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Volume XVIII, Number 3
Winter 2005

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

Edmondson Pike Branch Library
5501 Edmondson Pike
just north of Old Hickory Blvd.
at Nippers Corner

Check our website for any changes
www.mtgs.org

Jan. 15, 2005

"Members Show & Tell"

This popular annual event is just the thing for interested family historians who want to share their most interesting heirlooms and artifacts, plus a tale or two about their own genealogical adventures. Bring the bullet they took out of Uncle Ned or Aunt Sookie's wedding ring and share the stories that go with them!

Mar. 19, 2005

"Southern Baptist Genealogical Resources"

Bill Sumners

Genealogical resources abound in The Southern Baptist Historical Archives in Nashville. Learn about this facility and its sources, the nature of Baptist church records, and many other sources that can assist family historians. Mr. Sumners is Director & Archivist.

May 21, 2005

"Hermitage Heritage: Behind the Big House"

Marsha Mullin & Elizabeth Kellar

Genealogical and archaeological insights reveal the slave family life and culture at Andrew and Rachel Jackson's Hermitage plantation. Research has brought to light the family ties, social bonding, and daily activities of the Jackson slave community. Ms. Mullin is Chief Curator and Dr. Kellar is Chief Archaeologist.

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

Middle Tennessee

Journal of Genealogy & History

Volume XVIII, Number 3, Winter 2005

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**Middle Tennessee Journal
of Genealogy & History**

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Charles A. Sherrill

Contributors to this issue

Gale Williams Bamman

Thomas K. Potter, Jr.

Betsy Ragsdale

Peggie Sides

Carolyn Smotherman

Shirley Wilson

From the Editor. . .

Dear Readers:

Someone told me that they started genealogy as a hobby years ago, and had "stuck to it like a hair in a biscuit." I think I'm just as stuck!

A new selection of articles awaits you in this issue. Among them are an excellent example of using oral history to begin telling a family's story, and fleshing it out with other sources. Thomas Potter's article about his wife's family's flight from the Russian army is compelling and instructive. Don't miss the footnotes for this article, as they are a veritable 'here's how' for this type of research.

Carolyn Smotherman shares information from an old ledger she came across while helping write a history of her community in Williamson County.

An 1819 petition from Humprheys Countians seeking help for a peddler with "the white swelling" leaves many questions unanswered, but does provide us with a very early list of residents in the area.

And don't miss the 'centerfold' information about the National Genealogical Society conference coming to Nashville in June. What a great opportunity for all of us to hear genealogical speakers of the highest caliber and learn about new research techniques and sources.

Your comments (and articles) are always welcome!

Chuck Sherrill
Journal Editor

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Yearly memberships include four issues of the *Middle Tennessee Journal of Genealogy & History*. Make check or money order payable to MTGS. 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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A Tribute to Byron Sistler (1921—2004)

*Portions of this article will also appear in the January issue of
the National Genealogical Society's NewsMagazine.*

The genealogical community has lost one of its publishing leaders with the death of Byron Sistler, 83, of Nashville, Tennessee. Founder of Byron Sistler & Associates in 1969, he and his wife, Barbara, were known for the abstracting, indexing and publishing of early census and court records. He died 26 November 2004, after a lengthy illness.

A native of Illinois with Tennessee roots, Byron served a tour of duty, stateside, during WWII, and with the GI Bill earned a master's degree in history from the University of Chicago. He spent several years in insurance, but interest in family history led him eventually to the 1830 census of Tennessee and the difficulty of reading and interpreting the entries. The result was his 1969 compilation of the 1830 East Tennessee census, and marked the beginning of a successful 35-year industry.

Byron moved to Nashville in 1978 with his wife Barbara, their son Sam (now 33), and the four children Barbara brought to their marriage. The genealogical publishing business became a family affair. In all they published over 200 titles, including the 1830 through 1880 Tennessee censuses, early marriages, wills and administrations, and the 1850 Kentucky census. With son Sam's entry into the business, important titles on the War of 1812, Tennessee land grants, and Tennessee Confederate pensions were added. The Sistlers also became book-sellers of other southern genealogical works, encouraging publishing and scholarship in genealogy.



Byron as a child, with his family

All the children were involved in the home-owned and operated business. The news page of their catalog sometimes advised watching for peanut butter on the mailings. It made for an interesting lifestyle. In Barbara's words:

Byron was a very special person as a husband, friend and father. It's not everyone who can take on four stepchildren, have yet another child (that's Sam) and raise them all alike. Not every man can work at home

amiably with his wife for 30 years. Oh, sure, there were words, but never anything ugly.

Even through the last years of Alzheimer's, he kept his sense of humor and a pleasant disposition. He could still tell you the year of the great Chicago fire and the name of the first Bears coach. He couldn't remember that I had visited the day before, but he always knew who I was, for which I was truly grateful. I will miss him.

In time, Byron added research to his ever-growing business. A 'regular' at the Tennessee State Library and Archives, his anecdotes and dry humor at first startled and then amused the staff and other patrons. He delighted in making outrageous statements just to see if he would be taken seriously. Librarian Fran Schell recalls:

One especially busy Saturday I called Byron at home to tell him not to bother coming to the Archives: no microfilm readers, no seats, long lines at the copiers. He said in surprise, "Well, that was nice of you!" I told him, "I just don't want to listen to you complain." He hooted with laughter.

Once, after Byron became ill, I heard Sam mention the 'family business,' and it struck me that Sistler & Associates is more than a business. It's an institution, and one, perhaps THE one, that has made it possible for millions of ordinary people to know their ancestors. I personally have witnessed the delight, the pride, the tears expressed by countless researchers at these very personal discoveries. Such gifts are not given by a mere 'business.'

Fellow genealogist Gale Bamman remembers his unselfishness:

When my niece Debbie Spero and I published some early county court records, he offered access to his customer files from which to select names of prospective buyers to whom we could send our flyers. This he did, knowing he would be selling our book for us, once we'd sold all we could ourselves. He essentially gave us his own profits. He did warn me sternly not to touch a specific switch while he and Barbara were out playing racquetball, as it would shut down the processing of their previous day's work. I made sure I stayed an entire room away!

He has to be described as a character. He was unique; and I believe he knew it. He often shocked me with remarks such as "Where DID you get that dress?" or, "You sure look better today than you did yesterday!" Eventually I realized he was baiting me. It was his way of having fun.

Genealogist Shirley Wilson, a founder of the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, has colorful memories of Byron:

In the formative years of MTGS, Byron was asked to lend his 'prestigious' name to the first board of



Byron in uniform, WWII

directors. He called to ask me what I thought. I told him that later on he could "rest on his laurels," but that now MTGS needed him. Over the years he was asked to do other tasks for the Society. He always grumbled a bit and then complied happily, with his usual efficiency. Later, when he accepted the MTGS presidency, I congratulated him. He smiled and said, "When is it I get to 'rest on my laurels'?" Now, Byron, you can rest on your laurels - and they are many.

Chuck Sherrill remembers asking Byron if he would be the guest of honor at a lunch with a group of genealogists visiting the State Library & Archives from Cleveland, Tennessee. "Why would anyone want to have lunch with me?" Byron asked in genuine astonishment. Chuck told him that his work had made him a celebrity among genealogists. He accepted the invitation and charmed the guests at the lunch.

Byron Sistler was unassuming about his accomplishments, but he was known and respected throughout the genealogical community. It is appropriate that his memorial service was held at the Tennessee State Library and Archives, where he spent so much time and effort. Barbara and Sam continue the business, but Byron will be missed by his family and his many friends and associates.



The Curmudgeon's Corner

Most Tennessee genealogists are familiar with the work of Worth S. Ray, who published *Tennessee Cousins* in 1950. One of the earliest Tennessee genealogy books, *Cousins* is packed with information extracted from old records. The type is fuzzy, the layout is hard to follow, and there are virtually no citations. Despite these shortcomings, genealogists relied on the book extensively for nearly 30 years and it is still used often.

In the introduction to another of Ray's books, *The Mecklenburg Signers and their Neighbors* (Austin, Texas; 1946), the author acknowledges that his book is hard to read and makes no apology for it. Moreover, he seems to take a certain pride in it! He writes:

The type is small, PURPOSESLEY SO, to avoid the manufacture of an unwieldy volume, which the writer abhors; but, at that, it can be read much more easily than many of the musty records the author has pored over for years in hot vaults and dusty, neglected archives, seeking the elusive information thus published for the first time. Real research workers who have experienced these inconveniences will be able to appreciate the point.

A Visit to the New National Archives Research Room

Readers who have previously gone to Washington, D.C., to conduct research in the microfilmed records of the National Archives will be pleased to know that the microfilm research rooms have been relocated and made much more convenient. On a recent visit I learned that the renovation had taken place about 10 months ago.

In the past, visitors had to go to one office to acquire a researcher's ID card, another office to discuss their research plan with an archivist, and then to yet another area for the microfilm readers and film. And, once there, they found a cavernous dark room full of reading machines, with much of the microfilm stuffed into a maze of cabinets in an adjoining low-ceilinged concrete bunker. If they needed change for copy machines, they had to find the cashier at the end of the hallway on still another level of the building.

Today, visitors can walk in the front door, get their researcher's card, consult with an archivist and use the microfilm all on the first floor in a flowing set of rooms. The space is much more open and comfortable. There are new digital reader-printers (though too few, of course) offering crisp 11" x 17" prints for only 30 cents, plenty of readers, and fancy ergonomic chairs which can be adjusted to suit the viewer's height and preferences. The chairs are so new that they still have manufacturer's tags hanging on them! The cashier is now just around the corner. The library, which I've never found very useful in the past, is also now located near the microfilm room, and offers on-line (but rather slow) access to the Archives catalogs as well as the census databases provided by Ancestry and Heritage Quest.

This being the federal government, there are still bureaucratic inefficiencies that boggle the mind. For example, three staff people sit behind the desk in a room with no research materials in it – just a place one passes through on the way to the microfilm. And

yet in the microfilm room itself, only two staff members are present to field questions from dozens of researchers, assist with the reader-printers and help locate films.

Because of all the security added to public buildings in the last several years, just getting into the National Archives is something of an ordeal. One must submit to an airport-type search at the front door. If carrying a cell phone, laptop or other electronic device those must be registered, their serial numbers written down, and paperwork issued.

Visitors should be aware that some microfilm collections have been moved to the Archives II building in College Park Maryland. For instance, records of the Post Office department and of the Agricultural Extension Office are not found in the downtown facility. (See the Spring '04 issue of the *Quarterly* for information about the value of Agricultural Extension records for the genealogist.) The Archives web site (www.nara.gov) has excellent finding aids on-line which will help you determine the location of the records you need before you leave home. A free shuttle bus runs hourly from the main Archives building to College Park – a trip of about 45 minutes. The facilities in College Park are absolutely beautiful. It is a large, modern building in a park-like setting, constructed so that as you are doing your research you face a huge wall of glass looking out on the woods.

Many visitors to the National Archives in years past confined their research mainly to census records, which are now available at libraries around the country and on computer databases. However, there were still plenty of people making use of the resources offered. Military records, passenger lists, and records of a thousand other types contain hidden treasures about your ancestors – just waiting to be found.

The Editor



Sunny Days, Blue Skies and Sea Breezes
... embrace Anna ("Kiki"), 7; Mariluise ("Mucke"), 11, with the family pet, "Friedolin," and Dieter ("Boy"), 5, in this meadow scene c. 1948 near Westerland, Sylt island, near the Danish border.

Preparing An Oral Family History

One Family's Chapter in a World War II Epic

(Part 1)

By Thomas K. Potter, Jr.

Every genealogist relies on oral history to help tell the story of his family. Whether your ancestors were from Bell Buckle or Baden-Baden, their memories and traditions make them unique.

Tom Potter provides us with a fine example of how a genealogist combines oral history with historical research to flesh out the story of his wife's family.

The skills the author demonstrates here can be applied to histories of families everywhere.

Das Leben wird vorwärts gelebt und rückwärts verstanden.

Life is lived forward, but it is understood in review.

(From the visitors book, Golm Military Cemetery, Golm/Usedom, Federal Republic of Germany)

In the last months of World War II, about 2.5 million Germans --- mostly civilians, but including 500,000 - 600,000 wounded soldiers --- were evacuated from East and West Prussia, Danzig and Pomerania. Invading Soviet armies were steadily advancing toward the German capital, Berlin, and American troops were plunging across the Rhine River. From the air, fleets of Allied bombers were reducing German cities to rubble.

This is an epic story, a mosaic of many tragedies. One piece belongs to my wife, Anna, and her older sister, Mariluise, who lives now in Hamburg, Germany. Over the past several years, I have urged them to preserve the story of how they fled their childhood home near the end of the war, escaping Red Army vengeance. Their memories aren't just theirs. They belong as well to the younger ones in the family. The story is their heritage.

This evacuation of 2.5 million Germans from the eastern provinces was one of the greatest rescue efforts in history --- a "sea bridge" of 1,081 ships, including 672 commercial vessels and 409 warships. Called *Unternehmen Rettung* (Operation Rescue), it was directed by Rear Admiral Konrad Engelhardt, 46, a former commercial ship captain, who had organized the successful naval evacuation of German troops retreating from Italy. Incredibly, there was little significant advance planning. Tragically, an estimated 23,000 passengers were lost when four refugee-laden transports were torpedoed, including the *Wilhelm Gustloff*, whose high casualty count rivals that of the *Titanic*.¹

As the major Soviet offensive opened in January, 1945, a flood of civilian refugees poured out westward. They were mostly women, children and the elderly carrying their belongings, seeking to reach Baltic seaport cities, hoping for a place aboard evacuation ships. Transports filled with refugees sailed from various German ports on the Baltic -- 20,000 from Pillau; others from Königsberg, and 100,000 from Gotenhafen and Danzig. By early March, a major new Soviet offensive was launched and swept over all of East Pomerania to the mouth of the Oder River in just two weeks. As the cities of Stettin and Kolberg were besieged, escape was cut off for two million German refugees still in East Pomerania and Danzig. When Königsberg fell 9 April, another doorway to freedom was closed. Most refugees then gathered in Sassnitz or Swinemünde, the largest evacuation port in Pomerania.²

Anna and Mariluise finally agreed. They would search their memories; they would preserve their story. They would endure the sharper memories, and bask in the sunny ones. First came the questions; then the many flashbacks. Then more questions. My wife shared the memories of a four-year-old; then my sister-in-law came to visit. Hers were the memories of a seven-year-old. Discussions flowed. Scenes and faces began emerging, one after another. A story began taking shape.

Oral family history is an intentional work. It takes probing questions (What, Who, Where, When & How) and focused conversations. Being sensitive, cooperative; diligent; working in pairs, keeping good notes, using a recording device, viewing old photos and artifacts, focusing on key dates and persons --- all are tools for unlocking the past.

This gathering storm soon enveloped the Lass family, forcing them to flee their home and drawing them into the vortex of a collapsing war-ridden society. From the heights of *Bergstrasse*, the two-story Lass family home overlooked Misdroy, a seaside resort of about 4,000 inhabitants on the island of Wollin at the Baltic Sea. Gertrud Görtz Lass, then 34, was a licensed pharmacist and the mother of three children, who called her "Muttschi" (Mommy): Mariluise, 7, called "Mucke" (Little Mosquito); Renate Anna, 4, called "Kiki" ("Peek-a-boo"), and Dieter, 2. With them lived "Tante Anni," Anni Lass, 42, Gertrud's sister-in-law, who managed the household, and Maria, a young Polish woman about 19-20 years old, who was Dieter's "nanny." One of the many Poles and Russians forced into labor by the Nazi government, she probably had been released from the Wollin labor camp.³

Oral family history seems more readily captured when family members discuss their past together --- in some quiet, comfortable corner or especially at the site of some beloved place of the past. Memories of one seem to ignite the recollections of the other.

As we were talking, Maria suddenly came to mind. It was a vision a half-century removed. She is binding up her hair in her kerchief, fixing it at the back with a clasp.

Popular as a bathing and summer tourist site, Misdroy stands on the island of Wollin facing the neighboring island of Usedom. Like sentinels, the islands stand guard over a large lagoon at the mouth of the Oder River. The lagoon provides a natural harbor for East Pomerania's principal city, Stettin. Westward on Usedom lies Swinemünde, the island's main city and the key evacuation port for masses of refugees

streaming from the east to escape overwhelming Soviet armies.

"Villa Magarete," the family home in Misdroy, was a spacious house with five or six bedrooms, built as seaside resort lodging for tourists, the caretaker and his family. There was a second-floor veranda with many windows to catch the seabreezes. In the rear were three connecting sheds, housing a scullery, tools, and stored goods. At the end of the sheds stood a small cottage with three rooms and a kitchen in which the Lass family lived. Nearby was the family garden, and beneath the neighbor's garden was a small bunker, which served both families as an air raid shelter.⁴

A year ago, Mariluise returned to Misdroy, accompanied by her youngest daughter, a Berlin television producer. A 1939 map of the town, which I had discovered on the Internet, served as a reference aid. The map was marked with street names in German, all now replaced by Polish, the language of today's government. Mother and daughter found the old family home, the elementary school, and the apothecary. For Mariluise, it was déjà vu; for her daughter, a glimpse of an unknown heritage.

Gertrud Lass (1910-1980), born Gertrud Luise Marie Klara Görtz in Petersfelder in the Märkische-Oderland of Brandenburg, had settled in Misdroy sometime after World War I. Her father, Richard Görtz (c. 1865 -?) bought the Misdroy guest house after selling his own *Landgut* where he farmed and bred horses; then he moved his wife, Margarete Dittberner (c.1885 - c.1939), Gertrud and her brother, Oskar, to a new life in Misdroy, Gertrud qualified for her *Abitur* about 1926 and graduated from the *Baltenschule*, a boarding school. To become a pharmacist, she then studied for four more years and also completed a two-to-three year *praktikum* in the Misdroy *Apotheke* (Apothecary). She married Walter Lass sometime between August and December, 1936. They made their first home in Gartz, a city to the south on the Oder River.⁵

Walter Lass (1910-c.1945), a native Pomeranian, completed his *Abitur*, and entered the *Reichsarbeitsdienst (RAD)*, the state and party labor service, serving as an engineer and *Unterfeldmeister* from about 1933/34 to 1939, until the RAD was absorbed in the army. He was promoted to Sergeant and served in campaigns in Norway and Russia. Apparently, he had been at home on sick leave, but was recalled to duty in a massive emergency effort to stem the advancing Red Army. All available ambulatory men, 17 to 60, were plunged into the desperate fight. Mariluise remembers a tearful goodbye at her bedside when her father departed for the last time --- probably in February or early March, 1945 --- to return to the front. Family tradition recalls that his mother begged to hide him away, rather than see him report for duty. Several weeks later on 19 April 1945, he was reported as missing in the area around Stettin. Officially, he is presumed to have died in combat about three weeks before the end of the war.⁶



Walter Lass holds Mariluise in summer 1938 at their home in Misdroy on the Baltic Sea. Walter was then in the *Reichsarbeitsdienst* (German Labor Service). He later served as an infantry non-com in Norway and Russia until reported missing in combat near Stettin in April, 1945.

Anna has no memories of her soldier-father. She was only four when he left home for the last time. For her seven-year-old sister, it was different. The heartache and despair of that last tearful farewell still deeply moves Mariluise. For almost 50 years, her father has remained a shadow, one of millions of missing German soldiers. But through genealogical and historical research over the last four years, his destiny has been pieced together as

reported in my article, "In the Footsteps of a Missing Soldier," published in this Journal, Vol. XVIII, No. 1, Summer 2003.

As the streams of refugees flooded in from the eastern front, Misdroy was soon choked with frightened, fleeing, homeless people. Townspeople opened their homes to these desperate masses, and the Lass house filled with strangers. As Soviet armies drew nearer and nearer, the situation became critically dangerous. Somehow Gertrud Lass arranged for her family to leave Misdroy and board a military transport train heading westward. This good fortune permitted them to escape the widespread vandalism, raping, looting, arson and wanton killing that raged over Pomerania in the wake of the invading Russians. It may be that her friend, Herbert Hübner, a radioman serving in a naval unit in or near Swinemünde, alerted her to the scheduled departure of military train. Or it may be that her long-time friend, Erika Grosse, arranged for passage through an acquaintance who was an officer aboard the train. Or it may be that the evacuation by train developed with the assistance of Herbert "Ihle" Ihlefeld (1914-1995), Muttschi's former schoolmate at the *Baltenschule* in Misdroy.⁷

Soon after earning his *Abitur*, Herbert Ihlefeld had joined the *Luftwaffe* at age 19 in 1933, working his way up through the ranks to become one of Germany's top fighter pilots and commander of a squadron of the latest jet fighters. First qualifying as a airplane mechanic, he next completed flight training, and by 1937 was serving as an *Unteroffizier* (non-commissioned officer) with a squadron supporting Generalissimo Francisco Franco's Fascist rebels in the Spanish Civil War. Here he shot down his ninth enemy plane and was awarded the Spanish Cross in Gold with Swords. Following the conquest of France, Ihlefeld was a decorated squadron commander with 24 credited kills. He later served in Yugoslavia, Russia and in the air defense of Germany, earning the Iron Cross with Swords and Oak Leaves. He soon amassed 132 confirmed combat victories. In 1944, he was promoted Colonel and assigned to command of *Jagdgeschwader 1* (Fighter Squadron 1).⁸

Colonel Herbert Ihlefeld seemed to step out of the past, through the Internet, right into the center of our story. He was a highly-decorated ace and his command was the first to receive the newest jet fighters late in the war. As Muttschi's former schoolmate, Ihlefeld seems to be the key to family's escape on the train transporting the squadron, its jets and supplies to a remote base in a rural province near the Danish border. Many facts about the squadron, photos of its jet fighters, and Ihlefeld's photo and biographical sketch all were located readily on several German- and English-language websites.



Col. Herbert Ihlefeld, one of Germany's top aces in World War II, was a schoolmate of Gertrud Lass in Misdroy. When his squadron, first to fly the new He 162A jet fighter, evacuated by train to escape the Red Army in 1945, the Lass family was aboard. ("Luftwaffe Aces" photo.)

The departure of the Lass family from Misdroy came on short notice, probably by public announcement of a general emergency. With the help of Maria, *Frau* Lass quickly evacuated her family, packing clothing, six to 12 sterling silver soup spoons, a photo album, and other necessities, and then helped the children each pack a rucksack filled with new rationed shoes, sweaters, underwear, dolls and toys. They boarded a crowded military truck which slowly pressed its way through crowded streets surging with refugees lugging stuffed suitcases, towing small wagons, and leading horse-drawn wagons. Occasionally, the truck stopped to pick up other fleeing townspeople pleading at the wayside. One was a despondent older woman, a refugee from East Prussia, who was wailing inconsolably over the loss of her husband and children.

Soon, there was no more room. Continuing along the crowded roadway westward, the truck arrived at the village of Osternothafen. Herbert Hübner, a Navy radioman and a loyal friend of *Frau Lass* and the family, was stationed here. Hübner was reassuring, dependable and a comfort to a family with a father away at the front.⁹

Their hasty departure from Misdroy was embedded in many vignettes of memory, fluttering down like colorful leaves in an autumn wind --- Maria, rucksacks, new shoes, rationed shoes, black leather shoes, crowds of refugees, the despairing old woman, stalwart "Uncle Herbert," the photo album.



Long columns of refugees choked the roadways and port cities of the German Baltic provinces in early 1945, as families abandoned their homes and farms in a desperate attempt to escape the invading Red Army. (Lo Warnecke photo)

Osternothafen stood a few kilometers west of Misdroy on the road toward Ostswine. Here at the edge of the island, the Swine River separates the islands of Wollin and neighboring Usedom. Near here the town of Ostswine faces Swinemünde, the principal city of Usedom, a prominent seaport and the key evacuation point in Pomerania.

When the passengers climbed out of the truck, they went their separate ways. The Lass family soon found

shelter in an abandoned apartment. They remained there about a week or so. The streets of Osternothafen were crammed with unending streams of refugees. They came by in wagons, in handcars, on bicycles, on foot, pushing baby buggies, pulling children's toy wagons; packing their goods high and lugging overstuffed luggage, rucksacks, handbags, sacks, and other containers. They were fleeing for their lives, abandoning hearth and homeland to a ravaging Red Army.¹⁰

Where did the truck take you, Mariluise? What happened when you arrived there? What was it like there? Where did you stay? What was going on around you? Questions are like a spade, digging out the details. Dig for the treasure and use those "Five W's."

Then check the chronology. Note what's remembered; estimate, if needed; compare all with historical records. Seek compatibility. See how the events appear in sequence. Make a simple, brief outline.

Verify as much as possible using legal documents, government records, censuses, the recorded accounts of others who lived the same experience. Strive for harmony. Don't force it; let it emerge. If the facts are in conflict, ask why. Think of possible causes. They may lead to new findings.

While exploring her new environment, Mariluise roamed near the beachfront park not far from the breakwater. At the end of the breakwater stood a tall lighthouse with a spiral staircase winding several floors high. It doubled as an air raid bunker and was quickly filled when an alarm sounded. Suddenly the eerie wailing of the alarm penetrated the day's routine with anxiety and fear. The wail reached a high-pitched whine. Great whirling, smelly clouds of artificial fog began to cover the area, obscuring the target. They

spewed rapidly and profusely from a fog-making machine called a *Nebelbojen* which was operated by a crew of Italians from nearby barracks. Soon Mariluise was engulfed by the swirling clouds, terrified and uncertain of her way and her fate. In her loneliness and helplessness, she was found by a woman passing by on a bicycle. She comforted Mariluise, took her back to the Lass family apartment, and disappeared in her anonymity."

The feelings of a lost and frightened seven-year-old began surfacing again as Mariluise shared her impressions and memories of the air raid. First came the memory of the fog, of an Italian, of the way the fog swirled about, of the rescuing woman, of her bicycle, of safe return to Muttschi and her family. Then came visions of the lighthouse, the breakwater, the park by the harbor. The images tumbled out.

Another frightening sight in Osternothafen burned itself into her girlish memory: the dangling corpse of the *Ortsgruppenleiter*, the town's chief Nazi civil official, who was left hanging in the public square, apparently executed for disobedience or treason. Disheveled and bloated in death, his blackened tongue lolled from swollen lips."

It was a grossly ugly sight, never to be forgotten. Still disturbing after nearly 60 years. A child's first-time, eye-to-eye encounter with death. That black tongue forever indelible. Quick, move on. Think about something else. Some memories are painful and the good listener is a sensitive listener.

Several days after the raid, Muttschi took the children to nearby Ostswine where they were temporarily reunited with Tante Anni who had been conscripted earlier to work at a refugee aid station. The reunion was also memorable for hot chocolate, bread and liverwurst. Anni Lass Ernst (1903-1983), seven years older than her brother Walter, had gone to Berlin, at age 16, to work at Charité Hospital and study nursing. The course required about four to six years to complete, but she did not complete her studies, instead marrying Walter Ernst, the gardener of an affluent

family. Later they separated, and as a single woman and without nurse's papers, Tante Anni risked being impressed for work in a munitions plant. To avoid impressment, she had returned to the Lass family in Misdroy to care for the children while their mother was working at the local pharmacy.¹³

Rigid, opinionated, determined, and demanding, Tante Anni was also constant, caring, and conscientious in her support of the family. She was a member of the Social-Democratic party, and held strong, liberal political views against Nazi suppression of individual rights and misuse of the people. She had very high expectations which her brother never quite met. She expected a lot from Mariluise, too, and constantly nagged and berated her for falling short, while Kiki could do no wrong. "How very ironic," Mariluise reflected, "after all that harsh criticism for so many, many years, it was in my arms that Tante Anni died."

Across the Swine River was the Baltic port of Swinemünde, the evacuation hope of thousands of refugees. An important naval and supply base, Swinemünde was home port for a submarine flotilla and site of a naval training school. Its harbor was brimming with warships, and an evacuation fleet of freighters and converted cruise ships.¹⁴

An air raid on Swinemünde was first suggested by Marshal Sergey Khudyakov, chief of the Soviet air force, to General Carl Spaatz, commanding American air forces in Europe, at the American Military Mission in Moscow on 9 March, and again on 11 March. Khudyakov considered the large concentration of German ships in Swinemünde harbor as a major target of opportunity. There lying at anchor were the heavy cruisers "Admiral Scheer" and "Lützow," and accompanying destroyers and torpedo boats. The Soviet air force could not strike them, Khudyakov explained, because it was heavily engaged in ground support of the massive Soviet land offensive.¹⁵

Invaluable background information about the Swinemünde raid emerged with little effort

from Internet surfing. USAAF reports, Wehrmacht reports, civilian accounts. Such a historical perspective adds depth and breathe new life into any oral family history.

On 12 March 1945, more than six hundred B-17 and B-24 bombers of the U.S. 8th Air Force struck Swinemünde, unloaded 3,216 bombs on the harbor and shipyards, and sank seven ships among those loaded with refugees and wounded. From 12:06 until 12:58, the fleet of bombers pounded Swinemünde. The first wave heavily damaged the city center, Allied reports stated. The second wave struck the south side of the Swine River, damaging a small factory and warehouses.¹⁶

As the heavy bombs were falling, five miles away the earth was shaking "as if all hell was loose." Four days later, a refugee passing through in a horse-drawn farm wagon described the scene as "a picture of destruction and horror. The streets were fringed with splintered wagons and destroyed belongings, and dead horses lay all around. The dead from this air raid --- refugees and soldiers --- lay on the railroad embankment. Everywhere there were large bomb craters, dead and wasted, an indescribable sight."¹⁷

Masses of refugees had camped in a wide belt of parks along the stretch of the beach. Also camped in other areas of the parks were groups of troops headed southward to the front. A unit of naval cadets was commandeered and formed to remove the corpses to avoid emerging health problems. They searched thousands of corpses for identification papers, stripping off useable clothing to supply the living.¹⁸

The scene was still grisly, bizarre and terrifying for seven-year-old Mariluise and her four-year-old sister, Kiki, when they passed by sometime later. Along the roadway approaching Swinemünde were strewn the remnants of a *Fluchlingstreck*, a long refugee column, which had been strafed and bombed. Large craters pock-marked the roadway. Trees alongside were shattered and splintered. Scattered about were dead horses, bedclothes, smashed wagons, Bibles, broken dishes, handcarts, pillows, crushed pots and pans, bits

of clothing, tattered rags, bloodied pets, baby buggies, rumpled clumps of corpses, and other indescribable remnants of home life. Overhead, thousands of feathers clung to the naked limbs of roadside trees, also strung with tattered shreds of red and blue tickings, and bits of this and that. Nearby lay faceless, crumpled lime-covered corpses --- mothers, boys, girls, old men and women, the ill-fated passengers of a large farmwagon demolished by a direct hit or near miss. The smell of death hung in the air and flies were still swarming.¹⁹



Swinemünde Harbor in this 1939 aerial photo shows the heavy cruiser "Lützow" tied up near the landing. Forward the "Lützow" is a smaller warship, probably a minesweeper. At mid-channel a third warship appears to be towed by a tugboat. (Photo courtesy "Swinemünde - Ostseebad und Hafenstadt auf der Insel Usedom Geschichte" website.)

Particularly poignant, I feel, are the memories of my wife as a four-year-old perplexed by the surreal scene of a refugee column after it had been bombed or strafed. High up in the trees, branches were draped in tattered bedding and a snowfall of feathers. Even a four-year-old knew such a bizarre sight meant her world was out of kilter. Tree branches are only for leaves and for birds.

Oral family history assumes the understanding and the viewpoint of the person who owns the memory. Often the memory reflects feelings of that moment, awaiting the reflection of later years, comparative research or other testimony, to bring it into sharper focus and draw it closer to reality.

In the aftermath of the air raid, Mariluise encountered its grim harvest at a cemetery near the roadway. With her was a young acquaintance who brought flowers for the grave of her long-dead and beloved grandfather. The rumpled corpses of the newly-slain lay in long anonymous rows, covered by a light white blanket of lime. Awaiting them were wide trenches of dark earth which had been scooped out of the meadow.²⁰

Shortly after the raid, Allied military assessment of the results was hampered by a covering of artificial fog over much of the target. However, German *Luftwaffe* reports noted that the raid failed to make Swinemünde naval facilities unusable; but carpet bombing in the area of the park and on the Ostswine side of the river proved "fatal" to soldiers encamped there, and the long lines of refugees and their wagons. All were jammed together out in the open, awaiting repair of a pontoon bridge to the waiting ferry boats. Seven of the largest evacuation ships were sunk, including the "Andros" which suffered the highest loss of 570 refugees. A long, crowded refugee train standing on the Kaiser bulwark was demolished by a direct hit.²¹

An estimate of 23,000 dead is the generally accepted conventional count. However, recent examination of German, American and former Soviet documents reveal that: (1) the 23,000 dead is an estimate first advanced on Usedom in more recent years; (2) American P-51 fighters escorting the bombers were ordered to strictly avoid strafing, and (3) the Swinemünde harbor and ships qualified as legitimate military targets. Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, commanding the German Navy, acknowledged several times before the raid that Swinemünde, as a naval base, was in danger of attack. American fighter escort flights in the 12 March raid were ordered strictly to avoid strafing. No post-war liability claims were recorded. Both military records and personal reminiscences point to frequent Russian fighter-bomber strafing and bombing refugee columns in the area of Swinemünde and in Pomerania.²²

Many historical events are colored by the conditions, biases, and motivations of the time and the person recording the event. As the years pass, new evidence often emerges. What

seemed to be or was thought to be, then evolves into a refined reality. Stay alert.

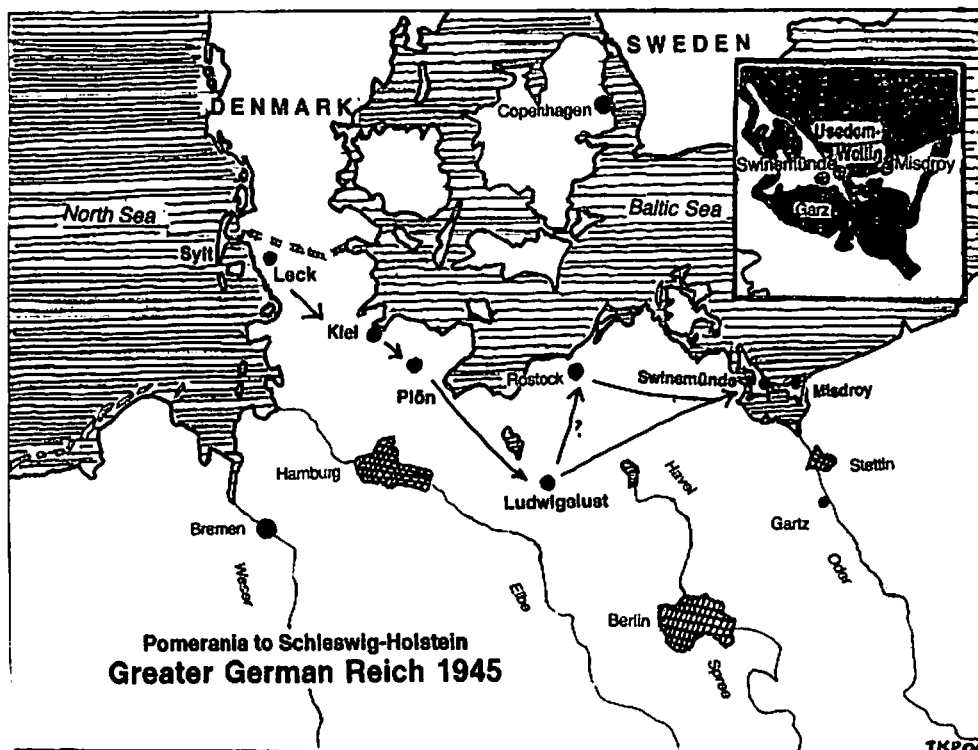
Amid the terror and destruction of the air raids then leveling most major German cities was a bizarre and deadly beauty frequently mentioned in many civilian accounts. The target marker flares, called *Christbäume* or "Christmas trees" by German civilians, produced myriad bright trails of blazing balls of light --- red and green --- cascading slowly through the dark night sky. The flares were dropped by lead planes to guide the following flights of bombers in making bombing runs over the target. Though they were signals for a rain of death and destruction, the *Christbäume* were a marvelous wonder to children watching below.²³

The magic of such a wondrous sight still brightens the face of my wife today when the memory returns. Historians have noted that the word, "Christsbäume" (Christmas trees), was a term originated by German civilians---who viewed the sight from below, in or near the target area. For Allied air crews, the flares were simply target markers. Perspective is always an important factor to be considered when working with oral family history. The view from the other side often brings new insights.

After the stressful interlude at Osternothafen and the overwhelming horror of Swinemünde, the Lass family made its way to the village of Garz at the edge of a forested area only a few kilometers southwest of Swinemünde and Ostswine. Here at *Fliegerhorst Garz*, a *Luftwaffe* airfield, the Lass family was housed in barracks for about a week in mid-to-late March, 1945. During this stay, *Frau Lass* was seriously worried about the health of young Dieter, then suffering from acute diarrhea. Like lice and fleas, diarrhea was a constant companion of many refugees. A meal of warm *goulasch* soon brought the boy back to health.²⁴

The memory of Dieter's illness came first; then, with a warm smile and a sparkle in her eye, Mariluise remembered the bowl of goulasch was the perfect panacea.

To Be Continued



The Lass family evacuation route in March-April 1945 began in Misdroy and progressed westward via Swinemünde, Garz, Ludwigslust, and Plön to Leck, a trip of about 500 miles and about six weeks, including two layovers. Underway, the train averaged about 25 miles per day.

Notes and Sources for One Family's Chapter

1. Heinz Schön, "Unternehmen Rettung - Ostsee 1945," Auszug aus Rolf-Josef Eibichs *50 Jahre Vertreibung*, <http://www.vho.org/D/DGG/Schoen43_2.html>; Feldgrau, <<http://www.feldgrau.com/Gustloff/>>. Schön states the *Wilhelm Gustloff*, a cruise ship converted into a hospital and barracks ship, carried 8,956 refugees, 918 newly-graduated submariners, 373 female auxiliary helpers, 178 naval auxiliaries, and 162 heavily wounded soldiers, or a total of 10,582 persons. On 31 Jan. 1945 while underway from Gotenhafen to Kiel, the *Gustloff* was struck by torpedoes launched by a stalking Soviet submarine. She sank in about 58 minutes, carrying 9,343 passengers under with her. A total of 1,239 survivors were rescued from the icy waters by several warships. Other ships transporting refugees which were sunk include the *Goya*, *Cap Arcona*, and *General Steuben* with estimated losses of 6,000, 4,500, and 3,500 respectively. 2. Schön, "Unternehmen Rettung - Ostsee 1945." 3. Recollections of Mariluise Lass Zöllner and Renate Anna Lass-Potter, 29 Oct. 2004, and family photos. Gertrud Görtz Lass was born 7 Apr. 1910 in Petersfelder in the Märkische-Oderland of Brandenburg. Mariluise was born 28 Apr. 1937 in Gartz an der Oder. Renate Anni was born 3 Mar. 1941 at the Landesfrauenklinik, Roonstrasse 9-11, Stettin, and Dietrich Joachim was born 11 May 1943 in Swinemünde. These data are drawn from the *Geburtsurkunde* (birth certificate) of

Anni Lass, and family recollections of Renate Anna Lass-Potter and Mariluise Zöllner, April-May 2000, and the comments of Mariluise Lass Zöllner, 4 Nov. 2004. Later in the 1950s, when the family was permanently settled in Westerland on the island of Sylt in Schleswig-Holstein, Dieter was called "Boy," after the youngster in the American-made Tarzan movies which were not dubbed in German. The population of Misdroy was 4,129 in 1939, according to *Wissenschaft-On-Demand*, <<http://www.wissenschaft-on-demand.de>> 4. Zöllner, 29 Oct. and 3 Nov. 2004. 5. Lass-Potter and Zöllner, April-May 2000. 6. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004; Lass-Potter and Zöllner, April-May 2000; *Geburtsurkunde* of Anni Renate Lass, Stettin, Pommern, Mar. 1941, citing name and birth date of her father. See also Konstantin Hierl, *Idea and Formation of Labor Service*, Historical Division, Headquarters, U.S. Army, Europe, 1947. Walter Lass's military record notes his service in the *Reichsarbeitsdienst*, 2nd Company, Construction Battalion 29, where he received his identification tags (*Erkennungsmarke-218-2.Bau 29*), according to a letter of 17 July 2000 from Frau Schulze, Deutsche Dienststelle (WAST) to Thomas K. Potter, Jr. He is recorded on 5 March 1945 as a *Feldwebel* (Sergeant) in 2. *Festungsinfanteriebataillon (M) 1455* (2nd Fortress Infantry Battalion [Stomach Disorders] at Hornskrug near Stettin. Investigation of Walter Lass as a missing soldier was reported in a

letter dated 13. Sept. 2000 from Dr. H. Kalcyk, Department Manager, Deutsches Rotes Kreuz Suchdienst, Munich, to Thomas K. Potter, Jr., enclosing a copy of a letter dated 26 Nov. 1982 from Emanuel Wittik, Director, Deutsches Rotes Kreuz Suchdienst, Munich, addressed to Gertrud Lass, then deceased. The Suchdienst officially presumes that Walter Lass was killed in combat around Stettin 19 April 1945. 7. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. Gertrud Görtz Lass and her classmate, Benita, were the first women to complete the *Abitur* and graduate from the *Baltenschule*, c. 1929. Benita, a WWI refugee from one of the Baltic states, lived with Gertrud and her mother, Margarete Görtz. Herbert Hübner survived the war, occasionally corresponding with Gertrud Lass. He became a school teacher in Gelsenkirchen in the Ruhr area. The *Marine-Flugmelde-Abteilung Pommernküste* (Naval Air Control Department of the Pomeranian Coast) was stationed in Swinemünde, according to a section on the German Navy Signal Troops in *Feldgrau*, <<http://www.feldgrau.com>>. Also stationed in Swinemünde was the naval transport unit, *Marine Kraftfahrabteilung*, as reported in the *Lexikon der Wehrmacht*, <<http://www.lexikon.dieWehrmacht.de>>. Also at Swinemünde was a radar installation and a U-boat flotilla and training station, as noted in *Deutsche Geheimwaffen auf den Inseln Wollin und Usedom* (Swinemünde: Maagdruck, 2000) by Piotr Laskowski. 8. "Herbert Ihlefeld," <<http://www.jg52.de/ihlefeld.htm>>; "Jagdgeschwader 1," Feldgrau, <<http://feldgrau.com/JG1.htm>>; "Heinkel He162, 'Volksjäger,'" *Deutsche Geschichte 1919-1945*, <<http://www.balsi.de/Waffen+Gebaeude/Flugzeuge/he162.htm>>; *Historia*, <<http://www.luftwaffe39-45historia.nom.br/ases/ihlefeld.htm>> Ihlefeld's squadron was based in Garz/Usedom 3 Feb. to 8 Apr., 1945; in Ludwigslust, 8-30 Apr.; in Leck 30 Apr. to 8 May., 1945. Born in Pinnow, Pomerania in 1914, he died at 81 in Wenningsen, Lower Saxony. 9. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004; Lass-Potter, 27 Nov. 2004. 10. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004, Lass-Potter, 1 May and 19 Oct. 2000. 11. Lass-Potter, 1 May and 19 Oct. 2000, Zöllner, 29 Oct. and 3 Nov. 2004. 12. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. 13. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004; Lass-Potter, 15 Nov. & 20 Dec. 2004 also 1 May & 19 Oct. 2000. 14. Schön, "Unternehmen Rettung - Ostsee 1945"; Piotr Laskowski, *Deutsche Geheimwaffen auf den Inseln Wollin und Usedom* (Swinemünde: Maagdruck, 2000). 15. Helmut Schantz, "Dresden des Nordens? Der Luftangriff auf Swinemünde am 12. März 1945," *historicum.net*, <<http://www.bombenkrieg.historicum.net/themen/swinemuende.htm>> citing U.S. Military Mission Moscow Outgoing Message Nr. M-23135, 9 March 1945 to USSTAF London, Urgent, Top Secret, United States Military Mission to Moscow Cables and Messages, NA RG 335, Entry 310-190/32/10/- 11/14, Box 58; Der Chef der Ordnungspolizei, Luftangriffe auf das Reichsgebiet, Lagemeldung Nr. 1.395, 13. März 1945, Bundesarchiv (BArch) R 19/341. 16. Schön, "Unternehmen Rettung - Ostsee 1945" with updated figures from Schnatz, "Dresden des Nordens?"; Schantz, "Dresden des Nordens?" citing Immediate Interpretation Report No. 3975, 16 March 1945, Air Force Historical Research Agency, Maxwell, Alabama (AFHRA), Eighth Air Force Mission Files, Microfilm B

5022, and Fritz Brustat-Naval, *Unternehmen Rettung, Letztes Schiff nach Westen*, 5. Aufl. Hamburg 2001, S. 244 ff. The German damage report of 13 March 1945 identified the losses in the harbor as a total of seven ships, including six light ships and one ferry sunk; one damaged and no longer functioning; several vehicles and 1,500 dead, including 1,000 on the steamer, *Andros*, and 2,000 wounded. 17. See also Jürgen Ruskowski, comp., *Zeitlebens im Gedächtnis, Deutsche Schicksale um 1945, Zeitzeugen erinnern, Wir zahlten für Hitlers Hybris* (Verlag Dirk Dietrich, 2003), pp. 5.10 - 5.11, citing "Stationen einer Flucht mit Pferd und Wagen von Ostpreussen bis Lübeck," the story of Frau Helene Krause née Liedtke, written by her during and after the flight, and posted on the Internet website of her nephew, Helmut Ramm. 18. Jörg Friedrich, *Der Brand, Deutschland im Bombenkrieg 1940-1945* (Berlin: List Verlag, 2004), pp.174-176. 19. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004. The date of this incident is unknown, but may have occurred in early March and may have been related to the American bombing raid on Swinemünde, 12 March 1945. 20. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004; "Der Golm" website at <<http://www.ahlbeck.de/Gemeinden/kamminke-golm.htm>>; "Wanderfahrt Anklam 2001" website at <<http://www.ra-ott.beint-online.de/senw101.htm>>. Although this experience is associated with Osternothafen, there were mass burials of victims of the 12 March 1945 air raid and other wartime casualties on the high ground of Golm, a few kilometers southwest of Swinemünde. Today, *Gedenkstätte Golm*, one of Germany's largest cemeteries for wartime victims, stands in the beautiful setting of a soldiers' cemetery. The Golm website reports that the 23,000 victims of the Swinemünde raid were quickly transported to the cemetery by horse-drawn wagons and trucks. Identified civilians were buried at the left of the entrance; the unknown were buried in a large field of mass graves. 21. Schnatz, "Dresden des Nordens?"; Fritz Brustat-Naval, *Unternehmen Rettung, Letztes Schiff nach Westen*, (Hamburg 2001). p. 244 ff; Jörg Friedrich, *Der Brand, Deutschland im Bombenkrieg 1940-1945*, (Berlin: List Verlag, 2004), p. 175. Friedrich reports 15 vessels sunk, among them seven large commercial ships *Jasmund*, *Hilde*, *Ravensburg*, *Heiligenhafen*, *Tolina*, *Cordillera*, and *Andros*. 22. Schantz, "Dresden des Nordens?" citing Seekriegsleitung, Führerlage am 12.3.1945, 16 Uhr, BA-Militärarchiv, RM 7/192; Im Original: "Groups will not repeat not strafe (Die Gruppe dürfen keine, ich wiederhole, keine Tiefangriffe fliegen)", Field Order 1742A, AFHRA Microfilm B 5022; "Strafing was prohibited (Tiefangriffe waren verboten)", Report of Eighth Air Force Operations, S. 4, AFHRA Microfilm B 5021A, and Schantz, "Dresden des Nordens?" p. 47 f. 23. Lass-Potter, 1 May & 19 Oct. 2000; Otto Bretschneider, "Kriegsende 1945 in Bremen," as cited by Ruskowski, *Zeitlebens im Gedächtnis...*, p. 26-1. 24. Zöllner, 29 Oct. 2004; Ruskowski, *Zeitlebens im Gedächtnis...*, citing Krause story posted by Helmut Ramm. Erika Grosse and her mother also may have been quartered temporarily in the barracks at the airfield.



To The Honorable... Petitions to the State Legislature

Regarding William Combs
of Humphreys County, 1819
"afflicted with the white swelling"

By Peggie Sides

On or about the 19th of October 1819, a petition was submitted to the General Assembly of Tennessee. The text of this petition was extremely faint. Question marks were placed where the text was questionable.¹ It reads as follows:

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee now sitting at Murfreesborough.

We your petitioners of Humphreys County, humbly sheweth your Honorable body, that William Combs of our County has long been afflicted with the white swelling by which he has been rendered entirely unable to procure a sustenance by manual labor. Therefore we your petitioners humbly pray that you would grant said William Combs the privilege of Hawking & peddling & retailing spirituous liquors throughout the state exempt from license & your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

John Wilks
Thomas Holland
Benjamin Matlock
James Craig
Thomas Moore
Peeter Black
Starling Dillehay
James Moore
Herman Little
H? M? King
Coonrad Farmer
Wm. Harris
Geo. G. Hays
Meridy Childress
B. Lashlee?
David Webb?
Caswell Matlock
Smith Matlock
Andw. Simson
James Simons
Willis Norsworthy

Benja. Suiter
Thos. Commer
Mosses Box
Thos. K. Wyly
John Margan?
Cornelis Dolliher
W.H. Burton
James Soles
J? R? Hatcher?
Isaac Enloe?
Thos. Roberts
A.M. Ch--?
James Bairfield
David Northington
H? W. Brown
John White
George Turner?
John H. Burton
John Robins
Wm. Gibson
David A. Majrey?

Francis Cumpan?
Asa Holland
J. Little
David H. Burton
John O. Mitchell
[page 2]
Robt. Jarmon
John Hunt
Benjamin Morgan
Henry Stevens
Benjamin B. Raburn?
George Vincent
Robert Black
James Tear?
Robert Rodds?
John F. Poter
Will B. Turley?
John S? Hill
George Broday
C? Utley
John G? Morrison

John E. Clark
Robert Nelson
William Cash
William Days?
Wm. Raburn?
D.P. Hudson
Thomas W. Hudson
Lewis Ragsdale
William Murell
Motlow Merrick
Thomas Matlock
James C. Camls?
Larkin Childers
John Johnson
Jeremiah Johnson
George Nelson
Johoua Nelson
Robert Sales

Notes on the outside of the petition:

In Senate 18th Octr. 1819. Referred to com of proof & G---?

Alex B. Bradford, clk.

To Report Oct. 19, 1819

Referred as above, Jas. Tipton, clk.

Unreasonable

On the surface, this just seems to be an ordinary petition brought forth by a community of persons for the benefit of one person, William Combs. However, scratching the surface brings out a number of questions concerning this petition.

First, it states that William Combs was afflicted with a disease called "white swelling." Webster's Revised Dictionary (1913)² defines white swelling as "a chronic swelling of the knee, produced by a strumous inflammation of the synovial membranes of the knee joint and of the cancellar texture of the end of the bone forming the knee joint; ... applied to a lingering chronic swelling of almost any kind." On a website "Archaic Medical Terms, a resource for genealogists and historians,"³ white swelling is defined as "tuberculosis of the bone or joints."

Imagine this person moving about the community with these chronically swollen joints. Because of the pain and suffering this man must have endured, he was not able to perform manual labor, and, perhaps, could not support himself with such occupations as farming or blacksmithing. He, and his family, would then become a burden to the community.

Second, at the time of the petition, there were no physicians in Humphreys County. Most sicknesses were treated with home remedies and herbal medicines. According to Goodspeed, there was only one physician nearby at the time, a Dr. Marable, who served a large area.⁴

It is noteworthy that 80 men signed this petition, an unusually large number of signatures. Members of the community may have thought that the affliction was contagious. Were these men trying to help Mr. Combs, or were they trying to find a way to move him to another community? How was Mr. Combs going to move about the state, and at the same time procure his "spirituous liquors?" What was he to do with his family? Would they travel around with him, or stay at home in abject poverty? It is, therefore, easy to understand why the last word on the petition, given by James Tipton, clerk, is that the petition was "Unreasonable."

It is possible that William decided to peddle his "spirituous liquors" elsewhere anyway. A William Combs is on the 1820 Tennessee census living in Maury County. In 1830 a William Combs is living in McMinn County. He disappears after that. Virginia W. Alexander, in her article about the Combs family in the Humphreys County Heritage book⁵, notes that "on the 1850 Mortality Schedule of Benton County, Tennessee, there appears the name of one Narcissa Combs, age 78, who had died the previous September of white swelling." Ms. Alexander assumes that white swelling was a bacterial infection that was contagious, and Narcissa must have been closely related to William.

It is not difficult to imagine how a small community on the frontier would react to disease. Measles and chicken pox, commonplace today, and easily treated, would have stricken fear in the hearts of those early citizens. It would, also, not be difficult to imagine that those people would do all in their power to rid their community of such a threat, if it was in their power to do so. Perhaps this was such a case. ■

¹ Petition #1819-1. Record Group 60, Legislative Petitions. Tennessee State Library & Archives.

² Webster's Revised Dictionary (1913)

³ Smith, Paul. *Archaic Medical Terms, a resource for genealogists and historians*. (http://www.paul_smith.doctors.org.uk/t.htm#tb)

⁴ *History of Tennessee ... Humphreys County*, (Nashville: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1886), pp. 885,978.

⁵ Alexander, Virginia. *Humphreys County Heritage*, Humphreys County Historical Soc. (Dallas: Taylor Publishing Co., 1979) p. 142.

Index to Pardons and Paroles, 1904-1925

for inmates convicted in Middle Tennessee

Part 1 of a Series

The following list indexes pardon and parole files available for research at the Tennessee State Library and Archives. It was prepared by Archivist Julia Rather Hammers. Each file may contain a number of items relating to the imprisonment, or there may be very little. The typical file contains the inmate's discharge papers, including a copy of the pardon or parole document. Letters from prison officials, government officials, and family members may also be found. A file often contains petitions sent by members of the inmate's community in order to help the prisoner obtain early release. Trial statements within the file give a summary of the crime committed and the reasoning behind the conviction and sentence. In many files there are newspaper clippings concerning that particular inmate's case. Newspaper clippings can particularly be found in the file of an inmate whose sentence was death.

The index lists the name of the inmate, whether the inmate was pardoned or paroled, the inmate's prison number, the county in which the crime was committed, the length of the sentence served, the prison that housed the inmate, and the crime committed. It is well worth the time of an interested genealogist to view the file. Most files contain information that may prove useful. The type of information depends on the prison where the inmate was institutionalized. Most files for inmates housed at Brushy Mountain prison, for instance, include a copy of a chaplain's report giving the inmate's native state and parents' names, ages, and nativity along with other information.

These records have been microfilmed and can be viewed at the Tennessee State Library & Archives, or the microfilm can be borrowed on interlibrary loan. Additionally, the archives staff can provide copies by mail for a fee (Tennessee residents \$5, out-of-state \$10 per file). Refer to Record Group 261, Pardons & Paroles, and the box number given in the index.

Name	Pardon or Parole	Prisoner Number	County of Trial	Year Rec'd at Prison	Year of Pardon/Parole	Notes
Abston, John	Parole	8696	Putnam	1916	1918	Box 1; Forgery; Parole # 1326
Aiken, Dewey	Parole	12213	Marion	1922	1923	Box 1; Petty Larceny
Akins, Roscoe	Parole	7830	Cumberland	1917	1919	Box 1; Petty Larceny
Alcorn, A.S.	Pardon		White		1918	Box 1; Public Drunkenness; \$50 fine, Criminal Court 1918
Allen, Dave	Parole	8895	Smith	1916	1917	Box 1; assault with intent to commit manslaughter
Allen, Harry	Parole	8928	Warren	1916	1920	Box 1; grand larceny
Allen, Jake	Parole	8978	Rutherford	1916	1917	Box 1; Larceny; Parole # 977
Allen, Will	Parole	8182	Lawrence	1915	1917	Box 1; Larceny
Allison, Arthur	Pardon		Cannon			Box 1; \$50 fine for carrying pistol
Allison, Lewis	Pardon		Smith			Box 1; \$50 for carrying pistol
Anderson, Gennie Byrd	Pardon	12861	Smith	1923	1924	Box 1; Attempted Felony
Anderson, John	Parole	7330	Davidson	1913	1919	Box 1; House Breaking and Larceny; Parole # 1527
Arnold, Bud	Parole	8918	Coffee	1916	1919	Box 1; Assault to commit murder 2nd degree
Arnold, James		9095	Davidson	1917		Box 1; voluntary man-slaughter

Name	Pardon or Parole	Prisoner Number	County of Trial	Year Rec'd at Prison	Year of Pardon/ Parole	Notes
Atkinson, W.M.		11974	Wilson	1922		Box 1; Charged with theft, 3 to 10 years.
Atkinson, Will			Wilson			Box 1; Larceny
Austin, Herbert		12233	Davidson	1922		Box 1; Petty Larceny
Austin, Robert	Parole	8018	Montgomery	1915	1919	Box 1; House breaking and Larceny; Parole
Babb, Tessy	Parole	9968	Robertson	1918	1921	Box 2; Petit Larceny; Circuit Court
Baggett, Elijah	Pardon	10447	Montgomery	1919	1920	Box 2; forgery
Bailey, Frank	Parole	8951	Lincoln	1916	1920	Box 2; grand larceny
Bailey, Quience	Parole		Giles		1922	Box 2; assault and battery with intent to kill
Baker, Neil J.	Parole	8704	Davidson	1916	1919	Box 2; Voluntary Manslaughter; Parole
Baker, Reuben	Parole	1181	Sumner		1918	Box 2; Pet. Larceny; Suspended sentence
Baker, Richard	Parole	8108	Hickman	1915	1917	Box 2; Grand Larceny; Parole
Baker, Robert B.	Parole		Sumner	1920	1920	Box 2; Petit Larceny; final discharge 1/21/22
Barnard, Floyd			Robertson		1922	Box 2; Stealing a pistol
Barnes, Ervin	Parole	10715	Jackson		1921	Box 2; involuntary manslaughter
Barnes, Irwin	Parole	10915	Jackson	1920	1921	Box 2; voluntary manslaughter Final discharge 7/24/22
Barrett, Jesse	Parole	9927	Wilson	1918	1919	Box 2; Petit Larceny Final discharge 1/16/19
Bartlett, Horace	Pardon		Putnam		1919	Box 2; Public drunkenness, robbery
Barton, Victor	Pardon		Macon		1920	Box 2; carrying a pistol
Bass, Calvin	Parole	8332	Smith	1915	1918	Box 2; Assault to commit murder 2nd degree - 2 counts; Parole # 1053; Final discharge 7/7/20
Bass, John	Parole	8087	Davidson	1915	1918	Box 2; Grand larceny; Parole # 1024; Final discharge 12/1/19
Bates, Lois	Parole	10130	Smith	1919	1920	Box 2; Embezzlement; Final discharge 9/21/21
Batson, Ben	Pardon	6225	Montgomery	1912	1919	Box 2; Rape
Batson, John Jr.	Pardon	8426	Davidson	1915	1922	Box 2; Rape
Battle, George	Pardon		Williamson		1920	Box 2; Petty Larceny; misdemeanor
Batton, Henry	Parole	8232	Stewart	1915	1917	Box 3; Parole # 712
Baugh, Andrew	Parole	8369	Davidson	1915	1924	Box 2; House breaking and Larceny; Parole # 1344; Final discharge 1/10/24
Baxter, Fletcher	Parole	9360	Lincoln	1917	1923	Box 2; Grand Larceny Final discharge 9/1/24
Bean, Aud & Harden Pete	Pardon		Coffee		1923	Box 2; Larceny
Beard, Jesse		12440	Stewart	1923		Box 2; voluntary manslaughter
Beardon, W.C.	Pardon		Marshall		1920	Box 2; involuntary manslaughter
Bentley, Virgil	Parole	10670	Sumner	1920	1921	Box 2; Petit Larceny; Final discharge 1/31/22
Bibey, William	Pardon	10509	Smith	1920	1922	Box 3; petty larceny
Blackwell, Carl Robert	Parole	9511	Davidson	1918	1920	Box 3; forgery
Bohannon, John		8763	White	1916	1920	Box 3; burglary
Boniwitz, Raymond	Parole	9069	Lawrence	1917	1918	Box 3; petit larceny; Parole # 1010
Booker, Lem	Parole	8252	Maury	1915	1917	Box 3; petit larceny; Parole # 930
Bornestein, Ed	Pardon	11785	Davidson		1922	Box 3; Robbery, 5 to 15 years, pardoned 9/11/22.
Bostick, Eugene	Parole	7453	Davidson	1913	1921	Box 3; 2nd degree murder

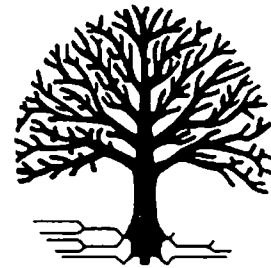
Name	Pardon or Parole	Prisoner Number	County of Trial	Year Rec'd at Prison	Year of Pardon/ Parole	Notes
Boswell, Norman	Pardon		Overton			Box 3; violated liquor laws, 6 months in jail & \$50 fine & costs.
Bowers, Harry	Pardon	8064	Davidson	1915	1919	Box 3; house breaking and larceny
Bowmer, George	Parole	10639	Wilson	1920	1922	Box 3
Bradley, Henry	Parole	11467	Robertson	1921	1923	Box 3; petit larceny
Brazier, Doak			Dekalb			Box 3; violated the 'Bone Dry' law.
Brazzi, Jim	Parole	9019	Humphreys	1916	1919	Box 3; petit larceny; Parole # 1435
Brewer, Herbert	Parole	10491	Stewart	1919	1922	Box 3; grand larceny
Bright, Bob	Pardon	275	Coffee	1899	1919	Box 3; murder
Bright, Elmer	Parole	8354	Montgomery	1915	1917	Box 3; Fraudulent breach of trust and petit larceny; Parole # 785
Brim, John Bell			Sumner			Box 3; violation of liquor laws
Broils, Keeble		10544	Rutherford	1920		Box 4; involuntary manslaughter
Brooks, Frank		10888	None listed			Box 4; died Sept 16, 1923
Brown, Bennie		10374	Robertson	1919		Box 4; petty larceny; Died 1920
Brown, Elijah	Parole	9368	Davidson	1915	1922	Box 4; housebreaking and larceny
Brown, Emiline	Pardon	11683	Williamson			Box 4; manslaughter
Brown, Frank		7677	Davidson	1914	1921	Box 4; larceny; Transferred to Main prison.
Brown, Grover	Pardon	12011	Fentress	1922	1922	Box 4; involuntary manslaughter
Brown, Herman	Pardon		Macon			Box 4; Breaking the 'Four Mile' law, \$100 fine
Brown, John	Parole	6656	Williamson	1912	1918	Box 4; attempted murder and arson; Parole # 1235
Brown, Joseph	Parole	9990	None listed		1921	Box 4
Brown, Mack	Parole	11713	Maury	1922	1925	Box 4; attempted murder
Brown, Mary	Parole	9171	Bedford	1917	1922	Box 4; 2nd degree murder
Brown, Pope	Pardon	11288	Marion	1921	1923	Box 4; murder
Brown, Thomas	Pardon		Jackson		1921	Box 4; murder
Brown, Tom	Parole	6380	Davidson	1912	1917	Box 4; Larceny and rec. stolen prop.; Parole # 777
Brown, Tom	Parole		Jackson		1921	Box 4; murder
Brown, Tom	Pardon	8680	Jackson	1916	1921	Box 4; 2nd degree murder, 10 to 20 years.
Brown, Tom		10329	Wayne	1919	1922	Box 4; grand larceny
Brown, W.A.	Parole	8359	Wilson	1915	1919	Box 4; voluntary manslaughter
Brown, Walter	Pardon		Bedford			Box 4; Larceny/11 months, 29 days in a workhouse.
Brown, William	Parole	7842	Overton	1914		Box 4; murder in 2nd degree
Broyles, Herman		12394	Robertson	1922	1925	Box 4; petit larceny
Bruce, James & Sherrill, Jim	Pardon		Cumberland			Box 4; Larceny / 1 year, got paroled after 6 months.
Brummit, Isham	Parole	9179	Trousdale	1917	1919	Box 4; assault to murder 1st degree
Bryan, Sydney	Pardon		None listed			Box 4; Petit larceny; 1 year, got sick had to go home.
Bryant, Chas.		10526	White	1920		Box 4; voluntary manslaughter
Bryant, Zeke		8364	Davidson	1924		Box 4; grand larceny
Bryson, John	Parole	11084	Marion	1921	1923	Box 4; petty larceny
Buckingham, Thomas	Pardon	10682	Montgomery	1920	1921	Box 5; grand larceny
Buford, Frank		11301	Davidson	1921	1923	Box 5; involuntary manslaughter
Buford, George	Pardon		Davidson			Box 5; Involuntary manslaughter
Bullard, Arrie	Pardon	12537	Cannon	1923	1929	Box 5; grand larceny
Bullard, J.B.	Pardon		Cannon			Box 5; Violated liquor laws, 6 months in workhouse & pay \$50

Name	Pardon or Parole	Prisoner Number	County of Trial	Year Rec'd at Prison	Year of Pardon/ Parole	Notes
						fine.
Bundy, Lee	Pardon	11817	Davidson	1922	1922	Box 5; voluntary manslaughter
Buntley, Horace	Pardon		Moore		1922	Box 5; public drunkenness
Burgess, Brown	Parole	9442	Robertson	1918	1920	Box 5; Pet. Lar
Burgess, John	Pardon		Putnam	1918	1919	Box 5; Viol. of Bone Dry Law
Burgess, Walter	Parole	9440	Robertson	1918	1920	Box 5; Pet. Lar.
Burgess, William			Overton	1921		Box 5; misdemeanor
Burks, Oscar	Parole	10330	Wayne	1919	1921	Box 5; Grand Larceny
Burlisch, Lonnie	Pardon	11342	Hickman	1921	1922	Box 5; Forgery
Burnsides, Porter	Parole	12352	Davidson	1923	1924	Box 5; Housebreaking & Larceny
Burris, Johnny			Jackson			Box 5; public drunkenness
Burton, Jeff			Smith	1922		Box 5; selling whiskey
Burton, Keney	Parole	8822	Sumner	1916	1921	Box 5; Grand Larceny
Bush, Clay	Parole	9441	Robertson	1918	1924	Box 5; Murder 2
Butts, Virgil	Pardon	9129	Sumner	1917	1922	Box 5; Murder 1; Petitions
Byers, William	Pardon	11366	Hickman	1921	1921	Box 5; Bigamy
Bynum, Tom	Parole	6155	Maury	1921	1921	Box 5; Murder 2
Cain, G.W.	Parole	10084	Davidson	1919	1924	Box 6; Embezzlement
Caldwell, Abe	Pardon	9042	Coffee	1917	1919	Box 6; Abduction of female for purposes of prostitution.
Caldwell, Chas.	Parole	8632	Robertson	1916	1924	Box 6; Grand Larceny & Housebreaking
Caldwell, Dan	Parole	7006	Davidson	1913		Box 6; Murder 2
Caldwell, Harrison			None listed			Box 6; Selling whiskey
Camp, Herman M.	Parole		Davidson	1917	1921	Box 6; Larceny
Campbell, Arch	Pardon		Maury	1918	1919	Box 6; Att. Larceny
Campbell, Edmund	Pardon	7373	Davidson	1913	1920	Box 6; Murder 1; Died 1921
Campbell, John	Parole	8919	Coffee	1916	1918	Box 6; Larceny
Campbell, Wise	Pardon		Davidson	1919	1920	Box 6; Involuntary Manslaughter; petitions for release
Cantrell, Jack	Parole	7328	Robertson	1913	1917	Box 6; Parole #925; Housebreaking & Larceny
Capps, Joseph			Pickett	1921		Box 6; carrying a gun
Carmack, Andrew S.			Jackson			Box 6; Selling Whiskey; Petition
Carnahan, Boy			Jackson	1922		Box 6; Selling Whiskey; Petition 1922
Carpenter, Roy	Parole	11790	Cumberland	1922	1923	Box 6; Pet. Larceny
Carr, Fred		12556	Putnam	1923		Box 6; petition; Transporting liquor
Carr, Sim	Pardon		Overton		1920	Box 6; Viol. Bone Dry Law
Carter, Bedford		5256	Jackson	1910	1912	Box 6; Intent to comm. murder 1
Carter, Hugh			Jackson			Box 6; Petition
Carter, Wesley	Pardon		White	1920	1920	Box 6; Carrying arms; fined \$50; petition
Carty, Joe	Pardon	11819	Lincoln	1921	1923	Box 6; Aiding prisoners to escape
Casey, Ned	Parole	9123	Stewart	1917	1919	Box 6; Voluntary manslaughter; parole #1469
Cates, Bud	Parole	8420	Davidson	1915	1917	Box 6; Pet. Larceny; Parole #696
Cato, Agg.	Parole	1743	Davidson	1904	1919	Box 6; Murder 1; petition
Cato, Maggie	Parole	10585	Rutherford	1920	1922	Box 6; Murder 1; Court records
Chaffin, Patrick	Pardon	11818	Jackson	1922	1922	Box 18; manslaughter
Charlton, Roscoe	Parole	10332	Sumner	1919	1921	Box 7; Larceny
Cheatham, John	Pardon	10652	Davidson	1920	1920	Box 7; Housebreaking
Chrisman, Cy	Parole	10045	Davidson	1919	1923	Box 7; Petit Larceny
Chumley, Chey	Parole	7667	Wilson	1914	1919	Box 7; Burglary; Parole # 1510

Name	Pardon or Parole	Prisoner Number	County of Trial	Year Rec'd at Prison	Year of Pardon/ Parole	Notes
Clark, Cal	Parole	8060	Lincoln	1915	1920	Box 7; Murder
Clark, H.	Parole	9394	Marion	1917	1921	Box 7; petition
Clark, Jack	Pardon	11247	Robertson	1921	1922	Box 7; viol. age of consent
Clark, Lawrence	Parole	8106	Davidson	1915	1921	Box 7; Housebreaking & Larceny
Clark, Percy	Parole	11248	Robertson	1921	1923	Box 7; Asst. to comm. murder; petition
Clark, Will	Pardon		White	1920	1921	Box 7; viol. Bone Dry Law; petition
Cleghorn, Ike	Pardon	8418	Putnam	1919	1919	Box 7; Murder 2
Clements, Winston	Pardon		Montgomery	1920	1920	Box 7; Larceny
Clinard, Cleve	Pardon		Davidson	1916	1920	Box 7; Vio. liquor law
Clinard, Cleve	Pardon		Davidson	1916	1920	Box 7; viol. liquor law; petition
Cobb, Daniel			None listed			Box 7; protest letter
Conley, Chas.	Parole	10205	Davidson	1919	1922	Box 7; Assault to murder
Cope, Eugene	Parole	10082	Davidson	1919	1922	Box 7; Petit Larceny
Copeland, Ed	Parole	9127	Williamson	1917	1920	Box 7; Murder 2
Copeland, Harrie	Parole	9065	Overton	1917	1921	Box 7; Murder 2
Corbin, Hal	Parole	10093	Stewart	1919	1920	Box 7; Larceny
Courtney, Frank	Pardon	10007	Montgomery	1919	1919	Box 7; Grand Larceny; Includes medical rec.
Courtney, Georgia	Pardon	10008	Montgomery	1919	1919	Box 7; Grand Larceny; Appeal for Pardon
Cowen, Ernest	Parole	10796	Franklin	1910	1922	Box 7; Voluntary manslaughter; vio. Parole
Cowen, John	Parole	10795	Franklin	1920	1923	Box 7; Voluntary manslaughter
Cox, George		10499	White	1920		Box 7; share file with Wesley Cox
Cox, Wesley		10500	White	1920		Box 7; Asst. to comm. murder; includes deposition & petition
Cox, Will	Parole	8614	Davidson	1916	1921	Box 7; Petit Larceny
Cozart, Jesse	Pardon	9288	Marshall	1917	1919	Box 7; Petit Larceny
Crabtree, Dillard	Pardon	10960	Warren	1921	1923	Box 8; Viol. age of consent
Cranch, J.G.			Pickett	1922		Box 8; Petition
Cravens, Henry	Pardon	6279	Fentress	1912	1919	Box 8; Murder 2
Crowden, Earnest	Parole	8429	Davidson	1915	1922	Box 8; applic. for parole; Housebreaking
Cummings, Floyd			Warren	1922		Box 8; petition; Transporting Whiskey
Cummings, Homer	Parole	5145	White	1910	1918	Box 8; Murder 2; Parole # 1259
Cunningham, Cap	Parole	8677	Trousdale	1916	1918	Box 8; Arson; Parole # 1085
Daily, Buford	Pardon	10706	Overton	1920	1921	Box 9; Asslt. to Murder 2
Dale, Coe	Pardon		Overton	1921		Box 9; Public drunkenness; petition
Daniels, Charles W.	Pardon	10756	Hickman	1920	1920	Box 9; Carnal Knowledge
Daniels, Murray	Parole	4342	Bedford	1908	1920	Box 9; Murder; Parole # 856
Darden, Tommy	Parole	9249	Montgomery	1917	1922	Box 9; Housebreaking & Larceny; letters
Davenport, Kyle	Pardon		Davidson		1919	Box 9; Viol. Bone Dry Law
Davidson, Nell			Pickett	1918	1919	Box 9; Viol. Bone Dry Law; \$50 fine; petition
Davis, Andrew	Parole	9116	Smith	1917	1918	Box 9; Assault, to murder 2; Parole #1075
Davis, Arthur			Lawrence	1921		Box 9; Viol. liquor law; Petition
Davis, Boyd & W.K. Spangler	Pardon		Putnam	1922	1923	Box 9; petition
Davis, Eli			None listed			Box 9; Viol. Bone Dry law

To Be Continued

National Genealogical Society Annual Conference Comes to Nashville



June 1st through 4th, 2005

Middle Tennessee will host nearly 2,000 genealogists this June as experts and beginners gather together for the 27th Annual Conference in the States.

The GENTECH conference on genealogy and technology will be held simultaneously, bringing the best in lectures and exhibits to Nashville.

Lectures will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, Wednesday through Saturday. Receptions, banquets and special events will be held in the evenings. The State Library & Archives will be open for extended hours.

Nationally known lecturers from across the nation will present a variety of programs. Topics include research in states and regions of the U.S., researching ancestors from various ethnic and religious groups, military and land records, internet searching, using scanners, databases, and much more.

More information is available on the NGS web site:
www.ngsgenealogy.org

No genealogist should miss this great opportunity!

Local Volunteers Needed for NGS Conference

Can You Help?

Yes, I would like to help the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society by volunteering for the June 1-4, 2005 National Genealogical Conference (Wednesday thru Saturday).

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Please circle areas where willing to help and state available times and days below.

Serve on a committee (state preference, if any) _____

Work before the conference: a. stuff envelopes _____ b. set up _____ c. computer work _____

Work at the conference: a. staff information and/or registration booths _____
 b. post lecture signs _____ c. introduce speakers _____
 d. computer work _____ e. room monitors _____

Please list below any special talents that you have that might prove helpful in June 2005:

Thanks for volunteering!

Please clip this form and mail/fax

or

Photocopy and mail/fax

or

E-mail the information

Send to Shirley Wilson
106 Leeward Point
Hendersonville, TN 37075
fax 615-826-1125
email swilsons@aol.com



Old News is Good News

Newspaper Sources for Middle Tennessee Genealogy

The *Franklin Weekly Review* of 1865

The October 7, 1865, issue of the *Franklin Weekly Review* was published just after the Civil War ended and not quite a year after the devastating Battle of Franklin. While much of the news is typical of any 19th century town, there are several pointed references to the war. Dry-goods merchant R. Carl, for instance, advertised that "War prices are abolished" so that readers would know that the drastic inflation suffered during the latter part of the war was over. Publishers N.J. Haynes & Son enthused about the return of liveliness to the streets of Franklin, observing that "people have gone earnestly to work just as before the war." After years of fear, death and economic decline, the people felt that a new beginning was possible.

Many issues, however, were still unresolved. The news carried prejudicial references to freedmen, including these contrasting quotes from Northern and Southern newspapers:

Is not the negro a man and a brother?

(N.Y. Independent).

He may be your brother or half-brother – he is no relation of ours.

(Louisville Journal)

Concern over the plans of the Freedmen's Bureau to send an agent to Williamson County to oversee labor contracts for former slaves was front-page news. A lengthy editorial discussed the frustration former Confederates felt at being denied the right to vote. Another reference showed that Southern whites were begrudgingly beginning to accept giving blacks "civil rights" but firmly believed that "political rights" such as voting and serving on juries, should be limited by state laws.

Despite the social and civil turmoil, the people of Franklin were trying to restart their businesses, settle their financial affairs and resume the normal operations of the local courts. The following notes from the newspaper provide a snapshot of Franklin in 1865.

Professional Ads

- W.H.S. Hill – law office
- Dr. J.D. Wallis – office at Clauston's Drug
- Ewing & House – attorneys
- Campbell, McEwen & Bullock – attorneys
- McLemore & Bond – attorneys
- Nelson & Murfree – real estate
- Dr. Dan German – office in Clauston's Drug Store
- John W. Buford – attorney
- J.F. Cooper and Alfred Matthias – real estate and claim agents, Nashville
- N.J. Haynes & Son, publishers of the Weekly Review – on the northwest corner of the square

Other Ads

- Dan Castello's Great Show! The largest and best appointed circus that has ever visited this country, comprising 200 men and horses. Will exhibit in Franklin on Monday, Oct. 9, admission 75 cents.
- Meadow Land – seven acres north of the Old Grave Yard will be sold on account of the heirs of Sarah A. Gadsey, deceased. A.B. Ewing, agent.
- John Wilkins offers three tracts of land, two on Hillsboro Pike and one near Hillsboro, for sale.
- Cayce's offers rings for sale.
- M. Kaufman, Main Street, has received a large stock of fall goods.
- Esq. John Marshall will receive subscriptions to the Nashville Daily and Weekly Republican at his office on the square.
- Dr. P.H. Cook and B.O. Westerfield, dealers in drugs and groceries, Main Street.
- J.L. Parkes, dealer in dry goods, Main Street.
- R. Carl & Co. have a complete stock of dry goods on Main Street. "War prices are abolished. They have marked down their entire stock to correspond with TIMES OF PEACE."
- James M. Cunningham, manufacturer of saddles, bridles, harness & etc., on the public square.
- A.C. Vaughn's saddle and harness shop, corner of Main and Indigo streets.

Deaths

- It was reported last week that Jas. R. Marshall had been murdered. It turns out to be a mistake, as Mr. M. was in town this week, unhurt.
- Died, at his residence, eight miles east of Franklin, on yesterday morning, Mr. Thomas Vernon, aged 66 years. He was a good citizen, and won the respect and love of all who knew him.

MARRIAGE

Married - On Tuesday evening last, Gen. James P. Brownlow and Miss Belle, daughter of Dr. D.B. Cliffe, of this place.

News Items

- "We would again urge our country people to take steps to re-open their post offices. The right sort of men take this matter in hand."
- A religious revival has been going on at Bethel, six miles from down, and is still in progress.
- Elder Jesse Cox will preach at the Missionary Baptist Church.

A Jaunt to Franklin
(from the Nashville Banner).

This week brought us face to face with many old acquaintances and friends. It was county court day. There were some sales of land which brought fair prices, places offered for rent, the clerk's offices filled with persons qualifying for various civil positions, and to see the busy men hurrying here and there, well dressed, intent upon re-establishing themselves again, made one almost forget there had been a war in the land.

Franklin in the past could justly boast of as fine a society as any in the land, elegant mansions, and was one of the prettiest towns in the South. Some of the families are scattered, and members of some, alas, will never return, and the place may never be again exactly what it was, yet the awakened energies of a thrifty people have already done much ... toward restoring its prosperity and refinement. New houses are springing up here and there, fences are being rebuilt, shade trees trimmed and flowers trained, and the birds that once made the foliage of her forests vocal will learn to come again and sing their songs as if they had never been disturbed by the roar of cannon and the rattle of musketry."

News Articles

- "Because of the anxiety on the part of the people to see the instructions to the agent of the Freedman's Bureau, we reprint, on our first page, the instructions to John A. Jackson, of Giles, being the same governing the Agent for this county."
- Gen. Fisk's instructions to Freedmen's Bureau agents on labor contracts, reprinted in full, describing the authority of the Bureau to negotiate and enforce payment for labor by former slaves.
- Notice from the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* describing the decline in agricultural production because of negroes having left the plantations "to collect in the towns or villages, or to wander through the country, living by stealing, begging or petty jobbing."
- The Radicals charged that the secessionists had no right to leave the Union, but now practice secession of another sort by refusing to accept the Southern states as members of the Union.
- An account of the deathbed words of Episcopal Bishop Otey, noting the debate over whether the Bishop had called treason an unpardonable sin. About the late war, he was quoted as having said, "I was the most reluctant of all about me, to see the inception of this contest. I did everything in my power to prevent it, but was like throwing straws against the wind."

Legal Notices

- Edward W. Eggleston v. Louisa Hinson, et al. Defendant Milton Hinson is a non-resident of the state.
- Insolvent Notice. Estate of John H. Otey, filed by Sally Otey, administratrix.
- Sheriff's sale. H. Hill, Ex-Sheriff, will sell property of John S. Battle. Sale results from the case of L.H. Mosely v. John S. Battle
- M.S. Royce, trustee for Martha A. Royce, will sell the four acres on which his house formerly stood.
- Administrator's Notice - M.L. Bond has been appointed to administer the estate of Joseph Hunter, deceased, and calls for debtors and creditors to bring their payments and claims.
- Administrator's Notice - Wm. Mincy has been appointed administrator of John D. Lillard's estate.
- Nathaniel G. Smithson, Administrator, vs. James Rhea et als. Patsy Laney, Jno. S. Smithson, Susan Long and John Rhea and perhaps other heirs of Isaac Secrest are non-residents of the state.
- Wm. Cummins, County Court Clerk, will sell land at auction, resulting from the case of James Pinkerton vs. Joseph Cooper and wife, and others.
- P. Reese offers his farm of 664 acres on the West Harpeth, along with his farming implements and household furnishings, for sale.

Legal Notices (continued)

- James Pinkston, et al vs. Heirs of Sophia Dowdy. The heirs are non-residents of the state.
- Dennis M. Crafton, et al vs. Silas Shelburne, et al. Silas Shelburn, Thomas Pinkston and wife, Elizabeth Pinkston, Thomas Shelburne, Ann Alexander, and Nancy ____ and Peggy ____ (children of Thomas Shelburne) and the heirs of Ann Radford, deceased, are non-residents of the state.
- Uriah Sutton and wife vs. Alton F. Rudder, et al. Defendants Rebecca and Martha White are non-residents of the state.
- James M. Johnson and wife, et al vs. Nathan Yergan and others. Hollis H. Horton and wife Joanna, and Nathan Yergan are non-residents of the state.
- W.B. Carothers and wife vs. R.B. Carothers and others. John N. Carothers and Elizabeth A. Carothers are non-residents of the state.
- United States Direct Taxes. The quota of direct taxes due from Williamson County has been charged upon all the lands and lots in the county, and must be paid within 60 days to Lemuel B. McConnico, Clerk and Collector, at his office in Franklin. E.P. Ferry and John B. Rodgers, Commissioners.

BOOKS

During the military occupation of Franklin, my Books were somewhat scattered – some I have succeeded in getting, both from town and country. Others are still out of place, with my name or that of R.F. Hill upon them. The return of any of them will oblige –

W.H.S. HILL

Editorials

- The legislature newly convened in Nashville, urging them to restore the voting rights of former Confederates willing to take the oath of amnesty.
- Glad to see marks of moderation in Gov. Brownlow's message. "If the Parson didn't have so much vinegar in his composition we might ... vote for him."
- "For some time past our little city has been unusually lively. Our streets have presented a very business-like appearance The courts have been in session ... and the streets thronged with busy men. Our people have gone earnestly to work just as before the war.... Improvements of every kind are going on. New buildings occasionally going up, property changing hands, the streets being cleaned and repaired, etc. We heartily rejoice to see our people getting back again into the "old harness."

Announcements

- Four candidates announced their intention to run for Sheriff: F.M. Lavender; Jacob H. Horton; Peter W. Crouch; Hezekiah Hill; B.F. Owen.
- Four candidates announced their intention to run for Tax Collector: Wesley J. Tucker; Henry Potts; Edwin A. Reams; L.H. Woldridge, Esq.
- John L. Burch announced his candidacy for County Trustee.

Motto of the *Franklin Weekly Review*

"Be it our weekly task to note the passing tidings of the times"

Andrews & White Tobacco Co. Ledger

Williamson County, 1895-1897

By Carolyn Smotherman

Andrews and White Tobacco Factory, later Andrews and Ladd, was in the Allisona neighborhood of Williamson County, Tenn. A ledger for 1895-1897 still exists, owned in 2004 by Betty Bizzell Wilson, whose great-grandmother was a niece of Robert D. Andrews, one of the founders. The earliest date in the ledger is Jan. 3, 1895 and on that page begins a list of "Fixtures for the factory." Included are items such as window sash, locks, bucket, and wash pans, so the business must have been established in an existing building.

Some other expenses listed in the ledger are "Legger \$.50," and great quantities of licorice and vaseline. One entry is *Expenses to Nashville stage fee, lodging \$2.40*. The greatest expense was for "Gov. stamps." This apparently refers to tax stamps which had to be attached to each item sold. Payments were made to Johnson and Jordan, blacksmith; J. F. Ladd for smoking tobacco packer and cup and paper (to make sacks); Joe White, hauling; W. G. Daniel, mending wagon; and to S. J. Andrews, hauling from Nashville. Joseph Fount Ladd of this list was later a partner in the business. Mrs. Wilson remembers that in the 1940s Ladd sold licorice, cut from a "rope," out of his house.

Only four employees' names can be identified, but it appears more than one ledger was in use. Those listed are J. P. Connell, George Holt, Jerre Dodson, and Dr. John W. Criswell. Dr. Criswell was paid for "making twists."

Those from whom tobacco was bought included: Anderson Wilson, Andy Liggett, Dan Waddy, Ed Giles, Ewing Giles, Frank White, George Demumbrane, J. D. Pinkston, J. T. Wilhoite, James Walton, Jas. Bagsby, Joe Critz, John Connell, John Pinkston, Lee Hays, Meredith Hatcher, Nan Reed, Nute White, O. C. Lillard, O. D. Connell, Pole Reed, R. D. Tatum, Robert Phillipps, S. C. Brown, S. H. Brisby, T. C. Stammers, T. W. Fox, Tip Lofton, W. A. Bizzell, Willie Lofton, and Wm. Simmons.

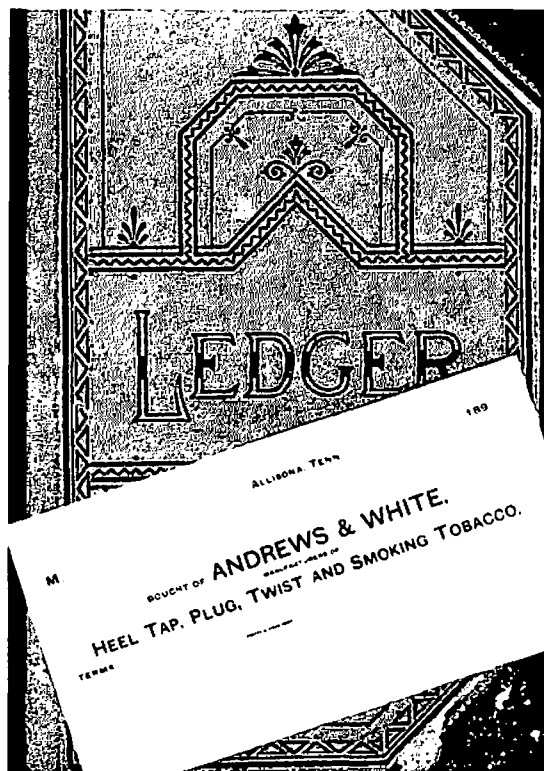
Someone went out regularly on sales trips. The routes were Franklin, Lewisburg, Shelbyville, Nashville and Pulaski. These trips seem to have lasted from two to six days. Cash sales were not recorded by name, but sales on account were, and many individuals and businesses with their addresses are included. The addresses given are a colorful litany of long-gone post-offices.

A & W Tobacco Company, sales on account to:

Abbott & Buchanan, Columbia
Aikin Bros., Burwood
Aikin, M. F., Burwood
Akin, M. F., Shaw

Alford & Bro., Brandon Fork
Alford Bros., Roberson Fork
Allen, T. H. Deason
Anderson, J. G. & Co., Santa Fe

Andrews, J. A., Carl
Arnold, J. H., Rover
Baker, W. C., Caneyspring
Barlar, N. T., Cornersville



Barlow, N. T., Cornersville
 Barrett, W. T., Lynnville
 Baugh, A. H., Thomson Sta.
 Beasley & Carothers, Duncanville
 Bigger & Owen, Allisona
 Bigger, T. A., Allisona
 Bills, W. A. & Co., Farmington
 Black & Marshall, Lewisburg
 Black, A., Leipers Fork
 Blanton, Walter
 Bond, H. (or W.) L., Lillard Mill
 Boren, J. W., Verona
 Bridgeforth, J. T., Pulaski
 Brittain, T. C., Columbia
 Bryant & Co., Linnville
 Bumpous, T. J. and Bro., Nashville
 Burgess, R. A., Brick Church
 Butts, M., Nashville
 Calvert, J. D., Roberson Fork
 Campbell & Lea, Spring Hill
 Campbell, Ed, Spring Hill
 Campbell, J. T. & Co., Archer
 Caperton, J. W., Spring Hill
 Castleman, T. A., Brooklin
 (Nashville route)
 Cathey & Co., Lewisburg
 Clark, E. G. M., Smyrna
 Clark, J. P., Diana
 Clements, C. M., Una
 Coble Bros., Shelbyville
 Coleman & Hodge, Rocky Fork
 Connell, E. W., Nashville
 Connell, J. P., Allisona
 Connell, J. P., Cove
 Cook & Son, Columbia
 Cook, G. W. & Son, Cornersville
 Cooper & Davis, Lavergne
 Cox, Gus, Roberson's Fork
 Crawford & Garner, Bell Buckle
 Creech, E., Nashville
 Crocker, Jim, Manchester
 Cunningham, F. W., Wartrace
 D. W. Wilson & Son, Nashville
 Daley, Matthew, Nashville
 Damron, W. J., Shelbyville
 Daugherty & Gaskill, Godwin
 Davis & Compton, Leipers Fork
 Davis, F. J., Bell Buckle
 Demuth, A. E., Lewisburg
 Dooley & Green, Columbia
 Doyle, B. F., Rally Hill
 Eakin, Geo. N. & Co., Shelbyville
 Elmore & Floyd, Eagleville
 Eskew, E. P., Jimtown
 Evans, J. L., Waco
 Farrar, J. R., Noah

Fitzpatrick & Richeson, Bivens
 Fitzpatrick, D. (or J.) M., Linnville
 Fleming, S. M., Harpeth
 Floyd, J. T., Caney Spring
 Follis, D. J., Buford Sta.
 Franklin, N. F., Noah
 Freeman, R. R., Moorsville
 Furgerson, Henry, Pulaski
 Gentry, W. T., Fruit Valley
 Glasscock, M., Lewisburg
 Gosling, W. H., Shelbyville
 Green & West, Lewisburg
 Green, J. J., Manchester
 Griffiths & Bros., Robinson Fork
 Grooms, T. R., Nashville
 Grubbs, J. T. & Son, Wartrace
 Guest, H. M., Columbia
 Hager, S. E., Smyrna
 Halfacre & Braxton, Columbia
 Hall & Murry, Nashville
 Hall(?), Robert, Pulaski
 Hamilton, Wiley, Shelbyville
 Harbison, A. T., Theta
 Harderson & Coker, Caney Spring
 Hardison & Stem (Lewisburg route)
 Hargrove, G. W., Columbia
 Harmon Bros., Nashville
 Harmon, D. T., Manchester
 Harris, [no name], Cornersville
 Hartman, M., Nashville
 Henley, Thee, Beasley
 Holt, J. H., Columbia
 Holte, Wartrace
 Hoover, M., Hoover
 Hope, J. K., Shelbyville
 Howard & Buford, Thomson Sta.
 Hunt, H. T. (or W. T.), Chapel Hill
 Irby, Jinnie (or Jimmie?) C.,
 Pinhook
 Irvin, (Alford?) & Co., Bell Buckle
 Isaacs, C. C., Linville
 Jackson, J. B., Brick Church
 Jackson, R. A., Brick Church
 Jamison Bros., Carter's Creek
 Jernigan & Barnes, Gould
 Jordan Bros., Pulaski
 Jordan, J. J., Priest
 Jordan, W. A., Brick Church
 Jordan, W. J., Pulaski
 Kennedy, B. F., Nashville
 Killingsworth, J. B., Globe
 Kington, G. W., Shelbyville
 Kittrell, G. W., Loco
 Knott, Thomas, Duplex
 Knott, Tom, Glens Store
 Lamar, T. W., Columbia

Lamb, J. A., Beasley
 Lamb, W. D., Beasley
 Lane, D. R., Brooklin (Franklin
 route)
 Lee, W. J., Springhill
 London, H. T., Lewisburg
 Longs, B. W., Lewisburg
 Lowery, H. D., Smyrna
 Lowery, W. T., Smyrna
 Lowrance, J. W., Lewisburg
 Mankin, N. F., Noah
 Martin & Casky, Kedron
 Martin & Coker, Bivens
 Martin, G. W., Shelbyville
 May, N. L., Manchester
 McConnel, W. J., Globe
 McCullough, T. M., Gossburg
 McGowan, [no name], Shelbyville
 McGrew, George W. & Son
 McKissack, A., Springhill
 McMillan, J. K. (or H. or R.), Callie
 McQuiddy, Henry, Verona
 McQuitty, H. C., Verona
 Miles, P. P. & Co., Brick Church
 Miller, H. J., Colwell
 Minton & Liggett, Antioch
 Molloy & Bond, Spring Hill
 Moore, H. T. & Co., Wartrace
 Moppin, Jesse, Allisona
 Morton, G. W., Shelbyville
 Morton, Mrs. J. A., Bingham
 Morton, W. M., Thomson Sta.
 Mullins, M. S., Shelbyville
 Neal Bros., Nashville
 Nelson (or Wilson), L. B., Haley
 Sta.
 O. E. (or L.) Nelson, Shelbyville
 Osborne Bros., Fairfield
 Owen, W. C., Spring Hill
 Phillips, A. J., Brentwood
 Pikens, W. H., Moorsville
 Pikens, W. J. & Co., Moorsville
 Pinson, Z., Beasley
 Proby, S. J., Caldwell
 Ragan & Colman, Mallard
 Ragan, W. M., Mallard
 Ransom, T. T. & Co., Shelbyville
 Reams, G. H., Franklin
 Reams, L. W., Franklin
 Redford, W. T., Bingham
 Reed & Gentry, Rover
 Reed, J. B., Reeds Store
 Reedy, W. M., Lewisburg
 Renfro, J. H., Columbia
 Revis, D. A., Rich Creek
 Richardson & Co., Linnville

Richardson & Hammond, Linnville
 Richardson, M. A. & Co., Bivens
 Robinson, B. P., Ogilbsby
 Russell, C. (or O.) W., Allisona
 Satterfield, J. E., Santa Fe
 Scales, P. D., Bethesda
 Sebastian, J. C., Wilhoite
 Sedberry, J. H., Thompson Station
 Sharber, Matt (col), Spring Hill
 Shaw, H. A., Burwood
 Shaw, J. O., Boston
 Shaw, W. A., Shaw
 Shearin & Co., Shelbyville
 Shelley, S. M., Shelbyville
 Shelton, H. B., Pulaski
 Shelton, S. A., Allisona
 Sherin & Ward, Shelbyville
 Smith & Putnam, Nolensville
 Smithson & King, Peytonsville

Smith Bros., College Grove
 Smith, W. H. & Bros., Nashville
 Spann Bros., Triune
 Spivey, M. C., Linnville
 Stem, [no name], Caney Springs
 Stine, Henry, Nashville
 Story & Osborne, Linnville
 Sullivan, M. W., Pulaski
 Swaim, J. W., Nashville
 Taylor, W. B., Franklin
 Thomas, H. L., Peytonsville
 Thompson, C. J., Shelbyville
 Thomson, Thos. L., Shelbyville
 Torhner, A., Franklin
 Trigg, J. R., Dianna
 Tucker, T. J., Columbia
 Turner & Wilson (or Williams),
 Vannatta
 Vass Bros., Columbia

Vaughn, F. J., Pulaski
 Waddy, J. T., Glens Store
 Wade, E. B., Deray
 Walker, D. R. & Co., Lewisburg
 Walker, F. M., Linnville
 Warner, R. W., Shelbyville
 Warren, A. J., Beechgrove
 White & Daimwood, Columbia
 White & Wilson, Thick
 Wiley, J. T., Duplex
 Wiley, Tom, Duplex
 Wilhoite, J. T. (Franklin route)
 Williams, H. B., Eagleville
 Wilson, J. L., Robertson Fork
 Wilson, L. B., Haley Sta.
 Young, J. C., Pulaski
 Young, R. L., Pulaski

A Sleepy Village in Williamson County

The 1900 Census of Brentwood – Part I

Brentwood today is a city of 30,000 people, and one of the wealthiest communities in Tennessee. But in 1900 it was a sleepy village entirely separate from Nashville and Franklin, which now push at its borders. Brentwood itself sits on the line between Williamson and Davidson counties, but for most purposes the 15th Civil District of Williamson County can be said to encompass the community. The following census records, transcribed by Jean Waggener for the Brentwood Library, show a community mainly comprised of farmers. A sprinkling of tradesmen and professional people also appear. The presence of toll-gate keepers Ella Kelly and Mrs. J. Lane reminds us that Brentwood was on the Franklin Pike, and the residency railroad laborers, “rousty bouts” and railroad superintendent Charley Phelps signify the village’s place along two railroad lines.

Family Number	Surname	Given name	Relationship	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth Place	Fath. Birth Place	Moth. Birth Place	Occupation
1	Brown	Mrs. Casandra	Head	W	66	W	2-2	TN	VA	TN	
	Brown	Nannie W.	Dau	W	29	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Brown	Walter R.	Son	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
2	Brown	William	Head	W	66	M 21	5-4	TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Brown	Arminda	Wife	W	47	M 21		TN	TN	VA	
	Brown	Blanche	Dau	W	20	M		TN	TN	TN	
	Brown	Birdie	Dau	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	At school
	Brown	Hugh	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At school
	Brown	William	Son	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	At school
	Brown	William	Son	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	At school
3	McDaniel	Maury	Head	W	46	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	McDaniel	Mrs. M.C.	Mother	W	61	W	5-4	TN	TN	TN	
	McDaniel	William S.	Son	W	37	M		TN	TN	TN	
	McDaniel	Charles H.	Son	W	39	M 1		TN	TN	TN	
	McDaniel	Bettie C.	Dau	W	42	M 1		TN	TN	TN	
4	James	William M.	Head	W	46	M 6		KY	VA	TN	Wood Mechanic
	James	Florence V.	Wife	W	39	M 6	2-2	TN	TN	TN	
	James	Hester V.	Dau	W	4	S		TN	KY	TN	At School

Family Number	Surname	Given name	Relationship	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth Place	Fath. Birth Place	Moth. Birth Place	Occupation
6	James	William D.	Son	W	2	S		TN	KY	TN	At School
	Kelly	John	Head	W	35	M 19		TN	VA	TN	Farmer
	Kelly	Ella N.	Wife	W	35	M 19	9-8	TN	VA	TN	Toll Gate Keeper
	Kelly	Milton R.	Son	W	18	S		TN		TN	Farm Laborer
	Kelly	Angy E.	Dau	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Kelly	Mattie J.	Dau	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Kelly	John E.	Son	W	13	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Kelly	Earnst T.	Son	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Kelly	Katie A.	Dau	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Kelly	Unice N.	Dau	W	3	S		TN	TN	TN	
7	Kelly	Maggie B.	Dau	W	<1	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Johnston	Mrs. [?]	Head	W	83	W	6-2	TN	NC	VA	Farmer
	Johnston	Amanda-[?]	Dau	W	40	S		TN	TN	TN	
8	Johnston	Robert L.	Son	W		M		TN	TN	TN	
	Whitfield	William	Head	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
9	McDaniel	[?] S.	Head	W	37	M 12		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	McDaniel	Julia W.	Wife	W	35	M 12	6-6	TN	TN	TN	
	McDaniel	Maggie	Dau	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McDaniel	Bessie D.	Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McDaniel	[?] W.	Son	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McDaniel	Nellie	Dau	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McDaniel	William S.	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	McDaniel	Mattie	Dau	W	1	S		TN	TN	TN	
	McAbee	J.N.	Head	W	46	S		GA	SC	SC	Farmer
14	Jordan	Walter	Head	W	40	M 14		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Jordan	Lena F.	Wife	W	35	M 14	2-1	TN	TN	TN	
	Jordan	Mary	Dau	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
15	Alley	Walter	Head	W	57	M 37		TN	NC	NC	Farmer
	Alley	Nanne [?]	Wife	W	56	M 37	9-9	TN	VA	VA	
	Alley	Carrie	Dau	W	35	M 1		TN	TN	TN	
	Alley	Lula	Dau	W	34	M 1		TN	TN	TN	
	Alley	Walter	Son	W	33	M ?		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Alley	Hugh	Son	W	31	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Alley	Mattie	Dau	W	29	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Alley	Charley	Son	W	28	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Alley	James	Son	W	26	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Alley	Clarence	Son	W	23	M 1		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Alley	Porter	Son	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Low	Willis	Head	W	38	M 13		TN	TN	TN	Carpenter
16	Low	Carrie	Wife	W	35	M 13	2-2	TN	TN	TN	
	Low	Charlie	Son	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Low	Jennie	Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
17	Rozelle	A.B.	Head	W	68	M 32		TN	NC	TN	Farmer
	Rozelle	M.E.	Wife	W	49	M 32	11-9	TN	TN	TN	
	Rozelle	M.E.	Son	W	26	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Rozelle	Minnie	Dau	W	24	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Rozelle	Mary	Dau	W	22	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Rozelle	Logan	Son	W	20	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Rozelle	Katie	Dau	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Rozelle	Leslie	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Rozelle	Marvin	Son	W	13	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Rozelle	Ruby	Dau	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
18	Rozelle	Howell	Son	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Robert [?]	Head	W	45	M 21		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Johnston	Eurilda	Wife	W	45	M 21	9-9	TN	TN	TN	
	Johnston	Orin	Son	W	20	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Ewen	Son	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Arthur	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Robert	Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Eula	Dau	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Marsh	Son (twin)	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Will	Son (twin)	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Annie Lou	Dau	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Johnston	Emma	Dau	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
19	Murray	William	Head	W	53	M 30		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Murray	Larkie	Wife	W	55	M 30	4-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Murray	Wilbur	Son	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	At School

Family Number	Surname	Given name	Relationship	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth Place	Fath. Birth Place	Moth. Birth Place	Occupation
20	Murray	Mary Lee	Dau	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Murray	Nellie	Dau	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Reed	Robert A.	Head	W	53	M 28		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Reed	Josephine	Wife	W	47	M 28	11-11	TN	TN	TN	
	Reed	Shady	Son	W	26	M 1		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Reed	Mary	Dau	W	22	M 1	0-0	TN	TN	TN	
	Reed	Blake	Son	W	20	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Reed	James	Son	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Reed	Peter	Son	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Reed	Tennie	Dau	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Reed	Sina	Dau	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Reed	Beula	Dau	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Reed	Robert	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Reed	Carrie	Dau	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
21	Reed	Lewis	Son	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Reed	Daniel	Grand Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Ormes	William	Boarder	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Sawyers	Hugh	Head	W	28	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Sawyers	James	Brother	W	42	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
22	Brooks	Bettie	House Keeper	W	44	W	1-1	TN	TN	TN	House Keeper
	Brooks	Salley	Dau	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Sawyers	Elizabeth	Head	W	54	W	7-7	TN	TN	TN	
	Proctor	[?]	Dau	W	27	M		TN	TN	TN	
	Sawyers	Susie Belle	Dau	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Sawyers	Willie May	Dau	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Sawyers	John	Son	W	20	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Sawyers	Louis	Son	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Sawyers	Emma	Dau	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Sawyers	(twin)									
	Sawyers	[?] (twin)	Son	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Proctor	George	Son-in-Law	W	27	M 5		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Proctor	George	Grand Son	W	4	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Proctor	James	Grand Son	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
23	Proctor	Dave	Grand Son	W	1	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Guthrie	John [?]	Head	W	52	M 25		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Guthrie	Mary E.	Wife	W	42	M 25	7-7	TN	TN	TN	
	Guthrie	Willie J.	Dau	W	23	M		TN	TN	TN	
	Guthrie	Sallie E.	Dau	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Guthrie	Martha L.	Dau	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Guthrie	Mary S.	Dau	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Guthrie	Elva	Dau	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Guthrie	John P.	Son	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Guthrie	Earl R.	Son	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
25	McDowell	G.H.	Head	W	23	M 1		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	McDowell	Blanche	Wife	W	20	M 1		TN	TN	TN	
	McDowell	Wallace	Brother	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McDowell	Mary	Sister	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
26	Wooten	Owen	Head	W	30	M 3		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Wooten	Sallie	Wife	W	26	M 3	1-1	TN	TN	TN	
27	Wooten	Bessie	Dau	W	1	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Scott?	J. D.	Head	W	30	M 3		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Scott?	Fannie G.	Wife	W	20	M 3	2-1	TN	TN	TN	
28	Scott?	Bertha H.	Dau	W	2/12	S		TN	TN	TN	
	McDowell	John	Head	W	34	M 14		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	McDowell	Mary [?]	Wife	W	32	M 14		TN	TH	TN	
	McDowell	Earnest C.	Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McDowell	Alley May	Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McDowell	Carrie	Dau	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McDowell	Clarence	Son	W	3	S		TN	TN	TN	
29	Hartman	Thomas	Boarder	W	25	S		TN	TN	TN	Marketer
	Clark	Willis	Head	W	65	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer

Family Number	Surname	Given name	Relationship	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth Place	Fath. Birth Place	Moth. Birth Place	Occupation
31	Clark	Willie (?)	Dau	W	28	M		TN	TN	TN	
	Clark	Cleo	Dau	W	24	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Clark	Sam	Son	W	36	S		TN	TN	TN	Drumer (?)
	Clark	Maud	Dau	W	20	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Green	Lewis C.	Head	W	32	M 1		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Green	Mattie	Wife	W	23	M 1	0-0	TN	TN	TN	
	Wooten	Tom	Brother in Law	W	27	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Wooten	Gus	Brother in Law	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Wooten	Mat ? [?]	Brother in Law	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Curley	J. H.	Head	W	60	M 28		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
32	Curley	Delia	Wife	W	48	M 28	6-6	TN	TN	TN	
	Curley	Nellie	Dau	W	26	M		TN	TN	TN	
	Curley	John	Son	W	25	S		TN	TN	TN	Rail Roding
	Curley	Mary	Dau	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Curley	James	Son	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Curley	Katie	Dau	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Curley	Delia	Dau	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
33	Sawyers	John	Servant	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Jones	Felix A.	Head	W	51	M 14		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Jones	Etta	Wife	W	34	M 14	3-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Jones	Minor	Son	W	13	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Jones	[Irene?]	Dau	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Jones	Erving	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Jones	Mrs. America	Mother	W	79	W		TN	TN	TN	
34	White	John C.	Head	W	70	M 44		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	White	Martha	Wife	W	64	M 44	11-10	TN	TN	TN	
	White	Sallie	Dau	W	40	S		TN	TN	TN	
	White	Willie	Dau	W	37	M		TN	TN	TN	
	White	Julia	Dau	W	36	S		TN	TN	TN	
	White	Martha	Dau	W	33	S		TN	TN	TN	
	White	Samuel	Son	W	32	M		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	White	John	Son	W	29	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	White	Leon	Son	W	28	S		TN	TN	TN	Store Keeper
	White	Thomas	Son	W	26	S		TN	TN	TN	Clerk in Grocery
35	White	Henry	Son	W	25	S		TN	TN	TN	Teamster
	White	Joshua	Son	W	22	S		TN	TN	TN	Well Digger
	Whitehurst	Henry C.	Head	W	37	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Whitehurst	Mary R.	Dau	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Whitehurst	Nellie[?] C.	Dau	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Whitehurst	William A.	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Whitehurst	Robert J.	Son	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Whitehurst	Henry C.	Son	W	6	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Whitehurst	Miss Minnie	Sister	W	30	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Hughes	Gentry R.	Head	W	25	M 5		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
36	Hughes	Bettie	Wife	W	26	M 5	2-2	TN	TN	TN	
	Hughes	Thomas	Son	W	3	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Hughes	William	Son	W	<1	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Schol[?]	John	Head	W	50	M 26		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Schol[?]	Sallie	Wife	W	44	M 26	5-5	TN	TN	TN	
	Schol[?]	Menise[?]	Dau	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Schol[?]	Mamie	Dau	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	
37	Schol[?]	John	Son	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	Farm Laborer
	Schol[?]	Sam	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Schol[?]	Willie	Dau	W	11	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Collins	Robert B.	Head	W	60	S		TN	VA	TN	Farmer
	Collins	Fannie F.	Mother	W	80	W		TN	TN	TN	
	Collins	Fannie E.	Sister	W	50	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Collins	Avy E.	Sister	W	48	S		TN	TN	TN	
38	Litterer	J.F.	Head	W	69	M 20		GE	GE	GE	Farmer
	Litterer	April	Wife	W	38	M 20	1-1	WI	OH	OH	
	Litterer	Oscar E.	Son	W	15	S		IL	GE	OH	At School
39	Harrison	G. [?]	Head	W	39	M 18		TN	TN	TN	Handyman
	Harrison	A.M.	Wife	W	39	M 18	5-5	TN	TN	TN	

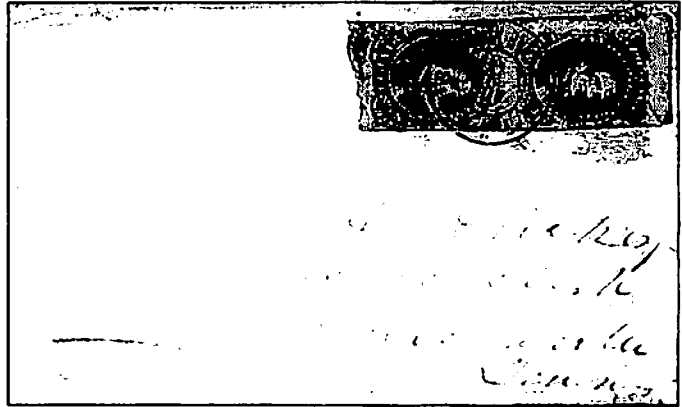
Family Number	Surname	Given name	Relationship	Race	Age	Marital Status & Years	Children	Birth Place	Fath. Birth Place	Moth. Birth Place	Occupation
41	Harrison	William F.	Son	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	[?] Store
	Harrison	Leon P.	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Harrison	George W.	Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Harrison	Annie A.	Dau	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McCrory	John B.	Head	W	50	M 16		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
42	McCrory	Fannie[?]	Wife	W	40	M 16		TN	TN	TN	
	Cartwright	Mrs. Jane	Head	W	58	W	8-8	VA	NC	TN	Farmer
	Cartwright	Joseph	Son	W	37	S		TN	TN	VA	Farmer
	Cartwright	Sallie	Dau	W	36	M		TN	TN	VA	
	Cartwright	Tommie	Dau	W	32	S		TN	TN	VA	
	Cartwright	Willie	Dau	W	30	S		TN	TN	VA	
	Cartwright	James	Son	W	28	M		TN	TN	VA	Farm Laborer
	Cartwright	Henry	Son	W	26	S		TN	TN	VA	Book Keeper
	Cartwright	Charley	Son	W	23	S		TN	TN	VA	At School
	Cartwright	Lewis	Son	W	22	S		TN	TN	VA	At School
	Barrus	Wash	Brother	W	50	S		VA	NC	TN	Teamster
	Hayes	Lyson W.	Head	W	50	M 25		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
43	Hayes	Hortense	Wife	W	42	M 25	7-7	TN	TN	TN	
	Hayes	Joseph	Son	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Hayes	Margy	Dau	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Hayes	Augusta B.	Dau	W	17	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Hayes	William S.	Son	W	15	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Hayes	Charley H.	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Hayes	Nathaniel C.	Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Hayes	Henry W.	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Anderson	Jno. J.	Head	W	49	M 20		TN	VA	TN	Grocery Merchant
	Anderson	A.E.	Wife	W	34	M 20	4-4	MS	MS	VA	
45	Anderson	John W.	Son	W	18	S		TN	TN	MS	Telegraph Operator
	Anderson	Laura C.	Dau	W	16	S		TN	TN	MS	At School
	Anderson	Will W.	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	MS	At School
	Anderson	Charles A.	Son	W	11	S		TN	TN	MS	At School
	Mayfield	Geo. A.	Head	W	53	M 28		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Mayfield	Mary	Wife	W	52	M 28		TN	TN	TN	
	Mayfield	Eliza	Dau	W	25	M		TN	TN	TN	
	Mayfield	Joseph W.	Son	W	24	S		TN	TN	TN	Day Laborer
	Mayfield	Chattie	Dau	W	18	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Mayfield	Jennie	Dau	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Mayfield	Robert C.	Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Mayfield	George	Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Mayfield	James G.	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Mayfield	Katie	Dau	W	7	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
46	Stephens	J. H.	Head	W	29	M		TN	TN	TN	Gro Clerk
	Stephens	Jennie A.	Wife	W	17	M		MS	MS	MS	
47	Gilbert	Alonzo	Head	W	59	M 30		TN	SC	SC	Farmer
	Gilbert	V.R	Wife	W	56	M 30	0-0	TN	VA	AL	
48	McNeal	H. B.	Head	W	42	M 5		TN	TN	TN	Purchaser[?]
	McNeal	Nora	Wife	W	34	M 5		TN	TN	TN	
	McNeal	Purce	Step Son	W	14	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McNeal	Bascomb	Step Son	W	12	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McNeal	Willie	Step Dau	W	9	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	McNeal	Morrison	Step Son	W	8	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Pointer[?]	Thomas	Head	W	73	W		VA	VA	VA	Farmer
52	Garner	William	Head	W	30	M 6		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Garner	Nannie	Wife	W	24	M 6	3-3	TN	TN	TN	
	Garner	Minnie	Dau	W	5	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Garner	William	Son	W	2	S		TN	TN	TN	
	Garner	John	Son	W	1	S		TN	TN	TN	
53	Moore	Robt. J.	Head	W	54	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Moore	John C.	Son	W	25	S		TN	TN	TN	Book Keeper
	Moore	Henry R.	Son	W	21	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Moore	William M.	Son	W	19	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
	Moore	Charley C.	Son	W	16	S		TN	TN	TN	At School
54	Irvin	C.R.	Head	W	37	W		TN	TN	TN	Farmer
	Irvin	James W.	Son	W	10	S		TN	TN	TN	

To be continued

Confederate Mail Carriers

in Middle Tennessee

Some records of the Post Office Department of the Confederate States of America are preserved at the National Archives.¹ Among them are contracts with postal carriers who agreed to transport the mail in Tennessee in 1861 and 1862. There are 180 contracts recorded in the surviving volume, each contract covering two ledger-sized pages, front and back. The first page is the contract itself, which generally reads like this example:



*Pelham, Tenn.
No. 10151
\$170 per annum*

This article of contract made the 9th day of May in the year 1861 between the Confederate States of America (acting in this behalf by their Postmaster General) and T.A. Wiley and Campbell Haney [sic] and H. Gullivan, sureties.

Witnesseth that whereas T.A. Wiley has been accepted according to law as Contractor for transporting the Mail on Route No. 10151 from Decherd, Tenn., by Hawkerville, to Pelham, and back twice a week at \$170 per annum ... " to be paid quarterly.

[Signed] *John H. Reagan, Postmaster General*

[Witnessed] *S.P. Goodman
James Coulson*

[Signed] *T.A. Wiley
Campbell Hordy[?]
H. Gilliam
Dec. 25, 1861*

I certify that I am well acquainted with ... and after full investigation and inquiry I am well satisfied that they are good and sufficient sureties for the amount in the foregoing contract.

[Signed] *M. Gilliam, DPM, Postmaster at Pelham, Grundy Co.*

¹ War Department, Collection of Confederate Records (National Archives Record Group 109). Post Office Department, Mail Contracts, Tennessee, 1861-1862. Chapter XI vol. 12. These records are available for viewing at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. They have not been microfilmed. The sample Pelham entry appears on p. 138.

²The image shown above is an original Confederate envelope, offered for sale for \$600 at www.jlkstamps.com/lists/cov-4.htm

The Second page is headed boldly *THE SCHEDULE of Departures and Arrivals* and lists the dates, times and stations the carrier is responsible for. In the Pelham example, the list reads as follows:

Leave Deckerd Wed. & Fri. at 1 p.m.

Arrive at Pelham by 6 p.m.

Leave Pelham Wed. and Fri. at 6 a.m.

Arrive at Deckerd by 12 p.m.

Genealogists will find interesting information in these records not only about the mail carriers, but about the people who served as postmasters, the family or friends of the carrier who were willing to sign as his security, and the witnesses to the signatures – all people who lived in the same community. Moreover, understanding the postal routes in your ancestors' communities shows the likely transportation routes in the area and the other communities which were most closely linked to theirs.

Persons who served the Confederate government in any capacity, including mail carriers, were considered disloyal to the United States. After the war ended, they were denied the right to vote and other civil liberties. Many of these people later applied for pardons from President Andrew Johnson. Their applications for pardon can be viewed on microfilm at the Tenn. State Library and Archives and other repositories. An index to the names of pardon applicants can be found in the book *Index to individual pardon applications from the South, 1895-1898* by Carolyn M. Rowe (Pensacola: C.M. Rowe, 1996).

Some of the other Middle Tennessee mail carriers and their routes noted in these records are summarized as follows.

Bunker Hill (Giles County)

From Fayetteville by Viney Grove, Cyruston, Millville, Bunker Hill, Bradshaw and Lamartine to Pulaski and back once a week.

Carrier E.M. Holt. Sureties R.J. Williams, H.F. Pack. Witness G. Williams.

Postmaster at Bunker Hill, W.H. Wells (Page 140)

Byhalia (Marshall County)

From LaGrange by Mt. Campbell to Wolf River and back once a week. \$185.

Carrier R.E. Morrison and R.W. Martin. Sureties J.H. Hayes and N.L. Wilson. Witnesses N.J. Wilson.

Jos. E. Horn, postmaster at Byhalia, Miss. (Page 66)

Charity (Lincoln County)

From Shelbyville by Flat Creek and County Line to Lynchburg and back, twice a week, returning by Gill's Store, Charity and Flat Creek to Shelbyville. \$225.

Carrier Nancy Miller. Sureties Joes Ries, John H. Steelman. Witnesses L. Leftwich, J.L. Dusenburg.

James W. Whitman, Postmaster at Charity, Lincoln Co., signed by R.A. Whitman, deputy. (Page 135)

Decaturville (Decatur County)

From Camden by Chaseville, Etna, Coxburg, Morgan's Creek and Howesville to Decaturville and back once a week. Morgan's Creek to be supplied on the return trip in lieu of Etna. \$290.

Carrier James H. Curry. Sureties A.M. Yarbrow, W.B. Bright. Witnesses John E. Littell, A.A. Johnson.

Postmaster C.B. Tuck, Decaturville. (Page 5)

Fayetteville (Lincoln County)

From Fayetteville by Camargo, Molino and Robinson's Store, to Pleasant Plains and back, once a week.

Carrier S.Y. McCalla. Sureties Arthur S. Randolph, J.C. Caruthers. Witnesses W.C. Kierner, Wm. M. Todd. Postmaster at Fayetteville, C.A. French. (Page 139)

Fayetteville (Lincoln County)

From Fayetteville by Craighead, Boon's Hill, Medium, and Gas Factory to Cornersville and back, once a week. Carrier William H. Moores. Sureties F.P. Fulton and Andrew Russell. Witnesses G.W. Ransom and G.F. Smith. Postmaster at Fayetteville, C.A. French. (Page 141)

Hartsville (Sumner County)

From Cooksville by Double Springs, Byrne, Pekin, Chesnut Mound, Convenient, Carthage, Dixon's Springs, Hartville, Enon College and Castalin Springs to Gallatin and back every other day. \$200.

Carriers Thomas J. Day and R.B. Allen. Sureties: H.C. Ellis and Jno. D. Stalker. Wit: A.W. McConnell.

R. Averett, Postmaster at Hartsville. (Page 82)

Jordan's Store (Williamson County)

From Petersburg by Spring Place, New Hope, Belfast, Lewisburg, Farmington, Caney Spring, Chapel Hill, Holt's Corners and Rigg's Crossroads to Jordan's Store and back twice a week to Chapel Hill, and three time a week the residue.

Carrier Robert A. Wilson. Sureties Matthew Wilson, E.B. Kelley. Witness B.F. Dodson.

John T. Wilson, Postmaster at Jordan's Store. (Page 137)

Lebanon (Wilson County)

From Sparta by Riverside, Spencer, Mills Branch, Pikeville, Foster Crossroads, Stephen's Chapel, Fillmore, Walnut Valley, Looney's Creek, Cosby and Crown Point, to Nickajack and back twice a week.

Carrier M.A. Price. Sureties James B. Price and John W. Price. Witness T.C. Blake.

Postmaster H. Wilkinson, Lebanon. (Page 83)

Livingston (Overton County)

From Sparta by Newark, Falling Water, Cooksville, White Plains, Oak Hill, Netherland, Livingston, Monroe, Obey Hill, Olympus and Hale's Mills to Albany (Ky.) and back twice a week. \$970.

Carrier John W. Roberts. Sureties J.M. Mitchell and John C. Flanigin. Witnesses R.L. Mitchell, J.C. Brown. Postmaster J.A. Rickman at Livingston. (Page 84)

McMinnville (Warren County)

From McMinnville by Increase, Pine Bluff, Rock Island and Cave, to Sparta and back, every other day. \$780. Carrier Samuel Black. Sureties S.D. Rowan, P.H. Marberry. Witnesses J.R. Walling, P.H. McGregor, W.B. Bridges.

Postmaster Hugh L. Walling, McMinnville. (Page 3)

McMinnville (Warren County)

From McMinnville by Increase and Rocky River to Spencer and back twice a week. \$239.

Carrier R. Stroud. Sureties Smith J. Walling, Joseph D. Walling. Witnesses Davis F. Wallace, A.C. Shields, Jr.

Postmaster Hugh L. Walling, McMinnville. (Page 74)

McMinnville (Warren County)

From McMinnville by Mountain Creek and Pine Creek to Smithville and back once a week.

Carrier Jesse T. Webb. Sureties L.D. Mercer and Wm. Lowrey. Witnesses Jesse Walling, Wm. Grove, P.H. McGregor.

Postmaster Hugh L. Walling, McMinnville. (Page 2)

Murfreesboro (Rutherford County)

From Murfreesboro by Readyville to Woodbury and back twice a week. \$450.

Carrier W.J. McKnight. Sureties H.P. Keeble, James M. Avent. Witnesses [none].

D.D. Wendel[?] Asst. Postmaster at Murfreesboro. (Page 81)

Petersburg (Lincoln County)

From Shelbyville by Richmond, Petersburg and Cane Creek to Fayetteville and back three times a week. \$593.

Carrier J.J. Blakemore. Sureties H.S. Blakemore, Tho. H. Holland. Wit: Hugh McTier, B.W.L. Rice [Rives?].

Postmaster at Petersburg: Wm. B. Fonville. (Page 136)

Rowesville (Bedford County)

From Normandy to Rowesville and back once a week.

Carrier Jesse Nutte. Sureties H.H. Scott, H.H. Landers. Witnesses George Cortner, A.S. Lourançe.

Jas W. Culley, Postmaster at [blank]. (Page 134)

Shelbyville (Bedford County)

From Fayetteville by Goshen and Meridianville (Ala.) to Huntsville and back three times a week. \$625.

Carrier W.H. Moores. Sureties F.P. Fulton, A.H. Russell. Witnesses Lucius P. Bright, Albert A. Wright. Postmaster C.A. French, Fayetteville. (Page 133)

Sparta (White County)

From Sparta by Bon Air, Clackstown, Pomona, Crossville, Spencer Mill, Bellville and Post Oak Springs to Kingston and back, once a week. \$950.

Carrier J.W. Roberts. Sureties R.P. Herndon, Edley Paul. Witness Peter T---y[?].

S. Clark, Postmaster at Sparta. (Page 4)

Tullahoma (Coffee County)

From Tullahoma by Lynchburg and Mulberry to Fayetteville and back three times a week. \$550.

Carrier Robert Blackburn. Sureties J.W. Marshall and S.J. McLemore. Witnesses Thos. A. Jones, Richard Marshall.

Smith Morgan, Postmaster at Tullahoma (Coffee Co.). (Page 80)

West Point (Lawrence County)

From Pulaski by way of Vale's Mills, Bodenham, Lawrenceburg to West Point and back once a week.

Carrier D.H. True. Sureties J.B. Lindsey, C.J. Herren and R.G. Grimes. Witnesses C.L. McLure, R.J. Kelly. Postmaster at West Point, S.M. Trice [Price?]. (Page 142)

Middle Tennessee Supreme Court Records

Second Series

*Contributed by Betsy Ragsdale and
Gale Williams Bamman, CG*



Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**John M. Dance & Drury Dance
vs R. M. Burton & Others**
(Original Bill heard in
Wilson County Chancery Court)

The bill of review of John E. and Drury Dance citizens of the County of Wilson & State of Tennessee, against Martha McGrigor & her guardian Robert M. Burton of Wilson County, Andrew J. McGrigor and his

guardian Andrew J. Donelson of Davidson County, Milberry McGrigor & her guardian Robert D. Harris resident in Rutherford County of said state, Donelson McGrigor and his guardian Albert McGrigor and Mary & Thomas McGregor; and also against Ransford McGregor, Levi Wade, Jacob D. Donelson & John C. Wade citizens of said County of Rutherford.

Complainants...represent that on the 7th day of August 1839 the said minors above mentioned by their

said respective guardians, and the said Mary & Thomas by the said Robert M. Burton as their next friend, filed in the chancery court for said County of Rutherford their original bill against the said Ransford McGrigor as the Executor of one John McGrigor, dec'd. and against the said Levi Wade John C. Wade Jacob D. Donelson as securities of said Ransford in his executorship and also against your orators John E. and Drury Dance as the Administrators of Russell Dance,

dec'd., also a security for the said Ransford in his said executorship.

In said bill it was alleged that said minors the complaints therein were the children of John McGrigor, dec'd., that the said John McGrigor departed this life in the summer of 1835, having first made his last will and testament in which he appointed his wife Milberry McGrigor and the said Ransford McGrigor his Executor and Executrix; that the said will was duly proven at the August Term 1835 of the County Court for said county....

Supreme Court Records, Box 72,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**Frances Brinson, Admr., vs
Wright W. Outlaw & others**
(Original Bill heard in
Stewart County Chancery Court)

... that on the 6th day of March 1839 a bill was filed...[that] Frances Brinson a citizen resident of Stewart County, was the widow of Drury D. Brinson, dec'd. who died intestate about ____[blank] 1835, leaving your oratrix and three children, Ellen Jas and Mary, all infants under the age of twenty one years and possessed of the following named Negroes, to wit, Harry, Bill and Ned, Winney, Bob, Oney, Jenny, Sally, and John ... and that one Benjamin Kelly was appointed his Administrator, and shortly after his appointment, the said Benja. Kelly died, and after that your oratrix and one Robert Dunlap were appointed jointly to manage said estate...and that in a short time thereafter the said Robert Dunlap departed this life, leaving the entire management of said estate on your oratrix who is

old and infirm and knows but little of the management of such things. Your oratrix however used her best endeavors to secure and take care of the property belonging to herself and children, and in the management thereof, instead of selling off property and paying the debts of her husband, she borrowed money from her neighbours and occasionally was compelled to borrow for the support & clothing of her children, the said Ellen being a young woman and the said James being 18 or 19 years of age, and then endeavoring to get on and secure the property for her children, she at last found herself in debt about five hundred dollars to Nathan Thomas, besides other small debts in the neighbourhood. The said Nathan Thomas was desirous of having his debt secured, and your oratrix made a deed of trust...giving him a lien on the undivided fourth part of the Negroes. Some six or nine months ago the said Ellen was married to one Wright W. Outlaw, who your oratrix believes now resides in the County of Montgomery, but for some time after his marriage, resided in Stewart...and...set up some kind of claim against your oratrix for the supposed profits of the estate due himself and wife, and the children James and Mary, of whom he became the guardian by appointment of the County Court of Stewart....

Supreme Court Records, Box 68,
Middle Tennessee, 1841

**McDaniel & Williams & wives vs
Martha Belote & Henry A.
Belote**
(Original Bill heard in Sumner
County Chancery Court)

Cross Bill filed 19 March 1841. The cross bill of F. L. McDaniel & wife Nancy G. McDaniel, Alexander Williams & his wife Martha J. Williams against Martha Belote, Henry A. Belote & others.

Your orators and oratrixes citizens of Sumner County would represent that on the 9th day of January 1837 for a valuable consideration the said Alex Williams & F. S. McDaniel purchased of John D. Goodall who had intermarried with Elizabeth C. Belote all their right title and claim that the said John D. & wife had or might have in the estate of John Belote the father and in the estate of Henry Belote, dec'd. the grandfather. That they the said McDaniel and Williams aforesaid sold out their claim and interest in Eliza Malisa George & Prosper of John Belote's estate which was one third interest and their interest of one half in ____[?]

Supreme Court Records, Box 71,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**Phoebe Nichols and Abigail
Nichols vs Ephraim Andrews,
Admr. of Joshua Nichols, dec'd.
& others**
(Original Bill heard in Cannon
County Chancery Court)

Bill of Complaint of Phoebe Nichols and Abigail Nichols citizens of Cannon County, Tennessee against Ephraim Andrews citizen of the same county, one of the administrators of Joshua Nichols dec'd. late of Cannon County and against Thomas N. Young of Rutherford County, Tennessee, the other administrator and against Joseph Washington Nichols, Mary E. Nichols and Louisa Elmira Nichols

the last three minor heirs of the said Joshua Nichols dec'd. and who are now residents of the said Rutherford County....

Your oratrixes represent that their father Joshua- Joseph [sic] Nichols departed this life in Rutherford County but now composing a part of Cannon County...that their father the said Joshua-Joseph Nichols died seized of a tract of land containing upwards of two hundred acres...besides a considerable stock and other personal property.... Previous to his death the said Joseph Nichols made and published his last will and testament appointing his son Joshua Nichols and Elizabeth the widow his executors...was duly proved by the subscribing witnesses thereto, and partially executed by the said Joshua Nichols, executor....

... that their said father and testator left surviving him his wife Elizabeth Nichols, four daughters, to wit: your oratrixes and two others Jane and Larcena [?] Nichols and two sons the said Joshua Nichols his executor and Jonathan Nichols who resides in the State of Indiana...

... that one of the items of said will was in the following words, viz: "I bequeath to my wife Elizabeth Nichols her maintenance of the plantation whereon she now resides, likewise the household furniture during her lifetime, they to be equally divided amongst my four daughters Jane, Phoebe, Levenea [?] and Abigail Nichols...."

"I bequeath to my son Joshua Nichols all the plantation whereon I now live and all my stock.... I

likewise will that my son Joshua Nichols take care of and support my four daughters so long as they remain unmarried or choose to abide with him...."

Supreme Court Records, Box 71,
Middle Tennessee, 1842

**Bank of the State of Alabama vs
Fitzpatrick & Horton**
(Original Bill heard in Maury
County Chancery Court)

To the Sheriff of Maury County
Greeting:

Whereas the Branch of the Bank of the State of Alabama at Montgomery has this day filed her bill ...praying for an attachment to issue to make the sum of five thousand five hundred & fifty one dollars to be levied on certain Negroes as the property of Rene Fitzpatrick & Stephen Horton to wit Big Henry Charlotte Antonette Wesley Little Henry Martha Susan Emily Madison Houston Shederick Isabelle Frances Minerva Thomas Louisa Amanda Cynthia Keziah Titus Dick Harriett Ann Jim Jenny Eliza John William Robin Ann Clara Ellick George Isaac Rebecca Caroline Ned Milly Doctor Big Tom Cusy[?] Maria the last five being the property of Stephen Horton and also four others as the property of Stephen Horton to wit Mary Jacob Nat & Eley.

You are therefore hereby commanded to attach the aforesaid Negroes and them safely keep...In this fail not...this 30 day of June 1842. [signed] G. M. Martin, C & M

Supreme Court Records, Box 72,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**Joseph M. Robb & wife Martha
K. Robb vs William Hallum &
Martha H. & Jas. D. White,
Admr., etc.**
(Original Bill heard in Wilson
County Chancery Court)

Your orators Joseph K.[sic] Robb and Martha K. his wife, citizens of the County of Sumner would shew that Saml. Calhoun the father of Martha K. departed this life in the County of Wilson on the 3rd day of August 1837. That Robert A. King and A. B. Newsome were appointed his Executors, the former of whom was qualified...some short time thereafter, and took on himself the execution of said will... that the Executor Robert A. King departed this life in the ear 1840 and shortly after which James D. White was appointed...administrator of Samuel Calhoun with the will annexed...that the father Samuel Calhoun about the year 1820 intermarried with the daughter of one Richard King, to wit, Martha King, and had by her born the complainant, Martha K. to wit, on the 6th of April 1822, on which day the complainant's (Martha K.'s) mother departed this life. Complainants would further shew that their grandfather Richard King, as they are informed, some time after the marriage of his daughter, loaned to her two negro slaves, to wit, Sally and Sloan, intending afterwards to secure them to his daughter during her life and to her children after her death. Sally remained with her one year or more and Sloan ___[?] time before her death, Westly having been sent to her and remained

there some time previous to Sloan being sent.

... that shortly after the death of the said Martha the daughter of the said Richard King, the said Richard King not having given or made any conveyance of said slaves to his daughter or her husband Saml. took possession of the said girl Sally and retained her in his possession claiming her as his own for more than three years, and Sloan, he being loaned to the said Saml., expressing an intention that he intended to give him to his granddaughter, Martha K...

... that the grandfather Richard King in pursuance of his previous gift as detailed in this bill, to complainant Martha K. confirmed the said gift to her by his will dated the 16th day of April 1834, proved in the County Court of Sumner County, by the following clause, to wit, "6th. I do also confirm to my granddaughter Martha K. Calhoun, her heirs and assigns forever, the right and title of a negro man named Sloan and a negro woman named Sally with her children unless the said Martha K. should die under the age of 21 unmarried and without issue, in which case it is my will that the right of said negroes should be in my son Robert A. King and his heirs."

Complainants would shew that It was the agreement and understanding of the said Richard King and Samuel Calhoun, that the said Samuel rec'd. the possession of the said slaves for his daughter Martha K....

... that the said girl Sally has the following children since the gift of the grandfather to Cmplt. Martha K. to wit. Anthony, Louisa,

George, Westly and Sarah ____[?] since the death of Saml. Calhoun...

... Complainants would further shew that the father Samuel Calhoun intermarried with Martha H. Lewis of the County of Wilson, by whom he had no issue, died and left her his widow and Martha K. his only child - that on the 23rd of April 1839 he executed a will, from which will his widow the said Martha H. Lewis dissented and claims a distribution of said estate according to law...

... Complainants are informed since the marriage of the said Martha H. to William Hallum of Davidson County and her dissent to the said will, that the said Hallum & wife claim one third of said slaves as part of the estate of Samuel Calhoun...The Negroes belonging to said estate are as follows, Delia & her two children John & Mary, Ben and his wife Nan, Nat, Willis, Jim & McNeille[?]...

... that dower has been assigned the said widow... the said Martha K. being then and still is an infant under the age of 21 years....

Supreme Court Records, Box 72,
'Middle Tennessee, 1843

Richmond vs Richmond
(Original Bill heard in Davidson
County Circuit Court)

... on ____[blank] day of December 1835 a petition for a divorce and alimony in the name of Winnefrid Richmond by Lewis Garrett her next friend against Braddock Richmond was filed in the Circuit Court of said County, to wit:

... that about fifteen years ago she intermarried in Davidson County , Tennessee, with a certain Braddock Richmond...that at the time of her said marriage she was a widow having been previously married to Thomas Garrett, who upon his death left your petitioner and four children, two boys and two girls him surviving. She also represents that said Richmond had been previously married twice and had three children of his own, and three stepchildren....

... that within the last few yeas she has almost been entirely deserted by her said husband....

... that her said husband has, as she has within the last three or four weeks ascertained, been living for the last two years, in open adultery with one of his, or rather, your petitioner's female slaves named Polly....

... Petitioner also states that at the time of her marriage and since, she and her said husband, have in their possession seven slaves to wit, Mary Polly, Milly Ann, Stephen, William Galen, and Jim, all of those slaves were derived from her father and were as your petitioner understands, loaned to her during her life and after her death were to be the property your petitioner's children, at least such appears to have been the intention of her late father, George Ridley, as evidenced by his will....

... She also states that her husband Thomas Garrett died seized of a tract of land in Davidson County upwards of one hundred acres of which assigned to your petitioner for her dower and upon which her said husband Richmond and

herself have since their intermarriage resided....

Supreme Court Records, Box 72,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**John Southall & others vs James
Rea & others**

(Original Bill heard in Williamson
County Chancery Court)

... that on 5th October 1842 a bill of complaint was filed in this court...to wit:...the Bill of Complaint of John P. Bond and Nancy his wife & John Southall & Thomas Hughes of the County of Williamson, State of Tennessee, Complainants against James W. Rea of the County of Wilson in said state & James Hamilton & James B. Hile[?] of said County of Williamson Defendants.

... your orators and oratrixes the said John Southall Thomas Hughes & the said John P. Bond & Nancy his wife formerly Nancy Garrett [Ganett?] -that your oratrix the said Nancy on the first day of August 1836 was an infant under the age of 21 years & a citizen & resident of said County of Williamson & without any general guardian, she being such the said James W. Rea applied on that day to the County Court of said County of Williamson to be appointed guardian for her....

Supreme Court Records, Box 72,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**A. L. T. Green et als vs N. H.
Allen & others**

(Original Bill heard in
Montgomery County Chancery
Court)

Alexander L. B. Green, John F. Hughes, George W. Dye, John B. McFerrin and James G. Henning under the Act of the General Assembly of Tennessee ...to appoint Trustees to receive the donation of William Wright, dec'd., and for other purposes, and as members of the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and in behalf...of said Conference and Robert R. Roberts president to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Senior Bishop of said church in behalf of said society bring this their Bill against Nathaniel H. Allen of Montgomery Co., Tenn., Executor of the last will and testament of William Wright, late of said county, dec'd. and against Agnes Wright his widow and James Wright and Susannah Wright Samuel Wright and John Wright his children and heirs at aw who are all infants under twenty one years of age and Richard B. Thacker, Guardian of James & Susannah Wright, Samuel and John Wright having no guardian....

Your orators say that on 25th of July 1840 the testator William Wright...made and published his last will and testament...and appointed the defendant N. H. Allen, Executor thereof and shortly afterwards departed this life; that at August Session of the County Court of Montgomery County, 1840 the said N. H. Allen proved said will ... contains the following...Item 4th I desire that my mill with the appurtenances thereto and all ... property found in my possession at my death not otherwise disposed of shall be sold. Item 5th I desire that one fourth of the money arising ...

shall be given to the Tennessee Annual Conferences of The Methodist Episcopal Church for the benefit of institutions of learning ...and that property there devised was, as your orators are informed, of great value including perhaps twenty thousand dollars....

Supreme Court Records, Box 72,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**Wood Jones's Executors, vs
Edmund Burton**

(Original Bill heard in Wilson
County Chancery Court)

The bill of complaint of George Williamson, Milas McCorkle and William Williamson of Wilson County, Tenn. against Edmund Burton of the same state and county...that Wood Jones died in Wilson County in 1833, leaving a will, in which your orators were named as his executors...and qualified....

... Your orators have long since settled up the business of said estate so far as it was practicable, but they are unable to carry out and perfect a trust with which they are charged in said will for the benefit of the children of Polly Amanda Burton (one of the daughters of the testator) without the aid of this Honorable court. The clause of said will to which reference is here made, vests in your orators a negro woman named Caty and her family and increase for the use of the said Polly Amanda Burton & her children, and in case of her death to be equally between the children left by her....The said Polly Amanda is now dead, leaving two children....

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**G. W. York vs Thomas Bright &
Martin Johnson**
(Original Bill heard in Warren
County Chancery Court)

The bill of complaint of George W. York a citizen of Van Buren County, Tennessee, against Thomas Bright a citizen of Warren County, Tenn. and Martin Johnson a citizen of the State of Arkansas...that he is the equitable owner of a small tract of land in Van Buren County containing six poles square, it being the southeast corner of a two acre tract of land originally granted by the State to Jeremiah Roden or to Martin Johnson as his assignee. Your orator is the equitable owner of the same by purchase of David Wood

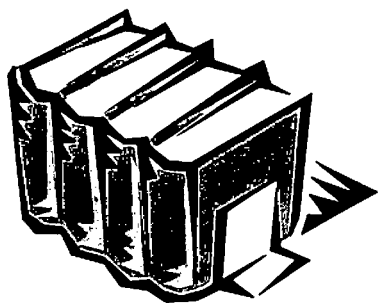
and has the bond of Uriah York for the same which shall be produced if necessary by whom the said land was given to David Wood he being his son-in-law. He further shews that the said Uriah York on the 29th May 1820 purchased the two acres referred to above of Martin Johnson....

Supreme Court Records, Box 73,
Middle Tennessee, 1843

**Mary R. Vance vs Thomas
Washington & Thomas Sherman**
(Original Bill heard in
Montgomery County
Chancery Court)

Your oratrix Mary R. Vance a citizen of the County of Montgomery ... would shew ... that she is the widow & relict of Andrew Vance, dec'd who died in

the month of November 1840 seized and possessed of an equitable interest in a valuable real estate in the County of Montgomery at the time of his death of all which she prays to be endowed as his widow which the lands of his state[sic] amongst other lots of ground in the Town of Clarksville she prays to be endowed of the lots known...as No. 87, 88, 85 & 86... She sheweth that during the lifetime of her said husband, to wit on the 13th September 1839, there were several judgments obtained against her said husband in the Circuit Court for the United States for Middle Tennessee sitting in the City of Nashville in the County of Davidson for a very large amount....



Book Reviews

by Shirley Wilson

Davidson County, Tennessee, Deed Book Z, Personal Property Deeds September 5, 1835 – January 2, 1838 abstracted by Mary Sue Smith. 293 pp., index, 2004. \$29 from Heritage Books, Inc., 65 East Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157-5026. www.HeritageBooks.com

This is the second volume of personal property deeds from Davidson County that Smith has abstracted. The first volume covered the time period 1809-1821.

These books are not to be confused with the *regular* deed books which are usually limited to land conveyances. The large majority of the records are bills of sale for slaves, but they also include mortgages, trust deeds, agreements, releases, and powers of attorney. They often relate to estate divisions. The important part is they provide the names, ages, and relationships of slaves as well as their white slave holders.

The pagination in the index is faulty, but can still be used to find the entry of interest. By adding one page (toward the front and middle of the book) and two pages (toward the end of the book), to the number in the index, the reader can locate the correct entry.

This does not diminish the fact that this is an extremely important research tool for African Americans with roots in Davidson County. It is chock full of genealogical tidbits for both African American and white researchers.

Superior Court of Law and Equity, Mero District of Tennessee, 1806-1809 (Middle Tennessee) abstracted by Mary Sue Smith. 254 pp., index, 2004. \$32 from Heritage Books, Inc., address listed above.

This publication is a transcript of the docket book of this early court, located in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee. The minute books for this period of time either do not exist or have not been located. Thus, the docket book is the only book available for research in this time period. Smith has already published a book on the minutes from the 1803-1805 time period.

There were only four other Tennessee locations where court was held in this period of time. The cases include many in counties other than Davidson. The loose papers created by these court proceedings are available for research at the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Included are the names of all plaintiffs, defendants, witnesses, and bondsmen as well as the listed charge, the plea, and the ruling of the court. Cases are in chronological order with a complete name index. A place index at the beginning of the every name index is a worthwhile addition to the book.

This is a very helpful book to have available when working with these records. There are not many

sources of information in Tennessee that encompass more than one county in this early period of time.

Francis Clark of Louisa County, Virginia, and his Descendants in Carroll County, Tennessee, by Thomas Graves Gilbert, Jr., D.D.S. 183 pp., bibliography, footnotes, illustrations, index, 2004. Order from author, Midbrook Farms, 22019 Cedar Mountain Drive, Rapidan, VA 22733. (no price given)

Michael Clark and his wife, Sally Ann Moorman, and their seven children immigrated from England in 1669 to Barbados where Michael died. His son Francis and many of the remaining Clarks and Moormans eventually settled in Louisa County, Virginia. They were originally members of the Church of England, but became Quakers. From Virginia they migrated to Anson County, North Carolina, and thence over the mountains to Henry, Weakley, and Carroll counties in Tennessee.

The first sections of the book are devoted to an exploration of the Clark and allied Moorman and Diggs families as well as to some apparently unrelated Clark families. There is also data on the Hicks, Henry, Mosby, Winston, and Stone families.

Toward the end of the book, Gilbert has used a modified register system to list ten generations of the descendants of Michael Clark with an emphasis on his own branch of the family. Do not rely solely on this listing, as there is much additional data in the early portions of the book relating to these individuals.

A comprehensive every name index that also includes places, parishes, creeks, rivers, and other subjects adds value.

Carefully compiled and footnoted, this family history that should appeal to many genealogists and historians. ■

PROPOSED CHANGES
to the
BYLAWS OF THE MIDDLE TENNESSEE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

The bylaws are published in this issue at the request of the Board of Directors. Proposed changes appear in Article IV, Section 6-B (two sentences stricken) and in Article V, Section 7 (new section added in italics). A vote on these changes will be taken at the next general meeting of the Society.

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.

SECTION 7. *The Board of Directors shall appoint a Mail and Membership Master whose duties shall be: (1) To maintain an accurate list of members, along with such information as mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, expiration dates of membership, and other pertinent information; (2) to notify members of delinquency of dues; and (3) to notify mailing service of any additions or deletions from the mailing list, making sure that the mailing service has a current and correct membership list along with correct addresses; (4) to maintain a post office box and periodically collect mail addressed to the Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society from that box and process such mail or forward it to the appropriate officer, director or member of the Society. The Mail and Membership Master shall serve as an ex officio member of the Board of Directors and shall serve a term concurrent with his/her tenure as Mail and Membership Master.*

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

Policy and Information

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*. Data can be in the form of transcribed records, "how-to" articles of broad interest, or historical facts. Family histories that are well documented and pertain to the region will also be considered. Photographs and other illustrations can accompany the article and are encouraged. Sources used should be cited in the submitted material. References or footnotes should be in the form of end notes and placed at the end of the article. *Material should be limited to a published length of approximately five typeset pages.*

Please make sure the document is typed. Original documents should be transcribed by the submitter. Include your name, address, and phone number or e-mail address on the manuscript. Materials submitted electronically or on diskette are preferred, and most file formats can be accommodated. Materials submitted on disk should be accompanied by a printed copy of the article. The right to edit material from presentation, grammar, length and form is reserved by the Editor, 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. 914 Sunny Hill Rd., Brentwood, TN 37027. E-mail to casherrill@bellsouth.net. *It is important that the instructions contained on this page are read prior to submitting an article.*

QUERIES

Submit queries to: MTGS Queries, P.O. Box 330948, Nashville, TN 37203-7507. Be short and concise. Capitalize, underline or highlight each surname used. 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, 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 \$25.00 per membership year if paid prior to the beginning of the fiscal year on June 1. If joining or renewing after this date, dues are \$25.00 plus \$5.00 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).



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