

# 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 •  
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• 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  
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• Putnam County • Robertson County • Rutherford County • S

Volume XVI, Number 4  
Spring 2003



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

## 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)

*May 17, 2003*

### **New Genealogical Treasures at the Linebaugh Library** Margaret Vaughan

Discover the valuable collections of the public library in Murfreesboro, home of the Anderson Genealogical Collection of 5,000 books and 2,700 microfilms covering the U.S. and Europe.

*June 7, 2003*

### **Genealogy Basics** **Sharpening Your Research Skills** Chuck Sherrill

Join us at the State Library & Archives for a workshop focusing on basic genealogical research skills. A combination of lecture, discussion and hands-on searching in the Archives will make the day educational and enjoyable.

*July 19, 2003*

### **Middle Tenn. Families Reach Out: Goin' West!** Walter Durham

State Historian and author Walter Durham will reveal the personalities, motivations and westward movements of prominent Middle Tenn. families of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

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 4, Spring 2003

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**Middle Tennessee  
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**Middle Tennessee Journal  
of Genealogy & History**

**Editor**

Charles A. Sherrill

**Contributors in this issue**

Gale Williams Bamman

Juanita Patton

Betsy Ragsdale

Robert P. Thompson

Susan Wilson

***FROM OUR PRESIDENT . . .***

Dear Friends,

What good friends fellow genealogists become! We all share a common goal - finding that elusive ancestor and tracking the generations backward. We visit and share 'our' names and often find a common thread. We watch and remember the names our friends are searching and find a clue and share.

We learn much more history and geography than we ever dreamed of in school as we try to find out 'why' they moved - 'what' was going on in their world, 'how' it affected their lives, and 'who' their neighbors were. We need all of the above to make them 'real' people and not just an entry on a form.

MTGS is sponsoring a 'Hands-on' Workshop on June 7 at the Tenn. State Library & Archives to help us 'sharpen our skills.' We hope this new program will be of help to our membership and potential members. Chuck Sherrill, editor of the 'Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy and History,' will be our lecturer and there will be practical exercises using the excellent research materials available at the Archives.

I was delighted at a recent MTGS meeting, when we were searching for more chairs for an overflow crowd, to have a relatively new member tell me that he had been attending for the last couple of years and each meeting the attendance was larger - that he felt it was a 'vital and growing organization.' What better compliment could we have?

We need all of you to help us continue to grow - to share your families and the knowledge of where they came from and where they went - to become part of the Middle Tennessee Genealogical family.

Sincerely,

***Sue Smith***  
***President, MTGS***

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

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# Old News is Good News

Newspaper Sources for Middle Tennessee Genealogy

## *The Dickson County Press of 1891*

*by Susan Wilson*

The Dickson County Press was first published in 1881 by N. B. Conant and Samuel C. Freeman in Dickson, Tennessee by the Dickson Publishing Company.

The "Press" was then moved to Charlotte in 1886 and published by the Charlotte Publishing Company. The newspaper moved back and forth between Dickson and Charlotte several times and had several different proprietors. The Dickson County Press ended its publication run in Charlotte around the beginning of the twentieth century.<sup>1</sup>

The Thursday, May 10, 1883, Volume II, Number 27 edition of the Dickson County Press was published and edited by Will J. Conant in Dickson, Tennessee. The newspaper was published every Thursday and usually consisted of four, seven-column pages. A one year's subscription cost \$1.00. The circulation in the mid-eighties was approximately 900.<sup>2</sup> The front page of this edition contains many interesting articles to keep the reader informed of the important news and information of the day. The "New Epitome" column details the important domestic events of the week including items about duels, hangings, explosions and fires in various parts of the United States. Articles on foreign events, Washington events, personal and political events are also included. A lengthy essay entitled "Information about Grindstones" gives the reader a detailed look at the subject.

There is an informative article turned in by a reporter who visited the "Pitch Lake" at Trinidad. "Precaution at Funerals" promotes the idea of funeral begetting funerals. The article states that many lives are lost every year due to men who bear friends to their graves only to expose themselves to the influences of bad weather, then become ill and succumb to pneumonia. Almost one-third of the front page of this edition of the Dickson County Press is dedicated to temperance. Included in this section is a poem from the Temperance Banner entitled "Five Downward Steps." Essays on the curse and certainties of drink inform the readers of the decadence of drink, the injury of drink to both families and individuals, and the amount of money that producing drink takes away from communities.

Page two contains more articles and items from around the United States. About one-half of the page is devoted to advertisements. Local items of interest include:

- A sheriff's land sale ordered by the Dickson County Circuit Court on Saturday, June 9, 1883 involves a tract of land containing three hundred acres in the 1<sup>st</sup> Civil District. The land is the property of Albert Vetter and is being sold for the satisfaction of a judgement at the July, 1881 term of the Circuit Court.

<sup>1</sup> Corlew, Robert Ewing., *A History of Dickson County, Tennessee* (The Tennessee Historical Commission and The Dickson County Historical Commission, 1956), 121.

<sup>2</sup> *History of Tennessee from the Earliest Time to the Present with an Historical Sketch of Montgomery, Robertson, Humphreys, Stewart, Dickson, Cheatham and Houston Counties.* (Nashville, Tennessee: The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1886), 945.

- A Chancery Court non-resident notice informing the public that the defendant Mariah Davis is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee and that publication be made for four consecutive weeks in the Dickson County Press for the defendant to appear before the Chancery Court at the June, 1883 term and answer to the complainant Joseph Davis's bill or the same will be taken for confessed.
- A non-resident notice issued by J. T. Butler, J. P., for the cause of J. T. Hampton vs. Wade Hampton. The plaintiff attests that the defendant owes him money and wants to attach the defendant's interest in the lands of his mother's estate on the waters of Johnson Creek in Dickson County. It is ordered that the complaint be published for four consecutive weeks in the Dickson County Press for the defendant to appear in J. T. Butler's office by May 31, 1883 to defend the suit.



Many of the advertisements on page two are for what ails you. These ads claim ease for lame backs, piles, torpid livers, constipation, indigestion and malaria, to name a few. Readers may also purchase Hereford cattle, Cotswold sheep, Berkshire swine, groceries, notions, scales, automatic engines, hair dye, turbine water wheels, and sewing machines from various vendors.

One advertisement gives details about the Dickson Male and Female Academy directed by W. M. Guerin, Principal. The academy will begin nine months of instruction beginning in March, 1883, in a commodious and healthful school building. The ad reports that the government of the school will be strict and firm but gentleness will be preferred in enforcing rules and regulations. The course of study for the primary grades will include alphabet, orthography, reading, penmanship, mental arithmetic, and geography; the cost is \$1.50 per month. The advanced grades will include orthography, reading, penmanship, geography, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, history, chemistry, philosophy, etc. and will cost \$2.00 per month.

#### The Board of Directors and Supervisors of the academy

- |                                  |                   |                                 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Dr. J.H. Derryberry, President | • W. M. Hooper    | • A. Myatt                      |
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| • Dr. J. H. Cullum               | • Jas. Maley      | • James Maley, Supervisor       |

J. B. Walthour advertises as a house and sign painter. He does graining to imitate all kinds of hard wood on short notice. He also is a glazier and a kalsominer. A kalsominer uses kalsomine (or calcimine), a white or tinted wash to cover walls or ceiling, which is similar to whitewash.<sup>3</sup>

Page three contains information of a more local nature. Subscription rates and advertising rates for the Dickson County Press are posted. Schedules for the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad and the Nashville &

<sup>3</sup>< <http://www.infoplease.com/ipd/A0358996.html>>

Tuscaloosa Narrow Gauge are included. The Dickson Post Office arrival and departure of mails are posted. A directory of county officials is provided on page three:

T. K. Grigsby County Court Clerk  
W. L. Grigsby Clerk and Master  
R. Ferebee Sheriff  
Allston Myatt Notary Public

J. A. Dodson Circuit Court Clerk  
H. A. Bibb Register  
W. G. McMillen County Superintendent  
Robert Martin Surveyor

H. J. Larkins Coroner



Dickson County Courthouse

R. D. Eubank  
James T. Butler  
Jerome Cording  
B. K. Greer  
Esq. G. Whitfield  
John T. Baker  
Joseph C. Stark  
R. D. Bell  
George H. Nixon

Trustee  
Ranger  
Commissioner of the Poor  
Commissioner of the Poor  
Commissioner of the Poor  
County Court Chairman  
Circuit Court Judge  
Attorney General  
Chancery Court Chancellor

A schedule of various churches is listed. Pastors included in this schedule are: Rev. B. H. Johnson, Methodist Episcopal Church South; Rev. A. G. Parks, Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. W. C. Barnett, Lutheran Church; and Rev. S. P. Thompson, United Presbyterian Church. Local news items containing information about what is happening in Dickson County are contained on page two. Some of these items include:

- T. J. Galloway of Nail's Creek is attending the academy in Dickson
- Mr. A. G. Rickert is erecting a dwelling on North Main Street.
- Mrs. John Neinen, of Nashville, is visiting Mrs. George D. Smith in Dickson.
- W. A. Hutton, of Morrow, Ohio, is visiting his cousin, Joseph N. Hutton.
- J. A. Petty has suffered a relapse and again is confined to bed.
- Miss Leah Sylvis, who has been visiting friends in Nashville, has returned home.
- Davis Goodman found a large sum of money on the railroad and returned it to the rightful owner.
- Mr. Mac Davidson killed a turkey weighing twenty pounds.
- Mr. Thomas Davidson was severely injured when his team ran away with him.
- R. B. Stone and T. S. Curtis, of Cumberland Furnace, left on a business trip to Nashville.
- Mr. James Maley and Mr. W. J. Conant spent a couple of days in Erin, Tennessee
- James Osborn, of Nolensville, was killed when his gun accidentally discharged.

A list of aged people in the Third Civil District includes:

Mr. John Ranie – 91  
Mr. David Frazier – 80

Mrs. David Frazier – 77  
Mr. and Mrs. Huttison, both over 80

News from Hurricane Mills discussed the damage done by a recent "freshet." Farmers were repairing fences, reploting and replanting ground that had been washed over. Damages were estimated at about two thousand dollars.



A meeting of the Dickson Literary Society was reported. The evening was opened with a prayer by Rev. W. C. Barnett. The reading of the minutes was called for, but the secretary had forgotten to bring them, so it was decided to omit them from this meeting. The evening's lecture was entitled "Thoughts upon culture: its means and methods" was enjoyed by the audience and favorably commented on by Revs. Cole, Park, Barnett and McCreary.

A. B. Payne warns that anyone trespassing in any manner whatsoever upon Worley Furnace lands, buildings, or machinery will be prosecuted. An interesting advertisement from E. H. Gelston & Co., Washington, D. C. attorneys, asks soldiers (any disease, wound, or injury), widows, and children to contact them. They state that new laws have been passed which entitle increased pensions for bounty, back pay and honorable discharge.

A list of arrivals at the Alexander House in Dickson includes the following registered visitors:

John B. Crutcher	Nashville	C. W. McKinney	St. Louis, Missouri
W. H. Tomlinson	Nashville	P. E. Springer	Washington, D. C.
Porter Sewell	Nashville	C. T. Morse	New Orleans
W. J. Batts	Nashville	T. J. Kirkman	Waverly, Tennessee
W. O. Jackson	Nashville	J. H. Foshee	Stephenson, Alabama
W. H. Rothchilds	Cincinnati, Ohio	S. D. Power	Ashland City, Tennessee

A "local scribe" for the newspaper laments that local news is just too scarce. He asks why don't some of the young people get married or get up a sensation of some sort so that he will have something interesting to write about.

Page four begins with a somber, four stanza poem on death entitled "Now" by Rose Terry Cooke, reprinted from the Chicago Standard. But majority of the page is filled by something more exciting: the story "Marla's Mistake", by Mary W. Boardman reprinted from a New York paper. The plot revolves around a heartless, womanizing cad who woos a plain spinster with the expected bad result. The spinster prevails in the end and the cad receives his comeuppance as the story closes.

A lengthy article on the proper feeding of domestic animals implores the more intelligent class of farmers to devote greater time and attention to animal husbandry for improved results. A column on markets compares prices of crops and livestock in Cincinnati, New York, Chicago, Baltimore, Louisville, and Indianapolis. The remainder of page four contains advertisements and short articles for general reading from throughout the country.

Surviving copies of the Dickson County Press may be found on microfilm at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. ■



# Middle Tennessee Supreme Court Records

Second Series

Contributed by Betsy Ragsdale and  
Gale Williams Bamman, CG



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Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

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## **Herod's Executors vs Lane, Herod, & Hall**

(Original Bill heard in Smith  
County Circuit Court)

William Herod and Peter Herod, Executors etc of Wm. Herod, dec'd. vs Daniel M. Lane and Maryan His wife, James Herod, Claiborne Hall and Elizabeth Hall his wife.

Be it remembered that heretofore on the 14 November 1836 the following papers in this suit were filed in the office of the clerk of Smith Circuit Court, to wit:...

Be it remembered at the same time of said court the last will and testament of William Herod, Senr., dec'd. was produced in open court for probate and was duly proven in open court by the oaths of Benion[?] P. Lipscomb and Leonard Ballow two of the subscribing witnesses to the same, and on motion ordered to be recorded...

And it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that a paper writing bearing date the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1830 has been established in the circuit court of Smith County, as the last will and testament of

William Herod, Senr. dec'd. as appears by the certificate of William Hart clerk of said circuit court....

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Supreme Court Records, Box 44,  
Middle Tennessee, 1830

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## **Combs and Haynie vs Conner and Dickey**

(Original Bill heard in  
Giles County Circuit Court)

Pleas...between James W. Combs and Thomas B. Haynie plaintiffs and Nancy Young and John Dickey and William Conner guardians of the minor heirs of Nathaniel Young deceased defendants...that on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1827 the plaintiffs by their attorney sued... To the sheriff of Giles County that whereas...James W. Combs and Thomas B. Haynie recovered a judgment against John Young and Charles C. Abernathy as administrators of the estate of Nathaniel Young ... to the heirs of the said Nathaniel Young, deceased that is too say, to Nancy Young widow and heir to the said Nathaniel Young deceased and to John Dickey & William Conner Guardians for Caroline V.[?] Young, Robert Young, Nancy Young, Margaret Young & Felix Young minor heirs of the said

Nathaniel Young, dec'd. [signed]  
Sterling H. Lester, clerk....

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Supreme Court Records, Box 44,  
Middle Tennessee, 1831

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## **Robert Watson vs Samuel Denton & others**

(Original Bill heard in White  
County Chancery Court)

The bill of complaint of Robert Watson of the County of White, and State of Tennessee against Samuel Denton of said County and State, John A. Thomson and Katharine T. Thomson of the County of Green and State of New York, and Mark Spencer and Harriet Spencer wife of the said Mark Spencer of the City and State of New York, devisees of Thomas T. Thomson, dec'd. defendants.

Your orator begs leave to state that the said Thomas T. Thomson now deceased was possessed in and before the year 1820 of a large quantity of land consisting of a number of tracts situate in the said County of White ... on the waters of the Calf Killer and that in about August 1821 the said Thomas T. Thomson departed this life, and the legal title to said land vested in the said defendants John A. Thomson Catharine T. Thomson Mark Spencer, and Harriet Spencer, wife...by the last will and

testament of the said Thomas T. Thomson, dec'd...

[p.31] This indenture the 30<sup>th</sup> October 1814 between Samuel Denton of the City of New York, Merchant, and Mary his wife of the first part, and Thomas T. Thomson of Catskill, in the State of New York, Merchant, of the second part... that for \$8,000.00 ... the parties of the first part...have granted, bargained, sold... all the one undivided half part of all that piece or parcel of land lying and being in the County of White in the State of Tennessee, ... in the western boundary of the township of Manningville... at the northwest corner of the tract of land lately allotted to Thomas Stoven[?] Esqr...

[p. 42] Know ye that we having inspected the records and proceedings remaining in the offices of said surrogate of the County of Greene in the said State of New York, do find there a written Record in the words and figures following to wit:

"In the name of God Amen I Thomas T. Thompson of Catskill in the County of Greene and State of New York...do make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner following: ...I give and devise to my sister Mrs. Maria Barton during her natural life the use and occupation of my farm now in her possession situate in the Town of Brown called the Sta\_\_\_\_[?]. I give and bequeath to my niece Sally Spencer the wife of John B. Spencer, Esquire and to her executors and administrators the sum of one thousand dollars to be paid in one ear after my decease. I give and bequeath to my nephew & nieces Thomas-Alfred-

Emily-Catharine-Harriet-Maria & Frances the children of my said sister Mrs. Barton, the sum of one thousand dollars each to be paid to them respectively as they arrive at the age of twenty-one years...subject to this condition and exception: that they severally release and quit claim to my executors their heirs and assigns in trust for my brother John A. Thompson and my sisters Catharine T. Hand Harriet Thompson their heirs and assigns and for the survivors or survivor of them their heirs and assigns, all their claims, titles, and interests to any part or parts of the estate of my father Doctor Thomas Thomson, late of Catskill, deceased in consideration of their having heretofore received in my opinion, a full equivalent for the same by divers advances and gifts to them by my said father and by me...I give and bequeath to my nieces Julia Antoinette and Charlotte children of my brother James H. Thomson deceased the sum of one thousand dollars each to be paid to them respectively as they arrive to the age of twenty-one years—and lastly, as to all the rest and residue and remainder of my real estate in the State of New York or elsewhere...I give devise and bequeath the same to my brother John A. Thompson and to my sisters Catharine Y.[T.?] Thomson and Harriet Thomson...in equal parts to be divided...And I do hereby constitute and appoint my brother John A. Thomson and my brother-in-law Mark Spencer both of Catskill executors of this my last will and testament...this 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 1821. [signed] Thos. T. Thomson

Witnesses: Thos. A. H. Croswell, Joseph Prentiss, Robert Dorlon. Green County ... 9<sup>th</sup> day of August 1821 before me Dorrance Kirtland surrogate of the said county, personally came Robert Dorlon one of the subscribing witnesses....

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Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

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**John E. Gadsey vs  
William Donaldson & others**

(Original Bill heard in Williamson  
County Chancery Court)

...24<sup>th</sup> February 1837...The bill of complaint of John E. Gadsey, complainant against William Donaldson, Feraby Donaldson and John Donaldson of Davidson County, defts. Humbly complaining sheweth unto your Honor your Orator John E. Gadsey—that in the early part of the year 1832 Lemuel Donaldson departed this life intestate at his residence in Williamson County, Tennessee, leaving a large personal estate consisting of thirty or forty negro slaves—much valuable stock of all kinds, household and kitchen furniture, farming tools, etc. Said intestate left a widow Elizabeth Donaldson and only two children the said defendants Feraby and John Donaldson who are infants without Guardian his heirs and distributes. The said Lemuel owned a large and valuable tract of land and farm in Williamson County whereon he dwelt next before his death which at that even descended to his heirs the said Feraby and John....

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Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

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**Margaret Neal & others vs  
Richard Smith and George Jones**

(Original Bill heard in Maury  
County)

John Doe, lessee of Margaret Neal, James Greer, Thomas J. Greer, Alexander Greer, Andrew Greer, William M. Greer, Zenas Greer, Susan Greer, Susannah Greer, Robert Irwin and also of Robert Irwin and William Rudisill and Abigail M. C. his wife, William H. Neal and Hannah G. his wife, Sarah Amzi S. Alexander, Zenas C. Alexander, Robert M. Alexander, James R. Alexander and Andrew A. Alexander vs Richard F. Smith & George Jones. Eject.

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 at the court house in the Town of Columbia, on the third Monday in October next then and there to answer John Doe, lessee of Margaret Niel and the other plaintiffs in a plea wherefore with force and arms, they broke and entered the close of the said plaintiff and ejected him to his damage \$500.00 herein fail not, and have you them and there this writ.

Witness George M. Martin Clerk of our Circuit Court at office, this third Monday April 1831. [signed] George M. Martin.

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Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1830

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**James Smith's Heirs Lessee vs  
Lanier Watson**

(Original Bill heard in Rutherford  
County Circuit Court)

Be it remembered that on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 1834, the plaintiffs had issued from this office, a writ of summons, in the words and figures following to wit,

State of Tennessee. To the Sheriff of Rutherford County. Greeting: You are hereby commanded to summon Lanier Watson, if to be found in your county, personally to appear before the Judge of our Rutherford County Circuit Court... on the first Monday in April next, to answer John Den lessee of John M Smith, Polly M. Smith, and Lucy E. Smith, minor heirs of James Smith, dec'd. in a plea wherefore with force and arms, he broke and entered the close of the plaintiff and ejected him therefrom, to his damage \$500.00...[signed] W. Ledbetter, Clerk.

I acknowledge myself the above named plaintiff's security in the sum of \$250.00 for his prosecuting the above writ in ejectment against Lanier Watson... this 24<sup>th</sup> March 1834. [signed] Edmund Tennison by Charles Ready.

State of Tennessee, Rutherford County. John Den, lessee of John M. Smith, Polly M. Smith, Lucy E. Smith, minor heirs of James Smith deceased, by attorney, complain of Richard Fen in custody of the sheriff etc., of a plea of trespass with force and arms, for that John M. Smith Polly M. Smith and Lucy

E. Smith, minor heirs of James Smith deceased, by their next friend and guardian Cullan Carter, of the county and state aforesaid....

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Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Solomon Davis, Admr., vs Lucy  
Richardson & others**

(Original Bill heard in Maury  
County)

...Heard before... judges... where-upon after argument had thereon, the court is of opinion that all and singular the slaves and personal property of all kinds mentioned in the fourth clause of the last will of Thomas Richardson, dec'd. was vested by said will absolutely in the said testators wife, the defendant Jane Richardson, and that the said Jane had right and power to dispose of said property in any manner she thought proper...

The question for the consideration of the court in this case arises out of the construction of the will of Thomas Richardson deceased the fourth clause...The fifth clause in the words following: "at her death or marriage if there shall be any property left Jenny, Huldah, Frances and Lucy[?] shall have each of them a feather bed and ten dollars and if there shall be as much my said daughters shall have \$40 each before there is a general division; but after they have gotten \$40 each if there should be anything left that shall be equally divided among all my children." Did the testator intend by this will to vest in his wife an estate for life only or did he intend that she

should have the power during her life time to sell and dispose of the same..."

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Supreme Court Records, Box 56,  
Middle Tennessee, 1837

---

**Parker vs Freeman & 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 the said James M. Parker, residents of Haywood County, Tenn., against Cato Freeman and his wife Patsy, who was the widow and administratrix of Daniel Parker deceased, residents of County of Haywood, and William Gilliam who resides in County of Rutherford.

Complainants humbly show that sometime 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 distributees. At the October term 1815 of the Rutherford County Court Patsy Parker, now Patsy Freeman, took out letters of administration on the estate 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. On the 13<sup>th</sup> of July 1822 a settlement was made with the said Cato & Patsy by commissioners appointed by the County Court in which no account was taken of slaves...

Complainants represent that their father the said Daniel Parker dec'd. some time 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 to the said Patsy and themselves as his only distributes. Said negro woman 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. Said Gilliam pretends to claim said slaves by virtue of a conveyance from the sheriff founded on an execution sale....

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Supreme Court Records, Box 59,  
Middle Tennessee, 1838

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**Robert L. Weakly vs Eleanor  
Linum**

(Original Bill heard in Rutherford  
County Chancery Court)

The bill of complaint of R. Locke Weakly complainant against Elinor Linum and James Linum defendants...

Your Orator Robert Locke Weakly of the County of Rutherford State of Tennessee humbly complaining sheweth that James Linum is indebted to him in the sum of \$465 besides interest due by note on account of execution paid as his security, that on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of August 1835 he applied to Beverly Randolph a justice of the peace for the County of Rutherford for an

attachment against said James for said sum which issued and was levied on the interest of said James on six negro slaves for life, to wit one negro boy named Chesley then about seventeen years of age, George about ten years of age, Fanny about forty five years of age, Thompse[?] about nineteen years of age and her infant child Perline about three years of age, that said attachment was returned to the Rutherford County Court and that afterwards at the November Term 1835 your orator obtained judgment by motion against said James Linum for \$107.07 besides costs... that afterwards an action of detinue was brought in the circuit court of said county against the complainant and the officer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 1835 to recover said slaves....

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Supreme Court Records, Box 59,  
Middle Tennessee, 1838

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**John A. McLin & others vs  
James Bone**

(Original Bill heard in  
Rutherford County)

The bill of complaint of John A. McLin, William E. McLin and James S. McLin, citizens of Rutherford, against James Bone, a citizen of the same county. Humbly complaining your orators shew that their father, Robert McLin was in the year 1833 the owner of two likely negro girls, slaves for life, named Clarissa and Minerva, the first at that time, aged about thirteen years, and the other about eleven years. The said Robert McLin acquired right to said Negroes through his wife the mother of your orators....





# Excerpts from the Diary of John Trotwood Moore

Tennessee Historian and Political Observer

## Part II of a Series

John Trotwood Moore served as the Director of Tennessee's State Library and Archives from 1919 until his death in 1929. His abiding interest in collecting Tennessee history drove him to develop at the State Library the richest store of historical records in Tennessee. He was also a noted author and poet. These excerpts from a diary he kept late in his life, selected by scholar Edward Harcourt, reveal both the complexities of the man himself and his caustic observations.

Dec. 28, 1924

At Ashwood Tenn. Sunday – This is a cold day & getting colder. A.M. paper says it will be coldest yet. down to 8 degrees above. Certainly the last cold spell was enough but here it comes again. I was up early & built all fired but stand around all day. Discussed yesterday with Col J. J. Vertrees,<sup>1</sup> eminent atty here, the perils of race miscegenation as now being developed.... It is an equal bet to my mind that another war or two of white peoples like the last (1914-1918) and the Yellow peoples will own the world.

January 1, 1925

Drizzling cold rain all day. In office but did little except to advise other people how to do their puzzles – literary beginners who don't know how to sell their poems ... book sellers, politicians, preachers and plain punk heads who are hungry for their neglected pedigree. The latter takes half our time – it is pitiful how little the average person knows of his own pedigree (which is the only thing that counts) & their

strenuous efforts when they want to join the various patriotic societies.

January 8 1925

This being Jackson Day I had my hands full. I excused me from speaking to a lot of half-baked school boys at Montgomery Bell – I must conserve my strength & have done too much of it. But at the A.J. Dinner of the Jackson Society at the Hermitage I showed the wonderful letter of Jackson which Mrs. Wilson gave to the State with its wonderful P.S. in which he in the midst of mutiny, sedition & starvation had time to wonder “if little Andrew had got his little Lincoyer and what he thought of him.”<sup>2</sup> I said this letter with this touch of humanity made Jackson greater than Caesar or Bonaparte. There were 240 guests & Gov. McMillin presided.<sup>3</sup> At 12 I assisted the speakers of both Houses ... in placing wreaths on Jackson's statue on the Capital grounds. Speaker Hill of the Senate made a fine talk. Tonight's *Tennessean* I see also copied my

<sup>1</sup> John J. Vertrees (1850-1931), Nashville attorney and vocal opponent of woman suffrage and prohibition. He was a personal friend of President Taft. His pamphlet opposing woman suffrage drew parallels between that issue and the issue of racial equality (*Tennessee Encyclopedia*, 1998).

<sup>2</sup> Lincoyer (Lincoya), a Red Stick Indian child, was taken in by Jackson after the battle of Tallushatchee in 1813. Jackson sent the child home to the Hermitage, where it is believed he died in 1827 (M. James, *Life of Andrew Jackson*, 1940).

<sup>3</sup> Benton McMillin (1845-1933) was a Democrat, member of congress, and from 1899 to 1903 served as governor of Tennessee (*Tennessee Encyclopedia*, 1998).

St. Louis speech at the Jackson banquet there, Jan. 8, 1915 and said "by request." That is perhaps the most vivid picture I ever wrote – it classes with my verses.... I finished today a story of Jackson by request of the editor of the *New York Times*. That is enough Jackson for one day but Great God how little it all is compared to the man!

January 18, 1925

Ruffin, fine old antebellum Democrat, spent Sunday with us. From Covington Tenn., born also in 1858, but unlike me a crank on the Prohibition business, caused by his getting drunk on Christmas egg nog when he was 5 years old & throwing up. Hence, hated it ever since. I call that a conversion by accident and a very sad one. Fine old chap all the same. Lovely cooked a balanced dinner that could not have been raised even at Delmonico's: Two broiled half grown chickens, mashed potatoes, country sausages, black eyes peas, asparagus on cream toast, her unrivaled corn cakes, pickle home-made jelly, rich gravy with chopped liver & gizzards, a pitcher of sweet milk, coffee, egg custards & cream & fruit cake. Beat that if you can ... beat her when you breed her kind again and that is – never more!

January 19, 1925

[Robert E.] Lee's birthday. He was always a little too perfect to get my adulations unrestrained. As a General I do not rate him the greatest, not as great as the unlettered Forrest. It is true he always was on the defensive – the most difficult of all fighting; but then the only time he ever got away from it he was beaten. All great men's bent trails become finally to be idolized and even colossolized – sanctified. So, with Lee, so, with Lincoln. Each is being sanctified according to his worthiness. Lee, the perfect polished gentleman and brilliant Knight Errant fighter. Lincoln just the opposite – the rail splitting, big hearted commoner. After a few more decades neither in the mind of the living will be at all what he was. It is impossible to stop man from making his gods.

At 12 noon [Austin] Peay was inaugurated and read as bold & courageous a message as ever came from any Governor of Tennessee.<sup>4</sup> He is making the fight of his life to put the tax on the frivolities of life, the silk stockings of life and take it off the farmer and the necessities. He'll win! No man ever lost that had to courage to do it.

Jan. 21, 1925

Asked by Gov. & Committee from Chapel Hill to prepare Forrest Memorial School bill, memorial to Forrest in \$25,000 school instead of stone monument. Wire from Mrs. Grant saying she will give \$1,000 to Polk Home in Columbia.

Jan 31, 1925

Beautiful spring day – balmy & sun shining. Snow melted & even the blue birds & red birds are out. Legislature adjourned till Monday – Child Labor & Evolution up – Am opposed to the amendment as now formed. We are centralized enough ... not to fool with giving maybe a foreign-born & [foreign]-thinking Federal Congress of the future the right to govern American homes. We have already had an anthropoidal or negroid President and with an administration the weakest and corrupted that ever tried to administer at Washington.<sup>5</sup> I do not want to add to the power to give the foreign-bred administration (which is sure to come in the future) the right to lay their undemocratic hands on the fireside altars of the Anglo-Saxon.

[Feb 1, 1925]

Showed the Havrons (Dr. Cowen's daughter) 2 acres of land they spoke of trading for – Mrs. H. is my old friend Dr. Cowan's (Tullahoma).<sup>6</sup> Dr. was perhaps closer to Forrest<sup>7</sup> than any of his officers being his

<sup>4</sup> Austin Peay (1876-1927) served as governor from 1923 until his death in 1927. His administration was noted for its progressive fiscal measures and government reforms. (*Tennessee Encyclopedia*, 1998)

<sup>5</sup> Moore was convinced that President Harding was of African-American descent. See Part I of this article.

<sup>6</sup> James B. Cowan, M.D., born in Fayetteville, Tenn., in 1831, was the son of Samuel M. and Jane Clements Cowan. He was educated at the University Medical College in New York. Following his

Chief of Med. staff. Dr. C. went by his side always. He has told me many things never in history. One I remember of how Forrest sent to Bragg's tent after the latter had called off the attack after winning the battle of Chickamauga & kept Forrest's advance from going into Chattanooga. The tale would have been different if Bragg had taken Forrest's advice. When to this lack of generalship he proposed to supercede Forrest with Wheeler (I think) Forrest went to his tent, cursed him for a fool and a coward and dared him to try to carry out his threat. Dr. C. was there and heard it. Now today his daughter told me that after the Yankees killed Willie Forrest, the General's grief and wrath had no bounds. That night as they advanced Forrest (who kept his sword ground to a razor edge) went off by himself into the enemy picket line and returned almost fainting & quite beside himself, handed his bloody sword to Dr. C. & said: "Have it cleaned for me. I have killed three of the damned Yankees behind that log."

Jan. 12, 1925

Lincoln's birthday – many of my friends still belittling him and deny his intuitive native born greatness. They only make asses of themselves. That kind of fool prejudice can only die out with the 3rd generation. We may as well sum it all up and be reconciled to the Fate that made him win and we lose. And neither was the less honest by turn of the die. In a century perhaps the fates will reverse. The Rebel South will save the Union.... Why do I know this? Because Fate being God, sooner or later He balances everything. ■

<sup>6</sup> (cont.) Confederate service he eventually returned to Tennessee, practicing medicine in Nashville and Tullahoma. (*Sketches of Prominent Tennesseans, 1888*)

<sup>7</sup> Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest (1821-1877), Confederate cavalry hero born in Chapel Hill, Tennessee.

*Series to be Continued*

## Queries

**TRUIT:** Looking for info on Alfred Levi TRUIT Jr, born Raleigh NC, 14 Jul 1797, Married Cintha, died Polk Co TN 31 Jan 1862. Dorothy N. Perkins/PO Box 675696/Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067/858-756-1450.

**CARTER/PIPKIN(S):** I am searching for info on the family of George CARTER & wife Nancy/Mary PIPKIN(S). All censuses that I have found show them from Tennessee. George & Nancy & their family left TN prior to 1843 & migrated to Union, Johnson or Pope counties in southern Illinois. Their children were: Robert (b ca 1817), Rachel (b ca 1822), Mary E. (b ca 1829), Edward (Ned) (b ca 1832), Legrand (b 17 Sep 1834) & possibly a James or Jim (born??). Any suggestions or clues would be appreciated. Dewey Carter/540 Hwy 64 West/Beebe, AR 72012-9510/501-882-7729/carter77@centurytel.net.

**OAKES/PAYNE/GARNETT/MEDLEY/SPILLMAN/ARMSTRONG:** In 1877, my father Frank OAKES, & his brother John OAKES (b ca 1864) were orphaned in St Louis. John was placed with maternal relatives named PAYNE & contact was lost between the two. From old letters: 1st generation was William PAYNE (1770-1830) & Avarilla G. PAYNE (living in 1843). Their home was in Mt. Pleasant. Avarilla was dau of Robin GARNETT of VA. Second generation had 12 children with these 7 (all PAYNE) staying in TN: Frances (1793-?) m Ambrose POWELL; Maria (1800-?) m May MEDLEY, lived in Williamson Co.; William G. (1803-?); Lucy G. (1805-?) m Robert SPILLMAN; Oliver G. (1808-?), Robert G. (1810-1861) m Maria TULLOSS, lived in Lewisburg; James Madison (1814-1898) m 1. Sarah ARMSTRONG 2 Mrs Lucy Caroline WRIGHT, lived in Columbia. Seeking descendants of John OAKES, whom I'd love to meet. Seeking PAYNE family (probably 3rd generation) who took in & reared John OAKES. Which family I don't know. I'd like to share family ancestry with any PAYNE family (on PAYNE & GARNETT lines). Paul Oakes/7455. S. W. Kimberly Ct/Beaverton OR 97008.

Bobby Ezell, MTGS Query Editor

# William Washington Seay of Smith County

## A Life Study

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.**

part 3 of a series; concluded

During the course of the war the Seay slaves achieved freedom. Lincoln's emancipation proclamation did not apply in Smith County as, technically, it was within Union lines. Formal emancipation came in Tennessee, by constitutional amendment, in February 1865 but by that date slavery as a system had largely disappeared. Everywhere, slaves ran away, were driven away by owners unwilling to care for them, or were taken away by Union soldiers.<sup>56</sup> William Washington Seay had to witness the loss of a substantial part of his wealth, as blacks declared themselves free and left his plantation.

The demographic consequences of emancipation are revealed in the census of 1870.<sup>57</sup> Several families of blacks using the surname Seay then lived in the town of Lebanon. They would have been former slaves of William Washington or of his brothers Daniel and John. Only two black families resided in close proximity to William Washington Seay's home plantation. Immediately adjacent to it was a black family of seven, headed by a 60 year old man, Pann?, who was described as a hired laborer. Three houses away resided Nick Seay, aged 50, also a hired laborer, with his wife and two children. Nick Seay testified about William Washington Seay's business affairs in more than one lawsuit, not always to the pleasure of his former master. The two black Seay families were headed by men who were very old, by slave standards. These were people who had lived for many years as

part of the Seay plantation family and were too old to support themselves in new lives elsewhere. Gone from the neighborhood were almost all of the young blacks who had made up the large labor force of the antebellum plantation. There were not enough resident laborers to conduct basic farm work. The black women of these families must have worked in the households of William Washington Seay and his son Thomas Jefferson Seay. It was a radically different world from that which existed in 1860, ten years earlier.<sup>58</sup>

At war's end, William Washington Seay had to deal with the consequences of the economic disaster he had sustained and he would spend the rest of his life in court. His long term dealings with S.E. Belcher led to at least three litigations. As soon as courts reopened in 1865 Seay went to court in an attempt to recover from Belcher the Harris estate monies loaned to him and to justify his refusal to accept repayments in the form of Confederate money.<sup>59</sup> Belcher's affairs were in desperate shape, and Seay had signed as his security on several debts. Belcher died in 1866, insolvent, and his creditors brought suit in Wilson County against Seay as his security. Seay filed a counter-suit, denying his liability. By 1869 he had lost the case, and he appealed to the Middle Tennessee Supreme Court. He did not live to see the matter settled, but in 1876 the supreme court ruled against his estate. In all probability his dealings with Belcher resulted in aggregate losses of



more than \$10,000.

The major legal problem that confronted Seay in 1865 was that of the Josiah Stanfield estate. The Stanfield land remained unsold and the payments for the slaves that had been auctioned remained uncollected, as were many of the debts owed the estate. Thomas J. Seay stated that his father had in his Stanfield estate files \$1440 in Confederate money.<sup>60</sup> William Washington Seay was overwhelmed by the complexities of the situation and the Stanfield heirs were disgruntled over their failure to receive their inheritances from what had been, in the 1850s, a very large estate. During 1865 and 1866 Seay worked to settle the thwarted sale of the island and the Sumner County court's clerk worked to collect payment for the slaves that had been sold in 1859. This placed great pressure on Seay, for he and all family members had expected to make their payments from their inheritances. By the end of 1866 Sumner County sued Seay for the \$2250 note, plus interest, he had signed to pay for the slaves his wife had wanted. The issue was a bitter one for Seay. In the first place, the slaves had been freed, and were gone. Seay had purchased them only at his wife's behest, with every expectation that their payment would come from her inheritance from her brother, Josiah Stanfield. In all probability her share of the now substantially reduced Stanfield estate would no longer be sufficient to pay for them. The principal remaining asset of the estate, land, was worth in the post war world perhaps no more than half what it had been in the 1850s. In 1867 the court ordered him to pay almost \$2000 in principal and interest.<sup>61</sup> The case remained in chancery court until after Seay's death and was not settled until 1876 as part of a compromise negotiated by his estate administrator with the Stanfield heirs.<sup>62</sup>

The court's ruling against Seay in October 1867 came at a time when he was wrestling with the losses sustained by the Harris estate that had been under his care, as well as with his losses resulting from the insolvency of the S.E. Belcher estate. He feared for his own solvency and he was desperately worried that his problems could also lead to the ruin of his children and others who had signed as his securities. He took a drastic action to protect them in the event of his failure.

On 15 November 1867 he executed a trust deed to his son Thomas J. Seay for his entire property.<sup>63</sup> Included were 475 acres of land on Round Lick Creek lying in Smith and Wilson Counties, 150 acres in Wilson County, a town lot in Rome, and a 15 acre house and lot in Lebanon. The personal property included five mares and colts, three mules and two jacks, one yoke of oxen, ten head of cattle, ten head of sheep, five sows and pigs, one family carriage, a buggy, ten tobacco screws and fixtures, six beds and bedsteads, one sofa and divan, six parlor chairs, and one two horse thrasher. The deed was made to secure his securities for several named bonds. Although Thomas J. Seay did not have to execute this draconian trust, in the census of 1870 the property continued to be listed in his name, William Washington Seay being recorded as propertyless.<sup>64</sup> At the end of the decade Seay was still struggling to meet his financial obligations and the affairs of the Stanfield estate continued to be at the heart of the problems.

In 1872, well past William W. Seay's death, a compromise was reached by Thomas J. Seay, administrator of his father's estate, and A G Stone, on behalf of the Stanfield heirs. The heirs were to recover \$1000 and costs from the Seay estate. The court stated farther that the heirs of Ann Seay had received their fall share and were not entitled to any farther interest in the estate of Josiah Stanfield.<sup>65</sup> Despite the implication that Seay had obtained and not properly accounted for assets of the estate, it is clear that the entire affair was a costly one for him emotionally and financially. It was one of his major Civil War casualties.

In the late 1860s and early 1870s although William Washington Seay was in his late 60s and early 70s, old for a man of his time, he worked diligently and incessantly at the kinds of activities that had made him wealthy before the Civil War. He was determined to overcome his financial difficulties and to restore at least part of his fortune. He resumed tobacco trading and in May 1873, now seventy two years old, he was in New Orleans selling tobacco and wrote that it would be another month before he could finish his business.<sup>66</sup> He was accompanied by his daughter Eliza and family tradition is that this was one of several trips she made to New Orleans with her father. His age would account

for her presence. He also continued to be a money lender, probably in small amounts.<sup>67</sup> In August 1869 he had to sue to get payment on a \$292 note.<sup>68</sup> And, remarkably, between 1867 and 1872 William Washington undertook the management of five estates. One of these was the estate of Elizabeth, widow of Seay's business associate John H. Bedford.<sup>69</sup> Before it was settled, Seay had to defend himself against charges that he had embezzled funds and prosecute a suit against the McCall heirs which was in litigation for seven years. All of these estate administrations required work and all required tedious litigation. Serving as executor of Jonathan Bailey's will in 1872, Seay unsuccessfully fought a court order forcing the removal of Bailey's fish trap from the Caney Fork River.

William Washington Seay had enjoyed robust health, but following the death of his wife on 20 September 1873, he became ill with the flux. He did not fully recover, lost weight steadily from his normal 200 lbs., and grew more and more feeble. In late February he developed erysipelas, from which ailment he died in the early morning of 24 March 1874.<sup>70</sup> He was buried at home in his family cemetery. At the time of his death his bachelor son, John, and his youngest daughter, Eliza, were still living in his household. His five other living children were married and had families of their own. Thomas and Daniel and daughter Ann Bridgwater lived nearby. Charles lived in Tipton County, Tennessee, and the eldest daughter, Caroline Wallace, lived with her family in Mississippi. There were fourteen living grandchildren.

Seay had written a will which he signed, without witnesses, on 14 March 1866. It was found among his papers after his death and was accepted for probate by the Smith County court. His son Thomas qualified as the estate administrator.<sup>71</sup> A complex document, the will aimed to distribute his assets equally among his children. He specified in exact dollar amounts what each child had received from him when he drew up his will and stated a procedure intended to equalize the inheritance of each child, if his assets were sufficient to do so. His daughter, Cinderiller E. Turner, had died in 1862 leaving one child. William Washington Seay was angry that his son-in-law, Edmund Turner, had refused

to give the child to be reared by the Seays but had placed it in the care of strangers. Consequently he specified that he would give the surviving grandchild none of his estate.

Despite the unresolved financial problems, Seay's bequests would be realized substantially as he had planned them. At the time of his death he had some \$15,000 in bank deposits and bank stock, and \$2,000 in outstanding notes considered good.<sup>72</sup> His children managed to settle the estate without resorting to contentious litigation. In 1876 the family asked the Wilson County chancery court for assistance in making an equitable settlement. The real estate, they believed, could not be partitioned among the heirs, and would have to be sold. The court granted their request.<sup>73</sup> Caroline Wallace wanted to return to Tennessee and she bought Seay's Lebanon town property for \$3000.<sup>74</sup> Daniel bought the town lot in Rome,<sup>75</sup> and Thomas bought the home farm. The personal property had been sold on 15 Oct. 1874 at public sale, as was customary, for about \$2000.<sup>76</sup> Most of the household goods were bought by Eliza and John, who lived in the home place, and some were bought by Ann Bridgwater and Caroline Wallace. The farm implements and equipment were purchased by several neighbors, including a purchase of a reaper and mower by Daniel Webster Seay. There were six horses and three mules sold along with 31 sheep, 26 hogs and about a dozen head of cattle which were sold to various neighbors. While substantial, the Seay farm operation had been greatly reduced from its prewar scale.

The detailed records of William Washington Seay's life establish that he was a successful business man and a highly respected individual in his community. He did not seek fame nor political influence. Nothing suggests that he was imaginative, creative, or intellectually curious. His aim in life was to achieve economic security and to provide for his family. This he did very well. Early in his married life he built a large and beautiful house, which still stands in Smith County.<sup>77</sup> He educated all his children, sending them to live in Lebanon during school term, so that they could attend schools there. One son studied law at Cumberland University, another attended medical school at the University of Nashville. As they came of age, he

attempted to provide land for his sons. His father had done the same for him. Nor did he neglect his daughters. Early in their married life, Caroline Seay's husband, David L. Wallace had financial troubles and mortgaged his property to William Washington Seay.<sup>129</sup> The situation was handled, though not long thereafter the Wallaces moved to Mississippi. There are many evidences of William Washington's support for his daughter Ann's husband, Richard A. Bridgwater. They were partners from time to time in the breeding and selling of mules, one of Bridgwater's principal interests, and the two men obviously got along well.

Very little in the surviving records gives any indication of William Washington Seay's personality.<sup>78</sup> A surviving letter indicates his affection for his

granddaughters and his desire to bring them presents from a trip he made to New Orleans.<sup>79</sup> But his cutting out one granddaughter from his will because of his anger at her father's rejection of his offer to rear the orphaned child showed him capable of being mean spirited. On balance he must have been a reasonably personable individual, probably a cut above average. That appears to have been the case with his whole life. By no means an important personage in Tennessee history, he was representative of the solid citizenry that was the backbone of the Tennessee gentry. A recognized leader in his local community and a responsible family man, he was never ahead of his time but was always a steadfast part of his time. His children were deservedly proud of their father's life. ■

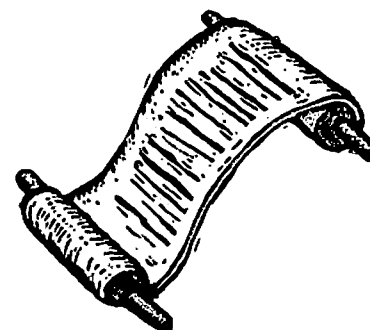
## Notes

■<sup>56</sup> Stephen V. Ash, *Middle Tennessee Society Transformed 1860-1870* (Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State Univ. Press, 1988), chap VI, tells vividly how this process worked itself out between 1861 and 1865 in Middle Tenn. ■<sup>57</sup> The Seay family listings are in the census of 1870 in District 12 of Smith County. Nearby, in District 8 of Wilson County, lived Wm. Washington Seay's nephew, Wm. Wesley Seay. Two black families lived next to him, one headed by a male aged 60, the other a male aged 45. The pattern is the same as that found in Wm. Washington Seay's neighborhood. ■<sup>58</sup> Emma Bridgwater Thomson remembered one former slave, at least, who returned more than once to visit her family. She called him by name (a name I can't recall) with at least a trace of affection mixed with a somewhat argumentive tone that attempted to show that slaves had been treated decently by her family. ■<sup>59</sup> Deposition of J. P. Seay in case of Seay vs. F. H. Gordon, Middle Tenn. Supreme Court #264, TSLA. ■<sup>60</sup> Sumner County Chancery Court Loose Records #10751. ■<sup>61</sup> Smith County Chancery Court Minute Book 1860-1867, 525. The court delayed execution of its decree until January 1868. ■<sup>62</sup> Smith County Chancery Court Minute Book 1871-1874, 223, 573; Minute Book 1874-1878, 152, 273. ■<sup>63</sup> Wilson County Trust Deed Book NN, 625-626. ■<sup>64</sup> Smith County U. S. Census 1870, District 12, page 1. T. J. Seay's real estate was valued at \$16,250, his personal property at \$865. His household was next to his father's. J. P. Seay lived in his father's household and had personal property valued at \$1800. ■<sup>65</sup> Sumner County Chancery Court Loose Records #10751. During this trial T.J. Seay had pled that his father had been to an enormous amount of trouble in the affairs of the Stanfield estate and was entitled to \$1500 in compensation. ■<sup>66</sup> Letter to Ann Bridgwater dated 3 May 1873. Photocopy in my possession. ■<sup>67</sup> In December 1865 he and J. P. Seay and R. A. Bridgwater had received \$2458 in notes for some Wilson County land on which they had held a mortgage since 1859. Surviving evidence of money transactions thereafter were for much smaller amounts. Wilson County Trust Deed Book MM, 458-460; Trust Deed Book NN, 460. ■<sup>68</sup> James B. Ward vs. Wm. Manning, et al, 1869. Smith County Chancery Court Loose Records #3318. ■<sup>69</sup> Smith County Chancery Court Minute Book 1860-1867, 447; Wilson County Chancery Book 1874-1875, 536-552 cited in *PasHow's Abstracts*, 149. ■<sup>70</sup> Eliza V. Seay to Charles Hinton Seay, 1 April 1874, in Kirby Seay, *Here Lies John Seay*. 163-164. ■<sup>71</sup> <http://rootsweb.com/~tnsmith/tngen/wwseaywill.htm> ■<sup>72</sup> Smith County Inventories. C, 259. May 6, 1874 ■<sup>73</sup> Wilson County Chancery Enrolling Book 1876-1877, 159-163. ■<sup>74</sup> Wilson County Deed Book LL, 313-314. 8 Nov. 1875. ■<sup>75</sup> Smith County Deed Book 3, 451-452. 1 Jan. 1877. ■<sup>76</sup> Smith County Inventories C, 350-354. ■<sup>77</sup> Kathryn F. Dickens, "New Orleans Style Brought to Jennings Fork," *Smith County Historical and Genealogical Society Quarterly Newsletter*, II (Winter 1989-1990), 8-14. ■<sup>78</sup> There is one fascinating record in December 1870 of Wm. Seay being arrested for disturbing public worship. A grand jury returned a presentment, the case was postponed in March owing to Seay's illness, and settled in July with a dismissal. Sureties Daniel Seay and C. H. Knight signed the \$500 bond. My conclusion is that the individual charged was Wm. Washington Seay's nephew Wm. Wesley Seay, son of Daniel. C. H. Knight and Daniel Seay's being sureties is my main reason for this conclusion. Wm. Wesley Seay's wife's name was A. Knight. Smith County Circuit Court Minute Book C, 55, 98, 184. ■<sup>79</sup> "tell Nanny I bought her trunk today a good one of the kind will hold all of her finery well. Tell Emmy it is her turn next." Wm. Washington Seay to Ann Marthenius Bridgwater, New Orleans, May 3, 1873. Photocopy of letter in my possession. ■

# Davidson County Tax List 1812

## *An Enumeration of Free Taxable Inhabitants*

### **Part II of a Series**



In November 1811 the Tennessee legislature ordered that the Justices of the Peace in every county submit a list of the names of the “free taxable inhabitants” living in their district. In effect, this created a census of free white males between the ages of 21 years old and 50. Older men were exempt from paying a poll tax (also called a head tax) at that time. The Davidson County list has survived and is on file at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. It is especially helpful for genealogists because there is no 1810 census for the county.

For more information about this list and its potential usefulness, see the introduction published with the first installment in the Winter 2003 issue.

#### **Capt. Criel's Company**

Bondurant, Edward  
Booker, Richard  
Bosley, James R.  
Bosley, John  
Bradshaw, Thomas  
Briant, John  
Brooks, William  
Brown, John  
Brown, Samuel  
Butler, Robert  
Camp, John H.  
Casselman, John Jr.  
Casselman, John Sr.  
Casselman, Joseph  
Cassleman, Benjamin  
Cassleman, David  
Cassleman, Henry  
Cherry, Eli  
Cook, Joseph  
Cowgill, Abner  
Cowgill, Henry  
Cowgill, John  
Creel, William  
Criel, Wm. (Capt.)  
Cunningham, Josiah  
Dodson, Allen  
Dodson, Elijah  
Dodson, Timothy  
Donelson, Alexander  
Donelson, Alexander Sr.  
Donelson, John Jr.  
Donelson, John Sr.  
Donelson, Lemuel  
Donelson, Leven

Donelson, Severn  
Donelson, Severn  
Dowlin, John  
Earheart, Jacob  
Earheart, Jacob  
Earheart, Moses  
Earheart, Philip  
Fields, John  
Glaves, Absalom  
Gleaves, Michael  
Gleaves, Thomas  
Hagan, George  
Hammond, Eli (J.P.)  
Hayes, Hugh  
Hays, Campbell  
Hays, Robert  
Holt, Joseph  
Humphries, James  
Jackson, Andrew  
Jameson, James  
Jones, Richard H.  
Madden, Elisha  
Mann, Robert  
McDaniel, Clement  
McGregor, Flowers  
McNeel, John  
Melvin, Edmond  
Melvin, Thomas  
Melvin, William  
Mitchel, Benjamin  
Napier, John  
Nucomb, Joseph  
Nucomb, William  
Overton, Thomas  
Owens, Arthur

Owens, Purnell  
Pannell, John  
Pinkley, Frederick  
Rucker, Henry T.  
Sanders, Frances  
Sanders, Franklin  
Sanders, Harris  
Sanders, John  
Sanders, William  
Scott, Samuel  
Shane, John  
Shaw, John  
Shouse, Joseph  
Smith, John  
Strain, Moses  
Stuart, William  
Tate, John  
Tate, Richard  
Tate, William  
Tate, Zedekiah  
Ward, Edward  
Ward, John  
Ward, William C.  
Watson, Thomas  
Wilson, Philip  
Wilson, William  
Wilson, William  
Wright, Charles Jr.  
Wright, Charles Sr.  
Wright, Hollis

**Capt. Birdwell's  
Company**  
Bashaw, Benjamin  
Bashaw, Peter,

Beasey, Isaac  
Beasey, James T.  
Biggs, Rubin  
Birdwell, (Capt.)  
Birdwell, George  
Birdwell, Isaac  
Boils, Barnabas  
Boils, John  
Branch, Benjamin  
Buchanon, Linear  
Chumbly, Joseph  
Clay, John  
Coldwell, William Jr.  
Coldwell, Wm. Sr.  
Craddock, William  
Cridle, John  
Drake, Isaac  
Duffield, John  
Earheart, David  
Earheart, Elijah  
Elmore, Christopher  
Ewing, Alexander  
Ewing, James  
Farmbrough, Stuart  
Harper, Britain  
Homes, Thomas  
Hooper, Joseph  
Jackson, William  
Johnston, Stephen  
Love, Jos. (J.P.)  
Love, Joseph  
Love, Samuel  
Ozbourn, Thomas  
Page, Absalom  
Page, John



Page, Vincent  
 Parham, William  
 Parker, David  
 Parker, Jesse  
 Parker, Thomas  
 Patterson, John  
 Patterson, Mathew  
 Razier, Christian  
 Read, Jones  
 Redding, Alford  
 Redding, Augustus  
 Redding, Robert  
 Richy, William  
 Shivers, Thomas  
 Short, William  
 Taylor, Robert  
 Taylor, Thomas Jr.  
 Taylor, Thomas Sr.  
 Wallace, William  
 White, Stephen  
 Wilson, John  
 Yarbrough, James  
 Young, Daniel  
 Young, John L.

**Capt. Campbell's  
 Company**

Adams, Martin  
 Adams, Robert  
 Alford, John  
 Austin, Joseph  
 Barker, Labon  
 Barker, Lemon  
 Barnes, Henry  
 Beaty, David  
 Beaty, William  
 Bell, George  
 Bell, Shederick  
 Bradford, John  
 Brodenax, Thomas  
 Brown, Nathaniel  
 Brown, Thomas  
 Bumpass, William  
 Campbell, Alexander  
 Campbell, Frances  
 Campbell, Philip  
 Campbell, Philip (Capt.)  
 Cartright, David  
 Cartright, Robert  
 Casselman, Andrew  
 Casselman, Sylvanus  
 Coats, John  
 Cobler, Christopher  
 Cobler, Harris

Cobler, Harvey  
 Cobler, Nicholas  
 Coldwell, Joseph  
 Cooper, James  
 Cotton, Allen  
 Cox, Thomas  
 Curtis, Joshua  
 Curtis, Nathaniel  
 Davis, Turner  
 Dickson, William  
 Dunn, Michael C.  
 Ewing, Nathan  
 Garrett, Morris  
 Garrett, Thomas  
 Goodman, John  
 Harris, William  
 Hart, Robert W.  
 Holder, Solomon  
 Howlett, William  
 Johnston, Armstead  
 Johnston, George  
 Johnston, Robert  
 Johnston, Robt. (J.P.)  
 Linear, Benjamin  
 Lucas, Andrew  
 Lucas, John  
 Malone, Thomas  
 Mathews, Richard  
 Maxwell, Jesse  
 McCrary, Hugh  
 McCutchen, John  
 McEwing, James  
 McEwing, John  
 Murdock, John  
 Nelson, Jarret  
 Nicholson, William  
 Overton, John  
 Overton, Samuel  
 Phelps, Josiah  
 Pipkin, Philip  
 Randolph, Peter  
 Sappington, Roger B.  
 Scales, Joseph  
 Smith, Sion  
 Smith, Thomas  
 Sturdivant, Lewis  
 Tait, David  
 Tatum, Nathaniel  
 Thomas, William  
 Wharton, Jesse  
 Wharton, John  
 Williams, Bennet  
 Wilson, Andrew

**Capt. McCormack's  
 Company**

Binkley, Adam  
 Binkley, Adam Sr.  
 Binkley, Frederick  
 Binkley, Peter  
 Bow?, Bartlett  
 Boyt, Thomas  
 Boyt, William  
 Cagle, Charles  
 Cagle, John  
 Canney, John  
 Canney, William  
 Crain, Thomas  
 Daniel, Basdel  
 Daniel, Benton  
 Daniel, Jeremiah  
 Demumbrun, Felix  
 Doudge, Peter  
 Dull, Nicholas  
 Duncan, John  
 Dural, Joseph  
 Duren, Daniel  
 Etheldridge, David S.  
 Felts, George  
 Felts, Roland  
 Felts, Thomas  
 Felts, William  
 Gower, Alexander  
 Gower, Elisha  
 Gower, Robert  
 Gower, Russell  
 Green, Charles  
 Hail, John  
 Hail, Thomas  
 Hail, William  
 Hunter, Manuel  
 Huppen, John  
 Lee, Braxton  
 Lee, Braxton (J.P.)  
 Lee, Henry  
 Lee, John Jr.  
 Lee, John Sr.  
 Lee, Lewis H.  
 Levi, Thomas  
 Lutgert, John  
 Manness, Lewis  
 Manness, Thomas  
 McCormack, George  
 McCormack, Jno. L.  
 (Capt.)  
 McCormack, John L.  
 McCormack, William  
 Millen, Frederick

Moss, Benjamin  
 Peland, Elisha  
 Prock, Mathias  
 Reddin, Augustus  
 Reddin, Augustus Jr.  
 Simmon, William  
 Speller, Elijah  
 Stuart, Charles  
 Tippey, Abraham  
 Wiley, William  
 Young, Nicholas

**Capt. Bell's Company**

Allen, Benjamin  
 Allen, John  
 Bell, (Capt.)  
 Bell, James  
 Bell, John  
 Bell, Robert  
 Bell, Samuel  
 Bell, Thomas  
 Bell, William  
 Bibby, William  
 Blair, James  
 Boswell, Hosea  
 Boswell, Miles  
 Browns, Wadkins  
 Buchanan, Robert  
 Buchanan, Thomas  
 Burnett, Henry  
 Burnett, Joseph  
 Campbell, James  
 Charton, Washington  
 Collinsworth, Edmond  
 Crenshaw, Freeman  
 Cropper, William  
 Crutchfield, Charles  
 Evens, Bird  
 Ezell, Jeremiah  
 Felts, Cary (J.P.)  
 Finney, Andrew  
 Finney, James  
 Finney, William  
 Fly, Jesse  
 Glasgow, James  
 Golden, Thomas  
 Gowen, John  
 Gowen, William  
 Hails, Linton  
 Ham, Yancy B.  
 Hamilton, George  
 Hamilton, George  
 Hamilton, James  
 Harberson, John

Harmon, John  
 Hartman, George  
 Hays, Charles  
 Hays, William  
 Howel, James  
 Joiner, Charton  
 Joiner, Levi  
 Jones, Moses  
 Joyce, Thomas  
 Matlock, William  
 McClendon, Dennis  
 McCombs, Alexander  
 McLaughlin, William H.  
 Mize, Henry  
 Moore, John  
 Moore, Richard  
 Murphey, William  
 Neal, Thomas  
 Orr, Rober[t]  
 Sanders, Frances  
 Seat, Henry  
 Seat, Joseph  
 Seat, William P.  
 Seate, Green  
 Seate, Joseph  
 Shelly, William  
 Shelton, Godfrey  
 Sluder, John  
 Smith, Joseph  
 Taylor, Joseph  
 Todd, Samuel  
 Vaulx, Daniel  
 Way, Nathaniel  
 Webber, Seth  
 White, Asa  
 White, Henry Sr.  
 White, Henry Sr.  
 White, Robert  
 White, Thomas  
 Williams, Littleberry  
 Wright, George  
 Wright, James  
 Wright, Joseph  
 Wright, Peter  
 Wright, William  
 Wright, William  
 Zachery, Caleb

**Capt. Rogers' Company**  
 Abernatha, David  
 Abernatha, Laban Jr.  
 Abernatha, Laban Sr.  
 Adcock, Henry  
 Anderson, William

Blair, John  
 Blythe, John G.  
 Boner, Henry  
 Brown, John  
 Cagle, George  
 Cain, Mastain  
 Carney, Elisha  
 Carney, Vincent  
 Cato, Job  
 Cavender, Stephen  
 Chumbley, Joseph  
 Clayton, Frederick  
 Cleaver, William  
 Cleaves, John  
 Coldwell, David  
 Coldwell, William  
 Coldwell, William  
 Counselman, John  
 Craddock, William  
 Criddle, John  
 Crosslow, James  
 Daniel, Edward  
 David, William  
 Dillard, John B.  
 Douglass, Alexander  
 Douglass, Henry  
 Douglass, Thomas  
 Douglass, William  
 Drake, Benjamin [Sr.]  
 Drake, Benjamin Jr.  
 Drake, Isaac  
 Drake, Jesse  
 Drake, John  
 Drake, Jonathan  
 Drake, William  
 Earthman, Isaac  
 Earthman, Lewis  
 Elmore, Christopher  
 Evans, William  
 Evin, David C.  
 Ewing, Alexander  
 Ferguson, Olly  
 Fewqua, William  
 Fisher, Frederick  
 Fowler, Daniel  
 Fox, James  
 Garrett, Martin  
 Garrison, Elijah  
 Gentry, Claiborne  
 Gentry, John  
 Gilbert, William  
 Gingrich, Henry  
 Glenn, James  
 Goldsberry, Henry

Gray, Joseph  
 Green, Littleton  
 Green, Thomas  
 Hail, Meshack  
 Harrington, Peter  
 Harris, Cuddy  
 Heaton, Robert  
 Holstian, Westley  
 Homes, William  
 Hudnell, William  
 Johnston, Jeffrey  
 Johnston, John D.  
 Jones, William  
 Lester, Alexander  
 Linear, Buchanan  
 Linn, John  
 Linn, Thomas  
 Lock, Joseph  
 Lovell, Thomas  
 Lowrey, Nelson  
 Manly, Cornelius  
 McCormack, Lawrence  
 McDaniel, Roger  
 McIver, Augustus  
 Merryman, William  
 Miller, Frederik  
 Miller, John  
 Morgan, Levy  
 Mosier, John  
 Murrell, William  
 Nowlin, Abraham  
 Pace, Also  
 Parham, William  
 Parradice, William  
 Razer, Christian  
 Read, Jones  
 Richey, William  
 Ridge, William  
 Rogers, (Capt.)  
 Shield, John  
 Shivers, Jonas  
 Short, William  
 Skinner, John  
 Smith, Benjamin  
 Smith, Jesse  
 Stump, Christopher  
 Stump, Christopher (J.P.)  
 Stump, Frederick  
 Stump, John  
 Tate, Zenes  
 Tull, Nicholas  
 Turner, William  
 Waggoner, Christopher  
 Waggoner, Cornelius

Waggoner, Jacob  
 Waggoner, John  
 Wallace, William  
 Wallace, William Jr.  
 Warden, John  
 Watkins, Noel  
 Wells, David  
 White, Stephen  
 Whitiker, Mark  
 Yarbrough, James  
 Young, Daniel  
 Young, John L.

**Capt. McAdams Company**  
 Baker, William  
 Basey, Lewis  
 Bates, Robert  
 Betts, Zacheriah  
 Bezer, Peter  
 Blake, John  
 Booth, Andrew  
 Booth, Henry Jr.  
 Booth, Henry Sr.  
 Bowers, Lemuel  
 Bowers, William P.  
 Boyd, John  
 Byrn, Charles  
 Byrn, James Jr.  
 Byrn, James Sr.  
 Byrn, William  
 Campbell, George  
 Campbell, William  
 Carter, Lewis  
 Cartright, Thomas  
 Congo, James  
 Congo, John  
 Cook, Joel  
 Cook, Ruben  
 Cook, Willie  
 Cooper, Charles  
 Crossway, Nicholas  
 Darris, Robert  
 Darris, Thomas  
 Davis, Andrew  
 Davis, Blackemore  
 Davis, Isaac  
 Dismukes, John  
 Dismukes, Paul  
 Donelson, William  
 Donelson, Wm. (J.P.)  
 Dorris, Levi  
 Dorris, Shaven  
 Dorris, William

Drake, Joshua  
 Ekles, Abraham  
 Fenning, Lemuel  
 Foster, William  
 Gilbreath, John  
 Glasgow, Jesse  
 Gulliford, James  
 Hackney, Jesse  
 Hackney, William  
 Harrison, Richard  
 Herrin, Abemilech  
 Herrin, Beverly  
 Highbanks, William  
 Hooser, Jacob  
 Lasiter, Frederick  
 Logue, Carnes  
 Logue, David  
 Logue, Manassa  
 Manning, Ephriam  
 Mathis, Allen  
 McAdams, Wm. R.  
 McAdams, Wm. R. (Capt.)  
 McCormack, Andrew  
 McCormack, George  
 McCormack, John  
 McLean, Laughlin  
 Moore, Edwin  
 Orr, John  
 Owen, William  
 Parham, Ephriam  
 Payne, George  
 Payne, Green  
 Payne, Greenwood  
 Payne, Joseph  
 Payne, Ruben  
 Payne, Squire  
 Perry, George  
 Perry, Joseph  
 Pirtle, George

Pirtle, John  
 Powel, Dempsey  
 Powel, Thomas  
 Ragan, Benjamin  
 Ragan, Thomas  
 Randal, Aquilla  
 Randal, Greenberry  
 Reeder, Isaac  
 Rice, Jephtha  
 Sparkman, Thomas  
 Underwood, John  
 Walker, Elmore  
 Watson, William  
 Watts, William  
 Willard, John  
 Williams, Hugh  
 Williams, Joseph  
 Williams, William  
 Williamson, James

**Capt. Winfrey's  
 Company**

Allen, Carter  
 Allen, Henry S.  
 Allen, Mathew  
 Ballew, William  
 Birdwell, George  
 Birdwell, Hugh  
 Birdwell, Isaac  
 Blankenship, Gad  
 Brackin, John  
 Cayce, Shederick  
 Chapman, John  
 Clemons, Isaac  
 Clemons, James  
 Coss, Samuel M.  
 Dismukes, Daniel  
 Dotson, John  
 Edgar, Samuel

Everett, Simeon  
 Ferguson, Alexander  
 Ferguson, William  
 Gamble, Edmond  
 Gamble, Edmond (J.P.)  
 Gamble, James H.  
 Harmon, Richard  
 Harris, Archibald H.  
 Harris, Moody  
 Hinton, Jeremiah  
 Hobson, John  
 Hobson, William  
 Hudgins, Edward  
 Hudgins, James  
 Hudgins, William  
 Hudson, Isaac  
 Hudson, William  
 Jackson, William  
 Johnston, Oliver  
 Kerr, Hugh  
 Kurff, Joseph  
 Logue, Ezekiah  
 Maury, James  
 Maury, William  
 Maxey, Bennet  
 Maxey, James  
 Maxey, John  
 Maxey, William  
 McDowel, Alexander  
 McKay, Francis  
 McKay, William  
 McKay, William Jr.  
 McRead, James P.  
 Miles, Thomas  
 Moore, James B.  
 Moore, John  
 Nash, William  
 Nichols, John  
 Parker, David

Parker, Isham A.  
 Parker, John C.  
 Patterson, Benjamin  
 Patterson, Thomas  
 Perkins, Abraham  
 Perkins, David  
 Perkins, Washington  
 Perkins, William  
 Philips, John  
 Philips, William  
 Pride, John  
 Pully, David  
 Robinson, John  
 Scott, William  
 Smith, George  
 Starkey, Abraham  
 Stull, Zacheriah  
 Vaughn, David  
 Vaughn, Paul  
 Weakley, Robert  
 Weakley, Samuel  
 Weaver, Craven  
 Welles?, Amos  
 Welles?, William  
 Williams, Elisha  
 Williams, Elisha  
 Williams, Josiah  
 Williams, William  
 Willis?, Amos  
 Willis?, William  
 Winfrey, (Capt.)  
 Winfrey, Valentine  
 Yates, Henry F.D. ■

*(To be continued...)*

## A Smith County Marriage Notice

**MARRIED**

On Wednesday evening, the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst., by L.D. Ballow, Esq.,  
 Mr. Thomas Sanderson to Miss Mary F. Wilkinson, all of this county.

*(From the Carthage Casket, Oct. 1, 1847)*

# Full Name and Place Index

## MTGS Journal

### Volume XVI, 2002-2003

*Indexed by Juanita Patton*

#### Introduction to the Index

We believe that every genealogical work should provide an every-name index in the fourth issue of each volume of the *Journal*. This index includes names, places and subjects. Pagination of Volume XVI began with page 1 in the Summer 2002 issue and continued through this issue. The following notes prepared during the indexing process will be helpful to the reader.

- Individuals identified in the text as "slaves" are indexed under that heading.
- Names beginning with M', Mc, and Mac appear as if all started with Mac.
- If the maiden name of a female is known, she is listed under both her married and maiden names.
- Military units are indexed under that heading.
- Rivers, creeks, and springs are indexed under Waterways.
- Cemeteries are indexed under Cemetery.
- (n) indicates an entry in the notes on the page cited.
- (auth) indicates that the person is the author of an article or a book reviewed.
- (cont'r) indicates that the person contributed the article to the *Journal*.

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### State Library and Archives to Close on Saturdays beginning July 1, 2003

Unofficial word from the Tennessee State Library and Archives is that state budget cuts will necessitate a 30% reduction in the hours the facility is open for research. Staff members have informed library patrons that this decision was reached during legislative budget hearings and will take effect July 1<sup>st</sup>.

In a move which will make the budget cut very difficult for genealogists and other taxpayers, the Library and Archives will be closed on Saturdays, the busiest day of their week. In addition, weekday hours will be trimmed back to 4:30 from the present 6:00 closing.

Some members of the staff theorize that by cutting the only hours when members of the public can gain easy access to the building (due to inadequate parking during office hours), the administration hopes to create a climate where citizens will demand that funds be restored to the library. Closing on a weekday, when fewer users normally visit, would be far less noticeable.

Although no library employees will lose their jobs, some will be reassigned to other vacant positions under the Secretary of State's office. In addition, the Library and Archives will suffer another year with little-to-no funding for purchases of books and materials.

Genealogists who wish to contact the person responsible for the decision to close on Saturdays should call or write Secretary of State Riley Darnell, Tennessee State Capitol Building, Nashville, TN 37243-0312. Telephone (615) 741-2819, or e-mail [Riley.Darnell@state.tn.us](mailto:Riley.Darnell@state.tn.us).



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