

“Open and notorious violations of the law”....repeatedly over a period of years, says petition

The sordid saga of Georgia and Hawk Carter

January 25, 1951

Mrs. Georgia Carter, wife of Hawk Carter, was arrested Saturday morning and charged with transporting and possessing non-tax-paid whiskey, in federal court, and possessing bonded whiskey, in the local General Sessions court. Arrested with Georgia and facing similar charges in both federal and general sessions courts, was Leslie G. Witcher, 32 of Castalian Springs. Witcher was described as the “delivery boy” for Georgia.

Georgia and Witcher have reportedly been operating at Hawk's old place on Fort Street since he has been in federal prison at Ashland, Kentucky. The two were released from custody when arraigned before U.S. Commissioner J. Washington Moore after posting \$500 bonds in cash. They were tried before Judge Woodall Murrey Tuesday morning in General Sessions court and released on \$1000 bonds each and Judge Murrey had bound the two over to Circuit Court.

The raid on Georgia's place was made early Saturday morning by assistant chief Earl Wise and patrolman Charles Roberts of the Gallatin police force, and federal officers Oscar Crowell and R.L. Johnson.

According to local police officers the group watched while Witcher made two deliveries in a 1946 Mercury coupe. After the second trip they observed Witcher go into a cache in a neighboring lot and make his way into the house with the liquor hidden under his coat. The officers followed Witcher to the house and when Patrolman Roberts knocked, another party pulled the shade back and observing the officer, made a break to the rear of the house. Roberts knocked the door in and ran into Witcher holding a half-gallon jar of mountain dew. The officer finally succeeded in getting possession of the jar after a struggle and when the other officers arrived, a search of the house was made. They found another half-gallon jar of moonshine and four half pints of bonded whiskey.

The 1946 Mercury was confiscated by the federal officers, leaving Georgia with only Hawk's Cadillac at present.

Georgia Carter charged in shooting

On February 4, Milton Woods was shot with a .22 caliber rifle at the Carter home. Georgia Carter has been charged with assault with a rifle in connection with the shooting. She is at liberty under a \$1000 bond.

At this time, seven cases are pending in Circuit Court against Carter; two against Mrs. Carter; two involving Witcher and two cases pending in Federal Court at Nashville against Mrs. Carter and Witcher.

February 22, 1951

Hawk Carter Home Closed by Court

By order of fiat issued by the Clerk and Master of Chancery Court, Oscar Russell, last Thursday Sheriff J.B. Bracey closed the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Wesley Carter Tuesday morning. It was at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday morning that Sheriff Bracey read the court order, issued by Judge S.A. Marable at chambers in Ashland City last Wednesday closing the home temporarily to Mrs. Georgia Carter who turned over to the Sheriff the keys to the home and other buildings on the property.

The injunction restraining Mrs. Carter and Leslie Gray Witcher from maintaining a public nuisance on the property was put into effect last Friday.

All the buildings are locked, the gates to the driveway have been closed and locked, as had the drive to the county road on the right of the property. A log has been placed across the front gate. The entrances to the garage in the rear of the

house has been boarded up.

The house will remain closed until the trial when court meets the first of April. At this time the State will seek to make the injunction permanent.

This is the first time within the memory of any living lawyer that a house has been ordered closed in Gallatin or Sumner County.

It is understood that Mrs. Carter is living with her mother near Portland.

Ed. Note: Mrs. Carter goes to trial for shooting, —next issue.

Gallatin police escort delivers confiscated whiskey to Nashville

The city of Gallatin has sold 145 cases of confiscated liquor to The Square liquor store in Nashville for \$5007.

Most of the liquor was delivered Monday when Sheriff J.B. Bracey and Chief of Police Doc McCrary led the two city trucks loaded with whiskey to Nashville. Oscar Dalton and Ike Brown brought up the rear.

— Sumner County News

Liberty Tornado kills 39 Sumner Co. residents

Liberty Tornado, Sumner County, Tennessee, March 18, 1925

On March 18, 1925, Sumner County was struck by the deadliest tornado in Tennessee history.

An F4 tornado touched down at 5:00 p.m. in Buck Lodge, 8 miles north of Gallatin. It traveled ENE for 60 miles, passing through Keytown, Angle, Oak Grove, and Liberty before crossing into Kentucky. The Liberty Tornado, as it was later named, killed 39 and wounded 90 Tennesseans. However, it was not the only tornado to strike on that fateful day. Middle Tennessee was also hit by two F3 tornadoes. One of them traveled 20 miles through Williamson and Rutherford Counties, killing 1 and injuring 9. The second F3 tornado traveled 12 miles through Bedford and Rutherford Counties, killing 2 and injuring 15.

March 18, 1925, was also the date of the deadliest tornado in U.S. history. An F5 tornado touched down NNW of Ellington, Missouri, and proceeded to travel through southern Illinois and into southwestern Indiana. The infamous Tri-State Tornado left a 234-mile path of destruction and 695 dead in its wake.

Mrs. Jean Brazzell of Dobbins Pike remembers her mother talking about the Sumner County tornado

years later, recalling that “Neighbors, friends and church volunteers came from everywhere to the houses that had been destroyed. Big sheets of plywood were laid out on bricks and the body parts of the people who had been killed were brought there and laid out so that they could match them up to make a whole person.”

However, it was not the only tornado to strike on that fateful day. Middle Tennessee was also hit by two F3 tornadoes. One of them traveled 20 miles through Williamson and Rutherford Counties, killing 1 and injuring 9. The second F3 tornado traveled 12 miles through Bedford and Rutherford Counties, killing 2 and injuring 15. March 18, 1925, was also the date of the deadliest tornado in U.S. history. An F5 tornado touched down NNW of Ellington, Missouri, and proceeded to travel through southern Illinois and into southwestern Indiana. The infamous Tri-State Tornado left a 234-mile path of destruction and 695 dead in its wake.

The Holmes Farm, below left, where two people were killed is typical of the leveling destruction of the 1925 tornado, named “Liberty” because it destroyed Liberty Church. At right, the Alison home was demolished and nine family members were killed. Photos courtesy Tennessee State Library and Archives



Union High Girl Wins Essay Contest



Mary Agnes Huddleston Malone and Randy Offitt in the History Legacy Room at First Baptist Church on Winchester Street, Gallatin.

February 6, 1967

Mary Agnes Huddleston, a junior at Union High School, won first place in the International Peace Essay Contest sponsored by the local Lion's Club, it was announced this week.

Second place winner was Genne R. Hanna, a senior at Union. Third place was won by Anna Durham, a sophomore at Gallatin Senior High School.

The first three winners were awarded U.S. Savings Bonds in amounts of \$100, \$50 and \$25, respectively.

The local contest is a part of an annual, world-wide, essay competition on the subject of peace.

The winning entries were judged by a local committee and selected from a large number of essays, submitted by students at Union High and Gallatin Senior High.

The first place winner is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Huddleston, Jr. of 535 Chambers Street. She attends the Baptist church located on Winchester Street. Mary Agnes enjoys basketball, tennis and swimming. An “A” student in Home Economics, she takes interest in sewing and finds time to make many of her own clothes.

She is one of the leading scorers in the state in basketball with 447 points in 16 games for a 27.9 average.

— -Sumner County News

March, 2013

Mary Huddleston Malone knows her way around an essay competition.

She has been to Washington, D.C. five times in her life so far, and made her first trip as a high school student as a result of winning first place for an essay sponsored by Cumberland Electric Membership Co-op.

Her last trip to the nation's capital was in January, to attend the Presidential Inauguration.

Growing up, Mary was especially close with her grandmother Betty Huddleston, seeing her every day after school. “My grandmother made some astute predictions for the future,” says Mary.

“One of the things she used to say was that in the future people would be able to talk on the telephone and see each other on a TV camera at the same time; well, that has happened,” says Mary, via iPad and other devices.

“She also used to tell me that in my lifetime, I would see an African-American president.”

During Obama's most recent inaugural festivities, Mary was struck by the diversity of the people gathered and the “peaceful plane” of existence felt in the crowd.

“It all came together...when I found my original 'peace' essay several weeks after the D.C. trip ...the spirit of that day reminded me of what I was trying to convey in that essay so

many years before: peace is attainable through individuals. This I know in my heart.”

Mary also recalls the thrilling days of playing “six on six, not full court,” girls' basketball.

Recently Mary and Randy Offitt reminisced about basketball at Union High and their desire to host a basketball tourney with players from the past.

“Just give us about a year to practice,” laughs Randy.continued on page 3

THE NATION

1913: The IRS begins; women's suffrage heats up; Cracker Jacks adds prize to package

Jan.02 The radical Alice Paul forms the Congressional Union (later renamed the Women's Party) - suffragettes begin to concentrate their efforts on the passage of a constitutional amendment

Jan.06 The US Navy uses aircraft on maneuvers for the first time, off Guantanamo Bay

Jan.07 Burton patents a process for the thermal cracking of petroleum - gasoline becomes readily available, encouraging the use of automobiles

Jan.08-mid-Jan. A conference is held in Washington on Army organization - Secretary of War Stimson gains approval for the first American Army divisions established in peacetime

Jan.26 Jim Thorpe, arguably the greatest all-round American athlete, is compelled to relinquish his 1912 Olympic medals for having briefly played semi-pro baseball

Feb.03 Grand Central Station opens in New York City

Feb.09-19 Without authorization, US Ambassador to Mexico Henry Lane Wilson energetically assists a bloody conservative revolt that overthrows the legally elected Madero government, sponsors talks between rebel factions that lead to the establishment of the Huerta regime, and tacitly consents to Huerta's stated intention to execute Madero.

Feb.13 Governor Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey (soon to be President) signs the 'Seven Sisters Acts', providing for tough regulation of corporations - the measures are repealed in 1920

Feb.14 Taft vetoes the restrictive Immigration Bill, which contains a literacy test

Feb.17 The Armoury Show opens in New York City: modern European art enters America - conservative critics are horrified: Duchamp's *Nude Descending a Staircase* is called an "explosion in a shingle factory."

Feb.17 A minimum wage law goes into effect in Oregon

Feb.19 Cracker Jacks begins to add a prize to each package

Feb.22 In response to the worsening situation in Mexico, 4,000 troops of the US 2nd Division are mobilized along the border

Feb.25 To the surprise of conservatives, the 16th Amendment becomes law, forming the basis for the graduated income tax, which will eventually replace tariffs as the chief source of revenue for the Federal government.

The Paterson strike: Feb.25 The IWW calls a general strike of silk workers in Paterson, New Jersey - the young IWW agitator Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is arrested.

Feb.27 Paterson police arrest a socialist for publicly reading the free-speech clause of the New Jersey constitution - widespread arrests of strikers for unlawful assembly and sedition

Jun.07 The Paterson textile strikers hold a pageant in Madison Square Garden, organized by John Reed - the show gains popular acclaim, but no contributions

Jul.28 The Paterson textile strike has fizzled - the IWW is temporarily near collapse; its influence in the northeast evaporates

Feb.27 Theodore Roosevelt coins the phrase "lunatic fringe"

Feb.28 The House Pujio Committee reports on banking practices, exposing the 'money trust' that controls American financial activity - renewed anti-trust sentiment

Mar.01 The Webb-Kenyon Interstate Liquor Act: Congress prohibits shipping liquor into dry states, over Taft's veto - the first nationwide prohibition victory

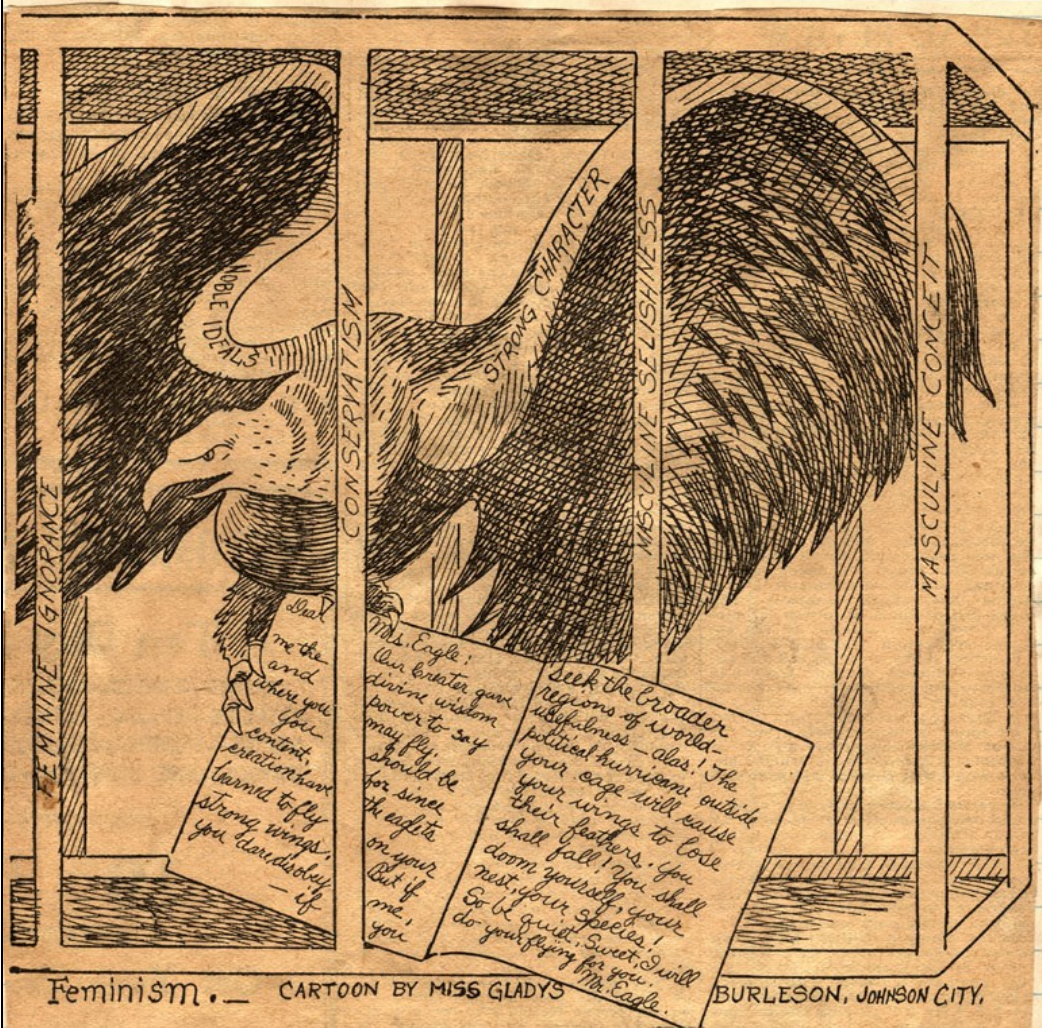
Mar.01 Congress authorizes the ICC to investigate the physical valuation of railroads as a basis for establishing rates

Mar.03 A suffragette march in Washington, DC, is attacked by onlookers, while police stand by - Secretary of War Stimson orders troops from Fort Myer to restore order

Mar.04 Woodrow Wilson is inaugurated as President, backed by a strongly Democratic House - William Jennings Bryan becomes Secretary of State, McAdoo heads the Treasury - in the inaugural parade, Lt. George Patton rides a horse and 18-year-old J. Edgar Hoover leads his high school drill team - Sam Rayburn is sworn in as a US Congressman, serving in the House until 1961

Mar.04 The Labor Department splits from the Commerce Department

Mar.08 The Internal Revenue Service begins



Title: Feminism, a cartoon, **Illustrator :** Gladys Burleson, of Johnson City, Tennessee
Date Created: 1915 - 1920
Collection: Washington County-Jonesborough Library
The female eagle is imprisoned by Feminine Ignorance, Conservatism, Masculine Selfishness and Masculine Conceit. Her noble ideals and strong character are hindered by her plight. The letter from Mr. Eagle to Mrs. Eagle seeks to explain her confinement and reads:

Dear Mrs. Eagle:

Our Divine Creator gave me the divine wisdom and power to say where you may fly.

You should be content, for since creation have the eaglets learned to fly on your strong wings.

But if you dare disobey me, if you seek the broader regions of world usefulness—alas! The political hurricane outside your cage will cause your wings to lose their feathers. You shall fall! You shall doom yourself, your nest, your species!

So be quiet, Sweet, I will do your flying for you. —Mr. Eagle

The struggle for women's suffrage intensified

At left, Nashville women hold a banner which reads:

We protest against the continued disfranchisement of women for which the Republican party is now responsible.

The Republican party defeated ratification in Delaware.

The Republican party is blocking ratification in Vermont.

The Republican party is blocking ratification in Connecticut.

When will the Republican party stop blocking suffrage?

Tennessee ratified women's suffrage in 1920 by one vote, enabling passage of the Constitutional Amendment #19, giving women all over America voting rights.



1937, Indianapolis, Indiana

W.P.A. Writers' Project Interviews Former Slave from Gallatin

Incidents in the life of Mrs. Harriet Cheatam, ex-slave as told to Anna Pritchett, Federal Writer:

"I was born, in 1843 in Gallatin, Tennessee, 94 years ago this coming Christmas day.

Our master, Martin Henley, a farmer, was hard on us slaves, but we were happy in spite of our lack.

When I was a child, I didn't have it as hard as some of the children in the quarters. I always stayed in the "big house," slept on the floor, right near the fireplace, with one quilt for my bed and one quilt to cover me. Then when I grewed up, I was in the quarters.

After the Civil War, I went to Ohio to cook for General Payne. We had a nice life in the General's house.

I remember one night, way back before the Civil War, we wanted a goose. I went out to steal one as that was the only way we slaves could have one. I crept very quiet-like, put my hand in where they was supposed to be and grabbed, and what do you suppose I had? A great big pole-cat. Well, I dropped him quick, went back, took off all my clothes, dug a hole, and buried them. The next night I went to the right place, grabbed me a nice big goose, held his neck and feet so he couldn't holler, put him under my arm, and ran with him, and did we eat!

We often had a prayer meeting out in the quarters, and to keep the folks in the "big house" from hearing us, we would take pots, turn them upside side, put something under them, that let the sound go in the pots, put them in a row by the door, then our voices would not go out, and we could sing and pray to our heart's content.

At Thanksgiving time we would have pound cake. That was fine. We would take our hands and beat and beat our cake dough, put the dough in a skillet, cover it with the lid and put it in the fireplace. (The covered skillet would act our ovens of today.) It would take all day to bake, but it sure would be good; not like the cakes you have today.

When we cooked our regular meals, we would put our food in pots, slide them on an iron rod that hooked into the fireplace. (They were called pot hooks.) The pots hung right over the open fire and would boil until the food was done.

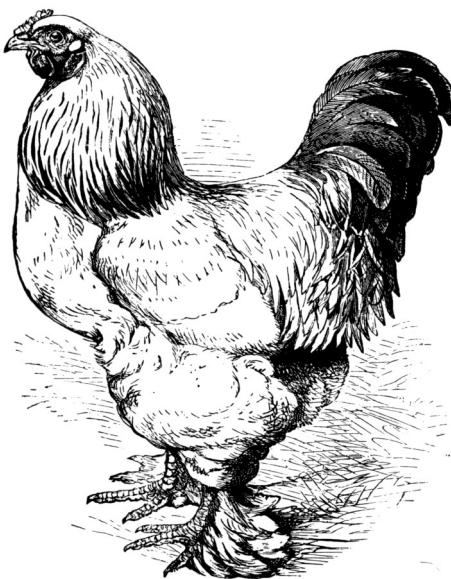
We often made ash cake. (That is made of biscuit dough.) When the dough was ready, we swept a clean place on the floor of the fireplace, smoothed the dough out with our hands, took some ashes, put them on top of the dough, then put some hot coals on top of the ashes, and just left it. When it was done, we brushed off the coals, took out the bread, brushed off the ashes, child, that was bread.

When we roasted a chicken, we got it all

nice and clean, stuffed him with dressing, greased him all over good, put a cabbage leaf on the floor of the fireplace, put the chicken on the cabbage leaf, then covered him good with another cabbage leaf, and put hot coals all over and around him and left him to roast. That is the best way to cook chicken."

Mrs. Pritchett, the writer, notes, "Mrs. Cheatam lives with a daughter, Mrs. Jones. She is a very small old lady, pleasant to talk with, has a very happy disposition. Her eyes, as she said, 'have gotten very dim,' and she can't piece her quilts anymore. That was the way she spent her spare time.

She has beautiful white hair and is very proud of it."



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We welcome submissions of photos and news of the past from throughout Sumner County, as well as original articles of historical significance

What's In A Name?

Cairo, Ben Franklin, Pink Floyd and the French Revolution

Ça ira...

...was first Sumner County seat

On April 20, 1796, the General Assembly of Tennessee passed an act appointing Commissioners and Trustees. The Commissioners so appointed were William Bowen, John Wilson, Isaac Walton, George D. Blackmore and Hugh Crawford. It was made their duty to fix on a location for the seat of government for the county. The Trustees appointed by the act were Henry Bradford, David Shelby and Edward Douglass. It was made their duty to purchase the land selected by the Commissioners, erect a courthouse, prison and stocks and establish a town.

Daniel Smith, James Winchester and Wilson Cage were named as Trustees. In this act it was provided that the name of the town should be "Ca Ira," a popular song of the French Revolution.

The title and theme of the refrain were inspired by **Benjamin Franklin**, in France as a representative of the Continental Congress, who was very popular among the French people. When asked about the American Revolutionary War, he would reportedly reply, in somewhat broken French, "*Ça ira, ça ira*" ("It'll be fine").

(The name afterwards became corrupted into "Cairo," and it was so incorporated on November 5, 1815.)

On October 2, 1797, the above act was repealed and another one passed appointing

April 13, 1911

Friends of temperance are invited to hear speaker

Mrs. Willa Stevens Norwood of Jackson, Tennessee, superintendent of the children's department of the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) will lecture in Gallatin at the Baptist Church next Sunday, April 16, at 2:30 p.m. All pastors, superintendents of Sunday schools, teachers, children and their parents are cordially invited.

A union service will be held at the same church Sunday night at 8:15 when an interesting program of music will be observed.

Mrs. Norwood comes highly recommended as a consecrated Christian woman, and it is the wish of the Gallatin WCTU to give her a cordial greeting.

All friends of temperance are invited.

March 26, 1953

Fined for 'loitering around a disorderly house'

Less Brooks, local Negro and well known to police circles, was fined \$28.50 in city court Monday for operating a gambling house. He pled guilty.

Chief of police Doc McCreary, Assistant Chief Earl Wise and Patrolman Ernest Roberts swooped down upon the home of Less Brooks on Blythe Street Friday afternoon and upset a big crap game. Negroes were found in every room in the house.

Fourteen Negroes were arrested for loitering around a disorderly house and were fined \$8.50 each.

January 13, 1938

Dr. Lackey Speaks to

Gallatin High Science Club

On Thursday January 6, Dr. W.N. Lackey lectured to the Gallatin High School Science Club on Communicable Diseases. In his talk Dr. Lackey discussed the history and improvement of health conditions in Sumner County. The causes, prevention and cure of typhoid fever, tuberculosis, diphtheria, smallpox, measles, whooping cough were explained in particular. This lecture by Dr. Lackey was both entertaining and interesting.

Lions Club Sponsors Stunt Night

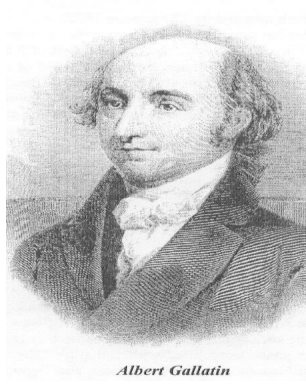
Plans were drawn up for a county-wide Stunt Night to be given February 3 at Howard Auditorium.

Various schools of the county will give stunts. Prizes will be awarded.

This should help develop the students' talents and furnish a night of gala entertainment for all.
—The Sumner County News

"James Clendenning, Kasper Mansker, William Edwards, William Bowen, Captain James Wilson, son of John Wilson; James Frazier, Moro Stephenson, William Gillespie, James White, Wetherel Lattimore and John Morgan, Commissioners, to make choice of a place most convenient in the county of Sumner, to purchase land, erect a court-house, prison and stocks, and establish a town thereon, having respect to the center of said county, which is not to exceed, more than twenty-five miles, on a direct line from a ford on Mansker's creek, on the road leading from Mansker's Lick to Bledsoe's Lick."

Appointed Secretary of the Treasury in 1801 by President Jefferson and continuing under President James Madison until 1814, Albert Gallatin was in office nearly thirteen years, the longest term of any Secretary in the Department's history.



On October 26, 1799, the above act was repealed, Sumner county was reduced to its constitutional limits, and "David Shelby, David Beard, Sr., James Crier, Edward Guinn and Captain James Wilson, son of John Wilson, were appointed Commissioners to purchase sixty acres of land, on some part of which shall be erected a court-house, prison and stocks, and that the town be given the name Rutherford," in honor of General Griffith Rutherford.

On November 6, 1801, an act was passed by the Legislature providing that the "public

buildings of Sumner county shall be established and erected at one of three hereinafter named places, situated and lying on the east fork of Station Camp Creek, viz.: On the place known by the name of Dickens, now said to be the property of John C. Hamilton, Esq., or at the place of Captain James Trousdale, whereon he now lives, lying on the road that leads from Major David Wilson's to John Dawson's; or at the place whereon David Shelby now lives."

Samuel Donelson, Shadrack Nye, James Wilson, "Curly, son of Samuel Wilson;" Charles Donaho, Esq., and Major Thomas Murray were by this act appointed Commissioners. It was further provided by the act that "the town so laid off should be known by the name of Gallatin," in honor of Albert Gallatin. Thus, Gallatin became the permanent county seat. It was not incorporated until November 7, 1815.

ROGER WATERS awoke yesterday to reviews judging him not as the famous co-founder of Pink Floyd but as an aspiring composer of opera.

His new incarnation is as composer of **Ça Ira**, a three-act opera about the French Revolution that took 16 years to write.
—The London Times November 19, 2005

The author of the original words "*Ah ! ça ira, ça ira, ça ira*", Ladré, was a former soldier who made a living as a street singer.

The music is a popular contredanse air called *le Carillon national*, and was composed by Bécourt, a violinist (according to other sources: side drum player) of the théâtre Beaujolais. The queen Marie Antoinette herself is said to have often played the music on her harpsichord.

The song first became popular as a worksong during the preparation for the Fête de la Fédération of 1790 and eventually became recognized as an unofficial anthem of revolutionaries.

Lyrics Ca Ira

Oh. It'll be okay, be okay, be okay,
Hang the aristocrats from on high!
Oh. It'll be okay, be okay, be okay,
The aristocrats, we'll hang 'em all.

Despotism will breathe its last,
Liberty will take the day,
Oh. It'll be okay, be okay, be okay,
We don't have any more nobles or priests,
Oh. It'll be okay, be okay, be okay,

Equality will reign everywhere,
The Austrian slave will follow him,
To the Devil will they fly.
Oh. It'll be okay, be okay, be okay,



1912 Anderson School House on Dobbins Pike

Left to right, front row, Calibora Branham, ? ? ? , Louise Webb, Camie Branham, Willie Branham, Wesley Branham, Floyd Ryan, Lizzie Collins, Mabel Collins, Emma Collins, ?, Hermand Durham; Second row: Ray Brooks, Maynard Gregory, Minnie Branham, Margie Davis, Daisy Ausbrooks, Perilee Brown, Esma Allison, Annie Lizzie Branham, Gracie Collins, Beulah Bell Brooks, ? ?, Oley Branham. Third row: Clayton Allison, Cecil Collins, Will Harris, Jean (?) Harris, Wesley Rippy, Earl Dobbs, Ezra Hobbs, Douglas Crowder, Odell Webb, Odell Ausbrooks, Tabatha Brooks, Birdie Ryan, Baby Mable Hughes, Zettie Hodges, Erskine Ausbrooks, Paul Swallows, Homer Anderson. Fourth row: hugh Allison, Clayton Harris, Ernest Dobbs, Abe Adcock, _____Anderson, Clarence Brooks, John Branham, _____Brooks, George Ryan, Carrie Brooks, ? Jim Branham, Altha Brooks, George Ryan, Carrie Brooks, Johnny Hall, Annie Mae Adcock, Dewey Ryan, Arthur Law, Mitchell Crowder and teacher Willie Reddick.

—Thanks to Mrs. Jean Brazzell for providing a newspaper clipping from which this photo was reproduced. Mrs. Brazzell points out that some of the Allison children pictured here were killed in the Liberty Tornado of 1925, see page one.

The Old Sumner County Times-Record is the ONLY FREE newspaper distributed all over the County . . . From Portland to Hendersonville and everywhere in-between

Excerpt of Mary Agnes Huddleston's 1967 award-winning essay

“Peace can only be obtained through international cooperation and faith in God.

It is useless to hope for peace in the world, if first we are not reconciled to God and His will. Peace is not conceivable apart from Him, because peace is the fruit of the spirit. The real instruments of peace therefore, are those who believe in the Prince of Peace. He will help us to live in peace with our friends and neighbors of whatever race or beliefs of government.

”

The top winners in the International Peace Essay Contest sponsored by the Lions Club have been announced with the first place winner now competing in the National contest. From left to right are Mrs. Mary Stewart; Genne R. Hanna, second place winner; Gallatin High School Principal Dan Herron; Union High Principal John Malone; Mary Huddleston, first place winner, and Mrs. Evelyn Hall. Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Hall were the sponsors of the two winners.

Union soldier, stationed in Gallatin, writes home to Indiana, May 17th, 1863

Ed. Note: thanks to Jerry Lumpkins of Gallatin for providing the original letter from his collection. We have transcribed it as written with no added punctuation or spelling correction.

On Picket—one miles from Gallatin, Tennessee

May 17th 1863

Dear Cousin Sarah

Whilst I am on picket and no person to interrupt me I will endeavor to pen you a few lines to let you all know how one recruit of the webfooted seventieth is he is alright—as far as I can recommend he is well and able for his nation and redy to hear from some of his friends also old Ripple there is nothing going on here at this time of any importance. Sometimes we have to go with the teams foraging being the old Gen. thinks the Yankees of Ind is the only troops that any trust can be put in there are two ill and one Ohio Regiments here and none so trusty as the 70th. You may think I am gassing but I am not. The old Gen. was _____ to see us the other evening being as

he has been to all the other Regt in this Brig he says our boys can drill the nicest of any ones he seen on parade drill. I've — to be pretty good _____ Col. Has us out before breakfast every morning and drills one hour and company drill at nine Battallion at two until 4 then _____only the line don't do nothing else and go through the manual of arms. Well Sarah I expect you think hard of me but I cannot help it if you do—that shirt you sent to me I was truly glad to get it I am a thousand times oblige to you for it I will have to close for it is getting late and it will soon be dark

Nothing more only give my respects to Miss Becca Woodyard and the rest—of inquiring

Yours as ever

J. H. Newton

Mr. Newton was killed some months later in the Battle of Atlanta.



Special passes needed to cross sentry picket lines, bear arms, during Civil War

The soldier writing home above stood picket duty, meaning he and his fellow soldiers were in charge of who was allowed to come and go from Sumner County to Nashville or other places outside the guarded perimeters established by the occupying Union forces.

Below are photographs of actual passes granting passage outside Gallatin and Sumner County.

The first is hardly legible, and is dated 1863.

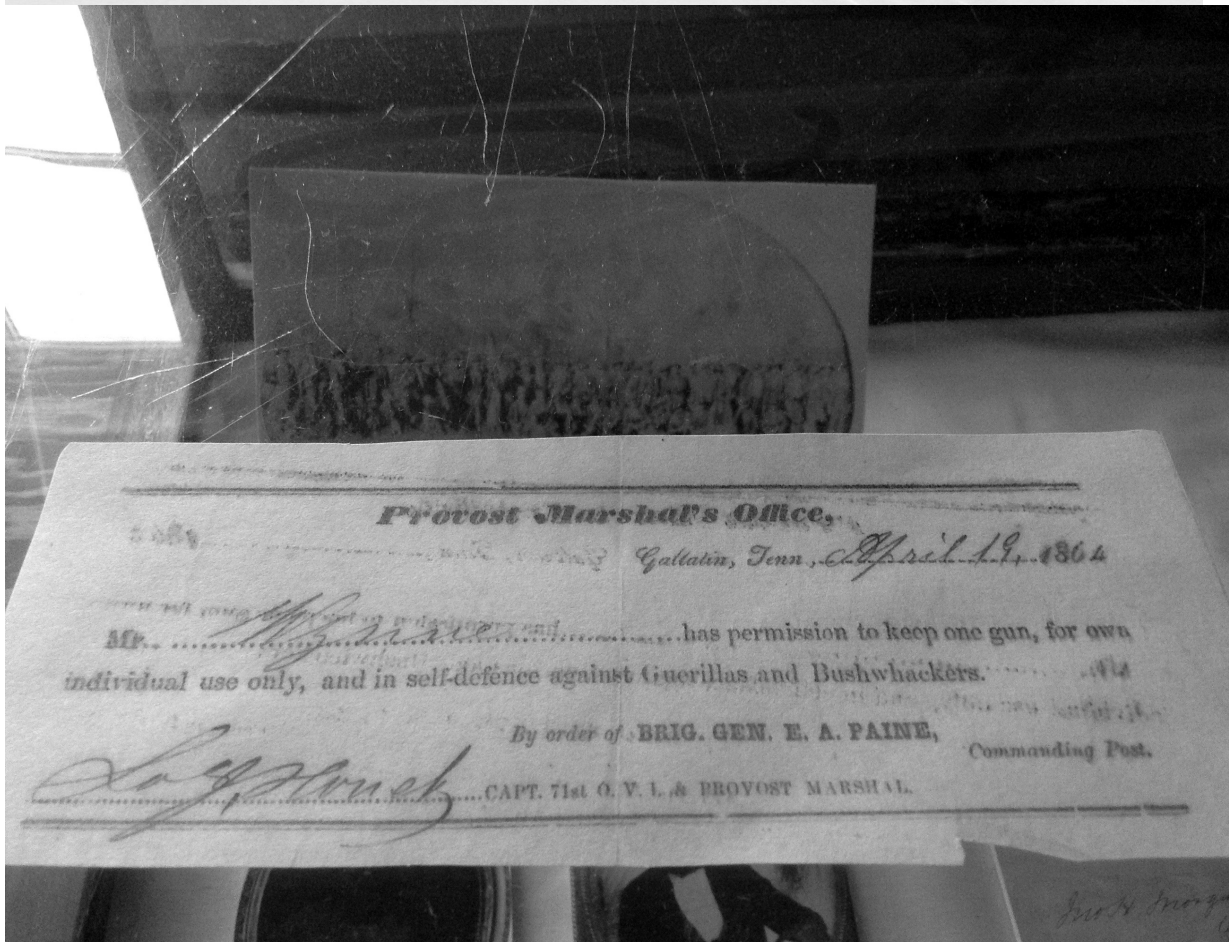
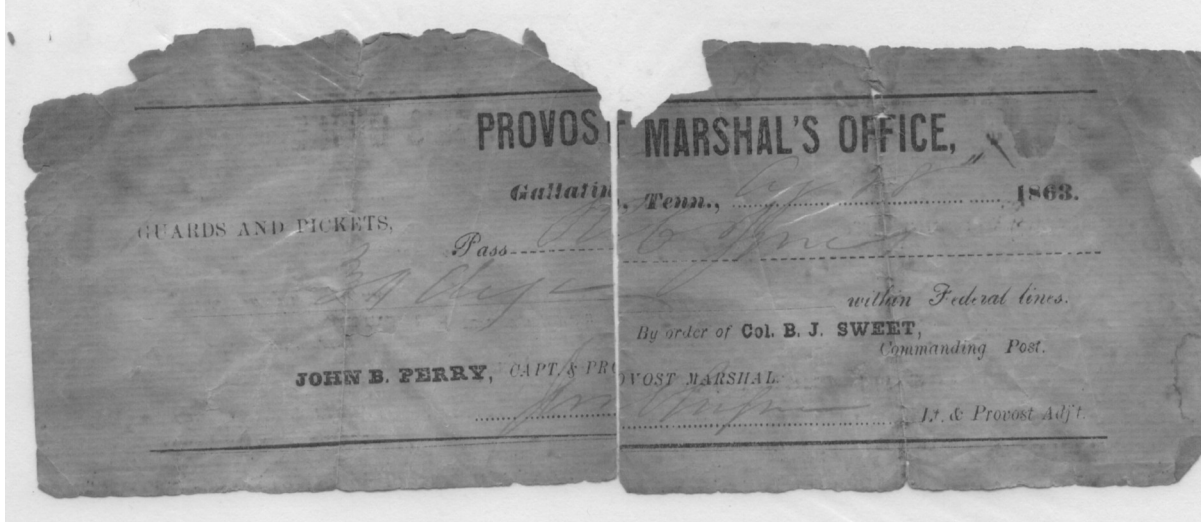
The second is a pass granted to Col. Alfred Wynne of Wynnewood in Castalian Springs.

Although Col. Wynne had commanded a Tennessee State Militia force of 1200 men

prior to the Civil War, as a civilian under martial law during the Civil War, Wynne, like any other citizen under occupation had to have a special pass in order to own a gun to defend his home and loved ones.

The pass, on display at Wynnewood, reads Wynne has permission to “keep one gun for own individual use only and in self-defense against guerillas and bushwackers.”

Pictured top right, the actual envelope with Gallatin postmark, counter-clock-wise, the actual letter; a pass, courtesy Jerry Lumpkins ; Col. Wynne’s pass, courtesy Wynnewood. At right, drawing of a picket, c. 1862.



Wynnewood Site Director Rick Hendrix, above, with some of the artifacts and treasures of Wynnewood. Hendrix says a “Dendrochronologist” from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville is scheduled to visit the historic site this Spring to study the log structures on the property for proper and exact dating . Some are believed to date back to 1772.

About Wynnewood.....located in Castalian Springs, open to public

The handsome log inn was erected in 1828 by A.R. Wynne, William Cage, and Stephen Roberts on land owned by Wynne's wife, Almira Winchester Wynne, to serve as a stagecoach inn and mineral springs resort. A log cabin attached to the rear of the inn was erected by Isaac Bledsoe during the period of 1772-1780 when he came to this area as a hunter.

In 1834, Wynne purchased the interest of his two partners. He and his family moved into the inn and resided there until his death in 1893. Ownership of Wynnewood remained in the family until 1971 when George Winchester Wynne, grandson of the builder, conveyed it to the State of Tennessee for preservation as a historic site.

A.R. Wynne received guests at Wynnewood throughout his lifetime. By the 1840s he had built a row of cottages on the lawn east of the inn and set up a race course in the bottom near Lick Creek. Most guests were attracted by the medicinal qualities of the mineral waters but one frequent visitor, Andrew Jackson, was attracted by the race course and he usually brought a favorite thoroughbred to run against one of Wynne's horses.

During the Civil War Wynnewood was not molested although both Union and Confederate armies passed by its front doors as they hastened along the road between engagements at Hartsville and Gallatin. During the years of Union army occupation, there was a fortified camp complete with earthworks located on Wynne's place about one half mile southwest of the inn.

—<http://www.bledsoeslick.com/wynnewood.htm>

History Here and Now

The mysteries of Solomon Wren, 1804 U.S. Marine hero, and the old hickory tree at Wynnewood

The **USS Wren** was a *Fletcher*-class destroyer of the United States Navy and was commissioned on May 20, 1944.

The **Wren** is the namesake of Sergeant Solomon Wren, USMC who took part in the raid into Tripoli Harbor during the First Barbary War in 1804.

Wren is buried in Sumner County, where he died on February 2, 1839.

The mystery concerns his occupation and activities from the time of his discharge from the Marines in 1805 up until his death in Sumner County.

This much is known, courtesy of area historians **Kenneth Thomson** and **John Garrott** and internet source Wikipedia and www.navsource.org:

Wren was born in Loudon County, Virginia in 1777, the son of **Wm. Wren** and **Mary Tomlinson**.

He married **Lucretia Booth**, who died in 1865 in Metcalf County, Kentucky. As late as 1860 she was residing in Sumner County.

Wren had three children, one of whom was **Mary Jane**. She married **Andrew Jackson Ellis** of Sumner County in 1858.

In 1862 Ellis was murdered on Gallatin's East Main Street by Yankees. (This would have been at the time of Gallatin's brutal occupation.) He died at the home of **Capt. Robert Bennett**.

A hickory tree was planted on the grounds of Wynnewood in the early 1800s to honor Andrew Jackson, a great friend of Alfred Wynne.

What is not known, is the exact date the tree was planted.

Some say it was in honor of Jackson's election to the presidency of the United States in 1828, others say it was in 1845 upon his death.

In about 1910 the tree was struck by lightning and destroyed. Efforts were made to replace the tree by Col. Wynne's grandson George, but that tree died.

The location of the old tree used to be known because of reference points denoted by other trees on the property, but since many trees were destroyed in the 2008 tornado that demolished much of Wynnewood, it is now speculative as to where the old hickory tree ever was.



May 9, 1940, The Sumner County News

Census Shows County Growing

According to a census report received this morning, the population of Gallatin within the city limits is now 5,057. The census ten years ago showed 3,100. Twenty-six births were listed since January 1, 1940.

Every district so far in Sumner County has shown a very noticeable increase in population.

Sidney Hix New Editor

Sidney Hix was announced as editor of the Vanderbilt *Hustler*.

Square Dance at Sideview

Square Dance to be held Friday May 10 at Sideview School. The public is invited.

Save Your Tobacco Beds!

Perkins Drug Store and Jennings B. Duncan, prescription druggist say "save your tobacco

beds" with advertised Cuprocide for Blue Mold. Government Formula.

Red Cross Needs Knitters!

Knitters were asked to meet Friday morning at the Legion Hall of the courthouse to receive instructions and yarn for making sweaters for the European refugees. An urgent call has been issued from the National Red Cross for these unfortunate people and as usual the local chapter will do its part....please do yours!

Old White Shoes renewed snow white, 25 and 35 cents, says Gallatin Shoe Hospital.

Capt. Clyde Bell, United States Cavalry, has recently received his promotion to Major. Major Bell has been located in Kansas for some time and will leave this summer for the Hawaiian Islands and will be stationed in Honolulu.

Clyde was reared in Sumner County and graduated from Hawkins School here. He later attended the University of Tennessee and received an appointment to West Point. He has many friends here who will be gratified at his success in the Army.

Youth Service at Presbyterian Church

Youth week was observed Sunday Night. Sponsored by the Rotary Club this service is an

annual event. A large audience attended and Rev. E.H. Hendricks preached the sermon on the subject "What Will I Get Out of Life?" The benediction was pronounced by Elder H.L. Olmstead.

American Legion Meeting

The meeting is postponed on account of the boat ride sponsored by the Gallatin High School Band and the Junior Farm Bureau.

Gallatin Aviation Club plans to expand

The Gallatin Aviation Club, Inc., which was organized several months ago, added six associate members yesterday. With the purchase of a Cub plane two months ago, the six members have made rapid progress and every member has made a solo flight and holds a solo license.

Albert Gasser of the Nashville Flying Service is the instructor. The members are Keller Anderson, Jr., president; Hunter Mir, secretary; A.N. Fuller, Herman Baulch, Cecil Morris and Cordell Neal, directors. The club is planning an Air Circus, the date to be announced later in this paper.

Ed. Note: If any reader has knowledge of the Gallatin Aviation Club activities or has photos, we would appreciate having the opportunity to view and perhaps publish them.



Sumner County Museum Board Installed at March Meeting

Judge Tom Gray, at right, officiated at the swearing-in of new Board members, left to right, Kendall Tuttle, Bob Shults, Danny Sullivan (Chairman), Jerry Lumpkins, Grady Eades and Molly Gregory. Not pictured, Stella Pierce and Kurt McBee.

Museum director is Juanita Frazor and Curator is Allen Haynes.

Thanks to Allen Haynes for submitting this photo.

Photo 2013



Did You Miss Us in October? The Gallatin Ghost Walk

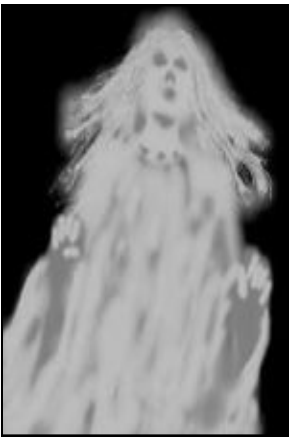
The popular history and mystery tour of downtown Gallatin, "The Most Haunted Public Square in America" and its environs will resume this October!

Meanwhile, we offer **private tours** at your convenience for **groups of 15 or more**.

gallatinghostwalk.blogspot.com

Educational and fun.

The Ghost Walk is family-friendly and is not a 'spook house' venue. It is currently in its eighth year.



Info and
Reservations
615-512-5299



Keele new member of Bate Camp

Wm. B. Bate Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, welcomes new member Johnny Keele, retired Hendersonville Police Department officer. Presenting Keele with his membership certificate is former Camp Commander Frank Heathman, left.

2013 photo by Eve Davenport Holder

The Sumner County News, February 6, 1967

Portland Strawberry Festival Set for May 20

Plans are progressing for the biggest Strawberry Festival ever held in Portland. At a recent meeting, outlines for the selling of ads for the catalog were made, bands, ROTC units, Middle Tennessee Strawberry Festival Queen, and many colorful floats make up this outstanding parade, which is a highlight of the festivities.

May 20 has been set for the date for the parade and anyone interested in entering a float is asked to contact the Float Chairman, A.B. Butt, Jr.

The Band Boosters are selling the ads for the catalog and all proceeds will go toward the Portland High School Band.

Yank or Reb, We Can Help You Find Your Civil War Soldier Ancestor

The General William B. Bate Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans extends an invitation to all gentlemen of Sumner County interested in researching their family tree to find their soldier ancestor.

For more information on the SCV and our ancestry research program, contact Camp Commander Randy P. Lucas at 615-451-1013 or email BateCamp34@comcast.net



Website: <http://tennessee-scv.org/Camp34>
Or on facebook at
www.facebook.com/GeneralWilliamBateCamp34SCV

‘Are you a member of the Ku Klux, General’

Printed in the Cincinnati Commercial, August 28, 1868, with his reply. Interview was done through correspondence between reporter and General Forrest.

In August, 1868, a mild sensation was created by the publication in the Cincinnati Commercial of a news-letter from its traveling correspondent who was then in Memphis, and who reported an interview with General Nathan Bedford Forrest on the subject of the Ku Klux Klan, then a subject of absorbing interest throughout the entire country. This news article was as follows:

Memphis, Tenn., August 28, 1868.

To-day I have enjoyed 'big talks' enough to have gratified any of the famous Indian chiefs who have been treating with General Sherman for the past two years. First I met General N. B. Forrest, then General Gideon A. Pillow, and Governor Isham G. Harris. My first visit was to General Forrest, whom I found at his office, at 8 o'clock this morning, hard at work, although complaining of an illness contracted at the New York convention. The New Yorkers must be a bad set indeed, for I have not met a single delegate from the Southern States who has not been ill ever since he went there. But to General Forrest. Now that the southern people have elevated him to the position of their great leader and oracle, it may not be amiss to preface my conversation with him with a brief sketch of the gentleman.

I cannot better personally describe him than by borrowing the language of one of his biographers. In person he is six feet one inch and a half in height, with broad shoulders, a full chest, and symmetrical, muscular limbs; erect in carriage, and weighs one hundred and eighty five pounds; dark-gray eyes, dark hair, mustache and beard worn upon the chin; a set of regular white teeth, and clearly cut features; which, altogether, make him rather a handsome man for one forty-seven years of age.

“I think (the United States of America) is the best government in the world if administered as it was before the war. I do not hate it; I am opposing now only the radical revolutionists who are trying to destroy it”

Previous to the war - in 1852 - he left the business of planter, and came to this city and engaged in the business of 'negro trader,' in which traffic he seems to have been quite successful, for, by 1861, he had become the owner of two plantations a few miles below here, in Mississippi, on which he produced about a thousand bales of cotton each year, in the meantime carrying on the negro-trading. In June, 1861, he was authorized by Governor Harris to recruit a regiment of cavalry for the war, which he did, and which was the nucleus around which he gathered the army which he commanded as lieutenant general at the end of the war.

After being seated in his office, I said:

'General Forrest, I came especially to learn your views in regard to the condition of your civil and political affairs in the State of Tennessee, and the South generally. I desire them for publication in the Cincinnati Commercial. I do not wish to misinterpret you in the slightest degree, and therefore only ask for such views as you are willing I should publish.'

'I have not now,' he replied, 'and never have had, any opinion on any public or political subject which I would object to having published. I mean what I say, honestly and earnestly, and only object to being misrepresented. I dislike to be placed before the country in a false position, especially as I have not sought the reputation I have gained.'

I replied: 'Sir, I will publish only what you say, and then you can not possibly be misrepresented. Our people desire to know your feelings toward the General Government, the State government of Tennessee, the radical party, both in and out of the State, and upon the question of negro suffrage.'

'Well, sir,' said he, 'when I surrendered my seven thousand men in 1865, I accepted a parole honestly, and I have observed it faithfully up to to-day. I have counseled peace in all the speeches I have made. I have advised my people to submit to the laws of the State, oppressive as they are, and unconstitutional as I believe them to be. I was paroled and not pardoned until the issuance of the last proclamation of general amnesty; and, therefore, did not think it prudent for me to take any active part until the oppression of my people became so great that they could not endure it, and then I would be with them. My friends thought differently, and sent me to New York, and I am glad I went there.'

'Then, I suppose, general, that you think the oppression has become so great that your people should no longer bear it.'

'No,' he answered, 'It is growing worse hourly, yet I have said to the people "Stand fast, let us try to right the wrong by legislation." A few weeks ago I was called to Nashville to counsel with other gentlemen who had been prominently identified with the cause of the confederacy, and we then offered pledges which we thought would be satisfactory to Mr. Brownlow and his legislature, and we told them that, if they would not callout the militia, we would agree to preserve order and see that the laws were enforced. The legislative committee certainly led me to believe that our proposition would be accepted and no militia organized. Believing this, I came home, and advised all of my people to remain peaceful, and to offer no resistance to any reasonable law, It is true that I never have recognized the present government in Tennessee as having any legal existence, yet I was willing to submit to it for a time, with the hope that the wrongs might be righted peaceably.'

'What are your feelings towards the Federal Government, general?'

'I loved the old Government in 1861; I love the Constitution yet.

I think it is the best government in the world if administered as it was before the war. I do not hate it; I am opposing now only the radical revolutionists who are trying to destroy it. I believe that party to be composed, as I know it is in Tennessee, of the worst men on God's earth - men who would hesitate at no crime, and who have only one object in view, to enrich themselves,'

'In the event of Governor Brownlow's calling out the militia, do you think there will be any resistance offered to their acts?' I asked.

'That will depend upon circumstances. If the militia are simply called out, and do not interfere with or molest anyone, I do not think there will be any fight. If, on the contrary, they do what I believe they will do, commit outrages, or even one outrage, upon the people, they and Mr. Brownlow's government will be swept out of existence; not a radical will be left alive. If the militia are called out, we can not but look upon it as a declaration of war, because Mr. Brownlow has already issued his proclamation directing them to shoot down the Ku Klux wherever they find them; and he calls all southern men Ku Klux.'

'Why, general, we people up north have regarded the Ku Klux as an organization which existed only in the frightened imaginations of a few politicians.'

'Well, sir, there is such an organization, not only in Tennessee but allover the South, and its numbers have not been exaggerated.'

'What are its numbers, general?'

'In Tennessee there are over forty thousand; in all the Southern States about five hundred and fifty thousand men.'

'What is the character of the organization, may I inquire?'

Yes, sir. It is a protective, political, military organization. I am willing to show any man the constitution of the society. The members are sworn to recognize the Government of the United States. It does not say anything at all about the government of the State of Tennessee. Its objects originally were protection against Loyal Leagues* and the Grand Army of the Republic; but after it became general it was found that political matters and interests could best be promoted within it, and it was then made a political organization, giving its support, of course, to the democratic party.'

'But is the organization connected throughout the State?'

'Yes, it is. In each voting precinct there is a captain, who, in addition to his other duties, is required to make out a list of names of men in his precinct, giving all the radicals and all the democrats who are positively known, and showing also the doubtful on both sides and of both colors. This list of names is forwarded to the grand commander of the State, who is thus enabled to know who are our friends and who are not.'

'Can you, or are you at liberty to, give me the name of the commanding officer of this state?'

'No; it would be impolitic.'

'Then I suppose there would be no doubt of a conflict if the militia interfere with the people; is that your view?'

'Yes, sir; if they attempt to carry out Governor Brownlow's proclamation by shooting down Ku Klux - for he calls all southern men Ku Klux - if they go to hunting down and shooting these men, there will be war, and a bloodier one than we have ever witnessed.

. I have told these radicals here what they might expect in such an event. I have no powder to burn killing negroes. I intend to kill the radicals. I have told them this and more. There is not a radical leader in this town but is a marked man; and if a trouble should break out, not one of them would be left alive. I have told them that they were trying to create a disturbance and then slip out and leave the consequences to fall upon the negro; but they can't do it. Their houses are picketed, and when the fight comes not one of them would ever get out of this town alive. We don't intend they shall ever get out of the country. But I want it distinctly understood that I am opposed to any war, and will only fight in self-defense. If the militia attack us, we will resist to the last; and, if necessary, I think I could raise 40,000 men in five days, ready for the field.'

“I have said to the people "Stand fast, let us try to right the wrong by legislation." I loved the old Government in 1861; I love the Constitution yet.”

'Do you think, general, that the Ku Klux have been of any benefit to the State?'

'No doubt of it. Since its organization the leagues have quit killing and murdering our people. There were some foolish young men who put masks on their faces and rode over the country frightening negroes; but orders have been issued to stop that, and it has ceased. You may say further that three members of the Ku Klux have been court-martialed and shot for violations of the orders not to disturb or molest people.'

'Are you a member of the Ku Klux, general?'

'I am not; but am in sympathy and will cooperate with them. I know they are charged with many crimes they are not guilty of: A case in point is the killing of Bierfield at Franklin, a few days ago.'" I sent a man up there especially to investigate the case, and report to me, and I have his letter here now, in which he states that they had nothing to do with it as an organization.'

'What do you think of negro suffrage?'

'I am opposed to it under any and all circumstances, and in our convention urged our party not to commit themselves at all upon the subject. If the negroes vote to enfranchise us, I do not think I would favor their disfranchisement. We will stand by those who help us. And here I want you to understand distinctly I am not an enemy to the negro. We want him here among us; he is the only laboring class we have; and, more than that, I would sooner trust him

“I want you to understand distinctly I am not an enemy to the negro. We want him here among us; he is the only laboring class we have; and, more than that, I would sooner trust him than the white scalawag or carpetbagger.”

than the white scalawag or carpetbagger. When I entered the army I took forty-seven negroes into the army with me, and forty- five of them were surrendered with me. I said to them at the start: 'This fight is against slavery; if we lose it, you will be made free; if we whip the fight, and you stay with me and be good boys, I will set you free; in either case you will be free.' These boys stayed with me, drove my teams, and better confederates did not live.'

'Do you think the Ku Klux will try to intimidate the negroes at the election?'

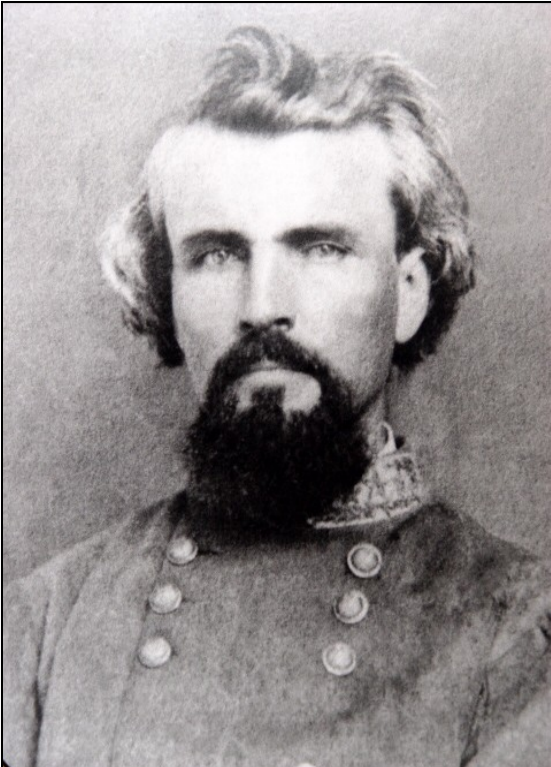
'I do not think they will. Why, I made a speech at Brownsville the other day, and while there a lieutenant who served with me came to me and informed me that a band of radicals had been going through the country claiming to be Ku Klux, and disarming the negroes, and then selling their arms. I told him to have the matter investigated, and, if true, to have the parties arrested.'

'What do you think is the effect of the amnesty granted to your people?'

'I believe that the amnesty restored all the rights to the people, full and complete. I do not think the Federal Government has the right to disfranchise any man, but I believe that the legislatures of the States have. The objection I have to the disfranchisement in Tennessee is, that the legislature, which enacted the law, had no constitutional existence, and the law in itself is a nullity. Still I would respect it until changed by law. But there is a limit beyond which men can not be driven, and I am ready to die sooner than

sacrifice my honor. This thing must have an end, and it is now about time for that end to come.'
.....continued on page eight

“If they attempt to carry out Governor Brownlow's proclamation by shooting down Ku Klux - for he calls all southern men Ku Klux - if they go to hunting down and shooting these men, there will be war, and a bloodier one than we have ever witnessed”



Forrest was a prominent planter, real estate investor and slave trader in Memphis before the war. On July 14, 1861, he enlisted as a Private in Co. E of Josiah White's Tennessee Mounted Rifles. Tennessee Governor Isham Harris commissioned Forrest as a Lieutenant Colonel to raise a battalion of Confederate Mounted Rangers. Forrest paid from his own pocket to equip his battalion. In October 1861 his battalion was increased to a Regiment. Even though he had no formal military education, Forrest was a gifted cavalry commander eventually rising to the rank of Lieutenant General commanding a corps of cavalry. He was widely acclaimed as one of the finest cavaly commanders of the war, adored by his men and feared by his enemies. Northern forces often called him “that devil Forrest” and he is widely known as “Wizard of the Saddle.”

Founder of KKK?
No.
Member?
Probably.

The KKK was formed in 1866 in Pulaski, Tennessee by six Confederate veterans and soon spread throughout the South. It was formed in response to the post-war disenfranchisement and inability to serve in public office of former Confederates. It has been reported that Nathan Bedford Forrest became involved with the Klan in April, 1867 at a meeting in the Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville and is said to have become its head or Grand Wizard. The Klan operated against local public officials it felt were carpetbaggers and scallywags. As the election of 1868 approached with former Confederates still disenfranchised, Klan violence increased. Forrest and twelve other Klan members sent Governor Brownlow a petition pledging to end Klan violence if former Confederates were restored the vote. Brownlow refused. When Brownlow was elected as Senator in 1868, the new Governor restored the franchise to former Confederates and Forrest ordered the Klan dissolved.

*During Reconstruction, Loyal, (or Union) Leagues were formed across the South after 1867 as working auxiliaries of the Republican Party. They mobilized freedmen to register to vote and to vote Republican. They discussed political issues, promoted civic projects, and mobilized workers opposed to certain employers. Most branches were segregated but there were a few that were racially integrated. The leaders of the all-black units were mostly urban blacks from the North, who had never been slaves.

** S.A. Bierfield was a Russian Jewish immigrant who ran a dry goods store in Franklin, Tennessee. He was a Radical Republican who was believed to be organizing an African American militia which had been accused of murdering a white by the name of Ezell. On August 15, 1868, a group of armed masked horsemen seized Mr. Bierfield in his shop along with his black clerk, Lawrence Bowman, and shot them several times causing their deaths.

*** Brownlow, see page eight

Fairview, 1939

A New York architect visits the mansion, sketches its exterior and offers a drawing of the floor plan; describes rooms and lands during a rare time when the mansion was vacant

Near Station Camp on the Nashville-Gallatin Turnpike, in the same neighborhood as the Peytons, are the lands of the Franklins, whose names in the middle of the nineteenth century were famous from Tennessee to the Orient as horsemen. Fairview, which I was about to visit, was a famous house of that clan.

...so homelike, important and unmistakably private are (these ancestral homes) one hesitates to disturb the household by requesting an interview, the permission to photograph, sketch, or otherwise snoop in their peaceful situation.

After a preliminary survey in which I had examined two elevations and found their openings barred, I heard sounds decidedly out of keeping with this scene of loneliness....there perched on stone steps was a lone darkey endeavouring to extract music from a newly purchased guitar....in order to gain an audience, (I) offered to teach him a few chords if he would assist me in getting into the house...s(after fulfilling both sides of the bargain) he motioned with a nod of his head and said, "I think the doe's unbarred — I don't belong here." Sure enough the door was unlocked and I took possession of Fairview for the day.

"It is interesting to note that on the walls of the attic there remain the names of many Federal soldiers, traced there in candle smoke at the time of their occupancy of the house during the (Civil) War."

Standing back in order to take in the gigantic west façade, one is impressed by the graceful silhouette that combines two different but masterfully joined types of architecture. The original or main section is typical of that dignified form so prevalent in Middle Tennessee plantation houses. The featured entrance conventionally follows its contemporaries in that it is formed by a white panel extending from ground to roof in the center of the house, made up of first-and second-floor porches between two sets of super-imposed, simple white columns and terminating in a delicate pediment. Its whiteness is exaggerated, especially in the late afternoon, when the setting sun illuminates the columns, pediments, and balustrade, bringing them in sharp contrast with the soft salmon and red brick of the walls. To the right of the main section is the addition which consists of one long wing, stepping down in height as it extends southward. In contrast to the central portion, the wing is built in simple brick fashion suggesting the Spanish influence in the Feliciana country. There are broad arches containing carved wood balustrades behind which are deep and shady loggias serving the rooms. These loggias appear on both stories and continue across the front of the smoke house. Rich molded brick cornices are used at both first and second floor roof lines.

Inside is a large center hall extending through the house to another featured entrance to the east, duplicating the west one with even the treatment of the two-story west porch being repeated. The focal point of the center hall is the sweeping stairway separating the west and east entrances in such a manner as to form a front and rear entrance foyer. To the left of the hall are the two parlors, characterized by the large, sliding doors separating them, high ceilings and marble mantels. To the right are the music room and dining room, separated by a secondary stair hall (added later) connecting the main section with the kitchens, and the smokehouse. Access to the rooms of the wing on both the second and first flors is by two long loggias on both sides of the house. The lower floor of the wing is given over to storage space and two large kitchens which facilitated entertaining on a large scale.

The second floor is devoted to guests' rooms and storage. The attic over the original section is plastered and apparently was used for bedrooms when necessary. It is interesting to note that on the walls of the attic there remain the names of many Federal soldiers, traced there in candle smoke at the time of their occupancy of the house during the (Civil) War.

After passing through the house to view the remains of the gardens, outbuildings, racetrack and barns, one immediately finds himself reconstructing the scene of teeming activity, ranging from slaves cultivating the expansive gardens through the vital work of raising crops, to the lavish industry of breeding and racing fine horses. Inevitably one visualizes the master of Fairview as a strong, ambitious man.

Isaac Franklin, the builder, son of a pioneer settler neither rich nor poor, was born on Station Camp Creek in 1789. He was endowed with the spirit of conquest and at an early age began to build a fortune. He was among the first among Middle Tennessee planters to realize the lucrative possibilities in the raising and marketing of cotton. In this he anticipated the newcomers who were to flock into the South; men drawn there by their sudden realization that the climate and soil, together with slave labor, afforded great opportunity for those who could acquired the good land first.

Franklin's first purchase of land in the vicinity of Gallatin in 1831 comprised some two thousand acres, where he was able to build, a year later, the original section of Fairview. It was at that time conceded to be the finest house in Tennessee and as the years passed, he installed the many additional features which comprise the present house.

With the success which he enjoyed at Fairview came a desire to extend his operations afar. He went to Louisiana, where (I quote from *The Historic Blue Grass Line*) "in May 1835, he purchased a partner's half of nearly eight thousand acres in West Feliciana, upward of 200 slaves, and all of the stock necessary for the immense plantation. He immediately formed a partnership with a resident of the parish for the purpose of carrying on, as it was expressed, the business of planting upon several plantations situated in the Parish." A few years later, he became the "undivided proprietor of the vast plantations in which he was interested and had accumulated together more than five-sixths of his colossal fortune in immovable property."

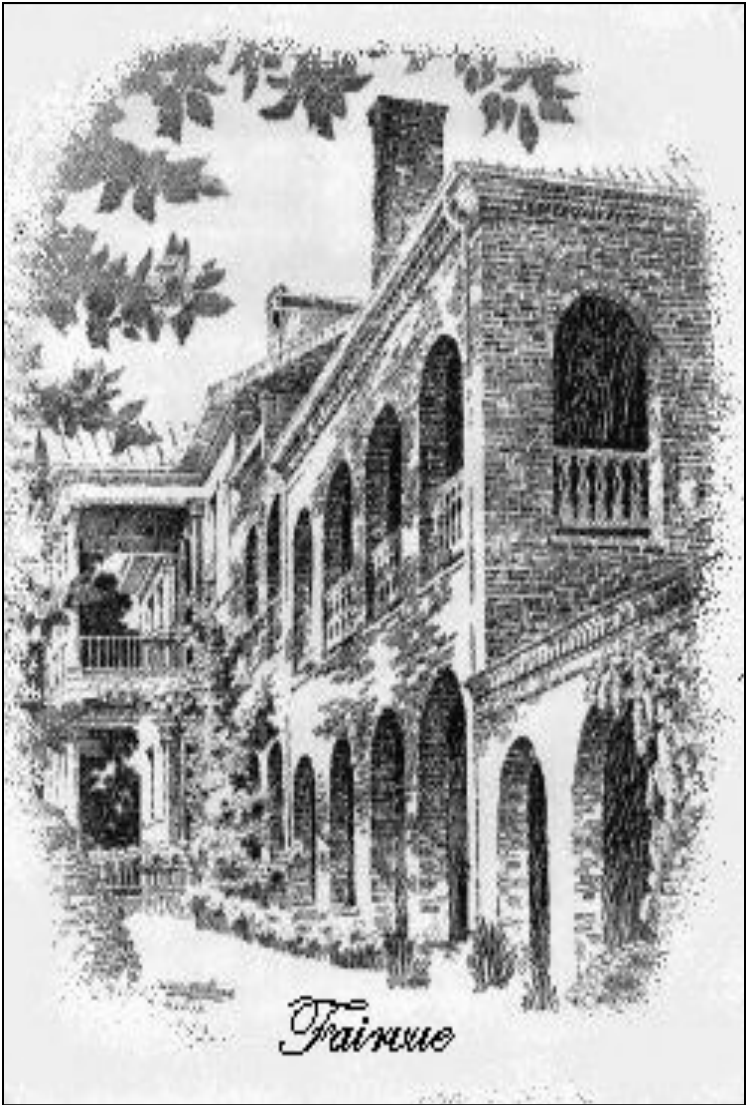
"(Isaac Franklin's) death in that year left his widow the wealthiest woman in America. During his busy life he had found time for cultural pursuits, and his philanthropies were greater even than those of Cornelius Vanderbilt, benefactor of education in Nashville."

In 1839 great changes took place at Fairview. A macadamized surface was put on the drive up to the house. More important by far, Isaac married Miss Adelia Hayes of Nashville, daughter of a prominent citizen. While we do not know definitely, we presume that it was in approximately this year that the addition to the right side of the house was made. Franklin needed more space in which to live and entertain in the style he had attained and which his wife had inherited, and it is reasonable to assume that the south wing was added after his years in the deep South.

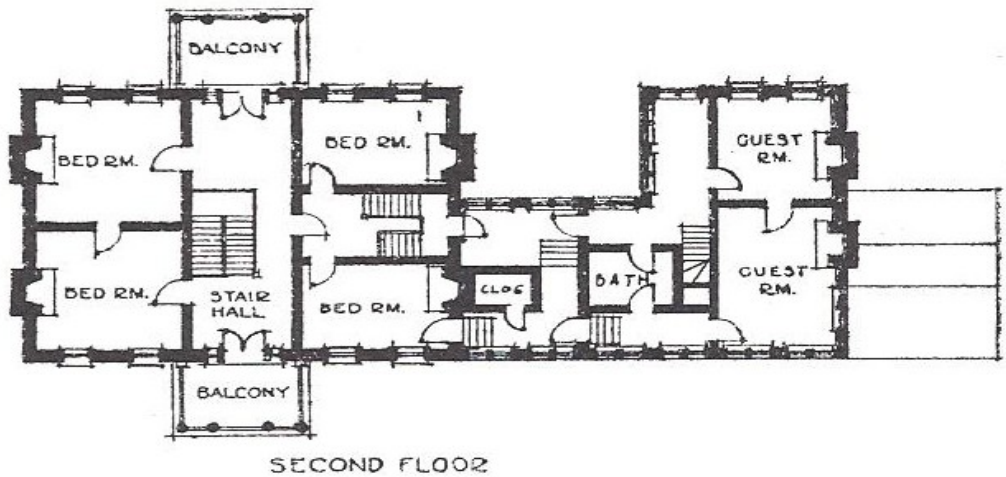
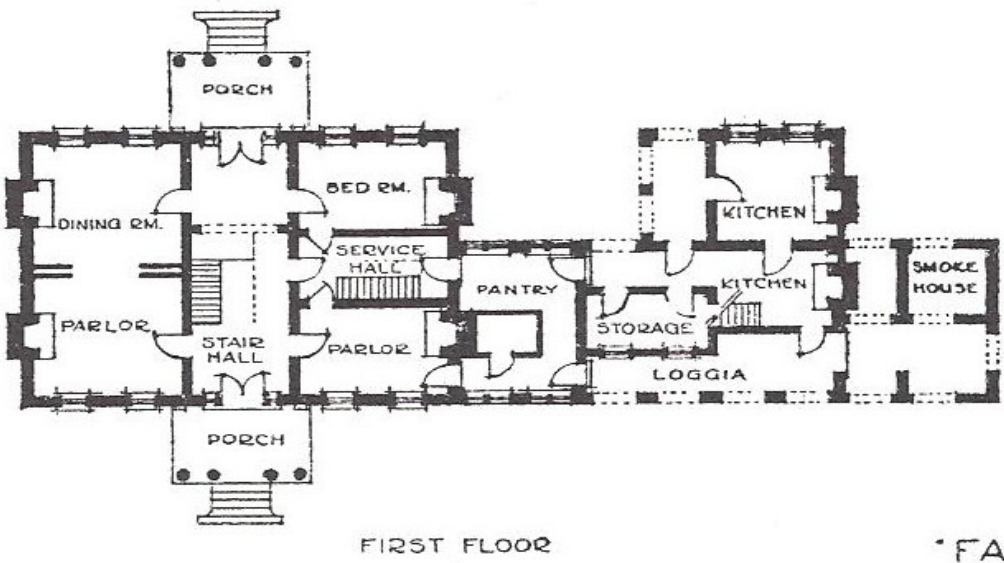
By 1846, Franklin had acquired still more land in Louisiana until his holdings numbered seven large plantations in West Feliciana Parish and hundreds of slaves, besides his investment at Fairview. His death in that year left his widow the wealthiest woman in America. During his busy life he had found time for cultural pursuits, and his philanthropies were greater even than those of Cornelius Vanderbilt, benefactor of education in Nashville.

I never think of Fairview without wondering if the guitar-playing negro ever mastered the "G" chord, as I was never quite sure I knew it myself.

——J. Frazer Smith
From his book, *White Pillars*



Ms. Suzanne Burns of Nashville portrays Adelia Acklen, mistress at Fairvue during the mid-1800s, in living histories and first-person presentations. She visited the Jethro Sumner chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Gallatin in March.
Photo by Eve Davenport Holder



The floor plan of Fairview as drawn in 1939 by architect J. Frazer Smith, A.I.A.

Hartsville correspondent John Lynn reflects on current weather

American humorist Charles Dudley Warner made this wry (and oft repeated) comment, “Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it.”

When it comes to weather in middle Tennessee, there's not much that you can do about it! Locally, people usually make this observation to newcomers, “Don't like the weather...well just wait a couple of days, cuz it'll change!”

And change it does!

Because of our location, right between the colder northern tier of states, and the hotter “Deep South,” we are right between two very different weather zones. Add to that, the fact that we are between the flat plains to our west and the Smokey Mountains to our east, and we are right between “tornado alley” and the more stable climate of East Tennessee.

No wonder our weather seems so unpredictable.

This spring has been unusual but so have our last five or six. Our last “frost-free” day is supposed to be April 15th....although it is not unheard of (and I have witnessed) frosts coming later than that. Last Spring we didn't have a hard frost in all of march.

So what gives?

Actually, weather is very “predictable” and at the same time, “unpredictable.”

Because we do keep records (Nashville officially began keeping weather records in October of 1870) we can make some concrete statements about the weather.

Unpredictable weather is, well, predictable

For instance, we have in middle Tennessee four distinct seasons: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. People who live further north or further south don't have that option. A friend of mine in Pennsylvania said that in Pittsburgh they have only two seasons, Winter and Mud. For a while my oldest brother lived in the Caribbean and there they had only one season, Summer.

When Spring begins is not, however, a specific date. We know that Spring travels north at a rate of thirty miles a day. That means that the redbuds blossom a day earlier thirty miles south of here and a day later thirty miles north of here...on average that is.

The difference between an early spring and a late Spring (regardless of whether the groundhog sees his shadow or not) is, according to Tennessee weather charts, as much as six weeks.

March weather typically runs between 40 and 60 degrees with April typically running between 50 and 70 degrees . . . So there is the weather pattern . . . It's just that we don't always stick to it. You can blame “global warming” if you like, but remember that another Ice Age could be just around the corner!

Middle Tennessee has a normal ebb and flow of weather systems and temperatures. Typically we have a few days of nice warm weather (thanks to warm winds from the Gulf of

Mexico) followed by a few days of cooler weather (thanks to the cold winds from the Arctic via the Jet Stream.)

This back and forth has given rise to the many “winters” we have here in Middle Tennessee, such as “redbud winter” or “blackberry winter.”

Traditionally we have here in Middle Tennessee five winters . . . That is a cold spell followed by a short warm spell recognizable by the blooming of a certain plant or tree. The first is “redbud winter,” when the local redbuds bloom alongside the roadways or on the edge of the woods.

Next is 'dogwood winter,” the dogwood also being a tree that grows on the edge of the forest, but also planted in yards for Spring color. That is followed by “locust winter,” as Tennessee is home to several species of locust trees.

Our fourth winter is “blackberry winter,” taking its name from the countless blackberry bushes on hillsides and along fence rows.

The last winter is “cotton britches” winter, because just when you think it is warm enough to toss your long underwear aside and wear shorts, another cold snap comes along and you have to pull on a pair of warm cotton britches!

Bring a sweater, just in case!

W.B. Bate, Jr., manager of the Sumner Drive-in Theatre, announces the opening on April 1, with a free show to celebrate the season's opening. The public is invited to come and see the first picture free.

Sumner County Times, March 26, 1951

More Weather Oddities from Area History



Sumner County Tornado of June 29, 1890

(The following newspaper article was transcribed from *Deseret Evening News* (Salt Lake City, Utah Territory) of June 30, 1890.)

Gallatin, Tenn., June 29, - A tornado passed over the northern part of the town this evening, doing much damage to property. The African Methodist church was blown to pieces. Two women were fatally injured and a dozen others of the congregation seriously hurt. The minister, Granville Brown, will probably die. The wonder is that there were so few casualties, as the church was packed at the time. Trees, fences and outbuildings were destroyed throughout the town. There was considerable damage to farm property in the country, but no further loss of life is reported.

Strange cylinder of fire, 1869, month unknown

(From Symon's Monthly Meteorological Magazine, 1869)

Out in Cheatham County about noon on Wednesday -- a remarkably hot day -- on the farm of Ed. Sharp, five miles from Ashland, a sort of whirlwind came along over the neighbouring woods, taking up small branches and leaves of trees and burning them in a sort of flaming cylinder that traveled at a rate of about five miles an hour, developing size as it traveled.

It seemed to increase in heat as it went, and by the time it reached the house it immediately fired the shingles from end to end of the building, so that in ten minutes the whole dwelling was wrapped in flames.

The tall column of traveling caloric then continued its course over a wheat field that had been recently cradled, setting fire to all the stacks that happened to be in its course.

Passing from the field, its path lay over a stretch of woods which reached the river. The green leaves on the trees were crisped to a cinder for a breadth of 20 yards, in a straight line to the Cumberland.

When the "pillar of fire" reached the water, it suddenly changed its route down the river, raising a column of steam which went up to the clouds for about half-a-mile, when it finally died out.

Not less than 200 people witnessed this strangest of strange phenomena, and all of them tell substantially the same story about it.

Governor Brownlow and the Radical Republican Reconstructionists

William Brownlow was a Methodist minister and newspaper editor from Knoxville. He supported slavery but was deeply opposed to secession. He was a longtime political opponent to **Andrew Johnson's** Reconstruction policies after the war. He was nominated as Governor by Tennessee Unionists in January, 1865 and elected in March in an election in which anyone who gave support to the Confederacy was excluded from voting. As Governor he disenfranchised all former Confederates for five years and officers and public officials for fifteen years. His opposition to **President Johnson** caused him to adopt the Radical Republican vision of reconstruction. As opposition to his policies gave rise to the Ku Klux Klan, Brownlow organized a State Guard to enforce his wishes. He vacated election results in several Tennessee counties to allow his supporters to be elected to Congress and placed others under martial law. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in March, 1869 and upon his leaving as Governor most Klan violence ceased.

During the time in which the letter at right was written, men from prominent founding families in Sumner County, such as those named Guild, Trousdale, Wynne and Bate were not allowed to vote due to their having served as officers in the Confederate Army.

The letter alludes to trouble at the statehouse in Nashville, where even if duly elected from their districts, men who did not fall in line with the Radical Republicans were not allowed to take their seats in the legislature.



Alfred R. Wynne of Castalian Springs. *Rare ambrotype courtesy of Wynnewood.*

Forrest and the Ku Klux...

What do you think of General Grant?

I regard him as a great military commander, a good man, honest and liberal, and if elected will, I hope and believe, execute the laws honestly and faithfully. And by the way, a report has been published in some of the newspapers, stating that while General Grant and lady

“I promise the legislature my personal influence and aid in maintaining order and enforcing the laws. I have never advised the people to resist any law, but to submit to the laws, until they can be corrected by lawful legislation.”

were at Corinth, in 1862, they took and carried off furniture and other property. I here brand the author as a liar. I was at Corinth only a short time ago, and I personally investigated the whole matter, talked with the people with whom he and his lady lived while there, and they say that their conduct was everything that could be expected of a gentleman and lady, and deserving the highest praise. I am opposed to General Grant in everything, but I would do him justice.'

The foregoing is the principal part of my conversation with the general. I give the conversation, and leave the reader to form his own opinion as to what General Forrest means to do. I think he has been so plain in his talk that it can not be misunderstood.

As soon as General Forrest read this account of the interview with him, he addressed the following letter to the correspondent who wrote it:

Memphis, September 3, 1868.

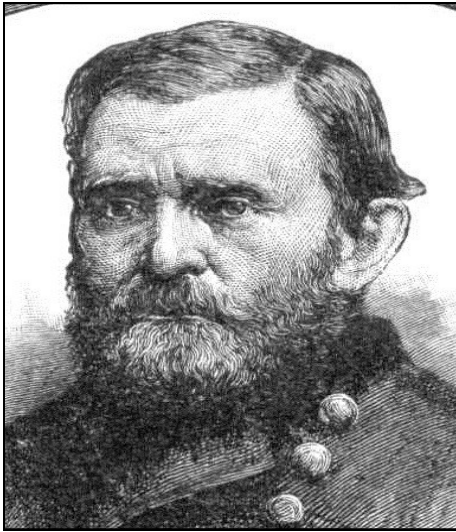
Dear Sir:

I have just read your letter in the Commercial, giving a report of our conversation on Friday last. I do not think you would intentionally misrepresent me, but you have done so and, I suppose, because you mistook my meaning. The portions of your letter to which I object are corrected in the following paragraphs:

I promise the legislature my personal influence and aid in maintaining order and enforcing the laws. I have never advised the people to resist any law, but to submit to the laws, until they can be corrected by lawful legislation. I said the militia bill would occasion no trouble, unless they violated the law by carrying out the governor's proclamation, which I believe to be unconstitutional and in violence of law, in shooting men down without trial, as recommended by that proclamation.

...from page six

I said it was reported, and I believed the report, that there are forty thousand Ku Klux in Tennessee; and I believe the organization stronger in other states. I meant to imply, when I said that the Ku Klux recognize the Federal Government, that they would obey all State laws. They recognize all laws, and will obey them, so I have been informed, in protecting peaceable citizens from oppression from any quarter. **N. B. FORREST**



Union General Ulysses S. Grant

Civil War Letters — WC. Poston to Col. A.R. Wynne

Memphis, Tennessee

June 25, 1866

Hon. A. R. Wynne,

Castalian Springs

Dear Sir,

In view of all the surroundings we think it important that all of the members elected to the Legislature, who were rejected at the last session, should present themselves on the 4th. Inst. In obedience to the Governor's call, to demand admission avowedly for the purpose of voting against the (illegible) of the constitutional amendments. Especially is this necessary, since the message of the President (ed. note: Andrew Johnson) expressing his disapprobation of these amendments.

Meet us at Nashville on the morning of the 3rd at 10 O'clock.

Yours very truly,

W.C. Poston

Write to others in your vicinity

(Letter found in The Historical Records Project, Works Progress Administration, 1936)

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