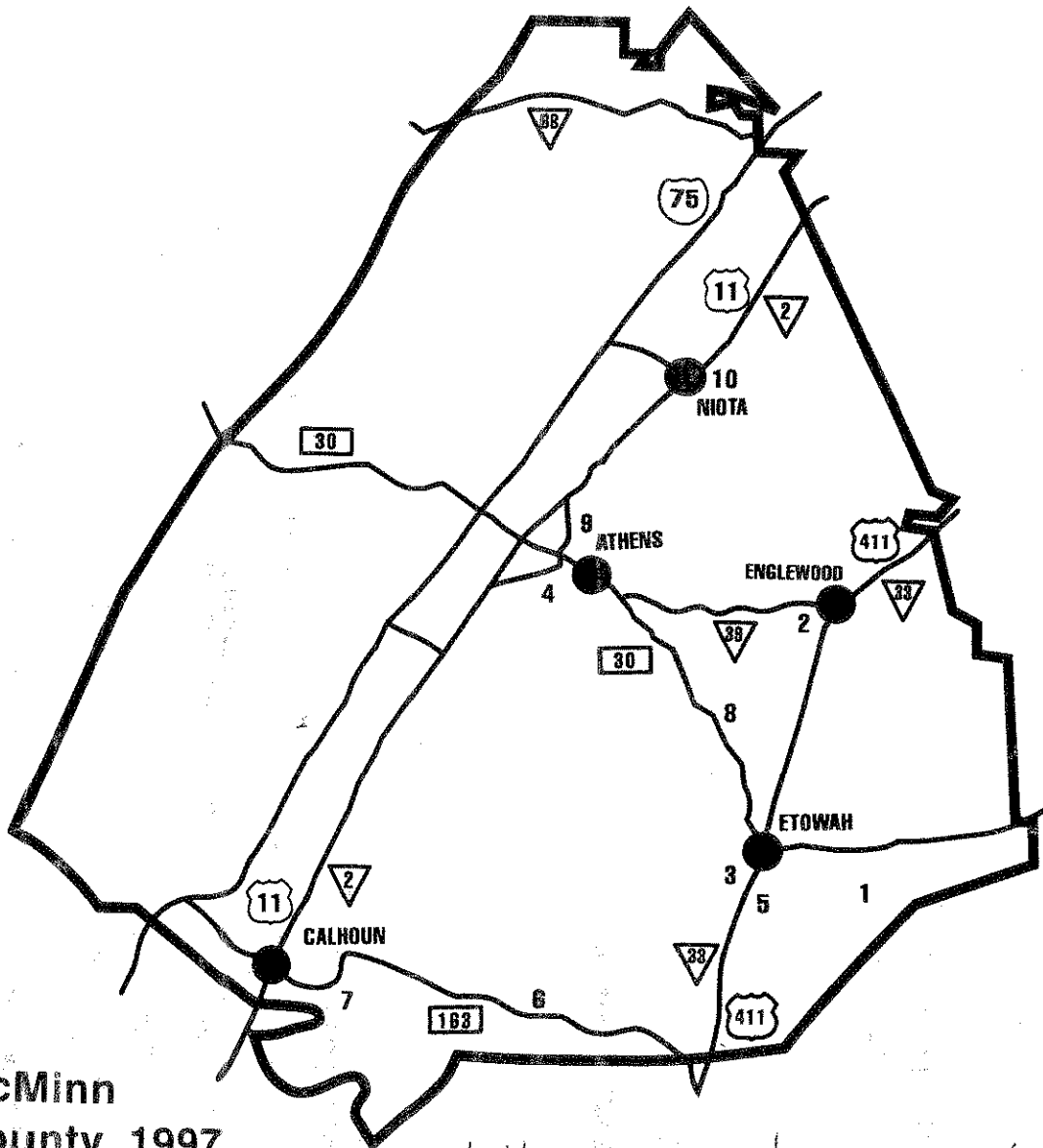


McMINN COUNTY, TENNESSEE AND IT'S PEOPLE 1819-1997



McMinn
County, 1997

McMinn Co Heritage Book Committee; Don Mills Inc 1997

ricea briery in maryville before moving to Athens where he had friends.

He liked East Tennessee and looked around for a location. Athens seemed to be the best so he came here.

He met his wife, Jewell, shortly thereafter at Boyer's Drugstore in the Robert E. Lee Hotel. Dr. Burton recalled Howard Bales introduced them and recalled Burton's first day in town: "One Sunday morning I opened about 7:00 A.M., and this young man walked in about 7:30. He introduced himself and gave his name as Burton and said he was going to open a dental office. He found a building on the corner known as Proffitts and he rented a space on the second floor with a one-chair office. After he was established, he then met Jewell, a student at Tennessee Wesleyan College who he soon married. They had three daughters; Marian Webb, Janie Clark, and Ellen Washington."



Dr. T.J. Burton

The next move was to the house on Washington Street in 1940. The house stayed the same while he was in practice, but as his practice grew he put in two more chairs, three examining rooms and remained the same until the day he retired.

The three things he always told about that he did in his work was, (1) he put the first filling in the mouth of Senator Estes Kefauver's son; (2) he pulled four teeth from Mrs. Eddy's monkey. (Mrs. Eddy had a rooming house where she had her famous pet); (3) he capped a lady wrestler's teeth in all silver crowns because she wanted to look mean.

Burton not only distinguished himself as a dentist, during his fifty years in Athens he was quite active in community affairs, serving as past-president of the Athens Kiwanis Club, a member of the board of the Athens Federal Savings and Loan, and a member of the Toastmaster's Club. He was a member of the First Baptist Church where he taught a Sunday School class for many years, and a charter member of the Springbrook Golf and Country Club.

When Dr. Burton retired, Flem, who had been with him for 28 years asked what he intended to do with his equipment and he wanted to give it to missions. He loved all his patients and someone asked him where they could go and he told them there were seventeen dentists now and they wouldn't have any trouble.

In the Doctor's later days, his health was failing and he passed away March 28, 1995. The community and town really lost a wonderful and dedicated person. Submitted by: Geneva (Flem) Fleming

422 ALLEN BUTLER FAMILY PIONEER FAMILY

Allen Butler b. 15 Oct 1796 in Cumberland Co., NC d. 2 Apr 1885 in McMinn County. He came to McMinn Co. around 1822 and appears on the 1830 McMinn Co. census. Allen Butler

trist Church: (Deed Book G, p. 123 McMinn County, TN.)

He was married to Rachel Hardin (daughter of Isaac Hardin and Rachel) in 1815. Rachel Hardin b. 26 Feb. 1795 in Guilford County, NC - d. 29 Jan 1882 in McMinn Co. Allen Butler and Rachel Hardin had the following children: Melinda, Louisa, Amanda, Mary b. 22 Oct 1824; John; Nancy M.; Isaac; Newton b. 13 Jan 1834 and Thomas Huston.

Melinda Butler b. 29 Jul 1815 married Mr. Baker (son of Alexander Baker). Melinda Butler and Mr. Baker had the following children: Catherine b. 1833; Marie b. 1835; Rachel b. 1840, James A. b. 2 Jul 1843 and Polly b. 1846.

Louisa Butler b. 11 Apr 1819 in NC - d. May 1885 married Dr. William N. Coats b. 24 Dec 1812 d. 3 Nov 1859 in McMinn Co., TN. Louisa Butler and Dr. William N. Coats had the following children: Newton b. 1835; Synda b. 1840; Jasper b. 1842; Julia A. b. 1844, Henry H. b. 1845; Rachel b. 1846; Allen b. 1847; Sarah A. b. 1852; Louisa Tennessee b. 1854; Margaret E. b. 1858.

Amanda Butler b. 28 Jun 1822 in TN - d. Dec 1844 married William M. Harrod Sr. (son of Redmond Harrod and Lucy Ann) on 10 Feb 1840 in McMinn Co. William M. Harrod Sr. b. 1820 in Decatur, Meigs Co., TN and was killed in the Mexican War prior to 1848. Amanda Butler and William M. Harrod Sr. had the following children: Lucy Anna and William Marion Jr.

John Butler b. 26 Feb 1826 - d. Jun 1862 married Priscilla Atchley (daughter of Joshua Atchley) on 10 Aug 1846 in McMinn County TN. Priscilla Atchley b. 1826. John Butler and Priscilla Atchley had one child Mary.

Nancy M. Butler b. 12 Dec 1828 - d. 19 Apr 1869 in McMinn Co., married (1) Robert Atchley (son of Joshua Atchley) on 11 Sept 1845 and (2) Andrew J. Price 1 Oct 1852 in Meigs Co., TN.

Isaac Butler b. 13 Mar 1832 in McMinn Co., TN married (1) Martha Price 11 Jan 1854. Isaac Butler and Martha Price had the following children: Betsy Ann b. 1849; William b. 1852. He married (2) Rachel Watson 2 Oct 1857 in McMinn Co., TN. Rachel Watson b. 1831 and d. about 1930. Isaac Butler and Rachel Watson had the following children: Allen b. Jan 1860; Henry Lee b. 5 Oct 1863; Andrew Jackson b. 17 Mar. 1865; John b. 1867.

Thomas Huston Butler b. 1 Aug 1836 in McMinn Co., TN and d. 9 Nov 1918 in McMinn Co., TN. He served in the Confederate Army in McMinn Co., TN, 5th McKenzies Cavalry during the civil war. He was married (1) Nancy A. Kiser on 19 Feb 1857. Nancy A. Kiser b. Dec 1840 in TN. Thomas Huston Butler and Nancy A. Kiser had the following children: Mary "Mollie" b. 8 Nov 1858; Joseph R. b. Nov 1859; Rachel b. 1863; Allen b. 1865; Richard b. 1867; Robert Lee b. 22 Mar 1869 - d. 30 Aug 1878; Thomas Dec 1870; Josephine b. 1873; Oliver 12 Jul 1877; Callie b. Oct 1882. He married (2) Addie Cobble on 5 Oct. 1904. Addie Cobble b. 1878 in TN. Submitted by: Butler Family

423 ALSIE GRANT BUTTRAM

Alsie Grant Buttram was born March 29, 1891 in Rhea County, Tennessee. He was the son of John Millard and Mary Jane (Bornw) Buttram and the grandson of James G. Buttram and Jane F. Rothwell.

On November 5, 1911, Alsie took a horse and buggy, picked up Mary Etta Bridgeman (born December 19, 1891), at Morgantown and drove to Graysville, Tennessee, Rhea County. There they met the preacher and were married under a giant shade tree. They moved to Athens in McMinn County and started their family.

They were blessed with six children. Willis Frank (born April 29, 1913-June 6, 1987) who married Ivone Benton. They lost their second child when she was one year old, Mildred (December 15, 1915-December 31, 1916). Ruth was born five months later, (May 3, 1917) and



A.G. and Etta Buttram

married Robert Miller. Frances was b (September 15, 1920) and married Cl Wade. James Oliver was born (January 1923-July 12, 1980) and married Eunice S ford and on (March 24, 1920) Mary Joseph was born and married Don Banner.

Two of the girls, Ruth and Frances, w teachers in the McMinn County and Athens school systems. Mary Jo did secretarial w Willis was a groceryman and car salesr James was a veteran of World War II, serve Circuit Court Clerk and was Post Master at time of his death.

Alsie, or A. G. as he was usually known, tram was a well known groceryman for tl years. He and Jim Tuell were partners in grocery business until the depression wher sold his interest to Mr. Tuell. During the dep sion A. G. did various jobs such as construc salesman, and at one time was shipping c for Vestal Hosiery Mill. The job that thrilled children most was the Athens Candy Kitc located on depot hill near the Southern Rail Station. A. G. and his brother-in-law, (McMillan were co-owners.

In 1933 he opened A. G. Buttram and grocery store on South Jackson Street and tinued there until his retirement. This store operated as a country store. His rural c tomers brought in fresh vegetables, eggs butter to trade for flour, sugar and coffee. city customers would phone in their orders he would deliver their groceries to their hor especially the elderly.

He worked for progress in the city of Att and McMinn County. He served as a city A man in the late twenties and in 1936 was e ed a Justice of Peace in McMinn County.

A. G. was a family man. He received his education in the schools in Rhea County. He interested in the education of his children stressed the value of it by supporting their sc and church activities. He is remembered by children as a loving, kind and caring father taught them to live by the Golden Rule.

Alsie Grant Buttram died May 17, 1972. † buried alongside his wife, Mary Etta (Mc 1982) in Cedar Grove Cemetery in Athens Submitted by: Ruth Buttram Miller, 218 Pope Street 86, Athens, TN 37303.

424 HIEL BUTTRAM

Hiel Buttram was born September 12, in Rowan County, North Carolina. He was son of Jacob and Julie Keeton Buttram and grandson of William I. and Margaret Buttram

In April 1818 he married Mary Polly (April 25, 1801) in Wayne County, Kentu Polly was the daughter of Will and Jane F Hurt. She was a niece of William H. Fo Governor of South Carolina, and a relativ Stephen Collins Foster, an American song er and popular composer.

By 1824 Hiel had moved from Wayne C ty, Kentucky with his brothers, Larkin and N to Tennessee. They all received land grant



don Harrod

Tennessee 1926. From 1933, Dad h in Eliza- d Superin- years. My and Dad 1933 Dad t McMinn ory, which racter and e told me act he had School at ible Study ty. Mother 's depart- in a food ther of my od store in attanooga Food store Hill store continued re getting iness was s decided wn. So in ing, they ors up the in school ave heard ges they ng career air energy e sported ns. They e with an ny Dad's married /ho soon idge until to Mem- t the Uni- Columbia, istry and s of two Marie. s in late store for f to go in half way od store n whose is during ember of tie more the first children: Kathryn. we soon allowed the time e school e which e size of possible , but he

my children grew up working in the store and compared it to involuntary servitude, but we all had fun and ate pretty good, too. It was great working with my children there and my parents. I would not have missed it.

In his book, "Biblical Backgrounds", Dr. A.T. Robertson speaks of one of the patriarchs as "one who comes with neither halt nor limp before his great vision of public service but comes as one obsessed with complete dedication and prepossessed with the knowledge of an unusual role in human affairs". That is a fitting description of my parents, L.J. Harrod and his wife, Gertrude, who is still living and looking forward to her 96th birthday in April 1997. Submitted by: Felix J. Harrod, Athens, TN 37303

640 WILLIAM MARION HARROD JR. FAMILY

William Marion Harrod Jr. was born on 8 Sept. 1843 in McMinn Co., TN and died 5 Oct. 1926. He was the son of William M. Harrod Sr. and Amanda Butler. He first enlisted in the Union Army October 1862 with Co. B., 8th Michigan Mounted Infantry. In Oct. 1864, he was in B Co., 7th TN Mounted Infantry, Union Army. He was also a member of the Army of the Cumberland, 14th Army Corps and served under General Sherman on the march from Chattanooga to Knoxville. He was discharged on the 27th of July 1865 in Nashville, TN.

He was married 23 Sept. 1858 to (1) Sarah Louisa Lamar b. 3 Nov. 1826 in Sevier Co., TN and d. 22 Feb. 1905 in McMinn Co. Sarah was the daughter of Nathan and Nancy Lamar. Sarah was a tailoress in Athens. Marion and Sarah had four sons: William H., James, Erastus b. 1867 and Andrew Lewis. William was married to (2) Annie M. abt 1908.

William H. b. 23 Jan. 1860 and d. 12 May 1884 was married to Mary A. McKenzie. William and Mary had one son, William born 1884. William married Flora and they had three children: Thelma b. 1912; Charlie b. 1913 and Sallie b. 1919.

James b. 1863 was married to Maggie Meyers of Bledsoe Co. on 26 Feb. 1882 in Rhea Co.

Andrew Lewis "Andy" b. 28 Oct. 1869 and d. 25 Sept. 1921 was married 3 Sept. 1890 to Nancy Ellen Hampton b. 11 Jul. 1871 Monroe Co. and d. 3 Feb. 1940. Nancy was the daughter of Thomas Hampton and Mary Ellen Renfro. Andy was a farmer in the Clearwater community. Andy and Nancy had eleven children: 1. Lewis Jordan b. 18 Nov. 1891 d. 30 Mar. 1970 married 8 Jun. 1918 to Gertrude Marie Guffey. They had two children: Dorothea Pauline and Felix Douglas; 2. Maggie Harriett b. 22 Feb. 1893 d. 10 Jun. 1974 married 15 Sept. 1912 to Floyd Hughes. They had one daughter Artense; 3. Luther Learmar b. 4 Apr. 1894 d. 9 Sept. 1959 married (1) Etheleen S. Carter and (2) Maude Trusley. Luther and Maude had two children: Curtis L. and Faudine; 4. Mary Ann b. 2 Feb. 1896 d. 18 Nov. 1973 married Will Lingerfelt. They had four children: Audrey, Vonnie, Bonnie and Agnes; 5. William Elbert b. 6 May 1897 d. 9 Nov. 1899; 6. Nannie Mae b. 9 Jul. 1899 d. 23 Aug. 1967 married Hobert Eli Stamey. They had four children: Henry William, James Lewis, Blanche and Irene; 7. William McKinley "Mack" b. 4 Aug. 1901 d. 1949 married (1) Julie A. Hickey (2) Bergie Byrum. They had two children: Inez and Geneva; 8. Iva; 16 Mar. 1903 d. Feb. 1975 married Garland Swafford. They had two children: Iness and Clifford; 9. Ollie, b. 7 Jan. 1906 d. 8 Oct. 1991. She never married and lived most of her life with Harriett and Floyd Hughes; 10. Loyd b. 28 Mar. 1908 d. 13 May 1974 married 27 Jan. 1927 to

641 REDMOND HARROD FAMILY PIONEER

Redmond Harrod (b. 1796) and wife Lucy Ann (b. 1802), from North Carolina, moved to that part of Rhea County, TN, (abt 1819) that was set off in the year 1836 as Meigs County. Their children were as follows: William Marion b. 1820; Elizabeth b. 1822; Hiram b. 1824; Sarah K. b. 1827; Matilda b. 1829; Jordan Russell b. 1834; Allen b. 1837; Rachel b. 1839; Adaline b. 1843; and Polly b. 1844. Redmond Harrod appears on the 1830 Rhea Co. census and is listed on both the 1840 and 1850 McMinn County censuses. He appears on Meigs County censuses 1860, 1870 and 1880.

William M. Harrod Sr. was married to Amanda Butler (b. 28 Jun. 1822 in McMinn Co., TN d. Dec. 1844) daughter of Allen Butler and Rachel Hardin Butler. William and Amanda were the parents of two children: Lucy Anna b. 1840 married 23 Mar. 1859 to John L. Pierce (b. 1840) in McMinn Co.; and William Marion Harrod Jr. (b. 8 Sept. 1843 and d. 5 Oct. 1926) married 23 Sept. 1858 to Sarah Louisa Lamar (b. 3 Nov. 1826 in Sevier Co., TN d. 11 Feb. 1905). According to a civil war questionnaire completed by Wm. Marion Jr., his mother died when he was three months old (1844) and his father left in 1846 and was killed in the Mexican War. Marion and his sister Lucy were raised by their grandparents, Allen and Rachel Butler in McMinn County. (See McMinn Co. will books.) Lucy and John Pierce had the following children: Lean b. 1860; John b. 1862; William b. 1865; Franklin b. 1867; and David b. 1869.

Elizabeth Harrod married first John Marshall and second John Ashburn on 24 Oct. 1844. Hiram Harrod was married 9 Feb. 1854 to Rebecca Smith (b. 1836). Children of Hiram and Rebecca were: John (b. 1855); Thomas (b. 1857) and Catherine (b. 1860). Hiram and his family moved to Arkansas. Sarah K. was married on 28 Aug. 1845 to Franklin Galvano Pierce. They were divorced and had one son, James Bruce. Franklin and his son James moved to Texas. Matilda married Henry Price on 15 Apr. 1851. Jordan Russell married Lucianah Coats on 13 Oct. 1855 and Nancy Elizabeth Olfred on 23 Jan. 1862. Jordan and Nancy had the following children: Sarah b. 1857; William b. 1863; Louisa b. 1865; Isabella b. 1867; George b. 1869; Mollie b. 1873 and Hester b. 1877. Allen married Elizabeth Correll on 21 Dec. 1860. Adaline married first Mikle Ingle and second John H. Haney.

Jordan Russell and Hiram both served with the Confederate Army during the civil war under General William Longstreet. After returning to Meigs County following the civil war, Hiram moved his family to Arkansas. Redmond was listed on the 1880 Meigs County Census as living with his daughter Polly and grandson Allen. His son Jordan also appears on the 1880 census with his family. Jordan moved with his family to Sulpher Springs, Texas sometime after 1880. His descendants are located there today. Submitted by: Redmond Harrod Family

642 JOHN HART II

The following was written in memory of John Hart II shortly after his death in the Rogers Creek Community of McMinn County.

John Hart II died at his home near Fiketon, Tennessee, June 17, 1902. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. J.B. McCallon at Rogers Creek Baptist Church, after which the body was laid to rest in the church cemetery nearby. A large congregation attended the funeral, many people from Meigs County being present.

ried in 1834. His second w Womack who still survives married in the year 1857.

born to each wife, only four — the eldest and youngest children. Elizabeth, the eid 68th year and is the wife of first husband being F.N. Mill in the siege of Vicksburg in 1

John Hart III, his younges first wife, is a well known ar citizen residing near Fiketc eldest child by his second wif gold fields in Alaska. Frank lived with the deceased at the

"Uncle Johnnie Hart" as known, was one of McMinn thy and influential citizen: strictest morals and of unsw honesty. He was a life long deep interest in state and never sought for or held a was intensely southern in h the Civil War but was too old

He was a member of Rc Church for more than fifty office of deacon more than fr

Thus in a quiet and hum duty to God and to his fellow dear, good man has gone call up yonder.

Such a noble life! It wo youth of the country to emul

A Friend

John Hart II received ser the late 1830's in what was as the Rogers Creek Valley Civil War Veteran's questic his son, John Hart III, the h of 833 acres.

John Hart's children by hi Elizabeth, born February 4, September 16, 1837; Benj: 1838; and John III, born A dren by his second wife in July 30, 1858; T. Jefferson 1861; Amanda, born Oct James Franklin, born Octok ted by: Paul Wade, 1043 McM Decatur, TN, great great grandso

643 JOHN H.

John Hart III was born April 16, 1841, to John Har beth Spradling, daughter o Sr. and Elizabeth Beaver.



John Hart III I

During the Civil War he i and nights of guns, cann during the siege of Vicksbu soldier defending the city. men of Company D, 43rd. (many of whom were from M

Sevierville. The Varnells obtained land grants in Sevier County, Tennessee when Tennessee started issuing grants in 1806. Richard Varnell had sons, Richard Jr., William, and possibly others.

William Varnell of Sevier County, Tennessee had ten children, four of whom settled at Calhoun in McMinn County, TN. They were William M. Varnell Jr. married Margaret Nelson, James Varnell married Lavinia Nelson, John Varnell married Elizabeth Nelson, and Sarah Varnell married William Brookshire. The father of the Nelson girls was David Nelson who lived next to the Varnells in Sevier County, Tennessee. This group left Sevier County, TN in 1818 and went to Rhea County for several years and in 1828 they moved to Calhoun in McMinn County, Tennessee. Two additional brothers, Isaac Varnell and Thomas Varnell, moved from Sevier County to Bradley County in 1836.

John Varnell was born in Sevier County, Tennessee on 8 April 1791, died at Calhoun on 23 August 1832 at 41 years old and is buried at the Presbyterian Cemetery in Calhoun, Tennessee. Elizabeth Nelson Varnell was born on 20 October 1796 in Sevier County, Tennessee, died on 24 February 1865 and is also buried at the Presbyterian Cemetery at Calhoun. Their children and their spouses were: David Nelson Varnell married Mary Lowery & secondly Mary F. Porter; Zachariah Nelson Varnell married Sarah E. Cate; James S. Varnell married Mary Jane Atkins; Isabella Varnell married ?; Mary E. Varnell married Rev. Larkin W. Crouch; Lydia Anne Varnell married ? Pearce; H.F. Varnell married ?; Dr. John M. Varnell married ?; William P. Varnell married Elizabeth ?.

After John Varnell's death his two brothers, James Varnell and William Varnell Jr., and also David Nelson moved to Cherokee County, AL by 1840 where they ministered to the Indians. The Brookshires moved to Boone County, MO. By 1850 the group in Alabama except for David Nelson moved to Tyner in Hamilton County, Tennessee. William Varnell Jr. was a Baptist minister at the Goodsprings Baptist Church at Tyner, Tennessee where he died in 1863.

David Nelson Varnell (son of John) born 10 October 1813, died 30 August 1872, buried at Presbyterian Cemetery at Calhoun. He and his wife, Mary Lowery, had the following children: Susan F. Varnell born ca 1850, died March 1871, buried at Presbyterian Cemetery at Calhoun; James F. Varnell was born 17 May 1853, died 2 May 1918, buried at Presbyterian Cemetery at Calhoun, married Mary E. Butler; William L. Varnell born 21 August 1863, married T.J.? and Fannie Brock.

Zachariah Varnell (son of John) born 1820 and married Sarah E. Cate. They had no known children.

James S. Varnell (son of John) born 7 February 1822, died 20 July 1885, and buried at Southern Baptist Cemetery at Calhoun, married Mary Jane Akin and had the following children: John Newton Varnell born 12 January 1859, died 11 September 1919, married Harriett Cordelia Cate, buried at Fort Hill Cemetery in Bradley County; Dr. James Sullins Varnell born 30 September 1863, died 2 March 1901, buried at Saulpaw Cemetery at Calhoun married Kate A. Saulpaw; Samuel A. Varnell born 25 July 1860, died 15 February 1877, buried at Southern Baptist Cemetery at Calhoun; Martha Daisey Varnell born 7 May 1867, died 26 December 1943, married ? Boyce; Mary Varnell died young. This family lived mostly in Bradley County.

Isabella Varnell (daughter of John) born ca 1830 and in 1850 census-no further information.

Mary E. Varnell (daughter of John) born 1 March 1832, died May 1886, buried at Presbyterian Cemetery at Calhoun, married Rev. Larkin W. Crouch.

born 1851; Martha Pierce born 1844; and David Pierce born 1842.

H. F. Varnell (son of John) born 6 October 1826, died 26 June 1862 buried at Presbyterian Cemetery at Calhoun.

Rev. John M. Varnell (son of John) born 11 October 1824, died 16 July 1857, buried at Presbyterian Cemetery at Calhoun.

William P. Varnell (son of John) born 1819, married Elizabeth? and moved to Polk County, Tennessee by 1850. They had a son, Zachariah, was born in 1849. The family also went to Yell County, AR.

James F. Varnell (son of David and grandson of John) and Mary Butler had the following children: Lena Varnell (married E. W. Sivils); Anne Bell Varnell; George Larkin Varnell (married Nell Swafford); Fandora Varnell Cate (married Charles Cate); Nelson B. Varnell (married Anna Bell Henderson); Ralph J. Varnell; William Earl Varnell (married Dorothy Crittenden); and Stephen Max Varnell (married Ruth Morgan).

William L. Varnell (son of David and grandson of John) and Fannie Brock had the following child: Creed Gordon Varnell.

John Newton Varnell (son of James S., grandson of John) and Harriett Cate had the following children: Samuel Neil Varnell; Glen A. Varnell; Mary Lillian Varnell; and Clara Varnell.

James Sullins Varnell (son of James S., grandson of John) and Kate Saulpaw had the following children: Roscoe T. Varnell; Guy Maurice Varnell (married Alice ?); Henry John Varnell; James Sullins Varnell; Raymond S. Varnell; and Dolly S. Varnell. This family lived in Bradley Co., Tennessee.

Samuel Neil Varnell (son of John Newton, grandson of James S.) and Mary Able had the following children: John Franklin Varnell (married Agusta Easterly); Robert Wayne Varnell (married Mary Dethero); Dr. Samuel Neil Varnell (married Mary Jane Diggers); Dr. Gilbert Able Varnell (married Margaret Harthcock); and Frank Albert Varnell (married Gloria Leach).

George Larkin Varnell (son of James F., grandson of David) and Nell Swafford had the following children: Emily Varnell; Edna Varnell Pickens; James Edgar Varnell; George Lee Varnell; and Mary Ruth Varnell.

Roscoe T. Varnell (son of James Sullins, grandson of James S.) married Harriett Cate and they had Lucille who married Harry C. Lee.

Submitted by: D. Morton Rose, 3510 Talluna Ave., Knoxville, TN 37919

1170 GEORGE LARKIN AND NELL SWAFFORD VARNELL

George Varnell was born November 25, 1882, in McMinn County near Calhoun, Tennessee. He was the son of James F. and Mary E. Butler Varnell. He married Nell Swafford, born August 25, 1891, died September 15, 1977. Her parents were Ezekiel and Elizabeth Davis Swafford.

George was a descendant of John and Elizabeth Nelson Varnell, living in McMinn County by 1830 census. His grandparents were David and Mary Lowery Varnell. They are buried in Presbyterian Cemetery, Calhoun, Tennessee. George and Nell had five children: 1. Emily Imogene Varnell, born July 19, 1919, 2. Edna Elizabeth Varnell, born July 8, 1921, married J.K. Pickens (see family in book). 3. James Edgar Varnell, born June 25, 1923, died January 10, 1997, married Juanita Harris, born June 18, 1927. They had two children: Pamela Kay and Jimmie Dale.

Pamela Kay, born September 26, 1952, married Allan Duggan, born September 27, 1945. Their six children are: 1) David, born August 10, 1974, married Shannon Lockheart, born August 22, 1971, one daughter, Brooklyn Paige, born



Nell Swafford Varnell, George L. Varnell

August 20, 1993. 2) Misty Dawn born July 23, 1975. 3) Kevin James born November 20, 1976. 4) Adam Michael, born May 11, 1980. 5) Timothy Andrew, born January 24, 1982. 6) Bryan Joseph, born January 10, 1986.

Jimmie Dale Varnell, the second child of James Edgar Varnell and Juanita Harris was born March 2, 1955. His daughter is Emily Nicole, born June 3, 1977.

4. George Lee Varnell, the fourth child of George and Nell, was born April 30, 1926, served in World War II with the 17th Airborne Division in the invasion of Germany. He jumped across the Rhine River in a glider. He was discharged, attached to the 82nd Airborne Division. He married Dorothy Carroll, born November 2, 1927. They had three daughters: 1) Nancy Ann, born February 5, 1956, married Mike Hicks, born July 11, 1959. Their girls are Kristen, born August 1, 1983 and Melissa born June 3, 1986. 2) Judith Lee, born April 15, 1957. 3) Sally Jean, born September 24, 1958, married Randy Kile, born August 2, 1961. She has two children: Eric Wright, born February 6, 1979 and Leann McKinney, born May 25, 1984.

5. Mary Ruth Varnell, the fifth child of George and Nell, was born February 18, 1930, married Paul Matthews, born August 24, 1929. 1) Their son, William Thomas (Bill) was born June 8, 1958. His son Will was born December 11, 1989 and daughter, Brook, was born August 16, 1990. 2) Their daughter, Susan Matthews was born January 30, 1961, married Jim Buttram. Twin sons, Matthew and Nicholas, were born January 30, 1996.

6. George Larkin Varnell, the sixth child of George and Nell, was a prominent farmer near Calhoun, Tennessee, where his family owns his share of his father and grandfather's land. He was injured when a wheat thrashing machine exploded at the Holly Hill Farm located in the Sanford Community and died June 18, 1929. They are buried in Calhoun Cemetery. *Submitted by daughter; Mary Ruth Varnell Matthews, 1723 County Road 100, Riceville, TN 37370*

1171 THE REV. SAMUEL N. VARNELL FAMILY

The Reverend Sam Varnell, a United Methodist clergyman was assigned as pastor of Keith Memorial Church June 1964. The family included wife Jane D. Varnell, Nancy, Beth and Mark. The family settled quickly into the warm embrace of Athens.

The Varnells lived in the parsonage on Dogwood Drive and spent five enjoyable years being a part of a flourishing Keith church. In June of 1969 Nancy and Alex Buttram were married. Nancy and Beth are graduates of McMinn County High School. Mark attended City Park School and Cleveland Day School. Mark died in a car wreck his senior year at Emory and Henry College (1975). He is buried in Cedar Grove cemetery. Jane enjoyed her employment at Wilson Jewelry and Sam was deeply involved in giving leadership to Keith Church. One can see why it was with great reluctance to leaving when in June 1969 the Bishop called upon the family to move to First

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 Bray, 1071, 1234
 Brazeale, 50
 Brazier, 500
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