



# THE COURIER



VOL. XLIX, NO. 3

TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

OCTOBER 2011

## Tennessee Historical Commission Grants

In July, Gov. Bill Haslam and the Tennessee Historical Commission announced Historic Preservation Fund grants for 28 community organizations for programs and activities that support the preservation of historic and archaeological sites, districts and structures. "Historic places are a vital part of our state's heritage, and this program helps fund the work of local governments, non-profit agencies and other entities committed to protecting important elements of Tennessee's rich history," Haslam said. "Collectively, these 28 projects represent more than \$600,000 in assistance and will ensure these special places are available to enjoy for generations to come."

The grants awarded come from federal funds allocated by the Department of Interior under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act. The programs in Tennessee authorized by this Act are administered by the Tennessee Historical Commission. The grants pay for up to 60 percent of the costs of approved project work, and the grant recipient must provide the remaining 40 percent of the costs as matching funds.

"As valued centerpieces of our communities, historic sites not only define the state's diverse history – they also enrich our state's economy. Our office helps support the study of Tennessee's unique history and these grants will contribute the necessary funds that help protect and revitalize our treasured historic buildings, sites and neighborhoods," said Patrick McIntyre, executive director of the Tennessee Historical Commission.

This year's selection process emphasized projects conducting architectural, archaeological and historic site surveys. Such projects are designed to identify and to record historic districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects built before 1960 that

are significant to Tennessee's history. Surveys could be for a specific geographic area or for sites associated with themes or events significant in the state's history. Priorities for funding survey projects included areas experiencing rapid growth and development, other threats to cultural resources, areas where there are serious gaps in knowledge regarding cultural resources, and thematic surveys based upon existing historic study units produced by the State Historic Preservation Office.

Assistance also was made available for other types of historic preservation projects, including preservation planning studies for towns, neighborhoods and historic districts; the preparation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places; planning or pre-development work necessary to undertake restoration of a historic property; and restoration of historic properties. For restoration or restoration pre-planning, properties must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The FY 2011-2012 grant recipients and/or sites of the projects include:

**City of McKenzie** - \$9,000 to fund an architectural and historic survey of the city of McKenzie.

**Claiborne County Historical and Genealogical Society** - \$10,000 for the exterior restoration and repair of the Historic Claiborne County Jail.

**University of Tennessee Department of Anthropology** - \$17,984 to continue funding an archaeological survey of the Bells Bend area, along the Cumberland River.

**Inglewood Neighborhood Association** - \$9,000 to fund a survey and prepare nominations for historic districts in East Nashville's Inglewood neighborhood for possible inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Middle Tennessee State University** – \$12,675 for the creation of a comprehensive radiocarbon-based chronology for prehistoric shell-bearing sites along the Middle Cumberland River. The project also will include National Register documentation.

**Ladies' Hermitage Association** - \$15,000 for the restoration of President Andrew Jackson's tomb.

**East Tennessee State University** - \$9,257 to fund an archaeological survey of the bluff lines in the Jim Creek area adjacent to Pickett State Forest.

**Southern Tennessee Area Arts Repertory** - \$6,000 for a condition assessment and restoration plan for the 1860s Pulaski Opera House, one of the earliest surviving opera houses in the country.

**Hancock County Historical and Genealogical Society** - \$11,000 for the restoration of the 1860 Old Hancock County Jail, including masonry work and roof replacement.

**Aeroplane Filling Station Preservation Association, Inc.** - \$24,000 to complete the next phase of restoration, including electrical wiring, plumbing, HVAC installation, handicapped access, metal repair and roofing.

**City of Niota** - \$12,000 for the restoration of the Niota Depot, including repairs to the floor joists in the City Hall area of the building and replacement of the external platform.

**Historic Rugby, Inc.** - \$20,000 for the exterior restoration of Newberry House, including structural repairs, masonry work and painting.

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The Tennessee Historical Commission will meet on Friday, October 28 at 9:00 AM at the General Morgan Inn in Greeneville, 111 North Main Street. The meeting is open to the public.

**THC Grants...continued**

**Memphis Landmarks Commission** - \$30,000 for an architectural and historical survey of the city of Memphis, with a focus on cemeteries. An additional \$6,000 was awarded to the Commission to help fund its participation in the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Assistance and Mentoring Program meeting.

**Rock Island State Park / Tennessee State Parks** - \$30,000 for the restoration of the Great Falls Mill, including a new metal roof.

**State of Franklin Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution** - \$5,050 for an architectural and historical survey of the city of Jonesborough, in areas outside of the established historic district.

**City of Franklin** - \$3,000 to fund a survey and prepare nominations for the Franklin City and Rest Haven cemeteries for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Tennessee Division of Archaeology** - \$36,788 to fund a survey of Rosenwald Schools located throughout the state, involving schools built throughout the United States primarily for the education of African-Americans in the twentieth century.

**Tennessee Preservation Trust** - \$15,000 to fund the 2012 Statewide Historic Preservation Conference.

**Middle Tennessee State University / Department of Geography** - \$20,000 to digitize data for historic and architectural survey files.

**Upper Cumberland Institute / Tennessee Technological Institute** - \$15,000 to fund computerization of historic and architectural survey data files.

**South Central Tennessee Development District** - \$50,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the South Central Tennessee Development District.

**East Tennessee Development District** - \$32,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the East Tennessee Development District.

**First Tennessee Development District** - \$25,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the First Tennessee Development District.

**Greater Nashville Regional Council** -

\$25,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the Greater Nashville Regional Council.

**Southeast Tennessee Development District** - \$52,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the Southeast Tennessee Development District.

**Southwest Tennessee Development District** - \$50,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the Southwest Tennessee Development District.

**Upper Cumberland Development District** - \$50,000 to fund a preservation specialist staff position for the Upper Cumberland Development District.

**Former Director Dies**

Stephen Lawrence, who served as executive director of the Tennessee Historical Commission from 1967 to 1971, died in Franklin on May 14th. He was 89 years old. Instrumental in building the staff of the State Historic Preservation Office during its early years. Among Lawrence's notable accomplishments was the hiring of Herbert Harper. Also a former director of the Hermitage, Mr. Lawrence was the founding president of the Williamson County Historical Society and helped establish the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County.

**Former Chairman Dies**

Robert E. Corlew

Dr. Robert Ewing Corlew age 89, died June 14, 2011 following a brief illness. A native of Charlotte, TN, he lived in Murfreesboro for the past 62 years. He was a graduate of Austin Peay State University, Vanderbilt University, and the University of Alabama. He was the widower of Mary Saille Scott Corlew. Dr. Corlew was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving overseas during World War II. Dr. Corlew was on the faculty of MTSU from 1949 until 1990, beginning his career there as in instructor in history, subsequently becoming the first chairman of the History Department, the Dean of Liberal Arts, and ending as the Vice-President for Academic Affairs. He

taught history at Bethel College in 1948, and served on the Board of Trustees as well. His scholarship includes authoring *A History of Dickson County, Tennessee*, *The Volunteer State*, and co-authoring *A Short History of Tennessee*, which was published for more than 40 years. He served as Chairman of the Tennessee Historical Commission for many years, was a Director of Commerce Union Bank, served as Chairman of the Rutherford County Bicentennial Commission and as chair of the committee to form the Rutherford County Center for the Arts. As an elder in the Presbyterian Church USA for more than 50 years, he served his church on a number of committees and as an adult Sunday School leader. Raising Hereford cattle on his farm in the Blackman community was a source of great enjoyment to him. He is survived by his children, Robert E. Corlew III, Daniel Scott Corlew and Mary Catherine Sevier; his grandchildren, Melissa Ann Corlew, Christopher James Corlew, Robert E. Corlew IV, David Andrew Corlew, John Scott Corlew and Mary Saille Scott Sevier; his sister, Elizabeth Corlew Daniel; three nephews and two nieces. He was predeceased by his sister, Sara Corlew Story Matlock. *Nashville Tennessean*, June 16, 2011.

**From the Director**

This is an exciting time for the Tennessee Historical Commission, which enters this Fall with a number of recent staff transitions. **Brian Beadles**, who had served with the Commission since 2005 and worked in the National Register Program, left the office in May to take a position with the Wyoming SHPO in Cheyenne. We wish him the best. At the end of June, long-time assistant director for Federal Programs and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer **Richard G. Tune** retired. A member of the staff since 1976, Dick is a widely-respected professional who has given many years of dedicated and exceptional service to Tennessee. We are very fortunate that he is able to stay on in a part-time capacity during the transition process. **Claudette Stager**, who has been on the THC staff since 1984, is currently serving as acting director for Federal Programs. Meanwhile, we are in the process of hiring

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**From the Director...continued**

a new Certified Local Government Coordinator as well as a new National Register Program staff person. With the recent vacancies we were especially grateful for **Kevin Mier**, a recent Southeast Missouri State University graduate who served as the THC's summer intern. Among Mier's projects was the completion of a National Register nomination for the Park-Elkins Historic District in the Sylvan Park neighborhood in Nashville.

At the State-owned Historic Sites, three long-awaited new museum exhibits are opening this fall at Tipton-Haynes in Johnson City, the Chester Inn in Jonesborough, and at Rocky Mount at Piney Flats. These are entirely new interpretive exhibits for Tipton-Haynes and the Chester Inn, while Rocky Mount has not had a significant upgrade to its museum since the 1960s. In Sumner County, the restoration of Wynnewood in Sumner County is finally nearing completion.

On a final note, the time is approaching to nominate worthy individuals and projects for the the 2012 Certificate of Merit soon at our website, <http://www.tennessee.gov/environment/hist/>. I hope you will consider helping us recognize those people and places that contribute to the wonderful and diverse heritage that we celebrate in Tennessee.

With thanks,  
Patrick McIntyre

**New Commission Members**

Since taking office in January, Governor Haslam has appointed four new Commission members. In addition, **Mrs. Joanne Moore** was reappointed to another term. The Commission expresses appreciation to **Dr. Tom Maher**, **Joe Spence**, and **Dean Stone**, whose terms ended in 2011, and to **Betty Walley** who resigned in June due to health reasons. Together, these Commission members represent 43 years of dedicated service.



*Dr. Bill Lyons*

**Dr. Bill Lyons** of Knoxville was appointed in March. Dr. Lyons serves as the Director of Policy and Communications for the City of Knoxville. Prior to that, he served as Senior Director of Economic Development. Since 1983, he has served as a professor for Political Science at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Lyons was

**i n v o l v e d** extensively with revitalization efforts on Market Square in historic downtown Knoxville. He and his wife Gay are active members of Knox Heritage.

Appointed in March, **Joe Swann** of Maryville served as mayor of that city from 2003-2009 and remains a member of the city council. He is also the President of



*Major Joe Swann*

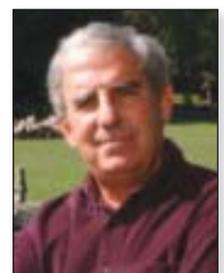
Workshop Tools in Pigeon Forge. His extensive involvement with history-related organizations includes service as president of the East Tennessee Historical Society from 1999-2002 and a term as president of the Blount County Historic Trust in 1987. He is also the owner of Davy Crockett's first rifle, which is on display at the Museum of East Tennessee History.



*Walter Butler*

**Walter Butler** of Huntingdon was appointed in July. Currently executive vice president of the College of Criminal Justice at Bethel University, Butler served as Assistant Commissioner of TDEC and Director of Tennessee State Parks from 1996 to 2000. Other positions within the Governor Don Sundquist administration included deputy commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and Commissioner of Personnel. From 1994 to 1996 Butler was County Executive for Carroll County. He is married to Jennifer Pruet Butler and they have three sons.

**Bill Landry** of Tallassee was appointed in July. Mr. Landry served for 25 years as the host of the popular Emmy award-winning "Heartland" series on WBIR in Knoxville. Since it debuted in 1984, 1900 features were produced that showcased stories involving aspects of culture in the region including historic preservation and folklife. He wrote, produced and performed a play about Albert Einstein, and is also author of "The George Washington Carver Project." In 1999, Landry was the recipient of an honorary doctor of humanities degree from Lincoln Memorial University. He has also achieved recognition with an "Education in Appalachia" award from Carson-Newman College. He and his wife Becky reside in a log cabin built adjacent to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.



*Bill Landry*

**Former Owner Visits Clover Bottom**



*Mrs. Merle Stanford Davis*

On July 29, the Historical Commission welcomed a special visitor to its beautiful c. 1859 office when **Mrs. Merle Stanford Davis**, the 104 year old last private owner of Clover Bottom paid a visit. Only three families owned the property, and just 40 years separates the death of the first owner of the house, Mrs. Mary Ann Saunders Hoggatt, from Mrs. Davis' arrival as the young bride of then-owner Arthur Stanford in 1927. Born in Maury County on February 14, 1907, Mrs. Davis lived in Clover Bottom for over 20 years prior to selling the house and farm to the State of Tennessee in 1948. She currently resides at McKendree Village in Nashville. While here for her visit, she got to reminisce with THC staff about her life here and to see the recently-completed exterior renovation.



## Tennessee Historical Commission Foundation

The Tennessee Historical Commission Foundation has been reactivated in 2011 with a new board of directors. Established in 1987, the Foundation's major accomplishments included overseeing the restoration of the Battle of Nashville Monument and undertaking a successful poster program that profiled famous Tennesseans ranging from John Sevier to Alvin York. "We must be especially creative at looking at funding sources in this time of fiscal restraint," noted executive director Patrick McIntyre. "The ability of the Foundation to augment our existing programs and to take new initiatives is very exciting." Current board members include Carrington Montague, Lookout Mountain; Ward DeWitt, Nashville; Dorothy Stair, Knoxville; Prince Chambliss, Memphis; Frances Catmur, Memphis; John Paul Jones and Sandra Jones, Memphis; Larry Kidwell, Brentwood; Sen. Douglas Henry, Nashville; Norm Hill, Murfreesboro; and Jim Reel, Jonesborough. Ex officio members from the Commission include Sam Elliott, Norm Hill, Tobie Bledsoe, and Patrick McIntyre.

### Recent Foundation Contributions

#### Cracker Barrel Corporation

**Mrs. Isabelle Ladd, Bristol**

**Mr. Carrington Montague, Lookout Mountain**  
*In memory of Dudley Porter, Jr.*

**Mrs. Ophelia Paine, Nashville**  
*In Honor of Tim Sloan*

**Mr. Ron Walter, Memphis**  
*In Honor of Helena Hill*

## Tennessee Students Win Awards at National History Day Contest

After months of intensive research and success at local and state competitions, five Tennessee students won awards during the National History Day (NHD) competition held on June 16, 2011, at the University of Maryland's College Park campus. Tennessee's winners were:

**Lauren Collins**, a student at White Pine School, who took first place in the Junior Individual Documentary category for her project on "Eminent Domain: Private Tragedies for the Public Good." Her teacher was **Jack Collins**.

**Kelsey Pepper** and **Courtney Harshbarger** of St. George's Middle School in Collierville who won the Outstanding State Entry award in the Junior Division for Tennessee for their group exhibit on "The Debates that Changed History: Lincoln-Douglas, 1858." Their teacher was **Traci Erlandson**.

**Derek Roberts** and **William Burdette**, students at Polk County High School in Benton, who took the Outstanding State Entry

award in the Senior Division for their group documentary on "The Good Government League: Debate and Diplomacy after World War II." This project also made the finals and ranked in the top 14 projects in the nation. Their teacher was **Dewey Esquinance**.

The NHD program annually engages more than 500,000 students in grades six through 12 from 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, American Samoa and Department of Defense schools.

For more information about the History Day program in Tennessee or the program's state-level sponsor, the Tennessee Historical Society, visit <http://www.tennesseehistory.org/historyday.htm> or contact Kelly Wilkerson at 615-741-8934 or by email at [historyday@tennesseehistory.org](mailto:historyday@tennesseehistory.org).

## STATE HISTORIC SITES' NEWS

### Rock Quarries, The New Agricultural Crop?

*By Martha Akins, Director of Historic Sites, Tennessee Historical Commission*

On the approach to Castalian Springs, one sees jagged stone outcroppings mixed with verdant expanses of agricultural land strewn with aging rolled bales of hay, and dotted with slowly moving cows and their calves happily tripping along. Occasionally, the land rolls up gently in kaleidoscope-colored pastures of mixed wildflowers, corn, tobacco, or wheat. In some places the hills rise up even higher, greeting all who pass by. They are not like the majestic peaks of East Tennessee, but rather more like little sentinels proudly guarding the community.

Historically, people came and sparsely settled along former dirt paths, creek beds curling through the landscape, or just plainly in the route from A to B. Today one sees evidence of their time here; some traces lasting 200 years. These are the irreplaceable resources of the visible world. Beneath the earth's green skin, lays its bones—made of silvery-gray limestone rock. To some, these bones are even more valuable. And now, the story really begins: Castalian Springs vs. Hoover, Inc.

Word about a proposed rock quarry project in Castalian Springs seemed incredulous at first, spreading rather quickly in search of the truth. Confirmation of a land transaction surfaced bit by bit, until it was increasingly clear. Hoover, Inc., purchased more than 350 acres of prime farmland and a few residential tracts under the guise of Western Farm Products, LLC—a rather innocuous name. Was their intent, however, to farm the land? Combined with a rock crushing plant, asphalt plant, and a concrete plant, a quarry would have a devastating effect on historic Castalian Springs. To complicate matters more, they bought the land from a well-known local land preservation activist, who was devastated when the anonymous buyer's plans were revealed. Appalled residents and alarmed historic preservationists alike

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**State Historic Sites' News...continued**

bolted into action. Their homes, their community, and their historic sense of place were threatened. Places at risk included State-owned properties including National Historic Landmark Wynnewood, c. 1828; c. 1800, Hawthorne Hill, birthplace of former Tennessee Governor William B. Bate; Cragfont, c. 1798 home of Memphis founder James Winchester and the Cheskiki Native American Mounds, a village site that reached its zenith during the Mississippian Period. Sumner County owns Bledsoe Fort Historical Park, which has numerous historic resources including the archaeological remains of Bledsoe's Fort. Bledsoe Creek State Park is also nearby and could see an impact from its proximity to the quarry. Did Hoover, Inc. underestimate the value of the resources in the visible world, those places embraced by the community and state at large?



*Wynnewood in its current state of restoration.*

In 2007, the Tennessee Wars Commission paid for a consultant to prepare a preservation, management, and interpretation plan for the area. The devastating tornado of February, 2008 intervened before substantial work to promote and implement the plan could occur as most attention focused on the enormous project to restore heavily-damaged Wynnewood. However, this plan has been moving forward in the past year with great energy. As the staff member of the Tennessee Historical Commission working to turn this vision into reality, I have had meetings with local citizens, made a presentation to the Bledsoe's Lick Historical Association at their 2011 annual dinner, and met with Sumner County's Planner to successfully have the plan incorporated in the 2035

Comprehensive Plan for the county. When twice faced with incompatible commercial development in the area, I voiced opposition to these zoning changes in the local zoning hearings. But these small skirmishes paled in comparison to the quarry issue.

When Hoover, Inc., came knocking on history's door, the community rallied: fiery red t-shirts emblazoned with "Crush the Quarry" became the new uniform, the Save Castalian Springs blog served as an efficient communication tool, and media outlets sounded the alarm across middle Tennessee. Securing legal representation, the community approached the matter at hand with the grave seriousness it deserved.

In July Representatives from Hoover, Inc., cordially presented their plans to a standing room only crowd, followed by a question and answer session. The company was not asking for zoning change, but rather an "exceptional use" of R1-A, which they claimed quarrying rock could be deemed agricultural.

Going into the zoning hearing, the Castalian Springs coalition had the support of the staff and members of the Tennessee Historical Commission, which had passed a resolution against the quarry. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Tennessee Preservation Trust also registered opposition to the quarry. During the hearing, key people including State Rep. Mike McDonald denounced the appropriateness of approving the request. I spoke briefly on the historic value of the area as did executive director Patrick McIntyre. I implored the zoning commission to choose wisely, giving them the choice of economic benefits generated from tourism or the promises offered by the corporation. Many speakers received accolades from the crowd, including State Historian Walter Durham, but the real standing ovation went to Sumner County Executive Anthony Holt, who announced he would fight this all the way. After a few minutes of discussion, the zoning commission resoundingly and

unanimously told Hoover, Inc., "No." Since that evening, Mr. Holt and Sumner County staff have been working toward creating a historic district overlay intended to protect middle Tennessee's "Cradle of History." In the meantime, Hoover has filed a lawsuit in chancery court. How this one will end no one knows.

**Alex Haley's 90th Birthday Commemoration**

The 90th birthday of acclaimed author Alex Haley (August 11) was observed Saturday, August 6th at the State Historic Site the Alex Haley Museum and Interpretive Center in Henning. The day began with



*Alex Haley*

Genealogy sessions in the interpretive center conference room led by museum board member Dr. Pam Sirmans and assistant Mary Ellen Aube. Storytelling led by The Henning Revitalization Team, and Spoken Word with sounds and music by artist John Sullivan of the Memphis, Nubian Theatre Company. A temporary exhibit created by museum staff members, "Alex Haley Memorabilia - Unveiling The Past," was available for viewing in the Interpretive Center foyer, and will remain through the month of September. Museum Program Coordinator Beverly Johnson led a Tribute to Alex Haley, joined by Officer Jarrod Sneller of the U.S. Coast Guard, followed by a "Toast" to Haley by Ms. Beverly Johnson, Henning Mayor Michael Bursey and other guests, which preceded the happy birthday song and cutting of the Birthday cake. Food vendors, face painting, and crafts were available on the museum grounds, along with an actual Coast Guard mission boat, courtesy of the Memphis area U.S. Coast Guard. Excellent stage performances by The Memphis Youth Performing Arts Center Choir, The Universal Players Band of Memphis, and T.D. Bester & Company

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**State Historic Sites' News...continued**

of Ripley, closed out activities for the day. Over one hundred guests attended the event, in spite of blazing hot temperatures.

**Events at State Historic Sites**

**Ducktown Basin Museum: 423-496-5778**

October 2: Third Annual Pumpkin Sale

**Marble Springs: 865-573-5508**

October 29: Halloween Haunts and Haunts  
*Children's activities, costume contest/parade, food, trick or treating, storytelling*

November 17: Stargazing Workshop

December 10: Candlelight Tours

*Christmas decorations, music, open hearth cooking, baked goods and warm drinks*

**Rocky Mount: 423-538-7396**

October 22: Spirit of the Harvest  
*Join the Cobb family and friends in the harvesting of crops and preparing for winter*

November 11: Veterans Day Candlelight Tribute

*Tribute to honor our veterans*

December 2-3 and 12/9-10: Candlelight Christmas

*Celebrate Christmas with the Cobb family*

**Sam Houston Schoolhouse: 865-983-1550**

October 22-23: Civil War Weekend  
*Encampment and skirmishes, Native American demonstrations and crafts*

**Tipton Haynes: 423-926-3631**

October 15: *Stories from the Pumpkin Patch*. Visitors can listen to stories around a bonfire or in the cave, take a hayride around the grounds take a haunted house tour, play games and make crafts during the daylight hours and enjoy a hot dog roast with all the trimmings. Admission \$5/adult, \$2.50/children under 12 & under.

December 3, 2011: *Visions of Christmas*. Join the Haynes family as they celebrate an antebellum Christmas. Enjoy holiday music, refreshments, and activities in the museum for children. This will be part II of the celebration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial and features events from July 1 – December 31, 1861.

**HISTORICAL MARKERS**

At its meeting on June 24, 2011, the Tennessee Historical Commission approved three historical markers: *Saint Paul's Episcopal Church*, Hamilton County; *Desegregation of the University of Tennessee*, Knox County; and *The Burning of Hale's Mill*, Pickett County.

Those interested in submitting proposed texts for markers are urged to contact Linda T. Wynn, Assistant Director for State Programs, 2941 Lebanon Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0442, or call (615) 532-1550, ext. 102.

**National Register News**

Since the last issue of *The Courier* there have been eleven entries to the National Register of Historic Places from Tennessee. The properties are: Alumni Memorial Hall, Davidson County; Asia School, Franklin County; Coats-Hines Archaeological Site, Williamson County; Contractor's Supply, Knox County; Fort Nashborough, Davidson County; Henry Farm, Blount County; Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway Section House, White County; Oak Grove School, Hamilton County; Searcy-Matthews-Tarpley Farm, Rutherford County; Tennessee State Office Building, Davidson County; and the U.S. Naval Reserve Training Center, Davidson County.

In addition to these properties, the Mountain Branch, Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Washington County was listed as a National Historic Landmark.

There are now 2,069 entries in the National Register from Tennessee including 269 districts for a total of 41,599 resources now listed.

**Two New Additions to the National Historic Register Listings for Tennessee**

**Tennessee State Office Building**

The Tennessee State Office Building occupies a prominent location directly across from the Tennessee State Capitol in Nashville. Known more familiarly as the Sevier Building, it was



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## Historic Markers...continued

built in 1939-40 to house state offices that were scattered in various buildings. Nashville architect Emmons H. Woolwine designed the building in the Streamlined Classical style that was popular in the 1930s. Along with muralist Dean Cornwell ["The Dean of Illustrators"] and sculptor Rene Paul Chambellan, Woolwine worked on this building and the Davidson County Courthouse. The Tennessee State Office Building was one of the last major Tennessee projects of the Public Works Agency, one of the many New Deal agencies designed to improve infrastructure and provide employment relief.

Uniquely set on a forty-five degree angle, the multi-story building features walls clad in granite and Indiana limestone, steel windows, and ornamental bronze relief panels. Monumental fluted pilasters rise to the height of the façade, which faces toward the southwest corner of the site. The central main block is capped by an ornamental limestone cornice featuring anthemion<sup>1</sup> and dentil carvings

The facade has three recessed entries containing bronze and glass double doors. Sculptor Rene Paul Chambellan, best known for his work with Lee Oscar Lawrie for the "Atlas" and other work at Rockefeller Center, was responsible for the bronze doors with their classical depictions of departments originally housed in the building, including Agriculture, Health, Welfare, Law, Labor, Protection, Finance, and Conservation. Flanking the doors are three pane sidelights and transoms surmounted by decorative bronze screens. The screens covering the transoms depict representative scenes of Tennessee, including wild ducks, fish, a forest, a mine, an opossum, a marble crane, wheat and corn, a cock with a churn and milk can and a beehive. Pilasters adjacent to the entries each contain decorative bronze and glass light fixtures. Between the pilasters are vertical columns of steel window units separated by iron panels. Each window unit is typically composed of two sets of paired three-pane casements above two-pane hoppers. Above the pilasters the words "Tennessee State Office Building" are carved across the width of the facade.

The interior of the building continues the Streamlined Classical designs of the exterior. Hallways contain terrazzo floors, marble walls, and stenciled designs on coffered ceilings. Entries to individual offices typically have glass and wood paneled doors. Original bronze light fixtures hang from the coffered ceiling. Each fixture contains floral designs set in a rectangular grid. The ceiling is stenciled with a zigzag design along with a band of spiral designs alternating with flowers.

The east and west walls of what was historically the main entry, feature large murals painted on canvas by noted artist Dean Cornwell in 1941. A native of Kentucky, Cornwell studied in New York, Chicago, and London. The mural on the west wall of the

Tennessee State Office Building is titled "The Development of Tennessee" and it depicts Andrew Jackson as the central figure, surrounded by other notable figures and events in the state's history. On the opposite wall is the mural titled "The Discovery of Tennessee." John Sevier, the first Governor of Tennessee is the central figure. Other figures include De Soto, Father Marquette, La Salle, Daniel Boone, James Robertson, William Blount, and Revolutionary War soldiers.

## The United States Naval Reserve Training Center



*U.S.N. Reserve Training Center*

The United States Naval Reserve Training Center is located in Shelby Park on the northeastern bank of the Cumberland River in Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee. The 1948 Reserve Training Building is the principal structure in the complex. It is a standard issue two story steel clad Butler hut armory building that was modified by the Nautical Moderne design of Nashville architect Edwin A. Keeble. The most striking feature of the building is the central projection, which closely resembles the prow of a ship, complete with a large yardarm (flagpole) extending from a curved deck above the second floor. The prow of the building faces south toward Davidson Street and the Cumberland River. The structure has an overall east-west linear plan that extends from both sides of the central projection. A 1949 armory addition is located on the west end of the building, extending toward the south from the south façade of the 1948 building. The walls and roof are comprised of standing seam steel sheets, and the structure is situated on a concrete block foundation. According to 1982 architectural plans, the Reserve Training Building underwent renovation that included the replacement or covering of all windows with either new double-glazed metal windows or new insulated metal panels. Replacement windows follow similar stylistic patterns of the originals and original openings remain. The interior of the building reflects the nautical theme of the exterior, including narrow stairs with rails wrapped in white rope and doors featuring porthole windows that closely resemble the galleys of a naval ship. The property is in good condition and not currently in use.

<sup>1</sup>Resembling the fan-shaped leaves of a palm tree.



# Tennessee Wars Commission Report of Activities

September 9, 2011, Fred M. Prouty, Director of Programs

## A Summary of Ongoing Projects and Milestone Events

### Kingston Springs Civil War Trail Marker Dedicated

The City of Kingston Springs and Cheatham County officials hosted the dedication of a new Civil War Trail marker on August 13, 2011 at the South Cheatham Library in Kingston Springs. City Mayor John McLeroy and Cheatham County Mayor David McCullough provided opening remarks. Ms. Lee Curtis, director of program development for the Tennessee Department of Tourism spoke on behalf of Tourism Commissioner Susan Whitaker. Mr. Patrick McIntyre, executive director of the Tennessee Historical Commission, spoke on the historical importance of Kingston Springs and the Civil War railroad that played a large role in the development of Kingston Springs. Fred Prouty, director of programs for the Tennessee Wars Commission spoke on the preservation of endangered Civil War era fortifications that still exist along the railroad line and once guarded wooden trestle between Kingston Springs and Johnsonville river depot. Director Prouty recently meet with city and county officials to discuss possible preservation and interpretation plans for field fortifications that still exist along the old Nashville and Northwestern railroad line.

For more information on Tennessee Civil War Trails visit our state website at: [www.CivilWarTrails.org](http://www.CivilWarTrails.org) and Tennessee's Sesquicentennial website at [www.tncivilwar150.com](http://www.tncivilwar150.com).

### Davis Bridge Battlefield Surveyed For Interpretive Trail

Mr. Bill Avant, State Manager of GIS and Land Acquisitions for the Department of Environment and Conservation, recently surveyed the once endangered battlefield grounds at Davis Bridge on the Hatchie River in Hardeman and McNairy Counties. Shiloh National Park Service staff members joined Tennessee State Park officials on site to review locations for placement of trails, parking lots, restroom facilities and the location of a pedestrian bridge across the Hatchie River that will allow park visitors access to the other half of the battlefield. The Tennessee Wars Commission was awarded a \$900,000 Federal Enhancement Grant to create the Davis Bridge Battlefield interpretive trail system. Once opened, the property will become Tennessee's newest Civil War Battlefield Park, containing over 98% of the original National Landmark boundary, and now preserved for future generations.

### Historic Tennessee Civil War Drama Nears Completion

*One and Undivided, A Civil War Memoir*, is the title of the forthcoming theatrical production being filmed for the Tennessee Wars Commission through the services of the Multi-Media

Department at the Renaissance Center in Dickson, Tennessee. The script for the production uses original diary accounts, letters, and newspaper articles and quotes to bring to life the experiences of all Tennesseans during the Civil War years. Collectively, their experiences tell a powerful story of the devastation of the war and the strength of character shown by Tennesseans in rebuilding their state. This captivating production will be made available to all Tennessee schools and is geared towards the 5th, 8th, and 11th grades.

### Wars Commission TE Grant Approved

The Tennessee Wars Commission was recently awarded a \$90,708 Enhancement TE Grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT). The grant, prepared by the Tennessee Wars Commission, is for the continuation of the Parker's Crossroads Battlefield Trail Project that will create 5,800 feet of paved trails, eight interpretive waysides, and will expand and enhance over 8,180 feet of existing trails with 33 interpretive waysides. The TEA-21 Enhancement Fund application was prepared and submitted by the Tennessee Wars Commission. Over the last 16 years the Wars Commission has championed preservation efforts to save the endangered Parkers Crossroads Battlefield in Henderson County. Today the state of Tennessee owns nearly 400 acres or 98 percent of the original battlefield. This has been a Herculean effort over that last 17 years and the Tennessee Wars Commission is grateful to our many preservation partners who have made this dream a reality.

### War Of 1812 Interpretive Site Plan For Fayetteville

At the request of Executive Director Jerry Mansfield, South Central Tennessee Development District, Wars Commission director Fred Prouty made several visits to Fayetteville, Tennessee to asses possibilities for the creation of an interpretive park at the historic site of Camp Blount, honoring Tennessee troops who encamped and trained for service in the War of 1812 and Creek War of 1813-1814, while under command of General Andrew Jackson. After the on site survey of the Camp Blount, a review is now being created to address the interpretation of an historic greenway trail system, wayside sign locations and text. Site mechanics such as parking, visitor facilities, and the possibility of tying the site to the nearby city park by means of a pedestrian walkway across the Elk River are all being considered. Nearly twenty state and private organizations have joined to create a statewide initiative to commemorate Tennessee 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812. These organizations are partnering to create both short and long-term events and programs commemorating Tennessee's contributions to the war. Tennessee rose to prominence on General Andrew Jackson's military and political success, thus changing and transforming Tennessee from a frontier state to one of national and

*cont. page 24*



## P U B L I C A T I O N S T O N O T E

By Linda T. Wynn, Assistant Director for State Programs and Publications Editor

*Publications of Mercer University Press, 1400 Coleman Avenue, Macon, Georgia 31207-000 include:*

**“Tell Them We Are Singing for Jesus,” The Original Fisk Jubilee Singers and Christian Reconstruction, 1871-1878** by Toni P. Anderson examines the Christian missionary ideals and principles that gave birth to the Fisk Jubilee Singers during the 1870s and guided them throughout their travels in America and Europe. Sponsored by the American Missionary Association (AMA), Fisk University’s founding organization, the singers’ success proffered the AMA a public stage from which to spread its Christian view for social change. Additionally, as acclamation for the Jubilee Singers’ artistic performance of the Negro Spirituals, noble mission, and refinement filled the press, the university’s reputation increased. Dr. Anderson, a professor of Voice and chair of LaGrange College’s Music department, explores how the principles of the AMA’s Christian Reconstruction worldview directed all aspects of the Jubilee Singers’ historic seven years of fundraising and influenced the lives of its individual members. However, this work is neither an exhaustive historical chronology nor a musicological analysis. It is a study of the philosophical forces that gave meaning to the Fisk Jubilee Singers, as well as the AMA’s ideals of freedom, equality, and recognition of human dignity. Cloth, \$45.00.

Mercer also published ***America’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities: A Narrative History, 1837-2009*** by Bobby L. Lovette, professor of history at Tennessee State University. This work provides a comprehensive history of America’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and concludes that race, Civil Rights movements, and black and white philanthropy affected the development of these institutions for people who descended from Africa. From 1837 into the 1940s, northern white philanthropy was involved with the founding and maintenance of the America’s HBCUs. However, the survival of HBCUs was mostly dependent on their own creative responses to the changing environment of post-secondary education. ***America’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities*** demonstrates how black institutions of higher learning began the difficult nineteenth-century journey, providing collegiate education for former slaves, their black American descendants, and other students

as well. Struggling for institutional survival, they adapted themselves to new missions and attuned themselves to recent and challenging developments in American higher education. More than institutions of higher education, HBCUs helped to shape American culture and society. Cloth, \$35.00.

*Publications of Louisiana State University Press, 3990 West Lakeshore Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808 include:*

***Albert Taylor Bledsoe: Defender of the Old South and Architect of the Lost Cause*** by Terry A. Barnhart sheds new light on this provocative figure, who was a key architect of the South’s “Lost Cause” mythology. One of the Civil War generation’s leading and most controversial intellectuals, Bledsoe gained a respectable reputation in the 1840s and 1850s as a metaphysician and speculative theologian. His fervent defense of slavery and the constitutional right of session solidified Bledsoe as one of the chief proponents of the idea of the Old South. In ***An Essay on Liberty and Slavery*** (1856), Bledsoe assailed egalitarianism and promoted the institution of slavery as a positive good. Ten years later, he continued to devote himself to fashioning the “Lost Cause” narrative as the editor and proprietor of the ***Southern Review*** from 1867 until his death in 1877. This biography by Barnhart, a professor of history at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, skillfully weaves Bledsoe’s extraordinary life history into a narrative that demonstrates how Bledsoe still speaks directly to the core issues that divided America in the 1860s and continues to haunt it today. Cloth, \$42.50

In ***Haunted by Atrocity: Civil War Prisons in American Memory***, Benjamin G. Cloyd skillfully investigates how Americans have remembered the military prisons of the Civil War and makes a strong case for the continued importance of the great conflict in contemporary America. During America’s intersectional war, approximately 56,000 Union and Confederate soldiers died in enemy military prison camps. Throughout Reconstruction and well into the twentieth century, the author demonstrates how competing sectional memories of the prisons prolonged the process of national reconciliation. The first study of Civil War memory to focus exclusively on the military prison camps, ***Haunted by Atrocity*** offers a cautionary tale of how Americans, for generations, have unconsciously constructed their recollections of painful events in ways that

protect cherished ideals of myths, meaning, identity, and, ultimately, a deeply rooted faith in exceptionalism. Cloth, \$37.50.

Another work published by LSU Press is Robert F. Pace’s ***Halls of Honor: College Men in the Old South***. This book represents a significant update of E. Merton Coulter’s 1928 classic work, ***College Life in the Old South***. Coulter’s book focused on the University of Georgia and fashioned an understanding of higher education’s role in creating southern leadership. The culture of college students as asserted by Pace was “created through a collision of two major forces: the southern code of honor and natural adolescent development.” Pace, a professor of history at McMurry University in Abilene, Texas, conducted research into the records, letters, and diaries of students and faculty from more than twenty institutions.

The author did not intend this work to be an all-inclusive history of college life in the Old South. Rather, it focuses on the values, ideas, and ethics that shaped white men’s understanding of themselves and their behavior as they made the transition from adolescence to adulthood within the organizational structure and environment of pre-Civil War institutions of higher learning. ***Halls of Honor*** addresses an important but overlooked topic in the history of southern white manhood. Paper, \$17.95.

*Publications of Ohio University Press, 19 Circle Drive. The Ridges Athens, Ohio 45701 include:*

***In the Shadow of Freedom: The Politics of Slavery in the National Capital***, edited by Paul Finkelman and Donald R. Kennon. With essays written by ten of America’s most distinguished historians and scholars, this book probes how slavery made life possible in the District of Columbia and how lawmakers in the district regulated the enslavement of blacks in the nation’s capital. Part of the ***About Perspectives on the History of Congress (1801-1877)*** series, this volume grew out of the meetings of the United States Capitol Historical Society. Interrelated, slavery affected both life and politics in Washington. Nothing is more arresting and strident in the imagery of early America than that of blacks held as enslaved persons in the capital city of the world’s most significant free republic. Enslaved blacks served and sustained congressional representatives, civil servants, judges, cabinet

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**Publications to Note...continued**

officials, military leaders, and presidents who resided and worked in the nation's capital. While enslaved persons of African descent kept Washington operating with ease, those in the United State Congress deliberated slavery's place in America, the status of slavery in the territories acquired from Mexico, as well as the legality of the slave trade. *In the Shadow of Freedom* is the outcome of interdisciplinary scholarship. Some of the articles proffer novel ideas and research by younger intellectuals and some mirror the life work by some of the "great masters" within the discipline. Cloth, \$49.95.

**Publications of the University of Arkansas Press, Mcllory House, 105 N. Mcllory Avenue, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701 include:**

**Women and Slavery: A Documentary History** edited by Catherine M. Lewis and J. Richard Lewis brings together newspaper articles, broadsides, cartoons, pamphlets, speeches, photographs, memoirs, and editorials to highlight ways in which gender intersected with race in shaping the experience of slavery in the United States. This work offers readers an opportunity to examine the establishment, growth, and evolution of enslavement in the America as it impacted women—enslaved and free, African American and whites, rich and poor, Northern and Southern. As Patricia Morton argues in her *Discovering the Women in Slavery: Perspectives on the American Past* (1996), it becomes clear that placing women in slavery history brings new perspectives to the past. These are perspectives that both emancipate women's history from slavery's silencing of women's voices and also emancipate American history from the stifling exclusion of half of the population, in a way that frees . . . all to raise and examine a host of new questions." Organized thematically, the primary documents represent cultural, political, religious, economic, and social perspectives on this iniquitousness and multifaceted epoch in American history. The third edited collection from the father and daughter team of Catherine M. Lewis, professor of history at Kennesaw State University, and J. Richard Lewis, a desegregation consultant and former educator and academic administrator and president of JRL Educational Services, *Women and Slavery: A Documentary History* is a welcome addition to the study of women and the institution of thralldom. Paper, \$22.50.

The University of Arkansas Press also published *Unlocking V. O. Key, Jr.: Southern Politics of the Twenty-First Century* edited by Angie Maxwell and Todd G. Shields. Although

Valdimir Orlando Key, Jr. penned several books on a broad range of topics, he is best known for his seminal 1949 book, *Southern Politics in State and Nation*. One of the most renowned political scientist of his day, he earned his place through decidedly original and influential research. Defining the field of southern politics, Key's work continues as one of the most cited and significant books in twentieth-century political science and southern history. Challenging the American poet Robert Frost, Key looked both "out far" and "in deep." *In Unlocking V. O. Key, Jr.*, twelve leading southern scholars in history, political science, and southern and American studies reassess Key's study, considering his oversights as well as calling attention to the enduring aspect of his work. *Unlocking V. O. Key, Jr.* is an excellent companion to the classic *Southern Politics in State and Nation*. Paper, \$29.95.

**Publications of The University Press of Kentucky, 663 South Limestone Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40508-4008 include:**

*In African American Fraternities and Sororities: The Legacy and the Vision*, editors Tamara L. Brown, Gregory S. Parks, and Clarenda M. Phillips bring together essays on themes ranging from the historical beginnings of Black Greek-Letter Organizations (BGLOs) to the influence of stepping in the cultural community. BGLOs have served as a proving ground for black leaders over the course of their history, with members including civil rights activist the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Nobel Prize and Pulitzer Prize-winning American novelist, editor, and professor Toni Morrison, Princeton Professor Dr. Cornel West, Congresswoman Julia Carson, and former Secretary of Education Rod Paige. While these historical Greek organizations make positive contributions to their communities, their roles usually go unnoticed. In bringing forth this comprehensive study, the editors fill a void in the history of African American heritage. One of the first scholarly works published on BGLOs, *African American Fraternities and Sororities* not only provides a history of these overlooked organizations and their impact on America but serves as an unbiased testament to the intellect, dignity, commitment, and courage of the "Divine Nine" in their struggles against racial injustice. Paper, \$29.95

**Publications of The University of North Carolina Press, 116 South. Boundary Street, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514-3808 include:**

*The African American Roots of Modernism: From Reconstruction to the Harlem Renaissance* by James Smethurst looks at the

role of African American literature and culture in the development of American modernism. By identifying the Jim Crow period with the coming of modernity, the author disrupts the conventional appraisal of the Harlem or Negro Renaissance as the first nationally significant black arts movement by demonstrating how artists reacted to Jim Crow with migration narratives, poetry about the black experience, black performance of popular culture forms, and more. Smethurst, an associate professor of Afro-American Studies at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, reveals how the Jim Crow system triggered significant intellectual responses from Black American writers, deeply marking the beginnings of literary modernism and, ultimately, notions of American modernity. Paper, \$26.95.

**Publications of The University of Tennessee Press, 110 Conference Center, 110 Henley Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-4108 include the following:**

*Lincoln Memorial University and the Shaping of Appalachia* by Earl J. Hess presents a compelling history of this Tennessee institution of higher education. The university was founded in 1897 by former Union General Otis Howard to help disadvantage Appalachia youth and to reward the descendents of Union loyalist in the region. In *Lincoln Memorial University and the Shaping of Appalachia*, LMU Professor Earl J. Hess uses the institution's history to look at wider issues in Appalachian scholarship, including race and the modernization of educational methods in Appalachia. Meticulously researched and richly illustrated, this book takes a new look at the creation, contributions, and the enduring legacies of LMU. Students, alumni, and friends of the university, as well as scholars of Appalachian culture and East Tennessee history, will find this book informative. Cloth, \$45.00.

The University of Tennessee Press also published *The Life and Wars of Gideon J. Pillow* by Nathaniel Cheairs Hughes Jr. and Roy P. Stonesifer Jr. Originally available through the University of North Carolina Press in 1993, this edition contains a new forward by Dr. Timothy D. Johnson, a noted Civil War scholar and Professor of History at Lipscomb University. Gideon Johnson Pillow, one of the nineteenth-century's most controversial military figures, gained infamy early in the Civil War for turning an apparent Confederate victory at Fort Donelson into an embarrassing defeat. A prosperous planter and slave owner, he ranked among the wealthiest Tennesseans. Pillow encouraged scientific methods to enrich the soil,

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**Publications to Note...continued**

advocated crop diversification to lessen the South's reliance on cotton, and endorsed railroad construction as a way to develop the southern economy. Disregarded by contemporaries and historians as a political general with dangerous ambitions, his failures have arguably obscured his energy, talent, and organizational skills that marked his career. Biographers Hughes and Stonesifer while taking note of his superciliousness, ambition, and extremely public mistakes, give Pillow credit as a talented attorney, farmer, innovator, and person of considerable political influence. The first full-length biography, *The Life and Wars of Gideon J. Pillow* depicts an intriguing, enigmatic general who wanted to be an operative in the world of greatness where he failed to enter. Paper, \$32.95.

*Publications of the University of Virginia Press, P. O. Box 400318, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-4318 include the following: Contesting Slavery: The Politics of Bondage and Freedom in the Early American Republic* by John Craig Hammond and Matthew Mason, eds. Recent scholarship on slavery and politics between 1776 and 1840 has completely altered historians' discernment about the problem of slavery in American politics. Conflicts over the institution of slavery were present during this period, however, they were marginalized in the conventional historical narrative because they were not solely about slavery, and they were not coded in the highly moralistic, polarizing language characteristic to the sectional crisis preceding the Civil War. The thirteen essays in this volume force historians to rethink the multiple meanings of slavery and antislavery covering a broad array of Americans, including free and enslaved African Americans to proslavery ideologues, northern framers to northern female reformers, and minor party functionaries to political luminaries such as Henry Clay. This tome challenges historians' long-standing assumptions about the place, meaning, and significance of slavery in American politics between the Revolutionary and antebellum eras. Cloth, \$49.50.

*Publications of W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 500 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10110 include the following:*

A critical and definitive account of the birth of rock 'n' roll in black America, *The Chitlin' Circuit: and the Road to Rock 'n' Roll* by music journalist and Memphis resident Preston Lauterback establishes the Chitlin'

Circuit as an important influence in American music history. In black communities across the nation like Chicago's Bronzeville and Memphis' Beale Street, there developed an informal association of clubs and juke joints called the chitlin' circuit during the mid-twentieth century. Merging first-hand reporting with historical research, Lauterback brings to the forefront neglected and important corners of American music. Dashing from Memphis to Houston and points in between, *The Chitlin' Circuit* informs the reader where stars such as James Brown, B. B. King, and Little Richard, among others received their start. The chitlin' circuit chronicle also includes Memphis resident and bandleader Jimmie Lunceford, a big-band rival to Duke Ellington. Lunceford, who taught at Manassas High School, initiated music education in the city's black schools. Illustrated with 34 black-and-white photos, *The Chitlin' Circuit* is more than a work on American music history. This volume also reveals a vivid narrative about American black communities, the great migration, civil rights, and the rise of rock 'n' roll. Cloth, \$26.95.

*Publications of Warioto Press, 1512 Cherokee Road, Gallatin, Tennessee 37066 include the following:*

*Thoroughfare for Freedom, Volume II: The Second Atlas of the Cumberland Settlements, 1779-1804* by Jack Masters and Bill Puryear is an oversize atlas, history, and art book that continues the story of the original settlers of Middle Tennessee. Over 250 pages of period art, maps, charts, and detail the people, narratives, land and challenges of these men and women. Volume II of the Cumberland Settler series provides new information for the history buff and genealogist by uncovering new discoveries and vivid tales of this hearty band of pioneers. Masters and Puryear continue to investigate the early settlement of Middle Tennessee by going into counties south of those noted in the first volume of *Thoroughfare for Freedom*. Following their award-winning *Founding of the Cumberland Settlements, Volume I*, Masters and Puryear have gathered some of the best information, stories and art to produce another groundbreaking book to add to the lore of where Tennesseans came from, how they arrived here, the land they settled, and the land they created. To get more information on how to purchase this book, call the Book Foundry at 615-767-7154 or go online to <http://www.cumberlandbook.com>. Cloth, \$99.95.



Published by the

**TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**2941 Lebanon Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0442

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Tennessee Historical Commission,  
Authorization Number 327324, 8,000 copies  
promulgated at a cost of \$0.23 per copy,  
011/10.



# The Early Development of Moonshining in the Upper Cumberland Region and the Siege of Waterloo, Tennessee, August, 1878

By Michael E. Birdwell

Whisky production in the Upper Cumberland of Kentucky and Tennessee began shortly after the first Europeans settled in the region. Born of Scots-Irish or Ulster-Scot descent, intrepid pioneers learned from their forebears how to turn grains into *uisce* or whisky, which means “water of life” in Gaelic.<sup>1</sup> For them, many who were proud Presbyterians with a strong work ethic, whisky production was a noble profession. Often more lucrative than the back breaking work of clearing land to eke out an agrarian existence, liquor was as essential to life on the frontier as salt. Whisky production and consumption bore no stigma of sin nor degeneration. Distilling counted among the first industries established in the plateau regions of Kentucky and Tennessee, the others being grist milling, saltpetre mining, and gunpowder mills. According to folklore the first person to distill whisky in Kentucky was Baptist minister Elijah Craig in 1789, though existing records credit Evan Williams with establishing the initial distilling operation.

Whisky, like salt, acted as currency on the Cumberland frontier, and was

utilitarian as well as profitable. Frontier folk had little or no use for currency, but could take comfort in swapping good triple-run whisky for a mule, tools, or other commodities needed for survival. Christian Congregations often paid their preachers with whisky, brandy or applejack. Frontier “doctors” administered whisky both orally and topically when treating patients. They created concoctions of herbs, fruits, roots, and other ingredients with whisky or peach brandy to create medicines for treatment of specific ailments. Doctors claimed their liquor-laced remedies warded off chills or cooled down fevers.<sup>2</sup> Whisky acted as not only a social lubricant, but as a necessity. Often when spring rains poured down in torrents, privies overflowed, sending human waste into streams and rivers, and contaminated wells. Likewise fresh manure flowed into rills and cisterns, spoiling drinking water. To quench one’s thirst with water often proved deadly, due to outbreaks of cholera and other water-borne diseases. Whisky, by contrast, saved lives. It acted as a “disinfectant, a tranquilizer, and a medicine for countless ills.”<sup>3</sup> Although some churches condemned consumption

of alcohol as a sin, “corn liquor from a moonshiner was readily available for medicinal purposes.” Almost every home in the Upper Cumberland kept corn liquor on hand in case of emergencies; most homes also had a supply of “blueberry, blackberry, cherry, and peach wine” as well.<sup>4</sup>

Over time, however, tax collectors, social reformers, and outsiders demonized the practice, leading to the creation of a subculture steeped in myth, tradition, romance, and adventure. Production of legal whisky and its illegal counterpart—moonshine—went hand-in-glove in the history of the Upper Cumberland. Hills and hollers and caves provided not only locations adjacent to spring water, but also places to hide when making illicit whisky. During the post-Civil War era outsiders’ zealotry to modernize the mountaineer sometimes resulted in a battle of wits that degenerated into armed conflict. The image of the moonshiner changed over time, depending on who told the story and their personal attitude toward alcohol. Stories of tragedy intermingle with tales of joy when examining the history and impact of distilling spirits in the Upper Cumberland.

Moonshine, the illicit distillation of sprits, gained prominence in America with the onset of the Civil War: The federal government established the Office of Internal Revenue in 1862, imposing excise taxes on whiskey and tobacco as a means of helping finance the Union army.<sup>5</sup>

Tax on whisky depended upon its proof; the higher the proof the higher the tax.<sup>6</sup> When the war ended, federal taxes not only remained in place, but were raised from twenty cents to two dollars per gallon; but the tax was reduced to fifty cents in 1868.<sup>7</sup> After the war Congress mandated creation of the Revenue Bureau of the Treasury Department. It was in 1876, under Commissioner Green B.

<sup>1</sup>The Irish version of the Gaelic word is *Usquebaugh*, whereas *Uisce* is Scottish. Irish distillers spell the spirit “whiskey,” while economical Scots dispense with the “e” spelling it “whisky.” The Scots spelling is preferred by the author. See Bruce E. Stewart, *Moonshiners and Prohibitionists: The Battle Over Alcohol in Southwestern Appalachia* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2011), 9-17.

<sup>2</sup>David W. Maurer, *Kentucky Moonshine* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2003): 19. Famed Methodist Circuit Rider and the first Bishop in the U.S., Francis Asbury, railed against the production and consumption of alcohol in his journals and sermons. He often complained bitterly about being paid with liquor for his services rather than some other commodity. At one point in 1790, he noted in his journal that he “came back to Amis’s [house] a poor sinner. He was highly offended that we prayed so loud in his house. He is a distiller of whisky, and boasts of gaining 300 pounds [in currency] a year by brewing of his poison. We talked very plainly...He said, he did not desire me to trouble myself with his soul.” As cited in James B. Jones, Jr., *Every Day in Tennessee History*, (Blair: Winston Salem, NC, 1996), 74.

<sup>3</sup>Edie Brown Williams, “William Tyler: Judge, Jury and Executioner,” *Herald-Citizen* (2009): C-9. Moonshine was also used as a disinfectant and a cleaning solvent.

<sup>4</sup>Leigh Capshaw, *Dixie University, Dixie College-A Historical Vignette* (Cookeville, Tennessee: Self-published, 1989) 2; Stewart, 29.

<sup>5</sup>Patricia A. Brake, *Justice in the Valley: A Bicentennial Perspective of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee*. Franklin, Tennessee, Hillsboro Press, 1998, 58.

<sup>6</sup>Wendell Rawls, Jr., “Some Hard, Cold Facts about Moonshine Whisky,” *Nashville Tennessean* (November 4, 1971): B-1.

<sup>7</sup>Wilbur R. Miller, “The Revenue: Federal Law Enforcement in the Mountain South, 1870-1900,” *Journal of Southern History* 55: 2 (May 1989): 197.

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**Moonshining...continued**

Raum, that the bureau created a police force to hunt down moonshiners and enforce tax law without regard to state lines. The bureau increased the whisky tax an additional one dollar and ten cents per gallon in 1894, an exorbitant cost at the time, which “encouraged drinkers to buy untaxed liquor from moonshiners.”<sup>8</sup> The new excise damaged the profits of legal distilleries, and emboldened those willing to take the risk to circumvent the law. Commissioner Raum used every weapon available to launch “Raum’s War” which raged from 1878 to 1881 at a cost of roughly \$300,000 but yielded \$2,500,000 in tax revenue. George Atkinson, a loyal agent of Raum’s lamented, that the Revenue Bureau’s lack of respect was a direct result of the “want of nerve, and laziness of the bench of the Federal Courts. The low, worthless, and truckling newspapers [sic] has encouraged violators of the law.” Not only that, “wicked demagoguery of aspiring politicians has led those engaged in crime to believe they would eventually get immunity and go off scot-free.”<sup>9</sup>

For Upper Cumberland distillers various attitudes helped them justify willful defiance of the law. For ex-Confederates, revenue agents represented another Yankee invasion, intent on destroying their way of life. Union veterans-turned-moonshiners fought the law as assiduously as their Rebel counterparts, finding the law onerous and unreasonable. Others maintained that only state laws applied when distilling

and distributing alcohol; therefore federal agents overstepped their authority. Some claimed the prohibition law unconstitutional and an infringement on their rights. Pious moonshiners argued that God Almighty abhorred tax collectors, considering them an abomination and anathema. *The New Testament*, they observed, considered tax collectors the<sup>10</sup> worst among sinners. They, by contrast, were modest God-fearing men simply trying to moonshiners and destroy their stills, distillers responded in kind. Both sides resorted to violence with often disastrous results.<sup>11</sup> A common phrase uttered by those who enforced the law and those who chose to break it was, “Where there’s smoke there’s bound to be whiskey.”<sup>12</sup>

Newspapers in Kentucky, Tennessee and even the *New York Times* covered stories about moonshine and violence with an almost pathological curiosity. Often referring to illegal operations as “wildcats” or “wildcating,” reporters filled column inches with news of raids by revenueurs, shoot outs, and impenitent moonshiners sentenced to federal prisons. Raum’s revenue agents conducted raids that lasted weeks on end in some cases. One revenueur complained, “Jackson County [Tennessee] is apparently invincible. My raiders can march through the country and receive the fire of the enemy from every hill top...but the nature of the ground is such that no arrests of the armed violators can be made...I am convinced that nothing can conquer Jackson but to camp a strong force in that county to remain there for months.”<sup>13</sup>

Revenueurs proved more successful in Putnam County, Tennessee where they destroyed five stills, impounded numerous tools, corn, sugar, and other items needed for whisky production.

By 1878 Adolph Ochs of Chattanooga owned the *New York Times*, and many otherwise local stories found their way into the newspaper of record. The raid led to several arrests in the Monterey area in 1878.<sup>14</sup> Meanwhile, a number of citizens of Overton County endorsed moonshine raids, leading to a general escalation of violence. They issued a petition to the Quarterly Court demanding that order be restored, not just in Overton County but Jackson and Putnam as well.<sup>15</sup>

Federal judges who heard alcohol-related cases often sided with the moonshiner. Between 1870 and 1903 judges heard over 5000 cases in Kentucky and Tennessee. In February 1873 Judge Connally Trigg held federal court in Knoxville, presiding over 500 cases concerning moonshine—only six resulted in guilty verdicts. Many district judges simply did not consider the “crime” of moonshining a serious offense. U.S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull, whose father operated a still in Bunkum Cave in Pickett County, Tennessee, expressed the attitudes of most Upper Cumberland residents, saying that people attached no stigma to whisky production. Hull wrote, “Everyone in our section looked upon the tax as an outrage, an infringement of human rights, popular rights, and everything else.”<sup>16</sup> With such sentiments being widespread, it should come as no surprise that Tennessee ranked third in the number of violators of the despised whisky tax. Interestingly, George Atkinson reported that caves, though they might provide an excellent water source, were the easiest operations to raid because revenue agents could block their entrance, preventing the distiller’s escape. 6 tax behind North Carolina and Georgia in 1878.<sup>17</sup>

Federal Judge Bland Ballard earned a reputation of lenience concerning moonshiners. An indicted man from Cumberland County, Kentucky stood before him accused of manufacturing untaxed liquor. The prosecutor demanded

<sup>8</sup>Miller, 198

<sup>9</sup>Miller, 204-206; Brake, 60; Maurer, 20.

<sup>10</sup>George W. Atkinson, *After the Moonshiners by One of the Raiders: A Book of Thrilling and Truthful Narratives* (Wheeling West Virginia: Frew and Campbell Steam Book and Job Printers, 1881), 30. Miller, 198.

<sup>11</sup>Personal Interview with Jack Threat, (Twinton, Tennessee, October 9, 1988); Miller, 200; Brake, 58-62.

<sup>12</sup>Quoted in Joseph Earl Dabney, *Mountain Spirits: A Chronicle of Corn Whiskey from King James’s Ulster Plantation to America’s Appalachians and the Moonshine Life* (Asheville, North Carolina: Bright Mountain Books, 1974):51.

<sup>13</sup>“The Tennessee Moonshine Raids,” *New York Times* (October 15, 1878): 1.

<sup>14</sup>“Five Distilleries Destroyed; One Day’s Work of a Deputy Collector’s Party in Tennessee,” *New York Times* (October 17, 1878): 1.

<sup>15</sup>“Moonshiners Hide Out; Citizens of Overton Moving for the Suppression of Illicit Distilleries; The County Court Issues a Proclamation that Means Business,” *Nashville Daily American* (October 26, 1878): 3-4.

<sup>16</sup>Brake, 58; Maurer, 50; Cordell Hull, *Memoirs of Cordell Hull* (Washington, D.C.: Hodder and Stoughton, 1948):5

<sup>17</sup>Brake, 60.



## Moonshining...continued

the maximum sentence, but the judge disagreed. Finding the moonshiner guilty, Ballard sentenced him to sixty days in jail and fined him \$100. Appreciative, the convict exclaimed, "Judge, if I ever make any more moonshine whisky, I'll send you a keg of it." Several months later the justice received a package containing a five gallon cask of "superior moonshine whisky" accompanied by a thank-you note from the lapsed distiller.<sup>18</sup>

1878 marked a particularly violent year in the moonshine wars. Revenuers captured or destroyed 1258 stills, made 2990 arrests, and twenty-three revenue agents fell dead or wounded nationwide. Forty-six percent of those arrests took place in Tennessee; most of them in the Upper Cumberland. Tennessee ranked the second most violent state during the Whisky War.

Unknown numbers of moonshiners and runners were killed and wounded that year.<sup>19</sup> As violence increased, many mountaineers sought numerous methods of resistance. People sympathetic to law enforcement were intimidated by threats of violence or property damage. In some cases informants were beaten, their barns burned and their livestock stolen or killed.<sup>20</sup> Adding to the violence of 1878 was a new stratagem on Raum's part, enlisting the aid of the U.S. military and special posses to assist revenue agents. This created resentment on the part of civilian and soldier alike. Civilians

refused to see themselves as enemy combatants while soldiers were reminded of the Civil War, where the rules of engagement were often blurred and people died under questionable circumstances. Even General William Tecumseh Sherman, who made war on civilians with impunity, questioned the logic of Raum's strategy and feared the kind of justice his men would receive in mountain courts. Moonshiners in Alabama, Kentucky and Tennessee took up arms against the U.S. military to protect their livelihood.<sup>21</sup>

A three-day pitched battle took place nine miles north of Cookeville, Tennessee on the Overton County border in a region known as "Little Putnam," and "Waterloo." The affray, commonly referred to as either "The Siege of Waterloo" or "The Peek Fight," lasted from the 23rd to the 25 of August, 1878. Little Putnam was reputed to be a veritable "paradise of moonshiners."<sup>22</sup> Deputy Internal Revenue Collector James M. Davis, "one of the most noted and daring revenue officers who ever served the government of the United States,"<sup>23</sup> and Joe Speers led a party of revenue agents along with Captain S.D. Mather, a commissioner of the federal circuit court, in search of moonshiner Campbell Morgan of Gainesboro. Atkinson claimed that Morgan's infamous reputation "next to [Major Lewis] Redmond of South Carolina [was] the most notorious moonshiner in America."<sup>24</sup> After searching the vicinity for the better part of

the 23rd revenuers sought lodging at the home of elderly John Peek on the Overton County line. He demurred because two neighbors were visiting him, and he lacked adequate space to comfortably house the posse. Peek suggested they make camp at the Barnes residence roughly a mile away. Meanwhile several men dismounted, tied their horses, and put feed bags on their animals. Davis, Winchester rifle in hand, accidentally flushed out some quail catching him off guard. Recovering he shouldered his rifle to shoot the birds when he spotted several armed men running down the adjacent hillside. Davis and a deputy named Phillips attempted to jump a fence and hide in Peek's cornfield. Campbell Morgan's moonshiners opened fire, shooting Phillips in the chest, the bullet passing through his body. Captain Mather and Davis dragged Phillips to Peek's home as bullets whizzed around them. The rest of the posse ran to join them, taking refuge in Peek's house against the old man's will. Charles Tippins, while running for cover, was shot through the nose and covered in blood as he fell onto the porch. As Pres Smith ran for cover he was shot twice through the arm. In the melee a posse member named Rawls ran the wrong way toward Morgan's men, who shot the hat off his head. He turned to run the other way, and moonshiners shot the stock of his rifle.<sup>25</sup>

As darkness descended on the first day of the siege, Morgan's men, roughly fifty in, number, surrounded Peek's homestead. Confederate veteran and son of a Presbyterian minister, Morgan operated a number of stills throughout the Upper Cumberland of Kentucky and Tennessee. They made sure that they covered the path to the river so that Davis's posse could not fetch water. As the revenuers assessed their damage, Davis realized that he had only seven men left "fit for duty." Peek's son and his two neighbors "Mr. Hurley and Mr. Eldridge," did their best to tend to the wounded. Davis ordered two able-bodied revenuers, Lee L. Ayers and Charles Strain, to get past Morgan's men and ride to Cookeville and alert federal agent W.M. Woodcock

<sup>18</sup>Atkinson, *After the Moonshiners*, 157-158.

<sup>19</sup>Louanne Seagraves Love, "Murder, Mayhem and Moonshiners in the Upper Cumberland: The Assassination of Deputy U.S. Marshal Henry Seagraves," *The Upper Cumberland Researcher* 25:2 (Summer 2010): 23-26; Miller 201.

<sup>20</sup>Miller, 202.

<sup>21</sup>Miller, 206. The tactic backfired in many areas leading to greater resentment of the military and the federal government.

<sup>22</sup>Henry M. Wiltse, *The Moonshiners* (Chattanooga, Tennessee: Chattanooga Times Publishing Co., 1895), 60; Atkinson, *After the Moonshiners*, 43; Walter S. McClain, *History of Putnam County, Tennessee* (Cookeville, Tennessee: Quimby Dyer & Co., 1925): 37-38...

Atkinson reported that significant moonshining activity occurred at Bloomington (Springs), Buffalo Valley, Blackburn Springs, and other areas in the Cookeville vicinity. Among those who ran shine were the Blaylock, Jared, Maddox, and Riggs families. See "The Sad Fate of Eliza Bleylock [sic]," *Harper's Weekly* (March 5, 1881) reprinted in Atkinson, 196-209.

<sup>23</sup>James M. Davis was a tenacious, well-respected revenue agent who was the subject of chapters XI and XII of Atkinson's book. Davis killed several men during the course of his career and suffered a fractured skull in a raid between Cookeville and Monterey. See Atkinson, 89-103. See also: Jones, 53

<sup>24</sup>Atkinson, 23-24.

<sup>25</sup>*Ibid*, 44-45.

**Moonshining...continued**

about their situation, and round up reinforcements. They headed out before first light.<sup>26</sup>

On the second day James Peek ventured out of the house to recover some of the horses and get water. Morgan's men immediately fired on him and Peek retreated to his father's house. Later in the day Campbell Morgan allowed Dr. J.P. Martin of Cookeville to tend to the wounded revenueurs and return home unmolested. During the night sympathetic citizens joined Morgan, providing ammunition, food, and encouragement to rid the region of federal busy bodies. Moonshiners and revenue agents shot at each other throughout the day. Well-provisioned, Morgan's men intended to make the posse waste its ammunition.<sup>27</sup> Commissioner Mather reported that "it seemed as if there were a thousand men around and about us judging from. . . the yells of demon moonshiners, and the balls were pouring into the walls of our block-house. The night that followed was pandemonium itself."<sup>28</sup> Meanwhile Morgan's men erected barricades on surrounding roads, making rescue more difficult. Morgan warned those trapped in the house not to attempt to go to the spring and collect water. Mather complained bitterly, "the whole country had joined the moonshiners, or were in sympathy with them."<sup>29</sup>

Moonshiners fired on Peek's place in regular intervals, roughly every ten minutes throughout the day. Rain began falling around ten in the morning and Davis ordered federal agents to capture

water running off the roof. In doing so, they put their lives in danger; Mather reported that gunfire increased precipitously during the downfall. Continuous shots could be heard for miles, and a delegation of curious citizens arrived at Morgan's barricade from Livingston, wanting to know what was going on. Morgan told them that they had infamous revenueur James M. Davis surrounded and they intended to burn him out if he did not surrender soon. Citizens suggested a parlay with Davis, and Morgan allowed them and two moonshiners to approach Peek's home under a flag of truce. Morgan sent word explaining why he rounded up area moonshiners to besiege the revenueurs. He had it on good authority that "Capt. Davis intended to kill him on sight," and he feared for his life. Asking for clemency, Morgan's men told Davis that he would disperse the militia of moonshiners if he promised not to murder him. He agreed to surrender to any other officer but Davis and "do everything in his power to correct the evil ways of his neighborhood and this would be his last resistance to United States authority."<sup>30</sup>

Reinforcements arrived from Cookeville, led by Major J.C. Freeze and Elijah Terry, to assist the revenueurs at about the same time Morgan surrendered. His men were allowed to disperse without arrest. Escorted to Cookeville under armed guard, Morgan stood trial in federal district court. Fined and sent to jail, he served his time and then, incredibly, joined Commissioner Green Raum's agents as a deputy U.S. marshal. He earned a reputation as an effective and

fair agent who arrested former associates.<sup>31</sup> "He and Capt. Davis are now sworn friends. . . Davis says Morgan is as true a man as he ever knew, and he would be willing to trust him in any emergency."<sup>32</sup>

A *New York Times* reporter, contemptuous of moonshiners, tarred them all with the same brush. "These 'moonshiners' are illiterate and ignorant. They scarcely ever read a book or a newspaper, and know very little of what is going on in the world. If they were better informed they would not break the law." "During the sitting of the court held by Judge Baxter they filled the large courtroom almost to suffocation, while the corridors and all approaches to the room were crowded with men from the mountains..."<sup>33</sup> Men, primarily from the Cumberland Plateau, filled the federal courthouse in 1880; Commissioner Raum offered amnesty if they agreed to enter a guilty plea. Violators of the agreement faced the maximum penalty available. The reporter considered the notion of amnesty a foolish policy that would embolden the moonshiners to flaunt the law.<sup>34</sup>

[This article is a distillation of a chapter in a book being written by Tennessee Technological University history professors Michael Birdwell and Calvin Dickinson.]

<sup>26</sup>*Ibid.*, 45.

<sup>27</sup>*Ibid.*, 46

<sup>28</sup>Quoted in *Ibid.*

<sup>29</sup>*Ibid.*, 47.

<sup>30</sup>*Ibid.*, 47-48; McClain, 37-38.

<sup>31</sup>Atkinson, 105-111

<sup>32</sup>Davis was murdered during a raid near McMinnville, Tennessee in 1882. By the time of his death he was credited with more than 3000 arrests. Davis assisted Atkinson in raids throughout the Upper Cumberland of Kentucky and Tennessee. Some of their most tense situations occurred in Breathitt, Cumberland, and Pulaski counties in Kentucky and Fentress, Jackson, Overton, and Scott counties in Tennessee. See also: Jones, 53.

<sup>33</sup>"Moonshine in Tennessee: How the Illicit Distillers thrive in the South; A Few Gallons of Whisky Produced During the Year--the Farce Which has been Enacted in the Federal Courts--an Illiterate Crowd who are Trying to Make a Living by Breaking the Law, *New York Times* (February 2, 1880).

<sup>34</sup>*Ibid.*



## Speech of Parson Brownlow; of Tennessee, Against the Great Rebellion, Delivered at New York, May 15, 1862

Ladies and Gentlemen: I take occasion, in advance of anything and all I may say, to apprise you of what you will all have discovered before I take my seat — that is to say, in my public addresses, no matter what my theme may be, I do not present it to an audience with an eloquence that charms, or with that beauty of diction which captivates, fascinates and charms. This, I may be allowed to say, I most sincerely regret, because there is no power on earth — there is no power so great and of such influence upon the human mind as the power and influence of oratory, finished and high wrought. Caesar controlled men by exciting their fears; Cicero by captivating their affections. The one perished with its author; the other has continued throughout all time, and, with public speakers, will continue to the end of time. But there is one thing I am confident of this evening, and that is, I address an appreciative audience, an assemblage who have congregated on this occasion to hear some facts in reference to the great rebellion down South — the gigantic conspiracy of the nineteenth century; and I shall therefore look more to what shall say than to the manner of saying it — more, if you please, to the subject-matter of what I shall say than to any studied effort at display or beauty and force of language. I will be allowed by you an additional remark or two personal in their nature to myself. For the last thirty-five years of my somewhat eventful life, I have been accustomed to speak in public upon all the subjects afloat in the land, for I have never been neutral on any subject that ever came up in that time. [Laughter and applause.]

Independent in all things, and under all circumstances, I have never been entirely neutral, but have always taken a hand in what was afloat. About three years ago my voice entirely failed from a stubborn attack of bronchitis, and for two years of that time I was unable to speak above a whisper. During that period I performed a pilgrimage to New York and had an operation performed upon my



Parson W.G. Brownlow

*Very Respectfully,  
W. G. Brownlow*

throat, and was otherwise treated by an eminent physician of this city, who greatly benefitted me, and who, when I parted with him, enjoined it upon me to go home and occasionally exercise my speaking machinery, and if I could do no better, to retire to the grove or village of the town where I live, and to make short speeches, to declaim upon stumps or logs, as the case might be. Instead of doing so, however, in the town in which I live I frequently addressed a temperance organization in favor of total abstinence; and you all know that is a good cause. At other times, as a regular ordained licensed Methodist preacher, I tried to tell short sermons to the audience. That is a good cause, you admit. [Applause.] And yet, both together failed to restore my voice — [laughter] — and when I left home for the North, by way of Cincinnati, I had no intention or expectation of making a speech; but as soon as I opened my batteries in Pike's Opera House, in Cincinnati, against this infinitely infernal rebellion, I found myself able to speak and to be heard half a mile. [Great laughter.] I attribute the partial restoration of my voice to the goodness, the glory and the Godlike cause in which I profess to be engaged — that of vindicating the Union. [Applause.]

We are, ladies and gentlemen, in the midst of a revolution, and a most fearful

one, as you all know it is. I shall, in the remarks I may make here, advance no sentiment, no idea, I shall employ no language, that I have not advanced and employed time and again at home, away down in Dixie.

I should despise myself, and merit the scorn and contempt of every lady and gentleman under the sound of my voice, if I were to come here with one set of principles and opinions for the North, and another set for the South when I am there. [Applause.] I will utter no denunciation of the wretched, the corrupt, and the infamous men who inaugurated this revolution South here, that I would not utter in their hearing on the street where I reside. I therefore say to you, in the outset of the remarks I purpose to make, what I have time and again said through the columns of the most widely circulated paper they had in the South — a paper, by the way, they suppressed and crushed out on the 25th of October last — the last Union journal that floated over any portion of the Southern confederacy, and to this good hour the last and the only religious journal in the eleven seceded States. [Applause.]

I say, then, to you, as I have said time and again, that the people of the South, the demagogues and, leaders of the South, are to blame for having brought about this state of things, and not the people of the North. [Cheers]

They have intended down South for thirty years to break up this Government. It has been our settled purpose and our sole aim down South to destroy the Union and break up the Government. We have had the Presidency in the South twice to your once, and five of our men were reelected to the Presidency, filling a period of forty years. In addition to that we had divers men elected for one term, and no man at the North ever was permitted to serve any but the one term; and in addition to having elected our men twice to your once, and occupied the chair twice as long as you ever did, we seized

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### Brownlow Speech...*continued*

upon and appropriated two or three miscreants from the North that we elected to the Presidency, and ploughed with them as our heifers. [Great Laughter and applause.]

We asked of you and obtained at your hands a fugitive slave law. You voted for and helped us to enact and to establish it. We asked of you and obtained the repeal of the Missouri compromise line, which never ought to have been repealed. I fought it to the bitter end, and denounced it and all concerned in repealing it and I repeat it here again tonight. We asked and obtained the admission of Texas into the Union, that we might have slave territory enough to form some four or five more great States, and you granted it. You have granted as from first to last all we have asked and all we have desired; and hence I repeat that this thing of secession, this wicked war to dissolve the Union, has been brought about without the shadow of a cause. It is the work of the worst men that ever God permitted to live on the face of this earth. [Applause.] It is the work of a set of men down South who, in winding up this revolution, this Administration and Government shall fail to hang them as high as Hainan — hangs every one of them we will make an utter failure. I have confidence myself, and, thank God, I have always had faith and confidence, in the Government crushing out this rebellion. [Applause.] We have the men at the head of affairs who will do it — [cheers] — and that gallant and glorious man McClellan — [enthusiastic cheering] — a man in whose ability and integrity I have all the time had confidence, and prophesied he would come right side up. [Laughter and applause.] My own distracted and oppressed section of the country, East Tennessee, falls now by the new arrangement into the military district of that hero, Fremont. [Cheers and loud applause.] We rejoiced in Tennessee when we heard that we had fallen into his division, [applause,] and although I have always differed with him in politics, yet, in a word, he is my sort of man. He will either make a spoon or spoil a horn, [great laughter.] in the attempt. When he gets ready to go down into East Tennessee I

hope he will let me know. I want to go with him side by side, on a horse; and our friend Briggs, of New York, a former member of Congress, who is now on the platform, has promised me a large coil of rope, and I want the pleasure of showing them who to hang. [Great applause.]

We have had experiments in this thing of crushing out rebellion. We had a long time ago one on a small scale in Massachusetts, and the Government crushed it out. Afterwards we had the whiskey rebellion in the neighboring State of Pennsylvania, and the Government applied the screws and crushed it out. Still more recently we had a terrible rebellion in South Carolina, and, with Old Hickory at the helm, we crushed it out. [Applause.] And if my prayers and tears could have resurrected the Old Hero two years ago — though I never supported him in my life — and placed him in the chair, disgraced and occupied by that miserable mockery of a man from Wheatland, we would have had this rebellion crushed out; for, let General Jackson have been in politics what he was — I knew him well — he was a true patriot and a sincere lover of his country.

When Floyd commenced stealing muskets and other implements of war, and his associates commenced plotting treason, had Old Hickory been President, rising about ten feet in his boots, and taking Floyd by the collar, he would have sworn by the God that made Moses, this thing must stop. [Great laughter and applause.] And when Andrew Jackson swore that a thing had to stop, it had to stop. [Laughter.]

More recently still, we had a rebellion in the neighboring State of Rhode Island, known as the Dorr rebellion; and the Government very efficiently and very properly put it down. But the great conspiracy of the nineteenth century and the great rebellion of the age is now on hand, and I believe that Abe Lincoln, with the people to back him, will crush it out. [Cheers and applause.] It will be done, it must be done, and it shall be done. [Great cheering.]

And, having done that thing, gentlemen and ladies, if they will give us a few weeks' rest to recruit, we will lick England and France both, if they wish it.

[Loud applause.] And I am not certain but we will have to do it — particularly old England. [Great laughter.] She has been playing a two-fisted game, and she was well represented by Russell, for he carried water on both shoulders. I don't like the tone of her journals; and when this war is finished we shall have four or five hundred thousand well drilled soldiers, inured to the hardships of war, under the lead of experienced officers, and then we shall be ready for the rest of the world and the balance of mankind.

When the rebellion first opened — something like twelve months ago — I saw, as every observing man could see, where we were driving to, and what would be the state of things in a very short time. In the inauguration of the rebellion I took sides with the Union and with the Stars and Stripes of my country. How could it be otherwise? I had traveled the circuit as a Methodist preacher in the State of South Carolina in 1832, in Pickens and Anderson counties [Anderson county being the one where John C. Calhoun lived,] and I fought with all the ability I possessed, and all the energy I could muster, the heresy of nullification then. I even prepared pamphlet in South Carolina, of seventy pages, backing up and sustaining Old Hickory and denouncing the nullifiers — and they threatened to hang me then. I have been a Union man all my life. [Applause.] I have never been a sectional man.

I commenced my political career in Tennessee in the memorable year of 1828, and I was one, thank God, of the corporal's guard who got up the electoral ticket for John Quincy Adams against Andrew Jackson. In the next contest I was for Clay. [Great cheering.] You and I and aloof us cheer and applaud the mention of the name of Henry Clay. I propose to move, when this rebellion is over, that we shall hold a National Convention, and I will put in nomination for the Presidency the last suit of clothes that Clay wore before his death. [Great laughter and applause.]

When the rebellion fairly opened, they saw the course my paper was taking, and they approached me, as they did every

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**Brownlow Speech...continued**

other editor of a Union paper in the country, with money. They knew I was poor, and they supposed it would have the same influence over me that it had over almost all the Union editors of the South, for they bought up the last devil of them all throughout the South. [Laughter and cheers.]

I told them as one did of old: "Thy money perish with thee!" I pursued the even tenor of my way until the stream rose higher and higher with secession fire, as red and hot as hell itself, and commenced pouring along that great artery of travel, that great railroad to Manassas, Yorktown, Richmond and Petersburg. Then it was, that, wanting in transportation, wanting in rolling stock, wanting in locomotives, they had to lie over by regiments in our town, and then they commenced to ride Union men upon rails. I have s'en that done in the streets, and have seen them break into the stores and empty their contents; and coming before my house with ropes in their hands, they would groan out, "Let us give old Brownlow a turn, the damned old scoundrel; come out, and we will hang you to the first limb." I would appear, sometimes, on the front portico of my house, and would address them in this way: "Men, what do you want with me?" for I was very select in my words. I took particular pains to never say "gentlemen." [Laughter.] "Men, what do you want with me?" "We want a speech from you; we want you to come out for the Southern confederacy."

To which I replied: "I have no speech to make to you. You know me as well as I know you; I am utterly and irreconcilably opposed to this infernal rebellion in which you are engaged, and I shall fight it to the bitter end. I hope that if you are going in to kill the Yankees in search of your rights, that you will get your rights before you get back."

These threats towards me were repeated everyday and every week, until finally they crushed out my paper, destroyed my office, appropriated the building to an old smith's shop to repair the locks and barrels of old muskets that Floyd had stolen from the Federal

Government. They finally enacted a law in the Legislature of Tennessee authorizing an armed force to take all the arms, pistols, guns, dirks, swords, and everything of the sort, from all the Union men, and they paid a visit to every Union house in the State. They visited mine three times in succession upon that business, and they got there a couple of guns and one pistol. Being an editor and preacher myself, I was not, largely supplied, and had the balance concealed under my bed clothes. [Great laughter.]

Finally, after depriving us of all our arms throughout the State, and after taking all the fine horses of the Union men everywhere, without fee or reward, for cavalry horses, and seizing upon the fat hogs, corn, fodder, and sheep, going into houses and pulling the beds off the bedsteads in the day time, seizing upon all the blankets they could find for the army; after breaking open chests, bureaus, drawers, and everything of that sort—in which they were countenanced and tolerated by the authorities, civil and military—our people rose up in rebellion, unarmed as they were, and by accident, I know it was, from Chattanooga to the Virginia line—a distance of 300 miles—one Saturday night in November, at eleven o'clock, all the railroad bridges took fire at one time. [Cheers and applause.]

It was purely accidental. I happened to be out from home at the time. [Laughter.] I had really gone out on horseback—as they had suppressed my paper—to collect the fees which the clerks of the different counties were owing me, which they were ready and willing to pay me, knowing that I needed them to live upon; and as these bridges took fire while I was out of town, they swore that I was the bell-wether and ringleader of all the devilment that was

going on, and hence that I must have had a hand in it. They wanted a pretext to seize upon me, and upon the 8th day of December they marched me off to jail—a miserable, uncomfortable, damp, and desperate jail—where I found, when I was ushered into it, some 150 Union men; and, as God is my judge, I say here tonight, there was not in the whole jail a chair, bench, stool, or table, or any piece of furniture, except a dirty old wooden bucket and a pair of tin dippers to drink with.

I found some of the first and best men of the whole country there. I knew them all, and they knew me, as I had been among them for thirty years. They rallied round me, some smiling and glad to see me, as I could give them the news that had been kept from them. Others took me by the hand and were utterly speechless, and, with bitter, burning tears running down their cheeks, they said that they never thought that they would come to that at last, looking through the bars of a grate. Speaking first to one and then another, I bade them be of good cheer and take good courage.

Addressing them, I said, "Is it for stealing you are here?"

"No."

"Is it for counterfeiting?"

"No."

"Is it for manslaughter?"

"No."

"You are here, boys, because you adhere to the flag and the Constitution of our country.

[Cheers.] I am here with you for no other offence but that; and, as God is my judge, boys, I look upon this 8th day of December as the proudest day of my life. [Great applause.] And here I intend to stay until I die of old age or until they choose to hang me. I will never renounce my principles." [Cheers.]

Before I was confined in the jail, their officers were accustomed to visit the jail every day and offer them their liberty, if they would take the oath of allegiance to the Southern confederacy and volunteer to go into the service, and they would guarantee them safety and protection. They were accustomed to volunteer a dozen at a time, so great was their horror



*Brownlow's Reception in Knoxville Jail*

*cont. next page*

**Brownlow Speech...continued***Mrs. Cate visits her husband in Knoxville Jail.*

of imprisonment and the bad treatment they received in that miserable jail. After I got into the jail—and they had me in close confinement for three dreadful winter months—all this volunteering and taking the oath ceased, and the leaders swore I did it. [Great cheering.]

One of the brigadiers who was in command of the military post paid me a special visit, two of his aids accompanying him. He came in, bowed and scraped, saying: “Why, Brownlow, you ought not be in here.”

“But your generals,” I replied, “have thought otherwise, and they have put me here.”

“I have come to inform you that if you will take the oath of allegiance to the Southern confederacy; we will guarantee the protection and safety of yourself and family.”

Rising up several feet in my boots at that time, and looking him full in the eye—“Why,” said I, “I intend to lie here until I rot from disease, or die of old age, before I will take the oath of allegiance to your government. I deny your right to administer such an oath. I deny that you have any government other than a Southern mob. You have never been recognized by any

civilized power on the face of the earth, and you will never be. [Applause.]

I will see the Southern confederacy, and you and I on top of it, in the infernal regions before I will do it.”

“Well,” said he, “that’s damned plain talk.” [Laughter and applause.]

“Yes,” I replied, “that is the way to talk in revolutionary times.” [Applause.]

But I must hasten on. I will detain you too long. [Loud cries of “go on, go on.”] But, gentlemen and ladies, things went on. They tightened up; they grew tighter, and still more tight.

Many of our company became sick. We had to lie upon that miserable, cold naked floor, with not room enough for us all to lie down at the same time—and you may think what it must have been in December and January—spelling each other, one lying down awhile on the floor and then another taking his place so made warm, and that was the way we managed until many became sick unto death. A number of the prisoners died of pneumonia and typhoid fever, and other diseases contracted by exposure there. I shall never forget, while my head is above ground, the scenes I passed through in that jail. I recollect there were two venerable Baptist clergymen there, Mr. Pope and Mr. Cate. Mr. Cate was very low indeed, prostrated from the fever and unable to eat the miserable food sent there by the corrupt jailor and deputy marshal—a man whom I had denounced in my paper as guilty of forgery time and time again—a suitable representative of the thieves and scoundrels that head this rebellion in the South. [Applause.]

The only favor they extended to me was to allow my family to send me three meals a day by my son, who brought the provisions in a basket. I requested my wife to send also enough for the two old clergymen. One of them was put in jail for offering prayers for the President of the United States, and the other was confined for throwing up his hat and cheering the stars and stripes as they passed his house, borne by a group of Union volunteers. When the basket of provisions came in the morning, they examined it at the door. They would look between the pie and the bread and see if there was any billet or paper concealed there communicating treason from any outside unionist to the old scoundrel they had in jail; and when the basket went out again the same ceremony was repeated, to discover if I had slipped in any paper in any way. The

old man Cate had three sons in jail; one of them was James Madison Cate, a most exemplary and worthy member of the Baptist church, who was there for having committed no other crime than that of having refused to volunteer. He stretched out at length upon the floor with one thickness of carpet under him and an old overcoat doubled up as a pillow, in the very agonies of death, unable to turn over from one side to the other. His wife came to visit him, bringing their youngest child, which was but a babe and they refused her admittance. I put my head out the jail window and entreated them, for God’s sake, to let the poor woman come in as her husband was dying. They at last consented that she might see him for the limited time of fifteen minutes. As she came in and looked upon her husband’s wan and emaciated face and saw how rapidly he was sinking, she gave evident signs of fainting and would have fallen to the floor with the babe in her arms, had I not rushed up to her and cried, “Let me have the babe,” and then she sank down upon the breast of her dying husband, unable, at first, to speak a single word. I sat by and held the babe until fifteen minutes had expired, when the officer came in and in an insulting and peremptory manner notified her that the interview was to close. I hope I should never see such a scene again, and yet such cases were common all over East Tennessee. Such actions as these show the spirit of secession in the South.

It is the spirit of murder and assassination; it is the spirit of Hell. And yet you have men at the North who sympathize with these infernal murderers. If I owed the Devil a debt to be discharged and it was to be discharged by the rendering up to him of a dozen of the

*Hanged Unionists on Railroad near Greenville**cont. next page*

**Brownlow Speech...continued**

meanest, most revolting, and godforsaken wretches that ever could be culled from the ranks of depraved human society, and I wanted to pay that debt and get a premium upon the payment, I would make a tender to his Satanic Majesty of twelve Northern men who sympathized with this infernal rebellion. [Great cheering.]

If I am severe and bitter in my remarks, if I am a gentleman, you must consider that we in the South make a personal matter of this thing. We have no respect or confidence in any Northern man who sympathizes with this infernal rebellion, nor should any be tolerated in walking Broadway at any time. Such men should be ridden upon a rail and ridden out of the North. They must be for or against the mill dam and I would make them show their hands. Why gentlemen, after the battle of Manassas and Bull Run the officers and privates of the Confederate army passed through our town on the way to Dixie, exulting over their victory they had achieved, and some of them had what they called Yankee heads or entire heads of Federal soldiers, some of them with long beards and goatees, by which they would take them up and say, "See, here is the head of a damned soldier captured at Bull Run." That is the spirit of secession at the South. It is the spirit of murder of the vile, untutored savage; it is the spirit of Hell, and he who apologizes for them is no better than those who perpetrated the deed. [Cheers.]

In Andy Johnson's town, and while Johnson's name is on my lips, I will make another remark or two here. If Mr. Lincoln had consulted Union men about who they wanted as the Military Governor of the State, to a man they would have responded Andy Johnson. I have fought that man for twenty-five long and terrible years; I fought him systematically, perseveringly, and untiringly; but it was upon the old issues of Whiggery and Democracy. Now we will fight for one another. [Applause.]

We have merged in Tennessee all other parties and predilections in this great question of the Union. We are the Union men of Tennessee—Unconditional

Union men [Applause. Great

cheering.] And the miserable wretch who will attempt here or elsewhere to resurrect old exploded parties and party issues and try to make capitol out of this war, deserves the gallows and deserves death. [Great applause.]

In Andy Johnson's town, they had the jail full of prisoners, drove his family out of his house, and his wife, being in the last stages of consumption, appropriated his house, carpets and bedding, for a hospital and his wife had to take shelter with one of her daughters in an adjoining county. And Johnson has in him tonight a devil as big—and there is in the bosom of every Union man in Tennessee—as my hat; and whenever the Federal army shall find its way there, we will shoot them [Confederates] down like dogs and hang them on every limb we come to.

They have had their time of hanging and shooting and our time comes next, and I hope to God it will not be long. I am watching in the papers the movements of the army and whenever I hear that my country is captured I intend to return post-haste and point out the rebels. I have no other ambition on earth but to resurrect the Knoxville Whig and get it in full blast with 100,000 subscribers. And then, as the Negroes say down South, "I'll 'spress my opinion on some of them."

But in the town of Greeneville, where Andrew Johnson resides, they took out of the jail at one time two innocent Union men, Nash and Fry. Fry was a poor shoemaker with a wife and half a dozen children. A fellow from way down East in Maine, by the name of Daniel Leadbetter, the bloodiest and most ultra man, the vilest wretch, the most unmitigated scoundrel that ever made a track in East Tennessee. This is Colonel Daniel Leadbetter, late of the United States Army, but now a rebel in the session army. He took these two men, tied them with their own hands upon one limb, immediately over the railroad track in the town of Greeneville, and ordered them to hang four days and four nights. He directed all the conductors and engineers to go by the hanging concern slow, in a sort of snail gallop, up and down the road to give the passengers to kick the rigid bodies and strike them with rattan. And

they did it. I pledge you my honor that on the front platform they made a business of kicking the dead bodies as they passed by. And the women—I will not say ladies, for down South we make a distinction between ladies and women—the women, the wives and daughters of men in high position, waved their white handkerchiefs in triumph through the windows of the car at the sight of the two dead bodies hanging there.

Leadbetter, for his murderous courage, was promoted by Jeff Davis to the office of Brigadier General. He had an encounter, as the papers at Richmond state, at Bridgeport not long ago, with part of General Mitchell's army, where



*J. C. Haum bids his family farewell.*

Leadbetter got a glorious whipping. His own party turned round and chastised him for cowardice. He had courage to hang innocent unarmed men taken out of jail, but he had not courage to face the Yankees and the Northern men under Mitchell and Buell. He took to his heels like a coward and scavenger as he is. Our program is this, that when we get back into East Tennessee we will instruct our friends everywhere to secure and apprehend this fellow Leadbetter. And our purpose is to take him to that tree and make the widow of Fry tie the rope around his infernal neck. [Great cheering and applause.]

In the county of Knox where I reside, and seven miles west of the town of Knoxville, they caught up Union men, tied them upon logs, elevated the logs upon blocks six or twelve inches from the ground, put the men upon their breasts, tying their hands and feet under the logs, stripped their backs entirely bare, and then with switches cut their backs literally to pieces, the blood running down at

*cont. next page*

**Brownlow Speech...continued**

every stroke. They came into court when it was in session, and when the case was stated, the Judge replied: "These are revolutionary times, and there is no remedy for anything of the kind." Hence you see, our remedy is in our own hands: and, with the help of guns, and swords, and sabres, we intend) God willing, to slay them when we get back there, wherever we find them.

In the jail where I lay they were accustomed to drive up with a cart, with an ugly, rough, flat topped coffin upon it, surrounded by fifteen to forty men, with bristling bayonets, as a guard to march in through the gate into the jail yard, with steady, military tread. We trembled in our boots, for they never notified us who was

*Double execution of Unionists in Knoxville*

to be hanged, and you may imagine how your humble servant felt; for if any man in that jail, under their law, deserved the gallows, I claim to have been the man. I knew it, and they knew it. They came sometimes with two coffins, one on each cart, and they took two men at a time and marched them out. A poor old man of sixty-five, and his son of twenty-five, were marched out at one time and handed on the same gallows. They made that poor old man, who was a Methodist class leader, sit by and see his son hang till he was dead, and they called him "a damned Lincolnite Union shrieker," and said, "Come on; it is your turn next."

He sank, but they propped him up and led him to the halter, and swung both off on the same gallows. They came, after that, for another man, and they took J. C. Haum out of jail, a young man of fine sense, good address, and of excellent character — a tall, spare-made man, leaving a wife at home, with four or five helpless children. My wife passed the

*Flogging Unionist supporter in East Tennessee*

farm of Haum's the other day, when they drove her out of Tennessee and sent her on to New Jersey, I thank them for doing so, and saw his wife plowing, endeavoring to raise corn for her suffering and starving children. That is the spirit of secession, gentlemen. And yet you have a set of Godforsaken, unprincipled men at the North who are apologizing for them and sympathizing with them. [Applause]

When they took Haum out and placed him on the scaffold they had a drunken chaplain. They were kind enough to notify him an hour before the hanging that he was to hang. Haum at once made an application for a Methodist preacher, a Union man, to come and pray for him. They denied him the privilege, and said that "God didn't hear any prayers in behalf of any damned Union shrieker," and he had literally to die without the benefit of clergy. But they had near the gallows an unprincipled, drunken chaplain of their own army, who got up and undertook to apologize for Haum. He said: "This poor, unfortunate man, who is about to pay the debt of nature for the course he took." He said he was "misled by the Union paper." Haum rose up, and with a clear, stentorian voice, said: "Fellow-citizens, there is not a word of truth in that statement. I have authorized nobody to make such a statement. What I have said and done I have done and said with my eyes open, and, if it were to be done over, I would do it again. I am ready to hang, and you can execute your purposes." He died like a man; he died like a Union man, like an East Tennessean ought to die. As God is my judge, I would sooner be Haum in the grave today than anyone of the scoundrels concerned in his murder. [Great applause.]

Time rolled on. One event after another occurred, and finally a man of

excellent character, one of Andrew Johnson's constituents from Greene county, by the name of Hessing Self, was condemned to be hung by this drumhead court-martial, and they were kind enough to let him know that he was to hang a few hours before the hour appointed time. His daughter, who had come down to administer to his comfort and consolation—a most estimable girl, about twenty-one years of age—Elizabeth Self, a tall, spare-made girl, modest, handsomely attired, begged leave to enter the jail to see her father. They permitted her, contrary to their usual custom and their savage barbarity, to go in. They had him in a small iron cage, a terrible affair; they opened a little door, and the jailor admitted her. A number of us went to witness the scene. As she entered the cage where her father was, who was to die at four o'clock that afternoon, she clasped him around the neck, and he embraced her also, throwing his arms across her shoulders. They sobbed and cried; they shed their tears and made their moans. I stood by, and I never beheld such a sight since God Almighty made me, and I hope I may never see the like again. When they had parted, wringing each other by the hand, she came out of the cage, stammering and trying to utter something intelligible, she lisped my name. She knew my face, and I could understand as much as that she desired me to write a dispatch to Jeff. Davis, and sign her name, begging him to pardon her father.

I wrote it about thus: Hon. Jefferson Davis (I did not believe the first word I wrote was the truth, but I putt there for the sake of form:) My father, Hessing Self, is sentenced to be hanged at four o'clock today. I am living at home, and my mother

*Elizabeth Self visits her father in prison**cont. next page*



### Brownlow Speech...continued

is dead. My father is my earthly all; upon him my hopes are centered, and, friend, I pray you to pardon him.

Respectfully,  
ELIZABETH SELF.

Jeff. Davis, who had a better heart than the rest of them, perhaps, immediately responded for he could not withstand the appeals of a woman, to General Carroll, and told him not to hang that man Self, but to keep him in jail and let him atone for his crimes a certain time. Self has served his time out and has gone home, and that girl is saved the wretchedness of being left, alone without a father.

This, ladies and gentlemen, is the spirit of secession all over the South; it is the spirit that actuates them everywhere; it is the spirit of murder; it is the spirit of the infernal regions: and, in God's name, can you any longer excuse or apologize for such murderous and blood thirsty demons as live down in the Southern confederacy? [Loud cries of "No, no."] Hanging is going on all over East Tennessee. They shoot them down in the fields; they whip them; and, I as strange as it may seem to you, in the counties of Campbell and Anderson they actually lacerate with switches the bodies of females, wives and daughters of Union men, clever, respectable women. They show no quarter to male or female: they rob their houses and they throw them into prison. Our jails are all full now, and we have complained and thought hard that our Government has not come to our relief, for a more loyal, a more devoted people to the Stars and Stripes never lived on the face of God's earth than the Union people of Tennessee. [Loud cheers.]

With tears in their eyes they begged me, upon leaving East Tennessee, for God Almighty's sake to see the President, to see the army officers, so as to have relief sent to them and bring them out of jail. I hope, gentlemen, you will use your influence with the army and navy, and all concerned, to relieve these people. They are the most abused, down-trodden, persecuted and proscribed people that ever lived on the face of the earth. I am happy to announce to you that the rebellion will soon be played out. Thank God for his mercies, it will soon

have been played out. [Cheers.]

Richmond will be obliged to fall very soon, for that noble fellow, McClellan, will capture the whole of them. I have confidence and faith in Fremont, and hope he may rush into East Tennessee. If Halleck, Buell & Co. will only capture the region round about Corinth and take Memphis, the play is out and the dog is dead. [Laughter and cheers.]

Then let us drive the leaders down into the Gulf of Mexico, like the devils drove the hogs into the Sea of Galilee. [Laughter and applause.]

But a few weeks prior to the last Presidential election they announced in their papers that the great bull of the whole disunion flock was to speak in Knoxville, a man, the first two letters of his name are W. L. Yancey, a fellow that the Governor of South Carolina pardoned out of testate prison for murdering his uncle, Dr. Earl. He was announced to speak, and the crowd was two to one Union men. I had never spoken to him in all my life. He called out in an insolent manner, "Is Parson Brownlow in this crowd?"

The disunionists hallooed out, "Yes, he is here."

"I hope," said he, "the Parson will have the nerve to come upon the stand and have me catechize him."

"No," said the Breckinridge secessionists.

Yes, gentlemen, we had four tickets in the field the last race, Lincoln and Hamlin, Bell and Everett, the Bell and Everett ticket was a kind of kangaroo ticket, with all the strength in the legs; [great laughter] and there was a Douglas and Johnson and a Breckinridge and Lane ticket. As God is my judge, that was the meanest and shabbiest ticket of the four that was in the field.

Lincoln was elected fairly and squarely under the forms of law and the Constitution; and though I was not a Lincoln man, yet I gave in to the will of the majority, and it is the duty of every patriot and true man to bow to the will of the majority.

But the crowd hallooed to Yancey, "Brownlow is here, but he has not nerve enough to mount the stand where you are." I rose and marched up the steps and said, "I will show you whether I have the nerve or not."

"Sir," said he, and he is a beautiful speaker and personally a fine looking man, "are you the celebrated Parson Brownlow?"

"I am the only man on earth," I replied, "that fills the bill." [Laughter.]

"Don't you think," said Yancey, "you are badly employed as a preacher, a man of your cloth to be dabbling in politics and meddling with State affairs?"

"No, sir," said I, "a distinguished member of the party you are acting with once took Jesus Christ up upon a mount [uproarious laughter] and said to the Savior, 'Look at the kingdoms of the world. All this will I give thee if thou wilt fall down and worship me.' Now, sir, I said, his reply to the Devil is my reply to you, 'Get thee behind me, Satan.'" [Renewed laughter and applause.] I rather expected to be knocked down by him; but I stood with my right side to him and a cocked Derringer in my breeches pocket. I intended, if I went off the scaffold, that he should go the other way.

"Now, sir," I said, "If you are through, I would like to make a few remarks."

"Certainly, proceed," said Yancey.

"Well, sir, you should tread lightly upon the toes of preachers, and you should get these disunionists to post you up before you launch out in this way against preachers. Are you aware, sir, that this old gray-headed man sitting here, Isaac Lewis, the President of the meeting, who has welcomed you, is an old disunion Methodist preacher, and Buchanan's pension agent in this town, who has been meddling in politics all his lifetime? Sir, are you aware that this man, James D. Thomas, on my left, is a Breckinridge elector for this Congressional district? He was turned out of the Methodist ministry for whipping his wife and slandering his neighbors. Sir, are you aware that this young man sitting in front of us, Colonel Loudon C. Haynes, the elector of the Breckinridge ticket for the State of Tennessee at large, was expelled from the Methodist ministry for lying and cheating his neighbor in a measure of corn? Now, for God's sake say nothing more about preachers until you know what sort of preachers are in your own ranks." And thus ended the colloquy between me and Yancey. I have never seen him since.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have spoken much longer than I intended.

*Scamwell and Co. Printers, 1862*



# A KENTUCKY DERBY FOR TENNESSEE, 1941

By George E. Webb, Professor of History at Tennessee Technological University

The first week of May, 1940, was hardly a time of good news for readers of American newspapers. Adolf Hitler and his Nazi hordes seemed to be having little difficulty expanding throughout Europe, while growing instability in Asia seemed to suggest that similar conflict in the western Pacific would soon follow. Americans were increasingly skeptical that the nation could avoid the global war that seemed likely to erupt.

Readers who looked at the front page of the *Sunday Nashville Tennessean* on 5 May, however, found a cheering headline in the upper left corner. In addition to accounts of continuing international crises, the front page carried the news, "Gallahadion Derby Winner for Mrs. Mars." A horse trained in Tennessee and owned by one of the more intriguing characters in the state's history had won the most famous race in North America.



*Gallahadion*

The story of Gallahadion's victory is also the story of the Mars family and its role in the history of Tennessee. Born in Minnesota, Franklin Clarence Mars (1883-1934) learned to hand-dip chocolates from his mother as he recovered from a mild case of polio. Following high school, he began selling candy and, by 1910, was a candy wholesaler in Tacoma, Washington. Although reasonably successful, Mars and his second wife Ethel (1884-1945) moved to Minneapolis in 1920, where they soon formed Mars, Incorporated. With the introduction of the Milky Way bar in 1923, the company was on the road to success. The couple moved to Chicago in 1929 and continued to oversee the growth of the business. Within four years, the Mars company was producing some forty percent of all American chocolate-covered candy bars, grossing \$25 million per year.

In 1930, Franklin and Ethel decided to establish a southern office in Nashville and

soon purchased a large tract of land in Giles County to breed Hereford cattle and Thoroughbred horses. Ultimately covering nearly 3000 acres, Milky Way Farm soon became a showplace. Its main house included thirty-five rooms and boasted a living room with a forty-foot ceiling. Seventy cottages, thirty barns, and a training track completed the property. During the height of its construction between 1931 and 1933, the project employed 800 or more local workers and continued to be the largest employer in the county for most of the Great Depression.

Franklin Mars began his Thoroughbred program in earnest in 1933 when he purchased twenty yearlings from the famous Claiborne Farm near Lexington, Kentucky. Following his death at Milky Way Farm in 1934, Ethel not only assumed the direction of the Mars empire, but also continued the Thoroughbred efforts. Indeed, the racing success of Milky Way Farm was largely the result of her activity.

Ethel pursued a slightly different path than originally planned for Milky Way Farm. Rather than breed her own horses, she began buying yearling colts and fillies at the prestigious Saratoga sales. Beginning in 1934, she spent an average of some \$100,000 per year at these sales, quickly gaining a reputation as a very competitive bidder.

The new strategy soon paid off. Her horses won more than \$100,000 in 1935, carrying the Milky Way Farm colors of orange, brown and white, chosen to suggest the vanilla/caramel center and chocolate coating of the most famous Mars candy bar. The following year Mars doubled her earnings and was the leading money winner, far outdistancing her

principal rival, Alfred Vanderbilt. Five of her horses ran in the Kentucky Derby between 1935 and 1939, finishing third on two occasions. In 1937, Milky Way Farms won the prestigious Kentucky Oaks race for three-year-old fillies with the appropriately named Mars Shield.

Although noted as one of the most successful owners of the late 1930s, her failure to win any of the Triple Crown races (Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes, Belmont Stakes) continued to frustrate Ethel Mars. As the 1940 season began, there was no reason to think that her fortunes would improve. The racing world was focused on the dark bay colt Bimelech, owned by famous Kentucky horseman Edward R. Bradley of Idle Hour Farm. Winning six races in 1939, the colt was selected champion male for that year, an honor rarely bestowed on two-year-olds. Even with minimal training during the winter, Bimelech returned in the spring of 1940 in good order, winning the Blue Grass Stakes at Keeneland and the Derby Trial at Churchill Downs during late April. Comparisons with the great Man o' War were often made, suggesting that Bradley would win his fifth Kentucky Derby since 1921.

Ethel Mars and her trainer, Roy Waldron, seemed to agree that the race belonged to Bimelech. With little enthusiasm, they decided to enter their bay colt Gallahadion, who had not won a single race as a two-year-old and had achieved only modest success in 1940. Asked to write an article about the upcoming Derby for United Press, Waldron conceded the race to Bimelech, predicting that his own colt would finish second.



*Mrs. Ethel Mars*

And yet Gallahadion deserved to be taken seriously, despite his unimpressive racing performance over the last two seasons. His sire, Sir Gallahad III,

*cont. next page*



### Kentucky Derby...continued

was also the sire of 1930 Triple Crown winner Gallant Fox, who in turn sired 1935 Triple Crown winner Omaha out of a Sir Gallahad III mare. A large (15.3 hands high) colt sometimes described as gangly, his pedigree convinced Mars to purchase Gallahadion for \$5000 at the 1938 Saratoga sale.

Gallahadion's potential failed to attract much interest at the Derby. On the morning of the race, *Tennessean* sports writer Raymond Johnson, reporting from Louisville, predicted a dominating performance for Bimelech and announced that he could see no imaginable scenario in which Bradley's colt could lose. The 87,000 fans who witnessed the 1940 Kentucky Derby, however, saw anything but a dull contest. The eight horses entered in the race left the gate cleanly. Gallahadion and Bimelech were next to each other from the start, with the Mars colt on the rail. Trailing the early leader, Roman, these two continued to race together for the first half of the race, at which point Gallahadion was a length and a half behind the leader and a head in front of Bimelech in third. By the top of the stretch, though, with less than a quarter mile to go, Bimelech had gained the lead, with Gallahadion a length back in third place. But Bimelech seemed to be struggling, perhaps showing the effects of too little training and too much recent racing. The Mars colt caught the favorite with an eighth of a mile to go and was clearly in command of the race a few strides later. Gallahadion prevailed by one and one half lengths, but was described by the official race reporter as having "won with little left." In the second biggest Derby upset to that time, bettors who had purchased two dollar win tickets on Gallahadion pocketed a staggering \$72.40.

The *Tennessean* covered the race extensively in its Sunday edition. Front page accounts included separate photos of the winner and owner, augmented by a wire service report of an interview with Ethel

Mars. The sports section devoted its front page to the race and included photos of Nashvillians who attended the Derby elsewhere in the section. Monday's editorial page ran a four-paragraph comment, stressing Gallahadion's Tennessee roots and reminding readers that the state could claim a long heritage of past glory in Thoroughbred racing.

Ethel Mars had not been in Louisville to see her horse triumph. In fragile health and suffering from recurring respiratory difficulties, she had listened to the radio broadcast of the race at her home in Chicago. Indeed, her victory in the 1940 Kentucky Derby marked the apex of Mars's racing career. Gallahadion contested both the Preakness and the Belmont stakes, but finished well behind the winner Bimelech in each case. His four-year-old campaign was disappointing and he retired at the end of 1941. Entering stud at the well-known Almahurst Farm south of Lexington, his record as a sire was unimpressive.

By the time of her colt's retirement from competition, Ethel Mars was scaling back her activities and retired the Milky Way colors in 1944. Milky War Farm was sold to a cattle breeder in the spring of 1945, but the property has changed hands several times in the intervening years. None of the owners have been able to return the property to its former glory, although the house, several outbuildings, and 650 acres

of the farm were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

Ethel Mars lived only a few months after the sale of Milky Way Farm. Her health had continued to decline throughout World War II

and she died at her Chicago home in December of 1945. One of the most successful women among Thoroughbred owners, Mars built an impressive record during her relatively few years in the sport. She will always be best remembered, though, for Gallahadion's upset win in the 1940 Kentucky Derby, a race that attracted special interest in Tennessee.



Gallahadion in Kentucky Derby Winner's Circle

### Wars Commission Report...continued

international prominence. The war has been remembered in Tennessee with nearly 1/3 of our state counties named for people or events associated with the War of 1812.

War of 1812 Committee who meet at the Heritage, home of Andrew Jackson, are creating plans for symposium conferences, special events with living history participants, creation of a state wide tourism trail brochure and signage, a traveling museum of historic exhibitions, and community development and partnerships, along with possible funding resources. The War of 1812 Bicentennial commemoration plans includes events beginning in 2012 through 2015.

### Bulls Gap Field Fortifications

Talks are now underway to save a Civil War National Register site in Hamblin and Greene Counties in east Tennessee. The site includes battlefield land, campgrounds and earthen field fortifications built to secure and protect the strategic road system that ran through mountain passes at Bulls Gap. The site is listed in the 1998 publication, *Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nations Civil War Battlefields*, as one of Tennessee's 38 most significant sites as to the outcome of the War.