell was mortally wounded. ■

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Surviving issues of the Clarksville Chronicle indicate that it ceased publication after the fall of Ft. Donelson in Feb. 1862, and resumed with a new Volume 1 in July 1865. This article may have come from a now-lost special issue, or was clipped from another paper and misidentified by the *Confederate Veteran*. Tennesseans in the Civil War (Nashville: Civil War Centennial Commission, 1964) indicates this company was comprised of men from Clarksville, Montgomery County.

<sup>2</sup> Tennesseans in the Civil War (Nashville: Civil War Centennial Commission, 1964) indicates this company was comprised of men from Clarksville, Montgomery County.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, men from Palmyra, Montgomery County.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, from Robertson County.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, from Stewart County.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, from Stewart County.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, from Montgomery County.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, from Clarksville, Montgomery County.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, from Robertson County.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, from Montgomery County.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, indicates "L" was an organized company of men from Montgomery County.





# Old News is Good News

## Newspaper Sources for Middle Tennessee Genealogy

*The Columbia Herald of 1871*

by Susan Wilson

The 1871 edition of the *Columbia Herald* is a good example of a typical mid-nineteenth century newspaper, replete with tidbits for the inquisitive genealogist. The newspaper was founded in the 1840s as a weekly with J. J. McDaniel as its first editor. The paper was reorganized in 1852 to support the Democratic Party and the Democratic presidential candidate, Franklin Pierce. Publication was suspended during the Civil War, and did not resume until 1870. The *Herald* merged with the *Mail* a few years later and became known as the *Columbia Herald and Mail*. The *Herald and Mail* was published until the early 1880s, when a corporation of businessmen purchased the paper and, once again, named the paper *The Columbia Herald*. In 1899, it was converted to a daily paper and re-named *The Columbia Daily Herald*, which is its name today.<sup>1</sup>

The Friday, March 10, 1871, Volume XVI, Number 29 issue of the *Columbia Herald* was edited by A. S. Horsley. Horsley was the editor of the paper for much of the latter part of the nineteenth century. In 1871 the paper was published every Friday morning and usually consisted of four pages. An annual subscription to the paper cost \$3.00. Like many of the newspapers of the time, the *Herald* was associated with a publisher who supplied the paper with news from around the country and the world.

The *Herald's* front page shows that a local newspaper's front page in this era had very little to do with that locality. Many of the news stories on the first two pages give good examples of Reconstruction Era politics and economics. Page two contains an essay about "Society and the Negro" and a small insert claiming that "Grant is a very fickle soul."

On the inside pages, however, local newspapers reported court proceedings and other items of local interest. County, Chancery, and Circuit Court judgments are included in this edition. Page two contains a listing of Sheriff's sales. These land sales were directed by the Circuit Court of Maury County to settle various lawsuits where the land in question was sold to the highest bidder at the Court House door. The sales are interesting to genealogists because they name the location of the land and adjacent landowners.

The following sheriff's sales are announced on page two:

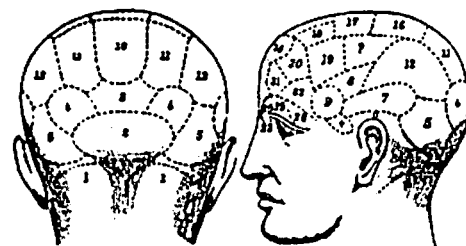
Louisa P. Caughson vs. P. C. Gray  
W. J. Burchard vs. P. C. Gray  
J. W. Chairs vs. Isham Lamb  
D. McRea vs. Joshua Hardison  
N. H. Mathews vs. J. O. Howell  
D. Fugleman vs. Joshua Hardison

W. O. Gordon vs. P. C. Gray  
D. A. Byars vs. C. H. P. Mullins  
G. W. Moore vs. James Grissom and Wm Grissom  
John E. Tate vs. Jackson Smith  
John S. Garret vs. J. O. Howell  
W. M. McConnell vs. J. O. Howell

<sup>1</sup> The *Columbia Daily Herald*, Columbia, Tennessee, Saturday, 3 July, 1976. Special Bicentennial Edition, p 6.

Joseph S. Wiltshire vs. H. Martin, A. M. Harrison and John M. Carroll  
 R. H. Jamison, administrator of I. M. Jamison, deceased, vs. Wiley B. Worley  
 S. W. Goodwin vs. Lucy Johnson and B. M. Johnson  
 Hampton Legget vs. Joshua Hardison and H. L. Hardison  
 Wm P. Gantt vs. D. H. Moss, James Williams, H. Nicholson and John McMaury  
 E. C. Overton vs. M. C. Carpenter, W. H. Dodson and D. H. Caldwell  
 J. W. Moore vs. James Grissom, J. B. Bennett and Wm Grissom  
 Thos J. Reaves vs. F. C. Frierson, J. B. Frierson, administrator of W. B. Embry,  
 and W. S. Rainey, administrator of S. W. Frierson  
 Asa Hardison vs. Joshua Hardison and James G. Hardison

One interesting ad boasts of cutting hair phrenologically. The Temple of Fashion, next door to the Nelson House, claims that such haircuts exhibit the moral intellect of gentlemen. Phrenology was a popular Victorian-era belief that by examining the shape of the skull, one could determine a person's aptitudes and tendencies.<sup>2</sup> A gentleman could also receive "exstatic" shaving, shampooing, and hot and cold baths from the Temple of Fashion. Captain Hardeman was the proprietor.



Four different notices warn hunters and trespassers not to hunt or trespass on the land of the undersigned. All persons trespassing are warned of prosecution to the extent of the law. Given the number of people signing these notices, trespassing was obviously a big problem in Maury County. People signing the notices were:

R. D. Lockridge	R. A. McKay	E. F. Akin	A. T. Vestal
W. J. Terrell	W. J. Jones	R. S. Ewell	M. S. Thompson
John A. Miller	James K. Polk	John G. Alexander	C. B. and H. Hadley
J. L. Sedberry	W. W. Miller	Manson Vestal	Mrs. E. M. Booker
S. H. Timmons	W. H. Timmons	A. J. Timmons	John Trotter
J. K. P. Timmons	T. J. Timmons	W. J. Sedberry	Stephen Jordan <sup>3</sup>

Page three contains a report from the U. S. Internal Revenue Assistant Assessors Office, 6<sup>th</sup> District, dated March 1, 1871. The report lists the monthly and total revenues for Maury County. The Internal Revenue Tax was levied on incomes exceeding two thousand dollars per annum and on the sale and manufacture of fermented liquors, distilled spirits, and tobacco, in their various forms. The report states that in this division, there are two grain distilleries, one at White Springs, operated by L. D. Hogle and the other owned by Epps and Tisdale. There are six fruit distilleries owned by Hezikiah Terrell, Carter's Creek Station; Epps and Tisdale, Spring Hill; James Howard, Mt. Pleasant; Aaron McMannis, Mt. Pleasant; L. G. Lanier, Mt. Pleasant; and Hughes and Akin, Culleoka. There were six wholesale liquor dealers and 85 retail liquor dealers; 94 retail dealers; 30 lawyers; 55 physicians; 5 dentists; 36 stallions; 41 jacks; 60 taxable manufactories; and 18 peddlers. The two banks listed in Columbia are The First National Bank of Columbia and The Bank of Columbia. The 1870 Census established Maury County as the third most populous county in the State of Tennessee which explains the rather large amount of commerce in the county.<sup>3</sup>

Page three contains community news from Culleoka, Hampshire, Hurricane, Midway, Ashwood, Spring Hill, Big Bigby, and Williamsport. These news items may contain valuable genealogical information. There are death

<sup>2</sup> Van Whye, John The History of Phrenology on the Web. <<http://pages.britishtlibrary.net/phrenology/overveiw.htm>>

<sup>3</sup> Population of the United States, Tennessee and Tennessee Counties by decennial census years: 1790-1990. <<http://cber.bus.utk.edu/census/1790pop.pf>>

---

reports for Mrs. W. W. McRady, Richard Mallard, Mrs. Tucker and George King. There is a short report on the marriage of Billy Smith and Ginnie Lollar of Carter's Creek.

News from surrounding counties can often be found in local newspapers. On page three, the Sheriff of Marshall County, J. W. Champ, passed through Culleoka with three prisoners destined for the penitentiary. The prisoners: Wm Privery, for horse stealing; Ephraim Whitefield, for stealing goods; and Sydney Moore, for horse stealing. All had been sentenced at the last term of the Circuit Court in Lewisburg.



Columbia and the surrounding areas were rural and heavily agricultural in the nineteenth century. Much of the advertising and reporting revolved around farming and livestock. A fine trotting stallion was reported to be imported by Col. T. W. Keesee. W. E. Greenlaw received the celebrated Berkshire boar "Tippecanoe" and had him on his Spring Hill farm. S. Walter Scott reported that his red bull, Thorn, would serve cows at this stables at the toll gate on the Pulaski and Columbia Turnpike. Major Ben. Dowell of Williamsport reported a fine Jack to be sold or let out for the season.

Pedigrees were included for both the bull and the jack. There are several reports of dogs killing livestock and sightings of mad dogs and foxes.

Page four continues with agricultural and domestic items including articles on pecan trees, agricultural operations, and garden work. One article, reproduced from Scribner's Monthly, describes how the appetite for strong drink in man has spoiled the lives of many women. Also included on page four is a piece of fiction entitled "Kate Kimberly's Elopement" by Judge Clark. Advertisements for Allen's Lung Balsam, Houck's Vegetable Panacea and Henry T. Hemboldt's various compounds cater to those who believed in self-medication.

The paper contains side-by-side advertisements for two private educational institutions for young ladies. The Columbia Athenaeum reports that it is "a first class school for young ladies." The classrooms are housed in capacious buildings and contain \$10,000 in apparatus and a well selected library of 11,000 volumes. A full and efficient faculty offers a thorough and non-sectarian course of instruction. The young ladies dwell in large sleeping rooms with fire in each and are fed at an abundant table. The Columbia Athenaeum under the leadership of Wm. A. Smith, offers the "very highest advantages for the education of young ladies, both solid and ornamental." Its students receive musical and vocal instruction and the modern languages are taught by native speakers. The institute boasts of owning the most improved chemical, philosophical, and astronomical apparatus with excellent geological, mineral, and fossil cabinets. Rev. George Beckett is listed as the rector, Mrs. M. N. Martin is listed as the principal and Rt. Rev. C. T. Quintard D. D. L. L. D. is listed as visitor.

Microfilm copies of the Columbia Herald and its various incarnations can be found at the Tennessee State Library and Archives<sup>4</sup> and at the Maury County Public Library. Newspapers should not be neglected as a source for family history research. Valuable genealogical information can be located in these newspapers. Newspapers also give a glimpse into the social, political and economic times of the area. These glimpses can help us understand our ancestors as more than just names and dates. ■

---

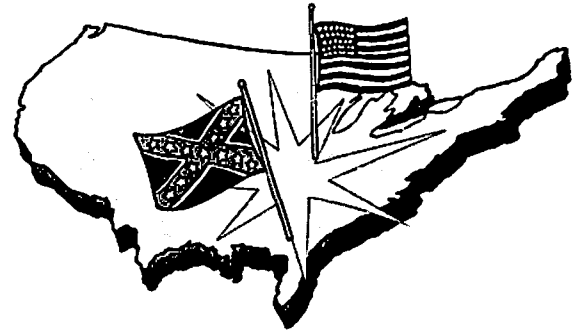
<sup>4</sup> Newspapers on Microfilm at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. <<http://www.state.tn.us/sos/statelib/pubsvs/tn-paper.htm>>

# Five Families for Secession

by Thomas K. Potter, Jr.

In 1861, five affluent, influential, intertwined families stirred strong secessionist sentiment in Tennessee's Upper Cumberland "Mountain District."

They were the *Culloms*, *Gardenhires*, *Goodbars*, *Marchbanks* and *Murrays*. All were well-established slaveholding families. Some were large landowners. They resided in the most populous counties of the district, in or near the principal market towns of Gainesboro, Livingston, Cookeville, McMinnville, and Sparta.



They were intermarried, forming close ties among themselves and with other gentry in the area. They were active in the county and circuit courts, as attorneys, as judges, and as clerks. Family members had served in both elective and appointive political offices at the local, state and national levels.

This is part two of an article which began in the previous issue

The Gardenhire family of White County had intermarried with four well-known families among the Upper Cumberland gentry---the Goodbars and Culloms of Overton County, the Quarles in what would become Putnam County, and the Clark family of White County. All were well-established, prosperous promoters of separation from the Union.

Family patriarch *Erasmus Lee Gardenhire (1815-1899)* was one of the most influential and affluent men in the "Mountain District." A native of Overton County, Gardenhire began his career as a teacher at Livingston Academy, and later, in 1838-1839, "read the law" under the tutelage of Judge Alvin Cullom. In 1839, he married Mary A. McMillin, daughter of James McMillin and his wife, Katherine Halsell. They raised seven children.<sup>33</sup>

In 1844, Gardenhire began practicing law in Livingston, and was elected to the Tennessee Senate, 1849-1851, representing White, Fentress, Jackson, Overton and Van Buren counties. In 1851, he moved his law practice to Sparta. In 1856, he served as a delegate-at-large to the Democratic National

Convention and as an elector on the Buchanan-Breckinridge ticket.<sup>34</sup>

In early 1861, Gardenhire was an ardent and outspoken secessionist, busily engaged in rebel political rallies and in recruiting a Confederate regiment. He addressed rallies at Livingston, Jamestown, Sparta, and at Cookeville, where he chaired the Committee on Resolutions. However, his younger brother, *James B. Gardenhire (1821-1862)*, also an attorney, migrated to Missouri by the early 1840s, became a strong proponent of gradual emancipation, ran for governor on the anti-slavery ticket, and was appointed by President Lincoln as Solicitor of the Court of Claims in Washington. Due to ill health, he resigned, returned to Missouri and died there in early 1862.<sup>35</sup>

At Jamestown in Fentress County, Erasmus L. Gardenhire made a speech, considered by some to be "not so inflammatory," yet condemning all Union supporters as enemies who should be hanged or driven from the country. At the Sparta rally, Gardenhire drew wild applause when he declared blacks would remain barbarians if not controlled by the institution of slavery.<sup>36</sup>



In 1860, Gardenhire was listed as owner of 10 slaves; his mother also held slaves, and his maternal grandfather owned about 40 slaves. He was reportedly worth about \$40,000 in slaves, land, credits and cash.

37

During the war, Gardenhire served in the House of Representatives of the first Confederate Congress (1862-1864), but did not seek reelection. Instead, he "went with the Army of (Northern) Virginia," refugeeing by war's end to western North Carolina.<sup>38</sup>

Gardenhire's eldest son, *James Alexander "Alexis" Gardenhire*, served as a First Lieutenant, Co. A, 25th Regiment, Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, a regiment which his father helped raised. Later, he was appointed as an aide on the staff of Brig. Gen. Marcus J. Wright. After the war, General Wright, son of an influential Memphis planter and brother of a Confederate congressman, was appointed U.S. War Department agent for the collection of Confederate military records.<sup>39</sup>

Gardenhire, one of the most prominent jurists of the Mountain District, was described as a "well informed, bright (and) an interesting conversationalist," and tall and "stately...like a Roman Senator." Although sometimes addressed by the honorific of "Judge," there is no evidence that Gardenhire served as a Circuit Court Judge prior to the Civil War. He was "famous for committing long passages of scriptures, Shakespeare and other literature to memory as he rode over the mountain trails," and was regarded as a "faithful and candid person who dealt justly with all." A member of the Christian Church, he was also a Master Mason.<sup>40</sup>

Five of Gardenhire's seven adult children married into the Goodbar, Clark, Cullom and Quarles families.<sup>41</sup>

War clouds were gathering when *Alice Catherine Gardenhire* (1844- ?), Gardenhire's second child and first daughter, married *Jesse Franklin Goodbar* (1836-1923) on Jan. 24, 1861 in Overton County.<sup>42</sup>

After the war, Gardenhire's second daughter and fourth child, *Mary Gardenhire*, married *Mark L. Clark* in late 1868. He was the son of *Daniel Clark* (1791-1879), one of White County's largest landowners and slaveholders, who was said to own as many as 30 slave families on his 2,000 acre plantation. Clark's enterprises also included a grist mill, a furniture and

coffin manufacturing operation, a woolen mill, a saw mill, a brick kiln, and later a mineral springs resort at the mountain village of Clarktown, a few miles east of Sparta.<sup>43</sup>

In another antebellum wedding, a third daughter, *Lucy Ellen Gardenhire*, married *Judge James Tompkins Quarles*, a native of the White Plains community near Algood where his family had settled a grant of 5,000 acres. Judge Quarles, a slaveholder, served as judge of the first circuit court in Putnam County, and was one of seven speakers at the Cookeville rally. He and Ellen Gardenhire met in Sparta where he became a merchant. While serving as a representative in the Tennessee Assembly, Quarles contended that "the people of Tennessee have the right to settle in the common territories...with their slaves and other property...Further agitation of the question of slavery yields no practical good for any part of the country, and therefore should cease everywhere."<sup>44</sup>

Years after the war in 1881, the youngest daughter, *Vulina "Rosalee" Gardenhire* married *Cornelius Cullom*, thus binding the Gardenhire and Cullom families.<sup>45</sup>

Two sons of the Murray family of Jackson County played salient roles in the secession movement in the Upper Cumberland. Through marriage, law careers and participation in Democratic Party politics, they were connected with other families in the area who supported secession or disunion.

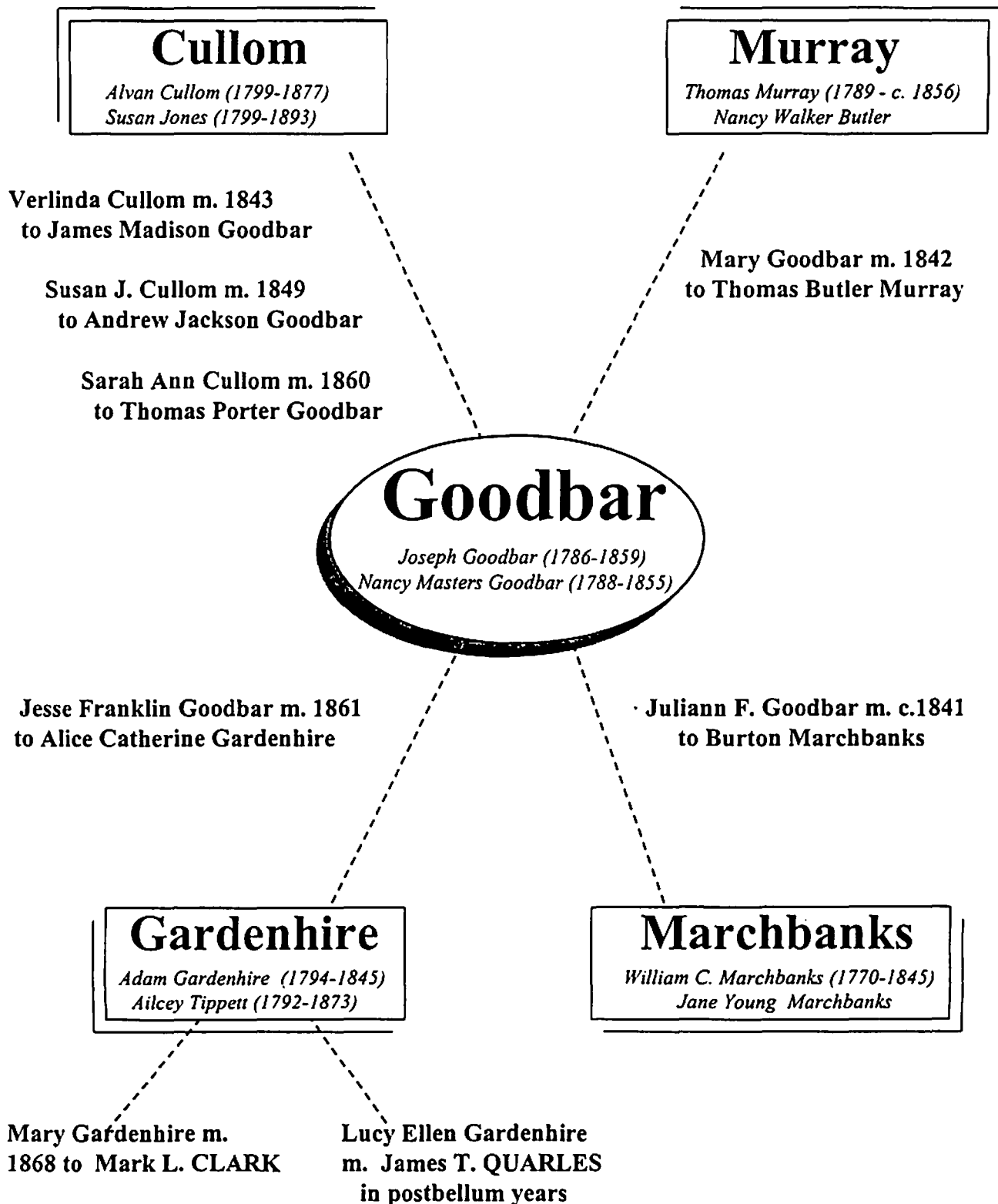
*Thomas Butler Murray* (1829-1878) and *John Perry Murray* (1830-1895) were the sons of Thomas Murray (1789-c.1856) and his second wife Nancy Walker Butler. Emigrating from Washington Co. in East Tennessee, Thomas Murray settled outside Gainesboro in Jackson County, probably near Flynn's Lick. Family roots are in Virginia, according to tradition.<sup>46</sup>

Thomas B. Murray was a prominent attorney in the Upper Cumberland area. Educated at Cumberland University School of Law, Lebanon, he began his practice in Sparta, later moving to McMinnville. Active in politics, but never a candidate, Murray served as an elector on the Breckinridge ticket in 1860, and made 60 speeches during that campaign.<sup>47</sup>

In 1860, Murray, his wife, Mary Goodbar, and two children, ages 3 and 6, and Laura Goodbar, a student, were all residing in the same household, assisted by

---

## Family Connections among the Five Families for Secession



eight slaves. Mrs. Murray was a niece of Andrew Jackson Goodbar of Livingston.<sup>48</sup>

An "able and fluent speaker," Murray was one of seven advocates of disunion who addressed the Cookeville rally. An influential and very popular young man, he took "a bold and decided ground for the South." He was "unalterably opposed to centralized power and a consolidated government," espousing the State's Rights principles advocated by Alexander H. Stephens, later Vice President of the Confederacy.<sup>49</sup>

In May, 1861, T. B. Murray raised a company of 108 men in Warren County, later commanding them as Capt., Co. E, 16th Tennessee Infantry. He was elected Lieutenant-Colonel, serving until May, 1862 when the regiment was reorganized in Corinth, Mississippi. The following January, he raised the 22nd Tennessee Infantry Battalion, commanding as Major. The unit was later consolidated in the 38th Tennessee Infantry. Detached in July, 1863 to recruit and remount the battalion, Murray and his troops were left behind enemy lines when the Army of Tennessee retreated toward Chattanooga. Later, he and his followers were engaged in guerrilla warfare. He was captured in December, 1864 and later exchanged.<sup>50</sup>

His brother, John Perry Murray, was also a prominent attorney, practicing in Gainesboro. A leader in the Democratic party, he later served as circuit judge. The owner of a single slave in 1860, he participated in the Cookeville rally and helped write the resolutions. Although he had helped to secure the nomination of Andrew Johnson, Murray, as a man of strong opinions and passions, was embittered by Johnson's determined Unionist stance. This bitterness may have contributed to the acidic rebuke of Johnson expressed in the Cookeville resolutions.<sup>51</sup>

John P. Murray married Evelyn Elizabeth Easton in December, 1852. To them were born four daughters and two sons. Evelyn died in 1876 following the birth of their last son.<sup>52</sup>

Enlisting in the 28th Tennessee Infantry, in August, 1861, Murray was elected Colonel, commanding. Although severely wounded at the battle of Shiloh, Col. Murray and the regiment both were commended by the commanding general for refusing to leave the field until after the surrender of a Union brigade.<sup>53</sup>

In June 1863 when Erasmus L. Gardenhire chose not to stand for reelection to the Confederate Congress, an ad hoc committee of prominent Tennesseans, meeting at Winchester, placed Murray's name on the ballot to represent the Fourth District of Tennessee in the Second Confederate Congress.<sup>54</sup>

Col. Murray's bitter dislike of Gen. Braxton Bragg, then commanding the Army of Tennessee, somewhat inhibited his initial effort in campaigning for Congress. According to the family papers of Murray's great-granddaughter, Anne Payne of Long Beach, MS, he had harshly criticized Bragg in public, before other officers, as well as within his own regiment. To go electioneering, Col. Murray needed a signed pass, relieving him of his military duties, but it was obvious that Gen. Bragg would not grant it. So, Murray secured the pass from Gen. John C. Breckinridge and later brashly taunted Gen. Bragg about it. Murray's brother, Thomas B. Murray, had served as a Breckinridge elector in the 1860 presidential election.<sup>55</sup>

Murray handily won his seat in the Confederate Congress, and soon established a reputation as a rigorous opponent of President Jefferson Davis and his conduct of the war. He was vigorous in promoting the interests of states west of the Appalachians, and advocated greater protection of the Cumberland area as a food supply source. A generous supporter of military interests, Murray introduced bills five times to ease the life of the common soldier. However, he was more frugal about economic matters and restrained in granting war powers to the government. In May, 1864, Murray dismissed the "imaginary dangers" cited by the Davis administration as reasons for the suspension of habeas corpus. His speech in Congress was published in its entirety by the *Richmond Daily Inquirer*.<sup>56</sup>

The maelstrom of the Civil War swept away the antebellum lifestyles of these Upper Cumberland secessionists. Most---but not all of them---reestablished themselves in pre-war pursuits, but within a new social and political environment and often in a new locale.

In the post-war years, *Alvin Cullom* was not involved in politics, but only in the practice of law. Within a few weeks of his 80th birthday, Cullom died at Livingston on July 20, 1877 and was buried nearby in Bethlehem Cemetery.<sup>57</sup>

His brother, *William Cullom*, lived almost 20 years longer. He served as Attorney General of the 6th Circuit from 1873 to 1878, and then resigned to become Circuit Judge. He died in 1896 at age 86 in Clinton, Tennessee and is buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Chattanooga.<sup>58</sup>

*Erasmus L. Gardenhire* of White County, worth an estimated \$40,000 in 1861, lost about 75 percent of his assets at war's end, primarily through the emancipation or flight of slaves. A refugee in Morganton, North Carolina at war's end, Gardenhire began his return trip to Tennessee in May, 1865. At home, he was reunited with his eldest son, *Lt. "Alexis" Gardenhire*. During the last years of his life, he served as a Referee Judge on the Supreme Court of Arbitrations, an appointment he received in 1883. Erasmus L. Gardenhire died in 1899 at Carthage.<sup>59</sup>

Of the four Goodbars serving in the Confederate army, two did not return.

In the older generation, First Lieutenant *Joseph Lafayette Goodbar*, 36, rode through the war with Murray's 4th Tennessee Cavalry, and returned to join his nephew in business in Memphis. In 1883, he sold his interest, left his family and disappeared.<sup>60</sup>

In the younger generation, Pvt. *Andrew J. Goodbar, Jr.*, 19, was killed when his regiment, 1st Regiment (Feild's), Tennessee Infantry, was heavily engaged at the battle of Perryville, Oct. 8, 1862.<sup>61</sup>

*Capt. James Monroe Goodbar*, 26, a son of William Pearman Goodbar, made his way home after surrendering in Georgia with President Jefferson Davis's cavalry escort. He had served as Assistant Quartermaster of Murray's 4th Tenn. Cavalry. Returning to Memphis, he resumed the wholesale shoe business and soon became president of the firm. Also he was a bank officer and served two terms on the city council.<sup>62</sup>

His brother, *Maj. Joseph H. Goodbar*, 24, died of dysentery, December 10, 1861 at Morristown, Tennessee, en route with his regiment to the front in western Virginia. He was eulogized as "an excellent officer and a most estimable gentleman," and was buried at Riverside Cemetery, McMinnville.<sup>63</sup>

Joseph's father, *William Pearman Goodbar (1833-1878)*, wartime president of the Bank of Tennessee

branch in Sparta, sought to protect bank funds. For safekeeping, \$43,000 in deposits were sent with a former bank officer and two armed guards to Chattanooga. They were met by bushwhackers and robbed. W. P. Goodbar, a widower for 11 years, died at age 45 in 1878.<sup>64</sup>

Another of the older generation affected by the war was *James Madison Goodbar*. At age 58, he had lost a fortune in slaves and livestock. His plantation, "Walnut Grove," on the west fork of Obed River, was stripped by raiding guerrillas, and debts owed to him as a merchant were not collectible. Since schools in the county also were destroyed, he sold his plantation, moved his family to Lebanon, opened a store, and entered his children in school there.<sup>65</sup>

His brother, *Jesse Franklin Goodbar (1831-1918)*, who operated the family store in Livingston and dealt in livestock during the war, first moved with his family to Sparta, developed a residential tract there, and then migrated to Arkansas.<sup>66</sup>

*Thomas Porter Goodbar*, youngest of the six surviving Goodbar brothers, operated the family store during the war. In 1871-1872, he served as Livingston postmaster, but he soon joined his brother, James Madison, in Lebanon where he became a successful merchant. He died in 1910 and is buried beside his wife, Sarah Ann Cullom Goodbar, in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Lebanon.<sup>67</sup>

*Burton Marchbanks* died shortly before the end of the war's first year and his brother, *Judge Andrew J. Marchbanks* of McMinnville died Jan. 6, 1867, less than two years after the war. Judge Marchbanks's fortune was exhausted, his health wasted and his spirit broken. His "Poplar Tavern" atop Ben Lomand Mountain was stripped. And his son, Frank, a cavalryman, was captured in 1863 while visiting nearby, was then shot dead, his body strapped to a horse and delivered to his father with a note reading, "This is what happens to all Secess!" When Federal troops occupied McMinnville that same year, Judge Marchbanks was spared incarceration in a northern military prison, but he was confined to his home.<sup>68</sup>

In the post-war years, *Thomas Butler Murray* of Warren County resumed his law practice. For awhile, he and his wife, Mary Goodbar, lived in Sparta, but later they moved to McMinnville. Murray died there Jan. 15, 1878. He was 48 years old.<sup>69</sup>



His brother, *John Perry Murray* of Jackson County, ironically became the first Confederate officer to personally call on President Andrew Johnson, seeking a pardon under the Amnesty Proclamation of May, 1865. With the pardon and restoration of his civil rights in June, Murray resumed his law practice in Gainesboro, but declined to participate in politics. He lived for another 30 years, dying four days before Christmas in 1895. He was buried in the family cemetery on his estate.<sup>70</sup>

In the "Mountain District," a few key families made a difference when it came to secession. They were the spearhead for separation, rebellion and disunion. They

were bound together by kinship, professional relationships and mutual economic interests. They intended to take Tennessee out of the Union. They actively advocated it; they rallied support for it; they raised rebel troops to fight for it, and they provided some of the leadership to achieve it.

Without the support of these principal Confederate families and others like them, there would have been no separation, no secession, no rebellion and no disunion in the Upper Cumberland. ■

## Notes for *Five Families for Secession*:

33. McBride and Robinson, *Biographical Directory...*, p. 275; Speer, *Sketches...*, p. 387; *UCGA* (Upper Cumberland Genealogical Association], v. XVII, no. 3) p. 113. After the death of his first wife, Mary A. McMillin, Erasmus L. Gardenhire's autobiographical sketch dated 17 May 1897 (in possession of E. George Gardenhire, Chattanooga, in 1958) indicates he married (2) May Gwin, who died four days after the wedding; (3) Dora Gwin, who died in 1893, and (4) Kibbie A. Tinsley Williams, who survived him. ■34. McBride and Robinson, *Biographical Directory...*, p. 275; Speer, *Sketches...*, p. 387; *UCGA*, v. XVII, no. 3, p. 113. ■35. DeLozier, *Putnam County...*, p. 32, citing the *Gainesboro Sentinel*, n.d., n.p. reprinted in the *Putnam County Herald*, 16 Jul. 1905, p. 5; Gardenhire autobiographical sketch dated 17 May 1897; Adam Gardenhire Family Group Sheet, compiled by Lawrence W. Gardenhire, 1977; updated 1991; published 1996 by a descendant, Billy G. Gardenhire, Route 2, O'Donnell, TX 79351, <billgard@poka.com>. located in the genealogical vertical files, White County Public Library, Sparta, TN; also listings at Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.com. James B. Gardenhire died 10 Feb. 1862 in Fayette, Howard Co., MO, nine days before his third wife, Sara Major (1834-1862). Anti-slavery stance and Lincoln appointment recorded in *Bench and Bar of Missouri*, pp. 317-319, as cited by Billy G. Gardenhire. ■36. Sensing, *Champ Ferguson...*, pp. 69-70, 231-232 citing the testimony of Captain Dowdy at Ferguson's military trial; Alexander and Beringer, *The Anatomy of the Confederate Congress...*, pp. 366-367. ■37. Jackson, *Slave Schedule*; Speer, p. 388; "Slave Owners 1860 White County Census," *The Pathfinder of White County Genealogical Historical Society*, Vol. VIII, No. 4 (July-August 2001), p. 11; McBride and Robinson, *Biographical Directory...*, p. 275; Speer, *Sketches...*, p. 387. ■38. McBride and Robinson, *Biographical Directory...*, p. 275; Speer,

*Sketches...*, p. 387; "Middle Tennessee Professional People in 1857," *Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History*, p. 118; *UCGA*, v. XVII, no. 3, p. 113. Serving with Gardenhire in the Tennessee delegation of the First Confederate Congress were John DeWitt Clinton Atkins 1862-65, David Maney Currin 1862-64, Henry Stuart Foote 1862-65, Meredith Poindexter Gentry 1862-64, Joseph Brown Heiskell 1862-64, George Washington Jones 1862-64, Thomas Menees 1862-65, William Graham Swan 1862-65, William Henry Tibbs 1862-64, and John Vines Wright 1862-65, according to *The Political Graveyard*, <http://politicalgraveyard.com/geo/TN/>. ■39. Sensing, *Champ Ferguson...*, pp. 69-70, p. 98 (Cullom); pp. 231-232; Alexander and Beringer, *The Anatomy of the Confederate Congress...*, pp. 366-367; Family Group Charts. Billy Lee Gardenhire. O'Donnell, TX. ■40. Speer, *Sketches...*, p. 387; Frank Trigg Fancher, *The Sparta Bar* (Milford, NH: The Cabinet Press, 1950), pp. 25-26; Sensing, *Champ Ferguson...*, pp. 69-70. ■41. Fancher, *The Sparta Bar...*, pp. 25-26; Waman Clark, 374 East 21st St., Tracy, CA 95376 (tubclark@pacbell.net) e-mail to Thomas K. Potter, Jr.. ■42. Carmen Clark in a letter to Thomas K. Potter, Jr. dated 14 Feb. 2000; Clark, *Goodbars I Found, 1774-1978...*, p. 226. ■43. Fancher, *The Sparta Bar*, pp. 25-26; Waman Clark e-mail to Thomas K. Potter, Jr.; Seals, *History of White County*, p. 90; Ray S. Worth, *Tennessee Cousins, A History of Tennessee People* (Austin, TX, 1950), p. 520; Family Group Charts. Billy Lee Gardenhire. O'Donnell, TX. ■44. Mary R. Campbell, "Tennessee's Congressional Delegation 1859-1860," *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XIX No. 4 (Dec. 1960), pp. 348-371; Jackson, *Slave Schedule*, p. 491; Family Group Charts. Billy Lee Gardenhire. O'Donnell, TX. ■45. Fancher, *The Sparta Bar*, pp. 25-26; Waman Clark e-mail to Thomas K. Potter, Jr.; Campbell, *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, pp. 348-371. In addition to

Alice Catherine Gardenhire (Mrs. John Franklin Goodbar), Mary Gardenhire (Mrs. Mark L. Clark), Ellen Gardenhire (Mrs. James Tompkins Quarles), Vulina "Rosalee" Gardenhire (Mrs. Cornelius Cullom) and James Alexander "Alexis" Gardenhire (married Florence Carrick), other Gardenhire children were John Halsell Gardenhire (married Elizabeth Snodgrass) and Ada Gardenhire (Mrs. John H. McMillen), according to Family Group Charts by Billy Lee Gardenhire, O'Donnell, TX. ■46. Terri Moore e-mail of 24 Jan. 2002 to Thomas K Potter, Jr. ■47. Speer, *Sketches*..., p. 246; J. B. Killebrew, *Warren County, It's Organization, Scenery, Resources and Representative Men*, [Nashville: Union & American Book and Job Print, 1871], pp. 26-27; Moore e-mail to Potter. Killebrew was Agricultural Editor of the *Nashville Union & American*. ■48. Moore <pip@arn.net> e-mail to Potter citing a sketch of W. T. Murray, son of Thomas B. Murray, appearing in *Goodspeed's History of Tennessee*. -----, *The Goodspeed History of Warren County*... (Chicago & Nashville: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1887); Slave Schedules, 1860 U. S. Census, Warren County. ■49. Killebrew, *Warren County*..., pp. 26-27; Moore e-mail to Potter; J. M. Morgan, "Secession in Putnam County, Tenn.," *Confederate Veteran*, v. XVII, p. 170. ■50. Speer, *Sketches*..., p. 246; *Tennesseans in the Civil War, Part 2*, p. 299; *Tennesseans in the Civil War, Part 1*, pp. 167, 208; Killebrew, *Warren County*..., pp. 16-17, 27; George Leslie Hoodenpyle, "A Sketch of the McMinnville Bar," *Warren County Historical Journal*, (McMinnville: Warren County Historical Society, 1979), v. III, p. 16. ■51. *Confederate Veteran*, XVII, p. 170; McDowell and Blankenship, *Fiddles*..., pp. 246-248; Ezra J. Warner & W. Buck Yearns, *Biographical Register of the Confederate Congress* [Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press]; 1860 U.S.Census and Slave Schedule; Jon Wakelyn and Frank E. Vandiver, Advisory Editor, *Biographical Dictionary of the Confederacy* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc., 1977) ■52. Moore e-mail of 24 Jan. 2002 to Potter. ■53. *Tennesseans in the Civil War, Part 2*, p. 299; Moore e-mail of 24 Jan. 2002 to Potter, citing a memorial resolution by the S. S. Stanton, Bivouac No. 24, Association of Confederate Soldiers, Tennessee Department, following the death of John P. Murray, Dec. 21, 1895, as recorded in the papers of Anne B. Payne of Long Beach, MS, Murray's great-granddaughter. ■54. Wakelyn and Vandiver, *Biographical Dictionary of the Confederacy*. ■55. Moore e-mail of 24 Jan. 2002 to Potter, citing a note by

Murray's daughter, Eva Murray Cunningham, now in possession of Anne B. Payne, Murray's great-granddaughter. ■56. Alexander and Beringer, *The Anatomy of the Confederate Congress*..., pp. 378-379. Also Moore e-mail correspondence with Potter; Warner & Yearns, *Biographical Register of the Confederate Congress*; Killebrew, *Warren County*..., p. 27; *Tennesseans in the Civil War, Part 1*, p. 299; *Tennesseans in the Civil War, Part 2*, pp. 60-61. Joining Murray as newcomers to the Tennessee delegation in the Second Confederate Congress were James McCallum, Michael Walsh Cluskey, Arthur St. Clair Colyar and Edwin Augustus Keeble. Members continuing from the First Congress were John DeWitt Clinton Atkins, Henry Stuart Foote, Thomas Menees, William Graham Swan and John Vines Wright, as reported by *The Political Graveyard*, <http://politicalgraveyard.com/geo/TN/> ■57. *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress 1774-Present*, <http://bioguide.congress.gov/> ■58. Goodpasture and Goodpasture, *Life of Jefferson Dillard Goodpasture*..., p. 39; *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress 1774-Present*, <http://bioguide.congress.gov/>. ■59. McBride and Robinson, *Biographical Directory*..., p. 275; Speer, *Sketches*..., p. 387; Frank Trigg Fancher, *The Sparta Bar*, pp. 25-26). ■60. Dillon, *Warren County's Personalities*..., pp. 93-98; *Tennesseans in the Civil War, Part 2*, pp. 173, 259; Clark, *Goodbars I Found, 1774-1978*..., p. 218. ■61. *Tennesseans in the Civil War, Part 2*, p. 173. ■62. 1870 U.S.Census for Wilson Co., Tennessee; Clark, *Goodbars I Found, 1774-1978*..., p. 209. ■63. Head, *Campaigns and Battles*..., pp. 19, 20, 26. ■64. Clark, *Goodbars I Found, 1774-1978*..., p. 209. ■65. Clark, *Goodbars I Found, 1774-1978*..., p. 212. ■66. Clark, *Goodbars I Found, 1774-1978*..., p. 226. ■67. Clark, *Goodbars I Found, 1774-1978*..., p. 238. ■68. *Marquis Who's Who in America, 1972-1973, Vol. 2*; Hoodenpyle, "A Sketch of the McMinnville Bar," *Warren County Historical Journal*; Killebrew, *Warren County*..., pp. 16-17. ■69. Wakelyn and Vandiver, *Biographical Dictionary of the Confederacy*; "Colonel John Perry Murray," an obituary, *The Nashville American*, c. 21 Dec. 1895. ■70. Alexander and Beringer, *The Anatomy of the Confederate Congress*..., pp. 378-379; List of Persons Pardoned by President Andrew Johnson's Under the Amnesty Proclamation of May 29, 1865, [www.tngenweb.org](http://www.tngenweb.org).

The author wishes to express special appreciation to:

Carmen E. Clark of Lexington, VA  
Billy G. Gardenhire of O'Donnell, TX

Terri Moore of Amarillo, TX  
Anne B. Payne of Long Beach, MS ■

# Until Death or My Other Wife Do Us Part:

## A Look at Marriage Bonds in Tennessee

by Mark Lowe, C.G.

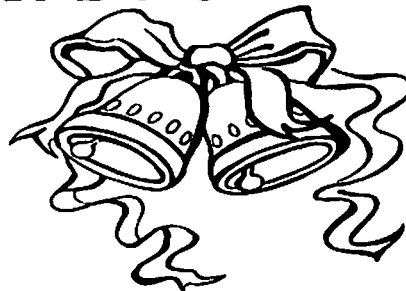
As researchers, we often use marriage bonds and licenses to gather information about our families. Although we may understand much of the information written on these records, we might not have a complete understanding of their legal purpose. Of particular note is the misconception on the bond amount required for marriage bonds in Tennessee.

A bond is a written promise to pay a sum of money. If there are no conditions, the bond amount will have to be paid. In the case of the marriage bond, there are conditions that make the bond null and void. That means no bond amount will be paid. A transcription of a marriage bond form in Robertson County, Tenn from the year 1896 indicated the following:<sup>1</sup>

State of Tennessee, Robertson County  
Know all Men, That we, [blank line for name of groom and bondsman] of said County and State of Tennessee, are held and firmly bound unto the State of Tennessee in the sum of Twelve Hundred and Fifty Dollars, to which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind our heirs, executors, and administrators, and each and every one of us and them, both jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

The Condition of the above Obligation is such, That, whereas, [blank line for groom's name] hath prayed and obtained a License to marry [blank line for bride's name]: Now, if there shall not hereafter appear any lawful cause why the said [blank line for groom's name] and [blank line for bride's name] should not be joined together in Holy Matrimony as husband and wife, then this obligation to be void and of no effect; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

<sup>1</sup> "Marriage Entry of James Harris and Mary Sholders," solemnized 7 Sept 1896, Robertson County, Tennessee, Marriage Book 14, p 13, Robertson Co. Tenn. Archives, Springfield, Tenn. This book combined a copy of the marriage bond, license issued by the Clerk and a notation of the return information on one page.



Witness our hands and seals, the [blank for day] day of  
[blank for month], 189[blank for year]  
[blank for signature of groom] (L.S.)  
[blank for signature of bondsman] (L.S.)

The condition of this marriage bond is "*if there shall not hereafter appear any lawful cause why the said [groom] and [bride] should not be joined together in Holy Matrimony as husband and wife, then this obligation to be void and of no effect.*" The \$1250 amount indicated on this marriage bond would have been paid only if conditions for a lawful marriage were not present. (if the groom were already married, or was under age, for example).

A review of legal statutes in Tennessee indicated that the amount of twelve hundred fifty dollars was established prior to the beginning of the state government and did not vary during its first hundred years.

The amount of \$1250 was established by North Carolina statute in 1778, eighteen years prior to Tennessee's admission to the Union.<sup>2</sup>

*"Chapter 7, Sec 3. The clerk of each county is hereby authorized and empowered to grant marriage license to any person applying for the same, first taking in the name of the governor for the time being and his successors with sufficient security, in the sum of twelve hundred and fifty dollars, with condition that there is no lawful cause to obstruct the marriage, for which such license is desired, to be recovered by action of debt, by the party grieved, which bond aforesaid shall be taken and license granted, by the clerk of the county*

<sup>2</sup> R. L. Caruthers and A.O.P. Nicholson. *A Compilation of the Statutes of Tennessee of a General and Permanent Nature From the Commencement of the Government to the Present Time.* (Nashville, 1836), 450.

in which the feme resides, which license shall be directed to any authorized minister or justice of the peace, and may demand and take the sum of fifty cents and no more for his service, in taking bond and granting license as aforesaid."

This law does state that the license would be issued in the county where the "feme" or female resided. There is also an indication that the bond would be taken in the name of the governor.

Following this act until 1896, I reviewed several legal reviews of the Acts of Tennessee and judicial action. Code of Tennessee

Title 4, Chapter 1, Article I

[Shannon 4192] "*Licensee to give bond. The clerk may issue such license to anyone applying for the same, unless he know that one of the parties is incapable of marriage, first taking bond to the state, with sufficient surety, in the sum of twelve hundred and fifty dollars, conditioned that there is no lawful cause to obstruct the marriage for which the license is desired; for which penalty any person aggrieved by the marriage may sue. (1778, ch 7, sec. 3.)*

[Shannon's annotation follows]

*Statute for protection of the woman. This statute is for the protection of the woman where the man has a living undivorced wife, and she is the party aggrieved and entitled to sue on the bond, and not her father. The statute contemplates such obstructions as would make the marriage void ab initio.*

10 Hum., 57."<sup>3</sup>

Although the provisions of the law had changed in some details, the bond amount remained twelve hundred and fifty dollars throughout this time period. Shannon's notation indicated that the law was intended

<sup>3</sup> Robert T. Shannon. *Public and Permanent Statutes of a General Nature, being an Annotated Code of Tennessee, the annotations showing the construction of the statutes and Constitution of the State by the Supreme court, and also its decisions upon kindred subjects, together with the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, Constitution of the United States, Constitution of Tennessee, laws for naturalization, laws for authentication of laws and records, and the chancery rules.* (Nashville, Tenn.: Marshall & Bruce Co., 1896) This volume reported all changes through the end of 1895.

to provide relief to the bride. The notation 10 Hum[phreys], 57 refers to *Report of Cases Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of Tennessee Vol X*, by West H. Humphreys. This is a discussion of a case where a father of the bride filed suit claiming the bride was underage and married without permission.<sup>4</sup>

The court ruled the marriage valid and stated that the bond penalty was only for the aggrieved party, that is, the female, if she chose to file a lawful suit against the groom. The court opinion stated, "The phrase 'lawful cause to obstruct a marriage,' we understand to mean, such cause as would make the marriage void *ab initio*, [void from the beginning of the marriage] by reason of the parties, or either of them, at the time of the marriage, laboring under some one of the civil disabilities created by law. And to maintain a suit upon the bond, it must appear, not only that such disability existed, but likewise, inasmuch as there can only be one recovery upon the bond, that the person suing is, in judgment of law, 'party grieved.'"<sup>5</sup>

Therefore, the amount of \$1250 for marriage bonds was normal and lawful in Tennessee in 1896. In fact, we can conclude that this amount was fixed prior to the establishment of Tennessee state government. ■



<sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. *Tennessee Reports.. Report of Cases Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of Tennessee Vol X.* by West H. Humphrey, Second Edition of Cooper's Edition With Subsequent Citations. (Nashville: E.W. Stephens, 1905) 43 [original report p 57]. The original case was styled *Smith v. Rector and Ryland* and was originally heard in Washington County.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.* 45.





# 1836 Indian Fighters Mount Up in Davidson County

Contributed by Mary Sue Smith

From Davidson County Deed Book 'Z', pp. 8991

Tennesseans were infected with war fever in 1836, especially after the fall of the Alamo on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Three months later, President Andrew Jackson called for 2,500 volunteers from Tennessee to assist in removing the Seminole Indians from Florida.

Governor Newton Cannon requested "my fellow citizens to engage as speedily as possible in said service, by raising and organizing companies...." His proclamation on June 6<sup>th</sup> called for a general muster of West Tennessee troops at Fayetteville, Lincoln County, on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and for East Tennessee troops to muster in Athens, McMinn County, on July 7<sup>th</sup>.<sup>1</sup> More than twice the required number of men volunteered for

service, and many were disappointed by being turned away after traveling to the place of muster.<sup>2</sup>

The following deed reveals that some of the men from Davidson County who answered the call purchased horses to ride to what they called "the Creek Country" (the Seminole were an offshoot of the Creek) by taking a credit against the pay they expected to receive as volunteers. Their service records indicate that this unit, known as the Mounted Blues, was incorporated into Captain Battle's Company of Colonel Trousdale's 2<sup>nd</sup> Tennessee Mounted Infantry.<sup>3</sup> The military action became known as the Second Seminole War.

*Know all men by these present that whereas we the undersigned Volunteers in the Service of the United States, raised under the proclamation of Governor Cannon of the sixth June 1836, being members of a Company Styling themselves the Mounted Blues, have through the aid and assistance of Joel A. Battle, Henry Hollingsworth, Gabriel Matlock and James Matlock, Commanding Officers of said Company purchased horses on a credit of six months for said service by the aforesaid officers going our security on our respective notes for the payment of said horses as follows:*

A. L. Lasey to Edmund Hyde for \$95  
Edmund Melvin to Joseph Aldrich for \$75  
William Carslile to W. Night for \$80  
James Thompson to M. Beeder for \$95  
Hays I. Goodrick to Thos. Perry for \$55  
George W. Spain to John Edmundson for \$70  
Manson Brown to Wm Berkley for \$110  
Cantrell Hobbs to Sam'l Murry for \$85  
Jackson Travis to Sam'l Murry for \$80  
David Drennen to David Denkson for \$115  
Silas E. Laster to Robert Cato for \$125

Robert McGinnis to James Cross for \$90  
James Jackson to A. Clampett for \$93  
James Sharp to H. Rigt for \$120  
W. Bates to John Shell for \$95  
Lewis Griffith to John Lay for \$100  
A. J. Lynch to Azariah Ellis for \$65  
William Mann to William Pully for \$95  
James Condon to Edmund Hide for \$120  
Duncan Woods to R. Griggs for \$80  
Thos. Carper to Alexander Carper for \$85

*All of which are given on or about the twentieth day of June 1836 and due six months after date. Now know ye that we by these presents as volunteers in said service do appoint in behalf of said Securities as our true and lawful Attorney for and in behalf of ourselves to take charge of and receive and receipt for any pay or money which may be due us or to which we shall or may be entitled to for our services and the services of our horses in said services of the U.S. under said Proclamation Joel A. Battle, Commander of said Company. We also relinquish all right to trading off said horses. 20 June 1836*

A. S. (X) Lacy  
Edmund (X) Melvin  
William (X) Carline  
James (X) Thompson  
H. L. (X) Goodrich  
George (X) Spain  
[X denotes signed by his mark]

Manson (X) Brown  
Cantrell (X) Hobbs  
Jackson Travis  
William (X) Bates  
Lewis Griffity  
William B. (X) McClenden

Martial (X) Denison  
A. J. Lynch  
William Mann  
Thomas (X) Carper  
Absolom Linnison

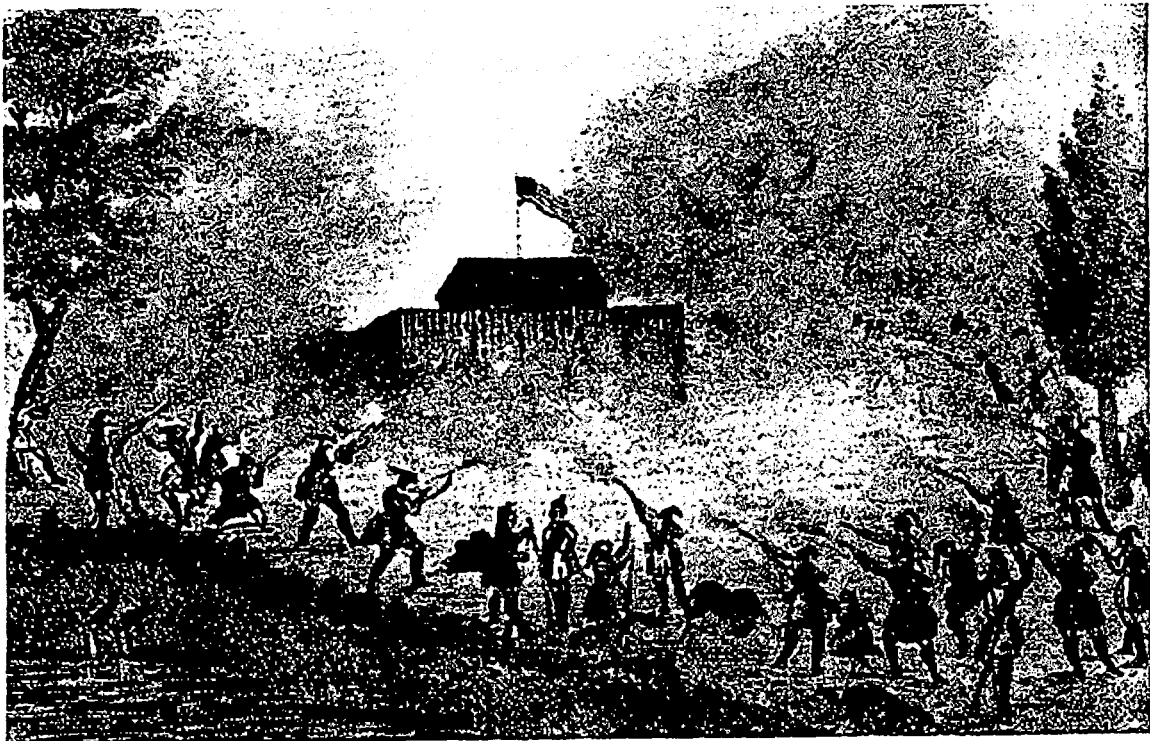
*State of Tennessee Davidson County Personally appeared before me Smith Criddle Clerk of the County Court of said County the foregoing named:*

A. S. Lasey  
Edmund Melvin,  
William Carsile  
James Thompson  
H. J. Goodrich  
George W. Spain  
Manson Brown  
Cantrell Hobbs

Jackson Travis  
David Drennan  
Elias E. Laster  
Robert McGinnis  
James Jackson  
James G. Sharp  
William Bates  
Lewis Griffith

William B. McClenden  
Martial Denison  
A.J. Linch  
William Mann  
Thomas Carper  
Absolom Linnison

*the constituents with which this certificate is attached for the use and purposes therein contained.*  
22 June 1836 [Signed] Smith Criddle



**Seminole Indians attack a fort at a Florida settlement<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> *National Banner and Nashville Whig*, vol. XXIV, no. 1587, Monday, June 6, 1836, page 2.

<sup>2</sup> White, Robert H. *Messages of the Governors of Tennessee 1835-1845*. (Nashville: Tennessee Historical Commission, 1954, p. 156.)

<sup>3</sup> White, Virgil D. *Index to volunteer soldiers in Indian wars and disturbances 1815-1858*. (Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing Co., 1994.)

<sup>4</sup> Unattributed photo found at: [homepages.rootsweb.com/~cmddlton/flwr.html](http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~cmddlton/flwr.html)

# Early Tennessee Academies

by T. Vance Little

*Current controversy over lotteries to raise money for educational purposes reminds us of a time when the matter was not so controversial.*



In 1811, the Tennessee Legislature passed an Act authorizing a lottery to be held in Franklin, Tennessee, to raise money for the newly established Harpeth Academy. The *trustees* appointed to oversee the lottery were Charles M. McCalister, Stephen Childress, Robert P. Curren(*sic*), James Gordon, Hencey(*sic*) Petway, Abraham Maury, Sr., and David Squier(*sic*), all prominent Franklin and Williamson County residents. The Act specified that the trustees were to *draft and publish a scheme of lottery or such plan as they shall think proper, either in one, two, three or four classes*. They were authorized to raise up to \$8,000.

In order to insure their honesty the trustees had to post bond in double the amount to be raised in the lottery. The bond was to be in favor of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Williamson County. The bond was to insure the *faithful payment of the prizes when drawn, and for faithfully applying the money arising from the said lottery* for the use of Harpeth Academy. The law also provided that the money would be returned to those who bought lottery tickets if for some reason the lottery were not successful.

The trustees were empowered to sell as many tickets as they thought fit to raise the amount of money they were authorized to raise. They were instructed to give notice of the drawing in a *public newspaper printed nearest said place [Franklin]* at least 20 days prior to the drawing.

After the drawing the Trustees of Harpeth Academy were instructed to meet and to pay to the *trustees, managers, and clerks of said lottery* a reasonable amount for their services. The balance of the money was to be turned over to the Treasurer of Harpeth Academy to be used for the Academy.

Finally, the trustees of the lottery were authorized to purchase tickets themselves. They had to *satisfy the managers or persons who superintend the drawing that there is no fraud or advantage taken, or intended to be taken, in consequence thereof*.

The Harpeth Academy was organized pursuant to an Act of the Tennessee Legislature passed in 1806. This Act authorized the establishment of an academy in each county in the state. There were on 27 Tennessee counties at that time. The counties were to receive *seed money* from the state to build and establish the schools. The balance of the money was to come from local efforts. Hence the lottery in Williamson County.

Not all counties took advantage of the state grant. Both Williamson and Davidson did accept the challenge and did establish schools. The Act of 1806 named the academies as well as appointing the trustees. The school established in Davidson County was Robertson Academy, which is still in existence as a public school. The Williamson County school was to be called Harpeth Academy, which, also, is still around, although it had a 100-year hiatus.

The Act of 1806 appointed an initial Board of Trustees for each academy it authorized. The Trustees for Williamson County were Daniel Perkins, John Sappington, Nicholas T. Perkins, Chapman White and Abraham Maury. Trustees of the Robertson Academy were Thomas A. Claiborne, Joel Lewis, Robert Weakley, Joseph Phillips and Robert C. Foster.

---

Among other counties where academies were authorized are these:

**Rutherford County**

Bradley Academy  
Trustees:  
Joseph Dixon  
John R. Bedford  
John Thompson, Sr.  
William P. Anderson  
Robert Smith

**Sumner County**  
Trans Montania Academy

Trustees:  
James Winchester  
David Shelby  
Edward Douglass  
Henry Bradford  
William Montgomery

**Wilson County**  
Campbell Academy

Trustees:  
Henry Ross  
John Allcorn  
Matthew Figures  
Samuel Hogg  
John K. Wynne

**Smith County**  
Geneva Academy

Trustees:  
William Martin  
Grant Allen  
Henry Tooty  
Richard Banks  
William Cage

**Dixon(sic) County**

Tracey Academy  
Trustees:  
Michael Dickson  
Richard Napier  
Jeremiah Pershal(sic)  
Sterling Brewer  
David Dixon

**Robertson County**

Liberty Academy  
Trustees:  
John Baker, Sr.  
Thomas Johnston  
Josiah Fort  
James Norflet(sic)  
John Coleman

**Montgomery County**  
Rural Academy

Trustees: Duncan Stuart  
Asahel(sic) Brunson  
James Elder  
Willie Blount  
Parry W. Humphreys

Other Tennessee counties where academies were authorized included: Overton, Stuart(sic), Carter, Washington, Sullivan, Greene, Hawkins, Grainger, Claiborne, Jefferson, Cocke, Sevier, Knox, Anderson, Roane, Blount and Campbell.

The academies that were authorized by the Act of 1860 were incorporated by the state with powers much the same as modern-day corporations. They were authorized to own property, to sue and be sued, and to establish bylaws for the management of the school. Trustees were authorized to appoint the president, treasurer and secretary of the schools as well as to select *tutors*. The Legislature reserved the right to elect additional trustees or fill any vacancies that occurred in the Board of Trustees.

The trustees were given the duty of selecting a site for the academies and to *take subscriptions for paying for the same* as well as erecting buildings to house the academies. The person first named in the list of trustees for each county was charged with the responsibility of calling the first meeting of the Board of Trustees at the local county court house. He was to chair the first meeting and get things rolling to bring education to an area that was quickly moving beyond the frontier stage of civilization. ■

---

**Sources**

Private Acts of Tennessee – 1806, *An Act to Establish Academies in the Several Counties in This State, and for the Appointment of Trustees Thereof*.

Private Acts of Tennessee – 1811, *An Act to Authorize the Drawing of a Lottery for the Benefit of Harpeth Academy*.



# African-American Newspapers

*Contributed by Julia Otey Lee*

Following the Civil War, as more and more African Americans became literate, the need for reading material written for this new audience of freedmen increased rapidly. By 1895, nine Tennessee cities and towns could boast a publication by or for African-Americans. The following list enumerates them. The Tennessee State Library and Archives holds issues of these publications, although many runs are incomplete. Following is a list of Tennessee newspapers and magazines being edited and published by or for African Americans in 1895.

City	Paper
Athens	Watchman
Clarksville	Montgomery Pilot
Columbia	Headlight
Fayetteville	Colored Presbyterian (Cumberland)
Jackson	Christian Headlight
Knoxville	The Herald Negro World Weekly Gleaner
Lebanon	The Gleaner
Memphis	Head and Hand Afro-American The Baptist Messenger The Christian Herald The Living Way The Watchman
Nashville	The Citizen The Herald Central Tenn. College Record Tennessee Baptist The Bugle Blast Immaculate Headlight Hope The Bulletin

## Former Slave Robert Williams Seeks Son

*Contributed by Julia Otey Lee*

"**INFORMATION WANTED.**" "of my son, Daniel, 15 or 16 years of age, who formerly belonged to Clinton Williams, Marshal(sic) county, Tenn., and subsequently to Harvey McRory. When last heard from was in Memphis, Tenn. I am at present living at Unionville, Bedford county, Tenn., where I can be addressed, or the desired information can be sent to the Colored Tennessean, box 1150. Nashville, Tenn."

ROBERT WILLIAMS

From *The Colored Tennessean*, Saturday, March 24, 1866

# Join Us For the 2002 GENEALOGY SEMINAR

Register Now!

**Saturday  
November 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Donelson Fellowship Church,  
3210 McGavock Pike at  
Knobdale Road**

## SEMINAR SCHEDULE

- 8:00-9:00 a.m. – Registration** (complimentary pastries & beverages served)  
**9:00-9:30 a.m. - Introduction and Welcome**  
**9:30-10:30 a.m. - Walton Road, First Knoxville-Nashville “Super Road”**  
*Dr. Calvin Dickinson / Celebration Room*  
**Tips & Tools for Beginners in Genealogical Research**  
*Shirley Wilson / Fellowship Hall*  
**Two Centuries in Nashville: A Family Story**  
*David S. Ewing / Steve Hasty Room*  
**10:30-10:45 a.m. - Rest Break**  
**10:45-11:45 a.m. - From Bondage to Freedom in Middle Tennessee**  
*Dr. Bobby L. Lovett / Celebration Room*  
**Tips & Tools for Beginners in Genealogical Research (cont'd)**  
*Martha Stewart Geyer / Fellowship Hall*  
**Did The Governor Know Your Ancestor?**  
*Charles Sherrill / Steve Hasty Room*  
**11:45 - 1:00 - Break & Lunch / Auditorium**  
**1:15 - 2:15 p.m. - Land Records: Rich Lode for Genealogists**  
*Shirley Wilson / Celebration Room*  
**Fast to the Past! Beginning Cybergenealogy**  
*Charles Sherrill / Fellowship Hall*  
**Home Sweet Homemade! Frontier Cabins in Middle Tennessee**  
*Dr. Calvin Dickinson / Steve Hasty Room*  
**2:15 - 2:30 - Break**  
**2:30 - 3:30 p.m. - Land Records: Rich Lode for Genealogists (cont'd)**  
*Shirley Wilson / Celebration Room*  
**Fast to the Past! Advanced Cybergenealogy**  
*Charles Sherrill / Fellowship Hall*  
**Doing Family History at Disciples of Christ Historical Society**  
*Sara J. Harwell / Steve Hasty Room*  
**3:30 - 4:00 p.m. - Wrap-Up Session (Q&A, Evaluation, Seminar 2003)**  
*Sue Smith / Celebration Room*

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Price: \$30 for MTGS or THS members. \$32.50 for non-members. Lunch is included.  
To register contact Kay McGee at (615) 395-4607 or e-mail [gkmcgee@bellsouth.net](mailto:gkmcgee@bellsouth.net)

*This MTG Seminar is co-sponsored by the Tennessee Historical Society*

## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Dickinson



Ewing



Geyer



Lovett



Sherrill



Wilson

**Dr. Calvin Dickinson** (PhD, University of North Carolina) is Professor of History at Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, and author of 15 books, many about Tennessee's Upper Cumberland area. Of special interest are the *Bibliography of Tennessee History, 1973-1996* and a history of Morgan County.

**David Ewing** (JD, Vanderbilt) is an attorney, a ninth-generation Nashvillian and a family historian whose ancestors include slaves at The Hermitage and Travellers Rest and one of the first African-American attorneys to practice law in Nashville. David currently serves on the boards of several cultural institutions. He is a graduate of Leadership Nashville and a member of The Old Oak Club. He is married to Alice Randall, author of the bestselling novel, *The Wind Done Gone*.

**Martha Stewart Geyer**, genealogist, writer and lecturer, has researched in libraries and archives of 14 states and the United Kingdom. A member of MTGS and other genealogical societies, her articles have been widely published in various journals. She frequently lectures on beginning genealogy.

**Sara J. Harwell** (MLS, Peabody College; MA, Vanderbilt), Director of Library & Archives at the Disciples of Christ Historical Society, Nashville, has served over 25 years in library and archival positions, including the Tennessee State Library and Archives, and Vanderbilt University.

**Dr. Bobby L. Lovett** (PhD, University of Arkansas), professor of history at Tennessee State University, is the author of several books, including *The African American History of Nashville: Elite and Dilemmas*. Manuscripts now in progress include a biography of Avon Williams, Nashville civil rights leader, and a history of Tennessee State University.

**Charles Sherrill** (MA, MLS, Case Western Reserve University), is Director of the Brentwood Public Library and editor of the *Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy and History*. He is the author of more than 20 books of Tennessee records. His most recent title is the second volume of *Tennessee Convicts: Records of the State Penitentiary*.

**Shirley Wilson** is a professional genealogist and director of the Sumner County Archives. She has produced several family histories and county record books, and lectured about genealogy at Volunteer State Community College, and Retirement Learning at Vanderbilt. She is a past president of the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Walton Road.** Surveys the "super road" carved out in 1801 to link Knoxville and Nashville and accommodate the growing migration and commerce in Middle Tennessee.

**Two Centuries in Nashville: A Family Story.** Ewing ancestors were among the first African-Americans who settled at Nashville. This presentation explores the strategy and tactics of the search for those ancestors, and the excitement, joy and sense of fulfillment in finding them!

**Tips & Tools for Beginners in Genealogy.** An introduction to beginning research: census, vital records, old handwriting, spelling, documentation, family group sheets, pedigree charts. Examples will be shared for easy examination and prompting discussion.

**From Bondage to Freedom in Middle Tennessee.** Methods and sources used in tracing the life stories of James Carroll Napier and William Edmondson, leading African-Americans in Middle Tennessee.

**Fast to the Past! Cybergenealogy.** Beginner session examines the most popular websites, their strengths and weaknesses. Advanced session offers a deeper look at genealogy information on the web and explores sites which are often overlooked. Strategies for successful searching and tips for testing the reliability of findings will be highlighted.

**Land Records: Rich Lode for Genealogists.** Two sessions about how genealogists can effectively use land records. Tennessee land records, available at county courthouses, are featured. ■

# Middle Tennessee Supreme Court Records

Second Series



Contributed by Betsy Ragsdale and Gale Williams Bamman, CG

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 46,  
Middle Tennessee, 1833

---

## Wiley Belcher vs Tomlinson Fort and others

(Original Bill heard in Warren  
County Chancery Court)

Wiley Belcher vs Tomlinson Fort and Mary E. his wife, late Mary E. Belsher, widow and administratrix, and Elijah E. Crocker, administrator of Allen Belsher, dec'd. and Mary-Ann-Sarah Belsher and Louisa-Francis Belsher [the dashes appear in the original text], children and heirs at law of Allen Belsher, deceased.

It appears that Ferrel Belsher, previous to the year 1820, resided in Twiggs County, Georgia, was a thriving farmer, owning several tracts of land and eight negroes. He had only two children, both of whom were sons: Wiley and Allen. Wiley was elected sheriff of Twiggs County in 1820...Allen was his deputy. Wiley made money to a considerable amount. The money was put into the hands of Ferrel, the father, who laid it out in the purchase of negroes, taking the title to himself.

In the fall of 1824, Ferrell Belsher purchased of John Walker a tract of land of 640 acres in Marion County, Tennessee for \$50000.00 for which he executed his five

several notes...with his son Wiley as his security.

Ferrel removed to Tennessee and resided on the land purchased from Walker. ...Previous to 1829 both the sons had married and Wiley lived in Jasper and kept a tavern and Allen resided on the plantation with the old man. The tavern was supplied with provisions, principally from the plantation.

On 10 January 1829, Ferrell Belsher conveyed by deed of gift, 21 negroes by name, to Wiley, leaving only six undisposed of. He also at the same time made Wiley a deed for the Walker tract of land, expressing a consideration of \$1,000....

...The court is of opinion that the petition [of Wiley Belsher] is not entitled to the relief prayed for in his Bill, and that the said widow and heirs at law of the said Allen Belsher are entitled to the relief prayed for in their bill and that there is no error in the record and proceedings, or in the decree. It is therefore ordered that the said petition be dismissed and that the decree of the Chancery Court be in all things affirmed. It appears to the court that some time in the year 1824 Farrell Belsher, the father of the said Wiley and Allen Belsher, purchased from John Walker, Junior, six hundred and forty acres of land in Marion County in this

state...that on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 1829 Ferrell Belsher conveyed said tract of land to Wiley Belsher, and also, by deed of gift of the same date, conveyed to Wiley Belsher twenty one negroes by name; that Ferrell, a few days afterwards, conveyed by deed to Allen Belsher, a house and lot in Jasper, Tennessee, and four negroes; that about the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1829 said Allen and Wiley Belsher mutually agreed to burn and destroy all of said deeds executed before that time to either of them by Ferrell their father and leave him to dispose of his property by will; that Allen should become bound for one half of the debts of said Ferrell; that Allen Belsher performed his part of said agreement by burning his deeds and becoming responsible for the Farrell's debt for the said land, that Wiley Belsher pretended to burn his deeds, but only burnt copies....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 52,  
Middle Tennessee, 1836

---

## John S. Russworm vs Ann W. Mordecai

(Original Bill heard in Williamson  
County Chancery Court)

The Bill of Complaint of John S. Russworm of the County of Williamson in the State of Tennessee complainant against Ann W. Mordecai of the County of

Wake in the State of North Carolina defendant.

...That in the year 1819 Thomas E. Sumner departed this life in Williamson County where he usually dwelt having previously made his last will and testament which has been duly proved and that said deceased died possessed of considerable property and that Mary S. Blount who survived was entitled to part of that property either under the will or as next of kin of the deceased. Your orator further says that said Mary S. hath since died having made and published her last will, by which she gave all her interest in the estate of said Thomas E. dec'd. as your orator has been informed to one Moses Mordecai of the State of North Carolina who has departed this life.

Your orator further says that on or about the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1830 one George W. Mordecai came to the State of Tennessee, having a paper purporting to be a letter of attorney from the defendant as executrix of Moses Mordecai, dec'd and purporting to authorize the said George W. to ask demand and receive and negotiate and settle with the executors of said Sumner all the estate and interest of the said Mary S. in the estate of the said Sumner and proposed to sell the said interest of said Mary S. therein to your orator as the attorney of the said defendant, he representing to your orator that said Moses Mordecai had died having made a last will and appointed the defendant the executrix thereof. Your orator says that he had no acquaintance previously with said George W. and did not know whether the

representations were true or false, but your orator being willing to purchase said interest if he could find the real owner finally agreed to purchase it of said George W....provided the said George W. or the said defendant upon the return of said George W. to North Carolina would furnish your orator with a good title to said interest...as would shew your orator's right thereto in any suit that might be brought by him for it, which was agreed to by the said attorney, and your orator incautiously before this was done namely on said 7<sup>th</sup> July 1830 executed his bond payable \_\_\_[blank] months after date to said defendant for the sum of fifteen hundred dollars...for the interest of said Mary S....and the said defendant has hitherto wholly failed to furnish your orator with such a title as was contemplated between your orator and the said attorney....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 58,  
Middle Tennessee, 1836

---

**Elizabeth Kirby, William H.  
Kirby and others vs Adam Hall  
and Sally Hall**

(Original Bill heard in Jackson  
County Circuit Court)

Elizabeth Kirby, William H. Kirby, Henry W. Kirby, Jesse B. Kirby Daniel K. Witcher and Martha his wife Pleasant G. Kirby James G. Kirby and Edmond T. Kirby an infant by his next friend Henry W. Kirby, plaintiffs vs Adam Hall and Sally Hall defendants. ... A plea of covenant broken to their damage of one thousand dollars....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 57,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Elizabeth Kirby, William H.  
Kirby and others vs Adam Hall  
and Sally Hall**

(Original Bill heard in Giles  
County Circuit Court)

The bill of complaint of Susan Boyd widow of John Boyd, Senr. Deceased, Eligh[sic] Boyd, Wiley Boyd, Soloman Kerr and Adeline his wife, formerly Adeline Boyd, Green H. Sconce and Matilda his wife formerly Matilda Boyd, Carter A. Boyd and Susan and Miles H. Boyd, the two last of whom are minors and sue by their next friend Samuel M. Hughes, vs William R. Cox administrator of John Boyd, Jr. deceased, Mary Boyd widow, and James Boyd son and heir of said John Boyd Junior.

...That one John Boyd Senior dec'd who died intestate sometime in the month of March last, the husband of your oratrix Susan, and ancestor of your other complainants, at the February Term of 1836 [1826?] of the Circuit Court of Giles County, obtained a decree in said court against one James Wilkerson for about seven hundred and thirty two dollars and some cents and also as complainants understand for two negroes named Adam and Eve.

They further state that during the pendency of said suit and some years before the termination of the same, said John Boyd Snr. Executed to his son John Boyd Jr. the husband and ancestor of defendant of Mary and James Boyd a transfer or assignment of all his, John Boyd Senr's. interest in and to the proceeds of the suit

then going on against the said Wilkerson and also conveyed by the same instrument the two negroes above mentioned Adam and Eve to the said John Junr. which said transfer bears date 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 1824...Now your orators charge that although said transfer is upon its fact absolute and unconditional yet in truth and in fact the same was not intended so to be, but that the same was made under the following particular circumstances and agreement and for the following purposes and considerations and not other, viz John Boyd Snr. During the pendency of said suit having learned that he was entitled to a legacy in the State of Pennsylvania....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 57,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Archibald Connor's Lessee vs  
William Hopkins and others**

(Original Bill heard in White  
County )

Archibald Connor's Lesse vs William Hopkins George W. Hopkins Robert Horsely and Ann Horsely his wife, Samuel Richardson and Elizabeth his wife John H. Rhodes, Charles B. Rhodes Thomas J. Rhodes, James H. Rhodes, Benjamin F. Rhodes Henry Rhodes Greenberry Rhodes Mary Ditter, Mary D. Sobber[?] Emily J. Knight Mary French, Thomas Vaughan, Jefferson Vaughan, George Vaughan, John Vaughan Senr. William Vaughan Florinta Vaughan Elizabeth Vaughan Senr. John Vaughan Jur. Elizabeth Vaughan Jnr. William Vaughan, Thomas Bradford, Martha Bradford and James

Bradford heirs of Thomas Hopkins dec'd.

...Are admitted defendants on motion of Andrew J. Marchbanks, Esqr. their attorney in this cause in the room and stead of the Casual Ejector, who agree to confess lease entry and ouster and rely upon their title only, and thereupon say that they are not guilty of the trespass and ejectment in the declaration in the cause mentioned....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 56A,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Alexander Graham and John L.  
Swaney, Exor. of Henry Beloit  
vs Thomas Anderson and others**

(Original Bill heard in Sumner  
County )

Your orators Alexander Graham and John L. Swaney and Lucilus Winchester executors of the last will and testament of Henry Beloit, dec'd. would shew to your honour that James Blair died intestate in the county of Sumner in the year 1806 and that Mathew Alexander and Zachaus[sic] Wilson were appointed administrators and Elizabeth Blair now Elizabeth Robb administratrix of said estate. They would further shew your honour that your orator Alexander Graham and your orators Swaney & Winchester testator were the securities in the administration... that two of the heirs of said James Blair to wit Eliza Blair and Cullen Barnes and his wife Barlenda[sic] filed their petition against the said administrator Wilson & [illegible] Elizabeth and David Alexander Executor of

Mathew Alexander in the Sumner Circuit Court and during the pendency of said petition the Deft. David Alexander the executor died and Thomas Anderson and [blank] Alexander his widow now deceased took out letters of administration upon said estate....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 56A,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Robert J. Williams,  
Administrator of James H.  
Williams, dec'd. vs John E.  
Turner and others**

(Original Bill heard in Sumner  
County )

Robert J. Williams, Administrator of all the goods and chattels of James H. Williams, dec'd. a citizen of Sumner County against John E. Turner William Turner Martha E. Fulks William Joiner and Caroline Joiner citizens of Sumner County and Martha Jones Baily Jones John Jones and Jane Jones citizens of Davidson County

Respectfully shews to your honour your orator the said Robert J. Williams that on or about the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 1833 Baily Turner then a citizen of Sumner County made his last will and testament....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1836

---

**William Herod & Peter Herod,  
Extrs., etc. vs Claiborne Hall et  
al**

(Original Bill heard in Smith  
County Circuit Court)

On motion, a paper purporting to be the last will and testament of



William Herod, dec'd. is produced in open court for probate. Then came Claiborne Hall William Fagg, Nathan Hall, James Herod, Daniel M. Lane, Valentine Herod, by their attorneys in open court, and contested the validity of the same and entered into bond together with John Baker, Don C. Dixon, Timothy Walton, Junr. and Archibald W. Overton their securities, approved of by the court....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

### **Parker et als vs Gilliam**

(Original Bill heard in Rutherford  
County)

The bill of complaint of James M. Parker, Julia Parker and Daniel A. D. Parker who is a minor and sues by his brother and next friend the said James M. Parker residents of Haywood County, Tennessee, complainants, against Cato Freeman and his wife Patsy who was the widow and administratrix of Daniel Parker, deceased, residents of said County of Haywood, and William Gilliam who resides in said County of Rutherford, defendants.

Complainants humbly show that some time in the year 1815 their father Daniel Parker in the County of Rutherford Tennessee departed this life intestate leaving their mother the said Patsy and themselves as his only heirs and distributes. At the October Term 1815 of the Rutheford County Court Patsy Parker, now Patsy Freeman took out letters of administration on the estate of the said Daniel deceased, and gave

bond with Henry Trott and Henry Brown securities. There was only one inventory of said estate returned in which there was no mention made of any negro property. About the year 1818 the said administratrix intermarried with the said Cato Freeman...

Complainants represent that their father the said Daniel Parker, dec'd. sometime previous to his death purchased of David Dickinson a negro woman named Creesy who with her increase after the payment of the just debts of the said intestate belonged as they are advised and believe to the said Patsy and themselves as his only distributes. Said negro woman, as complainants are informed and believe, is not now living, but she had increase four children which are now in the possession of the defendant William Gilliam, to wit, a boy named Johnson about sixteen years of age, of the value of six hundred dollars, three girls, Rachel, Patience and Sally all younger than Johnson and of the value of one thousand dollars, if sound and healthy....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

### **John Doe, Lessee of Margaret Neal and others vs Richard F. Smith & George Jones**

(Original Bill heard in Maury  
County)

To the sheriff of Maury County, Greeting. You are hereby commanded to take Richard F. Smith and George Jones if to be found in your county and them safely keep, so that you have their bodies before the Judge of our

Maury Circuit Court...on the third Monday in October next then and there to answer John Doe Lessee of Margaret Niel, James Greer, Thomas J. Greer, Alexander Greer, Andrew Greer, William M. Greer, Zenas A. Greer, Susan Greer and Susannah Greer and also of Robert Irwin and William Rudisill and Abigail M. C. his wife, William H. Niel and Hannah G. his wife, Sarah Amzi S. Alexander, Zenos C. Alexander Robert M. Alexander James R. Alexander and Andrew A. Alexander in a plea wherefore with force and arms, they broke and entered the close of the said plaintiff and ejected him to his damage five hundred dollars....[signed] George M. Martin....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 55,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

### **Smith & Wharton vs Rice**

(Original Bill heard in Warren  
County)

Sydney Smith and Eliza Jane his wife Thomas J. Whorton Francis A. R. Whorton Fedilia F. Whorton of Nashville the three last of whom are minors and sue by their guardian and next friend Sydney Smith – devisees of Jesse Whorton deceased late of Davidson County...that on the first day of August 1820 Theodrick B. Rice of White County who is prayed to be made deft. to this bill executed his deed of mortgage to the said Jesse Whorton conveying to him three tracts of land therein described and the Heriot[?] Ironworks situate in White County for the consideration of \$5,000.00....and also to indemnify the said Whorton an account of his \_\_\_\_ [illegible] ship

for Rice in his admr. upon the estate of John Blane[?] dec'd.

Complts. further show that the said Jesse Whorton departed this life on the \_\_\_[blank] day of 1833 having previously made and executed his last will and testament in which after reciting that he had given to his three elder children more than their ratable proportion of his estate he devised all the rest and residue f his property of every description to the above named complts. after the payment of his death and funeral expenses in which devise he also included his wife Eliza A Whorton but she during the lifetime of the testator by a codicil to his will reaffirmed the devise to complts. subject to a contingency in behalf Mrs. Green....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 55,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Elizabeth Pearce vs William  
Gleaves & others**

(Original Bill heard in Williamson  
County Chancery Court)

Elizabeth Pearce a citizen of Montgomery County, Tennessee against William Gleaves a citizen of Davidson County, Nathaniel Cartmell and Isabella Cartmell his wife, citizens of Wilson County, Sally Gleaves, William D. Gleaves John E. Gleaves James Gleaves, infant children of Michael Gleaves dec'd. citizens of Davidson County Michael Gleaves and Mary Ann Gleaves his wife the said Mary Ann being the daughter of Michael Gleaves, dec'd. citizens of Daivdson William Young and Sophia Young his wife the said Sophia being the daughter of

Michael Gleaves, dec'd. citizens of \_\_\_[blank] County in the Western District Tennessee said Michael Gleaves and William Young as the admrs. of Michael Gleaves, dec'd. William A. Gleaves Henry A. Gleaves infant children of Thomas Gleaves, dec.d. citizens of Rutherford County Ezekial B. Mccoy a citizen of Madison County and others.

Respectfully shews to your Honor your oratrix the said Elizabeth Pearce that on or about the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 1811 her father Michael Gleaves then a citizen of Davidson County in the State of Tennessee made and published his last will and testament....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 55,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Robert A. High & Elizabeth B.  
High his wife vs Gardiner Batte  
& John Bradley**

(Original Bill heard in Giles  
County Chancery Court)

Humbly complaining sheweth unto your Honour your Orator and Oratrix Robert A. High and Elizabeth B. High his wife, late Elizabeth B. Clay both citizens and residents of Limestone County and State of Alabama that on and before the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 1831 the said Elizabeth B. Clay who was then a feme sole was the owner in fee simple of the tract of land described and named in deed No. 1 here exhibited ...she having and being at that time the owner of an undivided moiety of 658 acres of land...and that the said Elizabeth B. Clay on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 1831 agreed to convey her said undivided moiety

of said tract to one Zeus T. Harris for the sum of sixteen hundred dollars....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 55,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Benton R. White and others vs  
James Perry & others**

(Original Bill heard in Giles  
County)

Benton R. White and Jane R. his wife Achilles A. Dickerson and Nancy M. his wife and John R. B. Jones, complainants vs James Perry, James W. Wheeler, Wm. Steele, the minor heirs of Thomas Steele, dec'd. and the heirs of David Steele, dec'd., defendants.

...It appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the defendants Robert Steele James Steele John Steele Jane Kayton, Joseph Steele, Isaac Steele, Martha Crawford, David Leech, Nancy Leech, David Leech, John S. Leech, Jane Leech, Thomas Leech, James H. Leech and William Leech are not inhabitants of the State of Tennessee....

Humbly complaining sheweth unto your honor your orators and oratrixes Benton R. White and his wife Jane R. White, Achilles A. Dickerson and his wife Nancy M. Dickerson, all of Giles County, Tennessee and John R. B. Jones of Maury County, in said State that sometime previous to the year 1822 one John Jones of the aforesaid county and who was the father and ancestor of part of complainants as hereinafter mentioned became concerned as a partner in one third of an iron works for the purpose of making

and manufacturing iron on the waters of Buffalo Creek in the County of Lawrence in said State, the other two thirds of said works belonging to one David & Thomas Steele who were the co-partners, and who each also owned one third of said works, and that the Jones having advanced most or all of the means necessary for the operation of said works it was made a part of the terms and conditions of the partnership that the said Steeles who had some experience and skill in such business should superintend and manage the said works without the personal aid of the said Jones and that shortly after the formation of said partnership, in consequence of some real or pretended difference between the said Steeles, who were brothers, it became necessary that the said partnership should be dissolved or that the said ironworks should change hands whereupon the said John Jones purchased out the entire interest of the said Steeles in the said works on or about the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1822, in part payment of which the said John Jones executed to the said David Steele his eight bonds or notes amounting in all to something over three thousand dollars, all payable in iron...and to the said Thomas Steele, seven bonds or notes amounting in all to something over twenty eight hundred dollars payable also in iron at cash price...

...Sometime in August 1822 the said John Jones died intestate in Giles County where he then resided leaving your orator John R. B. Jones and your oratrixes Jane R. Jones and Nancy M. Jones together with one Alexander S. Jones, who is now dead, his only children and heirs at law, all of whom except

the said Alexander S. Jones were infants under the age of twenty one years and that the said John Jones died seized and possessed of a large real and personal estate....

---

Supreme Court Records, Box 55,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**William T. Ross vs Susan S. Fain  
and George R. Wharton**

(Original Bill heard in Giles  
County)

Humbly complaining sheweth unto your orator William T. Ross a citizen of Lincoln County, Tennessee, that sometime in the month of December in the year 1831 one Samuel Faine departed this life intestate in said County of Giles where he then resided possessed of a large personal estate, leaving Susan S. Fain his late wife his widow and Eliza R. Fain and George S. Faine his only children, surviving him; that at the February Term 1832 of the County Court of Giles County the said Susan S. Fain, his said widow and one George R. Wharton were by said court appointed administratrix and administrator of his said estate and as such they received into their possession all the personal estate of their said intestate consisting of Negroes, household and kitchen furniture, cattle and stock...and that the said administratrix and administrator has paid or nearly so all the debts of said estate. Your orator charges that at the time of the death of said Samuel Faine and even afterwards, up to this time, the said Susan S. Faine resided in the County of Giles and the said George R. Wharton in Madison County, State of Alabama and that she the said Susan S. was the

principal operative agent...and that of the said personal estate of said intestate, the following Negroes came to the hands of said admr. and admrx. to be administered, to wit: Fleming, age 38 years, Sam, age 35 years, Jim, aged 21 years, Manuel[?] aged 22 years, Henderson aged 18 years, Philip aged 14 years, Maria aged 35 years, Mary aged 16 years, Sarah Anne aged 10 years, Julia aged 9 years, Rosa aged 26 years, Pedro aged 8 years, John aged 6 years, Thomas aged 4 years, Mary Ann aged 2 years, Squire aged 3 months, Suckey 40 years of age, Scott aged 6 years, Malinda aged 18 years, Coleman, aged 1 year, Martha Anne aged 2 years, Celia aged 18 years, Aggy aged 2 years, Caroline aged 13 years, together with others, the names of which are to your orator unknown, but your orator believes that the whole number of said Negroes of said estate are thirty, the said 24 above named having been returned in the inventory of said estate, and that said negro woman Rosa in this number has 6 children and said negro girl Caroline has one child and that in this number there is one also called Fanny. Your orator further charges that sometime in the year 1834 one William D. Thompson intermarried with and became the husband of Susan S. Faine and they resided in Giles County until sometime in the early part of the year 1835 when William D. Thompson departed this life intestate, leaving the said Susan S. his widow surviving him. At the August Term 1835 of the Giles County Court your orator William T. Ross was appointed administrator of the personal estate of said William D. Thompson. ■

# William Washington Seay of Smith County

## *A Life Study. (Part 1 of a series)*

by Robert Polk Thomson

**The life of William Washington Seay provides an interesting study of the prosperous Middle Tennessee farmer and businessman of the Civil War era. This detailed investigation into his life reveals the intricacies of family relationships, business activity, real estate dealings, lawsuits and the economic ruin brought on by the collapse of the Confederacy. The successes and difficulties Seay encountered reflect the stories of many families of the region.**

William Washington Seay was born in Halifax County, VA on 2 April 1801, the son of John Seay and his wife, Sally McCarty.<sup>1</sup> When he was three years old the family moved to Sumner County, TN, where they stayed until the next year, 1805, when John Seay bought a farm on Round Lick Creek in Smith County, TN. Located at the point at which the Jennings Fork flowed into Round Lick Creek, a portion of the land was in Wilson County.<sup>2</sup> There William Washington grew to manhood, unless at some point he went away to school. What is known is that he was highly literate and throughout his life conducted himself as a well educated person. By the time he was twenty years old he had begun to trade in tobacco, the primary cash crop of his area, which activity would be his principal occupation for the rest of his life.

Whatever prompted him to cross the Cumberland River and go down stream to the Castalian Springs area of Sumner County is not known, though likely it was his tobacco business. There he met Ann Methanius Stanfield, a daughter of Abram and Mary Stanfield, whose family had come there from North Carolina sometime around 1812. William Washington Seay and Ann Stanfield were married in Smith County on 13 July 1825<sup>3</sup> and at first lived with his parents. John Seay had already parceled out pieces of his farm to his married daughters Mary and Elizabeth and had purchased a farm several miles up Round Lick Creek for his son, Charles. William Washington and Ann

Seay had two children before John Seay set aside land for them. On 10 Nov. 1828, for \$5 and love and affection, he gave William Washington Seay 350 acres of his land on Round Lick Creek, but set a few conditions to the gift. During John's lifetime William Washington would have no right to sell the land, and John retained, for life, a right to take timber from the land and to cultivate one field that lay on Jennings Fork.<sup>4</sup> Now, if not before, the young family set up its independent household.

By 1830 William Washington began to assume responsibilities that required mature judgment. In September John Seay died, only a few days before his death having signed his will, naming as his executors three of his sons, John, William Washington, and Daniel Seay. Omitted from the list was his only other son, Charles, who had moved to Arkansas territory.<sup>5</sup> Executing the will would require judicious decision-making, tasks for which William Washington seemed well qualified. In November of the same year a neighboring farmer signed his own will, also a complicated document, that named William Washington one of four executors.<sup>6</sup> The difficulty of interpreting John Seay's will was that he wanted to treat all of his children equally, but stated only in dollar amounts what each should receive before a final settlement could be made following the death of his widow, Sally. She survived her husband only one year, hence her life estate did not unduly complicate



**Home of William Washington Seay, constructed ca. 1835**

It is located about halfway between Lebanon and Carthage, at the easternmost edge of Smith County north of Highway 141. Photo by John Waggoner, Jr.

the process. There were slaves, most of whom were directed to remain with Sally during her lifetime. Two slave couples were granted the right to choose with whom they would live thereafter. The provision showed a modicum of concern for the wishes of the slaves but affected the determination of equality of inheritance among the Seay heirs. John Seay's earlier gifts of land and slaves also had to be sorted out. Some of the children had been given possession and title to land or slaves. Two daughters had been given land to live on, but not deeds that conveyed title to the land. The will's statement of the dollar worth of what was given to each child established guidelines for a settlement but judgments and interpretations were required that had the potential to result in disputes among the heirs. Much can be inferred about the affection and good will within the Seay family by noticing that the estate was settled without any recourse to the courts. Those who had been given parcels from the Seay land retained them, and son John Seay, Jr., bought the core home tract from the estate. He was also the principal purchaser of the personal property disposed of at a private family sale in Jan. 1832. William Washington Seay and all of his brothers and sisters, except the absent Chares H. Seay, made some purchases at the sale.<sup>7</sup> As a result of the estate settlement, William Washington Seay resided for the rest of his life as a very close neighbor to two of his

brothers, John and Daniel Seay. Two of his sisters, Mary Spears and Elizabeth Hearn were also neighbors until their deaths, Mary in 1835 and Elizabeth in 1853. At the time of John Seay's death, Elizabeth Hearn was already a widow with three children and in 1834 William Washington became the legal guardian of two of them, Polly and John Heam.<sup>8</sup> Family ties remained strong.

William Washington Seay's major achievement during the 1830s was to become a profitable trader in tobacco. Successful tobacco trading in Smith County, Tennessee required the use of a delicate combination of knowledge, connections, and luck to make judgments about crops, market conditions, and personal worth.<sup>9</sup> Trading could be linked to retail sales in a local store or to purchases made with cash and credit— or both. By the early 1830's William Washington Seay had established the necessary links with wholesale mercantile firms in Nashville and tobacco exporting firms in New Orleans to conduct the trade. He had also learned enough about local agriculture and soil conditions to deal intelligently with farmers who grew small crops of tobacco.

Fundamental to the trade was the establishment of a good credit relationship with New Orleans exporters. That in place, the local tobacco trader could draw bills of exchange on a New Orleans firm and sell them for

cash needed to buy tobacco and, if a store were involved, a stock of mercantile goods. From 1834 until 1836 Seay, in partnership with Thomas J. Hubbard, operated a store in Rome, Tennessee. From this tiny town on the banks of the Cumberland River he shipped tobacco down river to New Orleans. Most of his trading life he made tobacco purchases for cash, not store goods. This involved supplying cash to local buyers who went into the countryside as Seay's agents, making contracts with farmers for their crops. The usual procedure was for the buyer to advance some money to the farmer, taking notes payable to Seay for the sums advanced, in exchange for the farmer's agreement to bring his tobacco to a warehouse, probably located in the town of Rome, where it would be graded and prized into hogsheads ready for loading on riverboats destined for New Orleans.

On many occasions the initial contract would specify the price that the farmer would receive per hogshead of tobacco. Seay would have set limits on offers that the buyer could offer. The limit would be based on a guess about the price of tobacco in New Orleans at the time it came to market and a guess about the quality of the tobacco being purchased. At the warehouse in Rome where tobacco was prized, all tobacco was graded into three categories and prized accordingly. The percentage of any given tobacco crop allotted to each grade depended on at least three variables; weather conditions during the growing season, the farmer's skill in handling the crop, and the soil in which the tobacco was grown. Remarkably, different sections of Smith County were known by informed tobacco traders to produce different qualities of tobacco. Sometimes the distinctions were refined to particular fields, reminiscent of the reputation of individual vineyards in wine production. Over time Seay and the tobacco buyers with whom he worked developed skill in making judgments on all these matters. They knew that if tobacco was graded improperly when it was priced in Smith County, it would be resorted and repacked in New Orleans with disastrous results for its sale price.

On other occasions Seay shipped tobacco owned by planters or intermediate buyers. His responsibility was to freight the hogsheads from the warehouse in Smith

County to New Orleans. Depending on the agreement made either Seay or the owner was responsible for paying the packing and warehouse storage costs in Smith County and the freight charges to New Orleans. Seay would receive a commission on the sale in New Orleans. This was more frequently the case when the tobacco was owned by a storekeeper rather than a farmer.

The type of Seay's involvement in the processes required to get tobacco to its ultimate place of sale varied from time to time. His store partnership lasted two years in the early 1830s but he continued to purchase tobacco in partnership with Thomas Hubbard for some time thereafter. His little mercantile firm was stated to have shipped at least two boatloads of tobacco to New Orleans in 1835. From 1841 until about 1847 he traded under the firm name of Seay, Bedford & Co. His partner John H. Bedford had been a clerk in the store operated by Hubbard & Seay. In 1841 he bought a lot in Rome that had river frontage.<sup>10</sup> Then in 1847 the firm, obviously ceasing to function as such, sold him a larger lot with river frontage that had on it a "stemery." There they had prized tobacco and undoubtedly operated a warehouse. Evidently Seay continued this operation, in his own name, for a number of years. He always maintained an office in Rome. In 1858 Joseph Fatman of the New York firm of Fatman & Co. wrote to Seay from Clarksville that while he could not at that time come to see him, he thought favorably about the stemery Seay wished to dispose of. Fatman urged Seay to write to his business house in New York about that. He also inquired about tobacco prices and who was buying at the time.<sup>11</sup>

It is likely that in 1835 William W. Seay traveled to New Orleans to sell his tobacco. The first steamboat to come as far up the river as Carthage arrived in about 1829 and small packets began making trips in the upper Cumberland region about 1831. Tobacco shipments earlier had been on flatboats, which were slow and very primitive for travelers. By the mid 1830s steamboats were becoming the standard carriers for tobacco.<sup>12</sup> Seay made the trip frequently by steamboat, perhaps annually. In May 1852 he wrote to his brother Charles H. Seay from on board the steamer



## The William Walker Seay Family

Subject*		<b>Major William Washington SEAY</b>
Birth*	02 Apr 1801	Halifax County, VA.
Marriage*	13 Jul 1825	Sumner County, TN.
Death*	24 Mar 1874	Smith County, TN.
Father*		John SEAY (29 Apr 1764-13 Sep 1830)
Mother*		Sally MCCARTY (05 Feb 1773-06 Oct 1831)
Spouse*		<b>Ann Methanius STANFIELD</b>
Birth*	08 Jan 1805	Milton, Caswell County, NC
Death*	20 Sep 1872	Smith County, TN.
Father*		Abram STANFIELD (22 Jan 1772-04 Jul 1835)
Mother*		Mary FARLEY (circa 1772-01 Aug 1848)

---

### Children

#### John Philemon SEAY

Birth*	16 Apr 1826	Smith County, TN.
Marriage*	14 Oct 1877	Jane VAUGHAN (19 Jun 1838-06 Jul 1917)
Death*	29 Jun 1898	Dixon Springs, Smith County, TN.

#### Caroline Ophelia SEAY

Birth*	03 Jun 1828	Smith County, TN
Marriage*	26 Feb 1846	David L. WALLACE (1821-09 Jun 1900)
Death*	26 Sep 1887	Lebanon, Wilson County, TN.

#### Dr. Daniel Valerius SEAY

Birth*	22 Mar 1831	Smith County, TN.
Marriage*	17 Mar 1875	Julia CATO (14 Feb 1850-16 May 1927)
Death*	21 Jun 1915	Philadelphia,, PA.

#### William Aurelius SEAY

Birth*	15 May 1833	Smith County, TN.
Death*	08 Oct 1862	Perryville,, KY.

#### Ann Methanius SEAY

Birth*	31 Jan 1835	Smith County, TN.
Marriage*	20 Dec 1853	Richard Allen BRIDGWATER (25 Jan 1821-03 Sep 1875).
Death*	04 Nov 1907	Smith County, TN.

#### Major Charles Irenius SEAY

Birth*	18 Dec 1836	Smith County, TN.
Marriage*	15 Dec 1863	Victoria Harriet RIVES (24 Mar 1839-02 Jun 1902).
Death*	21 Jul 1890	Smith County, TN.

#### Cinderilla Elizabeth SEAY

Birth*	20 Oct 1838	Smith County, TN.
Marr Lic*	10 Feb 1862	Edward A. TURNER (08 Aug 1838-21 Jun 1871).
Death*	17 Oct 1862	Smith County, TN.

#### Thomas Jefferson SEAY

Birth*	09 Jan 1841	Smith County, TN.
Marriage*	28 Feb 1861	Lelia V. HARRIS (01 Jan 1845-13 Oct 1884).
Death*	30 Nov 1887	Smith County, TN.

#### Eliza Vaughan SEAY

Birth*	12 Feb 1845	Smith County, TN.
Marriage*	22 May 1888	The Rev. Thomas Goodrich HINSON (31 Jan 1844-18 Apr 1928).
Death*	12 Nov 1929	Lebanon, Smith County, TN.



**Seay Family  
Cemetery,  
Smith County  
burial place  
of William  
Washington  
Seay (1801-  
1874)**

Photo by John  
Waggoner, Jr.

"California" that he was on his way to New Orleans where he expected to be three or four weeks and would sell about 300 hogsheads of tobacco.<sup>13</sup> On one occasion at least, in 1873, he took with him his daughter Eliza, who also used the trip as an opportunity to make a visit to her cousins in Arkansas, Charles H. Seay's children.<sup>14</sup>

William Washington Seay left no extensive record of his dealings as a tobacco shipper but the evidence suggests that he was an active trader for many years. By the late 1850s he had made money-lending another of his principal activities. In 1859 he renewed his license "to shave notes and discount securities" and paid a tax on \$3500 used for these purposes, as the law required.<sup>15</sup> He was also active in the movement to construct turnpikes, and in the late 1850s was the president of the Lebanon and Trousdale Turnpike Company.<sup>16</sup> Notwithstanding all these interests, farming was also a major activity throughout his life and eventually he became the largest farmer in his part of Smith County.

The William Washington Seay plantation grew steadily in size after 1828 when he

received his father's gift of land. He must have received more Seay land in 1831, when his mother died. The next year, 1832, he bought 40 acres on Round Lick Creek.

With his brother, Daniel Seay, he purchased additional tracts. Between 1839 and 1843, William Washington acquired 250 acres on Round Lick Creek across the line in Wilson County. As a group, the land transactions through 1850 do not account for Seay's recorded holdings in the 1850 agricultural census.<sup>17</sup> He reported 460 improved acres and 388 unimproved acres of land. His plantation had 13 horses, 21 asses and mules, 6 milk cows, 45 head of other cattle, and 100 sheep. It was a moderately large operation that produced annually 10,000 lbs of tobacco, 170 bushels of wheat, 3500 bushels of corn, 200 bushels of oats, and 40 pounds of wool. He also reported the ownership of thirty slaves, sixteen of whom were fourteen years or older. Not yet 50 years of age, he was already a leading planter of his district in Smith County.

Seay's land holdings increased significantly during the 1850s. In 1851 he paid \$3600 for a nineteen acre place near Lebanon.<sup>18</sup> In 1858 he bought a 291 acre Armstrong farm that

adjoined his own place for a purchase price in excess of \$3000. Clearly he intended it to become the home place of one of his sons, but he continued to list it among his holdings in the 1860 agricultural census. He reported ownership of 800 improved acres and 500 unimproved acres, valued at \$80,000. Listed also were 25 horses, 60 asses and mules, 6 oxen and quantities of wheat, corn and oats. Curiously in 1860 he did not list tobacco, which may have been a sign of the troubled

times. But his slave holdings had increased to 39 and he also had control over 22 slaves owned by his wards Lelia and Erastus Harris. Three more of his slaves were reported in the Wilson County slave census. W W Seay had become a rich man. At the age of 60, Seay had become, by far, the largest land holder and slave owner of his area of Smith County. But the coming war would soon wreak havoc in his life.

### To Be Continued

#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup>William Washington Seay's tombstone in the Seay family cemetery, near Grant in Smith County, Tennessee gives birth and death dates; Kirby C. Seay, *"Here Lies John Seay"* (n.p.;n. pub.,1975), 10-11. ■ <sup>2</sup> Ibid., 11-12. ■ <sup>3</sup> Ibid., 136. ■ <sup>4</sup> Smith County, TN Deedbook K, 42. The deed was proved in Smith County court on 23 Feb. 1829. Smith County Court Minute Book 1828-30,65. ■ <sup>5</sup> Wilson County, TN Will Book, 120-121. ■ <sup>6</sup> Wilson County Will Book 1832-1834,120. ■ <sup>7</sup> Ibid., 69-71. William Washington bought a bed, a wagon, a cow, and some sheep. His most costly purchase was, for \$500, a Negro woman and two children. He paid \$75 for his father's still and tubs, his most interesting purchase, I think. ■ <sup>8</sup> Smith County Court Minute Book 1834-1835,12. A puzzle is that he did not become guardian of Nancy Hearn, Elizabeth Hearn's third child. Nor was Nancy mentioned in Elizabeth Hearn's will. The mystery is unresolved. ■ <sup>9</sup> Most of the following discussion of the tobacco trade comes from depositions and other documents filed in Smith County Chancery Court in two cases. The first, Thomas J. Hubbard vs. Howell T. Rucks, grew out of a dispute between these two partners over the disposition of their firm's assets following its dissolution and the immediate formation, thereafter, of the firm of Hubbard and Seay. The case

produced detailed accounts of the business operations of the two firms. Smith County Chancery Court Records 1835-1842, 357-396 and File #2257, Hubbard vs. Rucks, 1837, Smith County Chancery Court Loose Records. The second case, John H. Bedford vs. John and William J. Johnson, 1848, file #1089, Smith County Chancery Court Loose Records, provides detailed information about tobacco cultivation and purchasing. Seay's sometime partner, John H. Bedford, was the plaintiff. Seay was deposed on 20 Jan. 1850, and was asked if he were well acquainted with the tobacco business. He replied "I have been in the tobacco trade for about 27 or 28 years. I suppose by this time I ought to be acquainted with the business." ■ <sup>10</sup> He and John H. Bedford paid \$550 for Lot 3 in the town plan of Rome. Smith County Deed Book Q, 534-535. In Sept. 1847 the firm of Seay Bedford and Co. sold a lot to William W. Seay for \$1330. It was stated to be the same on which the stemery stood. The word is unclear, but the likelihood is that the reference is to a place in which tobacco was stemmed for prizing and packing into hogsheds. Smith County Deed Book U, 169-170. They sold lot 3 for \$625 some time before 15 Dec. 1850. They had sold the lot to Archibald O Flippin but he had resold it to James A Crutcher before a deed was recorded.

Consequently they made out me deed to Crutcher. Smith County Deed Book U, 111. ■ <sup>11</sup> Fatman to Seay, 17 Dec. 1858. The letter is hard to read and the word I here call stemery is basically illegible. My reading is mostly a guess. ■ <sup>12</sup> Byrd Douglas, *Steamboating on the Cumberland* (Nashville, TN: Tennessee Book Co., 1961), 35, 39. ■ <sup>13</sup> William Washington Seay to Charles Hinton Seay, 9 May 1852, in Kirby Seay, *Here Lies John Seay*, 153-154. ■ <sup>14</sup> W W Seay letter to Ann Marthanius Bridgwater, 3 May 1873, from New Orleans- At that date he had sold about 120 hlds of tobacco and thought he could not leave the city before mid June. The letter was written on the letterhead of RT Torian & Son on Carondelet Street- Photocopy of letter in my possession. ■ <sup>15</sup> Original document issued by the clerk of the Circuit Court of Wilson County, in my possession. ■ <sup>16</sup> On 13 Jan. 1859, as President of the Lebanon & Trousdale Turnpike Company he purchased a tract of land in the 17<sup>th</sup> district of Smith county, for the use of the company. Smith County Deed Book CC, 102. ■ <sup>17</sup> 1850 U- S. Agricultural Census for Smith County, Tennessee. ■ <sup>18</sup> The deed is dated 11 October 1851. Wilson County Deed Book Y, 357-358. ■

# Insurance Records of Nashville

and Other Middle Tennessee Inhabitants, 1850s, Part III

*Abstracted and contributed by Mary Sue Smith*

The Metro Nashville/Davidson County Archives has a rare book used by insurance agents in the years immediately preceding the Civil War. This volumes describes buildings, wares, locations and values of businesses in Nashville and surrounding areas of Middle Tennessee. The material gives us the name of owner, exact location and description of the building, contents and use of the structure.

A related map, also located in the Metro Archives, is printed at the beginning of this series of articles, which appears in Vol. XV, No. 1, p. 24.-Ed.

**No. 310 John BREMAN ..... Nashville ..... to 12 July 1860**

\$600 on his one story Brick building situate on the corner of Summer and Mulberry streets and occupied as a family residence.

**No. 311 J. H. BUDDEKE..... Nashville ..... to 12 July 1860**

\$600 on the one story Brick building situate on the West side of College street and in McGavocks addition, occupied as a retail Grocery & family residence.

**No. 313 Chas. BOSLEY..... Nashville ..... to July 14 1860**

\$2500 on his three story Brick dwelling house with shingle roof and ell building attached of same materials, situate on the West side of North Market to the north of the Public Square, known as the Sloan property and rented as a family residence.

**No. 320 J. H. BUDDEKE..... Nashville ..... 12 July 1859**

\$3000 on his two story Brick building with shingle roof and parapet walls situate on the West side of South Market street, known as #66, occupied as a family residence with privilege of renting an apartment as a Dry Goods store. Occupied as a Grocery & Queenswae store and Dwelling of July 12, 1859.

**No. 633 Christian BARGAZE..... Nashville ..... 8 April 1859**

\$600 on his two story frame house with shingle roof, situate on the East side of South Vine street just beyond Damumbreum and occupied as a family residence.

**No. 591 P. & F. BILLIOD ... Nashville ..... 20 Jan. 1859**

\$2500 as follows; on his stock of Wines, Liquors and other articles in the line of Dealers and on the two story Brick building with shingle roof situate on the East side of South Market street, known as #77, occupied as a Retail Confectionary and Liquor store. Transferred to A. DRANE 31 March 1860.

**No. 471 ? BERTRAND ..... Nashville ..... to 10 May 1860**

\$500 on his one story frame dwelling house situate on a cross street running from the Franklin Pike and the Middle Franklin Turnpike and is the same street that runs between the City Hospital and the McNairy property in the suburbs of the City of Nashville, occupied at present by Mr. Tucker as a family residence.

**No. 491 BOSTON BELTING Co..... Nashville ..... to 10 July 1860**

\$1000 on their stock of Belting and India Rubber goods, contained in the three story Brick building with composition roof situate on the West side of College street, known as #47, occupied by A. H. HAMILTON as a hardware store.

---

**No. 700 J. D. BRODRICK ...Nashville..... 19 Dec. 1859**

\$3000 on his stock of readymade clothing, clothing in process of manufacture, piece goods, trimming, hats, caps & other goods in the line of clothing dealers, maintained in the two story Brick building with shingle roof and parapet walls, situate at the SE corner of Market street and the Public Square, occupied by the assured as a clothing manufactory and store.

**No. 645 W. T. BRIGGS.....Nashville..... 13 April 1859**

\$3000 on his two story Brick dwelling house with ell attached and shingle roof situate on the West side of North Vine street, known as #25, occupied by the assured as a family resident.

**No. 540 J. B. BAUMAN & Co.....Nashville.....29 Oct. 1858**

\$10000 on their Brick buildings covered with Tin, and machinery, fixtures, engines and boilers contained in the same, situate on the NW corner of Cherry and Line street, occupied by the assured as a fanning mill.

**No. 387 Peter BILLIOD .....Davidson Co. .... May 1858**

\$1500 on his two story dwelling house situated in the county of Davidson, TN, on the Murfreesboro Turnpike about ten miles from the city of Nashville and between Browns Creek and the first tollgate.

\$1800 - this policy will cover the Brick stable situate about 50 yards from the above. 1 May 1859

**No. 637 M. J. DUCKER.....Nashville..... 13 April 1859**

\$2000 on his stock of Readymade clothing, Hats, caps and other goods in the furnishing line, contained in the two story Brick building with shingle roof situate on the West side of North Market street, known as #31, occupied by the subscribers as a clothing store. Trans. to P. & W. HARSH Aug. 24, 1859. Trans. to R. A. BARNES Oct. 12, 1859, removed to two story Brick building NE corner of Cherry & Mulberry street, occupied by the assured - Jan. 5, 1860

**No. 714 R. H. Brockway.....Nashville..... 23 Feb. 1860**

\$1500 on his two story Brick dwelling with shingle roof including Ell attached of same materials situate on the NE corner of Broad & High streets, occupied as a family residence.

**No. 546 R. H. BROCKWAY...Nashville..... 16 Nov. 1858**

\$5000 on his stock of sewing machines, manufactured and in process of manufacture, cotton Bags and Baggings, contained in the 2nd & 3rd stores of the three story Brick building with Tinned roof situate on the south side of the Public Square, known as #4; store occupied by the assured as a sewing machine store, and for manufacturing Grain sacks and the first story occupied as a Variety store, with privilege of manufacturing the wood work of sewing machines on the premises, but shavings to be ... daily.

**No. 571 Peter BILLIOD.....Nashville..... 18 Dec. 1858**

\$3000 on his three story Brick building with metal roof and parapet walls situate on the South side of Broad street, being the second from East to West, to be occupied in a manner not specially hazardous. Renewed \$3500 17 Dec, 1859; 18 Dec. 1860.

**No. 713 Benj. SANFLEY & Co. ....Nashville..... 11 Feb. 1860**

\$6000 on their stock of Hats, caps, and Straw goods, contained in the three story Brick building with metal roof and in the two story Brick building with shingle roof in rear, situate on the East side of the Public Square, occupied as a Hat and Straw goods store.

**No. 697 C. D. BENSON.....Nashville..... 22 Sept. 1859**

\$1000 on his half interest in the stock of musical instruments and sheet music contained in the two story Brick building with shingle roof situate on the N side of Union street, occupied as a music store and Millinery establishment.

**No. 589 Geo. H. BEASLEY...Edgefield**

\$500 on his one story frame building situate on the East side of the Whites Creek pike in Edgefield, suburb of the city of Nashville, occupied as a family grocery & dwelling

---

renewed to 20 Jan. 1861.

**No. 636 J. BROWNE ..... Nashville ..... 7 April 1859**

\$5000 on his two story Brick dwelling house with metal roof, situate on the West side of North Market street- \$3000; on household furniture, beds & bedding, contained therein - \$1500; on the two story Brick kitchen in the rear of the above - \$400; On Brick private stable on the alley in the rear - \$100; occupied by the above.

**No. 331 D. D. JAMES ..... Nashville**

\$2500 on his two story Brick building covered partially with composition and partly with shingles, situate on the East side of North Cherry street, known as #96, and to be occupied by the assured as a family residence. Trans. to F. O. HART Nov. 6, 1857. Trans. to Avis BROWN March 1859 Renewed to Sept. 9, 1860

**No. 294 A. C. CARTER ..... Nashville**

\$5000 on his two story Brick dwelling house with shingle roof situate on the West side of Cherry street to the south of Spring street, known as #6, occupied by the assured as a Family residence.  
Renewed to July 10 1860

**No. 340 R. B. CHEATHAM.. ..... Nashville**

\$2000 on his one and a half story Brick dwelling house with shingle roof situate at the SW corner of the North Market and Whiteside street, occupied as a Dwelling. Renewed to Sept. 2, 1860

**No. 664 Dr. Henry CAROW.. Nashville ..... 22 May 1859**

\$500 on his two story wood dwelling house situate on the West side of North College street to the South of Jefferson street, occupied as a Family Residence. Privilege of making House calls and on the premises. [p16]

**No. 526 George A. DICKELL ..... Nashville**

\$300 on his one story Brick building with shingle roof, situate on the West side of Spruce street, known as #57, to be occupied in manner not specially hazardous. Renewed to Sept 1860. [p16]

**No. 325 James CURFMAN... West Nashville**

\$700 on his one story frame building and Brick building attached, situate on the West side of Gavock street, lot #69, in ad addition to Nashville and known as West Nashville, occupied by the assured as a family residence. [p17]

**No. 229 Dr. Richard O. CURRY ..... Nashville**

\$2250 on his two story Brick Dwelling and Brick Ell attached thereto, all covered with shingles; situate in the Lot measuring 115 by 150 feet forming the SW corner of Vine & Demombrane streets; occupied as a family residence. Jan. 1, 1861 [p17]

**No. 484 Mesrs CASE & GEE, N. .... Nashville**

\$1500 on their Brick Building with shingle roof situate on the West side of North Market street, being the 2nd building to the N of Spring St. June 26, 1860 [p18]

**No. 486 R. L. CRENSHAW, Trustee . .... Nashville**

\$1500 as follows: On his two story Brick Building with shingle roof - \$500; On the Ell building attached in the rear of above/same materials - \$1000; situate at the SW corner of Gay & McLemore streets, known as #79 and occupied as a family residence. Renewed June 29, 1860 [p18]

**No. 548 H. CASE, agt for W. W. GEE's Heirs..... Nashville**

\$2000 on the two story Brick Building with Brick & Frame Ell attached with shingle roof situate on the N side of Gay street in the City of Nashville, known as #32, occupied as a Family Residence. Renewed Nov. 22, 1860 [p19]

**No. 585 CARTWRIGHT Bro. .... Nashville**

\$5000 on the stock of Groceries, Liquors, Produce & other goods usally kept in the establishment; contained in the three story Brick Building with shingle roof & in the one story Brick Building attached in the rear; situate



---

on the South side of Broad street; known as #47, occupied as a grocery & produce store. Trans. to Harsh & ---  
ith Oct. 5, 1860 Renewed Jan. 17, 1861 [p19]

**No. 646 CAIN & CORNELIUS.....Nashville**

\$2000 on their stock of Furniture, metal & wooden coffins and other articles usually kept in Furniture & Undertakers stores; contained in the two story Brick Building with tin roof situate on the South side of Spring Street occupied by the assured as a store and the second story also occupied as a Painters Studio and office. 27 April 1859 - 27 Apr. 1860 [p20]

**No. 632 Adam COE... ..Nashville**

\$2500 on his two story and basement Brick Building with shingle roof; occupied by the assured as a dwelling - \$2000; on his Brick slaughter house with shingle roof; situate on the East side of continuation of College street in the Northern suburb of Nashville. 4 Apr. 1859 [p20]

**No. 640 F. R. CHEATHAM... ..Nashville**

\$3000 on his two story Brick Dwelling with one story Brick Ell attached/ shingle roof; situate on the West side of the Buena Vista Turnpike about 200 yards to the North of Jefferson street, in the suburbs of the City of Nashville; occupied as a family residence. 18 Apr. 1859 [p21]

**No. 655 J. R. COWAN.....Edgefield**

\$1000 on his stock of Merchandise such as is usually kept in a country store contained in his one story frame building situate on the West side of Whites Creek Road in Edgefield occupied as a store. 6 May 1859 [p21]

**No. 509 Major W. P. DOWNS.....Nashville**

\$800 on his two story Brick Dwelling house with shingle roof; situate on the S side of Jackson street, being the 2nd Lot to the East of North College street, occupied as a Family Residence. April 6, 1859 Trans. to Robt. CAPPS May 10, 1859 [p22]

**No. 672 Mrs. C. Clara COLE .....Nashville**

\$2500 on her one and a half story Brick Dwelling and Ell attached, shingle roof; situate on the West side of Spruce street, known as #27 and occupied as a Family Residence. On her one story basement Brick Dwelling, situate in the rear of the above and fronting on McLemore. 10 July 1859 [p22]

**No. 462 WILLIAMSON & CHEATHAM.....Nashville**

\$5000 on their stock of Liquors, cigars, tobacco, groceries and other goods in the line of dealers in such articles contained in the three story Brick Building with composition roof and parapet walls, situate on the West side of North College st, known as #9 and occupied as a store. Trans. to A. Cheathan & Bro. July 13, 1859. [23]

**No. 689 John CONNER.....Nashville**

\$1600 on his two one story Frame Dwelling Houses situate on the East side of Broad to the South of Church street in Hynes addition to Nashville; occupied as Family Residence. 3 Sept. 1853 to 3 Sept. 1860 [p23]

**No. 287 SMITH, MORGAN & Co.....Nashville**

\$2000 on the Presses, Type, Paper & other materials composing the Nashville Patriot Printing Establishment contained in the Double three story Brick Building with shingle roof; the property of Mrs. James ERWIN, Esqr; situate on the North side of Deaderick street; occupied by the assured with the exception of one by a cigar maker. Feb. 2, 1857 [p24]

**No. 698 CISER & BERNUATA .....Nashville**

\$1000 on their stock of cigars & tobacco contained in the first story of the two story Brick Building with shingle roof situate on the East side of North Market street, known as #52 1/2, an apartment being occupied by the assured as a cigar store. 9 Dec. 1859. [p24]

**No. 638 DOUGLAS & Co. ....Nashville**

\$5000 on stock of merchandise other than specially hazardous, on stock on commission, held in trust for others or sold and not delivered from the premises contained in the four story Brick building with metal roof and

---

parapet walls situate at the NW corner of Market street and Public Square, occupied by the insured as a wholesale Drygoods store. 14 April 1859 [p25]

**No. 512 DOUGLAS & Co..... Nashville**

\$5000 on goods, wares and merchandise being stock in trade contained in the Four story Brick building with metal roof, situate at the NW corner of North Market & the Public Square; occupied by the subscriber as a wholesale Drygoods store. Renewed 10 June 1860. [p25]

**No. 693 J. DOUGLAS & Co. .... Nashville**

\$2000 on their three story Brick building with shingle roof, situate on the East side of Water street to the South of Bridge street; occupied as a warehouse and sleeping apartments. 12 Oct. 1859 [p26]

**No. 337 W. P. DOWNS..... Nashville**

\$2500 as follows: On his two story Brick building and frame attached situate on the West side of North College street to the North Line street, occupied as a dwelling - \$1000; On his two story Brick building and Ell attached situate on the East side of the above mentioned streets to the South of and next to Drattens residence, occupied as aforesaid - \$1000; On his one story Brick double tenement situate on the West side of street aforesaid and near Lick Branch - \$500. 1 Nov. 1859 [p26]

**No. 338 W. P. DOWNS..... Nashville**

\$3300 as follows: On his three one story buildings and one story frame kitchen in the rear, two of said buildings being under the same roof and the other seperated by a six foot alley, situate on the West side of North Fourth street to the North of old Bridge street, occupied as a dwelling - \$600 on each building; On his two story Brick building situate at the NE corner of Broad and South College street, occupied as a shoe store by B. R. COTTON - \$1500. Renewed 1 Nov. 1860 [Home Ins. Co][p27]

**No. 445 H. & B. DOUGLAS . .... Nashville**

\$5000 on their two story Brick building with metal roof, situate at the NW corner of North Market street and the Public Square, occupied by Douglas & Co. as Wholesale Drygoods store. Renewed to Dec. 17, 1860 [p27]

**No. 526 George A. DICKELL ..... Nashville**

\$300 on his one story Brick building with shingle roof, situate on the West side of Spruce street, known as #57. Renewed Sept. 8, 1860 [p28]

**No. 580 George DURY ..... Edgefield**

\$750 on his one story frame dwelling with ell attached, situate North side of Woodland street on Lot #17 in Hobson & Wheless? addition to Edgefield in the suburbs of Nashville, to be occupied as a family residence with privilege of furnishing, said building being now ready for the plaster. Renewed Jan. 8, 1861 Renewal this day increased in the sum of \$150 to cover household furniture, beds & bedding contained in the above building. Jan. 7, 1860 [p28]

**No. 544 William DEWS..... Nashville**

\$3000 on his two story Brick building with Ell attached, shingle roof, situate on the E side of Front street near College Hill, occupied as a family residence. Renewed to Nov. 12, 1860 [p29]

**No. 639 DOUGLAS & Co..... Nashville**

\$5000 on stock of Boots and country produce, being stock in trade on commission and not delivered from the premises contained in the first story of the Four story Brick building with metal roof, situate on the west side of North Market street, said story being known as their shoe room and occupied as their shoe store. 14 April 1849 [p29] ■

*To be Continued*

---

# Moke – Perry – Preutt Families

of Sumner County Tennessee

by Joan Pruett

The families of William Perry and Sarah Moke/Moake Perry migrated from Richland County, South Carolina, to the Robertson-Sumner County, Tennessee, area before 1800.<sup>1</sup> A Perry daughter, Sarah, married Silas Preutt in Sumner County in 1816. Silas Preutt's family moved from the area of King and Queen County, Virginia, to Sumner County prior to 1797.

Before 1830 several of the Moak and Perry families traveled by wagon train from Sumner County to Illinois, settling in Williamson County in that state. Some of the descendants of Silas and Sarah Preutt migrated to Obion County, Tennessee, during the 1870s.

William Perry, b. 14 April 1771 in Richland County, South Carolina  
Married Sarah Moke/Moak. William died 14 April 1840 in Williamson County, Illinois

Sarah Moke/Moak, b. 24 Feb. 1768, Bull Swamp, Edisto River, Berkley County, South Carolina. Sarah died 27 Mar. 1845, Williamson County, Illinois.

They are buried in the Perry Cemetery at West Marion, Illinois. Their children were:

- Sarah Perry, b. 3 May 1793, South Carolina. Married Silas Preutt Mar. 25, 1816 in Sumner County, Tennessee. Died Aug. 23, 1874 in Obion County, Tennessee.
- Thomas Perry, born 17 Nov. 1794, South Carolina.
- Anna Perry, born 5 Sept. 1796. She died ca. 1802.
- Mary Perry, born 19 Mar. 1798. She married a Maxey.
- Ralls Perry, born 18 July 1799, married Mar. 3, 1822, to Matilda Shaver.
- Elizabeth Perry, born 29 Oct. 1800. Married Thomas Barham in Sumner County, Tennessee, July 23, 1821. Died 18 Oct. 1863 in Williamson County, Illinois.
- Susanna Perry, born 9 Mar. 1801. She married a Grimes.
- Rebecca Perry, born 3 Mar. 1802. She married a Miles.
- Jacob M. Perry, born 17 Mar. 1804.
- John L. Perry, born 5 Aug. 1806. He married Lucretia Sanders. John died 9 Mar. 1859 in Williamson County, Illinois.
- Henry W. Perry, born 29 Mar. 1808 in Robertson County, Tennessee. Married 21 April 1831 to Nancy Mary Magdalene Chitty. Died 21 May 1857 in Williamson County, Illinois.
- Catherine Perry, born 9 Sept. 1810. She married Jerry Simmons.
- Elenor Perry, born 13 Oct. 1812. She married a Hoffman.
- Esther S. Perry, born 25 Mar. 1815. She married a Robinson.

The following letter<sup>2</sup> was written in 1851 by Thomas Barham, husband of Elizbaeth Perry. The letter was addressed to Silas Pruett, Gallatin, Tennessee. It is typed as written.

---

<sup>1</sup> Janice Lockie Gower Searl, They came to Williamson County, Illinois, 1981. <sup>2</sup> Ibid. p 29.  
*August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1851*

*Dear Sir I take the opportunity to inform you that my family are all well at present and I hope these few lines may find you and yours enjoying the same blessing Silas we have fine crops of corn oats wheat and tobacco and every thing else we plant Silas and Sally Betsy and myself left home for the Illinois the 14<sup>th</sup> July and we got here the 18<sup>th</sup> we found all the relations well and doing tolerable well except Jerry Gimmons family Jerry died the day we got there he died with the dropsy we stayed with Catherine the last night we stayed in the neighbourhood and left there for home the 23<sup>rd</sup> July and we arrived at home 26<sup>th</sup> Jerry left a very good crop of corn wheat and some tobacco he had a good stock of hogs horses cattle and sheep Catharine has eight children three boys very good to work and she has broke very much and lives fifteen miles from any of her relations Sally Betsy had the pleasure of seeing the place where her farther and mother were buried they are side and side and your Sister Hester by the side of your Mother the Brothers have had tombstones put to Father and Mother's graves with the births deaths and ages on them Father was born April 14<sup>th</sup> 1771 and died April 14<sup>th</sup> 1840 aged 69 years. Mother was born the 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 1769 died march 27<sup>th</sup> 1845 aged 76 years one month and three days.*

*Hester  
Sisters ^ daughter Louisa is ten years old she is living with Sister Susan John Perry has nine children George and Emily is married Jacob Perry has eleven children of his own and four step children Mariann married two sons grown Henry Perry has five children Mary Ellen married Ellen Huffman has had twelve children six at three births they are all dead six living Sally Betsy says she would be glad to see you she wants to have a chat with you about her trip to Illinois and the relations out there of about two days and nights She says it would take her at least that length of time to talk it all to you Silas please tell your son John I got his money for him last Feb and kept it until the last of June and he did not come and I paid other debts with it tell him I have some more and if he is in need of it to come after it I can let him have 25 or 30 dollars now and perhaps all of it if he don't come in two or three weeks he must let me know when he will com so I may have a chance not to disappoint him for I wish to pay him on eight tell John I sold highdiddy and her mule for ninety dollars and the mare I got of him is worth 150 dollars Silas tell James Pruett I found Henry at Adalias in Illinois and he was as willing a soul to come home as he ever saw I have nothing more to add but remain your friend you must rite without fail*

*Thomas N and Elizabeth Barham*

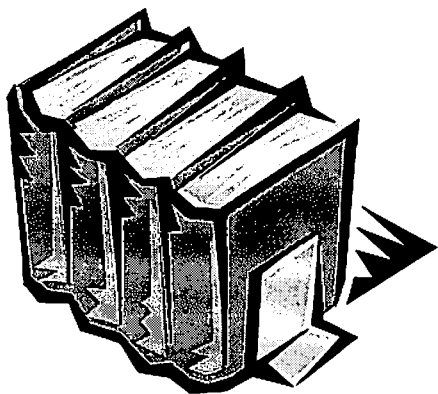
## PRUETT FAMILY

Silas Pruett (1790-1856) was born in Virginia, served in the War of 1812, and died at Cairo, Sumner County, Tennessee. He married in 1816 to Sarah Perry, daughter of William and Sarah Moke Perry. Their children, all born at Cairo, were:

William T. Pruett (1817-1888)  
Elisha V. Pruett (1818-1842)  
Joseph H. Pruett (1819-1888)  
John W. Pruett (b. 1820)  
Alexander D. Pruett (1822-1849)

Sarah Frances Harris (1824-1897)  
Mary E. Pruett (1826-1827)  
Reuben A. Pruett (1827-1861)  
James R. Pruett (1829-1860)  
Perry Moke Pruett (1832-1909)

Paul R. Pruett (1834-1906)  
Silas Barnabus Pruett (1835-1900)  
George W. Pruett (1838-1908) ■



## Book Reviews

by Shirley Wilson \_\_\_\_\_

***Tennessee State Legislative Petitions 1799 through 1801 Volume I*** by Nona Williams. Softback, 8 ½ x 11, 217 pp., index, c2002. \$22.50 postpaid from author, 9160 Glen Arbor Road, PO Box 746, Ben Lomond, CA 95005.

Anyone who has ever used Tennessee's legislative petitions will be delighted to learn of the publication of this book. While much of genealogical interest can be found in the petitions, they are not a user-friendly source.

The original petitions are housed at the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville and are available on microfilm for research. They are arranged chronologically and there is an index of sorts to them. Locating individuals mentioned within the petitions is a time consuming process requiring a page by page search.

The petitions are not titled, but Williams has assigned titles to them and used them as a table of contents. Her complete index of names and locations provides ready access to everyone named within the petitions.

Some typical examples are: a petition relating to the estate of Thomas Tullock of Beaufort County, North Carolina, another for the heirs of John Stuart of Robertson County, and another for the people living between Walker's and Henderson's lines.

***The Life of William Trousdale*** by Walter T. Durham. Softback, 6 x 9, 38 pp., bibliography, endnotes, photographs, c2001. \$10 plus \$2.50 shipping from Gwen Williams, 450 Rock springs Road, Castalian Springs, TN 37031. Make check payable to Clark Chapter UDC.

Trousdale Place, located at 183 West Main Street in Gallatin, Tennessee, is where William

Trousdale lived until his death in 1872. He purchased the home in the 1830's from Congressman John H. Bowen who built the home. In 1899 the house and grounds were given to the Clark Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy of Sumner County by Annie Berry Trousdale. It was used as a library for nearly seventy-five years. Since 1985 it has been open to the public for tours for a modest admission price and is available by rental for social and political functions.

Durham prepared this booklet on Trousdale's life and it was published by Clark Chapter as part of Gallatin's Bicentennial Celebration in 2002.

In addition to the information on Trousdale's life, the booklet includes many lovely photographs of various individuals who owned the house. They were collected over the years by Lucy Bradley who served as Executive Director of Trousdale Place for eighteen years.

***Thomas Norfleet of 1666 Some of his Descendants and Allied Families Volume II*** by Dorothy Neblett Perkins. Hardback, 8 ½ x 11, 1030 pp., appendix, bibliography, footnotes, illustrations, index, photographs, c2002. \$75 from author, PO Box 675696, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-5696.

This massive volume is primarily devoted to John Norfleet (c1671 – c1734) of Nansemond County, Virginia, his wife Esther and his many descendants. John was one of four sons of Thomas Norfleet, the other three being addressed in Volume I of this publication. Descendants migrated westward and many can be found in Davidson and Montgomery counties in Tennessee.

The abundance of illustrations as well as photographs of places, people, their homes,

tombstones, etc. that are sprinkled throughout the book greatly enhance its value.

Appendix B includes information on Captain James Ford, who was born about 1720 in Maryland and died in 1776, and his five children.

The numbering system is the same as used in the first volume. It is confusing and cumbersome, but the excellent index partially alleviates the need to use it. ■

#### QUERY

Researching: GIFFORDS - Rutherford & Maury Co TN; MONEY or MOONEY, SUTTONS, LAMBS, WILKERSONS, VAUGHNS, LaMASTUS, WORKMAN, McGUIRE, McFADDEN, & McDANIELS. All letters answered.  
Darlene Gifford  
101 Illinois Ave.  
Fairfield IL 62837

## *Sweaney & Pack Bible – Cheatham County*

*Contributed by Martha C. Cooke*

This Bible, published in Philadelphia in 1856 by John B. Perry, belonged to Mary Ann Elizabeth Sweaney who married R. Montgomery Pack. Many of this family are buried in the Pack Family Cemetery off Griffintown Road in District 10 of Cheatham County, Tennessee. The Packs are related to Charlotte Rives, wife of Nashville's founder James Robertson. The Bible is now in the possession of James Michael Clark.

#### BIRTHS

Mary Ann Elizabeth Sweaney was born 26 Aug. 1844  
Eliza Jane Lurindue Sweaney was born 18 Mar. 1847  
William Green Sweaney was born 9 Mar. 1850  
John Wesley Sweaney was born 14 Aug. 1854  
Henry Clay Sweaney was born 19 June 1858  
The above is a record of the children of John G. Sweaney and Mary Jane his wife.

R.M. Pack was born 25 Dec. 1843  
Susan Green Pack was born 31 Oct. 1863  
Lucian Vandorn Pack was born 9 July 1870  
Lucian Thomas Clark was born 21 Dec. 1891  
Sadie Louise (Hutchison) Clark was born 28 July 1901  
Roger Lennox Clark was born 22 Dec. 1921  
Lucian Thomas Clark Jr. was born 24 Mar. 1927  
James Michael Clark was born 14 June 1945  
Mark Alan Clark was born 6 Mar. 1856  
Susan Delia Clark was born 26 June 1963

#### MARRIAGES

R.M. Pack and Mary Ann Sweaney was married 4 Jan. 1863 by Esq. Scott  
Lucian Thomas Clark and Sadie Louise Hutchison were married 7 Jan. 1919 by Esq. C.L. Joslin.  
Roger Lennox Clark and Frances Annette Boyd were married 11 Mar. 1844 in Atlanta, Georgia.  
Lucian Thomas Clark, Jr., and Peggy Jane Jackson were married 17 Dec. 1950 in Nashville, Tennessee.

#### DEATHS

Mary Anne Swaney [sic] died 23 July 1858  
John G. Sweaney was born 23 April 1817  
John Green Sweaney died 9 Jan. 1860  
R.M. Pack died 27 April 1888  
Dr. Lucian V. Pack died 4 Sept. 1895  
Susie G. Clark died 9 Oct. 1903  
Mary Anne Elizabeth Sweaney Pack died 22 Nov. 1925  
Lucian Thomas Clark, Jr., died 19 Aug. 1968 ■



## BYLAWS OF THE MIDDLE TENNESSEE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

The bylaws are published in this issue at the request of the Board of Directors.  
The only change in the bylaws since they were last published in June 1997  
appears in Article IV, Section 3. The altered section is shown in italics.

### ARTICLE I.

#### Name.

The name of this non-profit Society shall be Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, Inc.

### ARTICLE II.

#### Objectives.

The objectives of this Society shall be to create and stimulate interest in the study of genealogy and family history; to collect, preserve and make available to others genealogical information pertaining to Middle Tennessee; to provide assistance to others in genealogical pursuits through all means available or developed by this Society.

### ARTICLE III.

#### Membership and Dues.

SECTION 1. Any person interested in the study and pursuit and preservation of genealogy and family history shall be eligible for membership. Membership shall be granted upon submission of application for payment of dues.

SECTION 2. Dues shall be payable on or before the first day of June each year in an amount set annually by the Board of Directors of the Society.

SECTION 3. No member shall be deemed a member in good standing whose dues shall be in arrears for more than thirty (30) days. Delinquent members shall be notified and advised that they will be dropped from membership unless dues are paid within thirty (30) days.

### ARTICLE IV.

#### Officers.

SECTION 1. The Officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice President, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer.

SECTION 2. Not less than six months before the annual meeting in May, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of five (5) persons, one of whom shall be named as chairperson, to be approved by the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the annual meeting in May. The Nominating Committee shall report at the regular meeting just prior to the May meeting. Before the election at the meeting in May, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted. Each candidate shall have consented to the nomination.

SECTION 3. The Officers shall be elected by ballot to serve for one year or until their successors are elected and assume office. *Their term of office shall begin June 1 following the annual meeting in May.* In the event there is only one candidate for any office, voting on that office may be by voice vote.

SECTION 4. No Officer shall hold more than one office at a time or be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

SECTION 5. A. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice President who shall succeed to the office of President for the remainder of the term. B. If a vacancy should occur during the year in any office or directorship other than Presidency, the vacancy shall be filled through appointment by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6. A. The President shall: 1. Preside at all meetings of the association and Board of Directors. 2. Appoint all standing Committee Chairpersons and such other committees as authorized by the Society or Board of Directors. 3. Be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. 4. Appoint a member to serve as Parliamentarian. 5. Perform other duties as pertain to the office of President.

B. The Vice President shall: 1. Be an active aid to the President. 2. Conduct him/herself so as to obtain the greatest possible acquaintance with the affairs of the Society. 3. In the event of the absence or inability of the President to perform his/her duties, the Vice President shall perform the duties of and have the authority and privileges of the President. 4. Serve as Chairperson of the Program Committee.

C. The Recording Secretary shall: 1. Take minutes of the meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors; keep a permanent, continuous record of all activities of the Society; make a report of the written record at each meeting. 2. Be responsible for maintaining an accurate list of membership. 3. Perform other duties as pertain to this office. 4. Be responsible for seeing that members are notified of delinquent dues per ARTICLE III, SECTION 3.

D. The Corresponding Secretary shall: 1. Conduct the correspondence of the Society as directed by the President or Board of Directors. 2. Perform other duties as pertain to this office.

E. The Treasurer shall: 1. Receive and deposit all funds of the Society in a suitable depository bank. 2. Receive all monies and disburse funds that are proper and reasonable expenses of the Society. 3. Submit a full written report at each regular meeting giving a full account of all financial transactions. 4. Maintain a permanent record of all receipts. 5. Submit all financial records for audit upon vacating the office. In addition, the Board of Directors may require a special audit. Audits are to be performed by a committee selected by the Board. 6. It shall be the Treasurer's responsibility to file any federal, state or local tax forms required.

F. The Immediate Past-President shall: 1. Serve as a voting member of the Board of Directors for one year following the term of office as President.

SECTION 7. In the event an Officer or Director fails to attend at least one half (1/2) of the stated meetings without valid reason or just cause, the office held by such person(s) shall be declared vacant and a new person shall be elected by the Board of Directors to serve the unexpired term.

---

**ARTICLE V.  
Board of Directors.**

SECTION 1. Four Directors of the Society shall be elected at annual meetings of the Society and shall serve for a term of two (2) years. At the first election, one half (1/2) of the members of the Board of Directors were elected to serve for one year and one half (1/2) for two years. Thereafter, two Directors are to be elected annually. Any elected Director who shall have served two consecutive terms of two years each shall be ineligible for re-election as a Director for a period of one year immediately following the expiration of such second full term.

SECTION 2. The Officers and Directors of this Society shall constitute a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall meet quarterly, at a place and time determined by the Board. The Board of Directors shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society between its business meetings, make recommendations to the membership and perform such other duties as are specified in these Bylaws. The Board shall be responsible to the membership.

SECTION 3. The Board of Directors shall develop annually a budget for approval by the Society at the annual meeting, and shall have authority to expend funds in accordance with the budget. In addition, they may transfer funds from one item of the budget to another and may expend additional monies not to exceed 20% of the current budget, without prior approval of the Society.

SECTION 4. It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors to develop a policy for answering requests directed to the Society for general information and/or genealogical research and to develop and approve all public releases pertaining to the Society.

SECTION 5. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 6. The Board of Directors shall appoint one Director to serve on the Board of Directors whose responsibility is to serve as Editor of the Society quarterly publication. This Director is a voting member of the Board and is to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

**ARTICLE VI.  
Membership Meetings.**

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of the Society will be held bi-monthly on the third Saturday beginning in January.

SECTION 2. The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of June and end of the last day of May. The regular meeting in May shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of election of Officers, receiving reports of Officers and committees, and any other business that may arise.

SECTION 3. Special meetings may be called by the President or by the Board of Directors or upon the written request of ten (10) members. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call and no other business shall be considered at that special meeting. Except in cases of emergency, at least thirty (30) days' notice shall be given.

SECTION 4. Fifteen (15) members shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting.

**ARTICLE VII.  
Committees.**

SECTION 1. There may be the following standing committees: Program; Collection and Archives; Public Relations and Membership; Publications and such other committees as may be authorized by the Society or the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Duties of Standing Committees. A. The **Program Committee** shall: 1. Arrange a program for presentation at each of the meetings of the Society. 2. Any seminars sponsored by the Society shall come under the direction of this committee. B. The **Collections and Archives Committee** shall: 1. Receive and process any genealogical information received by the Society in a form directed by the Board of Directors so as to preserve and make such information accessible to the public. C. The **Public Relations and Membership Committee** shall: 1. Actively seek new members for the Society. 2. Publicize information pertaining to the Society as directed by the Board of Directors. D. The **Publications Committee** shall: 1. Prepare materials, other than the quarterly journal, for publication as approved by the Board of Directors. 2. Assist the Editor of the quarterly as needed. 3. Provide input to the board on matters relating to publication.

**ARTICLE VIII.  
Parliamentary Authority.**

*Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure for this association not specifically covered by its bylaws and standing rules.

**ARTICLE IX.  
Amendment of Bylaws.**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two thirds (2/3) vote of members present provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous meeting or has been mailed to the entire membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which they shall be considered.

**ARTICLE X.  
Dissolution of the Society.**

To effect dissolution of this Society, these bylaws must be rescinded by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the members present after thirty (30) days notice has been mailed to each member. In the event of dissolution, all assets and holdings of the Society shall be converted into an acceptable form and presented to the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

**ARTICLE XI.**

SECTION 1. No Society member shall accept remuneration for any research or general information request directed to the Society.

SECTION 2. This Society shall be operated as a not for profit organization and no part of the assets or net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any private individual.

---

*The original bylaws were adopted 15 August 1987.*



## THE JOURNAL

Members of the Society are encouraged to submit unpublished primary source material of Middle Tennessee genealogical and historical importance to be considered for inclusion in the *Journal*. The data can be in the form of county records, cemetery accounts, Bible records, journals/diaries, "how-to" articles of broad interest, or historical facts. Family histories that are well documented and pertain to the Middle Tennessee area will also be considered. Photographs, drawings, maps, and other illustrations can accompany the article and are encouraged. Complete and specific sources in the proper form should be used in the submitted material. *Material should be limited to a published length of approximately five typeset pages.*

Please make sure handwriting is legible or the document is typed. Include your name, address, and phone number on the manuscript. If using a computer, save the file in Rich Text Format [ .RTF ], Generic DOS ASCII [ .TXT ], WordPerfect, or MSWord word processing format and enclose the disk, along with a printed copy of the article. *References/footnotes should be in the form of end notes and placed at the end of the article.* Once submitted, there can be no rewriting by the author except by request of the editor. The right to edit material for presentation, grammar, and form is reserved by the editorial staff, and all material submitted becomes the property of the Society.

*Journal articles are to be sent directly to the Journal Editor at the address given under Journal Submissions on this page.*

It is the submitter's responsibility to secure permission from any person or company who may own the original record or publication rights. The Society or Editor cannot assume responsibility for errors of fact or infringement of copyrights by contributors. The

opinions expressed in the *Journal* are of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Society or the editorial staff.

### JOURNAL SUBMISSIONS

Send to *MTGS Journal*, c/o Charles Sherrill, Editor, 1023 Waters Edge Circle, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122-2541. *It is important that the instructions contained on this page are read prior to submitting an article.*

### QUERIES

Address: Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society Queries, P. O. Box 330948, Nashville, TN 37203-7507. Be short and concise. Capitalize, underline or highlight all surnames. It is not the Query Editor's responsibility to locate the names you wish to be included if your query is long and rambling. Make sure your name and complete address are shown on the query sheet.

Queries will be included in order of receipt as space permits.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Books should be sent directly to Mrs. Shirley Wilson, Book Review Editor, 106 Leeward Point, Hendersonville, TN 37075. All materials become property of the review editor to be distributed as appropriate.

### DUES PAYMENT, QUERIES, BACK ISSUE ORDERS, CHANGE OF ADDRESS, or QUESTIONS

Address all to Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 330948, Nashville, TN 37203-7507. *Do not send Journal submissions to the post office box.*

### Available back issues of Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History

Volumes 1 & 2	.....	\$8 per yearly volume set, \$2 per issue
Volumes 3 & 4	.....	\$14 per yearly volume set, \$3.50 per issue
Volumes 5 & 6	.....	\$16 per yearly volume set, \$4.00 per issue
Volumes 7-11	.....	\$18 per yearly volume set, \$4.50 per issue
Volume 12 forward	.....	\$20 per yearly volume set, \$5.00 per issue

Include \$3.00 postage & handling per yearly volume set or \$1.50 for individual issue  
Send check or money order with your request for specific issue(s) to:

Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, Inc.  
P. O. Box 330948  
Nashville, TN 37203-7507



**MIDDLE TENNESSEE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

P. O. BOX 330948, NASHVILLE, TN 37203-7507

*Membership Application or Renewal Form*

*[may be photocopied]*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip plus 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Use computer for genealogical purposes? yes ☐ no ☐ Software used \_\_\_\_\_

New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐

All current yearly memberships include four issues of the *Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History*. Dues are \$20.00 per membership year if paid prior to the beginning of fiscal year on June 1. If joining or renewing after this date, dues are \$20.00 plus \$3.00 for mailing of back issues of the Journal for the current membership year. Applications or renewals received after March 15 of the current fiscal year will be accepted for the next fiscal year beginning on June 1. Make check or money order payable to Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society (MTGS).



**MIDDLE TENNESSEE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.**

**P. O. Box 330948**

**Nashville, TN 37203-7507**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 3229  
Nashville, TN

*Address Service Requested*