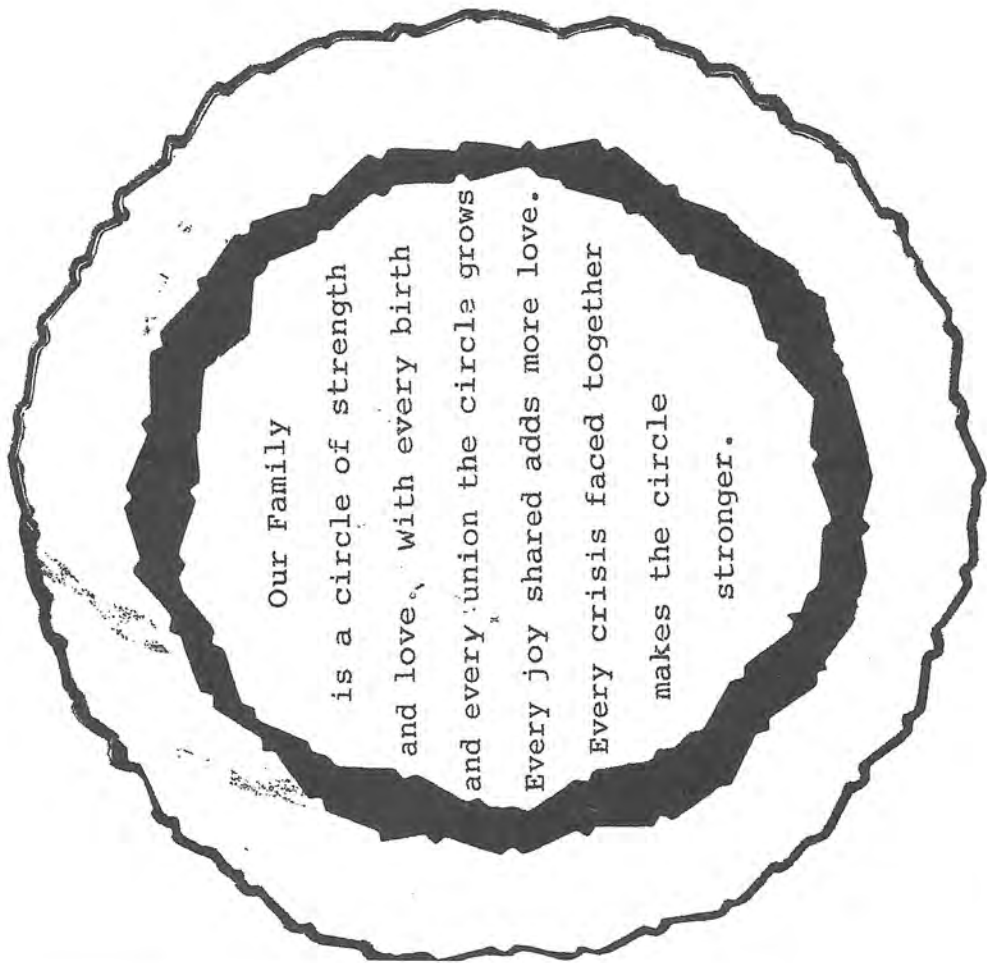
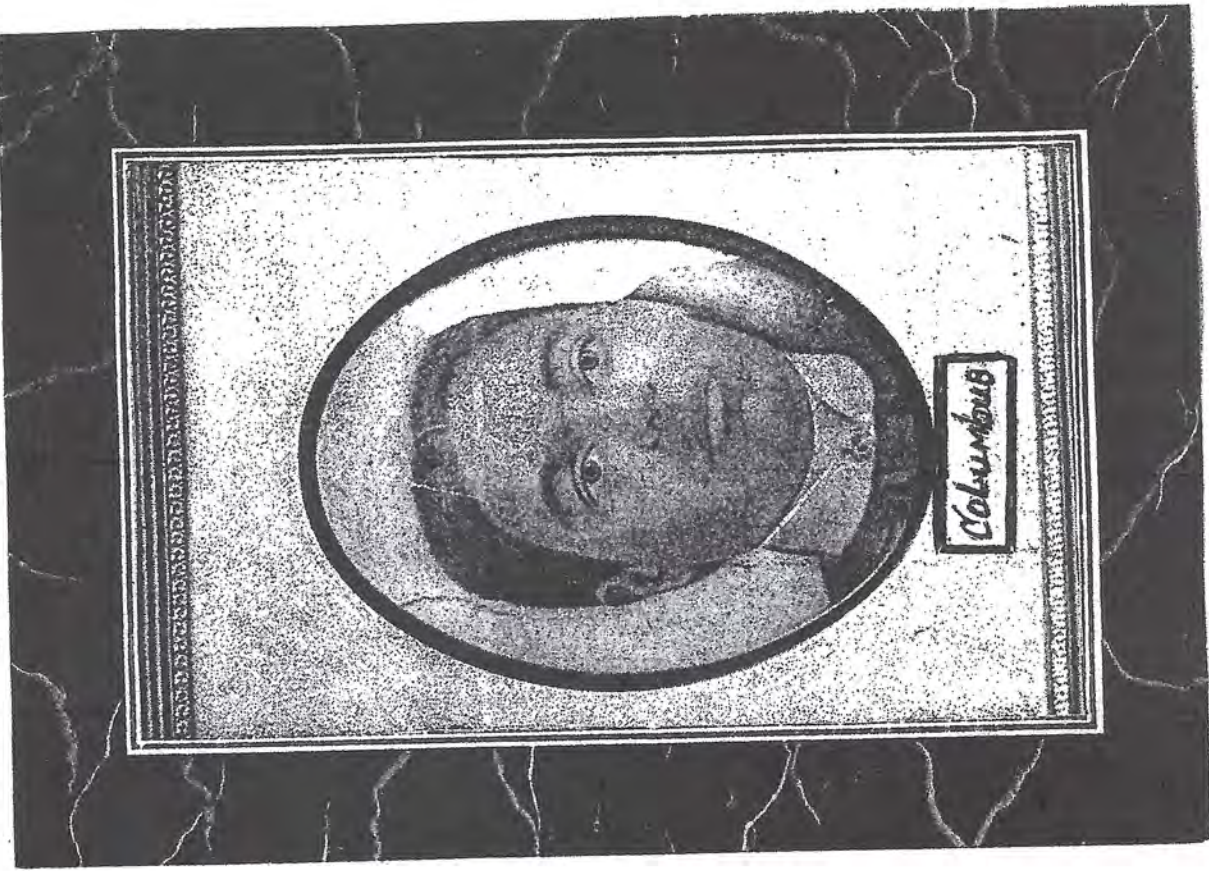
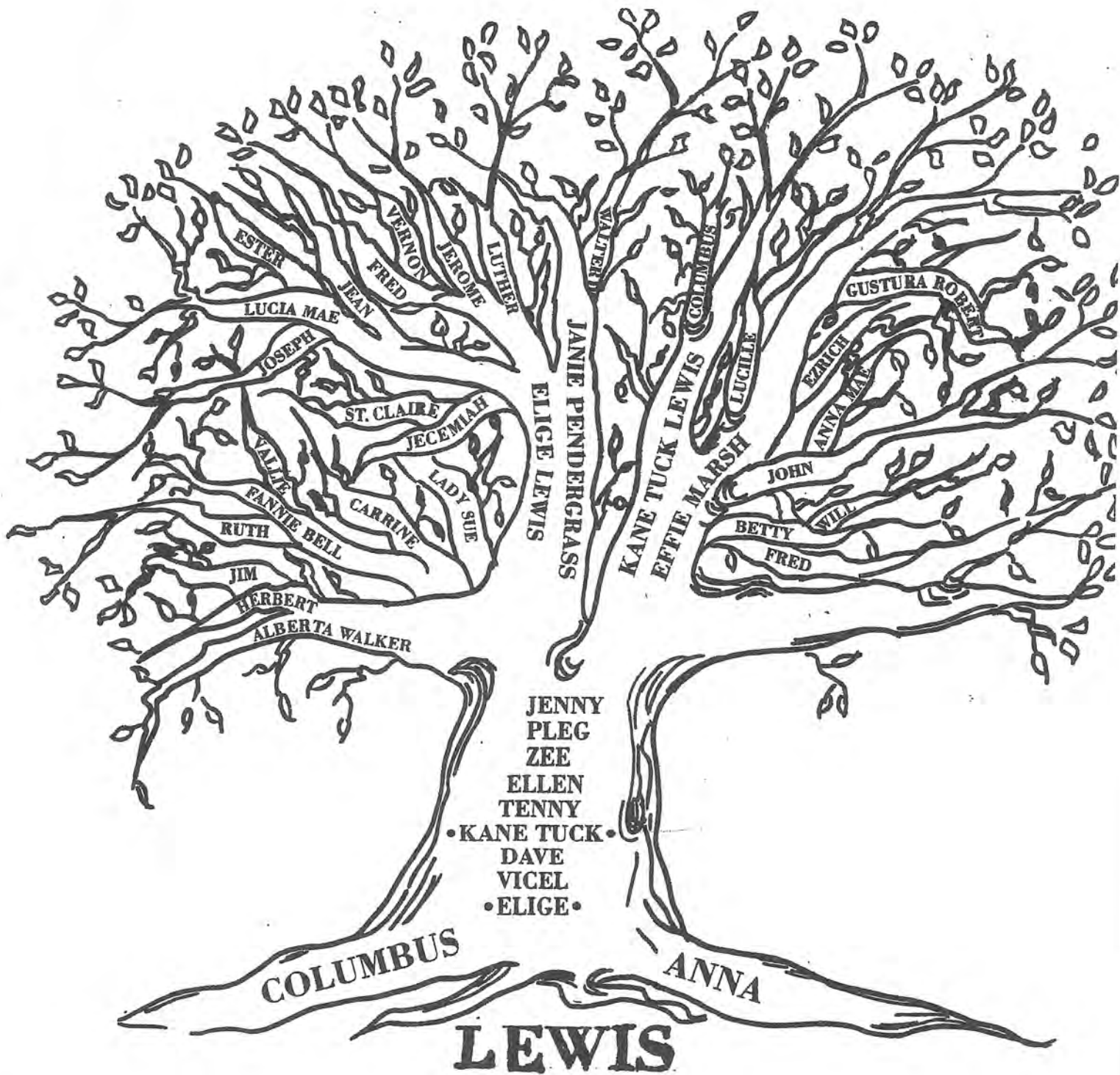


Xenia's Family Reunion 1998



Our Family
is a circle of strength
and love, with every birth
and every union the circle grows
Every joy shared adds more love.
Every crisis faced together
makes the circle
stronger.



Tennessee, Death Records, 1908-1958 record for Kentucky Y Lewis

7205
10

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH **CERTIFICATE OF DEATH** DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS
STATE OF TENNESSEE
COOPERATING WITH NATIONAL OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS DEATH NO. 19-09652

BIRTH NO. _____ A.D.D. _____

1. NAME Kentucky Y Lewis 2. DATE OF DEATH 5-22-49

3. COLOR OR RACE Caucasian Male 4. SEX Male 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, DIVORCED (SPECIFY) Married 6. DATE OF BIRTH May 20 1904 7. AGE (IN YEARS LAST BIRTHDAY) 45 8. IF UNDER 1 YR. MONTHS DAYS 9. IF UNDER 24 HRS. HOURS MINS.

8. PLACE OF DEATH _____ 9. CIVIL DISTRICT 5th 10. USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED (Where Deceased Lived, or Institution, Residence Before Admission) _____

A. COUNTY DeKalb B. CITY OR TOWN (IF OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS, WRITE RURAL) Rural C. STATE Tenn D. COUNTY DeKalb E. CIVIL DISTRICT 5th

E. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION (If not in Hospital or Institution, Give Street Address and Location) _____ F. STREET (IF RURAL, GIVE LOCATION) ADDRESS _____

10A. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give Kind of Work Done During Most of Working Life, Begin if Retired) Rock Wrench 10B. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY Quarry 11. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER X 409-05-1794 A

12. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U.S. ARMED FORCES? SPECIFY, YES, NO, UNKNOWN no 13. BIRTHPLACE (State or Foreign Country) DeKalb Co Tenn 14. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY? American

15. FATHER'S NAME Columbus Lewis 16. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME Betty Lewis 17. INFORMANT ADDRESS Jar. Bodily, DeKalb

18. CAUSE OF DEATH

1. DISEASE OR CONDITION DIRECTLY LEADING TO DEATH*	(A) ANTECEDENT CAUSES	MORBID CONDITIONS, IF ANY, GIVING RISE TO ABOVE CAUSE (A) STATING THE UNDERLYING CAUSE LAST.	DUE TO (B)	DUE TO (C)	INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH
(A) <u>Pneumonia (Bronchopneumonia)</u>			<u>Chronic Heart Disease</u>		<u>434.3</u>
					<u>491</u>

2. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO THE DISEASE OR CONDITION CAUSING DEATH _____

19A. DATE OF OPERATION _____ 19B. MAJOR FINDINGS OF OPERATION _____ 20A. AUTOPSY YES NO 20B. FINDINGS AT AUTOPSY _____

21A. ACCIDENT SUICIDE HOMICIDE (SPECIFY) _____ 21B. PLACE OF INJURY (In or About Home, Farm, Factory, Street, Other Building, etc.) _____ 21C. PLACE OF INJURY CITY, TOWN OR RURAL COUNTY STATE JUN 10 1949

21D. TIME OF INJURY MONTH DAY YEAR HOUR _____ 21E. INJURY OCCURRED WHILE AT WORK NOT WHILE AT WORK 21F. HOW DID INJURY OCCUR? STATE HEALTH DEPT

22. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE DECEASED DIED ON THE DATE AND FROM THE CAUSE STATED ABOVE

SIGNATURE R. P. Beasley M.D. OTHER (SPECIFY) _____ ADDRESS DeKalb Tenn DATE 5-20-49

23A. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL (SPECIFY) Buried 23B. DATE OF BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL May 25 1949 23C. NAME OF Cemetery or Crematory Lewis Cemetery 23D. LOCATION CITY, TOWN OR COUNTY STATE DeKalb, Tenn.

24. FUNERAL DIRECTOR Walter H. Walker ADDRESS Warnerby Tenn 25. REGISTRATION DIST. NO. 42205 26. DATE SIGNED BY LOCAL REG. May 31 1949 27. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE Mar. Boykin Cook

Kentucky's Certificate of Death

N

12

U.S.C.T.

Columbus Lewis

Pvt, Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Sept 9th Oct*, 1864.

Present or absent *present*

Stoppage, \$ _____ 100 for _____

Due Gov't, \$ _____ 100 for _____

Remarks: _____

Book mark: _____

E. Weston

DECLARATION OF RECRUIT.

I, *Columbus Lewis* desiring to VOLUNTEER as a Soldier in the Army of the United States, for the term of THREE YEARS, Do declare, That I am *23* years and *10* months of age; that I have never been discharged from the United States service on account of disability or by sentence of a court-martial, or by order before the expiration of a term of enlistment; and I know of no impediment to my serving honestly and faithfully as a soldier for three years.

GIVEN AT *Sullivan Branch Tenn*
The *30* day of *June* 1864
Witness: *Chas H. Barr*
Capt 12th Regt U.S.C. *Columbus Lewis*



No. 3
Columbus Lewis
Enlistment in *Sullivan Branch Tenn*
May 28th 1864
Chas H. Barr
Capt 12th Regt U.S.C.

CONSENT IN CASE OF MINOR.

I, _____ of _____ is _____ D CERTIFY, That I am the _____; that the said _____ years of age; and I do hereby freely give my consent to his volunteering as a SOLDIER IN THE THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, for the period of THREE YEARS.

GIVEN AT _____
The _____ day of _____
Witness: _____

VOLUNTEER ENLISTMENT.
STATE OF  TOWN OF

I, *Columbus Lewis* born in *Chatham Co*
in the State of *Georgia* aged *Eighteen* years
and by occupation a *Farmer* Do HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have
volunteered this *28th* day of *May* 1864

to serve as a **Soldier** in the **ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, for the period
of **THREE YEARS**, unless sooner discharged by proper authority; Do also agree to accept such
bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be, established by law for volunteers. And I,
Columbus Lewis do solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith
and allegiance to the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, and that I will serve them honestly and faith-
fully against all their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the orders
of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to
the Rules and Articles of War.

Sworn and subscribed to, at *Sullivan Branch*
this *28th* day of *May* 1864.
By me

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above named Volunteer, agreeably to the General Regulations
of the Army, and that in my opinion he is free from all bodily defects and mental infirmity, which would, in any way, disqualify
him from performing the duties of a soldier.

EXAMINING SURGEON.

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have minutely inspected the Volunteer,
previously to his enlistment, and that he was entirely sober when enlisted; that, to the best of my judgment and belief, he is of
lawful age; and that, in accepting him as duly qualified to perform the duties of an able bodied soldier, I have strictly observed the
Regulations which govern the recruiting service. This soldier has *Black* eyes, *Black* hair, *Dark* complexion, is
5 feet *2/2* inches high.

L. L. Supton Lieut
12 Regiment of *U. S.*, *C. V.*, Volunteers.

RECRUITING OFFICER.

copy

TRACING THE PAST

Family puts oral history in written form for future generations

Like many of us, David Hogg and his cousin, Lisa Fanning-Diene, grew up with an oral family history, passed down from generation to generation. As children, they never questioned the story about great-great grandfather Columbus Lewis, the patriarch from Dickson County, Tenn., who told his children he was "foreign-born" and had never been a slave.

Columbus had served in the Civil War, though legend had it he was below military age and height requirements.

"He dressed up like a girl because he was very young and small in stature," Hogg said. "He put on a bonnet and ran away ..."

Columbus volunteered for the Union Army on May 28, 1864, and was a private in Co. D, 12th Regiment of the U.S. Colored Infantry. And he was fiercely proud. After the war, his words traveled from children to grandchildren this way:

"Who freed you?" Columbus would ask his children.

"Abraham Lincoln," they would reply.

"Abe Lincoln didn't free you, I did. I fought in the Civil War," Columbus always answered.

Hogg, also known as "Uncle Davey," shared the story that way with his young cousin, Fanning-Diene, 22 years his junior. (She graduated from Richmond High School in 1986.) As adults, they both questioned the roots of Columbus Lewis.

Was he really foreign-born? Or had he been a slave like the majority of blacks living in Tennessee during the pre-Civil War era?

About two years ago, Hogg and Fanning-Diene, who now lives in Washington, D.C., started researching Columbus and the rest of their family history to put it in writing for future generations.

"Since he'd said he was foreign-born, we looked in immigration records and found nothing," Hogg said. "We knew where he lived ... but that's all we had to go on."

Fanning-Diene, who had access to the National Archives and Library of Congress, started researching census records.

"Most African Americans started to be enumerated in 1870," she said. "I found Columbus Lewis and Betty Sisco Lewis (his first wife) and just went from 1870 to 1880 — most of the 1890 census was destroyed in a fire."

Working through the 1920 census, she obtained the names of all their children. The most revealing information, however, came from Columbus's pension file — about 200 pages — from the Veteran's Administration.

Most of the information was medical: He was wounded in the Battle of Nashville, Dec. 16, 1864, and later made disability claims for an increase to his medical pension.

"But there were questionnaires which asked personal questions. One asked, 'Were you a slave?' And that's where I got the name Montgomery Bell, and his nephew James L. Bell, who inherited the slaves when Montgomery died," she said.

"I was very excited. I finally



David Hogg poses with a portrait of his great-great grandfather, Columbus Lewis, who served with the U.S. Colored Infantry during the Civil War. Hogg and his cousin Lisa Fanning-Diene are transforming oral family history into a written history for future generations.

had a name to go on."

From that point, she went to the Library of Congress genealogy room and researched books on Tennessee, and to the Martin Luther King Library Black Studies room for books on slavery.

There she discovered that Montgomery Bell, owner of Cumberland Furnace in Dickson County, was also one of the largest slave owners in Tennessee, employing about 300 blacks to make munitions for the federal government.

Through the Internet, she learned that Dickson has its own Web site, and she began to correspond with a woman who helped her obtain further records.

The state of Tennessee provided Columbus's death certificate, which noted his mother was Lucie Bell, who had married Jim Lewis, and that Columbus

had been born in Dickson County.

"That was the Bell connection. I suspect that Lucie was a slave of Montgomery Bell," she said. More digging showed a plantation owner named Lewis lived on land next to Bell's.

"It's opened up a whole new world for me," said Fanning-Diene, who has helped other people search out their roots.

"These are all public records, and people have a right to receive information that most people don't know they have access to. Everyone leaves a paper trail, even African Americans do. You have to really be interested and persevere and make sure you cover all the ground."

After the Civil War, Columbus Lewis, his 11 children and their families farmed in Dickson County. The homestead was called Lewis Hollow.

Hogg said Columbus's

descendants migrated north like many blacks during the Industrial Revolution. Columbus's son, Kentucky, was the father of Hogg's grandmother, Betty Lewis Bowen Tivis, and Fanning-Diene's grandmother, Anna Mae Lewis Fanning.

Anna Mae helped pastor-cousin Vallie Burrell found the Original Church of God in Richmond. Betty's first husband, Elzie Bowen, worked at Swayne Robinson Co., as did Hogg's father and many other black men.

"Word got out that Richmond was a mecca for black people. There were plenty of jobs and a climate good to raise children in," Hogg said. They settled in the area near Hibberd School which became known as Greenwood, a closely knit neighborhood where Hogg, born in 1946, learned discipline and love from families whose names he fondly recites:



As we were
ANNETTE WARFEL

Tracing ancestry

If you would like help tracing your African-American ancestry, David Hogg and Lisa Fanning-Diene will be glad to guide you to resources.

Hogg can be reached locally at (765) 866-8878. Or write to Lisa Fanning-Diene, 3836 16th St. N.W., Apt. A 650, Washington, D.C. 20010.

Ballard, Bennet, Alexander, Daniels, Fox, Mason, Ship, Clark, Jett, Hampton, Perkins, Simkin, Baker, Tate, Sain, Vanlandingham, Oakie, Ogle, Leavall.

Hogg said Columbus was probably too ashamed to admit he'd been a slave. But for Hogg, that truth is inspiring.

"It means a lot to be able to know this. It's extremely awesome. It makes a person understand your own character, the heritage of not giving up, fighting the good fight. When you look back and see your ancestors and the American experience, many of the things we fought for during slavery, we're fighting for still today. It's the same battle, different turf ... Racism today is more covert ... You can walk into a restaurant and eat there, but that doesn't mean you could own it. The same thing applies with other minorities such as Hispanics and women."

Still, Hogg said he knows many people in the community — whites and blacks alike — who have taken great strides to work for equal rights.

"They have restored my faith in mankind. They are dedicated to equality," he said.

Hogg, who worked for Wayne Works for 20 years until it closed in 1991, will graduate from IU East in May with a bachelor's degree in social work. He is director of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program for the city of Richmond.

Lisa Fanning-Diene is an adviser for students from Botswana and Guinea who are placed in American universities through the Academy for Educational Development.

She travels throughout the United States to monitor the students' progress and advise them on academic and financial matters.

As we were appears on the People page each Tuesday. If you would like to suggest topics for the column, contact Annette Warfel at the Palladium-Item, 1175 N. A. St., Richmond, IN 47374, or call (765) 973-4461, or outside Richmond, (800) 686-1350. If you have old photos or material for this column, please call her to arrange a time to bring them to the Palladium-Item or to have them picked up.

VOLUNTEER ENLISTMENT.
STATE OF  TOWN OF

I, *Columbus Lewis* born in *Chatham Co.*
in the State of *Georgia* aged *Eighteen* years,
and by occupation a *Farmer* DO HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have
volunteered this *Twenty eighth* day of *May* 1864,
to serve as a **Soldier** in the **ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, for the period
of **THREE YEARS**, unless sooner discharged by proper authority: Do also agree to accept such
bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be, established by law for volunteers. And I,
Columbus Lewis do solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith
and allegiance to the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, and that I will serve them honestly and faith-
fully against all their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the orders
of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to
the Rules and Articles of War.

Sworn and subscribed to, at *Ball's Branch of Chatham Co. Ga.*
this *28th* day of *May* 1864. *Columbus Lewis*
Before *Thos. W. Boyd Capt Co. A 12th Regt U.S.V.*

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above named Volunteer, agreeably to the General Regulations
of the Army, and that in my opinion he is free from all bodily defects and mental infirmity, which would, in any way, disqualify
him from performing the duties of a soldier.

David M Anderson
Maj. Surg. 12th U.S.V.
EXAMINING SURGEON.

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have minutely inspected the Volunteer, *Columbus Lewis*
previously to his enlistment, and that he was entirely sober when enlisted; that, to the best of my judgment and belief, he is of
lawful age; and that, in accepting him as duly qualified to perform the duties of an able bodied soldier, I have strictly observed the
Regulations which govern the recruiting service. This soldier has *Black eyes, Black hair, Dark complexion, is*
5 feet 2 1/2 inches high.

Thomas L. Sutton 1st Lieut
2nd Regiment of U.S. Colored Volunteers.
RECRUITING OFFICER.

DECLARATION OF RECRUIT.

I, *William Lewis* desiring to VOLUNTEER as a Soldier in the Army of the United States, for the term of THREE YEARS, Do declare, That I am *21* years and *10* months of age; that I have never been discharged from the United States service on account of disability or by sentence of a court-martial, or by order before the expiration of a term of enlistment; and I know of no impediment to my serving honestly and faithfully as a soldier for three years.

GIVES at *Sullivan, Tenn*
The *12* day of *Nov*

Witness: *Thos H Berry*

Capt 12 Regt - 2460 *William Lewis*

No. *3*

William Lewis

Enlisted in *1st Cavalry Regt*

1861

1st Regt of Cavalry

1st Regt of Cavalry

Enlistment has expired in Company

By

Discharged

12

1861
10
10

CONSENT IN CASE OF MINOR.

I, _____ of _____; that I am the _____ years of age; and I do hereby freely give my consent to his volunteering as a Soldier in the Army of the United States, for the period of three years.

GIVES at _____
The _____ day of _____

Witness:

VOLUNTEER ENLISTMENT.
STATE OF  TOWN OF

I, *Columbus Lewis* born in *Chatham Co*
in the State of *Georgia* aged *Eighteen* years,
and by occupation *Farmer* Do HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have
volunteered this *eight* day of *May* 186*4*
to serve as a **Soldier** in the **ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**, for the period
of **THREE YEARS**, unless sooner discharged by proper authority: Do also agree to accept such
bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be, established by law for volunteers. And I,
Columbus Lewis do solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith
and allegiance to the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, and that I will serve them honestly and faith-
fully against all their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the orders
of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to
the Rules and Articles of War.

Sworn and subscribed to, at *South Carolina* *South* *Columbus Lewis*
this *8* day of *May* 186*4*
Before *Thos B Barr Capt 12 Regt U S A*

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above named Volunteer, agreeably to the General Regulations
of the Army, and that in my opinion he is free from all bodily defects and mental infirmity, which would, in any way, disqualify
him from performing the duties of a soldier.

David W Anderson
Asst Surg 12 Regt U S A
EXAMINER SINGON.

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have minutely inspected the Volunteer, *Columbus Lewis*
previously to his enlistment, and that he was entirely sober when enlisted; that, to the best of my judgment and belief, he is of
lawful age; and that, in accepting him as duly qualified to perform the duties of an able bodied soldier, I have strictly observed the
Regulations which govern the recruiting service. This soldier has *Black eyes, Black hair, Dark complexion, is*
Five feet Two 1/2 inches high. *Brown*

Thomas D Layton 1st Lt
12 Regt of U.S. Colored Volunteers.
RECRUITING OFFICER.

DECLARATION OF RECRUIT.

I, (writing)
 do VOLUNTEER as a Soldier in the Army of the United States, for the term of THREE YEARS, Do declare, That I am
 years and months of age;
 that I have never been discharged from the United States service on account of disability or by sentence of a court-martial, or by
 order before the expiration of a term of enlistment; and I know of no impediment to my serving honestly and faithfully as a
 soldier for three years.

Given at
 The _____ day of _____

Witness:



No. _____

William S. Stone

1st Regiment, 1st Cavalry, (Brevet)

Major, 1st Regt

By _____

1st Regt, 1st Cavalry

10 1 1865

Infantry

of the 1st Cavalry, 1st Regt

10 1 1865

CONSENT IN CASE OF MINOR.

I, _____ of _____
 do certify, That I am the
 _____ of _____
 years of age; and I do hereby
 freely give my consent to his volunteering as a Soldier in the Army of the United States, for the period of three years.

Given at
 The _____ day of _____

Witness:

ACT OF FEBRUARY 6, 1907.

DECLARATION FOR PENSION.

THE PENSION CERTIFICATE SHOULD NOT BE FORWARDED WITH THE APPLICATION.

State of Tennessee
County of Dickson } ss.

On this 25 day of March A. D. one thousand nine hundred and 1908 personally appeared before me, a Ed Wright, Notary Public within and for the county and State aforesaid, Balchus Lewis, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is 66 years of age, and a resident of Dickson county of Dickson, State of Tennessee; and that he is the identical person who was ENROLLED at Ridgeway Springs, Tennessee under the name of Balchus Lewis, on the _____ day of _____, 1867, as a private, in Co. D, 12th Reg. Val. Artillery (Here state rank, and company and regiment in the Army, or vessels if in the Navy.)

in the service of the United States, in the war of rebellion war, and was HONORABLY DISCHARGED at Nashville, Tennessee on the 19 day of June, 1866. That he also served only in the US Army (Here give a complete statement of all other services, if any.)

That he was not employed in the military or naval service of the United States otherwise than as stated above. That his personal description at enlistment was as follows: Height, 4 feet 6 inches; complexion, yellow; color of eyes, black; color of hair, black; that his occupation was farmer; that he was born in Chatham Co. Ga., 1842, at I was a slave at birth.

That his several places of residence since leaving the service have been as follows: I have lived in Pennon all my life (State date of each change, as nearly as possible.)

That he is _____ a pensioner. That he has _____ heretofore applied for pension Certificate # 1074944 (If a pensioner, the certificate number only need be given. If not, give the number of the former application, if one was made.)

That he makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States under the provisions of the act of February 6, 1907.

That his post-office address is Dickson, county of Dickson, State of Tennessee.

Attest: (1) M. S. Curry Co. Treasurer, Tenn. S. (Claimant's signature in full.)
(2) John Ryan

Also personally appeared M. S. Curry, residing in Dickson and John Ryan, residing in Dickson, persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say that they were present and saw Balchus Lewis, the claimant, sign his name (or make his mark) to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of the claimant and their acquaintance with him of _____ years and 19 years, respectively, that he is the identical person he represents himself to be, and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

M. S. Curry
John Ryan
(Signatures of witnesses.)

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 25 day of March, A. D. 1908, and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known and explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing, including the words _____, erased,

Validity [L. S.]
S. A. Gandy,
Chief, Law Division,
per JTF 3 31 08

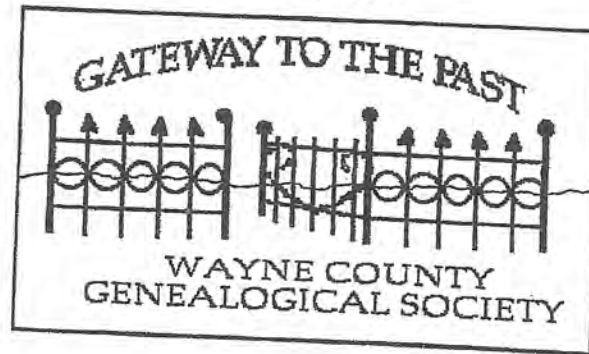
and the words _____, added; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.



Ed Wright
Notary Public
(Signature)
(Official character.)

THE
WAYNE COUNTY
(INDIANA)
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded 1990



Web page:

<http://www.waynet.org/nonprofit/WCGS.htm>

E-mail:

familypathways@comcast.net

Postal address:

P O BOX 2599

RICHMOND IN

47375-2599

Our research library is located in the
basement of the education building of
St. John's Lutheran Church at the
corner of South 7th and E Streets.

DECLARATION OF RECRUIT.

I, *Polombus Lewis* desiring to VOLUNTEER as a Soldier in the Army of the United States, for the term of THREE YEARS. Do declare, That I am *Eighteen* years and *months* of age; that I have never been discharged from the United States service on account of disability or by sentence of a court-martial, or by order before the expiration of a term of enlistment; and I know of no impediment to my serving honestly and faithfully as a soldier for three years.

Gives at *Lee Avenue Branch*

The *25* day of *July* 1864

Witness: *Thos H. Bar*
Capt 12 Regt U S C S *Columbus Lewis*

Polombus Lewis
Enlisted in *5th Wisconsin Branch*
1864
1st Regt U S C S
1st Regt U S C S
1st Regt U S C S

CONSENT IN CASE OF MINOR.

I, _____ of _____ is _____ years of age; and I do hereby freely give my consent to his volunteering as a Soldier in the Army of the United States, for the period of three years.

Gives at _____ The _____ day of _____

Witness:

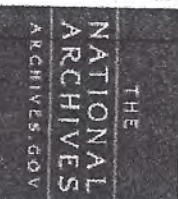
Record Index

Source Information

Name: Kentuck Lewis
Age: 26
Birth Date: Mar 1874
Birthplace: Tennessee
Home in 1900: Civil District 8, Dickson, Tennessee
Race: Black
Gender: Male
Relation to Head of Head House:
Marital Status: Married
Spouse's Name: Effie Lewis
Marriage Year: 1897
Years Married: 3
Father's Birthplace: Tennessee
Mother's Birthplace: Tennessee

Record URL: <http://search.ancestryinstitution.com/cgi-bin/ssse.dll?h=60248563&db=1900usfedcen&indiv=thy>
Source Citation: Year: 1900, Census Place: Civil District 8, Dickson, Tennessee; Roll: 1567, Page: 16B, Enumeration District: 10, FHL microfilm: 1241567.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com, 1900 United States Federal Census [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004.

Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. T623, 1854 rolls.

Record Index

Name: Kentucky Y Lewis
Gender: Male
Birth Date: 20 May 1874
Birth Place: Dickson, Tennessee
Age: 75
Death Date: 20 May 1949
Death Place: Dickson, Tennessee
Father's Name: Columbus Lewis
Mother's Name: Betty Lewis
Certificate Number: 49-09652

Source Information

Record URL: <http://search.ancestryinstitution.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?h=795031&db=TNDeathRecords&indiv=try>


Source Citation: Tennessee State Library and Archives; Nashville, Tennessee; *Tennessee Death Records, 1908-1958*; Roll #: 5.

Source Information:



Ancestry.com.
Tennessee, Death Records, 1908-1958
[database on-line].
Provo, UT, USA:
Ancestry.com
Operations, Inc.,
2011.

Original data: *Tennessee Death Records, 1908-1958*. Nashville, Tennessee: Tennessee State Library and Archives.
Tennessee City Death Records Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga Memphis 1848-1907. Nashville, Tennessee: Tennessee State Library and Archives.

 ancestry family history library edition

Grave Site: Columbus Lewis

4/12/2012 4:49:17 PM

Columbus Lewis' Gravesite... East Dickson Cemetery, Dickson, TN [View](#)



<< Previous Next >>

Descriptions:
 On the afternoon of September 1, 1920, fourteen days before his 75th birthday, the patriarch of the Lewis family of Dickson, TN, Columbus L. Lewis, suffered a heart attack at his home. Surrounded by family and friends, including lifelong friend, Charley Harris, he was pronounced dead at 5 o'clock by his physician, M. L. Barksdale. East Dickson Cemetery became the final resting place for the man affectionately known as "Daddy Lum." Shaded by a tree on the inside sits the once white tombstone of Columbus Lewis, now worn and gray after 89 years. It reads Columbus Lewis, Co. D, 12 U. S. C. Inf. (Company D, 12th United States Colored Infantry) (Civil War).

Date Taken: 1996
Place Taken: East Dickson Cemetery, Dickson, TN
Owner: Lisa Fanning
Album:
 Viewed by: Vernal Lewis, David Lee Christman, Debra Turpin, Lewis Bowen, Henry Christman, Meharry Lewis, Alex Metzger, Lisa Fanning

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Columbus Lewis Sr.
1848 - 1920

Other trees this object is saved to

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vernellewis1 added this on 16 Apr 2012

Category Type: Portrait / Family Photo

Montgomery Bell Articles from Cheatham County ADVOCATE

hblake2213added this on 15 Sep 2011

This is a series of articles that started off with a simple story about a group of scouts and local residents with the desire to clean-up the Montgomery Bell family cemetery. In doing some research, we came to understand that there is very little known about Montgomery Bell and his slaves, who play such a huge role in the history of Cheatham County. The Advocate would like to thank the Tennessee State Library and Archives for their help in this endeavor, Michael Holt for his generous support and sharing months of research, and former Tennessee Banner writer Ed Huddleston, who took the time in 1955 to gather as much information as he could about the "Ironmaster of Tennessee". It is our hope that this series will not only enlighten you, but spark some interest in Cheatham County to preserve our rich history, before it's lost forever. Below are the nine entries to the Montgomery Bell Series written by Dale Graham.

Montgomery Bell was born on Jan 3, 1769 in Chester County, Pennsylvania. When the Revolutionary War ravaged the area, most families, including the Bell's, were left with little. Bell became a tanner apprentice at 16, a job he held for 3 years and didn't like. Quite possibly what he learned there and held on to for the rest of his life, was that he wanted more, and was afraid of working for it. According to Huddleston, "He next tried trading, this boy who in his youth doubtless heard much talk about money ... money from a family who had lost much. The trading netted him 'a silver watch and \$100.' He then joined his uncle, Edward Leech in a hatmaking business, and was said to be a fast learner. The death of Bell's brother-in-law, William Bain, Bell led his widowed sister Elizabeth, her six children and one or more "servants or slaves", on a year-long trek through what was then the wilderness, into Kentucky. He was not yet 20 years old. They made their home in Lexington and began a hatmaking shop. He purchased a log house and land in Lexington in 1792, and did quite well there financially. So well in fact, that he moved to Tennessee in early 1800, and purchased Cumberland Furnace from James Robertson in 1804 ... for \$16,000. He began to make his mark quickly in the area. "Community recognition came promptly. Bell has been called 'the first justice of the peace of Dickson County'. On August 3, 1804 he was named one of the commissioners to choose a suitable and central site for the courthouse, 'prison and stock the county', according to Huddleston. His land and furnace purchases throughout the area multiplied for the next several decades, as did the number of his slaves. Documents state that he held up to 400 slaves at one time, but Holt puts the number closer to 300. From the Cheatham County, Tennessee Bible and Tombstone Register "he was the wealthiest man in the South before the Civil War, he owned 50,000 acres of land, 400 negroes, 400 mules. He was a pioneer in iron manufacturing in Tennessee". Holt doesn't doubt that he had 400 mules, but has researched his slave holdings, and although the number is huge for the times, he thinks it's closer to 300. Even with a number that high, Bell is called an "emancipator". "You can not question that", Holt says, "he sent 88 of them back [to Africa], and from some documents I've seen, he had plans to send a lot more of them, but he died before he could do it. He was about 85 when he died." He may have realized shortly before his death exactly what those slaves had sacrificed in his name. For their efforts they received little, their names for the most part are unknown and their accomplishments, including the Narrows tunnel we know about and possibly a second unfinished tunnel, have gone unrecognized. What he did in his remaining years is a conflicting picture of a man who was known to be a wealthy philanthropist, yet dressed poorly and ate like his slaves. He was disliked by whites and his slaves alike, and spent much time and money looking for slaves that escaped. He had very few friends, which probably helps to explain why there is so little written about him. But the fact is that he forged a great portion of our area, and his mark and that of his slaves. Montgomery Bell arrived in Tennessee in the early 1800's and wasted no time making his mark. Although he often given the title of "Tennessee's First Ironmaster", that title rightfully belongs to James Robertson, from whom Bell purchased Cumberland Furnace in 1804 for \$16,000. It was just one small step in the life of this man. According to Huddleston: "In 1814 Bell bought the 'Old Jones Creek Furnace; and soon afterwards purchased 'Old I Jones Creek Ore lands for \$14,000. In 1823 he 'bought the Mother Ore Bank and built Bellview Furnace'. Here are his Dickson County land grants: May 16, 1826 - a tract of 50 acres, 'starting at Beaver dam fork at Turnbull Creek'. July 24, 1826 - 50 acres, 'on the head drain of Yellow creek, opposite the head of Jones Creek'. June 25, 1826 - 600 acres 'on a hollow that makes into Piney woods'. October 20, 1828 - 600 acres 'on both sides of main Turnbull Creek'. January 20, 1837 - 55.5 acres, also on Jones Creek and 600 acres, the same day 'on the waters of Turnbull Creek beginning at a poplar". How on earth did he accomplish so much? He was said to own many, many slaves - about 300 according to the research by Michael Holt. According to Huddleston he also employed freemen and the slaves of others, "with owners receiving around \$1 \$200 yearly for their hire. It's been said that Bell employed 'hundreds' of outside workers". In fact, according to Huddleston and Dickson County Tax records Bell owned approximately 200 slaves by 1806. He had only been in the state a short time. All these hands were necessary to accomplish so much, and free labor was the key to his much profit. Even in his early Tennessee years, Bell owned "14 forges and furnaces", and they were going at full tilt. Bell's products were just what a new land needed - hoes, rakes, skillets, "they went southward to the flat lands where cotton was king", Huddleston recorded. "He had something for everybody, from hillside cabin fairs to the plantation colonel of lush river bottoms." And the reward was money, paper money, which Bell turned right back into his building empire. He didn't live lavishly - so the money went back into more land, more furnaces, more slaves, each a step in the dream - a dream that he must have carried with him since childhood, when his wealthy family and lifestyle in Pennsylvania destroyed by the Revolutionary War. The ravages of war though, can make for a prosperous business. Huddleston: "The War of 1812, the Federal Government spent considerable sums in Tennessee, and a sizeable portion of it went to Montgomery Bell". On top of the everyday items were so much in demand in the young country, Bell supplied the Federal Government with gun powder, whiskey, and cannon balls, including those used in the Battle of New Orleans according to Huddleston. His supplies were superior, and his reputation was growing. But did the mystery man have a personal life, a love, did he start a family? Although information is difficult to find, and facts are more hidden than hearsay, we will try to explain who the children are that are buried under the other monument at the family cemetery, and where they came from. Besides the monument for Montgomery Bell, the only other identifiable marker in the Bell Family Cemetery bears two inscriptions and two poems. They are Montgomery Bell's granddaughters. The rest of the markers are simple stones placed in the ground. Montgomery Bell described as more than 6 feet tall at 18 years, handsome with fierce, piercing eyes. He is described as "eccentric", and sometimes cruel. He is also described as loving, generous and caring to his family. He employed teachers for his many slaves who were part of his legend. Many of them were taught to read and write, along with 1 great engineering skills they learned in the forging of his reported two tunnels through the Narrows ridge. But perhaps the most fitting description of this man is the used most often, that he was a "man of mystery". One of the most personal mysteries is that of his daughter, Eveline. In fact, the only reason I attempted to find out about Eveline is because of the only other marked monument in the Bell Family cemetery. It is the marker for two children: Eveline Alice Bell, Born 1/29/1850 died 11/13/1850; and Mary P. Bell, Born 10/8/1845, died 9/19/1858. These two children are the grandchildren of Montgomery Bell, daughters of his daughter Eveline, and his nephew L. Bell. There were at least two sons born to the couple as well, both named Montgomery Bell, the first died as an infant. Even Ed Huddleston failed to mention anything about a daughter in his detailed series on Bell, but she existed. There is a second hand story told in a letter written long after Bell's death that mentions the story. It is about a young woman, named only "Miss Moss". Michael Holt has found this much information on what occurred, "A preacher came around as they did in those days, and she had had the baby and was going to marry him, for some reason, it didn't give why, she refused to marry him, he took the baby and his slaves raised it." Eveline married her father's nephew, James L. Bell. We can only hope that there was some happiness in her life, the markers tell of the sadness. Her daughter Eveline Alice Bell born in 1850, and died a little more than 21 months later. Her daughter Mary P. was born in 1845, and died shortly before her 13th birthday. Her husband James' death was listed in the 1860 census, as "suicide by laudium" in February. Of course, in the middle of all this, her father died April 1st of 1855. One can only imagine how the losses affected her. Story has it that Bell had several children by white women as well as slaves, Holt can prove only one other than Eveline so far, "there's a family in Nashville that are related to him." In fact, Holt has the death certificate of one "Lucy Bell". Lucy was a housekeeper, listed as "colored" in the box marked "Color or I on the old paper. She was born on November 22, 1838 and died in Ashland City on September 15, 1917 where she was buried. She was nearly 79 years of age. Her certificate lists her mother as "Patsy Bell", and her father as "Montgomery Bell." He would have been 69 years of age when she was born. Of course we have mentioned young Montgomery Bell's trek to Kentucky from Pennsylvania with his recently widowed sister Elizabeth and her six children. We also have a few first hand accounts of Bell's treatment of his family thanks to letters written, and Huddleston's research. One letter, written by Bell's great-great nephew tells of Bell's generosity at the death of the boy's father. He and his mother traveled to Bell's home in 1850, but the memories were only written 75 years later. The boy was Robert Woods Miller, son of Bell's grandniece Elizabeth Miller. According to Miller's memory, his mother told Bell that she wanted to take her son from Gallatin to Lebanon where he could receive a good education. Bell instructed his great-nephew George Bain, who had come to aid Bell manage his business in 1846, to "give Bettie a thousand dollars". Here is how the transaction occurred according to Miller's letter: "Mr. Bain went to a desk, pulled out a drawer, counted out the money and gave it mother - and of course I peeped that drawer was full of money, all mixed up. Mr. Bain ran his hands around about the bills till he found what he wanted". Bell also wanted to give them two slaves, but Miller said she had all the servants she wanted. This occurred 5 years before Bell's death. It is said that Bell's personality was different in his later years. Mellowed, and even regretful of the toll his use of slaves had taken on hundreds of people, and families. Huddleston described him as "strong-willed, dynamic, virile", a man who knew himself and was not well liked by many people. "One modern document says Bell was to 'some a saint, to some a devil', according to the Huddleston series. The saint could be and is said of many a modern day business person; perhaps in some ways Bell was way ahead of his time. But he lived in his time, and his time included slavery. He took advantage of it as many did, and built a fortune with the use of those hands. As we've followed the history of Montgomery Bell from Pennsylvania, through Kentucky into middle Tennessee, we've learned that there is so much yet to learn about this man who is credited with the birth of manufacturing in our state. Although Tennessee is not known as a hotbed of slavery during it's time, Montgomery Bell held at least 300 slaves at one time, probably more. He also hired the slaves of other people to help him dig his tunnels, and forge his iron, and farm his land. They created farm tools and cannon balls, kitchen kettles and huge sugar-boiling vats. From Huddleston "From the heavily wooded hills and valleys of a new land they cut cordwood, used in making the vital charcoal that kept Bell's furnaces glowing." He not only worked

he educated them. The work in the tunnels required knowledge, and although there was a highly educated overseer of the project, the project was massive and required skilled workers. He treated his slaves the same as many other slave owners in his time. He could be cruel or generous, protective or lecherous. He was loved and hated by some, and yet had to spend large amounts of money tracking down runaways. It is the story of his life; a man who had at least two faces, two personalities, two lives. It is apparent in reading of the man that his earlier years were quite different from his last. It is in his last years, that he gained the description "emancipator." The American Colonization Society was organized in 1817 to resettle African Americans to West Africa. Yes, there were some slaveholders who, for a variety of reasons, chose to free their slaves and send them back to Africa. Some of them had humanitarian reasons in mind, some just trying to erase what they now understood to be a wrong, and yet others who were becoming alarmed at the number of slaves in the country. Whatever their reasons, the American Colonization Society was the vessel that made relocation possible. Huddleston explains: "The Society was sponsoring the state of Liberia, on Africa's northwestern bulge. It had representatives in Nashville, Franklin, and other Tennessee towns." Liberia was taken from the natives for the purpose of relocating slaves. This was the cause for some of the problems the slaves encountered after they arrived. At the age of 85, Bell freed 38 slaves in December of 1853, at great cost to himself. They were the first of two groups of slaves freed by Bell, who reportedly intended to free many more. 50 were sent in the second group in May of 1854. From records of the Society's Executive Committee dated June 23, 1854, Huddleston quotes: "The Secretary stated that Montgomery Bell, Esquire, of Tennessee, having sent to Liberia 38 of his iron men in the 'General Pierce' last December, had sent more in the 'Sophie Walker' last month, and that he intends to send another large company about the first of December next, and the remainder of his slaves as soon as complete arrangements, making in all about 250 citizens for Liberia ... He [Bell] intends to commission his (great) nephew, George C. Bain, to visit Liberia and see people in selecting the best location ... and making all necessary arrangements for their business of making iron (in Liberia)". The cost of all this is difficult to figure and exaggerated in many documents. There was a \$500 bond required on each slave, which held the slave's owner accountable for his or her behavior. There were also transportation costs, and Bell reportedly gave each enough money to survive for six months. It was his hope that they would find iron and use their education to make it of. But freedom wasn't easy in Liberia. Disease, the animosity of the natives, and the downfall of a dysfunctional family set adrift doomed the freed. The relocated even set up their own system of slavery within their colony, which isn't so hard to understand. After all, it's all many of them ever knew. Bell didn't get the chance to all of his slaves. He died in April of 1855, with many of his slaves still listed and bequeathed in his will to family members. We know little to nothing about the slave who went, and as little of the one's that stayed on. The Library of Congress has photographs from an American Colonization Society collection of American slaves, but they are all listed as "unidentified". Bell's freeing of these slaves was one of his last known accomplishments. Among the greatest accomplishments he achieved with his slaves was the digging of the Narrows Tunnels. We know of one, and there is a map locating the other, which was intentionally unfinished. One has to wonder if thousands of people have floated by it, possibly even noticed something different, but had no idea there was a mystery there on the river to be identified. Almost all of us know where it is, and lots of us have enjoyed time there, swimming, picnicking, and relaxing. The Narrows Tunnel is a beautiful place with a rushing waterfall, a cave, a swimming hole, trees, birds, peace and quiet. Although we have enjoyed its beauty, and maybe even marveled at its design, most of us have never really taken the time to understand where it came from, who designed it, who dug it ... and why. Thanks to the research of Ed Huddleston in his 1955 series for the Nashville Banner, Bill Brehm and his work published in 1993 called *Along The Harpeth*, and Michael Holt in his research for a book due out this year, there is quite a bit of information on the tunnel we know. But here is something most of you don't know. There is a second tunnel ... or is there? The first tunnel was dug sometime before 1823. It was Bell's and although it was often referred to as "Bell's Folly", it made sense. Brehm's description of the river at the Narrows explains why in part: "The Narrows of the Harpeth is a beautiful and most, unusual place. For people interested in nature or history, or those who just like to get away from it all, this location is highly recommended. Here the river strikes one of the many high hills which blocks its path to the Cumberland River, causing it to turn sharply to the south. From here it begins a long, sweeping path which brings the stream back to within a hundred or so feet of the opposite river basin. Over the centuries, this constant battle between water and stone has worn both sides of the hill, leaving only a tall, thin wall of limestone to separate the two riverbeds. Without a doubt, this is the most unusual and best-known, natural feature along the Harpeth." But Bell saw more, much more in the "thin wall of limestone". He saw rushing water, and with that water would come enough power to drive his operate furnaces and forges, even things beyond his imagination's boundaries. It took more than imagination to dig this dream though. Samuel W. Adkisson came along, and although the scope of his contribution isn't clear, his expertise in mechanics, mathematics and engineering are what made the tunnel a reality. That, and the work, and undoubtedly the blood of Bell's many slaves made the tunnel a reality. They "slammed it through about 90 feet of solid rock ... while the skeptics snickered" according to Huddleston. The snickers became downright laughter for a time, until the waters rushed through and the forge began to operate. But we know that tunnel; we can and imagine Bell's sense of accomplishment when the water roared through. What is this about a second tunnel? In order to hear about the second tunnel, you have to understand what has become a theme of this series. Bell was a man of mystery, whether by fate or design, there is very little known about him. There are very few hand accounts of conversations with him, or letters written by him or even about him. Most of what is available is second and third hand information, legend and guesswork, and much of it was written so long after his death as to make it suspect. Huddleston uncovered enough about that second tunnel to mention it, and Michael Holt has a map with enough detail to make it believable. One must wonder how many canoes have drifted silently past this mysterious engineering feat, and either not seen because the water was too high, or possibly saw it, but had no idea that it was worth noting. Huddleston notes that in a document to the State Legislature by Bell in 1833, he mentions a second complete tunnel. According to Huddleston and the document, "Bell was seeking 'legal clearance to enter and claim additional lands in the form of a circle' about his already vast holdings at the Narrows." He cited the need for cordwood. This petition was probably presented in 1833, and mentioned the second tunnel complete. But then there is that County Court Sale document, available for view at the state archives, generously shared by Michael Holt. It is dated Tuesday, November 27th, 1883. It offers for sale "that noted piece of property in Cheatham County, State of Tennessee, known as the Narrows of the Harpeth". In the description of the property, the other, two hundred and twenty-six feet distant, purposely left incomplete by a thin web of rock to shut off the flow of water. This power and the land combined presents a peculiar opportunity to the manufacturer for investing in a property that furnishes both the raw material and the most economic and convenient means of working it into commercial form for many articles such as wood, grain, leather, iron, etc. Sale to take place at the Tunnel." The document is signed by T. A. Turner, Court Clerk, Ashland City, Cheatham County. Was Bell just stretching the truth a little to the State Legislature? Is there really a second tunnel, just below the surface high spring waters of the Harpeth, waiting to be discovered and verified? There are only bits and pieces, and deal documentation, advertisements in old newspaper sales, rewards for runaway slaves. In the archives at the Tennessee State Library there are letters written by later historians, trying to gather information on the "Ironmaster". They too were frustrated by the lack of information on the man, and the reluctance, or downright refusal of family members to communicate with the fact, one of the oddest, and saddest of these non-existent records, is any mention of his daughter, Evaline. Two of her children are buried in the family plot, with a marker right next to Montgomery Bell himself. It takes a bit of research to even find out who the children are. In all the documents I have seen, and there are quite a few, she is never mentioned. In Montgomery Bell's will, Evaline's husband, Thomas L. Bell, was given 1/2 of 1/8 of his estate. This by virtue of the fact that he was also Montgomery's nephew. Montgomery Bell had 8 brothers and sisters, and Thomas had one sibling, therefore he received 1/2 of the 1/8 share his father received. Michael Holt says that Bell had already taken care of his daughter and nephew/son-in-law in a "conveyance" in 1851. He gave them about 500 acres near the Narrows, the operation known as Patterson Forge, and 72 slaves. Apparently he did have at least one "friend". This friend apparently felt close enough to Bell to tell him what others were that digging a tunnel through the Narrows was foolishness. From Livingston's *Portrait of American's Now Living*: "One of his most intimate friends, a lawyer of great eminence and reputed a man of great practical wisdom, exerted every influence to turn him from his purpose; assured him 'he would waste all he had made, by his endeavor to accomplish an impossibility; that he would never see daylight through that hill'". And what of the slaves that were sent to Liberia shortly before his death? Nannie (Mrs. Isaac S.) Boyd, of New York, was trying to gather information on Bell in the 1920's-30's. She also encountered the same problems researchers encounter today, rumors, gossip, half-truths and stone walls. In a letter she received from Andrew M. Sea Jr. of Louisville, KY written March 22, 1926: "Montgomery Bell owned and have always understood, about 1500 negroes, and one of his big schemes was to colonize these Negroes in Africa. This was a wonderful conception and only in Bell blocked its execution". 1500 slaves! I doubt it. As we stated in an earlier entry, The American Colonization Society (ACS), organized in 1817 to resettle African Americans to West Africa, was the vehicle for returning slaves to Liberia, on "Africa's northwestern bulge". The reasons owners had for sending slaves back could have included everything from pure humanitarianism, to fear that there were already too many slaves in the country. It wasn't cheap to send slaves back this way. But thanks to us and their records, we at least know a little more about some of Bell's slaves, than we do about his own daughter. This from the Journal of the Executive Committee ACS in December of 1853, signed by W. McLain: "The most interesting and extraordinary part of this expedition was a family or thirty-eight, consisting of a man and wife and their children and grandchildren, from near Nashville, Tenn., liberated by Col. Montgomery Bell, a gentleman 85 years old. He gave them everything requisite an outfit, and paid us \$2,000 for their transportation and support six months in Liberia. He has a large number more, of whom he wants to send about eighty as soon as (we) will take them, and is willing to pay one half the expenses of transportation and support six months in Liberia, besides giving them a comfortable outfit, and paying their expenses to the port of embarkation. These people are the iron men of Tennessee, to whom we have heretofore made allusion. Mr. Bell has long been known as one of the largest manufacturers of iron and his slaves have been his only workmen. They thoroughly understand the business, and have among them miners, colliers, moulders, and are fully competent to build a furnace for making iron, and carrying it on themselves. They are men of high moral character, which would render their acquisition to any country. Thomas Scott, the patriarch of the company who sailed in the General Pierce, helped to make the canon balls which were fired from behi

cotton bales at the battle of New Orleans, and he is yet a man of great activity and energy of character. He and his whole family entertain the very highest respect and veneration for their late master and their valued friend. His last words to me as they stood on the deck of the vessel, were "Do write a most loving letter to my old n and tell him how much we love him, and will never stop thanking to Lord for his goodness to us". Montgomery Bell, in spite of what must have been great wealth, in many ways like a pauper. His diet was simple, his dress was plain, and although he owned more than one magnificent home, he died in a small but much favored home called Valley Forge. From the archives: "The home at Valley Forge was evidently smaller and had been permitted to fall into disrepair even before the ironmaster died although it is said he insisted in going back there to die. One account has it that the house was so open, snow fell in on his deathbed." As we have already documented Bell freed at least 88 of his slaves before his death, and may have had plans to free many more. He also left \$20,000 in his will, "to be used in the establishment of an academy to bear his name, wherein 25 worthy boys were to be educated free of cost, 10 from Davidson and 5 each from 3 surrounding counties." Due to some very poor financial handling, the money grew and the bequest became reality. From Huddleston: "By 1867, Bell's bequest had grown to \$50,000, drawing \$3000 interest annually. Montgomery Bell, 12 years in his grave, was having his resolute way. MBA [Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville] began." That bequest, and the subsequent growth and expansion of the boy's school in Nashville, as well as the state park named for Bell in Dickson County, have done the most to keep his name alive. Huddleston poignantly describes the quiet death of this man, and the lack of information about his life: "The money grew. War clouds were gathering. Montgomery Bell slept on in a lonely room at the Narrows of the Harpeth. Legends were springing up about him., but the historians passed him by, only about 36 directly spoken words from his mouth appear to have come down to us." His daughter Eveline is an equal mystery. Surviving family members either don't know about her or aren't talking. We don't even know what Eveline's mother's name was. "Miss Moss" is as close as I have been able to come. His slaves, the ones who fulfilled his visions and built his dreams, will for the most part forever remain, nameless, faceless laborers. But the most interesting, and possibly the only repairable part of this story is that there are artifacts, possibly hundreds of them, scattered throughout our county and others. They aren't being collected in a museum, they aren't being protected, they aren't being preserved. Many of you have some of these artifacts. Maybe you picked them up when you were a kid, or had them passed down to you by family members. Perhaps they are on a shelf, or in a drawer, or under the bed. They may end up in a yard sale some day, or an estate sale, and perhaps someone will recall where they came from, and what they were used for. Perhaps not. In fact, there is a world of interesting artifacts out there, not just from the Montgomery Bell works, but also Mound Bottom, the Civil War. Our area is rich in history, and the touchable remains of that history may be getting lost forever.

Lewis Columbus

Co. *12* Reg't *116th*

4 Enclosures.

Bed Cards	Final Statements
Burial Records	Furloughs or L. of A.
Certs. of Dis. for Discharge	Med. Certificates
C. M. Charges	Med. Des. Lists
Descriptive Lists	Orders
Discharge Certificates	Pris. of War Record
Enlistment Papers <i>4</i>	Resignations

Other papers relating to—

Admission to Hosp'l	Furlough or L. of A.
Casualty Sheet	Med. Examination
Confinement	Misc. Information
Contracts	Pay or Clothing
Death or Effects	Personal Reports
Desertion	Rank
Discharge from Hosp'l	Transfer to Hosp'l
Discharge from Service	Transfer to V. R. C.
Duty	Transportation

To all whom it may Concern:



Know Ye, That Columbus Lewis
late Pvt. D. Co. 12 Regiment U.S.C.T.

a member of THE NATIONAL HOME FOR DISABLED VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS, who was
admitted on the 24 day of August, one
thousand nine hundred and seven, is hereby

Honorably Discharged

by reason of his own request,
No objection to his readmission is known to exist to any except Pacific Branch

Said Columbus Lewis was born in Tenn.
is 70 years of age 5 feet 2 inches high,
complexion, black eyes, black hair, gray, and by occupation when
admitted a Farmer.

Pensioner at \$ 12 per month. Certificate No. 1074941

Given at Washington Branch, National Home D. V. S.,

this 1 day of October, 1917.

John P. Smith
Governor.



1917 10 12 736

4172

Marriage Bond.

Columbus Lewis

- TO -

Queen Pwans

Given *6 March* 1889

T. K. G. King

Charlotte Publishing Co., Printers.

K | 12 | U.S.C.T.

Columbus Lewis

AK, Co. *D*, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on Co. Muster-out Roll, dated

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 16, 1866.

Muster-out to date *Jan. 16, 1866.*

Last paid to *Oct. 31, 1865.*

Clothing account:

Last settled _____, 1866; drawn since \$ 100

Due soldier \$ *2* ^{*22*} 100; due U. S. \$ 100

Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$ 100

Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$ 100

Bounty paid \$ 100; due \$ 100

Remarks:

Retained arms under G.O. 101.

was Dept. 65 - #6⁰⁰.

*Enls. May 25/64 Sullivan, Tenn. & must'd
Sept 22/64, Kingston Springs, Tenn. 2 yrs
Age 18.*

Book mark: _____

K | **12** | **U.S.C.T.**

Columbus Lewis

Plk, Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Nov and Dec*, 1865.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$..... 100 for

Due Gov't, \$..... 100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

(858)

Wm. v. K...
Copyist.

R | 12 | U.S.C.T.

Columbus Lewis

Rt, Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Sept and Oct*, 1865.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

(858)

Jas. R. Keamy
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12

U.S.C.T.

Columbus Lewis

R, Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *July and August*, 1865.

Present or absent *Present*

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

(358)

Jas. V. Kearney
Copyist.

12 U.S.C.T.

Columbus Lewis

Pr., Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *July 4th 1864*, 1864

Present or absent *present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks: *awaiting muster*
Stoppage due to no report

Book mark:

E. H. ...

L | 12 | U.S.C.T.

Columbus Lewis

Priv., Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for May 25 June, 1864.

Present or absent present

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks: awaiting muster

Book mark:

E. Weston

C | **12** | **U.S.C.T.**

John J. Smith
....., Co., 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on
Company Descriptive Book
of the organization named above.

DESCRIPTION.

Age *17* years; height *5* feet *2 1/2* inches.

Complexion *Fair*

Eyes *Blue*; hair *Light*

Where born *Wilmington, Delaware*

Occupation *Seaman*

ENLISTMENT.

When *March 1864*, 186*4*.

Where *Wilmington, Delaware*

By whom *W. J. Smith*; term *3* y'rs.

Remarks: *Discharged in Baltimore*
at

C. M. Smith
Copyist.

Rap 331318.
S 1618741. Pommom
D. 2935578 med. 108
U. 1818302

F. F. [unclear]

786

Lewis Columbus
Co *D*, **12** U.S. Col'd Inf.

Private | *Private*

CARD NUMBERS.

1	5-616483	26
2	5-616559	27
3	5-616642	28
4	5-616720	29
5	5-616806	30
6	5-616894	31
7	5-616978	32
8	5-617054	33
9	5-617123	34
10	5-617192	35
11	5-617257	36
12	5-617322	37
13		38
14		39
15		40
16		41
17		42
18		43
19		44
20		45
21		46
22		47
23		48
24		49
25		50

Book Mark:

See also:

L 12 U.S.C.T.

Columbus Lewis
Private, Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *March to April, 1865*

Present or absent *present*

Stoppage, \$ *100* for

Due Gov't, \$ *100* for

Remarks:

Book mark:

E. H. ...

L

12

U.S.C.T.

Columbus Lewis

Private, Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Lewis*, 1863.

Present or absent *present*

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks:

Book mark:

E. Austin

12 U.S.C.T.

Company Muster Roll

Co. D, 12 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on

Company Muster Roll

for *Sept 1864*, 1864.

Present or absent *present*

Stoppage, \$ 100 for

Due Gov't, \$ 100 for

Remarks: *Wounded in Battle at
Mustard's Bay, Dec 1864*

Book mark :

E. Weston