

**MARK
YOUR CALENDAR**

OUR MEETINGS

Meetings are held the third Saturday of the month in Jan., Mar., May, July and Sept.

Meetings begin at 1:00.

There is no charge.

Members and visitors are always welcome.

*Check our website for last-minute changes:
www.mtgs.org*

MTGS Annual Seminar

**Genealogy Meets Technology
Tools and Strategies for the Digital World**

featuring Dick Eastman

Saturday, Nov. 16th
9:00 a.m.

The Brentwood Library

See details in the centerfold of this issue.
Registration Required

Next Regular Meeting

Saturday, Jan. 18th
1:00 p.m.

At the Brentwood Library

For more information about events, visit
the MTGS web site mtgs.org
or contact

Virginia Watson at ginnyology@comcast.net

Middle Tennessee
Journal of Genealogy & History

Volume XXXIII, Number 2, Fall 2019

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Contributors in this issue

Jim Long

From the Editor. . .

It's MTGS Seminar time again! See the center pages for details about the annual meeting featuring four different genealogy experts. The topic is Genealogy Meets Technology: Tools and Strategies for the Digital World. Genealogy's most famous blogger, Dick Eastman, will be our guest speaker. Be sure to register in advance, and join us at the Brentwood Library on Saturday November 16th.

You'll find a focus on the Reconstruction era in this issue. Although Tennessee was the first Confederate state to be readmitted to the Union, all was not well in Tennessee civic life at that time. Animosities from the war and resistance to the new role of former slaves made bitter enemies of neighbors.

Of particular interest was the Congressional election of 1868 in the Middle Tennessee counties of Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Marshall and Lincoln. In a debate over the results of the vote, more than 100 residents of the area were called upon to testify. This issue contains the first installment of abstracts from the testimony; others will follow.

Mitzi Freeman provides us with another of her excellent articles analyzing crimes on the Cumberland Plateau. This one features the sad story of a troubled young man who committed murder due to unrequited love.

Finally, attorney Paul White, a member and frequent speaker at MTGS meetings, has prepared a fascinating article on Andrew Jackson. Looking at Jackson's image through both modern and historical lenses, this article will help you understand the impact of Jackson on our ancestors and their times.

Chuck Sherrill
M.T.G.S Journal Editor

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

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

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Charles Sheafe vs. Lewis Tillman

Unlikely Candidates for Congress in 1868

*For more information, see the article titled
"Congressional Investigation of the 1868 Election" in this issue*



Lewis Tillman (1816-18xx)
Formerly a court clerk and newspaper editor in
Shelbyville, he served a single term in
Congress in 1870-71.

It must have been very difficult for both the Democrats and the Republicans in Middle Tennessee to find good candidates for the 1868 Congressional election. The Radical Republicans who had come in with Governor William Brownlow had taken over with such a vengeance that many moderates were unwilling to support them any longer. The incumbent Congressman, James Mullins of Shelbyville, had declined to run again. Mullins was described as a "fierce fanatic of the Republican party" and was falling out of favor along with his like-minded friend Governor Brownlow.

The Republicans, then were looking for someone more moderate. The Democrats were just looking for someone eligible to run. The laws enacted under Brownlow's administration barred political participation for anyone who had served in the Confederate army or held any office from postmaster on up under the Confederate government. This meant that most of the Tennesseans who had been active in government before the war were ineligible to vote, much less to run for office.

The Republicans found a mild-mannered former court clerk from Shelbyville to run for office. Lewis Tillman at 52 had never run for office before, and never would again. A Tennessean from cradle to grave, he was born in Bedford County in 1816 to early settlers from South Carolina. His father, John P. Tillman (1786-1854) was a farmer

who served one term in the Tennessee legislature in 1820. Lewis' mother, Rachel Martin, lived through the Civil War and saw her son elected to Congress. She died near Shelbyville at the age of 92 in 1881.¹ Lewis Tillman served in the Seminole War of 1836 and was a Colonel in the Tennessee Militia.

Charles A Sheafe was selected as the Democratic nominee. The 36-year-old attorney was a dark horse candidate in every way. He had only been a Tennessee citizen since the end of the war. A Yankee to the core, he was born in Maine in 1832 but raised to manhood in the southern part of Ohio. He studied law as a young man and entered the bar at Hillsboro, Highland County Ohio. His interest in politics started early, as this recollection from a fellow Highland Countian recalled years later:

"One of the most interesting and unique characters of fifty years ago who attended the Homecoming was Captain Charles A. Sheafe. We can well remember him in the presidential campaign of 1856, when he was a young lawyer in this county and took the stump for Buchanan. He was picturesque in appearance, possessed of a large frame and had a stentorian voice, that would have made a good fog horn on a Mississippi river steam boat. He was breezy, honest, eloquent and

¹ History of Tennessee From the Earliest Time to the Present (Nashville: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1886).

dramatic . . . He had a big shock of hair, and generally wore broadcloth coat and trousers with a white vest, his coat cut [in] the swallow tail style

In 1859 he ran for reelection as a prosecuting attorney on the Democratic ticket, but lost. When the Democratic party went down in the presidential contest of 1860 "it almost broke his heart." He at first opposed the war and wanted to come to a compromise with the South, but when he "saw the flag and the constitution violated it made his blood hot and he jumped into the fray for the Union with both feet." He raised a company for the 59th Ohio from Highland County. "The boys who went with him all praise him" and say he had not a drop of a coward's blood in his veins.²

The 59th Ohio Volunteer Infantry was one of the units that came to Nashville when it was first occupied in Feb. 1862. Sheafe and his comrades saw hard duty in the war, participating in the battles at Shiloh, Stone's River, Chickamauga and the Atlanta campaign among others.

At the close of the war Sheafe was stationed in Murfreesboro, where he remained a short time before moving to Manchester in Coffee County. It was there he lived when he was approached about running for Congress on the Democrat ticket. No doubt he had to do some slick talking to ingratiate himself with the "local boys" but in the end crowds of men supported him.³

Elected by the popular vote, but denied his certificate of election by Governor Brownlow, Sheafe responded as follows to a group of supporters in Giles County who had written to him:

I had supposed that my majority was so decided that the Governor would not hesitate to give me my certificate, but I find a paragraph in to-day's Banner which says that the Governor has tendered the certificate to Colonel Tillman, and that he accepts. I can not help doubting the truth of this report yet. How the fact is, time will tell.

Of one thing my friends may rest assured – If I live, I shall spare no pains or labor to prevent this unjustifiable attempt (if the attempt be made) to deprive me of an office which a generous, and much abused and slandered people, by a majority of at least 1,500 of the votes polled, have conferred upon me.⁴

Months of hearings and debate followed, and Sheafe traveled from Manchester to Fayetteville, Lewisburg, Winchester, Pulaski, Shelbyville Murfreesboro and Nashville for much of 1869. More than 100 witnesses were interviewed. While Sheafe conducted his own interviews, Tillman was already off to Washington and serving in Congress. His place in the hearings was filled by Matt Martin, a fellow attorney and former Confederate soldier (and likely Tillman's cousin), originally from Shelbyville but then practicing at Manchester.⁵

In the end, Congress upheld the election of Lewis Tillman. He served only one term and did not earn any special distinction. After his two-year stint in Congress, Tillman chose not to run again. He returned to Shelbyville where he had a large family including three sons who also became lawyers: James Tillman of Fayetteville; Lewis Tillman of Knoxville; and Abram M. Tillman of Nashville.⁶ Lewis Sr. died 3 May 1886 and was buried in Willow Mount Cemetery in Shelbyville. His widow survived him until her death in 1902.

² Charles W. Jones. "Some Incidents in the career of Capt. Charles A. Sheafe told by a life-long friend." *News-Herald* (Hillsboro, Ohio) 17 Oct. 1907, p.1. Digital image on *Newspapers.com*.

³ Signers of Sheafe's petition can be found in: "Racism and Reconstruction at Tullahoma: Democratic Meeting in the 4th Congressional District, 1868." *Middle Tenn. Journal of Genealogy and History*, Summer 2019: 38-47.

⁴ "Letter from Capt. Sheafe." *Republican Banner* (Nashville) 29 Nov. 29, 1868. Digital image on Tenn. Electronic Library.

⁵ United States Congress, *Sheafe v. Tillman*, 41st Congress, 2nd Session, Misc. Document No. 53 (1869).

⁶ History of Tennessee From the Earliest Time to the Present (Nashville: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1886).

“Charlie” Sheafe moved from Manchester back to Murfreesboro and resumed the duties of an attorney. He had several partners over the years, including Joseph Engles, a German immigrant who served as Smyrna, Tennessee’s first mayor.⁷ He appears to have kept a low profile, although in 1888 he was in the news because of the sword he had used as a Union Army Captain.

As Sheafe told the story, his regiment captured a group of Confederate soldiers at Stone’s River. One of those captured was carrying a sword inscribed with the name *Lieut. L.V. Curry* of the 9th Michigan. Sheaf took the sword back from the Confederate officer but was unable to find Lieut. Curry. Someone told him Curry had been killed in the battle. Sheaf used this sword throughout the remainder of the war. In 1888 he wrote to the newspaper in Lansing, Michigan, asking if anyone could locate Lieut. Curry or his family, as he would like to return the sword to its rightful owner. News traveled, and Lieut. Curry was found alive and well in Fenton, Michigan. A delighted Mr. Curry wrote that the blade had been captured from him in July 1862 when Confederate Gen. Forrest attacked his unit while camped in Major Manny’s grove north of Murfreesboro.⁸

In 1907 the Nashville *Tennessean* published the following tribute to Sheafe, who by then had retired from the bar.

Capt. Sheafe was 78 years old the 7th of this month . . . He is called Charlie here, too, by his comrades in arms and at the bar, and sometimes when he is beating the boys at whist he is “that Dutch lawyer, Old Sheafe,” but they all love and esteem him just the same[. F]or in the dark, carpet-bag days Sheafe, the Yankee soldier, was the Southern citizens’ best friend[. T]hey will never forget him for his devotion to principle, which has been one of his leading characteristics since the people here first knew him in 1862, when he came tramping over Tennessee and Kentucky shooting at the Johnnie Rebs.⁹

Sheafe was the only child of his parents and had no near relations. In 1895 he applied for and received a federal pension for his service in the Union army. The 1910 census shows him residing in the National Soldiers’ Home at Hampton, Virginia. His will, written in 1899 and filed in Rutherford County is written in a beautiful hand and shows his kindness toward many friends.

I, C.A. Sheafe, of the town of Murfreesboro and State of Tennessee, do make and publish this my last will and testament That is to say:

1. I direct that all debts due from, or which are owing by me, be paid . . . by my Executor
2. I give to Mrs. Fanny Wooten of Manchester, Tennessee, the only surviving daughter of my deceased friend Hon. William P. Hickerson, as a testimonial of her and her father’s kindness to me, the gold watch, chain and two rings usually worn by me with the watch, requesting her when she no longer cares to use them, to give them to her daughter, Mrs. Sallie Chumley.
3. I give to William P. Hickerson, son of Hon. W.P. Hickerson dec’d, his choice of my Fishing Rods, Reels and lines, one of each.



**General Matt Martin (1812-1892)
Tillman’s friend and associate. He
represented Tillman and took
testimony from his witnesses in the
investigation of 1869.**

⁷ Lamb, Berry. *Rutherford County Illustrated – Leaders in Progress* (Franklin TN, 2009), p.129.

⁸ “A sword with a history.” *News-Herald* (Hillsboro, Ohio) 3 May. 1888, p.1. Digital image on *Newspapers.com*.

⁹ “All of Murfreesboro.” *Tennessean* (Nashville) 10 Sept. 1907, p.2. Digital image on Tennessee Electronic Library.

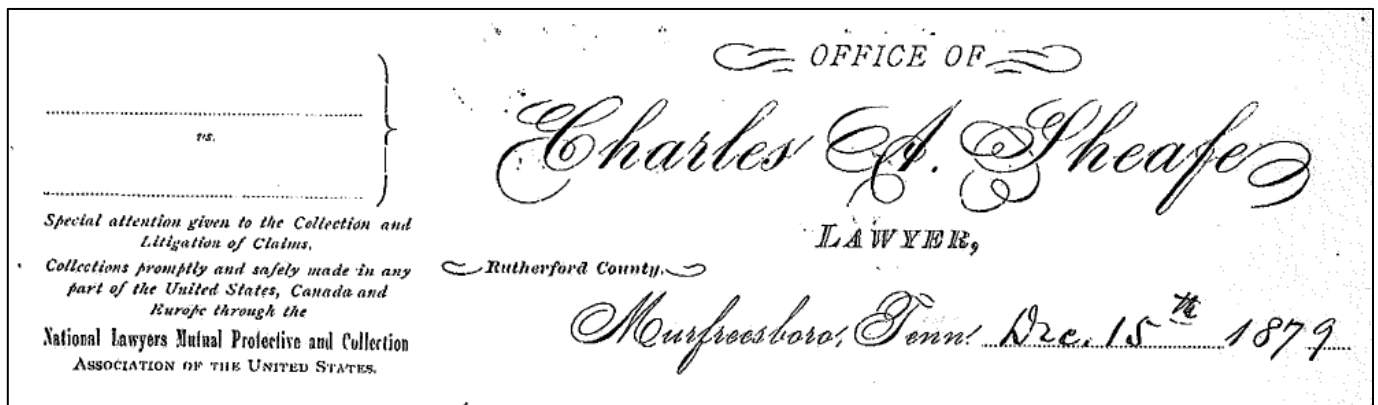


William Pitt Hickerson
(1816-1882)
A Manchester lawyer
and great friend of
Charlie Sheafe.

4. In grateful remembrance of the many acts of kindness received by me from L.D. Hickerson, Sr., deceased, and from his widow, Mrs. Fanny D. Hickerson, now residing at Tullahoma, Ten., I give to their daughter, Mrs. Alma Raht, wife of J.D. Raht, the two diamond shirt studs usually worn by me, and my two gold sleeve buttons bearing the initial "S."
5. To the other daughter of said L.D. Hickerson, dec'd, Mrs. Minnie Raht, I give my twenty-five volumes, including index, of "Encyclopedia Britannica."
6. To C.F. Hickerson, son of said L.D. Hickerson, Sr., dec'd, I give my double-barrel shot gun engraven between the barrels "W.W. Gruner's Special Gun," together with the gun-case enclosing it.
7. To my friend John E. Richardson, Esq., of Murfreesboro, Tenn., I give my double-barrel shot gun engraven on the locks and between the barrels, "J.P. Clabrough & Bros." together with the gun case enclosing it.
8. I direct that all of the property . . . not heretofore disposed of . . . be sold by my Executor . . . I give and bequeath all such balance to my friend Captain Carter Bassett Harrison of said town of Murfreesboro, Tenn., to him and his heirs forever.
9. And I do nominate and appoint my said friend John. E. Richardson as Executor of this my last Will and Testament. . . .

In 1906 Sheafe added a codicil to his will, substituting Elizabeth H. Buckner of Cincinnati in place of her father, Capt. Carter B. Harrison, who had since died.

So ends the tale of two men who came to the forefront of Middle Tennessee politics in the Reconstruction era. Both appear to have been honorable men caught in a political battle beyond their control. That neither of them ever again ran for public offices indicates the experience was sufficient to last a lifetime.



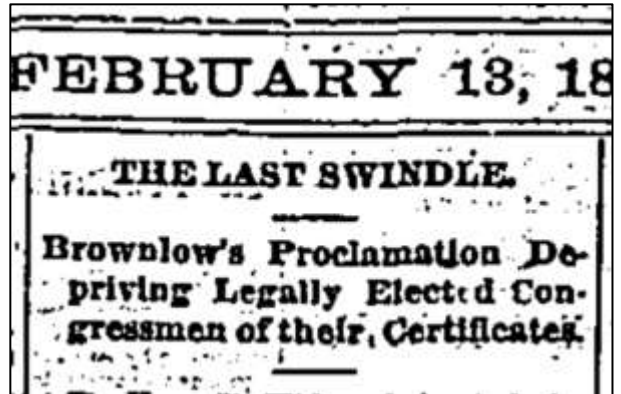
Thanks to John Lodl, Rutherford County Archivist, and Lisa Ramsey of the Linebaugh Public Library for their assistance with research on Charlie Sheaf.

Congressional Investigation of the 1868 Election

Part I: Testimony From Coffee County

Tennessee politics during the Reconstruction Era were contentious in the extreme. Former Confederates had been barred from voting, and men who had been slaves a few years earlier were being encouraged to go to the polls and support the Republicans – the party of Lincoln. The white slaveholders who had formerly held great control were mostly Democrats; they were shut out and frustrated.

The situation was exacerbated by a bitter and vindictive Governor, William G. Brownlow, who was determined to punish his enemies and maintain iron-fisted control over them. To ensure that no former Confederate supporter voted or held office, “Parson” Brownlow pushed the legislature to pass laws giving him control over local elections. No one could vote without a certificate, and the certificates were doled out by Brownlow’s hand-picked Commissioner of Registration in each county.



Tennessee’s 4th Congressional District was comprised of Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Marshall and Lincoln counties. Competing for the Congressional seat were Lewis Tillman, Republican, and Capt. Charles Sheafe, Democrat. Tillman was a Shelbyville man in his mid-50s who had served as clerk of various courts in Bedford County. Sheaf, a 35-year-old lawyer, had come to the area as a Union soldier and stayed after the war. The election was held on Nov. 3, 1868.

Despite all the control exerted by Brownlow and his cronies, voters overwhelmingly supported Sheaf, the Democratic nominee. Infuriated, Brownlow declared invalid the all the votes from Lincoln County, and from several precincts in Coffee and Marshall. The Governor claimed that ex-Confederates voted illegally and that the Ku-Klux had frightened Republicans from going to the polls. Although he had no real authority to do so, Brownlow threw out the votes from those districts, causing Sheafe to lose. A major controversy and Congressional investigation followed.¹

More than 100 men from the district, both Democrats and Republicans, were called upon to testify in the Congressional investigation.² In the spring of 1869 an investigative team, led by Capt. Sheafe on one side and Tillman’s agent Matthew Martin, conducted hearings in Tullahoma, Fayetteville, Lewisburg, Winchester, Pulaski, Murfreesboro and Nashville. Witnesses were called by each side, questioned and then cross-examined by the opposing side. The following abstracts are summaries of the information provided by each witness.

James A. Edwards

Age about 68, resident of Tullahoma, Coffee County. At the time of the election (Nov. 3, 1868) lived in Dist. 7 of Franklin County, and his home was the polling place. He had lived at that place for 17 years, and it had long been the voting place since before he moved there. There was no town or village in the district. Edwards knew all the old settlers and met the new ones within about six months of their arrival. William Tinsley, commissioner of registration

¹ “The Last Swindle.” *Republican Banner* [Nashville] 13 Feb. 1869, p.1.

² United States Congress, *Sheafe v. Tillman*, 41st Congress, 2nd Session, Misc. Document No. 53 (1869).

Election Official Oath 1868

I do solemnly swear that I have never voluntarily borne arms against the government of the United States for the purpose or with the intention of aiding the late rebellion, nor have I, with any such intention, at any time given aid, comfort, counsel, or encouragement to said rebellion, or to any act of hostility to the government of the United States.

I further swear that I have never sought or accepted any office, either civil or military . . . under the authority or pretended authority of the so-called Confederate States of America. . . . So help me God.

of voters for Franklin County, was at Edwards' home on the day of the election. [James Edward age 68 and his family are listed in Coffee County's 13th District in the 1870 census. He was a farmer and reported \$3,250 in property.]

On that day about 40 strangers came to vote, a few white men and a large group of blacks. They said they were working on the railroad above McMinnville, and were led by Jim Wiggins, a former Confederate soldier. Edwards saw several men issuing certificates to them. "It is my opinion they would have given any person a certificate if he would vote the way he [they] wanted them." He heard several of the strangers say they were from other counties and states.

The men who were issuing certificates of registration were unknown to Edwards, but he understood they were from around Decherd in Franklin County. Henderson and John A. Gilbert came expecting to receive certificates from Tinsley that day, but he would not issue them a certificate. The Gilberts had not served in the Confederate army but Edwards supposed they "might have been considered on the Southern side."

P.C. Cunningham

Age about 23, resident of the 3rd Dist. in Coffee County. He was one of the judges at the polling place in his district. He testified that he had taken the oath as a judge, administered to him by Squire Ford. The text of the oath is in the record, and it includes a statement that "I have never voluntarily borne arms against the government . . . nor given aid, comfort, counsel or encouragement to said rebellion. . . ." Cunningham testified that no one in his precinct voted without a proper certificate of registration from the Coffee County Registration Commissioner, G.G. Woodruff. [Pink Cunningham age 25 is listed with Mary, age 24, and two children in Coffee County's 3rd District in the 1870 census. He was a farm laborer with no real estate and \$250 in personal property.]

W.P. Ford

Age about 40, resident of the 3rd Dist. in Coffee County. He was one of the clerks at the polling place in his district. He is and has been a Justice of the Peace for three years. The judges in his district were John Anderson, Sr., P.C. Cunningham, and Elick Farmer. He and Jenkins were the clerks. There was no illegal voting and no disturbances of any kind on election day. . [William Ford age 43 is listed with Martha Ford, age 36, and two Crosby children in Coffee County's 3rd District in the 1870 census. He was a farmer and had about \$1,100 in property.]

T.W. Turner

Age about 32, a resident of 4th Dist. in Coffee County. He was neutral during the late war. He was one of the clerks at the polling place in his district. He took the oath provided by Commissioner Woodruff for election officials. Turner

thought there were about 40 certified voters in his district, with only three or four blacks among them. Only 20 to 25 votes were cast at the recent election. Some voted in other districts, including A.T.J. Kennedy and L.H. Montgomery. He knew of no violence or threats directed at blacks in his neighborhood. He had never seen any person in Ku-Klux disguise threatening negroes and white Republicans, although he heard reports of such. There was no violence or disturbance on election day. M.L. Dunlap was also an election official in the 4th district. . [Thomas Turner age 32 is listed with his family in Coffee County's 4th District in the 1870 census. He reported \$1,100 in property.]



David E. Meade and wife
Molly Gannaway.
(Anne Clark. Ancestry Family Trees)

David E. Mead

Age 29, a resident of Hillsborough in Coffee County, and a merchant. He was born in New York and came south with the Union army in 1862. He was appointed by Woodruff to open and hold the election in his district (the 7th). The judges appointed by Woodruff did not appear to serve, so Mead appointed others and administered the oath to them. The clerks were William Shelton and Samuel Frankenberger; the judges were C.C. Starnes, Abraham Caster and Richard Glass. Mr. Glass could not write, and Mr. Caster was absent. In his opinion the voters at his polling place “voted their sentiments freely and without molestation.” There was no trouble or disturbance. Meade himself voted for Sheafe. Samuel Austell took the oath document to Manchester. When asked if anyone voted illegally, Mead said that Dr. W.A. Harris voted on a certificate from Franklin County and an older certificate from T.S. Bartlett, former Coffee County register. Dr. Harris was later found guilty of illegal voting by the Circuit Court. Sheafe was one of his attorneys along with Judge Hickerson and Isabel [*sic*, Isbell]. The case is now under appeal to the State Supreme Court. The district's election returns are printed with Mead's testimony. They show 70 votes for all the Democrat candidates and 24 for all the Republicans. [David E. Meade age 30 is listed with Mary and two children in Coffee County's 7th District in the 1870 census. He was a merchant and reported \$4,725 in property.]

Hiram S. Emerson

Age about 70, resident of Manchester, Clerk of the Coffee County Court. Has been clerk for about 16 years. Issued certificates to eligible voters for the 1865 election under the franchise act. There are 14 voting precincts in the county. Registration Commissioner G.G. Woodruff resides at Tullahoma, and was represented in Manchester during the recent election by James Price, Esq., of Manchester. Emerson was given the poll books, and on the next day he handed the “candidate's oath document to Price. Price remarked that he had nothing to do with it (the oath) and laid it on the table. Doesn't know how Price was appointed but he saw Woodruff give Price blank forms for appointing election officials in advance of the election. Emerson saw men disguised in Ku Klux attire riding through Manchester the night before the election, blowing whistles and calling for water. He heard a good deal of noise in the direction of Hillsboro, where some negro families were living. The negroes generally were afraid of the Ku-Klux, though some said they were not. [Hiram Emerson age 71 is listed with Mary and five children in Coffee County's 6th District in the 1870 census. He was the County Clerk and reported \$600 in personal property.]

A. Brown

Age about 63, has resided in the 14th Civil District of Franklin County since 1832. He lives about three miles from James A. Edwards' home, the Rock Creek voting place, and knows nearly everyone in the area. He was present there on voting day and saw 75 to 100 negroes being organized to vote by a white man. He did not recognize any of them. Some said they lived elsewhere, and some seemed not to know where they lived. The negroes presented their certificates to the election officials and were questioned. Some were allowed to vote and some were not. He saw one white man try to vote who was rejected by W.F. Byrom. Registration Commissioner Tinsley was there with five armed men, one a negro and one the son of Hall Roseborough. Brown tried on two separate days to get a certificate to vote from D.E. Davenport (Tinsley's predecessor) but there were crowds of negroes and Union army men present and certificates were given only to them. He approached Davenport on the street and tried to get a certificate. Brown had voted in the "test election" in 1865 and had been a polling official in that election, and told Davenport so, but was brushed off. Brown had supported the South during the war and his sons were in the Confederate army. He has never seen any Ku-Klux activity. [Aldridge Brown age 64 is listed with his family in Franklin County's 14th District in the 1870 census. He reported \$4,000 in property.]

John H. Lasater

Age 27, a resident of Tullahoma in Coffee County, merchant, veteran of the Confederate army. He went to the voting place at Rock Creek and saw Tinsley issuing back-dated certificates to negroes without questioning them as to their age or residence. They came from McMinnville and most were not armed, but some had pistols and the others armed themselves with clubs. Byrom argued with Tinsley, Galloway, Kyper and Gove. When Byrom called for recruits several came from Tullahoma: Aydelott, Crawford, Woodson Willeford, Daniel Putnam and perhaps a Crawford. From Hurricane Creek were Thomas Hill, Henry Bevill and Nathan Osborn. Lasater had seen Ku-Klux riders several times, starting on the night of July 4, 1868, when there were about 20. [John Lasater age 28 is listed with wife Millie and one child in the 1870 census of Tullahoma with one child. He was a retail merchant with \$4,500 in property.]

Jonathan S. Webster

Age "over 48 years," a resident of Coffee County's 3rd District, and a farmer. He had seen groups of Ku-Klux men on several occasions, in groups of six to thirty or so. This began in late Sept. 1868. On one occasion they rode into his yard and called for everyone in the house to come out and "see the boys." Twice he slept outdoors during the night because he was threatened by the Ku-Klux. The vote in his district was all for Capt. Sheafe and none for Col Tillman. Webster believes a majority would have voted for Tillman had they not been afraid. He estimates 250 to 300 colored voters live in the county, but fewer than half turned out to vote. He was told that two men accused of raping a white woman near Tullahoma were taken out of the jail at Manchester and hung. Capt. Sheafe and Judge W.P. Hickerson were their defense attorneys. He knows of more than 15 men, both black and white, were whipped by the Ku-Klux in Districts 1, 2 and 3. These included Robert Murphree, Brister Smalling, Dred Mason, Jack Singleton and John Patton, all colored; and William Graham and Alexander Jernigan, white. It was generally known that the Ku-Klux were working on behalf of the Democrat party, as all of their victims were Republicans. [By 1870 Webster had moved to Alameda County, California, where he is listed in the census. He was a 49-year-old miller with a wife and children all born in Tenn. No property was reported.]

Henry D. Bevill

Age about 30, resident of the 14th Dist. in Franklin County, a former Confederate soldier. He was present at James A. Edwards' house in the Rock Creek precinct (7th Dist.) on election day. He did not see anyone he knew voting, but there were negroes voting. Bevill was not certified to vote, he took his pistol and went to Rock Creek to "see that the election was fairly held . . . That no illegal votes were cast, and to see who done it." He saw Esq. Silvertooth, W.F. Byrom, Dr. Farris and T.O. Crawford there. They were challenging and turning away some who wanted to vote. Bevill

had voted for Gov. Brownlow in 1865 and had a voting certificate from Mr. Chitwood. He took that certificate to Mr. Davenport in 1868 and asked for a new one, but Davenport refused to issue him one.³ [H.D. Bevill age 32 is listed as living alone in Franklin County's 14th District in the 1870 census. He was a farmer with no real estate and \$300 in personal property.]

J.A. Silvertooth

Age about 48, a farmer who has lived for 25 years in the 14th district of Franklin County. He has been a constable for six years and was magistrate eight years, so he knows the people in his district. He lives about five miles from the Rock Creek voting place, and was there before the polls opened on election day. He saw 75 or 80 negroes arrive. Commissioner Tinsley was there along with his son Bud, James Golloway, Mr. Gove and Mr. Kyper. The negroes approached them, Tinsley signing certificates after the others filled them out, often without asking any questions of the men. When the certificate was complete, Kyper would fold a Grant ticket into it and hand it to the over. "After they got their certificates, Kyper mustered them into double file, and marched them up to the polls." Some of the men said they had previously lived at Decherd, others said they lived in other counties. "The judges did not prohibit any person from voting who had a certificate until Esq. Byrom threatened to have them arrested for perjury. They then occasionally did prohibit some, who said they had never lived in the county." Silvertooth did not know any of the negroes. Only a few negroes live in that district, and he did not see any of them vote. He knows nothing of Ku-Klux violence in the area. Baxter Russell applied to Tinsley for a certificate to vote, and was refused. He told Tinsley he



**James Alexander Silvertooth and family ca. 1895. Son-in-law Henry Bevill at far right.
From left: James Thomas Silvertooth, Sarah Ann Wagoner Silvertooth (seated), Alma Lillian Beville; James Alexander Silvertooth,
Paul Alexander Beville, Robinson Crusoe Silvertooth, Mary Frances Silvertooth Beville (behind a bush because she was visibly
pregnant), Henry David Beville.**

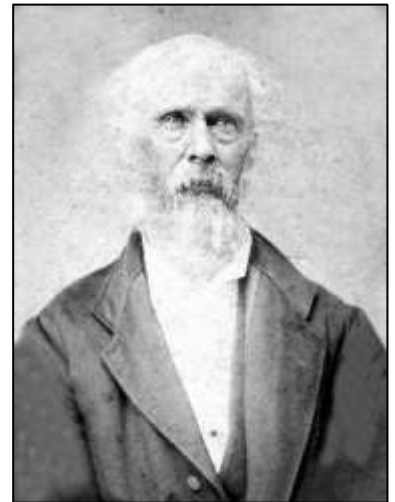
(Posted by alanohio on Ancestry.com in 2011. Courtesy of Pamela Parks Costa)

³ For more on the rascally Mr. Davenport, see "Breach of Promise Suits and Broken Hearts," *MTGS Journal*, vol. 32, no. 4 (Apr. 2019), pp. 155-159.

had served in the Union Army and could bring his discharge if that would prove his loyalty, but Tinsley told him it would not suffice. [J.A. Silvertooth age 44 is listed with Sarah A. and seven children in Franklin County's 1st District in the 1870 census. He was a farmer and reported \$4,500 in property. Witnesses J.A. Silvertooth and Henry Bevill both appear in a later photograph, below.]

James B. Harrison

Age 54, a farmer and resident of Coffee County. During the war he lived in Murfreesboro, but returned home to Coffee County at the war's end because eight members of his family were sick. At Lasater & Rathbone's store in Manchester he heard Cat. Sheafe talking to Eck Carden (now deceased) about the war. Sheafe said he would have preferred to be a Confederate soldier and held the Unionists of East Tennessee in very low esteem. Carden was sheriff before the war and had served in the Confederate army, and was an influential Democrat. [James Harrison age 54 is listed with a large family in the 1870 census of Coffee County's 10th Civil District. He was a Pennsylvania-born farmer with property valued at \$5780.]



James Barclay Harrison
(1816-1898)

**Born in Philadelphia, he came to
Coffee County about 1845.**

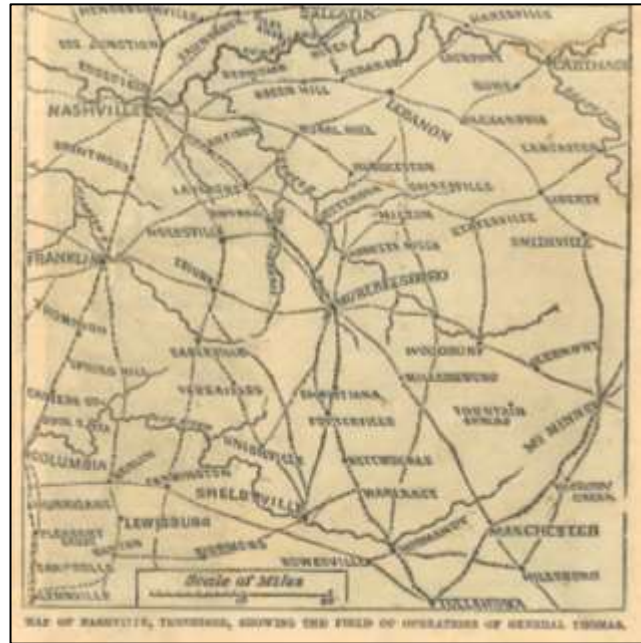
(Posted on Ancestry.com by Jessica Hull)

William F. Byrom

Age 35, resident of Tullahoma in Coffee County, a lawyer and Justice of the Peace appointed by Gov. Brownlow. During the war he supported southern rights and was in the Confederate army. On election day he saw the train arrive in Tullahoma on the McMinnville and Manchester railroad containing D.E. Davenport (former commissioner of registration) with 84 negroes and three white men who seemed to be commanding them: J.W. Kyper, David Gove and Mr. Galloway. He engaged some of the men in conversation and learned that they came from other states and from Nashville. They were employed by Davenport working on the railroad east of McMinnville. Davenport took them about four miles to James A. Edwards' home at Rock Creek in Franklin County. "I knew Mr. Tinsley to be so corrupt and fraudulent a man, and had been . . . controlling elections just as he pleased at that district; I only wanted to see that the election was held according to law." Byrom gathered five other men to go with him and follow Davenport's crowd: James Aydelott, John Lasater, Laban Marshall, Thomas Darwin and Thomas Swords. At Rock Creek he saw Wm. R. Tinsley providing the negroes with certificates. "There being no regular challengers at the election, I challenged the vote of every man that I was not well acquainted with, and the voters were all sworn by John Armstrong, JP. They allowed 42 of the negroes to vote, including 28 who openly admitted they had never been in Franklin County before that day. Tinsley said he was running the election and that everyone to whom he gave a certificate was entitled to vote. Tinsley told the judges that the act of the General Assembly made him the sole judge of the qualifications of voters. The democratic and republican tickets were printed on different colors of paper, and Byrom could see that all the negroes filled out the republican ticket which was handed to them by Tinsley. The negroes and their organizers cursed Byrom and his men. He said they were "cutting up" and at one point surrounded the polls and made to run the whites off, so Byrom sent for reinforcements. When asked if they cursed them for being Rebels, Byrom replied, "Rebel and secesh was not at issue; they cursed us for being democrats." In November before the election he saw a group of Ku-Klux in Tullahoma, but he did not know of anyone they had harmed. [By 1870 Byrom had moved to Union City in Perry County, Arkansas, where he is listed in the census. He was a lawyer with only \$300 in personal property.]

Arthur Lumpkin

Age about 34 or 35, a laborer residing in Manchester, Coffee County. He voted for Capt. Sheafe in the election because he was afraid to vote for Tillman. Men in disguise were “riding after” him. On the night before the election they came to his house. He had run off 50 yards so they did not find him, but he watched as they broke the glass out of a window and tore up the floor. “One said he would give \$25 for my scalp.” He was advised by a white friend “if I would vote for Capt. Sheafe and his party that I would make friends. There was threats made to me that if I voted the other way that I stood a chance to lose my life.” He told Mr. McMillen first that he would not vote at all, and later said he would vote for Capt. Sheafe. At Manchester the next day he saw Samuel Rich and Bob Hebb, colored men, who voted the Republican ticket. [Not found in the 1870 census, but the 1880 Coffee County census lists him as a 42-year-old barber, mulatto, with a wife and daughter.]



Civil War Map of Middle Tennessee (Harper's Weekly)

Alexander Jernigan

Age 49, a farmer living in the 1st District of Coffee County. He has been a justice of the peace for four years and was appointed a county commissioner a year ago. He was a Union man from the beginning of the rebellion. When asked if he had ever been beaten for his political sentiments, he replied:

I was tolerably badly treated, and I believe [it was] for my political sentiments. Well, sir, it was on Saturday night after the first Monday in January last; it was at my house. On the Saturday night before there came a parcel of disguised men to my house; I heard them a-coming. I stepped out to one side, about twenty yards from the house. They went in and inquired for me, to know where I was. They told them that I was gone off in the barrens. They said that I needn't to have gone off; they didn't intend to hurt me or they would have brought more of their force with them. They stayed a short time, and went off down the road . . . they didn't interfere with anything. Well, then, the next Saturday night they came back. I would suppose they left their horses down the road a piece . . . They slipped up and surrounded the house before I knew they were there. They commenced blowing their whistles, and ordered them to open the door. My wife, for some of them opened the door; they came in; some of them drew their pistols, and commenced talking to me. The first question was, if I didn't have men brought before the grand jury in order to catch them? I told them I didn't. The next question was, didn't I belong to the Union League? I told them that I had been in two or three times, about six or eight months ago . . . [but] didn't expect to be in any more. The next word they said was, you can't deny being a damned radical? I told them I didn't deny it; I told them I expected to be one as long as I believed it to be right. They gathered hold of me then, and said I would have to go with them to headquarters. They took me over in Jim Lawrence's field; two of them held my hands, and another one whipped me; one of them fired off a pistol in the time. I don't know how many lashes they gave me; I didn't count.

Asked whether he knew who the men were, Jernigan said he did not know them. Afterwards he laid out at night to prevent being further abused or killed. As to whether he was afraid there would be retribution for his testimony he said, “No sir; I don't know that I am; I don't know what might be.” [Alexander Jonegan (*sic*) age 50 is listed in the 1870 census of Coffee County in District 1 at Beech Grove, along with a large family. He was a farmer reporting property valued at \$5380.]

To Be Continued

Marriage and the Law in Tennessee

Curtsey: A Husband's Rights Over His Wife's Property

by Charles A. Sherrill

“Common law on the subject of domestic relations has been adopted in Tennessee, except so far as modified by statute.” (Meigs¹)

English Common Law on the subject of domestic relations was adopted in Tennessee, and then chipped away with modifications made both by North Carolina law, which Tennessee adopted at statehood in 1796, and by laws passed in Tennessee after statehood. Meigs cites the case of *McCorry v. King's heirs* as proof of this point.² That case also provides a good introduction to the legal term *curtesy*, which gives a husband the right to claim his wife's property as if it were his own.

McCorry v. King's Heirs

Originally tried in the circuit court of Greene County in 1842, this case was primarily a dispute over the ownership of four land grants. It also established legal precedent in the area of marriage because the property in question was originally left by will to Jane Gillespie who later married. After both Jane and her husband died, Jane's children sued for title to the land left by their grandfather to their mother.



Grant to George Gillespie from North Carolina for land in Greene County (later Tennessee), 1792.

Four grants were issued by the State of North Carolina to George Gillespie, Sr., for adjoining tracts on McCartney's Creek. Gillespie had evidently purchased the warrants for these grants from James and Charles McCarthy. In 1793 Gillespie made his will, giving the land to his daughter, Jane. Jane later married William King. In 1803 Jane's husband sold the land to Mahalon Hayworth. Through subsequent sales, it became the property of McCorry. Jane Gillespie King died in 1828 leaving children, and their father, William, died in 1835. In 1837 the King children sued to reclaim the land their father had sold, and the court decided in their favor.

William King's right of *curtesy* was in dispute. *Curtesy* is a legal term for the portion of a deceased wife's estate to which a widowed husband is entitled. The husband's right of *curtesy* comes as a result of the common law principle of *coverture*. A married woman, or *femme covert*, was "covered" by her husband under the law. This meant that her body and her property were not hers, but her husband's. So when a married woman brought property into a marriage, or inherited it, it became her husband's property.

William King had right of *curtesy* to Jane's land during his lifetime, allowing him to take the rents and profits of

¹ Return J. Meigs, "Digest of all the decisions of the . . . courts . . . of Tennessee." (Nashville: Bang & McKennie, 1850).

² *McCorry v. King's heirs*, 3 Hum. 267-273.

the land. But once children were born to the marriage, the curtesy law stipulated that his title to the land became only a life estate. Therefore, after Jane's death William owned the land by right of curtesy, but only for his use during his lifetime; he was not entitled to sell it. After King's death his children claimed William's sale of the land to Mahalon Hayworth was invalid, and insisted they were entitled to inherit the land they should have inherited from their mother.

McCorry's attorney, J.A. McKinney, argued that the right of curtesy had been established in the common law on feudal principles but was obsolete and of no force in Tennessee. The court ruled that, according to the revolutionary statutes of North Carolina, such portions of the common law as had been in use during the colonial period would continue to be in force. Tennessee's laws, established on those of North Carolina, continue that provision. As no laws had been passed denying the right of curtesy in either North Carolina or Tennessee, the right remained in effect. The Supreme Court upheld the lower court's decision in favor of Jane King's heirs.

Guion v Anderson

A surviving husband's right of curtesy over his wife's inherited property remains in force during his lifetime, even if their children come of age. The case of *Guion v. Anderson*, though not heard in the Supreme Court until 1847, began with a land grant to Revolutionary War soldier Henry Winbourn (or Winborne) in 1785.³ He died leaving only one child, his daughter Elizabeth. Elizabeth Winbourn married John Guion in 1808. Elizabeth died in 1816, leaving a son Henry Guion. Henry attempted to sue to recover his grandfather's land, but the court determined that the title to the land actually vested in his father, John Guion, who was still living at the time. Henry could not claim the land until his father died.

The case file for the Guion case is at the State Archives.⁴ It includes depositions, including that of Josiah Winbourn of Sumner County, brother of Henry. He said that Henry Winbourn lived and died in North Carolina; his death occurred in Hertford County in 1795. Henry left a widow and one child, Elizabeth, was then two or three years old. Joisah said that Elizabeth's widower, John Guion, was poor man living on rented land near Gallatin.

John Guion was also called to testify, and provided specific dates for his family. He married Elizabeth just a few days after her 16th birthday, which was on 23 April 1808. Their son Henry was born on 21 Feb. 1810. A daughter was born to them but only lived a few days after her mother's death, which occurred 10 Jan. 1815.

Two depositions were sent from Hertford County in 1832. Mrs. Ann Williams, whose relationship is not given, testified that Henry Winbourn died on 11 Feb. 1793 and that Elizabeth Guion was his only child. She also said that Elizabeth's mother (not named) had died 14 or 15 years ago. Mrs. Elizabeth Gordon stated that she saw Henry Winbourn return from service in the American Revolution. She said her husband was with Hardy Murfree when he went to Henry's widow to ask for a deed to Henry's western lands. The widow refused to make such a deed.

Bowman's Executors v. Tucker

Another case involving curtesy was decided by the Supreme Court in 1842. In *Bowman's Executors v. Tucker*, the court ruled that slaves left to Elmira Tucker by the will of her father, Samuel Bowman, became the property of her husband, Samuel Tucker.⁵ However, a tract of land which Bowman left to Elmira during her life, and afterwards to revert to her siblings, was not. Since Elmira was only entitled to the rents of the land during her lifetime, Tucker could not claim them after her death.

The Bowman-Tucker case was first heard in the Lincoln County Chancery Court. The original case file is not among the records of the Supreme Court, but another case arising from the estate reveals that Samuel Bowman died in 1838

³ *Guion v. Anderson*, 27 Tenn. 298 (1847).

⁴ *Guion v. Burton, Anderson et al*, Tenn. Supreme Court Case Files, Record Group 191, Middle Tenn. box 208. Tenn. State Library & Archives.

⁵ *Bowman's Executors v. Tucker* 22 Tenn. 648 (1842).

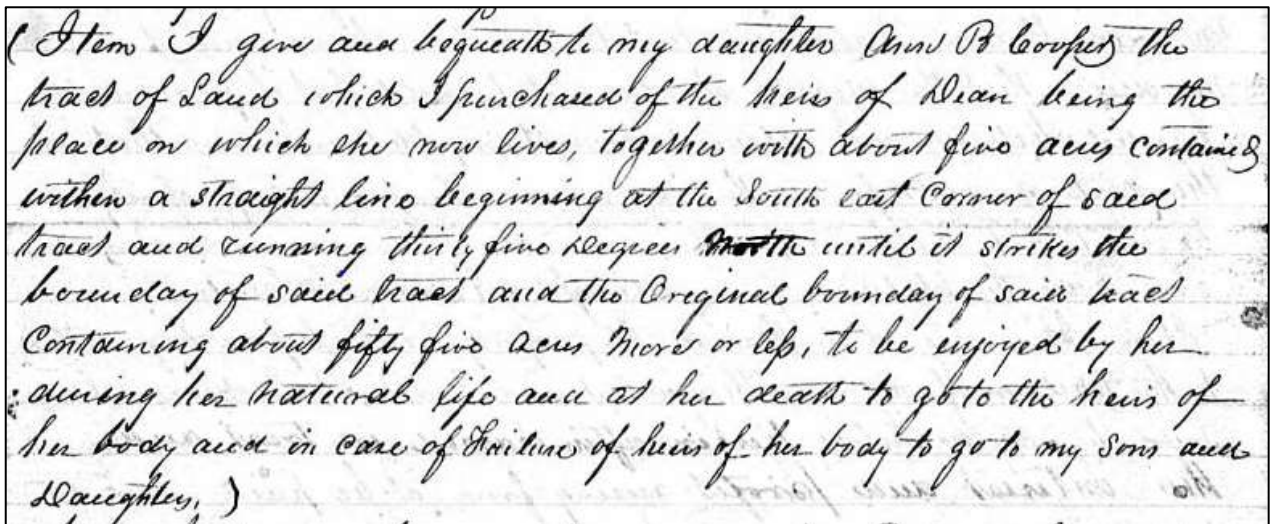
in Rutherford County, leaving widow and numerous children and grandchildren.⁶ His daughter Elmira, wife of Samuel Tucker, died before her father and left no children of her own.

Cooper v. Coursey

Curtsey was sometimes a point of contention between fathers and children, as in the case of *Cooper v. Coursey* which was tried in Maury County's Chancery Court in 1865.⁷ In that case, John Lockridge was the owner of land in Maury County when he died in 1840. His will gave a tract of land to his daughter Anna B. Cooper "and the heirs of her body." Anna died and her children sued their father, William Hamilton Cooper, claiming the land should now be theirs. The court disagreed and said that Cooper held a life estate in the land by curtesy.

The original records of this case show that Anna Cooper had two children, a daughter, Anna B. who married William R. Causey, and a son, William Cooper [Jr.]. Although the name of the daughter's husband is given as Coursey in the published report of the case, the original documents clearly show that the name was Causey.⁸

Coverture continued in force until Tennessee passed the Married Women's Property Rights Act in 1913, ending more than 100 years of desperate legal action by women and children who had been deprived of both property and independence.



(Item I give and bequeath to my daughter Ann B Cooper the tract of Land which I purchased of the heirs of Dean being the place on which she now lives, together with about five acres contained within a straight line beginning at the South east Corner of said tract and running thirty five degrees ~~North~~ until it strikes the boundary of said tract and the Original boundary of said tract containing about fifty five acres more or less, to be enjoyed by her during her natural life and at her death to go to the heirs of her body and in case of failure of heirs of her body to go to my Sons and Daughters,)

Will of John Lockridge leaving property to his daughter, Ann Cooper.
Maury County, 1840



⁶ *Hazlewood and Hale, Executors v. Samuel Bowman and others*, Tenn. Supreme Court Case Files, Record Group 191, Middle Tenn. box 210. Tenn. State Library & Archives.

⁷ *Cooper v. Coursey*, 42 Tenn. 416 (1865).

⁸ *William Cooper v. Anna E. and W.R. Causey*, Tenn. Supreme Court Case Files, Record Group 191, Middle Tenn. box 172. Tenn. State Library & Archives.

Middle Tennessee Businesses, 1868

From King's Nashville City Directory (part 2)

King's Nashville City Directory, published in 1868, has a misleading title. It is not a directory of people who lived in Nashville, and it is not focused solely on Nashville. The subtitle makes its purpose clearer: *King's Nashville City Directory, embracing . . . a business directory of Nashville, and all the principal towns and stations, in Tennessee, on the different railroads centering at Nashville . . .*

The volume is arranged in four sections, one for each of the railroad lines heading out of Nashville. Each stop along the railroad is described in order, as the traveling passenger would arrive at them. Some are merely depots with no businesses listed, while others are thriving towns offering a wide variety of trades and professions. These lists of businesses and their proprietors offer a glimpse into what "going to town" meant for our ancestors who lived in the Middle Tennessee countryside.

Towns on the Nashville and Northwestern Railroad

A railroad line from Nashville to Hickman, Kentucky, was chartered in 1852 as the Nashville & Northwestern Railroad. By the time of the Civil War only 24 miles of track had been laid, taking the line to Kingston Springs. In 1862 the Federal army occupied Middle Tennessee and resumed construction of the track. Their goal was to reach Knott's Landing on the Tennessee River, providing another route for transporting military supplies to and from the river. Enslaved men left their farms and plantations under the Army's protection and worked to lay new track. A settlement grew up at the terminus of the line and Knott's Landing was renamed Johnsonville in honor of President Andrew Johnson. The line was completed, and Johnsonville was the focus of a Confederate raid by Nathan Bedford Forrest's cavalry late in the war.¹

After the war the Federal government returned the railroad to its former stockholders under the leadership of Michael Burns, an Irish-born Nashville businessman and friend of President Johnson. The line was extended to Hickman and the Mississippi River. It operated until 1873, when it was purchased by the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad.

King's 1868 Directory described the railroad as follows:

This road commences at Nashville; runs a little north of west to Hickman, Ky., 170 miles. It connects at Hickman with the Mississippi River steamers; at Union City with the Mobile &

NASHVILLE & NOR'WESTERN
RAILROAD.
NEW, DIRECT, AND RELIABLE ROUTE
Between Nashville and the
CITIES OF THE WEST AND NORTHWEST.
Trains leave Nashville daily connecting at Hickman with
ATLANTIC AND MISSISSIPPI STEAMSHIP,
AND
MEMPHIS AND ST. LOUIS PACKET COMPANY.
PALACE STEAMERS
FOR CAIRO, ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO AND ALL POINTS WEST AND NORTHWEST.
Connects at Union City with Mobile & Ohio Railway for Columbus, Kentucky, Cairo, St. Louis, Chicago, Mobile, New Orleans, Vicksburg, etc.
AT UNION CITY WITH NEW ORLEANS & OHIO RAILWAY FOR PADUCAE.
At McKenata with Memphis & Louisville Railroad for Huntsville, Jackson, Tenn., Bell's Station, Memphis, Mobile, and New Orleans.
This Road connects at Nashville with the Louisville & Nashville, Edgefield & Kentucky, Nashville & Decatur Railroads, and in Depot with the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad.
No charge for transfer at Nashville of Freight going North or South by way of the Nashville & Northwestern and Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad.
OFFICES OPPOSITE
Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad Depot, Nashville.
OFFICERS:
WM. F. INNES, Receiver & Gen. Sup. CHA'S. H. WELCH, Assistant Supt.
J. D. MANEY, Gen. Ticket Agent, M. GRANT, Freight Agent.

¹ Nashville and NW RR History, <http://nashvillenwrr.tripod.com/>

Ohio and the New Orleans & Ohio Railroads, and at Johnsonville with the Tennessee River steamers.

Departing from its Nashville depot, trains on the Nashville & Northwestern made the following stops as they headed west in 1868: These descriptions are from the directory's text.

Bellmead: A small station 6 miles from Nashville and 164 miles from Hickman. No business listings.

Vaughn's Gap: A flag station 10 miles from Nashville. No business listings.

Bellevue: A small station 19 miles from Nashville. No business listings.

Newsom's Tank: A watering place 17 miles from Nashville. The only business listed there is Thomas Newsom's distillery.

Pegram: A flag station 20 miles from Nashville. No business listings.

Palmer's Mills: A flag station 23 miles from Nashville. No business listings.

Kingston Springs: A small station 24 miles from Nashville. The railroad agent there was Z. Payne, and Mrs. Yeatman's hotel is the only business listed.

Glendale: A station 28 miles from Nashville. The railroad agent there was B.F. Ayres, and his sawmill is the only business listed.

White's Bluff: A small village 30 miles from Nashville. The railroad agent there was Alexander Wright, who also operated a grocery store. The hotel operated by Charles Wymer is the only other business listed.

Burns: A small station 37 miles from Nashville. No business listings.

Smeedsville: A station 41 miles from Nashville. "Was recently settled by several German families, and promises to grow rapidly" [later became Dickson]. No business listings.

McCall: A flag station 46 miles from Nashville. No business listings.

Gillem: A small station 50 miles from Nashville. Dr. W.A. Moody sold dry goods and groceries there.

McEwen's: A small town 57 miles from Nashville. [Business list follows.]

Waverly: A small village pleasantly situated 66 miles from Nashville and 104 miles from Hickman, Kentucky. Business list follows.

Johnsonville: A small town located at the point where the Nashville & Northwestern crosses the Tennessee River. Business list follows.

Remaining stations are in West Tenn. and Kentucky.

McEWEN'S

Dry Goods

Brennan, Mike
Macadoo, J.M.
Thompson, Capt. ----

Groceries

Brennan, Michael
Gibson, John
McAdoo, J.M.
Thompson, Capt. ----

Hotel

Neal, J.F.

Railroad Agent

Bond, William

Saloon

Pyburn, Richard

Shoemaker

Glennan, Mike

Bankruptcy in McEwen

Nashville's *Republican Banner* reported that S.M. Fowler of McEwen was among those who had filed for bankruptcy under the new federal law. (May 30, 1868)

WAVERLY

Attorneys

Lockhart, H.C.

Saunders, A.J.

McAdoo, H.M.
Stockard, A.C.

Blacksmith
Rudolph, D.C.

Carpenter and Builder
Martin, Jas. N.

Chancery Court Clerk
Owen, David R.

Circuit Court Clerk
Little, J.W.

Constable
Constable
Reeves, G.W.

Drugs, etc.
White, Jas. P.

Dry Goods
Cowen, Dorsey
Drake, J.W.
Traylor, F.B.
Wyley, John

Groceries
Cowen, Dorsey
Drake, J.W.
McCullum, B.F.
Spencer, B.B.
Sullivan, J.H. & W.A.

Railroad Agent
Spicer, B.B.

Saddles, Harness, etc.
Atkins, A.L.
Massey, Jerry

Hotels
Scarborough, A.D.
Spicer, B.B.

Physicians
Marable, H.H.
Napier, R.S.
Slayden, Wm. M.

Shoe Makers
Burch, W.J.
Drummond, E.

Wagon Maker
Merritt, Thomas

Wheelwright
McGee, Joseph

JOHNSONVILLE

JOHNSONVILLE.—This thriving town, as the present terminus of the Nashville and Northwestern railroad, is growing daily in commercial importance. It has already an increased population, and in the last three months some very creditable buildings have gone up, and others are in course of construction. There are several stores there, which sell a large amount of goods to the surrounding counties, among the most enterprising of whose owners we notice the name of Mr. E. B. Kinsella, for whose liberality and public spirit the future prosperity of Johnsonville will owe much. Another accommodating gentleman is Mr. Geo. White, commanding the wharf-boat, which is alike the hotel and stopping place for the worn and weary traveler.

The bridge across the Tennessee river at that point will soon be commenced, we learn, under the auspices of our old friend Mr. Jas. Koger, which will employ four or five hundred hands, furnishing a market for everything that can be raised in or carried to that community.

Republican Banner
July 12, 1866

Baker
Horner, John

Blacksmiths
Jackson, H.
Mulnasks, Jas. H.

Boarding Houses
Glenn, Mrs.
Morgan, Coleman
Nevins, Mrs.

Carpenters
Allen, J.
Hafford, Geo. H.

Commissioner of Registration
Welch, Wm.

Confectionery
Marberry, B.F.

Drugs, etc.
Rogers, Dr. Jas. G.

Dry Goods
Trotter, M. & Son
Walters, J.D.
Yarbrough, Josiah S.

Freedmen's Bureau Agent
Wilson, R.L.

Tax Collector
Winfrees, J.T.

Groceries
Trotter, M. & Son
Walters, J.D.
Yarbrough, Josiah S.

Hides and Leather
Thomas & Gould

Hotel
Waggoner, W.W.

Meat Stores
Beasley & Vaden
Jackson, Harris

Painter
McKimmon, W.W.

Railroad Agent
Williams, C.F.

Saloons
Dickey, J.B.
McGee, W.S.
Mathis, John S.


Saw Mill
Brown, O.F.

Shoe Makers
Parker, R. L.
Strickland, J.L.

Tax Assessor
Rose, Frank

Towns on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad

NASHVILLE U N A CHATTANOOGA



RAILROAD.

TWO DAILY TRAINS LEAVE NASHVILLE FOR
WASHINGTON, NEW YORK,
And all points East and South.

The Shelbyville Accommodation runs daily (Sundays excepted) between Nashville and Shelbyville, stopping at intermediate Stations,

Since this Road was relinquished by the Government, and turned over to the Company, it has been thoroughly repaired and equipped, and is now in a condition to do all legitimate Railway business.
Its connections at Nashville with Railroads running North and West, and its connections at Chattanooga for all points East, West and South, make it the direct and reliable line of Communication.
Passenger Trains going South make close connections at Stevenson with Memphis & Charleston Railroad, and at Chattanooga with Western & Atlantic and East Tennessee & Georgia Railroads. Trains going North connect at Stevenson with Memphis & Charleston Railroad, and at Nashville with Louisville & Nashville, Nashville & Decatur, Edgfield & Kentucky, and Nashville & Northwestern Railroads.

Close connections made in Depot at Nashville with the Nashville & Northwestern Railroad for Hickman on the Mississippi River.

No charge for transfer at Nashville of Freight going North or South by the Johnsonville Route.

M. BURNS, President.	E. H. EWING, Gen. Supt.
ISAAC LITTON, Gen. Tick't Ag't.	JOHN B. YATES, Assis't Sup.
E. McIVER, General Freight Agent.	

“This railroad, 150 miles in length, has its commencement at Nashville, Tenn, runs in a south-easterly direction through Middle Tennessee to Stevenson, Alabama, thence east to Chattanooga, Tenn., where it terminates. It may be called the pioneer road of the State. The road makes the following connections: at Nashville with the Louisville & Nashville, Nashville & Decatur, Nashville & Northwestern, and Edgfield and Kentucky railroads; at Chattanooga with the East Tennessee & Georgia, and Western & Atlantic railroads.”

Departing from its Nashville depot, trains on the Nashville & Chattanooga made the following stops as they headed toward Chattanooga in 1868: These descriptions are from the directory's text.

Glenciff: A switch station 5 miles from Nashville and 146 miles from Chattanooga.

Antioch: A small station 9 miles from Nashville.

Lavergne: A post village in Rutherford County 16 miles from Nashville; is in a beautiful and healthy part of the state; contains one Express Office and two Dry Goods stores.

Smyrna: A post village in Rutherford County 20 miles from Nashville. The country is rich, fertile and healthy. (Business list follows.)

Florence: A flag station in Rutherford County 26 miles from Nashville.

Stone River: A small station 30 miles from Nashville.

Murfreesboro: An incorporated city of 4,000 inhabitants 32 miles from Nashville. It is the county seat of Rutherford County. It is located in one of the most fertile and healthy districts in the state, and is supported by a densely populated country. It is within three miles of the centre of the state, and was formerly the State Capitol. (Business listings follow.)

Christiana: A small post village and telegraph station in Rutherford County 42 miles from Nashville. Population 100.

Fosterville: A small post village in Rutherford County 45 miles from Nashville. Population 75. (Business listings follow.)

Bellbuckle: A thriving little village in Bedford County 51 miles from Nashville. Population 150. (Business listings follow.)

Wartrace: A town on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad at the junction of the Shelbyville Branch Railroad. It is 55 miles from Nashville, 23 miles from Murfreesboro, and 8 miles from Shelbyville, in Bedford County. This is a thriving town with a healthy country trade, and a fair prospect for improvement. (Business listings follow.)

Shelbyville: The Capitol [*sic*] of Bedford County is at the terminus of the Shelbyville Branch Railroad, leading from Wartrace on the N. & C.R.R. a distance of 8 miles. The population is about 3,500. It is located in one of the most fertile districts in the State. The trade of several surrounding counties is tributary to this place. The inhabitants, both of the town and country, took the precaution to establish schools and churches.

The scenery is varied and beautiful in this vicinity, abounding in rich valleys and picturesque hills, with here and there a rippling stream fed by springs of pure mountain water. All in all, this is a most pleasant place for those who enjoy the sweets of domestic tranquility in a country city. (Business listings follow.)

Normandy: A post village on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad 62 miles from Nashville, 30 miles from Murfreesboro, and 15 miles from Shelbyville. (Business listings follow.)

Tullahoma: Is situated 60 miles from Nashville and is in the county of Coffee. It is 12 miles from the capital of the county. The town is located on a table land which is not well adapted to the production of cotton or corn. The soil is a yellow clay, which might be made to produce an abundant wheat crop if properly cultivated. (Business listings follow.)

Estell Springs: A station in Tennessee, on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, 8 miles from Tullahoma and 77 miles from Nashville.

Decherd: A post village on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad 82 miles from Nashville. (Business listings follow.)

Cowan: A pretty little post village 87 miles from Nashville and 64 miles from Chattanooga.

Tantalon: A railroad and telegraph station 94 miles from Nashville.

Condit Switch: Is 94 miles from Nashville.

Anderson: A small post village 103 miles from Nashville and 48 miles from Chattanooga

Remaining points on the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad are in Alabama and East Tennessee.

SYMRNA

Blacksmith

Brambach, J.M.

Boots and Shoes

Dillin, A.M.

Cabinet Maker

Shafer, Wm.

Carpenter and Builder

Hight, J.W.

Clothing, etc.

Dillin, A.M.

Dry Goods, etc.

Dillin & Dillin

Dudley & Ross

Flour Mill

Black, S.P.

Hardware and Cutlery

Dudley & Ross

Physicians

Poynor, John S.

Saddles, Harness & etc.

Dillin & Engles

Saloon

Cain, T.M.

Johnson & Johnson

Saw Mill

Judd & Shoffner

Shoemaker

O'Connell, P.

Tailor

Fein, L.C.

Wagon Maker

Brumbach, J.M.

Comparison with Smyrna Directory 1866-1867

Almost all of the businesses listed in Berry, Salter & Co's Railway Business Directory for 1866-7 were different from those in King's 1868 directory. The post-war years were full of tumult and economic hardship, and many returning soldiers without land or money tried their hand at business. These small businesses often started and failed within a short period. This can be seen by comparing the list above with this one from the 1866-67 directory for Smyrna:

Blacksmith: P.F. Hager

Boots and Shoes: J.W. Ross & Co.

Confectioneries: Skillman & Johnson

Dry Goods: J.W. Ross; John Johnson

Merchant Tailor: M. Cooley

Physician: John S. Paynor (near depot)

Post Master: J.C. Kennedy

Saloon: P.F. Hager; Skillman & Johnson

Tin Shop: J.N. Russell

MURFEESBORO

Note: Unlike the other cities, listings for Murfreesboro contain a Street name and reference to location: north side (n s); south side (s s); east side (e s); west side (w s); corner (c); northeast corner (n e c); near (nr); Public Square (PubSq)

Attorneys

Beard, R., n s Main
Burton, John W., n s Main
Cannon, J.L., n s Main
Darragh, T.D., n s Main
Ewing & Hancock, n s Main
Keeble, E.A., n s Main
Keeble, H. P., n s Main
Lillard, B.F., s s Main
Osburn, W.W., e s PubSq
Palmer, J.B., e s Church
Ready, C. s s Main
Ridley & Avent, e s Church=

Bakery

Schott, A., w s PubSq

Banks

Murfreesboro Savings Bank, n s PubSq

Barber

Lytle & Basket, n s PubSq

Blacksmiths

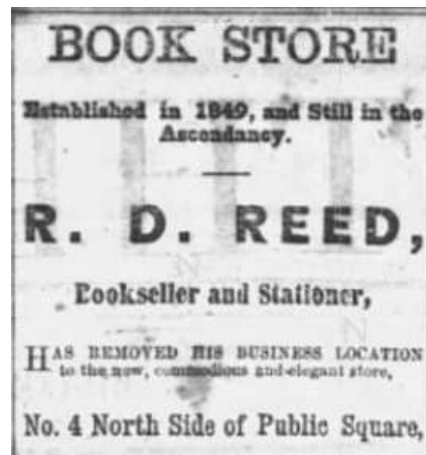
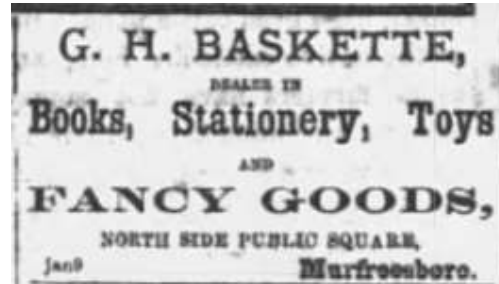
Hall, B. & Co., c Walnut and Main
Smith, Henry, w s Church

Books, Stationery, etc.

Reed, R.D., n s PubSq

Boots and Shoes

Baer & Co., n s PubSq
Barton & Henderson, e s PubSq
Carney, John L., s e c PubSq
Clark, R.L., n e c PubSq
Collier, N.C. & Co., w s PubSq
Crass & Co., w s PubSq
Crockett, Jordan & Co., w s PubSq
Doughty, W.N., w s PubSq
Duffer, W.C. & Gifford, w s PubSq
Haynes, I.J.C., e s PubSq
Kerr, H.H. & Co., w s PubSq
Lansberger, A., s s PubSq
PubSq s s PubSq
Maney & Ransom, n s PubSq
McFadden, J.S., e s PubSq
Miles & McKinley, e s PubSq
Mitchell & Wilkinson, w s PubSq
Neal, Stephen A. n w c PubSq nr Post Office
Rosenfeld, E., e s PubSq



MURFEESBORO (cont.)

Boots & Shoes (cont.)

Tibaldi, D.C., w s PubSq
Washington & Smith, n s PubSq

Carpenters and Builders

Jackson & Bowman, w s Church
O'Neill, Patrick, e s Church
Wilson, Thomas, e s Railroad

Carriage Manufacturers

Garrett & Spain, c Main and Walnut
Osburn, Bock & Co., s s Vine

Cedar Ware

Stone's River Utility Works, w s Church

Claim Agents

Jordan & Rorison, n s PubSq

Clothing

Bacharach, Isaac, e s Church
Baer & Co., n s PubSq
Barton & Henderson, c s PubSq
Clark, R.L., n e c PubSq
Duffer, P.G., n w c PubSq
Eagleton, Wm. C. & Col, n s PubSq
Hanline & Schiff, s e c PubSq
Hirsch, Henry, e s PubSq
Miles & McKinley, e s PubSq
Neilson, J.D., n s PubSq
Rosenfeld, Henry, e s PubSq
Washington & Smith, n s PubSq

Commission Merchants

Leiper & Menefee, nr Railroad depot
Ransom, Wm. A. & Co., nr Railroad depot

Commissioner of Bankruptcy

Dowdy, W.N., office Courth House

Commissioner of Registration

Sherbrooke, F., w s PubSq

Confectionery

Crass, M., e s PubSq

Dentist

Hartman, Alexander, e s Railroad nr PubSq

Drugs and Medicines

Cook, Dr. W.C., e s PubSq
McDermott, J., e s PubSq
Nelson, J.W., n s PubSq
Wendel, R.S., e s PubSq

Dissolution of Partnership.
THE partnership heretofore existing under the firm name of W. G. GARRETT & THOMAS SPAIN is dissolved by mutual consent.
W. G. Garrett will continue the business and settle all accounts. All those having claims against said firm can present them, and all those owing the same will please come up and settle.
Kindly thanking our customers for the liberal patronage heretofore extended to me, I would respectfully solicit a continuance of the same. I have a large supply of
Buggies and other Vehicles,
which I will dispose of on the most reasonable terms.
REPAIRING
done in the best manner and at reasonable prices.
I am prepared to manufacture all kinds of Buggies, Carriages, Wagons, etc., in the most workmanlike manner, and as cheap as any establishment in Tennessee.
Give me a trial
jan9 11
W. G. GARRETT.

THEOB. BAER,
Late of Murfreesboro,
with
H. HIRSCH & CO.,
Wholesale Dealers in
Hides, Furs, Feathers and All Kinds
of Country Produce,
No. 23 Market St., bet. First and
Brook,
Louisville, Ky.

DR. HARTMAN,
DENTIST,
Has removed his Office to the Spence
House.
jan16 11

H. P. KEEBLE
Attorney at Law,
MURFREESBORO,
Will attend to APPLICATIONS IN BANKRUPTCY, and
practice Law in the several Courts in Ruth-
ersford and adjoining counties.

To Be Continued



The Middle Tennessee Genealogical Society, The Tennessee Historical Society & The Brentwood Historic Commission

Present

The 31st Annual Genealogical Seminar

Saturday, November 16, 2019

9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

(Registration begins at 8:15 a. m.)

The John P. Holt Library, Brentwood, TN

Genealogy Meets Technology: Tools and Strategies for the Digital World

by Dick Eastman



Genealogy in the digital age offers a wealth of tools and techniques that can be a bit intimidating to the genealogist used to working in paper records. Join us to learn how to use technology to extend and preserve your family's history.

Our Speaker:

Dick Eastman has been writing [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) for 23 years. He has been involved in genealogy for more than 35 years. He has worked in the computer industry for more than 50 years in hardware, software, and managerial positions. By the early 1970s, he was already using a mainframe computer to enter his family data on punch cards. He built his first home computer in 1980.

Presenting Four Sessions

<p style="text-align: center;">Genealogy Searches on Google</p> <p>Extracting the most genealogy information possible from everyone's favorite search engine.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Using Online Genealogy Programs</p> <p>This session will review genealogy programs that are online, instead of being installed on your computer, such as The Next Generation, WebTrees, OneGreatFamily, WeRelate, WikiTree, FamilySearch, etc.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The Organized Genealogist</p> <p>A look at various methods of organizing record-keeping by the use of digital techniques. This session focuses on converting paper-based record-keeping to all-digital, making plenty of backups and preserving the digital records for many more years than is possible with paper. The session will also cover methods of digitally preserving printed books and magazines for long-term storage that are also easily searched and retrieved.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mobile Apps for Genealogy</p> <p>Hear about, and see demonstrations of, a number of applications for the iPhone, iPad and Android smartphones and tablet computers that are of interest to genealogists. The demo will include many of today's applications designed to carry your genealogy database with you, or to access your data 'in the cloud,' as well as a few non-genealogy applications that are useful to genealogists.</p>

Directions to the John P. Holt Brentwood Library

8109 Concord Road, Brentwood, TN 37027

Take I-65 to Concord Road (exit 71). Turn left onto Concord Road. Travel 1/2 mile east to the traffic light at Knox Valley Drive. Turn right onto Knox Valley. The Library is the first building on your right.



If you are traveling to the Library via Franklin Road, Concord Road runs east from Franklin Road and is located south of Old Hickory Blvd and north of Moore's Lane. Follow Concord to Knox Valley and turn right as indicated on the map.

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Join us for a day of genealogy and fun - and of course our legendary refreshments!



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P. O. Box 682263
Franklin, TN, USA 37068-2263

Register Today!

MTGS/THS/BHC Genealogical Seminar, November 16, 2019

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e-mail: registrar@mtgs.org

Phone: 615-609-0030

REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 9, 2019

(Please print)

Registrations received after deadline of November 9th will be returned and you must register as a "walk-in" on the day of the seminar.

Name _____ Name on Badge (if different) _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Registration Level: MTGS Member \$40 _____ THS Member \$40 _____ Non-Member \$45 _____

Boxed Lunch Choice (included with registration): Turkey _____ Ham _____ Chicken Salad _____

ENCLOSED is my check or money order payable to MTGS for \$ _____

NOTE: Walk-ins welcome on the day of the event if space is available (no guarantee of lunch)

The Murder of Ova Davis, Putnam County, 1887

by Mitzi Freeman

INTRODUCTION

The lives of two families were shattered when a heartbroken, angry young man took the life of a young girl and then attempted to take his own. On 18 June 1887, John W. Green put a pistol to Ova Davis's head and fired as she plead, on her knees, for her life. He then fired three rounds into the back of his own head. Ova died shortly thereafter. Although gravely wounded, John lived another 46 years. After two trials and an Appeal at the Tennessee Supreme Court, John W. Green spent the rest of his life in the East Tennessee Asylum for the Insane. This research is primarily based on the testimonies in the Tennessee Supreme Court Case *State vs John W. Green*.¹



THE VICTIM, HER FAMILY, AND HER FRIENDS

Ova Davis was born 29 April 1869² in Putnam County and had just turned 18 years old. She was the second child of William G. “Bill” and Caroline “Cal” (Stover) Davis. The Davis family was a well-to-do family living in southwest corner of the county. Mr. Davis had honorably served with the 5th Tennessee Cavalry USA in the recent Civil War. After the war, he served as a Justice of the Peace, Register of Deeds, and County Judge. The local Union Civil War veterans honored the Davis family by naming the GAR fraternal lodge after Ova's grandfather, who had served and died in the war. The lodge was called the Albert G. Davis Post No. 76, Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Tennessee.

In addition to Ova, Mr. & Mrs. Davis had the following children: Avo; Solomon Eli; Sallie; William Albert; and Shelah Dillard Davis. Sallie was born 2 January 1873³ and was only 14 years old at the time of the shooting. The oldest daughter, Avo, married Albert Riley Austin not long before the murder. The newlyweds lived about half a mile from the Davis home.

The young and beautiful Ova had many suitors for her hand in marriage. Two of whom were Jim Parks and Tom Cameron. Both young men frequently visited her at her home. She had just recently accepted Jim's marriage proposal, and the couple planned to marry soon.

¹ *State vs John W. Green*. 1887. MS Tennessee Supreme Court Cases. Tennessee State Library & Archives, Nashville, hereinafter referred to as *State vs Green*.

² *Find A Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 25 June 2019), memorial page for Ova Davis (29 Apr 1869–18 Jun 1887), Find A Grave Memorial no. [65164605](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/65164605), citing Davis Graveyard, Bangham, Putnam County, Tennessee, USA ; Maintained by imagal49 (contributor [47223808](https://www.findagrave.com/contributor/47223808)) .

³ *Find A Grave*, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 25 June 2019), memorial page for Sallie Davis Mosley (2 Jan 1873–7 Oct 1895), Find A Grave Memorial no. [99078195](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/99078195), citing Cedar Grove Cemetery, Lebanon, Wilson County, Tennessee, USA ; Maintained by Stone Branches (contributor [47411175](https://www.findagrave.com/contributor/47411175)) .

44	44	Louis D. B.	W	1677			
		Caroline	W	F 40	wife	1	Stover & gungie Keeping house
		Anna	W	F 12	daughter		
		Ova	W	F 11	daughter		
		Solomon F.	W	169	son		
		Elly	W	F 7	daughter		
		William A.	W	165	son		
		Stacy D.	W	163	son		

Ova Davis and family in the 1880 census of Putnam County, District 8

THE LOCATION OF THE MURDER

The murder occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Davis in the lower part of the 8th Civil District of Putnam County -- about a half of a mile south of the intersection of the present-day Cookeville Boat Dock Road and Martin Road.

The Davis home was described as two-story log house with four rooms downstairs and a porch on the front of the house. The kitchen was in a separate building located on the west side of the log house. The two buildings were connected by a covered outdoor walkway. The public road was on the north side of the house.⁴

The Davis's neighbors included the Martins, the Stovers, the Greens and Vinsons, and the Elrods.

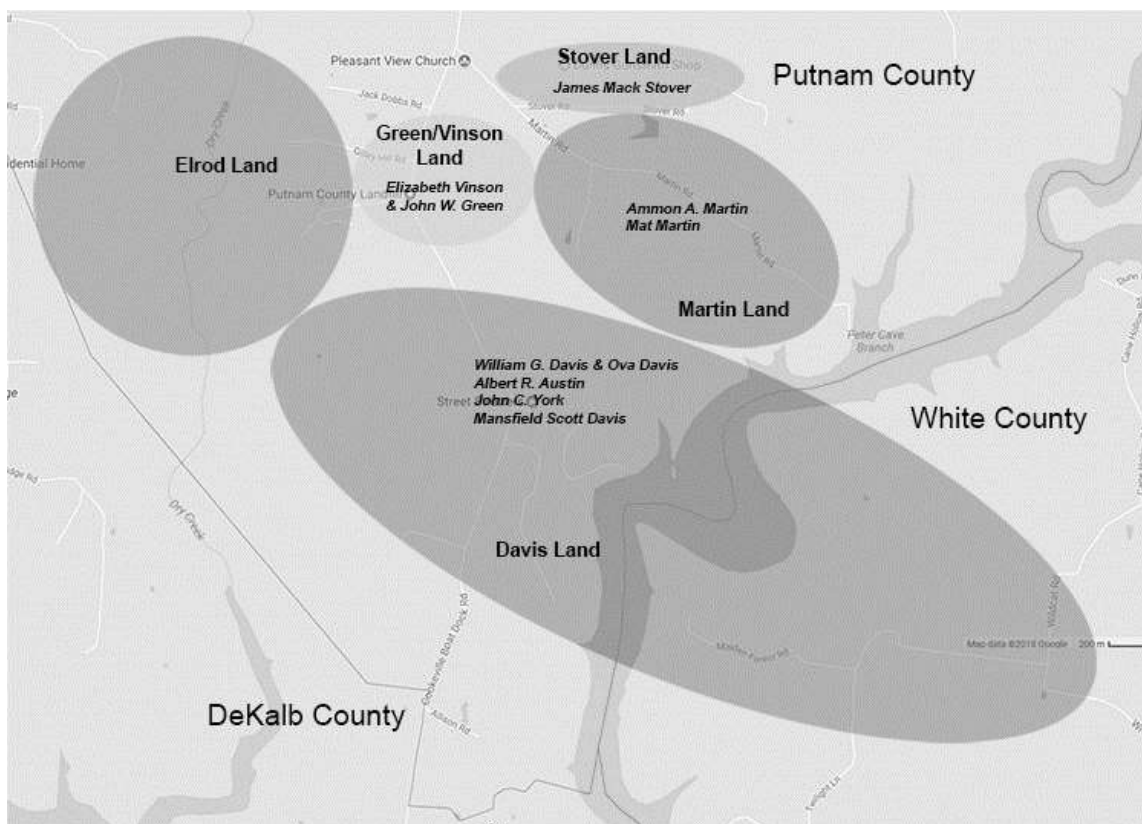


Figure 1. This map depicts the approximate locations of the families involved. This drawing is made from information in available deed records, tax records, and trial testimonies.

⁴ "John C. York Testimony," *State vs Green*.

Neighbors and Relatives

John Campbell York was Ova's maternal uncle. He married Caroline Davis's sister, and they lived about 3/4 of a mile from the Davises.

Mansfield "Scott" Davis was Ova's paternal uncle; he was her father's younger brother. Scott lived on the Davis property not far from the home.

James Thomas "Jim" Parks was born 15 April 1862 in White County and was the son of John and Elizabeth (Albright) Parks. At the time of the shooting, he was serving as a Constable in Putnam County. Jim was 25 years old.ⁱ

Thomas J. "Tom" Cameron was born on 23 April 1855ⁱ in White County and was the son of James McNeale and Eliza Ann (Jones) Cameron. Tom was 32 years old.

ⁱⁱ

James "Mack" Stover was related to both families. He was Caroline Davis's nephew and John's brother-in-law. Mack had married John's older sister about 1873, but she died in childbirth in 1880. By the time of the murder, Mack had married his third wife. He lived about a half of a mile from John — directly in between the Davis and the Green homes.

Felix Madison "Mat" Martin was John's cousin. His father, Ammon A. Martin, and John's father were half-brothers. Mat lived between the Green's house and Mack Stover's house.

ⁱ Find A Grave, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 25 June 2019), memorial page for James Thomas Parks (15 Apr 1862–16 Jan 1947), Find A Grave Memorial no. [84105733](#), citing Old Brush Cemetery, Portland, Sumner County, Tennessee, USA ; Maintained by M&B Family (contributor [46983123](#)) .

ⁱⁱNebraska, Department of Health - Division of Vital Statistics, Death Certificates, Death Certificate, #4551, 28 April 1928, Thomas J. Cameron

THE MURDERER AND HIS FAMILY

John Wesley Green⁵ was born about August 1859 to Edmond Harrison and Elizabeth (Elrod) Green. His siblings included Amanda Jane, James H., Mary Buck, Elias, Alonzo "Lon" Leonidas, Nancy Elizabeth, and Harrison A. Green. John was about 25 years old.

The Green family had recently suffered through several tragedies. During the late Civil War, John's father enlisted in the 22nd Tennessee Infantry Battalion CSA. Shortly after this organization disbanded in April 1863, he returned home and was murdered by Union bushwhackers on 28 August 1863.⁶

On 4 June 1867,⁷ John's widowed mother married Thomas Vinson; and they had two children: Anna and William. Thomas had honorably served in the 5th Tennessee Cavalry USA during the recent war. On 28 February 1870,⁸ someone shot and killed Thomas and left his body lying by the side of road for his family to find. The murderers were neither caught nor identified in either of these two murders.

About 1881-1882, John and his brother, Elias, contracted typho-malarial fever. While Elias completely recovered, John nearly died. In his delirium, John thrashed about and struggled against anyone who attempted to help him. At times, it took several men to keep him in bed. Although he recovered after several months, his family noticed considerable changes in his demeanor post recovery. While once sociable and friendly, he now displayed spells of moodiness and irritability. He often complained of headaches and of hearing water "sloshing" around in his head. During these spells, he would ask any one nearby if they, too, could hear the water. He once told Elias that he "had a good notion to take an old holster, and blow [his] brains out." The family constantly worried about his health and mental state. His mother once remarked, "He's crazy or going crazy."⁹

⁵ There is some confusion as to John's middle name. Most contemporary articles refer to him as John Whitley Green. However, there is compelling evidence that his name was John Wesley Green. The Tennessee Supreme Court documents contain a transcript of the second trial held in May 1889, where the Defense called John WESLEY Green to the stand to testify. The *Daily American* reported his name as John WHITLEY Green one week and John WESLEY Green the next. Since the court record was written by lawyers who knew him, this research has opted for John WESLEY Green. To further support this claim, there is evidence that John's grandfather may have been Westley/Wesley Green.

⁶ Vinson, Thomas (Pvt, Co. A, 5th Tenn. Cav., Civil War), Widow's Pension Elizabeth Vinson, widow's pension application no. 496,246, widow's certificate no. 292, 430, Case Files of Approved Pension Applications., 1861-1934; Civil War and Later Pension Files; Department of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15; National Archives, Washington, D. C., hereinafter referred to as Vinson Pension.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ "Elias Green Testimony," *State vs Green*.



AN IMAGINARY COURTSHIP

Both the Davis and the Green families were well-liked and well-respected within the community. By all accounts, there was no discord among them. In fact, at the time of the shooting, Elias Green was living with the Davis family and was renting land from Mr. Davis. At different times, Mr. Davis had hired each of the Green boys to work on his farm.

Ova was a beautiful, popular and sociable young lady. John made his love and devotion towards her well-known to everyone who lived in the community. Even though Ova only considered John to be a friend; in his mind, he believed that he and Ova were involved in a romantic relationship. He claimed that they were to be married Sunday, 1 August 1886. While Ova tried to convince him that she was only interested in friendship, John persisted to the point of annoying her and her family. In the summer of 1886, she finally told him to leave her alone. After which, she refused to speak to him or to receive him in her home.

In retaliation for spurning his affections, he spread vicious rumors about her character. He wanted to hurt her by lowering her in the eyes of her family and friends. His plan backfired. Instead of turning

their backs on her, her family and friends rallied to her defense. John, rather than Ova, suffered the consequences of his actions.

In another attempt at revenge, John penned a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Davis detailing exactly what he thought of them and their interference with his perceived romance. He felt that Ova's mother was primarily responsible for keeping him and Ova apart. When he completed the letter, he gave it to "Fat Face Stover's wife"¹⁰ to deliver to Mr. and Mrs. Davis.¹¹ The act of writing and sending the letter, gave him a sense of vindication. He told anyone who would listen that Mrs. Davis had been telling lies about him and that he expected "[the letter] would play Hell when she received it"¹² He told anyone who would listen that "he would learn Davis to attend to his own business."¹³

John had again misread the community's affection for Ova and her family. Instead of turning against Ova, neighbors sided with the Davises – especially after Mrs. Davis shared the letter with them. In response to the animosity that he received over the letter, he blamed Fat Face Stover's wife, claiming that she had told "500 lies about him" and about the letter he had written.¹⁴

Despondent over the breakup and reaction of the neighborhood, John decided that he wanted to leave the county and to seek employment elsewhere. In the fall of 1886, he sold all his possessions. He traveled with several other men to Dickson County to find work cutting wood and working on the river.

While in Dickson County, John purchased the pistol that he would later use to kill Ova. One afternoon while enjoying an afternoon of rafting on the river with friends, John pulled out his pistol and began rubbing it. Ned Bozier caught him playing with it and jokingly told him that he ought to just throw it in the river. John simply laughed and said he

¹⁰ It was never explicitly stated to whom the name "Fat Face Stover's wife" referred. The most likely candidate would be Mack Stover's third wife, Nancy (Ward) Stover. While John and Mack enjoyed a cordial relationship, Mack was prone to teasing John about his failed relationship with Ova. This teasing may have led to a temporary rift in the friendship.

¹¹ "Albert R. Austin Testimony," *State vs Green*.

¹² "Jim Goff Testimony," *State vs Green*.

¹³ "J. C. Gabbert Testimony," *State vs Green*.

¹⁴ "Albert R. Austin Testimony," *State vs Green*.

had paid \$10 for it and wanted to “get something for it.” Had Ned actually convinced him to dispose of the pistol, Ova might have been spared her fate.¹⁵

In the spring of 1887, John returned to his mother’s home. By this time, he hoped to be accepted back into the community and be able to resume his courtship of Ova. However, he quickly discovered that would not be the case. Rumors were rampant that Ova had discarded him on account of his “reckless disposition” and his “sprees of drunkenness.”¹⁶ His brothers and his friends relentlessly teased him. Chance Farley would later recall “devilg” him about how Cameron and Parks had “cut him out.”¹⁷

Worse than the rumors, Ova still refused to see or to speak with him. Yet she maintained a cordial relationship with everyone else. To his complete dismay, Ova allowed Parks and Cameron to frequently visit her. John tried convincing her father to intercede on his behalf, but Mr. Davis refused. All the while, his head relentlessly hurt. He often complained of headaches and water sloshing around in his head.

His breaking point came on Sunday, June 12. While attending the Antioch Church, someone told John that Ova was engaged to Jim Parks and that the wedding was to be held next Sunday.¹⁸ He immediately sought out Ova’s brother-in-law, Albert Austin and asked him if this rumor was true. Albert conceded that it was. John begged him to talk to Ova’s father on his behalf, but Albert wanted no part of this scheme.

John began stalking Ova. Two known instances occurred on the afternoon of Monday, June 13 and the morning of Friday, June 17. In the first instance, unbeknownst to Ova, John tailed her from her home to the spring on her father’s property. As he lay hidden in the brush, he carefully aimed his pistol at her. To pass the time as she performed her chores, Ova began to sing. John thought that she sang so sweetly and that she looked so “nice and pretty.” His heart failed him, and he simply could not pull the trigger. As he continued to watch Ova, he again resolved to kill her and then himself. He believed that they would “go to Hell together.”¹⁹ Eventually, both went their separate ways; and Ova was spared for the day.

On Friday morning, Sallie accompanied Ova back to the spring; and John covertly followed them. Once more, he aimed his pistol at Ova. He waited and watched. As before, he simply could not pull the trigger. He would later claim that he failed this time because he was afraid that he might hurt Sallie. Fortunately for Ova, Sallie never left her side. Again, Ova was spared; but not for long.



¹⁵ "Ned Bozier Testimony," *State vs Green*.

¹⁶ "A Demon's Deed," *Daily American* (Nashville, Tennessee), 4 July 1887, p. 6, col. 4, digital images, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com/image/119288705/>; accessed 12 May 2016).

¹⁷ "C. C. Farley Testimony," *State vs Green*.

¹⁸ It was true that Ova and Jim Parks were engaged, but it was not true that a wedding was to be held. Whoever told John of this was probably trying to irritate him.

¹⁹ "Ned Bozier Testimony," *State vs Green*.

SATURDAY, 18 JUNE 1887

At the Green Household

On Saturday morning, 18 June, shortly after sunrise, John and his family ate breakfast together. He appeared noticeably drawn and pale and bitterly complained that his stomach hurt. As his mother and sister set the food on the table, John loudly demanded an onion claiming that he could *not possibly* eat breakfast without one. His sister Nancy, set one on his plate. After taking only a couple of bites, he abruptly left the table and walked out to the stable to brood.

After finishing his breakfast, brother Lon joined him at the stable. As Lon worked, John wandered off. Lon went to look for him and found him sitting on the porch with his head in his hands. Distraught, John complained that his head hurt and that he could hear the water in his head. Lon tried to distract him by asking if he wanted to go to the store, but John simply ignored him and continued rubbing his head. Not knowing what to do for him, Lon returned to the stable to finish his chores.

Without another word, John left and meandered aimlessly along the road. He passed his mother at the Milk Gap.²⁰ They talked briefly before they went their separate ways. She would later testify that his behavior at breakfast and on the road greatly concerned her.²¹

He stopped at Mat Martin's house to inquire about the health of a sickly colt. They walked to the barn to examine it, and John commented that it seemed to be doing better. Mat would later testify that he really did not see anything peculiar about John's manner except that he was barefoot; he seemed to be in good spirits and perfectly normal. John stayed for about fifteen minutes before continuing his way.²²

Next, he walked to Mack Stover's house. As he was wandering across the field, he stopped to watch a man and woman in carriage riding along the road. Although he assumed that they were Mr. and Mrs. Davis, he was not quite certain.

About 7:30 that morning, John arrived at Mack's house. Mack invited him in and asked if he would like to join him and his family for breakfast. John chuckled and responded that it was late for breakfast. Mack replied with a jest that brought a smile to John's face.²³ They sat down at the table, and Mack resumed eating. John sat there thoughtfully for a minute before he inquired who had been in the carriage that passed along the road. With a grin, Mack teased that it was his future *father-in-law and mother-in-law*. With this comment, his mood dramatically shifted. Glumly, John responded that was what he thought. Fifteen minutes later, John announced that he was going to pull weeds for his horse, and he left. Mack watched as he walked out the door, went into a nearby field and began pulling weeds. After a bit, Mack went about his day without giving him another thought.

As he was pulling weeds, John must have realized that Ova must be home alone. With renewed determination, he returned home to write another letter and to retrieve his pistol. Then, he headed to the Davis home to confront Ova.

At the Davis Household

Mr. and Mrs. Davis planned to spend the day visiting with friends, Madison and Celia Jones. Since the Jones lived in the Boiling Spring community, the trip would take several hours by wagon. Mr. and Mrs. Davis left the house around 7:30 a.m. Since it was a nice warm June morning, Ova took her ironing outside in the open walkway connecting the main house to the kitchen. She wanted to enjoy the weather while she worked. Sallie remained inside upstairs.

About 10am, Ova looked up from her ironing and saw John striding purposely towards her across the yard. Ova yelled, "Don't you come in!" John screamed back, "I generally go where I damned please!!"

²⁰ A milk gap is a place where cows are milked.

²¹ "Elizabeth Vinson Testimony," *State vs Green*.

²² "Mat Martin Testimony," *State vs Green*.

²³ "J. M. Stover Testimony," *State vs Green*.

When he reached the porch, he drew his pistol. Ova fell to her knees, threw her hands in the air and cried, "Lord have Mercy!" She pleaded with him for her life. Unmoved, he casually walked over to her; and without another word, he leveled his revolver and shot her in the left temple. She fell backwards onto the porch. He leaned down, turned her head and examined the wound. When he saw that the ball passed clean through her head, he knew that she was not long for this world.

He stood up, raised the pistol to the back of his skull and fired. Although the bullet entered his head, it did not kill him; nor did it knock him off his feet. Stunned, he again placed the pistol to the back of his head and fired. This time, the shot knocked him off his feet but still did not kill him. For the third time, he placed the gun to his head and attempted to fire; but the pistol failed to discharge. He pulled the trigger a couple more times, but the pistol failed to fire. With two bullets already lodged in his head, he had the presence of mind to unload and reload the pistol. He fired again. This shot hit its mark. John fell to the porch gravely wounded.

Upstairs, Sallie was tending to her housework when she heard Ova's screams followed by a series of gunshots. Panicked, she ran down the stairs, out the back door and across the field for a full half mile until she reached her brother-in-law's house.

"*He's killed Ova! He's killed Ova!*" Sallie screamed as she ran into the yard. Albert struggled to understand what the terrified young girl was saying. When the enormity of the situation became clear, he mounted his horse and went for help. He first rode to John York's house; and together they rode to Scott Davis's house.

The three men hurried over to the Davis house. When they arrived at the porch, a horrific scene greeted them. Ova lay on her back bleeding profusely from a gaping gunshot wound to her head. She was still alive but just barely. John was lying about two feet from her – also bleeding profusely from several gunshot wounds to his head. He, too, was barely alive. The pistol lay about 2-3 feet from Ova's head. While several of the gun's chambers still contained shells, the remaining ones were empty. Shells and empty cartridges littered the porch.

Lying near the victim was a blood-stained letter written by John and addressed to both the Davis and Green families.

After the initial shock wore off, the men raced onto the porch to see if they could do anything to help Ova. As York approached her, he spotted the letter and kicked it out of the way. They thought she was dead but quickly realized that she was still breathing. From damage wrought by the gun, they knew there was no hope for recovery; and they did the only thing they could — make Ova as comfortable as possible in her remaining hours. While Scott and York remained at the Davis house, Albert mounted his horse and raced to Boiling Springs to notify Mr. and Mrs. Davis of the tragedy.

As the news of the shooting spread rapidly through the neighborhood, friends and neighbors rushed to the Davis house to help. Since Ova was so gravely injured, they decided not to move her into the house but rather to bring a bed from the house into the hall where she lay. After setting it up, Ova was tenderly placed on the bed. As the women tended to her, York returned to the porch to retrieve the letter.



John and Angeline (Stover) York
Ova's uncle and aunt were among the first to hear about the tragedy.

(Posted on Ancestry.com family tree by Ashley Banner, 2016)

To Be Continued

Andrew Jackson: The Multifaceted Character of an American Hero

by Paul R. White

In the following essay on the life of Andrew Jackson, Paul White gives us reason to consider Jackson's endangered place in history. As the most prominent Tennessean in history, Jackson was important to our ancestors. The 1850 census shows that some 5,000 men and boys in the state were named Andrew, Andy, or A.J. after the great hero of New Orleans. Genealogists need to understand Jackson's impact on our families -- past and present.



The French have an idiomatic expression, “*Plus sa change, plus le meme chose,*” which means, “the more things change, the more they stay the same.” In 1813, the United States faced a grave challenge to its continued existence. The country was embroiled in a long, divisive, and seemingly unsuccessful war. The military command appeared unable to prosecute the war to any acceptable conclusion. There was unfettered infiltration of the country’s Southern border by the British and their Indian allies. Enemy agents were striking terror into the hearts and minds of its citizens. Innocent civilians had been murdered by the minions of those foreign agents, and no one knew where the next attack might come. The State of Louisiana confronted a disaster for which it was totally unprepared, and the federal, state, and local governments stood by without any plan to deal with the impending emergency. The Northern, liberal, monied, and self-appointed elite class was so opposed to the war that they would assemble a convention in Hartford, Connecticut to discuss secession and the establishment of a separate peace with the enemy. It seemed to many that if the war could not be ended, the political division

would rend the country asunder, if the enemy did not first accomplish that end on the battlefield. The cost of the war was staggering, in the terms of both manpower and material, and it would become even more so throughout the remainder of 1813 and 1814, and before it could be concluded. The war would cost the country dearly in national prestige and tarnish its reputation abroad. Many in Europe would be critical of continued prosecution of this war, and it would ultimately cause a change in the ministry in Great Britain.

Leadership is a concept that in this country seemingly becomes ever more an exercise in the negative definition of what it is not, rather than the positive of what it is. It seems the bare minimum requirement of leadership is that one must have followers. This article is about one of the most popular Presidents in American history – a man for whom an entire era was named, and the only American President accorded that honor. He continued to receive write-in votes for the Presidency in every single election until fifteen years after his death.¹ *Newsweek* magazine, in its November/December 1992 issue, quoted then candidate Bill Clinton as saying he



was a “cable ready Andrew Jackson,” and in the spring of 1993, in the *Nashville Banner* appeared a front page story quoting legislative sponsors of a state gambling bill as calling up the ghost of Andrew Jackson for support. Now we have, in an era when he is much less widely revered than he once was, persons making comparisons, not always favorably, between Andrew Jackson and President Donald J. Trump. Who was this man, who so influenced American political life, that one hundred seventy-four years after his death, his memory is called upon still in political and legislative circles? Controversy now rages anew over his visage on the twenty dollar bill in our own day, and it seems likely he is to be removed from the place of prominence on it.ⁱⁱ The endless efforts of the self-appointed elites in the country still cannot consent to allow him the place his achievements have earned for him. His chief sin was that he unashamedly championed the rights of the ordinary American against the sense of privilege and the right to rule of those self-same elites, and they despised him for it. The Harpies may yet take down his visage from the twenty-dollar bill, a visage that has been on American paper currency since it first came to be printed, but it is impossible to tell the story of the American Republic without resort to recounting his heroic deeds. It is well to do this in these days of politically correct re-evaluation of our historic personages, judging them by our own present standards. Just as we would not wish for future generations to judge us by their standards, we

should eschew doing so now with those in our own past. But we should periodically review that past so as to learn its lessons and not forget what made persons such as Andrew Jackson so revered and popular in their own time.

There are but few in the history of this country who have so indelibly stamped their mark upon the nation as did Andrew Jackson, and none greater yet in the history of Nashville, or in the history of the State of Tennessee for that matter. Historians refer to the “Age of Jackson” or the “Jacksonian Era.” No other American President, not even Franklin Delano Roosevelt, so marked the course of American history in his lifetime as to have his era named for him. Jackson provoked great controversy in his lifetime among his own contemporaries, and continues to do so today. It seems that very few who followed his career, then or now, are ambivalent to his actions, achievements, and character.

Jackson served briefly in the Revolutionary War and was wounded by a British cavalry officer’s saber blow to the head and his upraised arm for his fiery refusal to polish that officer’s boots. He carried that scar, and his enmity for the British, for the remainder of his life. He lost his mother and two brothers during that conflict. He was either liked a great deal or seemingly not at all. His was not a personality to which one could be lukewarm, but his achievements speak very eloquently of the role that he played in American society and the honor in which he has been held by most Americans ever since.

Early Life and Career

Jackson was born March 15, 1767, in the Waxhaw settlement on the border between North and South Carolina. Each state has claimed to be his native state, but Jackson said his mother told him it was South Carolina.ⁱⁱⁱ As a young lad, he was set upon a stump and asked to make the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence to the citizens of the Waxhaw settlement. He was admitted to the practice of law in Jonesborough, Tennessee in 1787, after having completed only six weeks of formal study in the law, apprenticed to a Salisbury, North Carolina attorney named John Stokes, as was the custom in that day.^{iv} Lest that training be denigrated, as it is today by some Jackson detractors, it should be remembered that his formal legal training was longer than that of Chief Justice John Marshall. He became the first District Attorney of the Mero District, which Nashville was then called, in 1788, having been appointed to that position by Judge John McNairy.^{vi} He became the United State Attorney for the Mero District of the Territory South and West of the Ohio River by appointment of President George Washington in May 1790, the Southwest Territory, being then present-day Kentucky and Tennessee.^{vii} He was elected to the Congress of the United States in 1796, to represent the Southwest Territory before Tennessee became a state in June of that year. He served on the State's Constitutional Convention in 1796.^{viii} Being elected as the first

Congressman from the State of Tennessee, he served in that capacity from 1796-97.^{ix} He became a United States Senator in 1798.^x He resigned from the seat in the Senate and was appointed to the Tennessee Superior Court bench, which was then the equivalent of the present day Tennessee Supreme Court. He served as a Superior Court Judge from 1798-1804.^{xi} He was Adjutant General of the State of Tennessee from 1802-1812.^{xii} He was appointed a Major General in the regular United States Army in October of 1812.^{xiii} He became the first territorial governor of the Florida Territory in 1821. He was returned to the United States' Senate from Tennessee in 1824. Three times receiving the largest number of the popular vote, but failing to receive the requisite number of votes for election in the Electoral College in 1824, the election was decided in the House of Representatives by the "Corrupt Bargain," as Jackson's supporters would forever call it, between John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay, giving the Presidency to Adams. From his position in the United States Senate, Jackson would lead the opposition, and he and his supporters would assure Adams and Clay did not enjoy the fruits of their so-called victory. Jackson ran again in 1828, was elected, and served as President of the United States from 1829-1837. There are few other men in American history who have been rewarded with so many different offices evidencing the confidence of the people.

Duels and Enmities

When he arrived in Nashville on October 26, 1788, the city was little more than a village, being only nine years old at that time.^{xiv} He found that the politics of his day embroiled him in a quarrel with the Governor of the State of Tennessee in October of 1803, a very celebrated quarrel that will be described later.^{xv} After a heatedly contested horse race resulted in an insult to the character of his wife, Jackson shot and killed Charles Dickinson of Peach Blossom Plantation near Nashville in May 1806^{xvi}. He was engaged in the celebrated brawl with the Benton brothers on the Public Square in September of 1813, which resulted in both Jessie Benton and his

brother, Thomas Hart Benton, later the United States Senator from Missouri, leaving Nashville due to their controversy and conflict with Jackson and his supporters, which almost cost Jackson his arm, if not his life.^{xvii}

In the summer of 1813, when the Creek Indians of Alabama, incited by their Spanish and British allies, massacred the entire white population of Fort Mims, the Governor of the State of Tennessee called upon Jackson, as the Adjutant General of the State of Tennessee, to protect the borders of the State of Tennessee and secure it from the incursions of the Creek Indians and their

British allies.^{xviii} Acting solely upon the authority of this call from the Governor of the State of Tennessee and calling out the Tennessee Militia, Andrew Jackson marched in three separate Indian campaigns into the Alabama Territory to subdue the Creek Indians, and those orders led directly to his taking it upon himself, on his own initiative, to occupy Mobile and Pensacola, both Spanish possessions, and to march on New Orleans with the avowed intention of protecting it from falling to the British. Pensacola and Mobile, at that time, were part of the Spanish Territory of West Florida. This action of his provoked a grave diplomatic incident between the United States and the Spanish government because Jackson imprisoned the Spanish Governor in his own jail in Pensacola. There he took what was then the capitol of Spanish West Florida and raised the American flag over it, all in the name of the Governor of Tennessee whose orders he supposedly was acting upon to protect the borders of Tennessee from the Indian menace.^{xix}

Jackson was later portrayed by his political enemies as just a common brawler and a fighter; not a gentleman, and not a person who should be entrusted with the lofty affairs of the national government. But he was always popular with the people, had a great deal of good common sense, and an unwavering sense of honor. He was witty, often charming, and possessed a good sense of humor. One instance of the latter was an early “duel” in which Jackson engaged, which displayed Jackson’s wit, and occurred in Jonesborough, Tennessee when Jackson was a young lawyer of twenty-one. He was engaged in a case with a North Carolina attorney by the name of Waightstill Avery, who was about twenty years older than Jackson; he would have been in his early forties, considered a mature attorney then. Avery had been a member of the Constitutional Convention of the State of North Carolina. He had served at King’s Mountain during the Revolution. He had a brilliant and very highly regarded legal and political career. He travelled the western circuit of North Carolina, of which Jonesborough was then a part. He was a very eminent trial attorney and quite highly regarded, both personally and professionally. He and Jackson were involved in a case of some insignificant consequence at Jonesborough. It was known that Mr. Avery reposed great confidence in a legal treatise by the name of

Bacon’s *Abridgement of the Common Law*. Everywhere



that he went, Mr. Avery carried Bacon’s *Abridgement* in his satchel, very tenderly wrapped up in a buckskin wrapper, citing it frequently. Some words were passed between them in open court, in which Avery chastised Jackson for his lack of knowledge of the law, and that he had not given proper consideration to the authority of Bacon’s *Abridgement* on the point that Avery was then arguing to the Court. Jackson became offended, jumped to his feet and admitted that perhaps he was not as well versed in the authority of Bacon’s *Abridgement* as Avery was, but he knew enough about the law of North Carolina not to accept illegal attorney’s fees. A new statute had just then been enacted by the terms of which attorney’s fees were set in North Carolina by a statutory schedule, and Avery had accepted what had become an illegal attorney’s fee under this new statute. Words were passed between them resulting in Jackson challenging Avery to a duel. Jackson’s second, in consulting with him, found out that Avery had made an insulting remark to Jackson before Jackson had an opportunity to say publicly that he did not think Avery had charged an illegal fee intentionally, but had done it out of his ignorance of the passage of this recent statute. When the seconds got together and that fact was expressed, it was determined that the dispute could be settled amicably. They would go to the appointed dueling ground and, when the time came, both men would fire their pistols in the air, which is exactly what was done. Whereupon Jackson approached Avery across the dueling grounds and shook his hand and said, “Colonel Avery, I knew that if circumstances would result in my getting the best of you today and your being mortally

wounded, that you would not be able to pass from this world into the next without the comfort of your Bacon, so I brought it to you today,” and went over to his own horse and out of his saddlebags, pulled a little satchel like the one Avery carried, and in it was a side of bacon wrapped up in a buckskin wrapper.^{xx}

Another well reported story from Jackson’s Jonesborough career concerns Russell Bean. Bean was the first white child born within the limits of what is now Tennessee. He was a well formed, tall, powerful man who made his living as a craftsman, particularly of firearms, dirks, cutlery, and all forms of weaponry. He took a flatboat load of his products to New Orleans and spent the next two years there drinking, gambling, attending races and cockfights. Upon his return to Jonesborough in 1802, he found his wife with what Marquis James delicately refers to as an unsponsored child. In a drunken fight, he cut the little child’s ears off close to the head, saying that he “had marked it so that it would not get mixed up with his children.”^{xxi} He was arrested and convicted for this offense and, among other punishment, ordered to be branded in the hand. The sentence was carried out, and he immediately bit out that portion of the hand containing the brand and spit it on the ground. He then contrived to kill his wife’s seducer, one Allen, a merchant in the town. That gentleman had wisely removed himself from public view, and Bean provoked a controversy with Allen’s brother and beat him severely. That ultimately led, by turns, to his

coming to the attention of Judge Andrew Jackson, who issued an order for his arrest for showing contempt in open court by cursing judge, jury and all assembled. The sheriff twice went out with a deputized posse to arrest Bean and twice returned empty handed. Jackson ordered him to do so again, saying “that such a return was an absurdity and could not be received, that the culprit must be arrested, and that he [the sheriff] had a right to summon the *posse comitatis*, to aid in the execution of the law.” Accounts vary as to whether Jackson volunteered to serve on the posse, or the sheriff contrived that notion on his own, but Jackson went with the sheriff and a company of those who had been in court when Bean appeared and cursed everyone. Advancing upon Bean at his home, with his eyes blazing, and a cocked pistol in each hand, Jackson told him: “Now, surrender, you infernal villain, this very instant, or I’ll blow you through.” Bean replied: “There, judge, it’s no use, I give in.” Asked later why he surrendered to Jackson when he had not surrendered to anyone else, Bean replied: “Why, when he came up, I looked him in the eye, and I saw shoot, and there wasn’t shoot in nary another eye in the crowd; and so I says to myself, says I, hoss, it’s about time to sing small, and so I did.”^{xxii} Later, in Jackson’s career, when he, John Overton, and James Winchester were speculating in land on the Mississippi River bluff that later became Memphis, in what must be one of the great ironies of his life, he got Bean appointed the first marshal in that city.^{xxiii}

The General and the Governor

Jackson’s quarrel with Governor John Sevier also had its humorous aspect, but did not have as good a final result. Sevier and Jackson had fallen into a serious political feud. While he was Governor Sevier had been charged on allegations of land fraud. At the end of the Revolutionary War, Congress was financially unable to grant pensions to the veterans of the Revolution. Instead they “pensioned” those veterans with warrants for bounty land in the western areas of the country, in what is now, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and western Georgia. Most of these veterans, by the time these areas were cleared of hostile Indians, and they were able to

realize any value from their warrants, were old, and did not want to re-locate from the original thirteen states. It became quite a national scandal in the late eighteenth century that land speculators were buying up these bounty land warrants and making large fortunes at the expense of the impoverished Revolutionary War veterans. Jackson was utterly incensed by this, and it is an historic fact that many prominent persons profited legally at the expense of these impoverished Revolutionary War veterans on trade in these bounty land warrants. It was not the sort of conduct one wants to associate with the generation of the Founding Fathers.

In the year 1802, the Adjutant-Generalcy of the State of Tennessee became vacant. The field officers of the militia elected the Adjutant General at that time. The two contenders then were John Sevier and Andrew Jackson; there was a tie vote, and the Governor of the State, being commander-in-chief of the militia and holding a field commission, was called upon by law to cast the deciding vote. Jackson's supporters made it known to Governor Archibald Roane that Sevier had been involved in the scandal over the sale of bounty land warrants, whereupon Roane cast the tie-breaking vote for Jackson. Jackson continued in office as Adjutant General until 1812, when he was appointed a Major General in the regular United States' Army. This circumstance, and the alleged bounty land fraud led, in October 1803, to the dispute between Sevier, the then Governor of the State, and Jackson, a Judge of the Superior Court. The Court was meeting in Knoxville; the Governor was making some political speech from the top of the courthouse steps, when Jackson emerged from the door where the Governor was speaking. The Governor was speaking of his services to the State and rattling his ever-present sword in its scabbard. He made



some churlish remark directed toward the Judge, and Jackson, in retort said, "Well, it has been known that I, in the past have been of some service to my country, as well." Sevier replied, "Sir, I know of no service you have been to the country except taking a trip to Natchez, Mississippi with another man's wife." Such a slander on his beloved Rachel was not to be tolerated, and the feud then took a nasty turn. Jackson wrote Sevier a letter the next morning. Following is the text of the written challenge Jackson issued to Sevier:

"The ungentlemanly expressions and gasconading conduct of yourself was in true character of yourself, and unmasked you to the world and plainly shows that they were the ebullition of a base mind, goaded with stubborn fruits of fraud and flowing from a source devoid of every refined sentiment of delicate sensation. But, sir, the voice of the people has made you a governor and this alone makes you worthy of my notice or the notice of any gentlemen. For the office I have respect and as such I can deign to notice you."

Jackson told Sevier that if he did not respond to the challenge to the duel before 4:00 o'clock that afternoon, "I will publish you as a coward and base poltroon." Sevier did not answer, and Jackson took out a full-page advertisement in the Knoxville newspaper announcing

that the Governor of the State was a liar, a coward, and a base poltroon and challenging him publicly to a duel. Dueling was illegal in the State, so the Governor drafted the following letter to send to Jackson to explain the reasons for not consenting to a duel:

"I have some regard to the laws of the state over which I have the honor to preside," Sevier announced, "though you, a judge, appear to have none. It is to be hoped that if, by any strange and unexpected event, you should ever be metamorphosed into an upright and virtuous judge, you will feel the propriety of being governed and guided by the laws of the state you are sacredly bound to obey and regard."

Shortly after this, they chanced to encounter one another on the road between Knoxville and Jonesborough. Both had an entourage with them, each man travelling with four or five companions. Sevier got down off his horse

and shouted insults, curses, and epithets at Jackson, armed himself with both of his pistols and advanced on Jackson. Jackson got his pistols and advanced on Sevier as they danced for some minutes around a large oak tree

before somehow or other (no one of the witnesses was ever quite sure how) the Governor's pistols wound up back in his saddlebags and he kicked his horse in the hind quarters and the horse took off through the woods. The Governor said, "Surely, you would not shoot an unarmed man?" Jackson threw down his guns and said "No" but he could horse whip him, and advanced on him again. The others stepped in at this point and separated

them. Sevier proceeded on to Nashville and Jackson to Jonesboro. That was the end of that quarrel. Sevier died, never having been again made Adjutant General, although he did again serve as Governor and, while he was Governor, buried in committee in the legislature the investigation that the legislature had commenced into his dealings with these land warrants.^{xxiv}

Battle of New Orleans

Another significant event in Jackson's career leading up to the Presidency is the Battle of New Orleans. Prior to that battle, the war had been going very badly for the American side. Almost without exception, every military engagement on land had been an utter disaster. General William H. Winder, who was charged with the duty of defending Washington City, had virtually allowed his army to throw down their arms at Bladensburg, Maryland on 24 August 1814, and flee the British without hardly having engaged them, which resulted in Admiral Alexander Cockrane and General Robert Ross taking the city and burning it that same day. It has been called "the greatest disgrace ever dealt to American arms." The government had fled, as well as all of the members of the Congress. The White House was put to the torch, as was the War Department, the Navy Yard, the Library of Congress, and the Capitol, but the last not before Cockrane and his British officers had held a mock Congress utterly humiliating the stricken country. At this point, Washington seemed to be utterly hopeless in prosecuting the war successfully, even defaulting on the national debt in 1814, the only time in the nation's history that this had occurred,^{xxv} all of which were reasons for the Governor of Tennessee calling out the Tennessee Militia and requiring them to protect the southern border of the State from a possible British incursion from the Gulf Coast.

The Duke of Wellington, later to be the hero of the Battle of Waterloo and British Prime Minister, had been offered command of the effort to take New Orleans and had refused it. He had consistently argued against this campaign, but the British ministry was intent on taking New Orleans. If successful, as the ministry thought it would be, this campaign would thwart the efforts that

the American government had manifested at westward expansion into the recently purchased Louisiana Territory. Whoever controlled New Orleans would control all trade to the interior of the country in areas that were drained by the rivers that were tributaries of the Mississippi River, and it was the British intention to capture sufficient territory to have a land mass contiguous to Canada and to force the Americans to pay heavy taxation for the use of the port facilities through New Orleans,^{xxvi} also halting American expansion beyond the Mississippi River. Wellington maintained his opposition and declined the proffered command, a wise move as events unfolded, as he was still alive to command at Waterloo in June 1815. It was awarded to his brother-in-law, Major General Sir Edward Pakenham.

It was well known in military and political circles that the British planned to attack the Gulf Coast, though the target was not known. It was thought by some that the Spanish, now allies of the British, would open up the port of Mobile. The harbor there was substantial, and would easily accommodate the British navy and such other military forces as would be necessary for penetrating into the southern United States virtually unimpeded. In fact, there was a movement by the British invasion force toward Mobile, which plan was abandoned precisely because Jackson fortified the entrance to Mobile Bay and the city was then in the hands of the Americans. The British decided instead to attack New Orleans, feeling that it would be impossible for the Americans to safeguard all of the coastal port facilities.

Jackson anticipated such a move and, leaving a small garrison at Mobile, marched overland, in a forced and

rapid march, to New Orleans. When he got there, he realized the State of Louisiana had made absolutely no provision for its own defense, and the city was in a panic, with many civic leaders in favor of immediate surrender negotiations. Jackson imposed martial law. There were but few regular United States troops in that area. The majority of the army that he assembled to defend New Orleans were Georgia, Kentucky and Tennessee Militia, and Jean Laffite's pirates from Barataria Bay. Of the total force that he assembled, somewhere between 2,500 and 3,000 troops, less than 500 of those were regular United States' troops. The bulk of the force was a motley crew he had assembled of virtually anyone who could carry and fire a gun.

The approach to New Orleans overland was then along a highway on the levee of the river which was a very narrow approach. The only open ground then sufficient for a European style pitched battle, as was customary in that day, is the area at Chalmette, just southeast of the city, where the battle was actually fought. The Rodriguez Canal bisects the field at Chalmette, which, at the time of the battle, was about three hundred feet in length. This was a small irrigation ditch which Jackson transformed into a trench by stacking cotton bales that he had appropriated in the city under the dictates of martial law. This single ditch was probably not much wider than eight feet, in front of which were stacked the cotton bales to provide depth, with cannon at various intervals, and the troops crowded into the ditch all along its length. All of the rifles then were muzzle loaders; there were no repeaters, and Jackson decided that this military defense line would anchor the Mississippi River on his right. A swamp on his left was impenetrable to the infantry of the day. He would stand the troops three deep in the ditch. The first line would fire and fall back, the second line would be preparing to fire, and as soon as each line in turn would fire, they would fall back to the rear and reload their piece.

When the British lined up on the morning of the battle, there was a very dense fog. It was a January morning; it was very cold for New Orleans, and the fog uncommonly thick. Following the regimen of the day, the British put their bagpipes out in front with their drummers and all of their regimental and battle honor flags flying. Jackson issued the order to his troops not to



fire until they saw the whites of their eyes. This would allow virtually every shot to find a target, and was necessary because of the utter lack of military training of so many of his troops.

Picture in your mind the battlefield with almost 6,600 British soldiers marching in perfect line of formation across a totally open field of broken sugar cane in a dense, heavy, winter fog. There would be no way the Americans could miss hitting a target. One did not even have to take aim. If one just waited until the enemy closed within range and simply discharged the guns, one would be certain to hit something. It was the first time in the history of warfare a European army had faced constant, rapid fire. The tradition of British tactics, when advancing upon an enemy, was to accept first fire, and then those soldiers who were not killed or wounded when the volleys were discharged, would, with fixed bayonets, charge the opposing army's position and took it by overrunning it in the charge before their enemy had sufficient time to re-load. The British never expected that Jackson would have positioned his troops in such a way in this ditch as to be able to fire upon their lines

continuously, which is exactly what he did. The plan worked perfectly. The first line fired and fell back, the second line took their place, firing in its turn and falling back, at which time the third line stepped forward to fire and fall back.

The British were subjected to a continuous fire so withering and horrific as to have never been taken into account in their plans for that day's combat. Such devastating fire had never before occurred in the annals of combat. In the battle, out of sixty-six hundred engaged that day, twenty-six hundred and ninety-four were killed outright, over half the number actually engaged in the battle on the field that day. All of the general staff, including General Packenham, all of the

other subordinate generals, and all of the colonels were killed. The British army was left in the command of a major.

Jackson suffered thirteen killed, thirty-nine wounded, and nineteen missing in his total Southern campaign. At the Battle of New Orleans alone, seven American soldiers were killed and six were wounded.^{xxvii} It remains the singular most glittering victory in the annals of American military history. It must have been a sweet revenge for the man who had been the defenseless boy struck across the face and arm when he had refused to polish a British officer's boots so many years previously.

Jackson wrote later, "I never had so grand and awful an idea of the resurrection as on that day. After the smoke of the battle had cleared. . . I saw in the distance more than five hundred Britons emerging from the heaps of their dead comrades, rising up. . . coming forward and surrendering as prisoners of war to our soldiers. They had fallen at first fire upon them. . . and lay prostrate, as if dead until the close of the action."^{xxviii}

One of the curious circumstances of Jackson's tenure in New Orleans is that he had been cited for contempt of a Federal Judge for refusing to countermand his order placing the city under martial law, when the Governor had filed suit in Federal Court to require Jackson to dissolve the martial law edict. The Louisiana authorities had not intended to defend New Orleans. They had intended to surrender the city intact so that there would not be any destruction of private property.^{xxix} Jackson was asked after the battle, since he had drawn only the one defensive line at Rodriguez Canal, what was his second line of defense, and he reportedly said, "Sir, I had no second line of defense. If the Rodriguez Canal line had broken, I would have retreated this army through the streets of New Orleans burning the city as I

went so that nothing of any use could have fallen into the hands of the British with New Orleans." When, before the battle, he was brought up on charges before Federal Judge Dominick Hall, he ordered his troops to take the Judge down from the bench and imprison him in the Louisiana State Penitentiary for violating the terms of martial law. After the battle, when the Judge was released from prison and summoned him again to appear in Court on a contempt citation, Jackson willingly submitted, lifted martial law, went before Judge Hall and was fined for civil contempt the sum of \$ 1,000, a huge sum for the day, which he paid in gold.^{xxx} On the eve of being inaugurated President of the United States, Congress voted him a refund of the penalty, with an additional \$ 2,000 in interest.

Jackson in the White House

The circumstances of his Presidency engendered the bitterest political enmity. Even so, Jackson was one of the few Presidents to achieve his total legislative policy. He broke the power of the Bank of the United States, then used largely by its President Nicholas Biddle of Philadelphia to confer benefits on his political allies,

and, in his mind and the minds of generations of Americans after him, broke the power of the Northeastern, aristocratic, elite, monied interests who dominated the yeoman farmers in the South, West and Mid-West of the United States. In his message of veto for the National Bank Bill, July 10, 1832, President

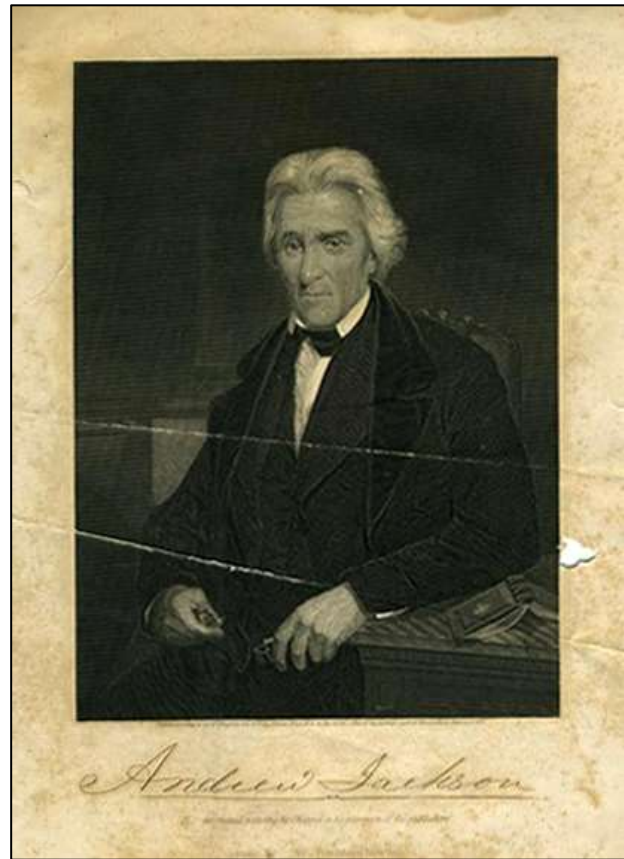
Jackson enunciated his views on the nature of government:

In the full enjoyment of the gifts of Heaven and the fruits of superior industry, economy, and virtue, every man is equally entitled to protection by law; but when the laws undertake to add to these natural and just advantages artificial distinctions, to grant titles, gratuities, and exclusive privileges, to make the rich richer and the potent more powerful, the humble members of society – the farmers, mechanics, and laborers – who have neither the time nor the means of securing like favors to themselves, have a right to complain of the injustice of their Government. There are no necessary evils in government. Its evils exist only in its abuses.^{xxxii}

He balanced the Federal budget; he became the only President in the history of the United States to this day to ever pay off the national debt and distribute a revenue surplus *pro rata* to the States based upon their population. He remains the only President, other than Washington, to ever appoint the entire Supreme Court of the United States during his administration.^{xxxiii} When he had prepared to retire from the Presidency, he designated his own successor, Martin Van Buren, in the Presidential chair. That has only occurred two other times in the nation's history.^{xxxiiii} No one knew much about Martin Van Buren except that he was Jackson's choice for the Presidency, and that was sufficient for the electorate. Van Buren was elected overwhelmingly, and it was regarded by everyone on the scene at the time as a monumental testament to Jackson's popularity with the people that this virtual unknown who had served as his Secretary of State was elected. It was, in essence, the American electorate returning a vote of thanks to Andrew Jackson.

Jackson knew Sam Houston from the Indian Wars; Houston was with him as a Lieutenant at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in Alabama. Both Houston and James K. Polk had been Nashville lawyers and travelled in Jackson's circle of friends early in his career. Polk would come to be known as "Young Hickory," a testament to his closeness to "Old Hickory," the

nickname awarded Jackson during the Indian campaign. Polk was the leader of the Jackson forces in the House



of Representatives and was Speaker of the House during most of Jackson's tenure as President. Jackson's erstwhile enemy, Thomas Hart Benton, who fled Nashville after his notorious brawl with Jackson in 1813, became the chief proponent for Jackson's policies in the Senate. Benton almost singlehandedly guided every single one of Jackson's legislative proposals successfully through the Senate. They reconciled and became life-long friends. Benton, after Jackson's death, said that no greater man had ever walked across the political stage of the United States, nor probably ever would, than Andrew Jackson.

It is felt by many and, in fact, was the subject of a historical novel in the 1950's that the so-called manifest destiny of the United States, the belief that it was the destiny of this country to stretch from sea to sea, was a plan hatched in the brain of Andrew Jackson subsequent to the Battle of New Orleans and that Sam Houston was dispatched to Texas on a mission from President

Jackson precisely for the purpose of bringing Texas into the Union. When news of Jackson's impending death reached Houston in Texas, he galloped practically around the clock in an effort to get to Nashville before Jackson expired, and arrived at the Hermitage about

three hours too late, not being able to see his old friend this one last time. He told his son, Temple Houston, who had made the trip with him, never to forget throughout the rest of his life, that he had looked upon the face of Andrew Jackson.^{xxxiv}

His Beloved Rachel

One of the great love stories in history is that of Andrew and Rachel Donelson Jackson.^{xxxv} Rachel died, they said at the time, of a broken heart, because she could not face the prospect of going to Washington and having to entertain in her home those people who had been so malicious and spiteful to her. Jackson wrote her epitaph:

“Here lie the remains of Mrs. Rachel Jackson, wife of President Jackson, who died the 22nd December 1828, aged 61. Her face was fair, her person pleasing, her temper amiable, her heart kind; she delighted in relieving the wants of her fellow creatures, and cultivated that divine pleasure by the most

liberal and unpretending methods; to the poor she was a benefactor; to the rich an example; to the wretched a comforter; to the prosperous an ornament; her piety went hand in hand with her benevolence, and she thanked her Creator for being permitted to do good. A being so gentle and virtuous, slander might wound but could not dishonor. Even death, when he tore her from the arms of her husband, could but transport her to the bosom of her God.”^{xxxvi}

Such was the devotion of Andrew Jackson, the frontier hero, to the only woman history records he ever loved, three months before assuming the Presidency.

Summing Up

Writing in 1945, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. had this to say concerning the American electorate, perhaps presciently, for in this most caustic of American political seasons perhaps since Jackson ran in 1824:

For Jefferson and Jackson the demands of the future – whatever readjustments they may compel for our government and our economy will best be met by a society in which no single group is able to sacrifice democracy and liberty to its own interests. “It will never be possible for any length of time for any group of the American people, either by reason of wealth or learning or inheritance or economic power,” declared Roosevelt in 1936, perhaps a trifle optimistically, “to retain any mandate, any permanent authority to arrogate to itself the political control of American public life. This heritage. . . we owe to Jacksonian democracy – the American doctrine that entrusts the general welfare to no one group or class, but dedicates itself to the end that the American people shall not be thwarted in their high purpose to remain the custodians of their own destiny.” [Roosevelt, *Public Papers*, V, 198].

The Jacksonian attitude presumes a perpetual tension in society, a doubtful equilibrium, constantly breeding strife and struggle: it is, in essence, a rejection of easy solutions, and for this reason it is not always popular. One of the strongest pressures toward the extremes, whether of socialism or conservatism, it is the security from conflict they are supposed to insure. But one may wonder whether a society which eliminated struggle would possess much liberty (or even much real stability). Freedom does not last long when bestowed from above. It lasts only when it is arrived at competitively, out of the determination of groups which demand it as a general rule in order to increase the opportunities for themselves. To some the picture may not be

consoling. But a world without conflict is the world of fantasy; and practical attempts to realize society without conflict by confiding power to a single authority have generally resulted (when they have taken place on a larger stage than Brisbane's phalansteries) in producing a society where the means of suppressing conflict are rapid and efficient.

"Sometimes it is said that man can not be trusted with the government of himself," said Jefferson. "Can he, then, be trusted with the government of others? Or have we found angels in the forms of kings to govern him?" "The unfortunate thing," adds Pascal, "is that he who would act the angel acts the brute." [Jefferson's First Inaugural, Richardson, *Messages and Papers*, I, 322; Pascal, *Pensees*, (Everyman), 99].

The great tradition of American liberalism regards man as neither brute nor angel.^{xxxvii}



John Trotwood Moore, longtime State Librarian and Archivist of Tennessee, had this to say about the life and accomplishments of Andrew Jackson:

In history Jackson has been persistently misrepresented by the ignorant or malicious as uncouth and unlettered, rough and ungentle. The reverse is the truth; his letters and papers are beyond criticism, with the fire of purpose in them. In character he was courteous, gentle, romantic, tender, and deeply religious, but unflinchingly stern when duty called.

He was the first gentleman of his rough day – his blood lines on both sides running to the old Kings of Scotland. Thomas Jefferson said he had the finest manners of any Senator in the old Philadelphia Congress of 1797.^{xxxviii}

Kathleen Parker, writing in 2006, referred to ours as "the age of perpetual adolescence."^{xxxix} It is not a favorable critique, though it is justified, and it is not one that any of the class of Revolutionary veterans would have understood, let alone believed their progeny would have ever allowed. Leadership requires integrity, initiative, creativity, resourcefulness, the ability to compromise without surrendering one's principles, a touch of humor, and an unswerving devotion to duty. In a Republic, a leader should maintain contact with and an affinity for the common class of workers, landowners, farmers, mechanics, and craftsmen. It was Jackson's possession of these attributes that made him a hero to his own generation and an inspiration to students of leadership ever since.

In today's political climate of tearing down the reputations of history's great men and judging them by the standards of today and not those standards of their own time, there is afoot a plan to remove Jackson from the face of the nation's twenty dollar bill, and substitute the visage of one who, while important to the history of the nation, had much less influence than Andrew Jackson on the course of the history of America. And for better or worse, many today make the comparisons between Jackson and President Trump.

Was Jackson perfect? Of course not; he was a man. Not but One has ever been perfect. But he delivered the American Republic into the hands of those for whom it had been created. For most of this nation's history, he has resided in the pantheon of its greatest leaders. Whether or not he remains there will rest largely in the hands of those for whom he dedicated his life to public service, and will be determined by whether or not we the people continue to chart our own destiny within a Republic of laws, as Franklin D. Roosevelt believed we would, or yield

our future to a government of whim and the passions of the prevailing public opinion of the moment. May a merciful God deliver this nation from such a destiny, and may America ever revere the memory of leaders of the caliber of Andrew Jackson.

May those qualities of the character of Andrew Jackson that made him the hero of so many for an entire era in this nation's history ever inspire the feelings of true patriotism in American hearts and may we keep faith with his memory as he kept faith with his charge to be the patron and leader of the ordinary American citizen.

NOTES

ⁱ Betts, Ann, "The Most Notable of Tennesseans Was Tough Timber," *The [Nashville] Tennessean*, January 7, 1996.

ⁱⁱ Cheatham, Mark, "Careful Judging Faces on Money," *The [Nashville] Tennessean*, Nashville, Tennessee, Tuesday, May 31, 2016, p. 9A.

ⁱⁱⁱ James, Marquis, *The Life of Andrew Jackson Complete in One Volume*. New York: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1938, p. 10; Remini, Robert V. *Andrew Jackson and the Course of American Empire, 1767-1821*. New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1977, p. 5; Burstein, Andrew, *The Passions of Andrew Jackson*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003, p. 3; Brands, H. W., *Andrew Jackson - His Life and Times*. New York: Doubleday, a division of Random-House, Inc., 2005, p. 16.

^{iv} James, *Ibid.*, p. 37; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 33-34; Burstein, *Ibid.*, pp. 10-11; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. 36-41; Meacham, Jon, *American Lion – Andrew Jackson in the White House*. New York: Random House, 2008, p. 20.

^v

^{vi} James, *Ibid.*, p. 38; Remini, *Ibid.*, p. 35; Burstein, *Ibid.*, p. 11; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. 54-55.

^{vii} Allison, John, *Dropped Stitches in Tennessee History*. Nashville: Marshall & Bruce Company, 1897 (reprint, 1971), p. 3.

^{viii} Allison, *Ibid.*, p. 5; James, *Ibid.*, p. 77; Remini, *Ibid.*, 76-79; Brands, *Ibid.*, p. 78.

^{ix} James, *Ibid.*, p. 78; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 84, 90-106; Burstein, *Ibid.*, p. 34; Brands, *Ibid.*, p. 79;

^x James, *Ibid.*, p. 83; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 107-12; Brands, *Ibid.*, p. 82.

^{xi} James, *Ibid.*, pp. 85-89; Remini, *Ibid.*, p. 113-24; Burstein, *Ibid.*, pp. 39-40; Brands, *Ibid.*, p. 100.

^{xii} James, *Ibid.*, p. 91; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 119, 124; Burstein, *Ibid.*, p. 43; Brands, *Ibid.*, p. 105.

^{xiii} James, *Ibid.*, p. 146; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 170-7.

^{xiv} Allison, *Ibid.*, pp. 1-4 places the date as the fall of 1789 or spring of 1790; however, in this instance, he is at variance with all of the other sources cited; James, *Ibid.*, p. 47; Remini, *Ibid.*, p. 41; Burstein, *Ibid.*, pp. 25-6; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. 52-55.

^{xv} James, *Ibid.*, p. 92; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 120-23; Burstein, *Ibid.*, pp. 41-49; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. 90-92, 105-10, 159-60.

^{xvi} James, *Ibid.*, pp. 113-18; Remini, *Ibid.*, p. 142.

^{xvii} James, *Ibid.*, pp. 152-54; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 184-85.

^{xviii} James, *Ibid.*, pp. 291, 293, 295, 296, 298; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 173, 191, 224-25, 241-42; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. 337, 340-41.

^{xix} James, *Ibid.*, pp. 140-173, especially 154, 155, 159, 171, 172, 291-98; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 187, 189-90, 193, 216-18; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. 193-95, 206, 210, 220, 222.

^{xx} Allison, *Ibid.*, pp. 110-118 gives perhaps the most detailed account of this "duel" and has the added attraction of being the oldest (1897) and closest to primary sources, in that he quotes eyewitnesses he interviewed; however, it is also recounted in James, *Ibid.*, pp. 90-94, 108, 143; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 100-02, 117-124; Burstein, *Ibid.*, pp. 41-48; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. 90-92, 105-10, 159-60; Meacham, *Ibid.*, p. 25.

^{xxi} Allison, *Ibid.*, pp. 119-21.

^{xxii} James, *Ibid.*, p. 87-88; Remini, *Ibid.*, p. 115; Meacham, *Ibid.*, pp. 26-27; however, the most detailed account appears in Allison, *Ibid.*, pp. 119-21.

^{xxiii} James, *Ibid.*, pp. 306, 806.

^{xxiv} James, *Ibid.*, p. 92, 108, 143; Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 120-23; Burstein, *Ibid.*, pp. 41-49; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. 90-92, 105-10, 159-60.

^{xxv} Hickey, Donald R. "Battle of New Orleans Helped Shape America," *The [Nashville] Tennessean*, Nashville, Tennessee, Thursday, January 8, 2015, p. 9A.

^{xxvi} Hickey, *Ibid.*

^{xxvii} James, *Ibid.*, pp. 223, 234, 249-52; Remini, *Ibid.*, 238-39, 265, 269, 272-73; Burstein, *Ibid.*, pp. xiii-xiv, 3, 7, 114-19, 124, 126, 214, 237, 239; Brands, *Ibid.*, pp. x, 40, 263-83, 556; Meacham, *Ibid.*, pp. 11, 28, 31-33, 240; the casualty figures come from Mason, F. Van Wyck, *The Battles for New Orleans*, New York: Houghton-Mifflin Company, 1962.

^{xxviii} Betts, *Ibid.*

^{xxix} Brands, *Ibid.*, p. 270.

^{xxx} Remini, *Ibid.*, pp. 257, 313-14; Brands, *Ibid.*, p. 291.

^{xxxi} James, *Ibid.*, p. 601.

^{xxxii} Aiken, Leona Taylor, *Donelson, Tennessee: Its History and Landmarks*. Kingsport, TN: The Kingsport Press, 1968, p. 279.

^{xxxiii} Theodore Roosevelt, 1908 and Ronald Reagan, 1988.

^{xxxiv} James, *Ibid.*, pp. 782, 786.

^{xxxv} Aiken, *Ibid.*, p. 271.

^{xxxvi} Remini, Robert F. *Andrew Jackson and the Course of American Freedom*, New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, 1981, p. 155.

^{xxxvii} Schlesinger, Arthur M., Jr., *The Age of Jackson*, New York: The American Past, Book-of-the-Month Club, Inc., [published by arrangement with Little, Brown and Company, Boston, Massachusetts, 1945], 1989, pp. 522-23.

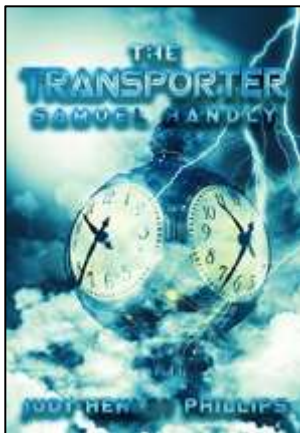
^{xxxviii} Moore, John Trotwood, *Statue of Andrew Jackson Presented to the United States by the State of Tennessee, April 16, 1928*, Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, pp. 83-84 as cited in Aiken, *Ibid.*, p. 270.

^{xxxix} Parker, Kathleen, *The [Nashville] Tennessean*, Nashville, Tennessee, 7 September 2006, p. 11A.

Book Reviews *by Shirley Wilson*



The Transporter: Samuel Handly by Judy Henley Phillips, paperback, 2018, 263 pp. Various priced at Amazon.com

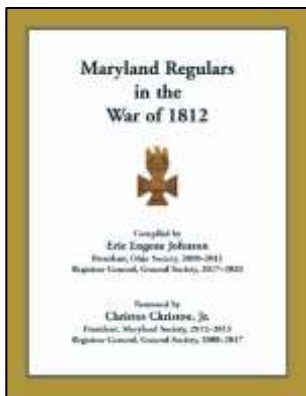


Something different for MTGS readers is this historical novel set in Tullahoma, Tennessee and aimed at making history and genealogy interesting for young adults.

Three young boys, pondering their “boring” history assignment are approached in the local park by a voice, later identified as Zadock. He convinces them to go on an adventure. They are transported back in time to the late 1700s and witness the early days of the settlement of Tennessee

The history figure who is the focus of the book is Samuel Handly, a Revolutionary soldier, well known in the area, who survived both the war and the Indian attacks. The boys meet this famous soldier and Zadock, who is never more than a voice, gets them safely back home with no one the wiser.

Maryland Regulars in the War of 1812 by Eric Eugene Johnson. Paperback, 2018, 429 pp. \$34 from Heritage Books, 810 Rutan Street, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 www.HeritageBooks.com



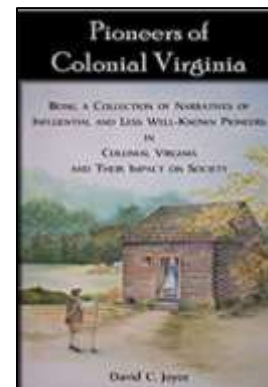
The arrangement is alphabetical by the name of the soldier and is preceded by various regimental histories. Included in each entry is the rank, the military unit, age, height, exact birth date and place, occupation, exact date of enlistment and discharge. Some death dates are included, often with the cause of death and information on whether the soldier received a pension or bounty land. There are also some marriage dates with brides’ maiden names. This is a great book packed with information on military ancestor and their family members, with specific dates that you might otherwise never be able to find. If the soldier died, often heirs are named.

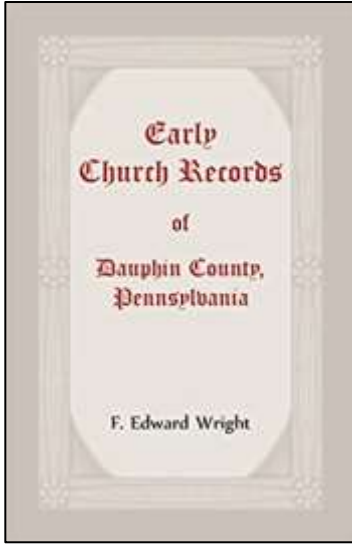
That said, this book lacks an index and, if ever a book deserved one, this one did. So you must check all entries on your surname and allied surnames or some information will be missed.

Pioneers of Colonial Virginia by David C. Joyce, paperback, 2018, 89 pp. footnotes, index. \$22 from Heritage Books, 810 Rutan Street, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 www.HeritageBooks.com

This is subtitled Being a Collection of Narratives of Influential and Less Well Known Pioneers in Colonial Virginia and Their Impact on society. It concentrates on eight individuals – namely, Charles Chiswell, Michael Kelly, Nicholas Merewether, The Queen of Pamunkey, Thomas Joyce, Thomas Stanley, William Witcher, and Francis Wyatt.

These are pioneers whose vision and decisions changed the history of Virginia forever.





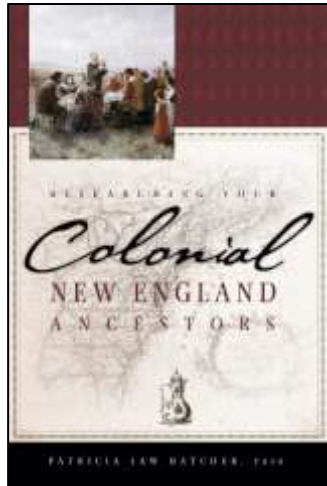
Early Church Records of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania by F. Edward Wright, paperback 2018, 140 pp., index. \$22 from Heritage Books, 810 Rutan Street, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 www.HeritageBooks.com

The early settlers of Dauphin County were Scots Irish and German settlers who came a little later than the bulk of immigrants.

The churches are listed first with their townships and a map that enables you to determine the general location of the church. The content includes dates of births, christenings, marriages and deaths, which vary from church to church.

The church records themselves have a helpful every name index that adds to the value of the book by making it easy to find what you want.

Researching Your Colonial New England Ancestors by Patricia Law Hatcher, hard cover, 2006, 155 pp, index. . \$22 from

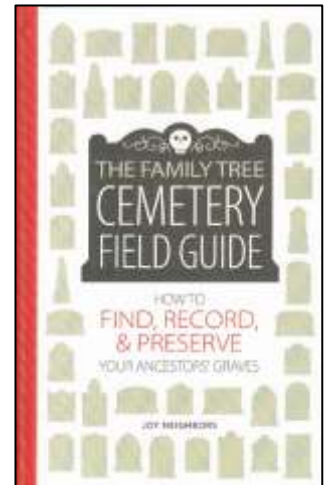


If you've suddenly discovered a New England ancestor, this is the book for you. Although slightly dated, not that much changes in New England as far as genealogical research is concerned and Hatcher is an experienced and knowledgeable researcher.

Research is different there compared to other parts of the country and this will provide an excellent overview of those differences.

A helpful chronology provides dates of important events that impact your genealogy. A listing of the rulers of America prior to independence is a tool rarely seen in a genealogical book. A listing of resources that includes libraries and archives tops off this comprehensive research book.

The Family Tree Cemetery Field Guide by Joy Neighbors, hard cover, 2017, 236 pp., illustrations, index, photos.



Subtitled, How to Find, Record, & Preserve Your Ancestors' Graves, this is a comprehensive guide to just that.

Also included is a very interesting history of cemeteries with some surprising facts. For example, it states that the Neanderthals were the first to put flowers in graves with the remains.

It covers all aspects of cemetery research and the various types of records created for and about them. In addition, the book includes formation on a variety of other sources, some lesser known. So, don't forget to read the fine print in this helpful genealogical tool.

