

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Journal

No. 32



2001



WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Journal

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WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY JOURNAL
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Cover illustration caption: W. S. McLemore Family. (Left to Right) On ground: Anna Wharton Richardson, Idalee Richardson. Front row: Bethenia (Thenia) McLemore Oldham, Lizzie Minor McLemore Houston, baby Sidney Houston, Albert S. Richardson, Albert S. McLemore Jr., W. S. McLemore, Annie Louise McLemore, baby Albert Houston. Back row: Ophelia McLemore, Wharton McLemore, Judge William C. Houston, Will McLemore Richardson, Annie Lou McLemore Richardson, John Ebenezer Richardson, Maude Stevens McLemore, Albert S. McLemore.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 71, Franklin, TN 37065

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Editor's Note

I have long held that the real historical gems beyond price are found in period letters, memoirs and diaries. It is with the greatest pleasure I offer for your reading and enjoyment two jewel-rich collections—the letters of Dr. A.B. Ewing and the childhood memoirs of the McLemore children.

Special thanks is due Ridley Wills, II for making available the letters of Dr. A.B. Ewing of Franklin to his sons, which he obtained from Andrew Ewing, Jr. and Elizabeth Stanford of Nashville. Chad Gray deserves recognition for transcribing the fifty-five letters covering the period from 1845 to 1862. Also, thanks to Sara Peay for making available her Ewing family photographs.

Dr. Ewing's epistles to his sons reveal a wealth of personal information about the McGavock, Otey, Winder and Ewing families unknown outside these letters. Especially enlightening are the references of Dr. Ewing concerning the McGavocks of Carnton and Riverside. Dr. Ewing's wife was a McGavock and his son, Randal Milton, married Ellen McGavock, daughter of James Randal McGavock of Riverside. His comments on John McGavock's projects at Carnton have been helpful in dating the additions to the plantation house and the planting and design of the garden. The numerous accounts of the John McGavock family visiting the Winders of Louisiana and vice versa document the astonishing amount of travel during the mid-19th century. The mentioning of John McGavock's

annual income from his sugar plantation of \$30,000 provides evidence that not all wealth in Williamson County was indigenous.

Dr. Ewing's medical commentary on the citizens of Franklin and his immediate family makes for interesting reading. The numerous references to the death of young children should remind us of the not too distant past when childhood diseases took a great toll. His references to the chronically ill visiting the hot springs and health spas in Arkansas and Virginia are informative, as well.

From Dr. Ewing's letters we read of the progress in the building of the Nashville-Decatur Railroad through the county in 1855 and its impact on Franklin when finished. Accounts of agriculture, weather, local politics, business failures and successes over a seventeen-year period are priceless additions to our historical understanding.

Former state senator John Rucker of Murfreesboro and Kevin McLemore of Fort Campbell provided the second treasure trove of local history. Thanks to these two descendants of



Dr. A.B. Ewing

Judge W.S. McLemore we now have the benefit of peering into a window of the McLemore family in Franklin after the Civil War. The childhood



Judge W.S. McLemore

memoirs of Albert McLemore and the diary and memoirs of Thenia McLemore Oldham describe beautifully their growing up in Franklin in the 1870s and 1880s, a period woefully deficient in primary sources and historical investigation. Their descriptions of daily life in a well-to-do Franklin family are

masterfully written. The importance of school, church, socials and neighborhood friends as well as all the wholesome family values for which modern American society hungers are expressed in their writings.

Williamson County is most fortunate to have these accounts made available. How many more letters, diaries, photograph albums and scrapbooks lay hidden in trunks, shoeboxes, and desk drawers awaiting discovery? Please be ever vigilant, for like a jigsaw puzzle, every piece helps reveal the whole picture. Every historical tidbit adds to our understanding of the past.

Good Reading.
Rick Warwick

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The Letters of Dr. A. B. Ewing (1845–1862)

Letter One

To: Mr. Hugh M. Ewing
(Student of Medicine)
Louisville, Kentucky
Postmarked: Nov. 3, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

November 3d 1845

Dear Son

Three days since we got a letter from you to your Mother which is the third since your arrival in Louisville. We feel thankful for the good health of which you speak & trust a kind Providence will go before you & direct your way. "Virtues ways are ways of pleasantness & peace" and in them may you always be found.

I have been unwell, with a pretty severe attack of catarrhal fever, for a week past, or I should have written sooner. I am better; yet not well; & as my head is suffering very much, I bespeak your favorable charity for both the head & hand work of this letter.

This day, Monday, your work commences, and indeed you will have your hands full; much depends on an intelligent [sic] use of your time, so as not to over tax yourself with irregular work. The students from this will have reached Louisville

before this letter & can account for their detention.

With the exception of myself, our family are all in usual health, and I hope soon to be at business again.

Randal is very busy preparing for his examination, he has a very excellent original speech on the rewards of Industry for the examination.

Your venerable Grand-Father is in his usual feeble health, your aunts Susan and Eliza are both well, as is also your uncle William.

Lately, I have heard little of your uncle Joseph L. Ewing's wife; I fear she is not doing as well as we anticipated. Your uncle Felix & his family are all in usual health.

'Tis hinted, that Jno. Marshall & Frances Crockett will be married in a few days.

Your cousin James McNutt left home for Nashville Friday—he passed through Louisville two days before you arrived there. He left his Father's family well; he expects to attend the Nashville University this winter.

Alfred Dashielle preached for us yesterday; and I understand made a most excellent discourse. Sunday week is communion day in our church &



Eliza McGavock Ewing



John Marshall



Frances C. Marshall

his father is expected. Maj. Perkins has bought the Hilliard plantation & intends to live there. Dr. Glass & your Aunt Margaret left here yesterday morning, they have been at our house about two weeks. Both are in usual health.

There is little sickness at present, as far as I am informed, except a light sprinkle of Influenza, which was produced by the very warm weather of last week.

There has been no rain, (may be a light shower) since you left home. There has been an election for Alderman & Mr. Parish is again the constable. "Sic gloria mundi"

I have written you a long letter-certainly quite a long one for a sick man and may therefore, without further apology wind up. Your mother & brothers desire a kind remembrance to you. Farewell!

Ever thine
A. B. Ewing



Richmond Hall—Hilliard-Perkins-Baugh home.

Letter Two

To: Mr. Hugh M. Ewing
(Student of Medicine)
Philadelphia Pen
Postmarked: Feb. 4, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin, Tennessee

February 3d 1847

Dear Son

After a long silence we again have received a letter from you dated the 18th Jany. From which we are happy to learn that your health is again restored. I trust it will be continued to you untill [sic] your return home & that you may have an opportunity of pursuing your studies to a good purpose.



Medical School of Pennsylvania

Your Mother & Aunt Sally have both been complaining, but are now nearly restored to health. As yet I have not taxed myself with full labor, but hope soon to be able to attend to all business. The rest of the family are all well except Jim, who will scarcely survive your return home, indeed he may die in a few days. I understand there is a good deal of sickness in Nashville; in this vicinity I am not aware of much. Andr. Caldwell is very dangerously ill; as also is the unmarried daughter of Mr. Codie.

Mrs. Grundy sen. Was buried last Friday in Nashville—a precious good woman gone to Heaven. May we do likewise.

The last letter I received from your brother William was dated 10th Decr. at Monterey,—he was in good health & expected to leave in a few days for Victoria. A wounded man who fell by his side in the battle of 22d by the name of Collins, called on me three days since & told me that as he passed



Mrs. Felix Grundy

through Camargo on his way home he incidentally heard that William's Reg't was near Victoria & that he was well.

Three discharged wounded Volunteers from your brothers company have lately called on me. They say he has done as much fighting as any man in the Regiment & that he has made several very narrow escapes. I shall write to him soon, though I know not where he is.

I know of no local news about Franklin likely to interest you much. Something of an interesting discussion is going on in the "Review" about the immortality of the soul. The parties are understood to be Dr. Barber & Mr. Cunningham. Mr. A. P. Maury delivered a most eloquent & finished address, last week, before the "Library Association"—one of his very best efforts.

Your uncle Jesse, from Mississippi dined with us today. He came up after his family who have been here for the last four months. He leaves in five days for home. He is in bad health. All our friends, at home, are well.

Frank Hardiman is an avowed candidate for the Legislature. The prospect of building our Female Academy hangs heavily; about \$300 of stock is lacking. It has, as I may say, come to the birth & there is not strength to bring fourth [sic]. Esqr. Rothrick's Father-law has given his wife a plantation in Giles



Franklin Female Institute

Co. & he will leave Franklin this summer; he has sold the Tanyard to "Professor" White-Mr. Cowley is teaching in Mr. White's school-room.

The price of everything is advancing-cotton-corn-flour-bacon, etc. to a very fair price.

I have filled up my paper & am admonished to close; I have written hastily, but I hope this letter will not be entirely uninteresting to you. Give my respects to Messrs. Foster & Lyttle. Your Mother & Aunt Sally & Randal desire me to give their best love to you. May the blessings of your Father's God be upon your head!

Farewell.
A. B. Ewing

Letter Three

To: Mr. Hugh M. Ewing
(Student of Medicine)
Philadelphia Pen.
Postmarked: Jan. 11, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin

11th Jany. 1847

Dear Son

Another year has closed upon us & we are all alive. Even poor Jim still lingers out a miserable life. I have been housed for the last twelve days with a billious catarrhal fever, but I am now better,

though not able to be out of doors; the weather is now exceedingly cold, the ground covered with snow some six or eight inches deep; & I fear that if the balance of the winter should continue severe, I shall be unable to do much business the balance of this season.

The rest of the family are all well; your Mother has better health than she has had for some months. Randall, Soney, Susan & Ann are all very well. Your aunt Sally from Virginia is now with us in pretty good health. All our friends here are well, except Mrs. Amanda Smith. She is about half way on her journey with consumption. There is some sickness in the neighborhood, & I have lost considerably by my own sickness, but it cannot be helped; perhaps you have lost much more by your sickness.

You write very seldom, for a man in bad health, whose friends are very anxious to hear from him. Lately we get word oftener from William than we do from you. How is this? Last week we received two letters from him, one dated 22d of Novr. & the other 2d of Decem. He was still blessed with health—was very anxious to get home to his family & friends. His Regiment would leave Monterey in a few days for Victoria, San Louis, or Tampico. Your brother praises the climate and soil about Monterey as being the finest in the

world. His companions were all well. Moscow Carter had gotten as fat as a pig. Mr. Andr. Park has just left Franklin for home; he staid [sic] about two weeks with us; his health is very good. Mr. Cunningham's school commences again on the 18th Inst. Dr. Glass & your aunt Margaret have moved home & taken all their servants. Dr. Stith took up the line of march to his plantation in the District

last week, he sent his family off some three months since to prepare the way for his comfortable reception. He left in company with a Mesmarism man, they expect to give lectures by the way. Dr. Stith is a strange man, truly.

Your cousin Ann Dickinson has nearly recovered her health. Judge Dickinson is expected in



Carnton



Col. John McGavock



Robert C. Foster

Nashville daily. Your cousin Jno. McGavock is bucking about as usual. By the time you return home he will have up a fine portico to his front door, yard enlarged, garden removed & serpentine walks to the house, etc., etc., etc.

Mr. Foster's family are all well as far as I am advised. Present my compliments to Robt. Foster & Randall Lytle.

Your Mother & your aunt Sally send their best wishes to you. This hasty scroll is written on my knee by your Mother's fine side, with one eye, the other being so sore that I cannot use it. ___?___ will explain to you the aukward [sic] manner in which a few desultary [sic] thoughts are dressed up. Farewell! Write oftener.

Very truly yrs.
A.B.Ewing



Moscow Carter

Letter Four

To: Mr. Hugh M. Ewing
Philadelphia Pen.
In care of Mr. R. H. Bradley

Franklin, Tennessee

February 9th 1847

Dear Son

Although I wrote to you a few days ago, I embrace this opportunity of writing again-Mr. Robert Bradley will leave for Philadelphia in a day or two.

By him I send you \$30 in gold; with this money I wish you to purchase, for your little brother "Soney", "the child's cabinete [sic] Library" of 50 small volumes; the whole will only cost \$2.50. You will find these little books at No. 146 Cheznut [sic] St. They are published by the American S. S. Union.

With the balance of the money (if you do not positively need it) you will purchase [sic] quinine for me & bring the whole home in your trunk. You will please get the quinine of the manufacturers themselves, Farr, Powers & Weightman; this brand is the best brand I ever used.

Since I last wrote to you, Jim has died. Since Christmas he has been confined to his bead [sic]. At Christmas we mooved [sic] his Mother up home, where he could be well nursed, under our own care. Our other servants are all well.

While I am on the subject of health I may tell you that your Cousin Ann Dickinson is believed to be in a precarious state of health. Moscow Carter wrote to his Father from Victoria, which place the army under Gen. Quitman, reached 29th of Decr. At that date your brother was in good health. I expect to receive a letter from him very shortly as he writes often.

There is very little of any thing new in our town. Mr. Caldwell is still ill-your uncle Felix son William has been very ill with pleurisy but is now better-there is a good deal of light complaints in the country & a few very grave cases-all supposed to originate from the Influenza wich [sic] is prevailing in our midst. Esqr. McEwen's second daughter by his last connexion [sic] is very dangerously ill not

expected to recover. Your aunt Eliza Dunaway spent Saturday & Sunday with us, all our friends are well in Davidson.

Enclosed you will find a letter directed to Charles D. Park. You will fill up the blank left in the poscript [sic] with the street & No. of your boarding house, then seal the letter and deliver it to him in person, or drop it into the post office & wait for him to call on you. Use your own discretion about which will be most to my interest. I have written to him to send me a suit of clothes by you, in payment of an old debt.

I reckon you need purchase only six ounces of quinine-that quantity will likely do me a year.

Your Mother & Randall & aunt Sally send love to you. Farewell!

Very truly thine
A.B.Ewing

Letter Five

To: Mr. Hugh M. Ewing
(Student of Medicine)
Philadelphia Pen
Postmarked: Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

Feb. 13th 1847

Dear Son

Your letter of the 5th Inst. was this day received & as you complain of my long silence I hasten to relieve you of any anxiety about our condition. We are all in usual health & happy to find that your health is fully restored again.

Mr. Robt. Bradley started for Philadelphia some three days since; I wrote by him and sent you \$29.70 in gold, which is the last remittance I expected to be able to send you & now



Robert Bradley

you call on me for \$400 or 500 more. This seems to me strange. I attended medical lectures on about \$450 all told. I have furnished you with \$650 and you now, in your last letter, call on me for as much as my entire expenses. Certainly you are mistaken. Please write to me the items, how you have expended what you have had & what you expect to do with what you call for. I shall wait with anxiety untill [sic] I hear from you.

In haste.

Ever yours
A.B.Ewing

Letter Six

To: Mr. Hugh M. Ewing
(Student of Medicine)
Philadelphia Pen

Franklin Tennessee

March 8th 1847

Dear Hugh

Your letter of the 27th of Febr. Came to hand to day. 'Tis a cause of thankfulness to the Giver of all good to know that you are in good health.

The sum of money you call for, four hundred dollars, I shall send to Mr. Wm. Park for your benefit. I now have \$100 of the amt.-I shall borrow \$200 as soon as I can & the other \$100 I shall ask Mr. Park to advance to you on my credit.

This will make you one thousand & fifty dollars-a pretty round sum for a poor man who makes his "bread by the sweat of his brow" to furnish one son in the short space of six months-a sum sufficient for a prudent economical young man to have attended two full courses on & brought home a Diploma to a poor & hapy [sic] Father & Mother.



William Park

When you first went to Louisville, you wanted to go to Philadelphia & yourself & Robert Foster made your calculations by figures, & you each came to the conclusion that \$450 would carry each through a session. When you left home for Philadelphia, I distinctly told you that I would endeavour [sic] to furnish you with \$600 in all which was supposed to be sufficient & you acquiesced [sic]. Now, how you can reconcile it to your feelings as a son, or your conscience as a man, to distress your family with the procurement of nearly double the sum agreed on. I am at a loss to conceive & eshec when you reflect on the circumstances of the case. You are aware that your oldest brother had given his family much feeling on this subject, & that your Father had conversed freely with you on the subject-he had unbosomed himself to you, supposing that in you he had a friend who would sympathise [sic] with his sorrow-certainly it can be no alleviation to that sorrow for that Father to confess that that friend mocked at his sorrow & has heaped sorrow upon sorrow.

But the thing is done & it is the part of a philosopher to bear what he cannot prevent and the business of a Christian cheerfully to submit to the chastizements [sic] of Heaven & if an imprudent son is the cause of grief to hold him up before the mercy seat of the great God, in the arms of faith and pray for his pardon.

As stated in the first part of this letter I shall send the sum you ask for to Mr. Wm. Park who will be in Philadelphia, perhaps, by the time this reaches you. I shall send it to him because Mr. Toon expects to send him a draft & I will get Mr. Toon to make on draft do (ditto) for both purposes & when you receive it do not, as you have done in the last letter call it my money; it is yours. I hope you will make a proper use of it & remember you will then have received a large-a very large share of your patrimony.

Your Mother's health is not so good as it has been. The rest of the family are all well, except Mary Ann & her child; they are not doing well. I wrote you a long letter by Mr. Otey only a few days since, containing all the news of the village. Nothing since has transpired, of an interesting character, save the "flare up" among the Female Academy Stock-holders.

I got a letter from your Aunt Sally McGavock dated New Orleans, 26th Febr.-she had arrived safe & was in good health. Your Mother & Randall & "Soney" send their best love to you--we begin to

count the days of your absence-long to see you home again. Farewell

Ever thine
A. B. Ewing

P.S. You need not purchase [sic] the quinine, nor the books heretofore requested. A.B.Ewing We have had no account from your brother William since the 25th of January at which time we infer he was well-as Moscow B. Carter did in his letter to his Father of that date. A.B.E.

Letter Seven

To: Mr. Hugh M. Ewing
(Student of Medicine)
Philadelphia Pen
A.B.E.
Postmarked: March 16, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

March 16th 1847

Dear Hugh

I wrote you a few days since that I would send your money to Mr. Wm. Park who was advised to cash the check & pay over the amt. to you. When Mr. P. left here he first went to New Orleans & as he may not yet have got to Philadelphia, I have changed my intention & have remitted the cheque [sic] to yourself. The cheque [sic] is for \$300 & is made payable to your self; you will have to get Mr. Otey, or some other gentleman who has some acquaintance in the city, to go with you to the Bank in order to certify that you are the identical man intended in the cheque [sic].

As soon as Mr. Park arrives, make my apology for not having sent the money to him. Mr. Park is instructed to advance you \$100, which with that now sent you, will make the sum you have called for.

You will please to write & acknowledge the receipt of this letter immediately. We are all in our usual health.

truly thine
A.B.Ewing

Letter Eight

To: Mr. Hugh M. Ewing
(Student of Medicine)
Philadelphia Pa
Postmarked: March 24, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

March 24th 1847

Dear Hugh

We received, two days since, a very interesting letter of twelve pages in length, from your brother William. His letter is dated Tampico, 21st February. He was in good health and daily expecting to embark for Vera Cruze.

Carter and Wyatt, Gray & Dabney were well. They were enjoying, with a tropical sun, tropical fruits; roasting [sic] ears, melons, peas, etc.

Before this time, they are in, or before, the walls of Vera Cruze. Now while I am writing of him, he may be in battle fierce, or weltering in his own blood, or (how painful the thought) lieing [sic] on some sandy plain, untombed, without a stone to mark the sacred spot.

What Horror does war bring with it? Truly "the days of the years of man are few & full of sorrow".

Your Mothers health is rather better than when I last wrote to you, all the rest of the family are well. Very soon we shall begin to look for you home; we shall expect you by the 10th of April. Yesterday I received a letter from your uncle Mr. McNutt stating that two of his daughters were rapidly declining & could not long survive. These are melancholy tidings to your Mother, who is, herself, threatened with the same disease. There is not much sickness in this vacinity. At any rate I have little to do. Your aunt Sally McGavock will be at home from New Orleans a few days before you. We look for her about the first of April.

The Female Institute Stockholders have located the scite [sic] on the five points, the house will stand near the old brick blacksmith shop nearly opposite Jno. Johnstons dwelling house.

'Tis expected the building will be erected this summer. There has, however, been some trouble already. Some of the stockholders have "repudi-

Letter Nine

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: Nov. 15, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

November 15th 1850

Dear Hugh

Yours of 29th Octr is received & we were rejoiced to learn that you & your brother & Lucinda & all our friends were well.

This year has been a season of mortality in this neighborhood; Typhus Fever & Cholera have taken many to an unexpected reckoning; but I rejoice to inform you that, at present & for the last month, we have most excellent health. The fall season has been dry & healthfull. In July and August I was oppressed with business-now I have little, very little to do.-and I understand it is the case with all our Physicians. My own health is yet good-though I have had little professional business for the last month; yet I have done a good deal of labor in looking after your aunt Margaret Glass' business & preparing for a sale. She has sold every thing belonging to the estate except Hanna & the plantation. She is left in easy circumstances her income will support her. As I have often told you "before Honor, is Humility." This is conspicuously true in regard to your aunt Margaret. I hope she may long live to enjoy the fruits of her industry & vigilance; of which, however, there is no flattering prospect, as her health is not good.

Your aunt Margaret takes much pains, in instructing Susan & Ann-preparing their daily lessons; & they are both learning very fast. Niece Peggy Dunaway is in our Senior class & will graduate next year. She has grown much since you left home. She will make a woman of fair size & comeliness. Her health has improved with age.

Andrew has better health & flesh than heretofore-he is again at school. Randal will be at home about Christmas; he has already obtained License [sic] and is now (he says) an "Attorney at Law".

Your letter informed me that Mr. Toon had arrived safe with your books etc. I wish I had sent

ated" their subscriptions.

Your aunt Sally McGavock, of this neighborhood, continues to have bad health. Your cousin Jno. McGavock is dashing away at a fine front portico-the cut-stone foundation has cost nearly \$400. Ellen McGavock is boarding with us for a little season. All our relations in Davidson are well. Your Mother & Randall desire an especial remembrance to you. Farewell!

Very truly thine
A.B.Ewing



Sally McGavock (wife of
Randal McGavock of Carton)

P.S. I sent your money several days since; before this time you ought to have received it, acknowledged the same by writing to me, but you are either careless or ignorant about such matters as you have not acknowledged the receipt of any funds sent to you during your absence save one ten dollar bill. A business man would not do thus. The 16th ultimo I sent you a cheque [sic] on the Western Bank of Philadelphia for \$300. If it has failed to come to hand that Bank, as well as myself ought to be advised of the fact.

A.B.E.



John Johnston home—West Main and 6th Avenue



Boxmere—built by Rev. Cunningham in 1850

you more, as your aunt Margaret had given me Doctr. Glass' library which more than replaces the number sent to you. I wish you had his shop furniture too, as I have no need of it at all.

Mr. Wm. Park has purchased a plantation near Columbia & will moove [sic] there in the course of next year. 'Tis rumoured [sic] that Jno. Marshall will moove [sic] to Nashville, & as there is a family difficulty, I think, the probability is in favor of his removal. Franklin is loosing [sic] its reputation very fast. The state of morals, was, perhaps, never worse, in this place than at present. Our late afflictions have not humbled us; we are, like Pharaoh, of old, more hardened in iniquity. But I hope a better day is coming.

The fall season has been very dry; we have had a long season of "Indian-summer" and it yet holds on. Living . . . more expensive, next year, than it has . . . many years.

Provisions are dear . . . will be worth, from \$3.50 to \$4 per hundred & corn is selling for \$2.25 per Bbl. and other articles in proportion. Mrs. Grundy has rented out her house & will board next year with Mrs. Cannon. Mr. Cunningham's new building, near Mrs. Long's will be ready for use in a few weeks. Esqr. McConico will moove [sic] back to town next year. Harvey



Edward Jacob McGavock (son of Jacob McGavock)

Parrish will be neighbor to us next year, having rented Robinson's Tavern. Your uncle Jacob McGavock is preparing to rebuild the Sewanee this season. He has settled his son Edward on a farm in Arkansas.

Mr. Otey is not well; your aunt Sally is in good health, as also are all the servants. Mr. Otey will likely continue in the same house another year. James Smith is slowly recovering from a very tedious attack of Fever. All our other friends are well.

Your Mother is as well as usual, she sends a Mother's love to you, William & Lucinda.

I trust the kind Providence which has spared you through this year, may withhold no good thing from you.

Farewell!
Ever yours
A.B.Ewing

Letter Ten

To: Hugh M. Ewing MD
Newburn Pulaski Co. Virginia
Sent May 14th from Cedar Mount, Virginia

Franklin Tennessee

April 1st 1851

Dear Hugh

At length I have the pleasure of acknowledging a letter from you. I congratulate you on your release from the Hospital, as also on the successfull [sic] performance of your onerous duties while confined in the filthy wards of a small pox apartment.

I am glad to learn that your health & comforts were precious in the sight of that Providence which rules and manages all our affairs. God gave Abraham favor in the eyes of the people wherever he duelt [sic] and also blessed them, for their kindness to His friends. I trust you and your friends may never see an end of his loving kindness.

We are all in usual health. I myself begin to feel the old man stealing on me in spite of all resistance. I have not been well for several weeks. My stomach is suffering & I have rheumatism, so bad in my



Jenny Lind

arms & shoulders, that 'tis with much difficulty I can dress myself. Indeed I often feel that a few years more, at best, will wind up my labors of usefullness [sic] to by family & the world.

Mr. Cunningham has returned & has resumed his work in the Female Academy. He brought with him thre [sic] Ladies, very accomplished scholars & they have commenced the labor of the session with 80 pupils. Mr. Otey returned

from Philadelphia yesterday in good health, his family are all well. Your aunt Sally is not as well as she was last winter and consequently has not so much flesh. Jenny Lind is now in Nashville giving musical concerts in the Adelphi Theatre. For the first nights entertainment \$10,000 worth of tickets were sold at auction. The lowest price of a Ticket is fixed at \$5. A goodly number of our people have gone to Nashville to hear her. We have had spring-time for a week---our farmers are planting corn, cattle are able to make their living in our best pastures. An early spring will be a great blessing to us, since provisions for man and beast are so scarce.

There is little sickness in the country; my business has been scarcely worth attending to for the last four months. Franklin will very shortly be overstocked with new goods. Henry Johnson is opening new goods in Wm. Parks old stand & I understand most of our merchants have ordered large stocks. It will be well, if they are all, ever paid for. Money, especially silver, is very scarce. Cotton has fallen from \$12.50 to \$10.

I shall look out for a monetary crash in the commercial world which will likely take place in less than two years-and endeavour [sic] to prop myself up ready for the coming storm. I must reform a little and retrench a little.

I wrote to your uncle Randal McGavock a few weeks since & enclosed some receipts from James & Turner Smith & Oscar McGavock to him for money I had paid to them from their Grand Fathers estate. Your brother William informed me it had miscarried. In that letter I also stated that the Mr. Smiths wished to procure from the state of Virginia, their proportion of Old Capt. Alexander Ewings



Randal McGavock of Fort Chiswell, Virginia



Cynthia McGavock

pension. He was a Capt. in the "Virginia continental line" during the Revolution. The Mr. Smiths wished your uncle Randal to make inquiry & give them such information as might be servicable in their behalf. Please call his early attention to the subject.

In conclusion give my kind regard to your brother William & Lucinda, and Uncle Randal & Aunt Cynthia, as also to our kind friends at "fort Chiswell"-and most especially to such as ministered to your comfort during your confinement in the small-pox Hospital.

Farewell! Very truly yrs [sic]
A. B. Ewing



Fort Chiswell, Virginia

Letter Eleven

To: Hugh M. Ewing MD
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: June 17, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

June 16th 1851

Dear Hugh

Yours of the fourth Inst. Is received & I am glad, again, to enjoy the pleasure of a letter from you after a long silence. Your letter contains personal mention of many of our friends in Virginia, we are glad to hear of their health & comfort, especially of your aunt Polly Cloid, [sic] of whom we hear very little. I feel myself personally indebted to many friends in Virginia for their devoted kindness & attention to my child whose lots Providence has cast in that country. The Revd Mr. Green, of Nashville, after a ten days sojourn in our family once in morning Prayer prayed for our children that when they should be cast out in to the wide world that they might meet with the same kindness which he has experienced in our humble mansion thus far in life, surely, it has been so & I earnestly pray that they may continue to find favor in the eyes of all people & that their conduct may every be deserving of such benefaction.

We are all in fair health except Randal. I am ___?___about him, he has now been suffering with a billious . . . diarrhea for much of a...year; he is now much reduced in flesh & is very desponding



Rev. A. P. Green

[sic] & apprehensive. James McNutt will leave here in about ten days for Virginia & I have determined to send him along & see if your mountain air & mineral water will cure him. Randal has made a very promising start at his profession, but everything must be sacrificed for health.

You may therefore look for James & Randal about the first of July or shortly after that date. Your Mother is rather ...unwell...to day with sick stomach [sic], but I hope it will pass off without any thing serious. My Rheumatism is rather better than when I last wrote you, but is yet not only troublesome, but painful. There is little sickness in the country & less sign of Cholera than we had ten days since. Doctr. Morton is at the Springs for his health. A Doctr. Bash has settled here during this month; of his character & pretentions I know nothing.

Moscow Carter & Callie Dobbins were married last week in Giles Co. It was a runaway match, he is at home-has not yet resumed the study of medicine. Wm. Bess & Miss Watkins were married the same day! And James Harris & Sally Hines are themselves willing to marry & I suppose it will be done as soon as he recovers from a severe illness under which he is now complaining.

Mrs. Winder & the children from Louisiana arrived to day. Our friends in Nashville are all well. I operated on your uncle William Ewing's boy Joe for Fistua in ano (?) last week. All your uncles family are well. Your uncle Felix spent the day with us yesterday, he walks better. Mr. Otey is complaining to day, the rest of his family are all well.

May & June have been very dry; to day the earth has been fully refreshed with rain. Crops, except cotton, are unpromising, especially wheat & the grasses.

In regard to your promised visit to us with "Mrs. Doctr. Ewing" I wish you would hasten the time and not wait for the completion of a rail-road. It is time to settle in life.

I have filled my sheet & must close. I hope you will write often. Your Mother



Mrs. Martha Grundy Winder

and aunt Margaret send love to you & William & Lucinda. Susan & Ann are clamorous to have their names mentioned, in remembrance, to you & William. In conclusion make my compliments accessible [sic] to your brother, Lucinda & uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia-also to our Fort Chiswell relations.

Ever thine
A. B. Ewing

Doctr. Wm Glass & wife & child from Texas are here now. They have made him a Judge in that country. He is in bad health. Charles Stone & Mary Crouch are to be married next week. He has not yet returned from Washington but is daily expected. Your Aunt Margaret Glass will send you, by Randal, a case of Dr. Glass' surgical instruments & perhaps a few medical Books if he can carry them.

A. B. E.

Letter Twelve

To: Randal M. Ewing Esqr.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked:Sept. 13, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

September 12th 1851

Dear Randal

Yours of the 1st Inst. Came to hand to day; 'tis the first and only letter I have had from you since the 15th of July. I am rejoiced to learn your health is so much improved-may it continue to improve untill [sic] you are yourself again.

We are all well, at home, except little Jno.-he has had mild attack of fever & is getting well. Day before yesterday Mr. Winder & family, Mrs. Grundy and daughter, Miss Ellen McGavock, old aunt Sally McGavock, Mrs. Southall etc., etc. dined with us-yesterday, all at Mr. Oteys-to day all (& more too) at your cousin James McGavock's-I hope your Mother will fatten on the "loves [sic] & fishes" that are being distributed in this land. I stay at home and keep "The Baste" [sic]. Mr. Winder & family except Martha &



Van Perkins Winder, father of
Carrie McGavock

Felix, who remain here at school, will leave in a few days.

You state that you have written often to me, if so, I have not received your letters. 'Tis not strange that you have received none of mine; you never advised me of your moovements [sic] consequently I directed all my letters to Wytheville.

I cannot now recapulate [sic] the various chapters of news I have written since you left Franklin. I may say, however, that your partner James

Harris has done no good since you left home. The marriage engagement is broken up between him & Miss Hines. He has left for Troy, to join his uncle, in business. Poor James' mind is not rightly balanced. There is a screw loose in his head, however pure in heart he may be.

Franklin is healthy & not much sickness in the country. Your cousin Mary Southall is in very bad health. She suffers much from neuralgic Rheumatism.

My own rheumatism still clings to my shoulders & arms-were my lower limbs so bad, I should make a poor figure at lo-co motion [sic]. In other respects my health is pretty good. The weather is now very warm and dry. The Cumberland river is too low for small sized steam boats.

Esqr. McConico has sold out his present residence to Harvey Parrish & purchased Mr. Venables house on the hill. Lafayette McConico & Mr. Venable have formed a partnership as Counselors at Law.

Mr. Claiborne & Lady have returned home. A. O. P. Nicholson has resigned the office of Chancery Judge & Frierson of Columbia, is appointed in his stead.

We have a Whig Governor & Whig Legislature. Who will be Senator in congress is not yet settled. Your cousins, the Miss Batemans, are boarding with

us & going to the Female Academy. Mr. Cunningham has a full school. Susan Mary is at Grammar & Ann at Geography.

Mr. Otey & your aunt Sally are pretty well. Your aunt Margaret Glass has better health. I am glad you were received so kindly by your aunt Sally Cloyd; present my kind regard to her & David & his wife.

Your mother, aunt Margaret, Andrew, Susan and Ann, all join me in love to yourself, William, Hugh & Lucinda & little Andrew-as also to your uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia.

Farewell! Ever Thine
A.B. Ewing

Letter Thirteen

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: Sept. 23. Franklin. Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

September 22d 1851

Dear Hugh

Yours of the 8th Inst. came to hand a few days since. I would have answered it sooner but was busy; 'tis the first letter we have had from you in several months. We rejoice that you have again been mindfull [sic] of us-have not wholly forgotton [sic] our memery [sic] & being. And again we rejoice because you advise us of Randals improved health and of your own continued good health. And yet again, your letter is kind in another regard, you do not let loose a flood of good tidings on us at once to overwhelm us; you say nothing of William, Lucinda, Jas. McNutt & your uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia etc. These things you have profitable concealed & reserved for another communication, which I hope we shall soon receive. Too much of a good thing at a time is bad; it produces a feeling of



A. O. P. Nicholson

satiety-but enough of this.

We are all in fair health. I myself, am laboring under one of my severe catarrhal affections, with fever, but I think I shall not go to bead [sic] with it. Your Mother is in usual health, she has passed through the summer very well. The little girls are very well, are both learning finely & growing apace. Andrew is improving in health & I think is making fair progress at learning. Your aunt Margaret Glass has better health, she talks of taking a school.

Last week your uncle William Ewing & family spent two or three days with us-all well.

The summer has been warm, dry & very healthy. It has been a starving year for Doctors. Mrs. Mary Maury lost her youngest daughter last week from inflammation [sic] of the bowels. I made a "post mortem" examination & found the colon & rectum in a state of mortification. Mrs. Doyle & Mrs. Dempsy are both married-each to a struggling [sic] journeyman. When Wm. Park remooves [sic] to Columbia, which will be in a few days, Dr. Crockett & Miss Anna will go to Pulaski & live with Judge Bramlett. Dr. Crockett is very feeble & declining rapidly.

Your aunt Sally McGavock & her daughter Mary are in very bad health.

According to your letter, we shall look for Randal home this week. I trust his health is now permanently restored. I feel much obliged to you, William & indeed all our kind friends in Virginia for the care & attention manifested in his behalf.

Next week our house will be upturned, as your Mother intends having the plastering finished. Every thing is ready for the job. Dr. Weims, dentist, has purchased Mrs. Long's house & will settle permanently in Franklin. Mr. Otey has been sick for a few days, but is now able to be at business; your



Long house, West Main Street

aunt Sally is very well-as also are all her & our servants.

Old Ben is still lingering out a miserable existence [sic] with his old Fistula & sore legs. Otherwise he is in good health. Mary &da have each had a son since you left. The latter named her boy for yourself & the former for your brother William.

In conclusion, remember me & your mother to William, Lucinda, & your kind uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia-also to your brother Randal if he has not yet left for home.

Farewell! My wishes & prayers are that Heaven may prosper your way through life.

Ever thine
A. B. Ewing

Letter Fourteen

To: Hugh M. Ewing MD
Wytheville, Virginia
Postmarked: Nov. 18, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

November 17th 1851

Dear Hugh

Yours of the 3rd Inst came to hand a few days since & certified to me your good health and filial affection. I am becoming somewhat like the Apostle John in this, that nothing affords me so much happiness as to hear of the well doing of "my children". This is doubtless a symptom of old age, which you may see more fully verified in the tremulous movements of my pen in the formation of letters. Neglected old age would be a burden to me; however, as I have had (and desire) little attention in this life, I have little to loose [sic]

The good health of the country continues. I scarcely have excitement enough to promote health. Last week I spent a few days in getting up a Petition to our Legislature to abolish the liquor traffic [sic] in this state. What effect it may have on our savans [sic] of the Legislature I know not. I hope it may do good, as intemperance is fast ruining our happy land. Friday Gov. Jones was



Nashville Medical College

elected senator in Congress, in room of Hop (?) Turney.

This week, nothing hindering, I shall pay a visit to Nashville & take Andrew with me and show him something of the city-state house-water works-gas-foundry etc. Since I have been a practitioner of Physic I have never taken a day's holiday, except when I accompanied your mother to Va. Now I am pretty well worn out in the service of the world, no one ought to complain. During my trip, I intend to spend a day at the medical College in Nashville, hearing the Professors lectures. There is already about a 100 young men being manufactured in to Doctors-a very fine class to begin with. Dr. Eve of the Geo. Medical College, is prof. of surgery, he is doubtless the ablest man of the faculty.

The Lunatic Assylum [sic] is ready for the reception of patients & Dr. Cheatham is elected physician, at a salary of \$1500 a year. It is located seven or eight miles from Nashville, on the Murfreesboro turnpike.

Our collateral kinsman, James Smith, has married a widow Waller, a very clever lady, as I understand.

Your uncle Jacob McGavock has become sole owner of the Arkansas property, have purchased Mr. Bass' interest in the plantation & negroes.

A considerable portion of our people are anxious to sell their lands & remove to new countries, consequently I think land



Dr. Paul Eve



Lunatic Asylum of Murfreesboro Pike, Nashville

will be cheaper a year or two hence that 'tis at present. Nashville is nearly clear of groceries & no prospect of a rise in the waters. The old Bridge is torn down across the Cumberland to Nashville. By that operation your uncle . . . E. Ewing will loose [sic] some \$3000 which has heretofore been good stock.

Our friends here abouts are all well. We at home are all as well as usual except your Mother, who was quite unwell last week, but now herself again.

Farewell!
Yours truly
A. B. Ewing

Letter Fifteen

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: Dec. 18, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

Decr 17th 1851

Dear Hugh

Yours of the 3rd Inst came to hand on the 11th-being your birth day, and was a very welcome visitor to our humble hearth. It contained good tidings-all were well.

The weather is now and has been for several days so cold that I have defered [sic], for several days, returning you an answer-'tis as cold as it usually gets in our climate. To day our ice houses

are being filled with very fine Ice-thicker ice than I have seen for fifteen years. I am so frozen that it takes a long time to thaw an idea so as to cause it to spread on paper. Indeed I fear I shall be unable to write you an acceptable letter, but as the elements do not now promise any favorable chance for some days to come, I have determined to write something-the best I can under the circumstances.

Your cousin Nancy Claud [sic] marries two daughters to night, Sarah & Susan to a Mr. Claud & Mr. Phipps-both cousins. After which the whole family propose to moove[sic] to Arkansas. This night promises to be intensely cold, so none of us will be at the wedding.

Mr. Otey has sold out his entire stock of goods to Wm. Henry Crutcher & Tom Handy. He and your aunt Sally expect to visit Virginia next summer. Mr. Wm. Park will finish mooving [sic] this week. Who we shall have for a neighbor in his corner I know not. Dr. Crockett and Miss Anna go to Pulaski, to reside with Judge Bramlett. Franklin is loosing some of its good citizens. Doctr. Thompson has sold land, negroes, stock & crop for sixty thousand dollars, on time with interest. This makes a prety [sic] large sum of money. He sold to two of the Pointers. The Gentry plantation of 300 acres was lately sold to Montgomery Bell for 17,500 cash. This is a very desirable location, but it has changed hands so often that I should be afraid to purchase it at any fair price. You mention that Jas. McNutt is a candidate for circuit court clerk in Smythe Co-give him my respects and bid him good speed-I hope he will be elected.

As yet your cousin Mary Southall has received no benefit from the Arkansas hot springs. Your aunt Sally McGavock spends most of her time at Gen. Hardings, she is failing in health. Indeed if you should continue your absence from Franklin a few



Dr. Elijah Thompson

Letter Sixteen



Belle Meade, home of General Harding

years longer, you will find a new & strange generation filling the place of their Fathers. A few years more will lay your Mother & myself on the shelf—

if not in our graves. Age & infirmities

are making conspicuous progress

on our strength and appearance. I am resisting all I can;

your Mother more tame &

perhaps with more philosophy, acknowledges the

fact. Another year is about to close, and we have an

additional admonition of our approaching end. May it

be peace.

We are all in our accustomed health. The country

is healthy, save an epidemic catarrhal affection, which is

very common, but not very

severe. As you have heretofore requested, I ordered the "Review" to be sent to you. You have not yet advised me of its reception.

C. Stone has left Washington city & is now in Franklin—Revd. Mr. Dashiell was here a few days since & advised me to present his best regard to you and your brother William.

As in all my epistles, so in this, give my love to William & Lucinda and little Andrew—as also to your uncle Randal and aunt Cynthia. With anxious wishes & many prayers for your happiness and welfare [sic] I am as ever,

Yrs. Sincerely
A.B.Ewing

To: Hugh M. Ewing MD
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: June 2, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

June 1st 1852

Dear Hugh

Yours of the 17th May was received, it brings good tidings, you & all our friends in that vicinity [sic] are well. Your letter was a very wellcome [sic] one because of your & William's long silence. You are both disposed to write spasmodically. This manifests a want of system, which I have endeavoured to teach all my children. "A place for every thing, & every thing in its place" is a trite adage, yet a good & profitable one.

My family are not well, your mother continues very feeble, & Andrew has such bad health that I have taken him from school for the remainder of this session. Since he has been riding about & gunning ___(?)___ he has improved. The Measles are very ripe in town & country. We have a large family unprotected, at least a dozen to take the disease. A few sporadic cases of Cholera are said to have occurred in Nashville & some half dozen deaths have been announced. We have a little Diarrhea in our vicinity but not cholera—there is rather more sickness than usual for this season of the year. Old aunt Fanny Love is very ill with chronic gastritis, of which she has been suffering since 1st of April. She is better, yet I fear she will finally sink under the disease. Your cousin Margaret Webb has been very low but is recovering. Your aunt Margaret Glass is teaching a school in Esqr. Marshalls neighborhood. She is an example of a working woman. Her means are amply sufficient to support herself without the drudgery of labor; she desires to be usefull [sic], to be able "to give to him that needeth" & therefore she has gone to work. Susan Mary is taking lessons on the piano & your aunt has made her a present of a splendid instrument that she may be able to practice music at home.

Your aunt Eliza Dunaway & Peggy have gone on



William Giles Harding



Randal Milton Ewing, Franklin lawyer

a visit to Monro Dunaway's who lives near Jackson in the western part of this state. Your aunt Sally Otey has her usual good health. Mr. Otey is very feeble, often laid up with a head acke [sic] or a Diarrhea.

I have presented a long list of valetudinarians-I might add your brother Randal & myself to the list, but I forbear. My "three score years" will shortly be numbered & I may not expect to enjoy much more health, but I hope one day "to bloom in immortal youth"; this gives me patience & cheerfulness for the present. I know I shall remain on earth as long as I can be usfull [sic], after which to journey to "mansions" where the sorrows of life & pains of age will never enter. I yet hope & shall hope on, that my children may be attracted to this "house of many mansions", that we may all dwell together forever and forever.

Remember us all, affectionately to your brother William & Lucinda, to your uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia, also to our Fort-Chiswell friends for whom we entertain much gratitude for their care & kindness to our two first born sonz [sic]. Write often

Farewell!
A.B. Ewing

P.S. Do I send my letters to the proper post office? Please informe [sic] me. I see you have a post office nearer you than Wytheville.

Letter Seventeen

To: Randal M. Ewing Esqr.
Warm Springs, Bath County, Virginia
(Crossed through and redirected to
Wytheville Wythe Co. Vir.)
Postmarked: Sept. 30, Franklin, Tennessee
(Second postmark from Bath: Oct 30)

Franklin Sepr 30th 1852

Dear Randal

This mornings mail brought a shower of letters from you & I hasten to respond---one to myself-one to Henry Johnson and one each to James & Ellen McGavock.

We are made both joyfull [sic] & sorrowfull [sic]-rejoiced to learn you were in fair health yourselves & sad because you found our friend Mr. Southall so ill. I hope the presence of his friends round his bead [sic] may have a cheering & happy influence on his prospects. Would it not be better for you to start home with him immediately, either by the rout [sic] you went, or though Wythe, among our relatives? If he has strength I am satisfied I would do one or the other. Perhaps, by easy staging he could get to Jacob Kents & by visiting there a few days, from thence to Aunt Sally Cloyd's & so on home, or at least you & he would then be among kind friends & relatives.

If he could not ride in the stage perhaps he could in a hired carriage which you might be able to procure at a moderate expense.--This seems to be the wish of all our friends with whom I have consulted. I shall direct this letter to the "warm-springs" & a duplicate to the "sweet-springs", hoping that the one or the other may reach you. We at home are all in usual health. Your aunt Sally Otey's family are all living & likely to recover. I write in haste, as the mail will soon close & cannot therefore give you any local news of the place.

Give my kind regard to your cousin Mary & Mr. Southall & for yourself accept my best wishes for your happiness & wellfare [sic].

The God of your Fathers bless you & bring you safe back in peace. Farewell!

Ever thine
A.B.Ewing

Letter Eighteen

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

Sept 30th 1852

Dear Randal

This morning's mail brought us a shower of letters-one to myself-one to Henry Johnson & one, each, to James & Ellen McGavock.

We were rejoiced to learn your safe arrival in health & that you found Mr. Southall alive & some what improved. Though very feeble-I trust the presence of his affectionate wife & kind friends may improve his condition.-I hope he may do well. As the "springs" seem to be of no service to him, my advice, is, that you all set your faces homewardz [sic] either by the rout [sic] you came, or through Wythe where you will be among our friends.-perhapz [sic] Mr. Southall can bear easy staging or a hired hack, as far as to Jacob Kent's and then you can stay or travel just as he has health & strength.

This advise seems to be in accordance with the wishes of our friends with whom I have consulted. You will, however, in making your suggestions be governed entirely by the condition of his, Southall's, health & your cousin Mary's wishes.

"Saving & excepting" colds we are all in usual health at home.-your aunt Sally Otey's negroes are all living & likely to recover. The mail will close soon & I have little time to write.

In conclusion remember me to your cousin Mary & Mr. Southall-and may the God of your Fathers bless you & send you home in peace.

Farewell!
Ever thine

A.B.Ewing

P.S. I have also directed you a letter to the Warm-Springs hoping that the one or the other may reach you.

A.B.E.

Letter Nineteen

To: Randal M. Ewing Esqr.
Lexington, Virginia
Postmarked: Oct. 2, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

October 2d 1852

Dear Randal

I wrote you two letters a day or two since & directed one to the "warm springs" & the other to the "Sweet-Springs" hoping the one or the other might reach you. To day I address you one at Lexington Va. at which place you instructed James McGavock to direct his letters. He is in Nashville to day attending to the remittance which you have so earnestly desired. I hope you will receive it in time, if not so you must borrow money from some moneyed man who can trust your face & your name.

In the letters heretofore directed to you I have advised you to endeavor to get home with Mr. Southall if indeed he is at all abble [sic] to travel as the cold fall & winter of that climate will not suit either hiz [sic] health or that of Mrs. Southall.

We at home are all in our usual health. I am severly [sic] threatened with an attack of catarrhal fever, which however I hope I shall evade.

Your Mother & aunt Margaret are a little unwell, but are on foot.

The weather is fine & the country is healthy. Your aunt Sally Otey has been sick a day or two but is better, her servants seem to be mending. Miss Anna McGee was married at sunrise this week & left immediately in the stage with her husband Mr. Long for Madison county in this state.

A precious revival of religion has sprung up in Mr. Cunninghams family & some 20 or 30 of his pupils have professed religion. God speed the gracious work!

Mrs. Harris & daughter have returned from Baley's springs, not much benefited. I called on them yesterday. They were pleased to hear of your health & safe arrival. Miss Ellen McGavock & Miss Lou Gillispie dined with us yesterday-all very well. Henry Johnson has mooved [sic] his goods into Mr.

Otey's store house & "has left your bead [sic] & board". Dr. Shannons wife has mooved [sic] off "bag & baggage" & from appearances Dr. White has done the same. Gov. Jones spoke here last night. I did ...not... hear him-was too unwell to be ...out at night. Cook assures me yourases shall be well attended to if . . . do not get home in time.

Judge Dickinson & family, on their way home, spend a day & two nights with us this week. Your cousin Sally went with her sister. Randal McGavock has not yet arrived at home, but was in New-York

and would be in Nashville in a few weekz [sic]. I shall not take time to review this letter you may make the best you can of it, as the mail is about closing & I wish to send it. Your mother has just stepped into the office & sends her love to you & Mr & Mrs. Southall. Farewell!



Randal W. McGavock,
son of Jacob McGavock

Yrs as ever
A. B. Ewing

Letter Twenty

The last two pages of this letter are severely damaged.

To: Randal M. Ewing Esqr.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: Nov. 10, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

November 9th 1852

Dear Randal

By a letter from Mrs. Southall to her Mother this day received we learn you are all at the hospitable mansion of your kind relative Jacob Kent. I am rejoiced you have arrived at his home, he is one of natures Noblemen. Your letters are common property, by agreement, your letters sent to Nashville

are re-mailed & forwarded to Franklin and ours are sent to Nashville, so anxious are the whole connexion [sic] to hear from you and your company. Mrs. Southalls letter gave us ill tidings concerning Mr. S.s health. I sincerely hope rest & the kind offices generous relations may enable him to regain what he seems to have lost by his short journey from the "Springs".

Since the date of my last letter to you (and I have written several) we have had affliction at home, but a kind Providence has averted a heavy blow. The joy of the morning begins to dawn on our hitherto sorrowfull [sic] countenances. Your aunt Sally Otey has been very low with Typhoid [sic] Fever for six weeks; for about the space of a week we deemed her condition next to hopeless, but I am happy to state we now consider her out of danger though very feeble. For ten days your Mother never left her. Susan Mary was sick at the same time with a mild form of the same fever. Your aunt Margaret Glass & myself nursed your sister while your Mother nursed your aunt. Several days we took Susan up to Mr. Oteys in a carriage to see her Mother & aunt. Your sister Susan will soon be well, she is fattening as fast as a pig. Your aunt Sally Otey's boy Andrew has been sick in bead [sic] for four months, he is improving & will recover unless some accident interrupts his convalescence. Mr. Webb & your cousin Margaret, about five weeks since, went on a visit to your uncle William Ewings. There, Margaret was taken sick of a dangerous Flux with fever-& I have had to hold the helm in her case. So you see I have had my hands & heart full for many weeks. She is fast recovering & I have discontinued my visits. During the time your uncle William lost his servant woman Louisa. And yet more, your aunt Nancy has been dangerously ill for a little season. I left there yesterday morning-all doing . . .

October & November are busy . . . me-sure I have no crop to get . . . working up supplies for another y . . . corn-hay-pork etc. etc. . . is with us to day, she reports all . . . except her father who has an attack . . . Aunt Sally McGavock & Mrs. Harding . . . both pretty well. Your Mother . . . twice waiting on Mr. Otey but . . . well as usual. All the res . . .

I am a little ailing my . . . to complain of. No killing . . . the last three days have been . . . Circuit court is now in session. . . . presiding-Maney having resigned . . . business in court shall all be . . . Jno. Marshall & Cook have kin . . . to attend to it. Lysander McGavock's son Hugh is dangerously

sick at . . . college-all the family are ab . . . He is not expected to live . . . account was up to Sunday m . . . two days since-his disease is tickn . . . monia. We have been looking for your brother William & his family in Franklin for some days but he has not yet arrived. We understood he would start about 20th Octr. So confident were . . . om him, that I had made some . . . about Jos. McMahan & Jess Martin's . . . found they could both be purchased . . . two would make a very pretty home . . . brother. Before this, doubtless you . . . your brothers. If Wm. designs to . . . this season, I hope you will find . . . venient to come together.

Heaven bless you all. Farewell.

Ever yrs.
A.B.Ewing

Letter Twenty-one

To: Randal M. Ewing Esqr.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: Nov. 18, Franklin, Tennessee

A.B.E.

Franklin Tennessee

November 17th 1852

Dear Randal

I have addressed you a number of letters since you left home, most of which I learn have never reached you & I know not but I may also loose [sic] my labor in this also. However I will "draw a bow at a venture". I wrote you last week & may probably repeat many things then stated, but no matter of that, it does not take as long to read a letter as it does to write one.

Sunday evening I attended the funeral of Lysander McGavock's son Hugh, who died recently at Lebanon, of Pneumonia-from thence to Nashville, by the way of your uncle William Ewings-found his family better, niece Margaret Webb not yet able to go to her home, but free of disease. Our friends in Nashville all well-staid [sic] all night with your uncle Jacob McGavock-his son Randal has returned from Europe-looks very well-

Weather very cold-ground hard frozen on the 15th Inst. With a very promising appearance of winter. By the way, are you coming home this winter, if so, 'tis time you were on the road. As your brother William has defered [sic] his expected visit so long, I hope you will both come together. Susan & Ann have already laid up several sticks of candy for little Andrew.

Susan has pretty well recovered her health again, is not, however, able to resume her studies in the Academy. Your Aunt Sally Otey is yet confined to bead [sic], her convalescence is very protracted-this is the eighth week since she went to bead [sic].

The boy Andrew is getting well. Yesterday & to day your Mother has been very unwell, she took cold at Hugh McGavock's funeral & has had one of her severe catarrhal chills succeeded by fever.

She is much better to day, yet in bead [sic]. Miss Lizzie Maury leaves to day for New Orleans in quest of health. I fear she will not live to return-she doubtless is better than half way on her journey, with Consumption.



Congressman, M. P. Gentry of
College Grove

The country is very healthy. Circuit court is yet in session. Gilliams will case has been on trial for a week & is not yet finished-the pleadings will close to night, then for a "hung jury", mis-trial, etc. Col. Gentry speaks here a [sic] Saturday. I expect he will "break a trace", he was dog-drunk here last week. Wm.

Henry Crutcher has mooved [sic] his good [sic] & family (not Miss Cassa) to ...Shelbyville. Henry Johnson is in Mr. Oteys store.

Young Andrew Johnston moves to the country shortly-Miss Weatherston leaves the Academy at the end of this session & Mr. Cunningham wants another music-teacher. Some 15 or 20 of Mr. C.'s school girls have joined our church . . . ly-and a few others. Good . . . good . . . good!

Our Rail road is located . . . of the . . . pike road. I suppose the . . . will . . . "throw dirt" . . .



Franklin Presbyterian Church



Hugh Lysander McGavock

. I have another letter to write this evening & must note [sic] devote the w . . . of my time to you. We are all well except your Mother & Susan, heretofore noted.

Remember us to all our kind relatives in Virginia, especially to your brother Hugh & Lucinda. Tell your cousin Mary Southall her mother, sister . . . brothers are in good health. Jno. & C. . . . were with us to day. I trust Mr. . . . health may improve now he is wherecan have so many comforts, so . . . & affectionately awarded to him & his family. Farewell!

As ever, very truly thine
A.B.Ewing

Letter Twenty-two

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville, Virginia

Franklin Tennessee

November 23d 1852

Dear Hugh

'Tis some time since I heard directly from you or your brother. I think you both are my debtors in the way of letters.

At the present we are all in our usual health, your Mother excepted. She is prone to severe catarrhal attacks of fever & rather of the congestive

form. She is now just recovering from one occasioned by attending the funeral of Lysander McGavock's son Hugh on a very cold day, some ten days since. You have doubtless heard of his death before this & I need not mention any of the circumstances attending the melancholy event. Susan Mary has nearly recovered her wonted health-as yet however, she is not able to resume her studies. Anna & Andrew are in good health.

Your aunt, Mrs. Otey, we hope is out of all danger & will soon resume her station in her family, the neighborhood & the church. She has been on the brink of the grave, but a merciful Providence has held her life precious. Her servant Andrew is also recovering-he is able to walk about the house. Your cousin Margaret Webb has pretty well recovered-she was taken sick, of the Flux, at your uncle William Ewing's, while on a visit & has been there for nearly two long months. In the mean time your aunt Nancy Ewing, was quite ill-she too has nearly recovered. Your uncle William lost his negro woman Louisa which congestive Typhus. The health of the country is now pretty good. 'Tis said, Cholera, is bad on the Mississippi river. We had not a killing frost until about the 12th day of November since which time the weather has been cold for the season. In this country, there is an average crop-corn, wheat, cotton are good, and sweet-potatoes, Irish-potatoes & turnips & cabbages are extraordinary, surpassing the production of similar articles for many years.

The Branch Bank at Franklin will shortly be withdrawn. I hope we may get another, we much need a small concern of this kind.

Lately we have had two fires in Franklin, first Dr. Cliff's kitchen, next Dr. Crockett's, but fortunately the first night was still & the second was raining or the whole town would have been consumed. Both fires are supposed to be the result of accident or carelessness.

The rail-road from Nashville to the Alabama line is located as far as Franklin. It runs, chiefly, east of the Turnpike road.

The last account we had from Wythe, your

brother William & his family expected to pay us a visit this fall & we have been looking for them, nearly a month; as yet they have not arrived, nor have we heard of any cause detaining them. We are all anxious about them, fearing some evil has hindered them.

We have heard your brother Randal was in Pulaski with Mr. Southall's family-suppose he has visited Wythe before this time. I have addressed letters to him, directed to New-burn & also to Wythe, but have obtained no response from any. He is so much "on the wing" that 'tis uncertain about reaching him by letter. I hope he & William will get together & come home. In travelling [sic] together, they may be of mutual assistance to each other. Your aunt Margaret Glass is with us at present. She hopes to obtain another school, in the neighborhood of James McGavock's & Doctr. Hugh's. She has better health than formerly [sic] -though she is now, occasionally, troubled with Neuralgia. I have filled my paper & must close. Present us, affectionately, to William, Lucinda & Randal-and your uncle Randals family.

Ever & truly thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Twenty-three

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

January 5th 1853

Dear Hugh

Your very welcome letter of the 9th of December has been too long unacknowledged [sic]-I have been busy in my profession, is my apology. For some two weeks past the weather has been very changable [sic] & I have had a run of business.

The year has closed & we are all numbered among the living. Thanks be to God for the blessings of the past year. Though we are another year nearer our graves, yet we are spared yet a little

longer. I hope for wiser & better purposes. Let us walk in the light for the night cometh when no man can walk.

My individual health is better than it usually is in the winter. Your Mothers, is more feeble, she has been in bead [sic] most of the past week. There seems to be no point about her sickness-only a great deal of nervous depression, which is, doubtless, the result of enervation, from her old enemy Dyspepsia.

Randal, Andrew, Susan & Ann are in pretty fair health, except colds. Catarrhal diseases seem to be so rife they doubtless depend on some epidemic atmospheric influence. Dysentary appears to have entirely subsided.

Your aunt Sally Otey has not yet fully recovered-as yet she is unable to leave the house. She is troubled with Diarrhoea [sic] which keeps her feeble-but she is able to be up most of the day. Her servants are all in health, except Andrew (the boy who has been so long sick) who is nearly recovered-enough to visit all through town.

Randal brought Mr. Southall home somewhat improved-I understand he has improved very little since he arrived at home. I have not seen him. Our friends in Nashville are well-Your uncle Wm. Ewing & his wife spent a little season with us last week and Willie & Pleasant Smith & Money, the week before. Your Mother gave the children a little party [sic]; there were about fifty little boys and girls present, who appeared to enjoy themselves very well. Your aunt Margaret Glass has very fair health, she is with us, and if your Mothers health does not improve I shall not consent for her to take up another school this year.

Our rail-road is commenced, and it, or some other cause, has advanced property to a very high figure. Negro men are now selling for \$1000 & women & boys in a like proportion. Land any where in the region of Franklin will sell from \$40 to \$50 per acre. Robert Hodge died lately & his little tract, on the Turnpike, was sold last week for \$47.15 per acre, on time. It, you know, is a poor place, with very inferior improvements-Doctr. Perkins has bought Bob Foster's house & grounds for the sum of twelve thousand dollars.

Sally Bass was married lately to Jno. Ewing, son of Dr. Jno. O. Ewing-all parties very much pleased. The Branch-bank at Franklin is about to be removed.

I have nearly filled my paper & must close. I trust this haisty [sic] letter will find you in good health, with prospects brightening for worldly bliss & future-the long future & eternal bliss. Without a future hope we cannot be happy. To enjoy Heaven, we must be schooled on earth, for its never ending & ever unfolding delights.

An affectionate remembrance to all.

Farewell!
Ever thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Twenty-four

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Care of Jas. McNutt
Wytheville, Virginia
Postmark appears to be first Franklin,
secondly Richmond, Virginia. Handwritten
directions: Via Chattanooga & Charleston
Etc.

Franklin Tennessee

March 10th 1853

Dear Son Hugh

In the Providence of God you are sorely afflicted in a land of strangers.

I pray you may be blessed in your severe sickness. "Afflictions spring not up out of the dust" but are designed for our good. I trust you will consider this affliction in that light and may the giver of All Good award you patience & resignation-and restore you again to health and the bosom of anxious friends. I received a second letter from James McNutt this morning, conveying somewhat better tidings. I hope he will continue to advise us, daily, of your state. Your dear Mother is in declining health & the news of your illness has greatly depressed her.

The news of James's second letter has revived her a little. Such is her anxiety about you, that she wishes me to start immediately for Richmond, but I have thought it best to wait for future events-to await the calls of duty & be governed entirely by

her dictates. It would, indeed, be a distressing pleasure to watch your couch & minister to your wishes and comfort. I hope you are in kind hands. I know James will do all in his power to make you as comfortable as he can.

I answered his first letter by the returning mail and I have to repeat what I said in that letter, that I hope you will prevail on him to come to Franklin, as soon as you are able to travel safely-come by Charleston & Chattanooga to Nashville, by that rout [sic] you will only have staging from Huntsville, Alabama, to Talahoma [sic] in Ten.-from thence to Nashville the rail-road is completed. I understand the stage rout [sic] from Chattanooga to the commencement of the rail road is very rough & I advise you to come by the way of Huntsville.

Doubtless you will be unable to work at your profession for some months, & we should be rejoiced to have you spend your time at home with us.

I have mentioned that your Mother was in declining health. Her old enemy Dyspepsia seemz [sic] to be at the bottom of her disease. She is excessively nervous & desponding & suffers very much with neuralgia. She has been confined to bead [sic] for better than three weeks-and most of the winter to the house. My own health is as good as usual. Randal, Andrew and your little sisters are very well. Your aunt Margaret Glass is with us. She bids me give her love to you & says if she was a man, she would be by your bead-side [sic] in five days to smoothe your pillow, to bathe your temples & cool your feverish lips. Indeed, we all covet to be present with you, to do these little actz [sic] of kindness ourselves instead of confiding them to strange hands, but I hope a kind Providence will bless your convalescence & 'ere long you will be with us a member of our humble, yet welcome fireside.

Yesterday I received a letter from your uncle Randal McGavock in relation to your illness. Tell James McNutt I am under lasting obligationz [sic] to him for his kindness in visiting you & in writing to us. I hope he will continue to write very often.

Your dear Mother unites with me in love to you and James McNutt. Heavens blessings attend you!
Farewell!

Ever & truly thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Twenty-five

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville, Virginia

Franklin Tennessee

June 16th 1853

Dear Son

After a long silence we again have the pleasure of a letter from you-yours of the 6th Inst. came to hand a few days since. We rejoice to hear of your health after your very dangerous illness in Richmond; and as you make no allusion to it, we hope your very fine health is again fully established. I am sorry to find, in your letter, that you think once in three months is often enough for you to write to us-and of course [sic] is often enough for us to hear from you. 'Tis not enough for us to hear from you, not a night do we pillow our head to rest but we invoke the blessings of Heaven on you-consequently as our thoughts are often of you, we desire to hear often from you-and the more especially, as a few more years, will fill the measure of our interest & our prayers for our dear (once a promising) family. Neither your mothers health, nor mine is any thing to boast of, & if not actual disease, age is under-mining our health & comforts. She has had very little health for the last four or five months. I rejoice to be able to say 'tis now better. I am able to do a little more than half work in my profession. Randal & Andrew are in their usual health-neither, very stout-Susan & Ann are very well & growing rapidly. Our relations are generally well.

Hugh McGavock is in the last stage of consumption & will probably last only a few weeks longer. Lysander McGavock is rather down spirited since the death of his son last fall-his daughters, Cynthia, Sally & Margaret, with Mr. Pointer, Sally's husband, staid [sic] with us last night on a visiting trip to Mr. Pointer's relatives in Maury Co. & else where. Emily is a Mother.

If you read the "Review" you have seen that your aunt Margaret Glass & Mr. Cameron were married some weeks since. I think your aunt is happily married. Mr. Otey is feeble, your aunt



Rev. A. N. Cunningham

Sally is in good health, as is also all her family of servants.

Niece Peggy Dunaway is spending a few weeks with us-she is a very fine looking girl, a little taller than your Mother. Mrs. Eliza Simmans [sic] is in the last stage of consumption, as is also Mrs. Tom Hains. Consumption is becoming a fearful [sic] disease is our midst. I expect both myself and your Mother to fall by this destroyer, and perhaps more of our family. We have warm dry

weather & several cases of Flux & one death yesterday from the disease---the first of the season. Mrs. Dr. Wm. Read (Sally Maury) is dangerously ill with Dysentary [sic]. I have to be very attentive to her case, as Dr. Read lately presented me with a very fine riding horse, for former attentions to his family. Business in our village is dull-our Rail road is under contract to Spring-Hill. Revd. Mr. Cunningham is our minister. Our academy is in a prosperous condition, under his care-more than 100 pupils. As I wrote only a few days since to your brother William, I need not re...over all the local news, so doubtless you have seen his letter & been posted up in these small items. Give my love to him & Lucinda. Remember us to friend James McNutt, tell him I wish him good success in his contemplated school in Wytheville-And forget not to give your uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia our good wishes, as also our & your kind friends-The Fort Chiswell family.

Farewell!

Ever yrs

Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Twenty-six

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: July 19, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

July 18th 1853

Dear Hugh

Your letter of the 1st Inst. was received some days since. I rejoice to learn, you are in good health, and also that all our friends (including Wm. and his family) are also well.

I am much pleased with the general tenor of your letter-its spirit & its meaning.

There is one feature, however, in it, you will allow me to criticise [sic]. I mean, indifference to the future. Though a man ought not to eat himself up with cares about the future, yet a prudent forecast [sic] is certainly desirable, and commends itself to every mans judgment & understanding, whether it be in accordance with his feelings, his appetites or his habits, or not.

Forecast & experience enable a man to correct, or avoid such things as have proved improper in former time.

We are all in the enjoyment of our accustomed health. My individual health is better-is now pretty good. I have had less to do in my profession, this summer, than my usual proportion of the business of the country. My business has not declined more than my physical strength-both are wearing out fast-too fast for my health & the dependent interest of my family.

Your mothers health is about stationary-often suffering with a violent "Pleurodima"-which I fear shadows consumption. She expects to leave, this week for some Springs in Macon Co., in the mountains, about 75 miles from Nashville, whither Mr. Winders family-your aunt Sally McGavock, & your Cousin Jno. McGavock & his family are going. I hope it may improve her health.

Randal, Andrew, Susan & Ann are very well.

Circuit Court is now in session & your brother is doing an encouraging amount of business. James McGavock is in very bad health. Hugh McGavock (brother of Lysander) you have doubtless heard is

dead. Mrs. Eliza Simmans died of consumption, three days since-and Miss Rachel Hiter was married to the cabinet maker, Mr. Cunningham, the next day.

Death & Marriage are solemn affairs.

Stephen Bradly died yesterday of Flux.

There is a good deal of this form of disease in the country & 'tis very fatal about Spring-Hill & Hillsboro, as yet we have had very few fatal cases in this neighborhood.

Doctor Crockett has been declining for several months. He is doubtless on his last bead [sic]. Mr. Cameron and your aunt Margaret, live happily together. Dr. Frank Read & his daughter (Miss Fannie) will leave in a few days for Virginia-for good. The Doctor thinks this a very sickly country & when disease is abroad, he and his family are sure of a full measure. From the middle of May untill [sic] the 10st [sic] of July we had no rain, recently we have had good rains and the crop looks much revived.

You are doubtless aware of the death of your uncle Jos. McGavock. He made a will and gave his estate to a stranger, your uncle Jacob has contested its legality-and your Mother and aunt Sally Otey have joined him; because they believe there was foul play in the matter, and not because the estate is really worth contending for-and after obtained, dividing the same among so many heirs.

This will be a busy week with me-arranging matters for your Mother to go to the springs and attending Mr. Cunninghams examination, etc. I have filled my paper and must close as a matter of necessity. As heretofore, so now, give my kind regard to all our friends, and especially to your brother William and Lucinda and the two dear boys.

Farewell! Ever yrs.
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Twenty-seven

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

April 28th 1854

Dear Son

Your very welcome & affectionate letter of the 15th Inst. came to hand in a day or two since. I am

glad to know you have not forgotten us altogether. Children may forget their Parents, but parents can never forget their children-cares & anxieties impress, indellably [sic], their lives & their interests, on the tablets of our hearts.

Your letter found us enjoying usual health-in some respects better-your Mother, though very feeble, is up, and better than she has been most of the winter, yet there is no permanent improvement-She is evidently "in a decline" and whether she will run into a consumption of the bowels or lungs I am unable to say-both are suffering-she has lost her complexion, flesh, spirits & energy.

I am very unhappy when I look forward to the future-the past has been a life of toil & anxiety-but in the eternal & perhaps not far distant future-I hope to be relieved of all; and to bloom in immortal youth. This is a very consoling reflection, as I am stricken with age, prematurely, if not in year-my strength, vision, memory & energy are all failing. And not the least eavel [sic] (considering my circumstances) is that the publick [sic] seems as sensible of this thing as I am myself, for my business is very evidently declining, and my family need the profits of my labor. But I have long since learned "in whatsoever state I am therewith to be content."

Your uncle William Ewing came out yesterday with his carriage for your Mother & Lucy to spent [sic] a few days with his family. This is Lucy's first visit to our Davidson relatives. Lucy & William seem happy in their new home and are very comfortably situated; how they will succeed in making a living for the future I am unable to say. Both, however, seem anxious to learn, and are determined to make the trial. Wm. has his crop all planted & will now have a little leisure to attend to some contemplated improvements, needed about the house & barn. Little Andrew & Joe are very well.

Randal & Ellen, neither can boast of health; they spend their time with us and Jas. McGavock, as best suits Randal's business-Randal is kept very busy in his & Jno. Marshalls office-he has made a good start & I hope will do well-"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom". Susan & Ann are very well; your brother Andrew is not so well; yet not at all complaining but he looks thin & has a bad complexion, as he has been unusually liable to a cough in the winter. I have some forebodings about the health of his lungs.

Measles dealt sorely with my family, but we are all spared-Malinda, at one time, hopeless [sic] is now

able to stir about a little & I think will finally recover.-Your cousin Mary Southall and her daughter are in bad health. Jose is prominently threatened with consumption. Aunt Sally McGavock is declining. You speak of paying us a visit when the rail-road connexion [sic] to Franklin is completed-I fear if you wait on that, you will find many who once loved & caressed you (yes, now) numbered with the forgotten dead. I am sorry to learn that Francis McNutt is in bad health. I hope she may soon recover & live long to enjoy her new connexion [sic] in life.

This morning's mail brought a letter from you to your brother William, but as he is not in town to day, we are not advised of its contents. Our country is pretty healthy. There is some Typhoid fever in a distant neighborhood & there are some forebodings of Cholera in Nashville & the Mississippi river. Franklin improves very little & yet property is looking up. The corporation subscription to the rail-road burthens [sic] our citizens with a very heavy tax. I paid \$94 this morning, the amt. of my tax for the present year. This road expects to be finished as far as Spring-Hill this summer.-so before the end of the present year, we shall be able to visit Nashville in about half an hour.

I am writing a long letter & must close. I hope to hear from you soon again-Remember us to your uncle Randal and aunt Cynthia, Jas. McNutt & our dear Fort-Chiswell friends who have been so kind to my beloved absent children. Farewell!

Ever thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Twenty-eight

To: Doctr [sic] H. M. Ewing
Wytheville Va.

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

October 3d 1854

Dear Hugh

Doubtless, before this time, you have been inclined to censure my long silence; but as we are

prone to divide our own evil deeds, & blame others, often, unjustly, for our own sins, I blame you-

You failed to write to us after you arrived at home, we were waiting for this letter from you, but such an [sic] one has never been received. Indeed it seems as if you had taken a final Farewell of Franklin, for I can hear of no one who has received a letter from you since your departure (except the short one dated "Philadelphia" on your way home).

Since you left our humble home, we have had a good deal of affliction-Daniel, one of Mary's children, has had Typhoid fever, nor had he recovered untill [sic] Malinda's oldest daughter Puss had a very dangerous attack of the same fever-And about the same time, before their recovery, & most of all, your Mother, had a very alarming Hemorrhage [sic] from the lungs-she was taken, while on a visit to Mr. Otey's, and remained so ill that we despaired of her recovery-she remained at Mr. Oteys nearly two weeks before she could be carried home. She is now better, though not as well as she was two weeks since. She is confined to the house, & a great part of her time to bead [sic]. She will doubtless never more, have health, yet I trust a hitherto kind Providence will spare her life still longer. I have procured Mrs. Rodgers (aunt Kitty) who is parted from her last husband, to come and live with us & wait on your Mother. Mrs. R. you know is an elderly woman and a very kind nurse.

Your aunt Eliza Dunaway is now in Franklin, she has been in bad health for some time with an ovarian enlargement-I fear it is a malignant growth & will 'ere long prove her last sickness.-She is with sister Margaret. Son William's little boy Joe has been very low with a diarrhoea [sic] & teething most of the summer, but is now so much better that I think he is out of danger. William, Lucy & Andrew are very well. Randal is very feeble, very considerably emaciated with his mucus diarrhoea [sic], but is, most of his time, able to work a little in his office. Ellen has a very fine daughter, now three weeks old. She is not getting through her confinement very well, but is not at all dangerous.

From this long catalogue of evils you see, my dear son, the judgments of the Almighty have been upon us, but in anger, praise to his holy name, he has remembered mercy-We are all alive-spared, as I hope for some wise purpose on earth, before we make the grave our home-not our ever abiding place, but the crucible where corruption shall [sic] be



Mary, Martha, and John Randal,
children of John and Carrie McGavock

come incorruption and mortality immortality.

Col. Jno McGavock has lost his little son, he died of inflammation of the bowels. On account of your Mothers illness & future bad health, your aunt Sally Otey haz [sic] abandoned her visit to Virginia; her health is pretty fair but not first rate. She is very kind and attentive to your Mother-devoted to her interest, indeed I am under lasting obligations to all our dear friends for their untiring attention.

The summer has been very-very dry & hot; throughout July, August & most of September, the thermometer often rose to 100 and no rain untill [sic] the last week. The weather is now showery and yet warm though not oppressive-Heat has greatly oppressed me this summer, though I have generally been able to work at my profession.

The summer has been healthy, and not much business to do--& more hands to work. Dr. Mayfield has moved back to town and a Doctr [sic] Bostick, son of Hardin P. Bostick, has settled here-both, take a little of my circle, already narrowed down pretty closely. I have written you a long letter & must close. Remember us to your uncle Randal, aunt Cynthia, and all other kind friend. Your ever mindful Mother sends her love to you.

Farewell!
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Twenty-nine

To: Dr. Hugh M. Ewing

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

January 26th 1855

Dear Hugh

It is some weeks since I have written to you or heard from you, & yet my last letter remains unnoticed.

Another year has rolled round & is numbered in memory or history-'tis gone, to us, & shortly we shall go with it-be numbered with the forgotten. Thanks to a merciful Providence the past has not been our last of time: we are all alive.

Your Mothers health, since the winter set in, has been very bad; she has suffered much with rheumatism, seldom being able to leave the house-chiefly confined to her room, and sometimes to bed [sic]. As is usual with her, she is very apprehensive, looking for wose [sic] instead of better. Her lungs (though, doubtless, unsound) give very little manifestations of disease-She is very feeble & much reduced in flesh she is like a Barrometed [sic], very much under the influence of the weather.

My own health is good, & yet I am unable to bear the fatigues of my profession. I cannot do more than half work, without experiencing a distressing amount of exhaustion-Indeed 'tis seldom that I have cause to complain from this cause, as my business is very much wasted-less than half what it once was, nor is it probable that it will ever again be increased beyond [sic] its present amount.

Franklin is overstocked with Physicians, we have lately received an accession to our former numbers-Dr. Morton has removed to Nashville, but his place is more than supplied.

Last year has been a very healthy season in this vacinity-and a very dry one; consequently provisions are very dear. Flour is \$9 & \$10 dollars per Bbl-Corn is worth from 80 cts. To a \$1 per bushel-Other articles, the produce of the soil, are alike dear-Verily, it will cost a man, something to live in this climate this year.

William has had a distressing catarrhal cough for a month, 'tis now much better.-Lucy & the children are very well.-Randal & Ellen have spent a part of the winter with us in town. Ellen has quite recovered her health & Randal is much improved; their babe, Carrie, is doing well. Andrew is in better health than usual-has fine flesh and weighs 130 lbs-more than ever before. Susan is precautious (precocious)-begins to look the woman-has very fair health & has made good progress in her studies



Van P. Winder

during the last session of school, which was completed day. Ann Eliza, has as much affection & childish simplicity as ever, she has had frequent catarrhal attacks during the fall and winter, but is now in pretty good health.-Col. Jno. McGavock & family are now at Mrs. Winders. Mr. Winder is dead.

Your aunt Sally Otey is not in good health, yet she is not confined-Mr. Otey is well-Your aunt Margaret Cameron is very well & is happily married. At the last advices, our other friends were all well.

Some ten days since Dr. Grundy McGavock & Miss Mary Manoa Bostick were married & the next day, they, with your aunt Louisa, started to New Orleans. Last night our collateral kinsman, Jno. H. Ewin [sic] & Powatan Perkins' widow, Kate, were married-five children, each, to begin with.

Our rail road to Franklin, is nearly ready for use-a few days more & the cars will be to Franklin. The great scarcity of money & provisions, in this vicinity, will, doubtless, stop it at Spring-Hill, for a few years, untill [sic] the country & the world recuperates.

Your ever mindfull [sic] Mother desires a kind remembrance to you. Our days are well nigh numbered, and we ardently implore Heavens blessing to rest on our dear loved ones.

Farewell!
A. B. Ewing

Letter Thirty

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville, Virginia
Postmarked: March 9, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

March 8th 1855

Dear Son

Yours of the 27th Febr. Was promptly received & contained good tidings-yourself and our near friends, all in health, blessings for which we ought & do feel thankful.

Your Mother has had bad health for many months, but it has been better during the winter than we expected. She has seldom been out of the house-has confined herself chiefly to her room. She is now (during our transition weather of spring) suffering more with rheumatism than usual.

She has very little flesh & her complexion is bad-She is very apprehensive-always looking ahead for danger before it approaches, and in which I am happy to say she is often disappointed. My own health is fair. I have more flesh than ordinary-yet when it comes to fatigue I feel that I am in the sier [sic] and yellow leaf of age-winter will soon be upon me. I think I am about able to do half work in my profession-and indeed that is all I get to do. At present there are ten Physicians in Franklin offering to work for the people-cure disease "in no time at all". Each on's [sic] share of course is very small.

William was in town this morning, he & Lucy and the little boys are very well. Andrew has been staying with us for a month past. Lucy is as fat as a Berkshire & looks as happy as if a care never crossed her brow. William is driving ahead on the farm hoping to make bread this year.

Randal and Ellen are with us in town. She & her babe are very well. Randal's health is fair, but nothing to boast of-he works like a dray horse, and is close at his office early and late-when he stays at Jas. McGavocks, he is in town by our breakfast hour.

Andrew is yet at school, and looks better than usual. Susan and Ann are very well.

Your aunts Mrs. Otey & Mrs. Cameron are in tolerable health, neither very stout.

The Rail road is finished to Franklin & the Cars



Riverside, home of James Randal McGavock

are making two trips a day 'tis quite a novelty to many of us who have been like a sitting goose watching her nest during life-for my individual self, however, I spend very little of my time in that way-'tis hard, for me to mantain [sic] my family with all my time; without devoting a portion to the gratification of an unprofitable curiosity.

Mr. Otey has purchased a little farm two miles in the country & intends to make meat and bread for himself. I do not think, however, his genius lies in the way for farming.

Steven Perkins has moved back to his farm in this county-none the better for leaving it. Provisions, especially bread suffs [sic], are very scarc [sic] & dear-Flour is work [sic] \$10 per Bbl. & corn is selling at 80 cts & \$1 per bushel. Living is worth living for, this year. The country is healthy-a little Typhoid fever & some Lung-fever and all is told-as yet we have had no Scarlet Fever, though it has been very fatal ...in some neighborhoods not far distant.

Col. McGavock & family are at Mrs. Winder's in Louisiana-they are expected home in a month. Your aunt Louisa McGavock is looked for, daily-Gen. Harding's infant son was buried yesterday-died of Croup.



Ducros, Winder home, in Louisiana

Old Mr. Robt. Davis, (if living to day) is on his last bead. I have filled up my paper & must close. With anxious hopes & constant prayers for your happiness I am truly thine.

Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-one

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: May 2, Franklin, Tennessee

Franklin Tennessee

March 20th 1855

Dear Hugh

Yours of the 12th Inst. is received. We are always glad to receive a letter from you; and although 'tis only a few days since I wrote you, I cheerfully & promptly respond to your last. As then, so now, we are all in comfortable health, except your Mother & she is as well as usual. The transition weather of spring is always unfriendly to weakly persons & especially to your Mothers rheumatism. We endeavour to make a temperate climate for her; she is chiefly in the house, in a warm room.

I do not suffer with positive rheumatism, but a little fatigue, in walking, or standing, very soon exhausts my legs & renders me almost an invalid. Last night was quite cold-ground frozen--plenty of ice this morning-winter in the lap of spring-very unpropitious to our exhausted supply of grain & forage for ourselves and our cattle.

The country continues healthy-I have had two very bad cases of Fever in Col. Jno. McGavock's servant family-both recovering.

Concerning a remittance to you of \$350 I am sorry to say it will be out of my power to assist you. The divide I made with you while here last summer, and a little to Randal & some aid to William has placed me in a condition I have not occupied for the last twenty years-I am unable to meet my own debts for the last year. You aunt Margaret Cameron's means are loaned out, & I am unable to collect as much as will pay her last years expenses. Indeed there is little money in the country. From 12 to 20 percent is readily

obtained for the loan of money. Perhaps 'tis all best for you; as you observe, it will throw you on your own resources & make a more provident man of you for the future. self reliance never fails. At about eighteen years of age, without an education, I cast myself on my own exertions, and have been blessed, "Goodness and Mercy have followed me all the days of my life"-and I hope the same kind Providence will order your footsteps. I know, my son, this will be so, if you cast yourself on him who careth for us, who has been your Fathers Good, in whom he has trusted from his youth until this day. Your brother William's children, Andrew & Jodie are both with us, at present, in very good health. William and Lucy are well. William has much to learn about farming-but I hope will be able, after this year to make a living-last year's short crop has discouraged him a little, but he says he must only strive the harder for the future.

We are looking, in a few days, for the return of Jno. McGavock & family from Louisiana, where they have been for the last four monthz [sic]. Lysander McGavocks daughterz [sic] Miss Cynthia & Miss Margaret, were in town at preaching yesterday & dined with us; they are very well.

Your uncle William & aunt Nancy left here yesterday morning; all our friends are well in Davidson. I have written you a long letter. I love to write to you, this is my apology [sic] if indeed any is necessary.

Remember us to your uncle Randal and aunt Cynthia & our kind Fortchiswell [sic] friends.

Very truly & sincerely thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-two

To: Hugh M. Ewing MD
Wytheville Virginia
Postmarked: May 8, Franklin, Tennessee
Franklin Tennessee

May 2d 1855

Dear Hugh

Your last favor of 28th March has been long enough unnoticed, to require an apology. We are all in usual health-your Mother, suffering a good deal

from Rheumatism, but able to be up most of her time. Sally Smith, second daughter of James Smith, is with us and will remain most of the year; she is of great help to your Mother in managing her sewing & household affairs; but especially for company, as she is a pleasant cheerfull [sic] girl.

Yesterday was our May-day celebration for the schools-our Female Academy girls had a fine time of it. Four or five hundred young people assembled at Col. Jno. McGavock's cool spring, at an early hour-some of our Nashville friends were present by invitation, among them was Dr. Grundy McGavock' & his wife & your uncle Jac. McGavock's youngest son John. They said our Nashville relatives were well-John is making kind looks & speeches to Wm. O. Perkins daughter Mary.

The weather is extremely warm & dry for the season-we have had the Thermometer a week ago at 90 degrees. Spring opened on us, suddenly-Oats-crop is suffering for rain, but wheat & rye are uncommonly [sic] promising-Provisions are dear & advancing-corn

is worth one dollar per bushel-flour, from ten to twelve dollars per barrel-irish potatoes have sold for \$3 1/2 per bushel. So you see it takes all a poor mans earnings to support his family. The Rail-road from Nashville is finished to this place & is yielding (for profits) about \$50 per day, which is said to make the capital, vested & in



Felix Grundy McGavock

use, worth six per cent interest. All who have travelled [sic] on it, say it is a first class road-Franklin has improved in business since it was finished: this year there will be two first class store rooms erected on the vacant ground attached to Crocketts corner-and a Methodist female college. The University at Nashville has proved a failure. Perhaps there is not 30 students in the literary department & the Law department has never been organised [sic]. Revd. Mr. Cunn-ingham's school is un-usually large, and



Crockett's Corner on south side of square

t h e
"Campbells"
have their
u s u a l
n u m b e r -
Andrew is yet
with them;
part scholar &
part teacher.



Campbell School

Col. Jno.

McGavock with his family & Mrs. Winder & her family are expected home in a few days. Randal & Ellen have gone to Jas. McGavocks to spend the summer. Randal, however looses [sic] little time from business, for his is always at his office by seven o'clock in the morning & seldom leaves before sun down in the evening-Mr. Marshall is doing a large business & Randal does all the drudgery, as a matter of course.

Your aunts Susan, Eliza & Margaret are in bad health. Your aunt Sally Otey is in usual health. Lucy and the children spent a few days in town with us last week, all well. Lucy is as fat as a Berkshire & her infant daughter is doing very well, 'tis a pretty babe. The country is healthy & Franklin crouded [sic] with Physicians nine "Regulars" & one steamer, enough to supply the whole county.

Your Mother & Sisters send their love to you, we should be pleased to hear from you often. Present us to your uncle Randal and aunt Cynthia & all our other relatives.

The Lord bless you.

Farewell!
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-three

(No envelope)

Franklin Tennessee

July 17th 1855

Dear Hugh

You are advised of the death of our loved Lucy-she died of inflammation of the stomach and bowels on the 10th Inst.-was sick about two weeks. Twice during the time, we seemed to check the mortal disease.-and twice were our hope excited-but alas! It was her last sickness—I spent ten consecutive nights with her, disputing every inch of ground with death to the grave-How impotent is our Art! What painful disapoints [sic] we often experience!

I know not that your brother has written to any of you since Lucy's death-his spirits are crushed. He is a bereaved man, & anguish has filled his soul. O! how I desire all my children had the comforts of religion to support them under the trials & disappointments of life—Your brothers prospects were daily brightening; he has a very fine crop growing-an abundance of stock on the plantation; and had a surplus of most articles usually produced by the farmer, which would soon be ready for market. He was steady and attentive to business-And best of all Lucy was a happy woman. She had cast in her lot with us, and we all became attached to her, nay, we all loved her most tenderly.

"God ruleth in the Heavens" and 'tis not for man to say "what doest thou" I desire to bow in humble submission to His will.

William and the children have removed to our house & the servants have charge of the house & plantation. Your Mother seems to have more strength than usual "the back is fitted for the burden"

The desire of living to raise the dear little grand children, seems to have imparted fresh vigor. I trust it may continue. The children are all very well: the infant is the best babe I ever saw.

Your aunt Eliza Dunaway is in bad health-suffering with spinal neuralgia & all its protean concomitants; she and niece Margaret have been at our house for two or three weeks-I think she is a little better-Your aunt Mrs. Cameron is also in delicate health, but is able to be up most of her time.

Randal and Ellen are a feeble pair. Both look very thin, but are not confined. The rest of my family are well-James McGavock has another son & Jno. a third daughter. all doing well.

We have fruitfull [sic] seasons and a fine prospect of an abundant crop. The average yield of wheat in this county will be at least 25 bushels per acre; some farmers have produced as much as 35. Col. Jno. McGavock and your uncle William Ewing have over measured the last figures-the price ranges from .75 cts. To \$1 per bushel—Famine prices have receded [sic] to a living standard. Not so poor, as not to be able now to provide a full supply of bread & meat.

The country is healthy; however I understand there are some cases of Cholera in Nashville & several deaths from that fell destroyer, are reported.

Your uncle Jacob McGavock was at Lucy's burial; he came out the evening of her death; and reported his family all well, except your aunt Louisa; she like your Mother is fast declining. Your uncle William Ewing and his family were also with us on that melancholy occasion & reported all well. We buried of loved Lucy in our family enclosure, by the side of your dear sister Amanda.

Revd Mr. Cunningham read the English burial service at the grave, at the request of your brother. A very large number of our friends were present to testify their regret at her death, as they had their anxiety for her recovery; some thirty or forty carriagez [sic] accompanied the procession from home to the grave.

I might write much more-there is a melancholy pleasure in mingling our sorrows:--perhaps I have already written enough. Farewell! Give my love to all. May Heaven's blessings ever attend you.

Ever thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-four

To: Hugh M. Ewing MD
 Wytheville Virginia
 Postmarked: Aug. 22, Franklin, Tennessee
 Franklin Tennessee

August 22d 1855

Dear Hugh

Your last favor has been longer without a response than I usually allow to myself-I have been much engaged in my profession for the last two weeks-it has so happened-we have no prevailing sickness.

We are all pretty well-my table is, as in former days, long and well furnished with guests-William and his little boys, Randal every day for dinner, Andrew, Susan & Anna; and until the last few days your aunt Eliza Dunaway & her daughter-together with a miss Beard, a grand-daughter of old uncle Andrew Castleman-

At present all but William and myself are spending a week with your uncle Wm. Ewing in Davidson. Our rail road affords fine facilities for visiting-All are well. Your Mothers health seems to be about stationary. At best she is very feeble-Little Andrew and Joe & the babe are very well. As yet the dear little children have not known the want of the kind attention of a Mothers tender affection-God grant it may always be the case. In the days of the Patriarch Abraham, all nations & people among whom he sojourned, showed him favor; so I pray it may be with all in whom my blood courses!

William is cut down, he however looks after his farm, riding out nearly every day & attending to the servants. He has a splendid crop.

Randal & Ellen are feeble; he however attends closely to business and is increasing in favor with the people. As you are aware Lysander McGavock is dead; he had been loosing flesh for nearly a year, but seemed to be in tolerable health, untill [sic] about the 1st of July, when a Carbuncle (which he did not heed) for several days, made its appearance on one shoalder [sic]-a low grade of fever succeeded [sic] & he sunk under it-Doctr Mayfield attended him & finally Dr. Eve of Nashville was called in



Lysander McGavock of Midway

consultation. I & our family were at his funeral-your Mother spent two days with him immediately before death. His family is greatly bereaved.

Since the 1st of July we have had plenty of rain-The crop is more abundant than I have ever known in the country. I suppose the rail road has taken away, from this station, nearly one hundred thousand dollars worth of wheat, chiefly the produce of this county.

Your aunt Eliza Dunaway is suffering very much with spinal neuralgia. She is better, but not yet able to walk but a few steps without assistance. Your aunt Margaret is not at all well. The rest of our friends are in fair health.

Give our kind regard to your uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia; tell your aunt the children are all very well, the babe has a kind wet nurse & is the best child I ever saw-is growing finely--& is beautiful.

Farewell!
 Ever thine
 Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-five

To: Dr. H. M. Ewing
Wytheville, Virginia
No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

October 30th 1855

Dear Hugh

Your last letter has been long unanswered—little did I think its answer would convey melancholy tidings. The ways of Providence are a great deep. Sunday morning at 3 O'clock the 28th Inst. your aunt Margaret Cameron died suddenly and unexpectedly. She had been in bad health for three or four months, but as she was in the family way, we attributed her sick stomach & nervous distress to that cause.

Doubtless, however, there was some secret organic disease, which has thus deprived us of a beloved, warm hearted, generous friend & sister. It was a great shock to your feeble Mother & aunt Eliza Dunaway, they are both recovering from it, in the manner, I hope that will not seriously affect their health.

The rest of us are well. I am, myself, suffering much with Rheumatism in my back—but it does not jostle my general health at all. It is not unexpected to me—the spring of life, nay the summer & autumn too, to me are past—Winter, with its storms and buffeting billows are about me, and a few more breakers, and life will not be worth living for—These are not fitfull [sic] thoughts of melancholy. They are the conclusions of sober reason & reflection. 'Tis time I should "set my house in order" and "be ye also ready" "for ye know not at what hour" the Lord of the house may come. This injunction is to all, but especially to those in the sier & yellow leaf of age.

Andrew is now at home, having finished his scholastic education. In Latin, Mathematics & the english sciences, he is equal to my other sons—Greek, he has not studied.

Susan and Ann are nearly grown, they are making better progress at their studies than heretofore. Your aunt Margaret in her life time, kindly promised to assist me in their education, but now



Col. John McGavock

she is no more & I must struggle on alone.

William's babes are very well & are company and comfort to us; they were idolised [sic] by your aunt Margaret—the last word she uttered was "Andrew".

This mornings mail brought a letter from you to your brother William, but he had left for the country, so we will not know its contents untill [sic] morning.

Your aunt Sally Otey is very well.

Patrick Otey has lately had an attack of sickness, which has some what jostled his mind, & his Father has sent him to New Orleans with Col. Jno. McGavock who left for his sugar Plantation, last Friday.

Lysander McGavock's family & your cousin Hugh Ewing were in at the burying yesterday—all well.

Your uncle William Ewing & all his family were likewise here—all in health.

Your aunt Eliza Dunaway, doubtless, will never have any more health—she and Mag are now with us and will remain a little season—Randal & Ellen are well.

We were all, much disappointed, when we found, cousin Nancy McGavock did not come to Tennessee with Col. Jno. McGavock.

Remember us to your uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia and all other friends.

Farewell! Adieu!
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-six

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

February 4th 1856

Dear Hugh

Your favor of the 17th Febr [sic] is received & has gladdened our hearts to learn you are well; it was a wellcome [sic] messenger for we were afflicted. Four weeks last Saturday Randal was riding at a rapid gate & his horse fell with him and injured his hip-joint-He is yet in close bead [sic] not able to stand.

There was no dislocation, no deformity of the limb-we believe the capsular ligament was not injured, but that the round ligament was rupusted [sic] and probably the upper & outer edge of the acetabulum was broken-possibly both.

Whether he will be permanently injured is yet uncertain.

The accident happened near town-he was carried to our home, where he is likely to remain for some time yet.

His general health is pretty fair. About the same moment of time Randal was crippled, little "Jodie" was badly burned, on one side and arm, he is out of danger, the burn is healing and the scars will all be under his clothing. The children white & black all have the Hooping [sic] cough, our babe is quite unwell, but not at all dangerous.

Under all this fatigue your Mother kept up untill [sic] some ten days since. She has been much unwell with her old pain in the side and nervous depression: now she is better-is able to day to be up a little.

Your brother William was sick at the same time, thus trebling our afflictions, at present he is quite well.

All the rest of the family are very well.

Your aunt Sally Otey has gone to the country-Mr. Otey has rented Dick Bostick's farm for two years-taken all the servants home & gone to farming in earnest. You have doubtless seen a notice of the melancholy death of Patrick Otey, his Father was greatly distressed-as yet we have had

no word of his corpse.

I regret, very much to learn, that Jacob Kent is a hopeless imbicile, he was a kind hearted, hospitable gentleman-I loved him much-He is however an other sad example of temperate drinking.

We have had a long winter, not however as intensely cold as I have seen.

Our friends here are generally well. Mrs. Gen. Harding is rather in delicate health. Mrs. Southall has rheumatism as bad as heretofore. Jno McGavock & family are in Louisiana. He writes me his crop of sugar will be worth \$30,000, a very pretty sum of money. Yesterday I was at Lysander McGavock's to see Mrs. M. She is somewhat unwell with a bronchial cough. The rest of the family are all well.



Elizabeth McGavock Harding



Elizabeth Ann Crockett McGavock, wife of Lysander McGavock

The estate is all settled & divided-all satisfied.

Our rail road is used as far as Springhill; during the month of January it made (on 30 miles) four thousand, five hundred dollars. The country is healthy.

I have sold out my house and lot to Doctr Isaac House and taken him into partnership; I give possession at the end of this year. I am in the autumn of life & must needs look to a time, near at hand when I should retire from the toils of my profession and devote myself more to retirement and the principles of our holy cherished religion-not long 'ere the tomb will close over me & I shall be with the forgotten dead. Many loved ones, younger than myself, have gone before me, and the cords that bind me to life & earth are losing strength.

We rejoice to hear that your uncle Randal and aunt Cynthia and cousin Nancy will likely pay us a visit this year. I hope they will not disappoint our expected happy meeting once more-yes indeed once more on earth.

Give my love to all

Farewell!
Ever thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-seven

No Envelope

Franklin Ten July 30th 1856

Dear Hugh

I wrote you a few days since that our friends had given up their visit to Virginia, but it seems I was mistaken. They expect to leave Nashville on next Tuesday, 5th of Augt. Consequently you may look for them about the 9th at your Depot. Mrs. Otey will go & I have consented to let your youngest brother Andrew accompany them-Mrs. Judge Dickinson is here now & other of our Nashville friends, so we shall have plenty of company for a little season. The weather is very warm & dry. Our crops will be quite short-not more than half a crop of corn is expected.

Your sister Susan has been in the country for three weeks. She is now at home, her health is

better. Your Mother is as well as usual; all the children are well. Give my kind regard to your uncle Randal and aunt Cynthia and all other friends.

Very truly thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-eight

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

August 6th 1856

Dear Son

Your brother Andrew starts to morrow with your aunt Sally Otey to pay you a visit-I commend him to your care and kindness.

He leaves at a very short warning & consequently your ever mindfull [sic] Mother has been disappointed in preparing [sic] a present in the way of shirts etc. for you, but to make amends you will find one hundred dollars enclosed-I love to help my children along in the world though it may often be at a sacrifice-

Your Mother & sisters send love to you. Andrew will give you all the news. I am just now very busy in my profession & have not time to write more.

Now & ever yrs
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Thirty-nine

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

January 18th 1858

Dear Hugh

It has been a long time since I wrote to you-and still a longer time since I received a letter from you. This has been a source of grief to me, which I have

hitherto confined to my own busom; [sic] but as you express similar regret, from the same cause, in your last letter to William, I have resolved to renew my intercourse with you; not my love & affection, for that has never abated-never slumbered nor slept. When I have pillowed my anxious head at night for sleep, my last waking breath has been spent in imploring "the giver of every good & perfect gift" to vouchsafe his blessing to you.

You are aware that all our family, except myself, have mooved [sic] to the country. During the last year I built a very comfortable & convenient house on the McMahan tract of land & about the 10th of Decr. We occupied the house; since which time the weather has been damp & unusually warm and your Mother has not had as good health as usual.



Dr. A. B. Ewing's country house

She is suffering more with her lungs than she has ever before-now she has an ominous cough, which forebodes no good for the future. She is much emaciated & very feeble, yet she is able to be up most of the time. The children, Andrew, Jodie, and Lucy are in very good health and delighted with the country-all are very much pleased with their country home. Susan and Anna come to town three times a week to take music lessons. William and Andrew are looking after our little farm, endeavoring to make bread and meat for the family. I board and lodge with Mr. Otey & your aunt Sally. 'Tis a great price of self denial; a great cross for me to be thus separated from my dear family, but the wants of my house hold requires the sacrifice & I am schooling myself to a cheerfull [sic] acquiescence. Your aunt Sally is so very good & kind to me that it serves to make me in some good degree forget my all most [sic] expatriation.

My health has been pretty good during the last year & I performed more labor than I have done in

ten years before except 1850 when we had Cholera; but for the last six weeks I have been suffering with a catarrhal affections which threatens to produce a bronchial cough. The winter has been very unfriendly to weak lungs. Indeed we have had no winter as yet.

Your aunt Sally & Mr. Otey are very well and doubtless will be better satisfied in town than in country—Your aunt Eliza Dunaway is in wretched health, she & her daughter are with us at the present; she has improved since she came to our house—Your uncle Jessie has a disease of the heart & is not expected to live more than a few weeks.

You are aware your uncle Joseph is in the Legislature, at Nashville, he is well, as also is your uncles William and Felix & their families—Mrs. Lysander McGavock & Miss Cynthia took dinner with Mr. Otey after preaching last Sunday—they are looking very well. Miss Cynthia and her sister Margaret and your cousin Hugh Ewing are promising themselves the pleasure of a visit to Virginia next summer. Col. Jno. McGavock and his family are in Louisiana, his second daughter has a disease of the heart, which doubtless will bring her to an early grave.

Jas. McGavock and family are well. Randal and Ellen still live with them. Ellen has suffered very much in her last confinement, with a swelled breathe & general bad health, but I rejoice to say she is pretty well recovered. Their oldest, is a very lovely child, her face is the perfection of innocence & goodness—May she ever be a child in innocence and



John H. Otey house



John McGavock



Carrie Winder McGavock



James Randal McGavock

happiness. Randal comes to town every day in his Buggy and works like a dray horse at his profession.- He will always be very lame, but can walk without his crutches or a cane-He is improving, both in health & strength.

But I have forgotten myself-have written four pages. I must stop. Farewell! Heavens blessings encircle you.

Ever thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

July 19th 1858

Dear Hugh

Your very welcome favor of the 11th Inst. was received a few days since. I rejoice to learn that your health is good, and that you are doing well in your business-such tidings are well calculated [sic] to excite a parent's heart to increased action & fill him with gratitude to think that the giver of every good has not forgotten a Fathers vows & a Fathers prayers-

Your Mother, after whose health you so tenderly enquire is loosing ground but 'tis very gradually-she is very subject to catarrhal affection and every attack increases her cough a little more-she is very feeble and much emaciated-yet she is often able to visit; yesterday she was in town at preaching & to day she went to James McGavock's to see Mrs. Southall and her daughter Josephine, who are in very bad health. Mrs. S. is helpless & Jose has consumption. Your Mother is allmost [sic] forced to make quinine and morphia part of her daily food-they seem necessary to keep up her strength, indeed to keep her alive.

My own health has not been good for some weeks, yet I am able to attend to my profession-I have but little to do, however, this summer. Perhaps the removal of my family to the country has had some influence in narrowing down my business-yet I am pretty close to my office in town & seldom



Louise Chenault McGavock

but I must bear it as best I can for I find it necessary to work in order to keep the two ends of the year together. The improvements-house, barn, etc on the McMahan place has absorbed much of our little means. "'Tis better to wear out than to rust out."

The country is healthy. We have a very warm summer. The wheat crop was nearly a failure-other crops are quite promising-plenty of rain.

You have had quite a time of it, waiting on Mr. McGavock at the "Bottom". I hope your labors may be blessed in restoring him to his dear family.

Your uncle Felix is becoming more helpless-he has had bad health this summer. Your aunt Eliza Dunaway & daughter Mag. left our house to spend a little season at your uncle William's a few days ago. She has wretched health. Aunt Susan & uncle William very well. Mr & Mrs Otey in fair health. You are aware I board with them. I am cared for with much kindness & your aunt Sally attends to every want & every wish. How good a thing 'tis to have friends to care for us in declining age! I pray you may never want a friend.

Your dear Mother & all send much love to you-your uncle Randal and aunt Cynthia. Write often.

Farewell!
Truly thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-two

To: Hugh M. Ewing
Mack-Meadows
Wythe Co. Virginia
Postmarked: March 29

Franklin Tennessee

March 28th 1859

Dear Son

Your first favor was joyfully received; it came to hand to day [sic].

Your dear Mother is better—coughs very little—is gaining strength & appetite-came to town yesterday & spent last night with Mrs. Otey-is gone home this evening much improved by her visit—William & Andrew & myself quite well-both your sisters



Rebecca Cannon Bostick

complaining, yet up & able to be at business.

William goes to Nashville this evening, a delegate to the Whig convention which meets tomorrow.

Ann has commenced school again since you left. We are busy arranging for the coming crop season—hope we will do better at

farming this year than last. We have had one good frost since you left, but it did no damage—now we have a warm south wind with symptoms of rain. Mrs. Bostick gave Hub Ewing a big party—Wm. & Andr. were there.

I have been busy since you left—Mr. Carden was buried Friday after you left. Your aunt Sally Otey is better of her cold, yet she still coughs a little, Mr. Otey is pretty well. Ellen & Randal are both complaining. James McGavock is improving, yet he stays closely at home.

Doctr Maney has opened an office in town, one added to ten makes eleven, truly a goodly No for our little circumference [sic].

The signs are pretty plain that your brother will have no opposition for the Legislature in this county. 'Tis bad enough to go to the Legislature, but 'tis far worse to have to work hard for a seat there.

I have mentioned that your Mother is much better than she has been—it seems that the dread of parting with you depressed her so much that she could not think of it with out increasing that depression.

Much cheerfull [sic] company after you took off have contributed to do her good—and I now hope a kind Providence has allotted her many more days to bless us, which we Tabernacle here on earth. Thanks to his name!

The little boys & "Lillie" are very well. Jodie & Andrew fish in the spring daily & Lucy stays with her Grand-Mother to keep her company. Tell their aunts that doubtless they love them now, absent, but if they were present with them they would love them much more.

loose [sic] a call by absence-sometimes I spend a night a week with my family and then again every night in the week just as my health and engagements will permit.-Your brother and sister, Andrew and Susan, are feeble---the state of their health & your Mothers & Ellens renders me unhappy. I know that the "Judge of all the earth will do right" & I try to feel "not my will but thine be done"

Randals health too is nothing to boast of-The little children Andrew, Jodie & Lucy are very well.

Doubtless your brother William has fully advised you of his late disappointment & I need say nothing of the matter. It was indeed a grievous disappointment-he had built high hopes-too high for earth to sustain-but he is recovering from it & I hope will profit by experience.

You ask me about Lysander McGavock's family-they are all well. Miss Cynthia, Miss Margaret, Joe Harris & your cousins Hugh Ewing expect to start to Virginia in a few days-of the precise day I am not informed. It may be your uncle Joseph L. Ewing may be one of the party, as he is in bad health.

Your aunt Eliza & Mag. Dunaway are with us. We have quite a table full when we are all together. 'Tis quite a cross to me to be so much absent from my beloved family, but my circumstances require it & I endeavour to be cheerful and yield a ready assent to duty. I feel that a year or two more, at the most, will wind up my labors in my profession, for I find each succeeding year, my strength failing-sensibly failing.

Mr. Otey & your aunt Sally are very well. James & Jno. McGavock are not in good health. Mrs. Winder expects to visit your country, in quest of health--in advance of her visit, I bespeak, for her, a favorable reception.

Our local news would give you little interest-your long absence has, no doubt, weaned you from many of your old friends & associates-Our Newspaper, the "Review" is ordered to you every year, from it you may learn many things about Franklin & its people.

I have filled my paper and must close. I hope you will write often.

Give my love to all our friends-especially to your good uncle and aunt Cynthia, to whom we feel so much indebted for their care and kindness to our family.

Farewell! Ever yours
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-one

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

August 13th 1858

Dear Hugh

Your very kind and welcome letter, from the Drunkard Bottom reached me yesterday & I hasten to respond.

We are all in comfortable health, your Mother is better than she was in early spring-she is gradually losing flesh-she weighs about 90 lbs.

Andr & Susan are weakly, yet there is not much point of disease about either of them. William and Anna are very stout. Our three little grand children are very well & are much comfort to us all, especially your dear Mother.

Randal and Ellen are spending a few weeks with us. They are a feeble pair-though Randal's health is better than it was last summer. They have a daughter and son-two very fine sprightly children.

If you were with us we should all be together, once more on earth, to rejoice together around one welcome humble hearth stone.

My health has been more feeble this summer than any time in seven years. For the last several days I have been better.

Mrs. Winder & sons started to the springs last Wednesday-Jno McGavock & James are not in good health-Mrs. Southall is nearly helpless & Josephine & declining. At present they are in Williamson spending a few weeks with relatives.

You mention our cousins, Cynthia & Margaret McGavock etc. had arrived, with them I sent you a suit of clothes by way of remembrance.

I find it a cross to be separated from my family-I in town & they in the country,



Felix Grundy Winder

The evening of time is drawing nigh & I must close this haisty [sic] letter-Soon the evening of life will close. I am daily admonished "that few & full of evil are the days of the years of thy servant." May your day be better, longer, more happy & more usefull [sic] than your ancestors!

Farewell!
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-three

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

April 12th 1859

Dear Hugh

Yours of the 5th Inst. is to hand. We are much pleased that you have begun to do good & hope you will continue to write often. You state all our kind friends in Virginia are well, except sister Polly Cloud [sic] & aunt Peggy McGavock. I hope the opening spring will recuperate their waisting [sic] energies & restore their wonted health again. Your Mothers health has steadily improved since you left us, she is quite relieved of her cough & is able to visit a little. A week since she spent a day with your aunt Sally Otey & another with Sally McNutt.

The rest of our family are all in good health or at least as well as usual. Susan and Ann are about stationary. Ann is at school every day. Andrew, Jodie & "Lily" are all very well. "Soney" looks after the farm & William after his seat in the next Legislature.

I have been very busy in my profession for several days-Billy McLemore's wife blessed him with Twin-daughters a few days since, which is the fourth woman I have attended with twins this spring-a very unusual number indeed even for a whole years business. We are busy planting corn. We have had some heavy frosts since you left-enough to kill all the peaches etc.-but the last few days have been warm enough for June

The proprietors of the "Review" have dismissed Pascal for intemperance & I understand Doctr. Hilldreth will, again, be connected with the paper. James McGavock & family, from Bettie down, will

leave for Missouri in a few days on a visit to her venerable Father, Mr. Chenault.

Randal & Ellen are pretty well. Col. Jno. McGavock will soon start a circular saw mill-a few days since he gave \$2,500 for a negro man to work it.-now he has two negro men that cost him \$5,000.

Your aunt Sally Otey is spending the day with your Mother. Last Friday & Saturday she had your uncle Jacob's Mary and your cousin Jas. McGavock's Sally & Miss Withers. So you see we have enough of company to keep up her drooping spirits.

Col. Netherland is in Nashville arranging matters for canvassing the state. As yet no reconciliation has been affected with the Ready men in this Congressional district. Influenza still lingers with us, occasionally it assumes a graven form & becomes Pneumonia. I lately had two cases of croup at the same time in one family. Two days since I was at Mrs. Lysander McGavock's to see a negro man, fatally sick, I thought-the rest of the family were all in good health.

In conclusion your Mother sends her love to you & a kind remembrance to your uncle Randal & aunt Cynthia.

Farewell! Yours ever
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-four

To: Hugh M. Ewing M.D.
Mackmeadows
Wythe Co. Virginia
Postmark: illegible

Franklin Tennessee

May 12th 1859

Dear Hugh

As I do not stand on etiquette I write again, believing it would add to your happiness to know our state.

Your Mothers health is improving-she is now able to visit, in good weather, without damage-she is gaining a little flesh & strength, and takes an interest in our business & prosperity.

Transition weather is always opposed to my health, consequently I am never so well in the spring season, yet I have little cause of complaint. William is canvassing the county-his health is good-as he now has opposition he must need work or be left at home. He, however, feels confident of his election.

Andrew's health is feeble-as usual he is diligently employed on our little farm-Our prospect for a good crop is fair. Ann started to school as soon as you left. Susan takes charge of house-hold [sic] affairs & is rather better than she was some months since. The children, Andrew, Jodie, & Lucy are very well. Randal & Ellen are in usual health. James McGavock & wife & four or five of the younger children are in Missouri on a visit to his aged Father-in-law. They expect to be absent about six weeks. Our spring is more forward than usual. We finish planting our corn to day [sic]. Our first planting we have ploughed over; the season, however, has been rather wet for farming purposes.

The last two weeks have been very healthy. I have attended four women with twins, this spring-a very unusual number indeed.

The Trustees of our Female Academy have a meeting Saturday & 'tis probable James McNutt will take Mr. Glynn's position in the school. James & his family are very well-Mrs. Hines is dead. The old gentleman has not been here for six weeks-he spends his time in Nashville-Your uncle Jacob McGavock & wife leave for Arkansas in a few days.

The cars are now running to Duck river on our rail road. Next week we have a Sunday school celebration & Pic-Nic at the Fair Grounds.

Mr. Otey and your aunt Sally are very well. The desire to provide for my family in some degree expatriates me from them-'tis indeed a heavy cross, but a kind Providence makes friends for me; "surely goodness and mercy have followed me all the days of my life."

Your aunt Sally is very kind to me and provides for me every comfort which my situation makes desirable.

The carpenters are at work, putting up Mr. Otey's long contemplated dining room etc.-this, when completed, will add very much to the convenience of his dwelling. We get news-papers from you very often; we should like to have more letters-

Some of our people were at Mrs. Lysander McGavocks last week-found all well. My paper is about full, so I must close. Remember us affectionately to all our friends.

The Lord Bless & cause you to obtain favor wherever your lot may be cast.

Farewell
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-five

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

August 16th 1859

Dear Hugh

Your very acceptable and interesting letter of the 27th of July ought to have been answered long ago. The growing indisposition I feel to mental and physical exertion is my only apology-a bad excuse truly.

The molten eye, the trembling hands and the slow and measured step too faithfully admonish me of the truth of your letter-that age and infirmities are certainly advancing-

Your Mother & I are a feeble pair-things will soon change, if our lives are spared, instead of careing [sic] for our children, they will have to care for their Parents.--Yet we should not complain, but commit ourselves to Him who careth for us.

We are all in comfortable health. Your Mother is in town to day and has held her own pretty well during the hot season-her lung-disease is increasing-cough rather more troublesome and the expectoration of a bad quality.

William as you are aware is elected to the Legislature; had it not been for a little imprudence about a month before the election, he would have beaten his competitor more than double.

He has been absent about a week, as he said to visit the "Springs", but I suppose he is gone for the same purpose Mr. Otey did, when he went to Virginia years ago after your aunt Sally-to Ohio after Miss Withers. Time will tell. Andrew & Jodie have started to school to Mrs. Claud (Angeline McConico) as yet they are delighted with their new employment.

Your brother Andrew & sister Susan have very feeble health, yet they are seldom confined to the house. Ann has been absent for nearly three weeks, spending her time in Nashville & with your uncle Wm. Ewing. For the last few days Randal has been unwell, nothing serious however. His children are well—"Lilly" and Carrie are very lovely children. Your sister Susan lately took Little Lucy to your uncle Wm. Ewings & Nashville with her & they thought her the most beautiful & lovely child ever born.

Your uncle Jos. L. Ewing is in bad health.-Uncle Felix Ewing is about stationary. For the last three weeks we have had much rain-about the 20th of July the whole country seemed to forbode a famin [sic], but the recent rains have revived all crops (the corn especially) in a most remarkable manner-We shall make bread and to spare-with good economy. My corn crop will be over half a good yield-my wheat & oats were just half an ordinary crops-the grass was heavy, it was made before the drought commenced. My stock is in fair condition. I have little surplus, when I sell that I shall be able to winter the balance.

The summer has been pretty healthy, but business this year will be small. Indeed it has been growing less & less for several years-One or two more years & I shall dismiss it before it finally dismisses me. I think I shall have "natural force" enough for one more year of professional labor after which I shall devote more of my time to David's Psalms & Paul's epistles that I may learn the way to put on immortality & flourish in immortal youth.

Mr. Otey & your aunt Sally are in pretty fair health. Prof. Huiser has been about a week. We like him much. Jas. McNutt's prospects for a good school are not very flattering. I hope however he will be able to build up a reputation which will finally secure a good income.

In speaking of the dear little ones, I forgot to tell you we had them Baptised last Sunday week, before your brother Wm. left home. I wish you all-all my dear family to feal [sic] a personal matter in Training them for Heaven & happiness-Though I have defered [sic] an answer to your last, too long, yet I am



Prof. James McNutt

writing as if you would not tire in reading-I must close lest I weary you.

Finally remember us all to our dear friends of "the Meadows" and of "fort Chiswell"-Farewell! My prayer is that as days are added to your years, graces may be added to your character.

Adieu, Ever thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-six

To: Hugh M. Ewing MD
Macks meadows
Wythe Co. Virginia
Postmark: illegible

Franklin Tennessee

Augt 19th 1859

Dear Hugh

By a Telegram from the falls of Niagara, dated yesterday, we are informed William & Miss Withers were married on the 18th Inst. and will be at home in about ten days.

I wrote you a long letter a day or two since & need not now afflict you with the rehearsal [sic] of uninteresting matters.

All in usual health

Love to all our friends
Yrs. Truly
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-seven

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

February 15th 1860

Dear Hugh

"Tis not only a matter of history, but of every days observation that children expect more from

their Parents than parents do from children; Therefore I write again for the third time since I have received any response from you.

We are all in comfortable health except your Mother-she bears transition weather badly & is not quite so well, though she is able to be about the house, and is not confined-she gains no flesh during her best health, and has little appetite for food.

Andrew's health is about like it was when you were here, feeble; he looks after our little farming operations [sic]. Susan is house-keeper and has our hereditary disease-Dyspepsy. Anna expects to start to school again, in a few days, to James McNutt's; at least will do so when William's wife commences another session's work of Music in the school. William, as you are aware, is in Nashville attending the session of our Legislature--he comes home twice a week.

The children, Andrew, Jodie & Lucy are very well; William's wife, at the close of the last session, gave a concert at the Courthouse & Lucy sang publicly [sic]-much to the admiration of the company and the delight of her Ma & Anty, as she calls her aunt Susan. There never was a Mother more devoted to a child than your sister is to little Lou and 'tis fully reciprocated.

Your uncle Jessee's daughter Susan is at your uncle Williams, & the girls & Andrew are in Davidson, spending a little season with her-We expect our girls home to day & her along with them.

I understand she is a charming girl. I reccon [sic] she will spend the summer with us. Our winter has been very fitfull, now very cold & then an overcoat would be quite a burden. The sunden [sic] dash of cold & snows which came upon us, about the 20th of December is believed to have killed all our wheat-no farmer expects half a crop from his fall sowing. This, with the short corn crop last year, will make bread scarce.

James McGavock is in bad health-continues to grow fat, with an increase of lung disease. Randal has better health-his dwelling house is nearly completed-he will, however, not go to house-keeping before the ensuing fall.

Ellen's health is no better, their children Carrie & Charlie are very fine & enjoy excellent health. Jno. McGavock & his family are in Louisiana [sic] Mr. Hayes & wife & Miss Margaret McGavock, I think, are in New Orleans-I have not seen any of



O. B. Hayes

the family lately. Mrs. McGavock & Miss Cynthia are well; as far as I am informed.

I am still working at my trade-endeavouring to provide for those who naturally look to me for support & protection-boarding (I should say living) with Mr. Otey & your aunt Sally-who do all in their power to supply the happiness & comforts of my own dear family. "Surely goodness & mercy have followed me all the days of my life"

Love to all our dear friends,

Farewell!
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-eight

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

March 14th 1860

Dear Son

Yours of the 3rd Inst. is received. We were all very glad to hear from you; your letter was quite a treat to the whole family. We hope you will find time to let us know your state oftener than heretofore. Your letter found us all in faire [sic] health. Your Mother is now confined to bead [sic] with that old pain in her side-she was taken day before yesterday & suffered much for a day but is much relieved this morning; & I hope will soon be up again. She has been visiting a good deal lately & has overdone her strength. Mr. Allen, direct from your home, is here with us, he brought good tidings from our friends in Virginia. He has been one day & night with our family, but is spending

most of his time with his uncle James McNutt. James is teaching in our old Female Academy, but I fear he will not be able to sustain himself-or build up a good school, considering the rival he has to contend with.

Your uncle Jesse's daughter Susan is with us, she is a very sprightly, sensible girl, & quite pretty withall. She will likely make her home, while in Tennessee, with your uncle William Ewing.

Your brother William is a good deal run down with the fatigue & labor of a long session of our legislature, 'tis expected to adjourn next week. His wife is teaching music in Jas. McNutt's Academy; we send her in to school every morning & send our little carriage for her in the evening-Ann is not at school, she is not in good health.

Randal & Andrew are in usual health-nothing to boast of.

The children, Andrew, Jodie, & Lucy are very well & very fond of their Ma.-your sister Susan does not allow her to have any trouble with the children.

We have had some spring weather, but the last four or five days have been winter again.—Our Democratic Legislature, haz [sic] made money plenty, so far as the creation of Banks is concerned. You see from the News-papers that it has added largely to the Bank Capital of the State of Tennessee.

James McGavock is in bad health-If not



McNutt's Academy



Jacob McGavock



Louisa Grundy McGavock

already on hand, he is threatened with dropsy of the abdomen. I consider his condition quite critical. His little son Van fell down last week & broke his thigh; the child is doing well.

Col. McGavock & his family have returned from Louisiana-all well.

Your uncle Jacob McGavock's wife is said to be loosing [sic] ground-is now confined to her bead [sic] most of the time. Maj. Hartsfield is on the border of "the better country"-is now nearly helpless, but is cheerfull [sic] & happy under affliction. Enviabile state !! Worthy of imitation!

There has been little sickness during the winter-we have done little business in our profession. Perhaps I ought not to wish for more-I am able to do what falls to my share-a full business for one year would likely finish my brobation [sic] as I find my strength declining. Indeed nothing but the wants of a needy family, induce me now to labor in all seasons & all weathers. Our little farm will supply us with bread & meat & I work for the balance. Your aunt Sally & Mr. Otey are well; she spent the day yesterday with your Mother. But I am writing a long letter, which I did not expect, when I commenced. Remember us all to your dear uncle and aunt at Macks Meadows to your aunt Polly Claud & to our kind friend at Fort Chiswell. Farewell!

Very truly &
prayerfully yours,
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Forty-nine

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

April 28th 1860

Dear Son Hugh

I am glad to have the pleasure of acknowledging myself your debtor. Your very welcome letter of the 24th Inst. came to hand to day & brought good tidings-friends all well.

We, at home, are all in usual health, at present; your Mother was in bead [sic] some ten days since but is now able to visit a little. She & your aunt Sally Otey spent the day yesterday at James McGavock's. Your Mother gradually looses flesh-she now weighs 90 pounds. William has been sick lately but is now on his legs.

Susan & Anna have no health to boast of, nor is Andrew in much better condition. The children, Andr. Jodie & Lucy are quite well.

During this week we have had frost four mornings in succession & vegetation looks injured--not killed. Previously we had almost summer weather, which has hurried farmers to finish planting their crops.

I returned yesterday from a visit to your uncle Joseph L. Ewing; he is doubtless on his last bead [sic]; worn out with Diarrhea, Rheumatism & Neuralgia. he may drop off any day, or he may last several weeks. He is much reduced & as palid [sic] & bloodless as a corpse. I spent several days with him.

James McGavock is also in very precarious health-he has general Dropsy. His daughter Sally will likely be married in a few weeks to a Mr. Frierson of Shelbyville, all willing.

Your aunt Louisa McGavock is declining. She was out to see us last week & a fire occurred in Nashville on their street and drove her home. Mr. McGavock escaped without injury.

On my trip I spent a night with your uncle William, he & your aunt Nancy are very well-your aunt Eliza Dunaway is better as also is Maj. Hartsfield.

Col. McGavock is at the Democratic convention

in Nashville.

Your uncle Jesse Ewings daughter Susan is with us & will likely remain during the summer-she is a very pretty, inteligent [sic] girl & loves her Fathers relatives. She is at our home & enjoys herself very much.

Your aunt Sally Otey is not in her usual health, yet not much complaining. The health of the country is good. Randal & Ellen are not yet house keeping-their house is not yet quite finished. They are in fair health.

My individual health is better than usual-and yet I am loosing [sic] strength, but I have much reason to be thankfull [sic] that I am able to do considerable work in my profession-all that falls to my share.

Mrs. Lysander McGavock & family are well, she has better flesh than ever before.

Some of the family are nearly all the time with your uncle Joseph.

I have written you a haisty [sic] & long letter & must close. Remember me to all our dear friends. Finally, may the pillowed blessings nightly implored for you be graciously vouchsafed by our Heavenly Father.

Farewell

Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Fifty

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

June 18th 1860

Dear Hugh

Life is ebbing along the stream of Time with no great rapidity, to be sure, but with an increasing current as it nears the great Gulph [sic]-the grave-Eternity

Then cares & sorrows will cease & storms & tempests will be hushed. "This mortal shall put on immortality and this corruptible incorruption" To be like God. O Glorious thought. I wish to contemplate it the balance of my few remaining days.

I believe I wrote you of the death of your uncle

Jos. L. Ewing-I spent much of my time with him the last three weeks of his illness & was present at his burial. Your uncle William L. Ewing & aunt Nancy spent nearly the whole of last week with us-during the time he had a bad attack of Cholera morbus. Nancy weights 240 lbs. Your uncle Felix is not well; at present he is in Marshall Co. with his daughter Margaret.

We are all in usual health at home. Your Mother, feeble as usual, yet able to be up part of every day & occasionally able to go to church and indeed to visit our near friends. Susan, too, is not at all well, suffers from her old enemy Dyspepsy. Andrew has bad flesh-indeed I am anxious about both of them.

Wm. & Anna are well, as also are the children, Andrew, Jodie & Lucy.

Randal & Ellen are in Missouri [sic] with Sally & her husband Mr. Frierson on a bridal Tour-will be at home next week. Little Carrie, is with us during her Parents absence-James McGavock's health has improved, he has however a gouty condition of his feet & ancles [sic] which prevents him from walking-Col. Jno. McGavock is at the Baltimore convention, as also is your cousin Randal McGavock & his wife-may be some of them may give you a call.

Judge Dickinson & Lady and children are in Nashville-Mrs. Winder & family from Louisiana [sic] are here to spend the summer.

James Cloyd of Pulaski Co. arrived here on the 16th Inst. on a visit to Jas. McNutt. He spends this day with our family, your aunt Sally Otey went out to our house this morning. Her health is pretty fair-long may she live to dispence [sic] her labours of love!

Our crops of cotton & corn are promising-other grains & grasses are all most a failure. The quality of what little wheat is worth harvesting is very fine. There has been little rain in the last four months. Weather warm but not oppressive. Very little sickness in the country-ever & anon, a sporadic case of scarlet fever. Very little doing in the Practice of Physic.

In one of your last letters you mention that you expected to leave your present location this fall for a better prospect of success in business. I do not know what to say to you-what advise to give you. Age & infirmity admonish me that a year or two more is all I shall be able to work at my profession; indeed I ought now to retire, in order to husband the strengths I have remaining; but I am indebt [sic] and must work a little longer if Providence permit.

Franklin & Williamson Co. is crouded [sic] with

Physicians, many of them laborious, working men, anxious to obtain business & willing to do any drudgery to accomplish their purpose—Some of them respectable in learning & in morals & young enough to last many years.

Now if you think with these formidable obstacles (which must be encountered) you would be able to contend successfully-why not come and cast in your lot amongst us. I am willing to do you all the good I can, & will anxiously (when I leave business) transfer my remaining interest & reputation to your hands.

My business has been waneing [sic] for several years and since my removal to the country would not amount to more than one thousand dollars a year, if I were alone. I have among my remaining patrons some fast friends, that you might eventually keep.

These suggestions are given you for your consideration. I hope the kind & merciful Providence which has ordered my way all along the journey of life nearly down to the grave will vouchsafe his protection to you-give you favor with the people as he did his ancient servant Abraham. Farewell!

Love to all your kind friends

Ever thine
Andrew B. Ewing



Ann McGavock Dickinson

Letter Fifty-one

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

August 1st 1860

Dear Hugh

Your last favor was received many days since & ought to have had a response before this late day, but I am, in my old age, growing fat and lazy-I must try and do better in time to come.

We are all pretty well at present. Your Mother

was quite unwell three days ago, but is now up again, though feeble.

We have had much company & she had overtasked her strength. William had an attack of Dysentery, occasioned by his own imprudence-he, however is nearly recovered again-is visiting for the last few days & will soon be entirely recovered.

The excessive heat & drought has relaxed Andrew, Susan & Anna-they look thin & have sickly complexions yet they do not complain.

The little ones, Andrew, Jodie, & Lucy are well, yet the heat tells on them likewise.

The little boys are at school in town, and 'tis the most convenient place to send. I believe I am in better health than any of my family. I weigh 170 pounds.

The country is healthy. The drought still continues-it is alarming-we shall not make half a crop of corn-very little wheat-a short crop of hay-no potatoes-no cabbage-no peas. The pastures are as dry as stuble [sic] & would burn, if ignited, as they have been (in some few instances) by an accidental spark of fire. It seems, as if the Lord had a controversy with us.

Never before has the future presented so gloomy an aspect to my vision; but as seed time & harvest is promised to the end of the world, I ought not to despair.

I have said we have had much company-William's Mother-in law, Mrs. Withers has been spending a week or two with us on her way to Alabama & Judge Dickinson and family, Mrs. Dr. Lindsley & children and Mary McGavock have been with us a little season. Your uncle Jesse's daughter Susan has also been with us-yesterday

she left for your uncle William Ewings. She is a very nice, intelligent girl, but is too fickle & too fond of visiting. There is a very great contrast between her and your Sister Susan, the one is allways [sic] ready for a party or a dining, the other has to be forced into company.

Mr. Otey & your aunt Sally are in usual health. Now & then Mr. Otey has an attack of neuralgic head ache, with a little brush of



Mary McGavock

"hippo" but he is soon up again. Your aunt Sally is failing-growing old, apace.

James McGavock's health has greatly improved, but a rheumatic (or gouty) condition of his feet and ancles [sic] prevents him from walking; he can however go from room to room in his house. Randal and Ellen are pretty well; their new

dwelling house will be fully completed in a few days more-yet I reccon [sic] they will not commence house keeping before next year. Mrs. Lysander McGavock has better flesh than ever before, in all her life-is in excellent health.

July has been the warmest weather we have had since 54. Thermometer at 106 in the fairest aspect, cold water has indeed been a luxury this summer. Our spring affords much water notwithstanding the drought-several families obtain their supplies from it--& a plenty & to spare for all & as many more.

My business will be smaller this year than usual-and a small crop-I must begin now to economise [sic] in order to make ends meet.

As you are aware, Jas. Cloyd spent a few weeks with us this summer. We were all much gratified with him-looking well and bringing good news from our friends in that quarter. He spent most of



Randal Milton Ewing's home on Lewisburg Pike



Sarah McGavock Lindsley

his time with Jas. McNutt-James and family are all well, how he will succeed in his school the next session I am unable to say. William's wife will not teach for him another session-as the music class is not sufficiently large to be worth her attention. He cannot afford to pay her a salary-his last examination was very creditable to teachers & pupils.

Doubtless I have wearied you with so long a letter, and must close with a kind remembrance to all our dear friends in Virginia and especially to them of Macks-meadows & Fort-Chiswell.

Ever thine, Farewell!
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Fifty-two

To: Doctr. H. M. Ewing

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

August 31st 1860

Dear Son

Yours of the 28th Inst came to hand this morning. I am gratified to learn that your health is again restored & that you have again returned to the scene of your labors-also that all our friends are in health in that quarter-and again that you all have good crops and that there is no fear of a lack of bread in all your borders.

"Tis not thus with us-a great portion of the bread used in this region of Tennessee must come from abroad during the next summer. Few common farmers have made-or expect to gather-more than will fatten their pork hogs. And worse than all, we have nothing to sell, wherewith to pay our neighbors for their grain.

For the last ten days plenty of rain has fallen, but 'tis too late for our corn. It will however make the grass grow & give food to our starving stock. We had on our little place about 50 acres of clover & all is killed by the drought, except about ten acres-other grasses are greatly damaged. But we have many blessings for which to express thankfulness; not the least of which is good health. The whole country has

been unusually healthy. In this connexion [sic] I am sorry to inform you Dr. Cliff is dangerously ill of a low grade of fever.

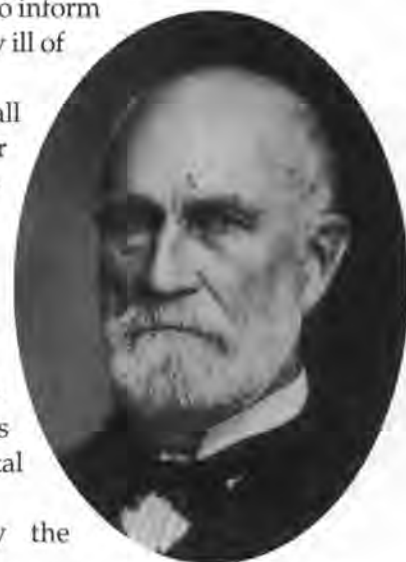
Our own family are all well except your dear Mother; her health is stealthily giving away. Her lungs show evidences of tuberculous deposits not to be mistaken--& her cough is gradually increasing. The very hot summer has greatly exhausted her vital energies.

However melancholy the thought-yet it forces itself upon my judgment; this winter will doubtless finish her earthly career. And then, O then, what a bond of family union & communion will be broken-What strong family ties will be severed.

She is yet able to be up & on same days able to visit & occasionally is well enough to come to church-to day however her seat was vacant, she was not well enough to be out & I regretted it the more as this is fast day in our church and a day of prayer for the salvation of our neighbors, our neighbors children and more especially our own dear children; and you my dear son, have had a place in our humble petitions at the throne of grace, for your everlasting salvation. The gushing tear-unbidden, has often bedewed our furrowed cheek when we reflect that so many of our children are away-removed [sic] from the covenanted mercies of our God. Nearing the tomb and old as we are, God Almighty grant that we may yet live to see them all "joined to the Lord & of one spirit with him".

Our friends here are all in their usual health. Your sister Susan is spending a little season with our relatives in Davidson Co. & about Nashville.

Anna will likely remain at home the balance of the year and learn to help her Mother with house hold affairs. The little boys, Andrew & Jodie are at school-they come to town every day-are learning very prettily. Lida is not teaching this session. Jas. McNutt has an eastern lady in her stead-as yet he has a very small class-not sufficient to pay expenses. It will however, improve after a little season. The hardness of the times is operating on every class of business.



Dr. D. B. Cliffe

Your aunt Sally Otey is in fair health; age is stealing on her. Mrs. Lysander & all, were well when last heard from.

I have written a long letter & must close. write often-our love to all our dear friends. Farewell!

Ever thine
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Fifty-three

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

September 18th 1860

Dear Son Hugh

Your favor of the 6th Inst came safely to hand, we were glad to hear of your good health, as also the good health of our relatives at the "Meadows".

Our prospects for health as [sic] about as usual. Your Mother is better than when I last wrote you. Since the weather has changed-not so warm, she has more strength & is better every way.

William's wife has been suffering with hemorrhoids for a week, but is now better, she is approaching her confinement-she expects her Mother in a day or two more, to stay a little season with us. Susan & her shaddow [sic], Lucy, have returned home from a visit to our friends in Davidson where they have been spending some three weeks. Your uncle William Ewing's family, all well-most of them will be out at our Fair which comes off next week.

Andrew took his fine cold [sic]down to the Nashville Fair, but he lacked 1/2 seckond [sic] in half a mile of taking the premium. The cold [sic] is a Morgan Trotter & is judged to be one of the best. For my individual self, I do not believe in Fairs. They waste time, have a demoralising [sic] tendency on the community & often lead to hates & victous [sic] behaviour [sic].

Our vacinity [sic] continues very healthy. Since the 20th of August we have had plenty of rain-too late for grain crops, but fine for grass. Our little place is as green as May. Our stock is all fat, but I shall have to purchase all the corn they eat, after

frost, which will be quite a heavy tax on my slender income. We have nearly finished cutting all our corn for fodder.

Tomorrow we shall finish sowing our wheat crop-Bacon is worth a shilling a pound in this market & corn, \$4 per barrel. So you see, hog & homony [sic] are in demand in this hitherto region of abundance. Our town & neighborhood are beginning to feel the affect of bad crops. We have had several failures, & some forgeries-only one merchant has found himself able to go east after fresh goods.

James McGavock's health is stationary. Mr. Otey & your aunt Sally are very well. Dr. Cliff is getting well, very slowly-Randal & Ellen are in fair health-are furnishing their house ready to occupy it.

The little boys, Andrew & Jodie are still fond of their school; they are in good health.

Your aunt Sally Otey & sister Anna are going to Nashville to visit our kinsfolks this week.

I have thus given you a short summary of our family affairs-I write to you pretty often-with a family the size of ours-many of us too in the sier & yellow leaf of time, a single week may make a heavy bereavement. "Be ye also ready" is a word of warning advise [sic] I love to cherish; for I believe living is not all of life, nor dieing [sic]all of death.

Farewell! Make a kind remembrance of us to all our kind friends.

Adieu!
Andrew B. Ewing

Letter Fifty-four

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

Octr. 8th 1860

Dear Hugh

Your favor of the 27th Sepr. Was duly received. It contained good tidings-all friends well & you are about to pay us a visit & perhaps stay amongst us.

We are all pretty well-your Mother is better than usual-is out visiting to day-went to James Smiths to see your youngest cousin, Lucinda Graham,

daughter of your uncle James McGavock. She is fast nearing the grave, with Consumption.

Son Wms was confined of a daughter last Thursday, mother & child doing well. 'tis named Mary for Mrs. Withers who is now with us for a little season.

Andrew & Susan are feeble; yet up at their daily employments.

The children, Andr. Jodie & Lucy are very well. The little boys are at school every day in town.

Our Fair came off last week & (?), we had a dusty time. Weather too as warm as midsummer. Some of our family took little premiums, but your Sister Susan's butter came off second best. I myself do not believe in Fairs, & did not attend, but there were so many others who did, that my absence was not noticed. We have had two very light frosts-now the grass looks like May. The drought killed all the clover in the country. We have sown some this Sept. hoping the winter may be mild enough to spare it for early grazing next spring. Our farmers have sown a large crop of wheat, but a catterpillar [sic] worm is devouring it very rapidly. Some call them the "army worm"

Although we have had a severe drought, if you can induce some of our Virginia relatives to come home with you, I will engage to feed them on as fat beef as they have ever clinched their teeth on in the old Dominion; aye, & plenty of it too.

Dr. Cliff has recovered from his long attack of Typhoid fever. The country is healthy. The "money pressure" is causeing [sic] failures in our town-we have had several consignments in the last few weeks. As you may leave for your old home in Tennessee, this month, this may be the last letter I may write you-You must however write again-on the receipt of this.

Love to all, Farewell!

Ever thine
Andr. B. Ewing

Letter Fifty-five

No Envelope

Franklin Tennessee

January 9th 1862

Dear Hugh

"Tis now a week since you left home & a murky day without much rain. I have a little leisure to day-not much since you left home-have much humanity-sake cases-lanced a large abcess on the hip to day, for our old patient-Texas Ranger, Mr. Cockburn. He is at Col. McGavock's house & is well nursed, but is loosing ground. He will not have any thing to do with Dr. German, but begs that yourself & me may still wait on him. Cuppett is at Mr. Oteys suffering with a relapse but is a little better.

Alice McNutt has a severe attack of Thyphoid [sic] Pneumonia-Owen is a little better, I have to visit him twice a week. There are very few soldiers now in the Hospital in Franklin. We are in daily expectation of a battle at Bowlinggreen [sic]. Would it not be better for you to hasten home before the battle? If unsuccessfull [sic], travelling though east Tennessee will not be so safe as 'tis now.

Your Mother has been a little unwell since you left home, but is now as well as usual. All the other members of the family are in health. Mrs. Hub Ewings is convalescent. Ellen & the babe are doing fair. All well with William & the children.

I write in haste, not having time to give you a well digested letter.

Remember us to all friends.

Farewell! Ever yrs.
Andrew B. Ewing
Jany. 9th 1862

Records and Incidents of the Children of W.S. McLemore

William Sugars McLemore was born at Thompson's Station, Tennessee, February 1, 1830 to Bethenia Dabney and Atkins Jefferson McLemore. His wife, Annie Wharton, was born in Tuscumbia, Alabama March 8, 1836. They were married May 15, 1856 at Nashville, Tennessee. Their children included: Carrie, Alice Lee, Annie Louise, Willie Dickson, Bethenia Dabney, Albert Sidney, William Wharton, and Lizzie Minor.

John Rucker of Murfreesboro and Kevin McLemore of Fort Campbell offered the following material and family photographs to the Williamson County Historical Society.

Autobiography of Major Albert S. McLemore August 1915

I was born at Franklin, Williamson County, Tennessee, at the old Central Hotel, name afterwards changed to "Elliot House," which was burned about 1892. I was the first son of William Sugars and Annie Louise Wharton McLemore. The date of my birth was May 23, 1869.

Shortly after I was born, my father, who just before my birth had sold his place at Hardbargain, purchased a two acre tract and cottage home on Main street, West End, and there my childhood was spent, a very happy childhood, and there were



William S. McLemore



Ann Wharton McLemore

born my brother William Wharton, May 1, 1871, and my sister Lizzie Minor, February 18, 1879.

My first conscious recollection is of an election night in August 1872, when my father was defeated in a race for Circuit Judge. I recall distinctly that when I was told that father had been "beat" I conceived him in my mind's eye as beaten with sticks.

Another date that stands out as a Red Letter day of my childhood was an August night in 1874 when they lighted a bonfire on the Public Square in celebration of the election of my father to the position of Criminal Court Judge-His opponents were Judge Jimmie Jones and Judge Arch Hughes, the latter a Republican, and I recall that I was surprised when I met Judge Hughes to find him a white man as I had often heard him referred to as a black Republican.

The Summer of 1875 too stands out in my memory. That Summer my mother took her three youngest children, Thenie (8), Albert (6), and



Albert S. McLemore

Wharton (4) to the Red Boiling Springs in Macon County, Tennessee. The journey was made partly by stagecoach and there was an accident of some sort and we were forced to seek hospitality of strangers at a wayside farm house.

I have a vivid recollection of the return home in August, and how attractive the home looked- of the abundant harvest of Concord grapes- of the blooming beauty of my sister Annie Lou who welcomed us home. She was but 16, but to my youthful eyes she was "grown folks" and my impression of her then is of the most radiantly beautiful woman and I almost worshiped her.



Judge Arch Hughes

Upon my return from Macon County I started to school to Mrs. McCampbell, a neighbor whose son Fred (14) made the most wonderful bows and arrows.

I have pleasant recollections of Professors Hamilton and W.W. Beck at the Public School, and



Red Boiling Springs



Campbell School

Messrs. Andrew and Patrick Campbell whose schoolhouse was across the street from our home.

Our neighbors to the east were Judge Jesse Wallace's family, five daughters and two sons. Winstead's lot was between our home and the Wallaces, a six acre tract used principally as a pasture for cows and playground for children.

Across the street to the north of us lived Mr. Pat Campbell with three children near my own age- to the west of us Mr. Schuyler Bailey and Mr. Bud House.

Other near neighbors were Dr. Gentry and Mr. Mark Haynes and Aunt Betsy Porter, an old colored woman with a wonderful flower garden- I faintly remember her husband Uncle Billie but he must have died when I was very young.

In 1880 my father was again a candidate for Circuit Judge, and I, then eleven, accompanied him through several counties on his electioneering trips- our transportation consisted of horse and buggy, and those trips are among my most treasured recollections. Father was reelected- his opponents were Judge John V. Wright and Arch Hughes.

It was in May of that year that my father took me with him to Cincinnati to the Dramatic Festival where we saw congregated all of the great theatrical stars of the day. We saw "Julius Caesar" with Louis James in the title role- Murdock as Mark Anthony-McCullough as Brutus- Lawrence Barret as Cassius, and the peerless Mary Anderson as



Mr. Pat Campbell

Portia.

It was my first visit to a large city and it made a deep and lasting impression upon me. I recall being greatly surprised to see my father drink beer on this trip- we had all been brought up as blue ribboners and looked upon drinking as positively wicked.

I do not now recall any particular incidents of the years 1881 and 1882- I was attending school and leading an exceedingly happy life. Lizzie Minor was a most attractive baby and I loved her dearly. I recall Summer picnics managed by daddy who was adept at making children have a good time, and I recall my first love affair with Marie Horton who was visiting Franklin, her home being in Nashville. I recall delightful weeks spent at Aunt Minor Alexander's farm near Spring Hill, Maury County, Tennessee, and others with Uncle Dick's family in Nashville.

The Winter of 1881-1882 is memorable as the "courting days" of my adored sister Annie Lou. Her lover was John E. Richardson of Murfreesboro- John Ebenezer and Annie Louisa we children dubbed them. They were married May 18, 1882, and our sister left us to make her home in Murfreesboro, and sister Thenie began to put on the airs of young lady-hood, let out a tuck in her skirt and put her hair up on her head.

In September 1883 I left home to go to boarding school—Webb's School at Culleoka—I was there but a few weeks when I came down with typhoid fever and hastened home. My mother doubted that I was



Webb School Culleoka



William Sawney Webb

seriously ill and suspected that I was more homesick than anything else, and as they had been at considerable financial sacrifice to send me to Culleoka and had paid my tuition in advance, she resented my giving up so quickly and received me very coldly not unkindly-she was never unkind.

When my disease developed and it was certain that I was in a precarious condition her remorse that she had misjudged me was

pitiable- I think she never did fully forgive herself for having doubted me and for having received me coldly upon my return home.

I was ill all that Autumn but went to school (in Franklin) in the Spring of 1884. That spring my father purchased for me from John de Graffenreid a small gray saddle mare, Kate, and I almost lived in the saddle during that Summer.

In the Fall of 1884 a new teacher had come to Franklin and taught at Campbell's School-house, Dr. C.L. Smith, Ph.D. I started in with him- he was an excellent teacher with many modern up to date ideas.

I got it into my head that Winter that I wanted to teach school. There was no particular reason why I should- Father was well to do, owned his home and was receiving a salary of twenty-five hundred a year as Circuit Judge and that was pretty big money for that time and place.

However, I was a well grown lad and well advanced in my studies- I looked around and found a school in the Overton neighborhood- Robertson's Academy it was called, the school had a small endowment and the county allowed fifty dollars a month toward the teacher's salary. I secured the position at sixty dollars a month and taught there one session- January-June 1885- an average attendance of 40. My most advanced pupil, Richard Bell, was studying algebra and geometry and was reading in Latin, Virgil and Cornelius Nepos. My most backward pupil was Willie Rosaker, son of Colonel John Overton's gardener- it took me three months to teach him A,B, and C- during the fourth month he learned D but at the same time he forgot A so there was no gain.

While teaching this school, May 1885, I read a

notice in a paper that the Congressman from the Seventh Tennessee District, the Honorable John G. Ballentine, would hold a competitive examination at Columbia, Tennessee, on May 15th, the winner of which would receive an appointment as Naval Cadet at Annapolis, Maryland.

My Uncle Dick Wharton had been a graduate of Annapolis but had resigned from the U.S. Navy to accept a commission in the Confederate Navy. I had often heard him tell of the Navy, but the thought of entering it myself had never seriously occurred to me till I read that notice of the competitive examination.

I wrote home, got permission, and went to Columbia and took the examination, closing my school for four days. There were eight young men who presented themselves and took the examination. I passed No. 1 and was given the appointment with orders to report at Annapolis the first of September, 1885 I was then 16 years old. I went to Annapolis, successfully passed the entrance examination and became a full fledged Midshipman, very proud and happy I was. Rarely a day passed that I did not get a letter from home.

I was very happy at the Naval Academy and passed creditably in June 1886 from the fourth to the third class- made a Summer cruise on the famous frigate Constellation to Portsmouth, N.H., and in September 1886 had a month at home on leave.

In the Spring of 1887 I became lazy and careless- broke rules and regulations and found myself on the verge of being dropped from the Academy rolls. When I came to my senses it was too late to save myself- I was badly unsatisfactory in mathematics so I resigned May 1st 1887, and General Whitthorne then the Congressman from our District, at my mother's earnest solicitation, gave me a reappointment.



W. C. Whitthorne

I reentered the Naval Academy May 23, 1887 on the day I was 18 years of age, and again made a Summer cruise on the Constellation, this time to New London, Conn.

Being now a fourth classman again I did not have a September leave but remained at the Academy.

In the Summer of 1888,

however, having already made a third class cruise, I was given leave of absence for the entire Summer. I found my dear daddy flat on his back, having had a fall on a slippery ice covered carriage block during the preceding Winter. His hip was dislocated and he never recovered from the accident, but was lame for the rest of his life.

I spent quite a portion of my leave at Fernvale Spings—I was 19 that Summer and branched out as a ladies' man for the first and only time in my life—I considered myself very much in love, first with Ida Roberts from Paris, Texas, who was visiting her aunt, Mrs. Hunter, then our next door neighbor, second with Laura Whitman a very pretty girl from Memphis whom I met at Fernvale; and third with May McEwen on whose account I overstayed my leave and thereby narrowly escaped serious conse-



Fernvale Springs

quences.

When I went home in September 1889 on my September leave I went to Murfreesboro, Tenn., father having retired from the bench, moved to Murfreesboro and was living at Sister Annie Lou's and was practicing law with his son-in-law John E. Richardson- they were living in an old-fashioned house, corner Main and Spring Streets one block east of Public Square. This house was shortly thereafter demolished and "Mason Court," a set of office, was erected in its stead. Brother John's new home, corner Spring and Lytle Streets, was nearing completion-they moved into it in October 1889.

Father was very ill during my visit, he had taken the "Brown Sequard Elixir" in the hope of benefiting his lameness and at every place where the elixir was injected an abscess formed. I spent a very quiet month at home and one week at Fernvale.

Editor's note: Albert McLemore went on with a career in the Marine Corps making colonel in 1916.

Reminiscences By Bethenia McLemore Oldham Written in 1916

Changing the words of Longfellow just a little:

"Often I think of the beautiful town
'Way back in Tennessee
Aften in thought go up and down
The pleasant streets of that dear old town,
And my youth comes back to me."

All of us loved Franklin. After we had moved away nothing pleased us better than to go back to visit.

As this is written about my father and mother and our family, a description of the old home is in order.

Franklin was a quaint pretty old town in the bend of the Harpeth river. We lived in West End, a continuation of Main Street. Beyond the town to the west it was called the Carter's Creek pike.

The population was about 2,000 as well as I remember. The town was small enough for everybody to know nearly every one else. There were many negroes, some of them, Harvey and Daniel and Logan had been slaves in our families and were always my father's friends.

Uncle Harvey, with his black shinning face lived at Hardbargain and came every Sunday morning to our house to black shoes. For this Mama gave him buttermilk and food for his family. "'Tis dat, you're mighty right," was one of his favorite expressions. He was a faithful good old soul.



McLemore home on West Main was next door to Franklin Memorial Chapel

We had no wire screens then, no electric lights, no water-works, no automobiles. We burned lamps and Mama kept them clean and bright. She used to say it did not pay to economize in lights or fuel.

We burned coal in grates and cooked with wood in the kitchen stove. We had a cistern and the water was pumped up by a chain with little cups at certain intervals. The handle of the pump was turned to bring up the little cups. We had a well at one time but filled it up later.

We kept horses at various times but the best remembered is old Jack, a gray one. We had a barouche, very unlike the present ones. It was small and oblong and had a little narrow front seat with no back very close to the back seat. We had many delightful rides in this vehicle.

Having no screens, flies were sometimes very bad, and we had little negro children to keep them off the table when we ate with peach-tree limbs or paper flybrushes. Newspapers were laid over a long stick at one end and slits made in them with scissors so that when waved about the ceiling just over the table, slit newspapers hung on them and waved back & forth as we ate, by means of a string, held by someone who stood at the end behind Mama or Papa. I do not recall one of this last kind in our home but saw them often in the homes of others and I think we must have had them too.

The house was set well back from the street and a long gravel walk led from the gate to the front door. A long narrow smooth oblong stone was the step.

When we moved to this home in West End, it was very sunny and there were only a few cedar trees. Papa and Mama had vines planted around the front porch, and at the front and west bay windows on frames that stood out some three or four feet from them and made delightful shady play-houses. Later, when the trees grew up these honeysuckle vines had to be torn away, but the scent of honeysuckle still makes me think of our Franklin home.

At one time there were flower borders on each side of the long gravel walk, filled with roses, pinks, tiger lilies, phlox, lilies of the valley and other old fashioned flowers and sometimes geraniums, heliotrope and verbenas. Later, the blue grass grew to the wooden curbing of the walk. The flower bed were then to the east of the house.

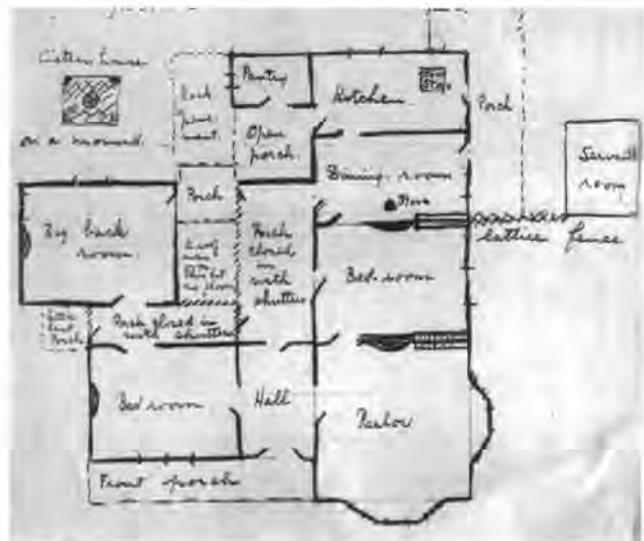
Papa took great interest in the yard and often brought in young forest trees and had them planted by negro workmen, usually by Uncle Harvey as we called him. Once when having a hole dug to plant a

tree a wooden box was struck with the spade which proved to be the coffin of a Union soldier. Papa told the workman to cover it up again. Sometimes in winter we could distinctly see in our front yard a row of depressions or sunken places, the graves of Union soldiers and I remember a northern gentleman coming there once and walking all over the yard. He said that his soldiers had fallen and were buried there, at the battle of Franklin.

We had in the yard of this home when we left there maple trees, sugar and water maples, dogwood, red-bud, ash, magnolia, holly, sliver willow and pine trees.

Just inside the front gate on the left side was a Sweet Betsy bush (calycanthus) and people passing often reached over and helped themselves to the flowers.

Our home was of frame painted light yellow. It was shaped like this:



West End 1878

The little space in the middle had only a dirt floor. There we played store and circus. The shutters enclosing the porch could be turned to make the porch dark or light. We always locked the doors leading out on to the little porches.

Mama loved to move about and once the big back room was the dining-room. Once the left hand front room was the parlor and the large room to the right a bed-room. Then the west bay-window was my doll-house. The house faced north. The front door was a double door.

At the left side of our front yard was a big gate and the driveway to the back premises was cut off

from the yard by a plank fence made thus:

The top plank was laid flat, and as a child I loved to run on it from one end to the other. It turned near the back room and came up to the house. Across this corner, near the window, we used to lay a board in the cold weather and scatter crumbs for the birds.

Later the driveway was removed and one made on the right side of the house, and along the fence in the front yard was a row of purple lilacs. In the front yard we had a rock-pile covered over with vines and often rabbits came to live under it.

Back of the yard, with its woodhouse, henhouse, smokehouse, and cellar was a garden with all kinds of nice vegetables in the summer; fruit trees and a vineyard of Concord grapes.

There under two peach trees was our graveyard where pet dogs and cats were buried, and the "green grass grew all 'round and 'round."

Back of the garden, with its long walk down the center, was the stable and stable yard, and back of that the orchard.

Our home was a Christian home and often in the after years I've thanked God for what this has meant to us all.

I cannot remember the time when my parents did not go to church and my mother went to Sunday School all of her life as long as she was able.

When we were small we went to this church, Methodist. I made the sketch of the tower when a girl. It is still in Franklin and is made of gray slate.

In later years I have been told that my father was at one time superintendent of this Sunday School but I do not remember that personally. My recollections are of going to the Christian Sunday School with Mama, and Papa often had to be away holding court.

When he was at home, he sometimes went with Mama to her church and often she went with him. Each respected the religious views of the other and both were earnest Christians.

They taught us to be honest, to be kind, to be just and above all to be truthful. The preachers from the Christian



Franklin Methodist Church

church and from the Methodist church were often entertained in our home. Our home was a hospitable home. We often had friends and relatives to visit us. This is our dear Uncle Dick. We always loved for him and Aunt Mary to come. He and Papa were very fond of each other.

They often carried on foolishness to amuse us children. They would rush into each others arms and hug and kiss "just for fun."

Both were full of spirits and loved to please children. Uncle Dick lived in Nashville and was for years principal of the Hume-Fogg Public School. Our Aunt Mary was gentle and sweet and had big black or brown eyes. Uncle Dick called her Molly Bawn. I loved her dearly. She was always good to me.

As children we were often allowed to have our friends spend the day or night with us.

Kinfolks came and went. Rich and poor, high and low, the cultured and the humble were alike treated kindly and shown hospitality by my parents.

Papa, being in public office for many years, had many country friends, who sometimes came to town, and they too were welcome. He gave them the best he had.

My Papa's brothers and sisters came too. Aunt Minor came 15 miles from her home beyond Spring Hill and brought Jim and Thenie and later McLemore. She was Mrs. Alexander, and we loved Uncle Jim, her husband, as if he was our own uncle.

Aunt Ann, Mrs. Thos. Bond, came from 10 miles out on the Columbia pike, Uncle Lem and Aunt Lesy with Frierson and Minor, and once Aunt Thenie, from Texas. Uncle John came but seldom. I do not recall Aunt Margaret coming.

This is my father's oldest brother, Anderson. We called him Uncle Ance. He too was often at our house and Aunt Annie, his second wife, and Claiborne their child.

His daughters by his first wife, Cousins Dora, Sallie & Maggie & Narciss were frequent visitors in our home, and I remember Cousin Dixie de Graffenreid visiting us.

Cousin John de Graffenreid and Cousin Maury lived with us part of their lives for Papa was their guardian.

Dear kind Uncle Willie, Mama's other brother,



Hume-Fogg School, Nashville

came sometimes from Nashville with his sweet wife, Mary. We called our two aunts Aunt Mary Dick and Aunt Mary Will.

Aunt Mary Will was a saintly lovely woman with a gentle voice, a kind heart and the sweetest of faces. She used to come with her little Sadie and Will. We loved to have her. Uncle Will had a drug-store and always brought us balsam to chew and nice toilet articles.

How glad we were always to see dear Aunt Minor. Uncle Jim seldom came with her though. She was not as gray as in this picture when she used to visit us in our Franklin home.

She drove an old sorrel horse named old Joe and her barouche was like ours.

Our home was a home where children were made happy. We had play-houses, toys, materials to work with, pets, flowers, duties, places to keep our own things, etc.

We were sometimes punished but more often talked to and reasoned with.

Our parents loved us and showed that they did. Papa took us on picnics and rides and walks, told us tales and played games with us. Mama read to us, sang funny children's songs, made our friends welcome and gave us good things to eat. She taught us useful things and made us want to do right.

Our home was a social home. There were games and pleasant times among ourselves and often our friends were there to join in too, when we were little, as we grew up and after we were grown. I remember playing in the home Avilude, (game of birds), Ferilude (game of animals) Authors, Quotations, Backgammon, and games of cards. Mama afterwards gave up the latter, feeling it was wrong.

In all of these games our parents joined in with us often.

Our home was a home of culture. Mama and Papa loved good literature and taught us to love it. Both of them were good readers but she oftenest read aloud to us children.

Both belonged to a literary club and used to go to the entertainments at the College. The teachers were sometimes visitors in our home and Judge and Mrs. McLemore were known as literary people. Mama often took part in concerts when young but afterwards gave it up.

Our home was a musical home. Mama played and sang and she always had a piano. Sister played and sang and later I took music lessons.

We always had negro servants. I do not remember Mama getting a meal but once or twice in her life. Among the cooks I remember were Betty North, Zerilda, Martha and I think one was named Cely. Another was Aunt Dicy, who sang "Swing low, sweet chariot, swing low."

The furniture in our home was not handsome but as good as most people had. We had a rosewood bookcase and a rosewood set of furniture.

We had a great many books. In the front hall was a lamp that hung from the ceiling and could be let up and down.

The pictures that we had made an impressions on my mind. One was the Cotter's Saturday Night and another of Noah and the Ark, both large engravings.

Papa gave me a lithograph in colors once for a birthday present of a Swiss scene. I always loved that picture and now have a copy of it in oil colors.

My mother was a neat and orderly house-keeper and we were early taught to have a place for everything and to keep everything in its place.

I do not remember ever hearing my parents quarrel. Though they differed in many respects they dearly loved each other. She called him Will and he called her wife.

The home of my childhood was a real home, in the truest and best sense of the word. I am glad I remember it as such.

A description of the Franklin home would not be complete without telling of Mr. Winstead's lot," east of us.

It had several oak trees and we gathered and played with the acorns, making play dishes of them.

There was a big tulip-tree (poplar) and we pinned the leaves together and made hats, crowns, sashes and aprons.

There were locust trees and we gathered the sweet blossoms and had a great chair swing from a pole stretched from one to another of the tallest.

There were polkberry bushes and we made ink of the berries. There were weeds with brown seed and we played they were coffee and sold it in our toy store.

There was an old unused well with brush thrown over top and we stayed away from it. There was a deep large depression filled with old broken bricks, where the cellar of a house had once been. This was the best playhouse of all. We kept house there, played school, hid in the weeds when they grew tall, and ran from one side to the other when

we wanted exercise.

Our companions were Will, Mattie and Stewart Campbell, Jessie, Mary and Will Wallace, and Willie Bailey. My brothers Albert and Wharton and I had happy times in this lot.

In this Franklin home in West End my brother Wharton was born, May 1, 1871.

Here Lizzie Minor was born Feb. 18, 1879.

Here my sweet sister Annie Lou was married to John E. Richardson of Murfreesboro, Tennessee on May 18, 1882.

From this home my father went to his courts in Columbia, Lewisburg, Lawrenceburg, and Pulaski.

Here Mama watched for his dear face and listened for his footstep and always greeted him with joy and cheer.

In this yard I dug and planted and learned from my Papa to love and care for flowers and trees.

In this yard we played hide and seek and other games.

From this home Mama sometimes went to Nashville, bringing back bundles and something for us all. I can see her dear bright face now as she "told off" about her trip.

From this home we went on picnics to Cayce Springs 10 miles away and Fernvale 15 miles.

From this home Brother went away to Annapolis when only a boy. I remember how Mama went with him to the gate and watched him till he was out of sight, and came back with aching heart.

To this home Sister and Brother John came visiting in their honeymoon days, and later bringing Will, Augusta and John.

Ah! 'Little Mrs. Jones,' precious baby Augusta, little did we dream how soon you'd leave us.

To this home came back letters from Sister, telling of life in her new home, letters from Brother all about his examinations at Annapolis and then the telegram 'I am a cadet.'

How dearly my mother loved and yearned over her absent boy and how faithfully she wrote to him. How earnestly she prayed that he might be a Christian.

From this home I went to the Tennessee Female College where at different times I took art and music lessons.

From this home later I went to Nashville to Ward Seminary and brought with me home sometimes friends from there.

Here I spent my childhood, girlhood, young

lady-hood, most of it. Sallie House and Sallie Ewing, Kate Jones and Annie Wilkes, Mary McEwen, Jessie Parkes, Mary and Jessie Wallace, dear dear friends, all living now and I am nearly 49- most of them live in Franklin.

Here Joe Parkes, Frank Ewing and Clem Holderman were three good friends who helped me to have a good time.

While visiting in Texas in 1889 at my Aunt Thenie's this home was sold, and when I returned my parents lived in Murfreesboro. It will always, always be dear to me, but now I am westernized and would not go back to live if I could. Nothing would seem the same.

My Father As I Knew Him, And What He Has Told Me Of His Life

Thenia McLemore Oldham

Among my earliest recollections of Papa, are of us three children Brother, Wharton and me, sitting in his lap or at his feet while he told us about Flora Underwood, Amy and the Eagle or the Bird's Concert. He had many other tales that we loved to hear, and most of them he made up.

Then he used to sing to us Highland Mary, I'll Hang my Harp on a Willow Tree and The Carrier Dove. I always loved to hear him but he made fun of his own singing and told a joke on himself about Wharton's lack of appreciation. One night when Wharton was little Papa was doing his best singing to get him to sleep, when Wharton raised up and said, "Papa what are you making all that noise for?"

Now it is March 2, 1916, as I resume my writing in my Portales home. Again my dear Walter sits near me reading and Winfield is on the sofa reading too. Thenie Mc is still visiting in Washington.

I could write on and on and on about my Papa for I



Judge W. S. McLemore

loved him so. He had a great love for nature & a great love for children. These two things kept him young at heart to the very last & he lived to be 78.

Every summer for several years he took a great crowd of children picnicing. The first time we went 4 miles out on the Nashville pike to Sweeney Springs and at other times to Cayce & Fernvale Springs at such times he gave himself wholly to us, putting up swings, making pawpaw whistles, joining in the games and helping us to have good times in every possible way.

Many a time on Sunday afternoons he took a crowd of us walking over to an old fort across the Harpeth River. We had to walk over the railroad bridge. A home had been on that high hill once and there were remains of the old flower garden. We gathered flowers and mosses and there were few that Papa couldn't tell us the names of.



View of Franklin from Fort Granger

We had many drives through the country behind old Jack and if we wanted to get out & run awhile or roll down a hay stack, or gather some flowers by the wayside Papa always let us to do so.

Once we drove west to his brother John's, Papa, Albert, Wharton, & I, and spent the night there. Next day we went to Spring Hill and visited Uncle Lem and Aunt Minor, and came home by way of Aunt Ann's and Uncle Anderson's, having made a complete round to see all of his brothers and sisters living out that way.

Another red-letter day with us was when he took us three children to visit his birthplace at Thompson Station. We went on the train and walked over to his old home, ate lunch in the big

woods lot in front and drank from the well where he got water when a boy.

The house as I remember it was something like this. He asked the people who lived there if we might go through it, and as we went he told us of happenings of his boyhood days. He had been a delicate sickly boy and his brother John had been a great tease.

He had grown up like most farmer boys of that time, with few pleasures except such as hunting rabbits, few toys, plenty of work and out door life, and had gone to an old-fashioned country school. He was the only one of all the brothers and sisters who had cared for and had gotten a first class education.

We passed back through the garden and family graveyard, and I remember reading the names of my grandparents on the tombstones who had died. My father's twin was among them, Atkins Jefferson. From there we went through the woods where Papa had hunted when a boy and had come out on the Columbia pike and spent the rest of the day till train time at Uncle Tommie Bond's house. It was in this country home that Papa was born Feb. 1, 1830. His parents were Atkins Jefferson McLemore and Bethenia Dabney. If I remember right there were either 9 or 11 children in all, counting those who died in infancy.



Bethenia Dabney McLemore
and Jeff Ward

I think this house near Thompson Station is still standing. When I saw it some people named Buford lived in it and it was painted red. A large woods lot was in front.

Papa went to "old Ed Paschall" as he called him. He must have been a good teacher and not so cross and crabbed as some of that day. Later Papa went to Lexington Kentucky to Transylvania University. Cousin John Ford House, I think, was his roommate there.

When Mama was a young pretty city girl (Nashville) she came visiting to Spring Hill and Papa's two sisters Margaret and Thenie McLemore came to call on her. They invited her out to their country home to a party and it was there Papa met and fell in love with her. He was not living there

then but was a young lawyer in Franklin.

Papa edited the county paper at one time and held various public offices in Franklin.

Papa was smart, well-read, well-informed, kept up with the times and was my walking dictionary. I seldom asked him any question that he could not answer. He was a good speller and wrote a good letter.

These pictures of Papa and Mama must have been taken soon after they were married. Mama's hair which looks dark in the picture was golden and naturally curly. Her eyes were blue and her complexion dazzlingly fair & beautiful.

Papa's eyes were dark blue, bright & penetrating and, to me, were very beautiful. His hair was dark and he was active and quick in his movements.

He always wore a beard. Once or twice in the later years he had it shaved off but we all fussed about it so that he let it grow back again.

I cannot tell of all the offices he held in Franklin but I know he led a busy, active, useful life.

I know he was upright and honorable, and honest and good and that he had some very true good friends, among whom was Mr. Atha Thomas.

He was either County or Circuit Court Clerk for a long time.

I used to love to hear Papa tell about the war. He went through the whole four years and was never once wounded, though he had three horses shot from under him.



John Ford House



Atha Thomas, Franklin lawyer

One of these was at the battle of Thompson Station, the scene of his boyhood days.

He said he went into this battle with the presentiment that he would be shot. This was the only time during the war he ever had the feeling.

Presently, he became aware that his canteen had been shot and immediately felt (as he thought) the warm blood trickling down his side. Upon investigating he found it was only the water from the canteen, made warm by the sun. We always kept that canteen that saved his life. The water turned the bullet. On one side was the place where it went in and another hole showed where it went out.

His horse was shot though and Papa used to tell us how pitiful it was and how the poor creature looked at him with almost human intelligence as if he said, "Can't you do something to help me?"

Papa was under Forrest in Starnes Regiment and when Col. Starnes was shot Papa was put in command of the Brigade. Papa's regiment was the 4th Tennessee Cavalry.

In the after years he loved to go to re-unions and meet his old soldiers. They called him 'colonel' always and shook his hand and hugged him and sometimes cried over him.

There was the tenderest attachment between them.

He went to these re-unions until within a few years of his death and he lived to be seventy-eight. And so the years passed by, and all through my childhood, girlhood and young ladyhood my Papa was a part of my very life. He loved me tenderly, was always kind, gentle and patient.

I used to sit on the front porch with him during a storm and hear the thunder roar and watch the lightning flash. For this reason I



Col. J. W. Starnes, C.S.A.



Col. W. S. McLemore, C.S.A.

never had the great fear that some do of lightning.

Papa held court at five county seats, Columbia, Lewisburg, Lawrenceburg, Pulaski and Franklin.

Once, Mama, Brother, Wharton & I went with him to Lewisburg and Mama visited again the people she had refuged with during the Civil War, the Kennedys and others. We went to Cornersville nearby-We boarded during this trip at Papa's boarding house, with Mrs. Kercheville.

Papa was often called upon to make talks to schools and to address other public gatherings.

He had the respect of old and young and rich and poor liked him. He was very democratic and scorned to be more courteous to a rich man than to a poor one. He was a good "mixer" and it was easy for him to get votes. He held the office of Circuit Judge for many years.

His one bad habit was smoking. Twice he quit it for months but both times went back to it. He often wished that he had never acquired the habit.

I remember how active Papa was. Though rather a heavy set man of medium height, he was active and nimble. He used to run and jump and play with us children and we felt that he was one of us.

He was a good walker, and this activity made his later affliction all the harder to bear.

In the earlier years I do not remember my father telling me much about religion, but he taught me to live it and instilled into me a love of truth and right.

In the later years, we had many beautiful talks about the hereafter, and God and life and death. He was a true Christian and lived the best he could. His example will always be to me an inspiration and a blessing.

The traits that stand out vividly in my recollection, are how kind he was, how wonderfully patient under suffering, and how calm and sensible under exciting conditions.

Mama used often to say "Be like your father, children, don't be like me." She was quick and impulsive and excitable, and Papa was cool and calm and had great presence of mind in time of danger.

When the kitchen caught on fire it was Papa who knew just what to do, and in a few minutes had the blaze put out.

When, as we were in the act of crossing a railroad, the train dashed around a curve and was almost upon us before we had time to think, it was Papa who jumped over the dash-board and was at the horse's head in a second, while the rest of us

scrambled out of the barouche.

He was always quick-witted and equal to any emergency. He never "lost his head" but knew just what to do under all circumstances.

Papa was consistent and absolutely truthful. He never deceived us. As many parents thoughtlessly do without sometimes realizing it.

He always remembered my birthday and I still have a picture, a copy of Tennyson that he gave to me on two of those days.

Papa never told us a great deal of his boyhood days. I have heard him tell how his brother John used to tease and worry him because he (Papa) was not so strong and healthy and could not stand up for his rights.

When we took that trip to his old home he showed me where his father thrashed him once for getting so intensely angry with his brother John that he raised the ax as if to strike him. Their father saw it and administered the chastisement at once.

We liked to hear Papa tell of his school days in the country and of his teacher, "old Ed Paschall," but we liked best to hear him tell about the war.

At last one sad day came that stands out in my memory more than all the rest, for it was the beginning of my darling Papa's suffering that stayed with him for 18 long weary years.

He started to walk home from town and, a butcher boy said, "Judge, don't you want to ride?"

Papa drove up in the Butcher's cart and at our front gate jumped out on to the large flat carriage block. He slipped and fell and dislocated his hip. It seemed an age before they got him to the house and I cannot bear to think of how he suffered.

Oh! I know now, that God is ever present and can help us in all things, he need not have suffered all those sad years. Oh! if we only had known of Christian Science, that God is all in all and in health all our diseases. But we didn't. We didn't even know of Osteopathy. And so the doctor came and the doctor experimented and the doctor diagnosed the case wrong and the poor hip was left out of the socket and my Papa was lame for life. He used to dream of getting well. He was ever an optimist. He had been so alive, so active, so eager and glad to go and to do things. He could not think he was to be a hopeless cripple.

At least he could walk with crutches and later with sticks but nearly to the last there was pain and his left leg gradually grew shorter.

During all the years of his suffering and pain

Mama was his content companion and waited on him faithfully as long as she was able. She was so good to him and they loved each other very dearly.

Backgammon was a favorite game and few days passed that she did not help him while away the hours by playing with him.

Reading was a solace to him during those weary sad years and in spite of his afflictions he had many things to make him happy.

Dear good Brother John offered to take him in as law partner with 1/3 interest, when on account of his accident he could no longer work as he had done, so in 1887 he moved from Franklin to Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

At first we lived with Brother John and later bought a home and Mama kept house.

For one year we rented our home and lived again at Sister's then came back and stayed till Mama was too feeble to longer keep house.

Brother John was always good to Papa and his taking him in as partner was a veritable God-send. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord" and though my father was in a manner helpless, yet God put it into Brother John's heart to help him out.

The law office was in Mason Court & the firm was McLemore and Richardson.

Every day a hackman drove up to our front gate and Papa got in and was driven up town. Here he went upstairs to a comfortable room and could attend to many matters while Brother John did the more active part of the work. Old lawyer fees from his practice in Franklin kept coming in from time to time, people who owed him, opened their hearts and paid up. Brother Albert sent \$25 every month. I got a place to teach and helped a little. Wharton got a job and helped too. Sister was always sending us milk and butter and fruit from the big house on the hill, and so we lived comfortably and happily for years at our home on the corner of Bell Avenue and Academy Streets in Murfreesboro.

I loved to think of this home. Papa was glad and proud to have it, plain and simple as it was, and Mama was thankful and contented to be settled and grateful for God's blessings.

Here they began life over again, and here Papa planted trees and flowers, as he had done in Franklin, and every year had a nice garden, with raspberries all around the fence and a strawberry patch.

Papa seldom missed going to the Methodist Church every Sunday, and during the last years of his life when his two grandsons, Albert and Will

Richardson had grown to be tall, strong splendid young men, it was beautiful to see their devotion to their old lame grandfather.

God bless them for it. It sweetened his declining years.

Once in talking to sister he said he felt so useless, and she reminded him how much it meant to her two boys to have had the privilege and goodness. She said it helped in their development.

"Do you look at it that way?" he said wistfully, "then I'll try to feel better about it."

He did not get as lonesome as some people though because he had read so much. His mind was stored full of beautiful thoughts. He had read the best literature for years.

"Papa, do you dread death as you once did?" I asked him once toward the end of his life.

"Oh! no, daughter," he said, "I do not dread it now. I try to keep my lamp trimmed and burning and I'm not afraid to go."

Another thought that gives me comfort is that for the last year of his life he did not suffer pain. He told me so once when I went back on a visit. "The pain is all gone," he said, "I do not have it any more."

Autobiography of Mrs. W. O. Oldham nee Thenie McLemore

I was born at Franklin, Tennessee April 1, 1867, at a home my father then owned in the outskirts of the town called Hardbargain. I was the fifth girl and my parents had hoped for a boy. I was welcomed though and tenderly loved, especially because I was frail and delicate and they feared to lose me.

I am told my Aunt Minta held me often in her arms and loved me fondly, and though I cannot remember her because I was so young when she passed away, nothing pleased me better as I grew up than to be told, I was like my Aunt Minta.

She must have been very lovely in face and character, except for the cruel scar on her face where she was burned in childhood.

About the time I was born Papa brought Mama a big octagon-shaped clock to hang on the wall and help keep her company and for years it did us good service.

My earliest recollections are of what we called the "old Home," a big house down on Main Cross Street, though all during my childhood we visited

Hardbargain and I often saw "the house where I was born," and one-story frame, with latticed porch and a big grassy shady yard.

Two things only stand out in memory in the house on Main Cross Street, and I couldn't have been as much as three years old. I know I remember them. I did not get them from hearing others tell about them.

One was that Uncle Dick and Aunt Mary came to see us and brought Minnie and Harvey and that we played pat-a-cake for the amusement of the grown-folks.

The other was that my nurse, a colored woman, whipped me with a wire off of an old hoopskirt which she found out in the back yard. I distinctly remember crying and starting around the house to the front just as Mama and Sister came in at the gate on their way back from church. The rest of the story has been told to me, how Cousin Jeff Word ran after her with a stick and how she cried, "Oh! Marse Jeff, don't kill me. Don't kill!" She ran through the garden and escaped. My parents never tried to find her. Her name was Susan Gray.

I went to school to the Tennessee Female College, once to Dr. Hargrove, later to Mr. Wm. Vaughan and still later to Mrs. M.E. Clark. I was never a really good student, though I made fair grades. Sometimes Mama taught us at home and how we did enjoy that. I always said she taught me more than any teacher I ever had. Especially did I learn from her how to spell, to punctuate and to write. Once she taught us in the big back room by the table in the corner between two windows.

At one time I went to the public school when Mr. C.R. Berry was at the head of it and once across the street to a boy's school, to Mr. Andrew Campbell was one of the kind you read about, strict, cross, and with a great bundle of switches behind him which he used often. At the time I went there he would teach one day and Mr. Pat Campbell the next. Mr. Pat did not whip. Mr. Andrew did not whip the girls. There were about 30 boys and 15 girls. Sometimes Mr. Andrew



C. R. Berry

taught in one room and Mr. Pat in the other.

The schoolhouse was just across the street from my home. On every Friday evening we had one of three things in which every pupil took part from the youngest to the oldest. We had speeches, or compositions or Colburn's Sequel.

The last named was an Arithmetic and we all went to the blackboard, clear around the room. Everyone worked as far in the book as they could. No one might skip an example. If you stayed a whole afternoon on one, that one must be mastered before proceeding to the next. Every pupil thus had a different lesson as some could go past and others could not.

A boy named William King said the same speech every speech day during the session.

The very first school I ever went to was in the basement of the old Episcopal Church, to two ladies, Miss Sallie Currin & Miss Mag Clouston. Both lived to be very old ladies and neither of them married.

At school we played many of the games that children play now, I Spy (Hide & Seek), Prisoners'



St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Rev. R. K. Hargrove



McLemore family

Base, Catchers Keep, and Stealing Sticks, At recess, in the house, the girls played checks with marbles.

Diary of Bethenia McLemore Franklin, Tennessee

Tuesday Dec. 20th 1881 6 1/2 p.m.

I, Thenie McLemore, this night commence my diary. I have half way kept one since June but not regularly. I go to school at the [Tennessee Female]College, Mrs. M.E. Clark is the Principal. I went today and recited my lessons. This was a very rainy day. I went down in town at dinner recess and bought this book. After school Sallie House and I went down to Miss Eddy's store and bought some Christmas presents for the little Christmas tree that we girls are going to have. Papa is in Lawrenceburg now, holding court.

**Wednesday, Dec. 21st
1881 10 min. past 10 p.m.**

I went to school today, recited and studied as usual, and came home this evening, went to see Macon and Mamie Bostick. I worked on card board tonight. I found out a secret tonight. Sister is engaged to Mr. John Richardson of Murfreesboro, and expect to marry him next May. I am so glad I want Sister to



Bethenia McLemore



Tennessee Female College

marry. Mr. R. is such a nice gentleman. He came to see Sister when I was in Nashville, and Mama and Papa liked him so much. I am not going to tell any one about it or let any one see my book. I expect Minnie will spend the Christmas with me. We girls expect to have a great deal of fun, every night. I will spend Christmas Eve night with Lulie.

Thursday Dec. 22nd 1881 Home

I went to school today; went down to Miss Eddy's with Macon at dinner recess and went again after school with Sallie House. Sister is spending the night at Cousin Tom Bond's. I went to see Bettie & Birdie McLemore a short while this evening. Cousin Etta McLemore has moved to town last Monday.

Friday Dec. 23rd 1881

I went to school today and came home this evening. Macon took supper here tonight. After supper Dick Turner, Mr. Barbee, Mr. Holloway & Mosely Bostick came up also Mamie Bostick, Sallie House & Lulie Cox. Lulie Cox is spending tonight with Sallie.

**Sunday Dec. 25th 1881.
Christmas Day 6 1/2 p.m.**

Yesterday about 1 o'clock Sallie H. popped firecrackers, danced, played and sang. I got very sick, and went to bed sooner than the other girls, had a chill & then a high fever. Woke up this morning almost well. We had a



Etta McLemore

splendid dinner and came home a short while after. Bradley Campbell and Frank Chamberlain came out yesterday evening & came back when we did today. Parmenio Cox was out there. I don't like him one particle but, of course, I never say that to anyone, for I like his sister Lulie very much. We are going to have a week holiday. My presents were, a book [Scott's Poems] from Albert, a collar from Sister, and a candy egg to look in from Wharton, and some money from Papa and Mama. I gave Albert a mighty pretty book, "Tom Brown's School-days." Sister got a large and beautiful picture from Mr. John T Wade, a toilet set from Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Garret's photography from him. He lives in Murfreesboro. Sister also got some other presents. Lizzie Minor got a lovely doll from Mrs. Jane



John D. DeGraffenreid

Bradley, besides other things. Wharton got some building blocks, a tin top, a paint box & other things. Papa was at home when I got here this evening. Cousin John DeGraffenreid is here tonight. Lizzie Minor is in the bed talking tonight. She is telling herself about Little Red Riding Hood. I was telling that tale to her the other night and was saying "Oh Grandma! what makes your

hands so big?" "To work the better my child." etc., when Lizzie Minor said, "Bertha, Grandma what makes your legs so big, what did she say about that?" I thought that was so funny.

Monday Dec. 26th, 1881 10:25 p.m. Home

It rained all day today. I put on my waterproof circular and went down to Mrs. Merrill's to spend the day with Macon. We were very busy all day working for our little Christmas tree which we will have tomorrow night. Jessie & Mamie Wallace, Sallie House, Mamie & Macon and I sat on the floor in a circle all working away. We had a fine time. Papa is still with us. Sister went to a party at Mrs. Mayes' house here in town tonight. Mr. Park Marshall was her escort.



Park Marshall

Tuesday Dec. 27th 1881.

I went down town this morning and then went to see Betty and Birdie, Cousin Jim Word and Cousin George Bond were here today. Thenie & Jim Alexander came this afternoon very unexpectedly. I went down and helped fix the Christmas tree at Mrs. Cannon Bostick's. Sallie Ewing came this evening and is spending tonight with me. We all went down there tonight and had a good old time. Dick Turner, Mr. Barbee, and Mr. Holloway came down there. Holloway came home with me, Moseley Bostick with Thenie and Dick T. with Sallie. Sister & Sallie have been trying to get my book and read what I wrote.



Mrs. Cannon Bostick

Thursday Dec. 29th 1881 2:15 p.m.

I did not write in my diary last night because there was so much company here. Minnie Hearn and Mamie Bostick stayed all night with me, and Thenie Alexander was here. Jim went home. Miss Annie Armstrong stayed all night with sister. They had company in the parlor, and we in the front room. Sallie House & Sallie Ewing, Jessie Wallace, Bradley Campbell, Mr. (Sterling) Holloway, and Frank Chamberlain came up. We played games and had a great deal of fun. Mama made some sugar candy and we all went out in the dining room and pulled it. Cousin Jim Word, George Bond and Thenie went home this morning after everybody left. I pasted some pictures in my scrapbook. Cousin Susie DeGraffenreid took dinner here yesterday.

Friday Dec. 30th 1881 1/2 p.m.

I did not write in my book last night because it was so late when I went to bed Lulie Cox stayed all night with me and we had a masquerade. Jessie Wallace looked funnier than anybody else. Sister, Miss Lillie House, Miss Susie & Fannie Wallace dressed as phantoms and came up the walk. Mr. Hugh Wallace, Mr. & Mrs. Dr. John Campbell also

masked & came. Dr. House and Mr. Tommie Johnson, Dick Turner & Frank Chamberlain were here. Sallie House had on a black silk, Macon, a light silk, old fashioned with hoops. Mamie Bostick a cotton dress, Jessie & Mamie Wallace had on blue checked silks and Jessie had on a scoop shovel bonnet. After we unmasked we played all sorts of games & had lots of fun. I had on one of sister's dress so did Lulie and Albert. Wharton had on one of my dresses. Macon kissed Albert, and thought he was a girl. Sister is spending today with Mrs. Hortense Campbell. I have been reading.



Hugh Wallace

Sunday Jan. 1st 1882

Betty McLemore spent Friday night with me. Yesterday (Saturday) we were busy all day. We washed & wiped the dishes, cleared the table, made-up beds, moved furniture, ran errands and did a thousand other things. All the young ladies in town & some of the married ones received yesterday from 2 o'clock til 11 p.m. There were 32 gentleman callers, and 18 ladies received. Betty & I were very industrious. We waited on the ladies & gentlemen and kept the table nice and had a glorious time if we didn't receive. Mama and the boys are at Sunday School now. Papa & Lizzie are in the big backroom. Sister is cleaning up. Betty is reading "Little Women." There is snow on the ground, and it is snowing still. We are not going to Sunday School & church.

Monday Jan. 2nd 1882 Home 5 o'clock p.m.

Betty went home yesterday evening. I went to school this morning and came home a short while ago, ate my dinner and sat down here in Mama's room to write my diary. Papa went to Columbia this morning. The snow is still on the ground.

Tuesday Jan. 3rd 1882 6 o'clock p.m.

I went to school today as usual, studied and recited my lessons, and came home this evening. Macon and Sallie House came to see me a short while. Cousin Susie DeGraffenreid spent last night here. Mr. John Wade is coming to see sister tonight,

Wednesday Jan. 4th 1882 8 o'clock p.m.

I went to school this morning recited and studied my lessons. Our Rhetoric class had to all stay in

after school and recite the lesson over to Miss Pitcher. It has been raining all day. Mr. Richardson is here to see Sister tonight. I have never seen him.

Thursday Jan. 5th 6 o'clock p.m.

I went to school this morning and came home this evening. Stopped by Cousin Etta's a few minutes. Sallie House came to see me just now. She asked me to spend tomorrow night with her. Miss Johnson told me today that she wanted me to recite at the next Quarterly Reception at the College. Sister is spending the night with Cousin Sue DeGraffenreid at Cousin Annie Harrison's.



Annie Briggs Harrison

Saturday Jan. 7th 1882 10 o'clock a.m.

I went to school yesterday and came home in the evening. I spent last night with Sallie House, and Parmenio Cox & Bradley Campbell called; Buck Andrews and Willie Bailey also came up. Macon sent me word to come down and see her. Perhaps I will go, if Mama will let me. It is rainy. Albert is reading the "Youth Companion" which he has commenced to take. I take the "St. Nicholas."

7 1/2 p.m.

I pasted some pieces in my scrapbook. I did not go to see Macon because it was so rainy. Papa has come home. Mrs. T.M. McConnell returned home today after visiting her father's family 2 weeks. I have been sorting my music, and practicing. "amo fuiceros."

Sunday Jan. 8th 1882.

I went to church and Sunday School this morning. Heard a good sermon from Mr. Stine. Came home after church, ate my dinner, and went soon after to see Mamie Bostick, who has just moved down town, about a week ago. Mr. Sam and Park Marshall and Mans House called on Sister today. She went to church tonight with Mr. Peyton from Lebanon. Mr. Will Turley called after church. Papa went back to Columbia tonight. Goodnight.



4th Avenue Church of Chrst

Tuesday Jan. 10th 1882 half past 8 p.m.

I went to school today and yesterday. It poured down rain all day today. I went up to Miss Johnson's room after school today to practice my piece for the reception. The name of it is "Guilty or not guilty." Sallie, Macon, Jessie & Mamie came up to see me yesterday. I like Jessie & Mamie so much. Macon is my "high particular." Sallie H. was over to see me again this evening. Cousin Letitia Jordan is in town today. I had on my waterproof circular this evening coming from school and I met Dr. House, who asked me what character I represented? I told him "nothing but a school girl going home in the rain." I looked so funny all in black. I might to have told him I represented a nun.

Wednesday Jan 11th 7 o'clock p.m.

I went to school today and came home this evening. Macon was up here this afternoon. She was very angry at her Uncle Cannon Bostick, about something he said about her. Albert has gone to a rehearsal at the Institute. Sister is getting ready to see Mr. Will Turley who is coming to see her tonight. I wrote a long note to Macon this evening. We are going to write notes to each other every day, and when we want to tell secrets we will talk or rather write in our alphabet which no one can read but she and I. Chbj.

Friday Jan 13th 10 o'clock a.m.

I went to school yesterday morning and came home in the afternoon. Yesterday it rained all day. Last night we had quite a scare. Sister and I were reading in the front room & Mama & Albert were in Mama's room. Somebody raked against the shutter

of Mama's room and Albert said. "What's that?" Sister & I then told Mama that we had heard somebody brush past our window & then go & knock on hers. Mama took the lamp & raised the window & looked out, just then Sister & I heard someone run past our window, then on the front porch, then she came in & closed the door. Directly afterward we heard some one tipping on the front porch but still we were not scared. Mama went back in her room & we all were reading when some one came to our window & raised it about a foot but the stick over it prevented it being raised farther, I went back & told Mama, & Sister heard the window go up & down again. Mama raised her window & ring the dinner bell long & loud & called Mr. Bailey with all her might. We were afraid the person had gotten into the front room and so we all run back to the dining room. We took Lizzie & Wharton out of bed & bolted all the doors. Presently Mr. Bailey called out that he was coming. By the time he got here with his pistol the man had gone and his tracks in the mud showed where he had crossed the street & climbed into Mr. Campbell's school yard. Mr. Bailey went out to our window and examined the tracks, they were made by a big heavy man with overshoes on. After a good while Mr. Bailey went & got Mr. Mans House to come over & stay all night with us. Mama is going to have bars for the doors made, and Mr. House is going to stay all night with us tonight. Sister is sick today. I have a very severe headache this morning. Did not go to school on account of the rain. Have been cleaning up ever since breakfast. What a scare.

Saturday Jan 14th 8 1/2 p.m.

I spent last night with Mamie Bostick and we went to the concert at the Institute. Noble Jones went with Mamie & Mosley with me. Albert acted in several things and I thought he did spendidly. I stayed at Mrs. Bostick's till 11 o'clock this morning. Sallie House came down there & we made some molasses candy. Mamie came home with me & spent the day. Sallie House, Sallie Ewing, Macon, and Mamie were all here this evening. Papa came home last night.

Tuesday Jan 17th 882 6 1/2 p.m.

Sunday I went to Sunday School but not to church. I stayed at home all the afternoon except I went to see Macon awhile. Rain, Rain, Rain, Monday I went to school & came home in the

evening . More rain. Miss Susie Perkins & Miss Mamie Perkins spent last night [Monday] with us. I went to school today and came home this evening. Sister is spending the night with Miss Susie Lee Ewing. Mr. Hugh Wallace or Mr. Mans House stay here every night as we are afraid to stay by ourselves after that scare we had.



Mansfield House

Wednesday Jan 18th
6 1/2 p.m.

I went to school this morning. Jessie Wallace and I came home just after roll call this evening, because we had nothing else to do. I found it was raining so we stopped in at Cousin Etta's and sat some little time, then I borrowed Betty's rubber cloak, & came home. It is so cold that the water freezes almost as soon as it falls on the trees. We girls have a paper called the "West End Gazette." We print it ourselves. It is right funny.

Saturday Jan 21st 1882 8 o'clock p.m.

I spent Thursday night with Macon, and last night with Betty and Birdie. Cousin Etta, Betty & I went up to the College, to the Quarterly Reception. It was very dark & rainy. I recited "Guilty or not guilty." Misses Livingston & Nicholson, Mrs. Clark and Miss Waddy complimented me very highly.



Annie James Briggs

Others did too. This morning Birdie & Annie James Briggs were playing with dolls, and Betty & I condescended to play also. We had a doll dinner. Betty came home with me. Mamie Bostick came to see me this evening. Mr. Richardson is here to see Sister tonight. Papa is at home. I have been cutting out pieces for my scrapbook tonight.

Sunday Jan 23rd Home 7 o'clock p.m.

I went to Sunday School this morning. Between S.S. and church I walked home with Theresa Perkins. We came back to church. Mr. Ramson, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Allen, Cousin Mamie & Theresa Perkins took dinner here today. Papa & I took Lizzie Minor down to Cousin Etta's this afternoon. Jim Parkes and Jessie Sykes are spending tonight with Albert. Papa went to Columbia.

Monday Jan 23rd 1882.

I went to school today and came home this evening. This is the beginning of the Spring term at school. There were several new scholars. I will commence Botany tomorrow. Sister and Lizzie Minor spent today at Cousin Alice Bullock's. Mr. Will Turley is here to see Sister tonight. Miss Lillie House came over this evening to borrow a trunk to take to Nashville. Cousin John DeGraffenried will stay here tonight.

Wednesday Jan 25th 1882

I went to school yesterday and today. I have commenced music lessons under Miss Gregg. I practiced yesterday after school. Miss Lillie House borrowed my trunk and took it to Nashville with her. Miss Susie Wallace is up here now, It is not near dark half past 6 p.m.

Thursday Jan. 26th
5 min past 8 p.m.

I went to school today and came home this evening. Went to see Jessie and Mamie Wallace and had a very pleasant time. Mr. & Mrs. Leland Jordan, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Campbell and little Joe Bailey Campbell and Mr. & Mrs. Dr. White took dinner here today. A man broke in Mrs. Watson's house last night. It is raining very hard tonight. Mr. Mans House is going to stay with us tonight.



Leland and Letia Jordan

Monday Jan. 30th 1882 8:25 p.m.

Friday morning I went to school and came home in the afternoon with sore throat. I remained in bed all day Saturday. Macon and Sallie House came to see me in the evening. Sunday I stayed in bed all day. Cousin Etta McLemore and all her family came up after dinner. Cousin Maury DeGraffenreid took



Sam Marshall

dinner here Sunday [yesterday]. Mr. Park and Mr. Sam Marshall called on sister in the evening. Papa came home Saturday afternoon. I was so glad to see him. He went back to Columbia this [Monday] morning. Wharton took the sore throat yesterday but is about well today. I have been very sick.

It has been snowing all day and is snowing still.

Thursday Feb. 2nd 1882

I have been at home all this week, as my throat is not yet well. Cousin Maury De Graffenreid spent Monday night with us. Sister went to Nashville this morning to see "Mr. R." She will stay some time. Papa has been with us all this week. He came home Tuesday morning because he was uneasy about Wharton and me. I cleaned out the bookcase today. Papa, Albert & I played Logomachy this evening. Tonight I played backgammon with Albert & then with Papa. They both beat me. Mama went down to Cousin Alice Bullock's this afternoon to have her dress fit. The snow is melting very fast. Excuse writing.

Sunday February 5th 1882 8 p.m.

I have been at home all the week. Jessie & Mamie came up Friday afternoon. Miss Johnson & Irene Creath came to see me yesterday evening also Macon B. and Sallie House. I stayed at home today, and took care of Lizzie while the others went to Sunday School and church. Mr. Cave from Nashville and Cousin Tom Bond took dinner and supper here today. This afternoon Mamie and Macon Bostick, Sallie House, Jennie Haynes and Mamie Cayce, Nannie Scruggs, and Mary Craig came to see me. I went down to Judge Wallace's and over to Mrs. House's a short while late this evening. Mama has gone to church tonight. We were all vaccinated one day this week.

Tuesday Feb. 7th 1882 8 1/2 p.m.

I went to school yesterday and today. Practiced in the evening after I came home. Sallie House came over this evening. Papa is still with us. This was a lovely day. My pen is bad so I will stop.

Wednesday Feb. 8th 1882 9 1/2 p.m.

I went to school today. It rained all day nearly. I practiced 2 hours after I came home this afternoon.

Thursday Feb. 9th 1881 9 o'clock p.m.

Went to school. It rained in the morning but cleared off in the afternoon. I have been feeling bad all day. I am sore all over from running yesterday at recess. Sallie House was over to see me this evening. Sallie Ewing & Mamie Bostick will spend tomorrow night with me.

Thursday Feb. 16th 1882 20 min. of 9 p.m.

I went to school today and came home in the evening. I have been practicing. Mama has been reading to us in my "Childhood Book" as I call it. Rained all day.

Friday Feb. 17th 1882

I went to school and came home in the evening. I forgot my overshoes and had to go back after them. Jessie Wallace went with me. Coming home we walked with the College girls and had a great deal of fun.

Saturday Feb. 18th. 12 1/2 m.

I stayed all night with Jessie and Mamie last night. We painted & drew pictures, played on the piano, and had lots & heaps of fun. I had a real good time. This morning we went down to Macon's. I don't like Macon nearly so much as I used to. She is always bragging on herself and cutting people up. She says so many disagreeable things too, and I think she is very impolite to her company. I like Jessie & Mamie better than almost any of my friends. Macon carries on outrageously with boys. I think she is getting real fast. Still I don't intend to have any falling out with her at all. I have been practicing, since I came home.

Sunday Feb. 19th

I went to Sunday School and took Lizzie Minor for the first time. I stayed at Cousin Etta's with Betty during church. She came home with me & took dinner. This evening Papa went with us over

to the fort & vault. A great crowd of girls and boys went, and we had a very pleasant time. This was such a lovely day. Mama went visiting all the evening. I was so glad for her to have a little pleasure, she stays at home so much. Papa came last night and is going back to Lewisburg tonight. Birdie McLemore is staying with me tonight.

Monday Feb. 20th 8 1/2 p.m.

I went to school today and came home this evening. I straightened up the front room and Mama's room after I came home, practiced my music lesson and watered my flowers. Walter Petway is spending the night with Albert. This was a very windy day, and it rained every now & then.

Thursday Feb. 21st 8 o'clock p.m.

I went to school this morning and stopped by the Presbyterian Church to see Miss Nannie Enloe & Mr. Gill Smith married. Got there just in time to see them march out. Cousin Will Dabney took supper here tonight. Mr & Mrs. Atha Thomas called today to see Mama. A windy day.

Wednesday Feb. 22nd 1882 8 o'clock p.m.

I went to school this morning and Mamie Wallace & I came home at dinner recess because we had nothing else to do. I practiced after I came home. Mamie Wallace came up to see me, also Sallie House. This was examination day. I was examined in Botany & Algebra. Got through very well. Goodnight.

Thursday Feb. 23rd 1882 7 0'clock

I went to school this morning and came home in the evening. Sister came home this morning. She had her pictures taken, they are splendid, so pretty too. Katie Jones gave me her photograph today. She is such a sweet girl. I have a cup. I went to Price's today.

Saturday Feb. 25th 1882 9 o'clock p.m.

I went to school yesterday morning and came home at close of school. I spent last night with Betty & Birdie, also Sallie Ewing, Mary Bostick & Patti Pointer, Macon Bostick, Sallie House and Minnie Hearn.



William House's home

Bradley Campbell, Dick Turner, Andrew Harvey, Harvey Hughes, Moseley Bostick came round. We had cakes and nuts etc. We had a serenade by a band. Had a "splendidiferons" time. This morning we all made some candy and did not come home till one o'clock. I have been practicing. Mamie Bostick came up to see me this evening, also Betty McLemore. I went down to Mr. Wm. House's this evening with Lizzie Minor.

Monday Feb. 27th 5 o'clock p.m.

I lost my trunk key and could not write last night. I went to school today and Betty McLemore came home with me, and is here now. Sister had just gotten a letter from J.E.R. today. It was commenced "Dearest Annie Lou," and signed "With very much love, Yours Jno." Sister is very much in love with him.

Thursday March 2nd 1882 9:15 'clock p.m.

I have been to school today and every day this week. Papa came home yesterday evening. He and Mama went to Nashville this morning. Papa came back this evening. Mama will remain there until Saturday. Mr. Will Turley and Mr. Park Marshall are here to see Sister tonight. I went over to Sallie House this evening. I practice & read tonight.

Saturday Mar. 4th 8 o'clock p.m.

I went to school yesterday. Swept & cleaned up this morning, then took Lizzie Minor to Judge Wallace's. I read & practiced & did various other things today. Papa went to Nashville this morning & he and Mama returned this evening. Mama brought me a new dress & some lovely ribbon & artificial roses for my neck. Mr. Seldon Williams from Lebanon is here to see Sister tonight. I think from certain things that I have heard, that he intends to court her, but he won't get her. Mr. Richardson will get her. Sister got a long sweet letter from him today. When I grow up I wonder if I will have such a nice sweetheart as he is. He writes such nice sweet letters. Sister lets me read them. She answered his letter, and her letter was also very sweet.

Sunday Mar. 5th

I went to Sunday School and church today. Messrs. Seldon Williams & Edgar Waters took dinner with us. Rained all day. Wharton & I have been studying in the front room here tonight. He has gone

to bed now. Dear little fellow, I was right cross to him just now. I was sleepy & cross, and I reckon I hurt his feelings. I try so hard to be good and succeed so poorly. Mama is in bed with the rheumatism this evening. I had better go to bed now I suppose.

Monday Mar. 6th 8 o'clock p.m.

I went to school today and came home this evening, ate some dinner, washed the dishes, practiced 2 hours, then took Lizzie Minor and went down to see Macon. Tonight Mama & Sister are in the front room singing. Papa is at home and everything pleasant. I am sitting in Mama's room by myself writing. I am in a better humor than I was last night. I have just put Lizzie to bed.

Tuesday Mar. 7th 7 1/2 p.m.

Went to school today and came home this evening. Practiced an hour. Mary Wallace came up a few minutes. Nothing of interest happened today, except that Julia & Polly our cow & calf came home from Uncle Dick's. Albert has gone to hear a lecture & singing by Philip Philips & son.

Thursday Mar. 9th 7 1/2 p.m.

I forgot to write in my diary last night but will write tonight. I went to school today and yesterday. Rain poured down yesterday and this morning, but cleared up about dinner time today. Miss Annie Lou McLemore received a cabinet sized picture with a lovely frame from Mr. Richardson today. It is a splendid likeness. I am in love with him myself. Macon & I had sort of a fuss coming home from school, but we parted friendly. I don't like her near so much as I used to. There is a girl at school that I love dearly. She is a boarder & is in higher classes than I am, but we are good old "pals." Her name is Lee Crible from Little Rock, Ark.

Friday 10th 10 o'clock p.m.

I went to school & at little recess this evening Mamie Wallace & I got an excuse & went down to Mrs. Turner's who is sick. Tonight I went over to Mrs. Sam House's then to Mrs. Wm. House's then to Mrs. Haynes'. It would take too long to describe what a nice time I had. Lee McEwen came home with me. Ever so many boys and girls were there.

Saturday Mar. 11th 8 1/2 p.m.

After I cleaned up this morning I took Lizzie Minor & went to Cousin Alice's for her to take my

measure. We stayed there a good while & then came home. I practiced one hour & a half today. Mama went down town this evening. Mr. Jim Richardson [Mr. John's brother] is coming to see Sister tonight. I worked some on bobbinet this evening. If I were to describe how I felt tonight this would be a very gloomy page. It seems to me that every one is cross; maybe that's because I am cross but I don't mean to be. I will never learn to be good & control my temper I don't believe, but I truly do try my best. I just feel as if I could cry my eyes out, if it would do any good, but I know it won't. I don't do anything right and everybody finds fault with me. I have started to speak cross ever so many times today but checked myself in time. Tomorrow I am going to turn over a new leaf and try harder than ever before.

Sunday Mar. 12th 1822 8 1/2 p.m.

Went to Sunday School & church. Mr. Richardson took dinner here today & stayed till late this evening. He came back after supper & is in the parlor with Sister now. Papa made some poetry about them tonight. "Said John Ebenezer to Annie Louisa, Let's get married today, Said Annie Louisa to John Ebenezer, I prefer sometime in May." Sallie House came over to get me to go walking with her this evening, but, I, not wishing to go, pleaded an excuse that Mama needed me & she left, for which I was thankful. At the dinner table today, Lizzie Minor did something not exactly right, & then said, Mama, is you shamed of me?" Mama said no & Lizzie said, "I 'shamed of myself though." She went in the parlor to see "Mr. Wicha" (Mr. Richardson) & he asked her if he wasn't Sister's sweetheart. She said, "No, Daughter tol me not to say that." Mr. R told Lizzie that he was coming back to see her, she answered, "No, young men don't go to see litty girls like me, dem go to see sine (fine) young ladies." Cloudy today but no rain.

Monday Mar. 13th 9 o'clock p.m.

I went to school today and came home in the evening. Went to Mr. Lillie's to our Missionary Society. Mr. Jno. Wade came to see Sister, this evening. Sister spending tonight with Mrs. Carrie Cheairs.

Tuesday Mar. 14th 8 1/2 p.m.

I went to school & at little recess left & went to Cousin Alice Bullock's to have my dress fit. Macon has fallen out with Dick Turner at last. I

thought it would turn out that way. She has found out that for all his devotion to her he don't care a sixpence for her and so she has fallen out with him & he with her. Cousin Alice told me some mighty nice compliments he paid me; I am not vain, but I do think that the way for girls to make boys like them really is to be modest and ladylike and not carry on with them as Macon does. They seem to like her and pay her attention for a time but I find out from other boys that they don't really like her.

Wednesday Mar. 15th 1882 9 o'clock p.m.

Went to school today and came home this evening. Stopped by Macon's and Jessie's & Mamie's to get some flowers to analyze. I analyzed and pressed a good many this evening. Practiced my music lesson tonight. Mr. Edgar Waters also Mr. Will Turley called on Sis tonight. The report that she is to be married is beginning to spread. They have set this 18th of May as their wedding day.

Thursday Mar. 16th 8 o'clock p.m.

I went to school & at dinner recess went to Cousin Alice's to try on my dress. It is brown thick goods, and is made beautifully. I like it so much. Mama has been reading to us lately in her diary that she kept when she was my age. I wish I could make mine as interesting as hers but I shall never let anyone see it. Mr. Will Turley is here to see Sister tonight. I practiced an hour.

Friday Mar. 17th 9 o'clock p.m.

I went to school and came home this evening. Went down to Mr. Wm. House's awhile. Aunt Minor, Thenie and McLemore came this evening and are here tonight.

Saturday Mar. 18th 9 1/2 p.m.

Aunt Minor & all of them went home this morning. I practiced, worked on bobbinet today. Wharton & I made us a flower bed in the garden this evening. I went down town & bought some caramels.

Sunday Mar. 19th

Went to Sunday School & church this morning. Went walking over to the fort this evening with a crowd of girls and boys. Miss Minnie Bond is spending the night here.

Monday Mar. 20th 9 1/2 p.m.

Went to school today and went to the Missionary Society after school. We met at Mr. Kenneday's house. I am getting sleepy so will now retire. "Goodnight my dear old book."



Kenneday home

Tuesday Mar. 21st. 9 1/2 p.m.

Went to school and came home in the evening. A man walked the rope in town this evening but I did not see him. I have been analyzing flowers tonight must go to bed now. Walter Petway walked up from school with me and carried my satchel.

Wednesday Mar. 22nd. 10 o'clock p.m.

Went to school. Nothing of interest happened. Betty & Birdie were here this afternoon to see me.

Thursday Mar. 23rd. 11 1/2 p.m.

Went to school. Nothing of interest happened. Mama went to Nashville this morning & came back this evening. I practiced half an hour.

Sunday Mar. 26th 1882 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

Went to school Friday and after school came home and dressed. Then Minnie Hearn, Mamie House, Betty McLemore and I went home with Sallie Ewing about a mile in the country. We had a jolly walk out there. I walked with Minnie Hearn. She is such a sweet girl. I had on my new dress and a beautiful new apron which I thought was lovely. When I took off my cloak the girls all went into raptures over my apron. After supper 6 boys came out. Dick Turner, Bradley Campbell, Harvey Hughes, Andrews Harvey, Moseley Bostick and Parmenio Cox. We had some very nice cake & custard sent in to us. Dick Turner paid me a good many compliments, as I have since heard from the girls. We all walked back to town. Saturday morning I had a delightful time at Mr. Ewing's.



Genevieve Marshall Turley

They are such nice people. We all went to the depot and weighed separately. I weighed 93 lbs. Then we all got on together and weighed 780 lbs. I spent yesterday practicing and analyzing flowers. I went with Lizzie Minor down to Judge Wallace's & over to Mrs. Bailey's. Mrs. Genevieve Turley had a little girl. We had the front hall & room papered yesterday. I sat on the ground few minutes yesterday and consequently I am so hoarse today that I cannot talk above a whisper. Did not go to church or Sunday School this

morning. Read & took a dose this afternoon. Have had a dreadfully dull time. The wind has been blowing terrificly and it has been raining all the evening. Sister is in the parlor talking to Mr. Sam Marshall. Sister went to a party at Cousin Ann Harrison's house Friday night. She spent the night there. Miss Allie Wood went home.



Jim and Annie Harrison's house

Monday Mar. 27th

Spent the day as I usually do, at school. Nothing of interest happened. Papa went to Pulaski.

Tuesday Mar. 28th

Went through the daily routine of my life at school. Jessie & Mamie came up this evening and I

walked down the street with them. They are going to Nashville tomorrow to stay a week and promised to write to me while there.

Wednesday Mar. 29th 7 1/2 p.m.

I was examined in Algebra today at school. Got 124 1/2 which lacked 1/2 of being perfect. Jessie & Mamie went to Nashville this afternoon. I stopped by Cousin Etta's coming from school. Mrs. Bailey had a little girl today.

Thursday Mar. 30th 9 1/2 p.m.

This morning Walter Petway walked part of the way to school with me this morning and promised to bring me a beautiful large rose to analyze. About 11 o'clock he and Albert brought it up to me. It was perfectly lovely. Carrie Clark went to the door and instead of bringing it to my desk took it up to her mother, Mrs. Clark. Mrs. Clark told her to leave it there and at dinner recess called me to her & asked what made Walter Petway send me the rose? I told her he promised to give it to me to analyze. She looked at me very hard then said "Well" and give it to me. She is so silly, she is afraid the girls will speak to boys. Walter is nothing but a little boy and a neighbor to us and brought me a rose to analyze in my botany. Mrs. Clark is crazy. It is none of her business who sends me flowers. I went to a love feast tonight at the Methodist Church, went with Sallie House. Sister receives a letter from brother every day.

Saturday April 1st 1882 10 o'clock p.m.

I did not go to school yesterday as it was the last day of the quarter. I practiced and worked on darn-work and Sallie House & I took several little children fishing down at the branch. I caught one fish and Sallie caught one. Yesterday evening I went home with Betty McLemore and spent the night, also Mamie Bostick. Mama & Sister went to Nashville and spent today, Betty & Birdie and Mamie came up & spent the day with me. Sallie House spent the evening. We all had a very pleasant time. I was fifteen years old today. I took a little ride this evening in Mr. Wm. S. Campbell's barouche with Lena & Carrie Campbell & Macon Bostick & Mary McEwen. Tonight after supper, Papa & I walked down to the grocery to buy some cakes. It is a beautiful moonlight night. Mr. Richardson is here tonight. He and Sister are talking in the parlor and I could hear what they

said if I listened but I am not. Lizzie Minor has been so sweet all day. I get the bottle of ink on the next page & it blotted it so that I had to cut the leaf out.

Sunday Apr. 2nd 1882

I went to Sunday School and church this morning. Mr. Cayce preached. Mr. Richardson took dinner with us today, and stayed nearly all the afternoon. This evening Papa and I walked out to Mr. Rolf's house and Mrs. Mills and Rolfs gave me some beautiful flowers, out of their green house. Albert came out before we left and we all walked home together. Cousin John DeGraffenried took supper here tonight. Mr. Richardson is here again tonight to see Sister. Papa is going back to Pulaski tonight. I am getting sleepy.



E. B. Cayce



Rolf house, Lewisburg Avenue

Tuesday Apr. 4th 15 minutes of 10 o'clock p.m.

Yesterday was the beginning of the new quarter at school and I did not miss any of my lessons. I spent last night with Macon Bostick. Today I came home after school in the afternoon. Jessie and Mamie came home from Nashville today. I am so glad for I missed them so much. Miss Jane Watson was here to see Sister this evening.

Wednesday April 5th 8 p.m

Minnie Hearn and I got Miss Pitcher to excuse us from calisthenics this evening at school and sat out of doors under the trees to analyze. I went down to Jessie & Mamie's this evening, and took Lizzie Minor with me. This is Sister's 23rd birthday. Mr. Will Turley is here to see Sister tonight. Miss Livingston was here.

Thursday April 6th 1882 9 o'clock at night

This morning I took Cousin Alice Bullock some cream as I went to school. I practiced half an hour tonight. Sister told me that Mr. Will Turley said that

he was not going to stop coming up here when she got married but he was going to come and see Miss Thenie "and set her out." Mama says that Mr. Richardson gave me a special invitation to come to his and Sister's reception at Murfreesboro. Sister is writing to Mr. Richardson now.

Sunday April 9th 1882

Friday nothing unusual happened. Saturday I spent a quiet day at home, working on bobbinet, papering Lizzie's doll house, darning stockings, working with my flowers, and above all reading my new book "Rose In Bloom," which Albert gave me as a birthday present. This morning I had a raging headache. Went to Sunday School but did not stay to church on account of my head. I got over about dinner time. Uncle Ance, Cousins Dora & Narciss McLemore spent the day here. Albert and I walked out to Mrs. Mill's this evening & got some flowers. Sallie House & Mamie Bostick were here this evening. Mrs. Rebecca Campbell died Saturday evening & was buried today. Must go to bed.

Wednesday April 12th 1882

I have been to school every day this week. Nothing unusual happened. Today Lizzie Minor went to a birthday party at Mr. Ed Haynes; his little girl Bettie was five years old. I took care of Lizzie, school being out. She looked beautiful in her little silk dress, red stockings and new slippers. She wore a red bow on her hair which was plaited on top and hanging down behind. Papa went to Nashville today. Sister is sick tonight with headache.

Sunday April 16th 9 1/2 p.m.

My dear neglected diary. I have not written for so long that I've almost forgotten how. Aunt Mary (Dick) Wharton, Mr. Crossman, Louise, May and Houston spent yesterday. Miss Addie Moseley (Mrs. Grant) came yesterday to Franklin. I went to Sunday School and church this morning. Went walking with some girls and boys to the fort this afternoon. I have been very busy fixing my Herbarium lately. Papa went to Lawrenceburg tonight.

Tuesday April 18th 1882

One month from today Sister will be "Mrs. Richardson." It is 11 o'clock and everybody is asleep except me but I must write before going to bed. Nothing of interest happened today. Cousin

Narciss McLemore is here today helping Mama & sister sew. She will stay a week or more. Every girl in our Caesar class (myself included) had to stay in after school today. Mamie Wallace was up to see me this evening.

Thursday Apr. 20th 9 1/2 p.m.

Betty McLemore walked up from school with me this afternoon. Albert, Wharton, Betty and I went out to Mr. Petway's meadow and gathered some wild flowers. I am going to recite at Commencement.



Petway House at Lynnhurst on Carter's Creek Pike

Monday April 24th 1882

After I came home after school this afternoon I tried on my new dress that Cousin Narciss is making me. Mr. Richardson took dinner here yesterday. Mamie Wallace, Macon Bostick and Sallie House were here this evening. Mr. Wm Clouston's little broken back girl died Saturday night. Lizzie Minor called Mr. Richardson "Brother John" yesterday at dinner.

Saturday April 29th

This morning I worked on bobbinet a while, then worked on my Herbarium. This afternoon I went to the Dentist and had a tooth plugged. Sallie House and Mamie Bostick went with me. Then we went to see Minnie Hearn & afterward went to Cousin Etta's. Betty was very busy with her Herbarium or rather Cousin Etta was. Betty was not fixing it at all. I straightened out my trunk tonight.

Tuesday May 2nd 1882

Wharton was 11 years old yesterday. I had good lessons at school today. Have been fixing my Herbarium lately. Sister went to Nashville yesterday afternoon to do shopping. Cousin Narciss went yesterday morning. Papa spent today in Nashville. I went down to Dr. House's drugstore this afternoon and bought some lead pencils. Mamie Wallace went with me. Mr. Will Turley was in there and asked me for some flowers which I had. So I pinned them on his coat for him. Mama says that I am not to be a young lady for at least two years yet. I would like very much to be one now, but I told her that I was willing to wait and study hard for several years longer. Mamie says that I may have Lizzie Minor for my child after Sister marries, and am sure enough going to take all of the care of her on myself. Albert has gone to the Presbyterian Church to hear Professor Tripp lecture. Two weeks from Thursday Sister will be Mrs. Richardson of Murfreesboro. The time is fast approaching.

Thursday May 4th

I was examined in Algebra and Caesar today at school. Sister did not come today from Nashville as we expected but will be here tomorrow. Lizzie Minor knows that I press flowers for my Herbarium so whenever Mama goes to throw out dead flowers & leaves of any kind Lizzie says "Oh, Mama don't sow them by Bersa wants dem to press." She calls me Bertha. She is the sweetest child on earth. Made some lemonade this afternoon. Made Albert a lovely bouquet to send Mary McEwen & Wharton one to send Little Sallie McEwen. Albert helped me read my Caesar tonight. I am getting very sleepy so will now retire.

Friday May 5th 9 1/2 p.m.

We had holiday this afternoon as it is the end of the quarter at school. Sister came home this evening. Cousin Etta McLemore wanted me to go out in the country with her this evening but Mama said she had rather I would not. I was very much disappointed but tried not to show it. Mary Wallace, Macon Bostick, Willie Bailey and I went down to Mrs. Merrill's pasture and got some flowers this afternoon late.

Tuesday May 17th p.m.

Miss Emma Livingston came Saturday to board with us. Mr. Richardson took dinner with us Sunday. Nothing of interest happened at school today. Stopped by a Cousin Etta's this evening and Bettie and I fixed our Herbariums.

Thursday May 18th 1882

I will renew my diary with a full description of Sister's wedding. Mr. Richardson came up to see her last night. Of course I did not go to school today and we were very busy this morning decorating the parlor. Kinfolks came in every now and then all the morning and a good many young ladies came up & helped to decorate. The parlor was beautiful. The white lace curtains in the bay windows were trimmed in flowers. Some pot flowers were set back in one window. For refreshments we had ice cream, strawberries, and 6 large cakes. The bride's cake was lovely, beautifully iced and on top was a horseshoe with LUCK on it in gilt letters; above all were two hands clasped made of the icing. There were white flowers on top also. Her presents were a silver teaset from Mrs. Jane Bradley, five dollars from Aunt Minor. Card receivers from Mr. & Mrs. House, Cologne bottle set in silver from Cousin Lizzie Henderson & husband, Coffee urn from Mr Granville Ridley, diamond pin from Mr. Richardson, pair of opera glasses from Cousin Hettie Rains & husband of Columbia, pickle-stand from Cousin Alice, card receiver from Cousin Ann Harrison & husband, set of spoons from Mr. John McEwen, handsome flower stand from Dr. & Mrs. Wm. White, white fan from Cousin Letitia Jordan, large fan from Aunt Mary (Dick), pickle-stand from Mr. & Mrs. John Campbell, large bottle of cologne from Sadie and Aunt Mary (Will's) gave her one of her dresses. Mr. Richardson's mother has a large family bible for them when they get over yonder. List of persons present at the wedding: Aunt Minor, Jim, Thenie, & Cousin



John B. McEwen

Jim Word, Cousin George Bond, Aunt Ann, Uncle Ance, Aunt Annie Caliborne, Uncle Dick, Aunt Mary, Minnie, Uncle Will, Aunt Mary, Sadie, Mr. Jim Richardson and wife, Miss Annie Richardson, Little Jim Richardson, Mr. Critchlow, Mr. Granville Ridley, Mr. Spain, and (Portugal, as Albert says) Ransom, Cousin Etta, Betty & Birdie McLemore, Cousin Alice Bullock, Mr. & Mrs. Atha Thomas, Mr & Mrs. Joe Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. Jno. Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. Stine, Mr. & Mrs. Dr. White, Mr. & Mrs. Ed Gordon, Mr. & Mrs. Jas. Harrison, Mrs. Turley, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Cheairs, Miss Etta Moulton, Misses Susie Wallace, Mary & Sadie Marshall, & Hattie McGavock, Dollie May Holshouser & Annie James Briggs, Messrs. Will Turley, Park & Sam Marshall, Dr. House, Mans House, Park House, Tom Johnson, Clabe Kinnard, Misses Minnie Bond, Susie Lee Ewing, Letitia Watson, Miss Susie Gentry, Lillie House, Cousin Narciss, Miss Emma Livingston, Papa, Mama, Albert, Wharton, Lizzie & I. Bride & Groom, Cousin John D. DeGraffenried, Mr. Brice Hughes, We all went to the depot with Sister & Mr. Richardson. Mama, Sister, Brother & I went in one hack. I did not get to kiss Brother goodbye but I kissed him & Sister. I love to kiss Brother, he has such a soft mustache when they were married. Sister went on to Murfreesboro. In the bridal cake were a ring button, nickle & darning needle. When it was cut Dr. House got the ring so he will be the first to marry; Albert got the button so he will be an old bachelor; Annie Richardson got the nickle (sign of riches) and Miss Etta Moulton the darning needle (sign of old maid).



Susie Gentry

Saturday night.

Did not write last night but will write tonight. I miss my darling Sister more than I can express. I had the blues all yesterday morning at school because she was gone away. Mama and I have been straightening up today. I kept the hands off of Sister's wedding cake & Albert kept the horseshoe and flowers. Wharton kept some of the roses made

of icing. Mama received a nice long letter from Sister this morning and she seems to be very happy. I almost cry every time I think of Sister being gone away to live. I love her so very dearly. We used to quarrel more than we ought to have done, but I love her, oh! so much. Lizzie Minor and I walked down to Judge Wallace's this afternoon. I worked on my Herbarium today. Mama received a note from Brother this afternoon. Miss Letitia Watson brought it. She went over to Murfreesboro to the reception last night at Major Richardson's house. I wish I could have gone, but I had my choice between going now & waiting until summer and I chose the latter.

Sunday night Half past 8 May 21st 1882

Mama started back to Sunday School this morning. She has not been for two months. Lizzie Minor went too. She looked so sweet in her silk dress and silk hood. It was raining when church broke up this morning, but we ride to and from church every Sunday in a hired barouche. It has continued to rain all the afternoon. Miss Emma and I took naps. I read almost all the evening. Jim Parkes was here to see Albert. I wrote a letter to Sister this evening and Jim, Albert Papa all added postscripts. Mama received a long letter from Sister this morning. Miss Emma received a note today from Mr. Edgar Waters asking to call and take her buggy driving one evening this week. She does not want to see him and don't know how to get around it. Miss Emma is so sweet and nice. I room with her now that Sister is gone. Lizzie Minor had been learning to count today. She can say one, two, se, sore, sive, six." I wish school was out. I am so tired of it. When I described Sister's wedding I forgot to tell how she was dressed. She had on a lovely white silk looped with sprays of artifical lilies of the valley and on her head was a lovely white veil trimmed with lily spray. She and Brother stood under the marriage bell in the bay window and Mr. Stine married them. I kissed her and Brother when they were married. Sister looked perfectly beautiful in the fullest sense of the words. Mr. Stine told some one that she looked a beautiful angel and I thought she looked better than I ever saw her before in my life, which is saying a great deal for I have seen her look lovely before. I wore my new blue nun's veiling and I flatter myself that I looked very well. some of the girls at school said that they were told that Sister looked perfectly beautiful and

so did I. Several persons came up and congratulated me at the wedding as "Miss McLemore."

Monday May 22nd

Nothing special happened today. It rained nearly all day. I rode to school with Papa as he went to the Depot. He went to Columbia. Wharton caught his foot in piece of tin today and cut it very badly. He has been in bed with it all day. It is real cold tonight. Miss Emma and I am sitting in our room arrayed for sweet sleep. She is reading her chapter in the Bible and I must read mine now. We have a fire in here as it is so cold. Mama received a postal from Sister this morning.

Tuesday May 23rd 1882

Nothing of interest to happened at school today. I stopped by Cousin Etta's as I came from school. Cousin Narciss came in from Mr. Jim McEwen's this evening to stay with us awhile. I think she writes pretty so I got her to set me a copy on a piece of paper and I am going to try and learn to write like her. Sallie House was over here this evening. I made Albert a boquet this evening to send some girl at school tomorrow, Eula Buchanan I believe. Albert was 13 yrs. old today.

Wednesday 24th

Two weeks from today I will be free from school. Oh, won't I be glad!!! I stopped by Cousin Etta's as I came from school. Mama received a letter from Brother today. Sister and he are very happy. I went over to Mrs. House's with Lizzie Minor late this afternoon. It is 9 o'clock at night and I am undressed writing. I must read my chapter in the Bible now & retire.

Thursday May 25th

The clock has just struck ten and I am very sleepy but will write anyhow. I stayed after school this evening and recited my piece for commencement before Miss Johnson. The name of it is "Intensely Utter." It is very funny. I went from the College to the post office. Wharton is still in bed with his foot. Cousin Narciss is here this evening. She is making my white dress.

Saturday night May 27th

Yesterday after school was out I came up home and changed my dress and Nannie Bond took Betty McLemore and I home with her in a buggy. She

lives about two miles & a half out on the Lewisburg pike. Her little brother drove us. We stayed there last night and came in this morning. I had a very pleasant time. I took a nap this evening. Got up and dressed and went down to mail some letters and papers for Mama. Went to see Mamie Bostick before coming home. I planted out some Johnny Jump Ups that I got at Cousin Tom Bond's. I have just put Lizzie to bed, Mama and Papa are in the parlor listening to Miss Emma sing. The boys are in their room preparing for bed. Mama received a letter from Sister or Brother every day. They are coming over to Franklin next Friday. Cousin Narciss has gone back to Nashville.

Sunday night May 28th

It rained this morning. Mama & I rode to S.S. & stayed to church. Bro. Campbell from Lynnville preached for us today as Mr. Stine was away. Papa will have to go back to Columbia in the morning. I received a letter from Sister today. I read most of the evening and took care of Lizzie. Mama went to see Cousin Lucy Bond & Cousin Lizzie Henderson. Sallie House was over this afternoon to see me. We all took a little walk after supper tonight. Lizzie said today that she wished she didn't have to die, but everybody had to die, and when she died she was going to heaven and be 'demis girls.' She says so many funny little things. Lizzie always calls Sister, "Daughter" and one day before Sister was married Mr. Richardson was here & Lizzie went in the parlor. Mr. R said, "Lizzie how is it that you call, Miss Annie Lou 'Daughter' & call me 'Bud John'." Lizzie thought a longtime & then said, "Oh! yes, you is my son." She is very anxious to see her "Daughter & Bud John" now.

Monday May 29th

Nothing of interest happened at school today. I finished my Herbarium entirely and handed it in. Miss Gregg, my music teacher, left this evening. She is going to marry this summer. I don't suppose I will ever see her again. I practiced this evening, took Lizzie minor over to see Little Ella Bailey. The boys are out of school now and their vacation has commenced. I wish mine had commenced. Mamie Wallace was here to see me and little Jessie North to see Miss Emma this evening. Emma Lillie & Jessie Wallace were here a short while late this evening. I have been undressing Lizzie & she is almost asleep now. Papa went to Columbia this A.M. Mama got a

postal from Sister. The boys are asleep. Mama and Miss Emma are in the other room talking.

Tuesday May 30th

I came home to my dinner today. Miss Johnson heard all of us girls, nearly recite our pieces for commencement this evening. Mettie Watson, Minnie Hearn, Lenamay Green, Willie Buchanan, Jennie Gray (Senior), Carrie Clark and I are to recite. Mama and I cut out & started a dress for Lizzie this evening. Betty McLemore was up here. No letter from Sister or Brother today for the first time since their marriage. I went over to Mrs. Sam House's this evening & sat out on the front porch with them all. Lizzie says she is her girl now, and this evening I told her not to do something that she wanted to do and she said, "Oh! Bersha you wont let your girl do anything her wants to." She call me Bersha (Bertha).

Wednesday May 31st.

It rained nearly all day. I stopped by at Cousin Etta's coming from school. I am going to stay with Minnie Hearn Friday night. I have just put Lizzie to bed. Albert is sick today.

Monday June 5th

About dinner time Miss Emma has gone to Nashville & Jackson to stay two weeks or more. Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights I went to rehearsals at the College. Friday night Sister and Brother came out on the 9 d'clock train. They will be here until Wednesday I suppose when I will go as far as Nashville with them. I will stay Thursday and Friday with Minnie. I am going to see her graduate. She is 16 years old. I went to church & Sunday School yesterday and last night Sister, Brother, Albert and I went to the Methodist church to hear Bishop Granberry preach. Sister and Brother carry on a great deal as I expected they would. They both seem supremely happy. Wharton seems to think it very funny that Sister is married for when with him his face is always in a broad grin. Lizzie Minor is very affectionate when with "Bud John" and "Daughter." Wharton thinks that I ought to say Brother John instead of Brother but I don't. Brother calls me Thenie. Maybe I will go out to Aunt Minor's next Saturday. Tonight I am to recite at the College. My piece is called "Intensely Utter," but it was printed in the paper as "My Superlative Pa and consummate Ma," and will be read that way tonight.

Papa came from Columbia Saturday & returned this morning. He is coming back this evening so he can hear me recite. A good many of Sister's friends have called on "Mr. & Mrs. Richardson."

Saturday June 10th 1882 At Aunt Minor's

To begin where I left off: Monday night I recited and everyone said I did splendidly. I received a great many compliments. Tuesday morning and night I took part in the exercises. Wednesday morning I went with Brother and Sister as far as Nashville, while they went on home. I went to Uncle Dick's and that night we all went to see Minnie graduate. She recited and did very well. I stayed in Nashville until Friday evening then I came home. This morning Papa, Wharton, and I came out here on the train this morning to Spring Hill. Cousin Jim Word met us at the depot and brought us over to Aunt Minor's. Papa went back home this evening. I wrote to Sister. I must retire.

Sunday June 11th At Aunt Minor's.

This morning I went to Sunday School and church in Spring Hill. Wharton and McLemore stayed here with Uncle Jim. It has been raining all the afternoon. I took a nap, read some then got up and dressed and went down stairs. I read five or six chapters in the Bible and swung a good while after it clear off. I wrote a postal to Mama today.

Monday June 12th

Aunt Minor, Jim and Wharton went to Columbia today in the cab. I mended on of my dresses, fixed Thenie's scrap-book, played croquet and swung. It was very rainy all day today.

Tuesday June 13th

I went to Spring Hill this morning and received a package from Mama containing some clothes. Went up to Aunt Ann's and stayed awhile then stopped by Mr. Henry Wade's coming back. Sallie Ewing was there, visiting Fontee Wade. I am going to spend tomorrow there and will remain till Thursday evening. Went over to Dr. Jim Thompson's with Aunt Minor. I played croquet and swung today. Little Mary Weissinger is here.

Wednesday morning.

Thenie, Mary Weissinger and I went up to Mr. Henry Wade's in the barouche. They came home and I stayed. Thursday morning we went to

Thompson Station to meet Sallie House who came from Franklin. Sallie Ewing, Fontee Wade and I went, and Burke Bryan drove us. We saw Wilburn Miller and Lee Ridley at the station. Mr. Miller treated us to wax. Sallie came and we went back to Mr. Wade's last night [Thursday] Wilburn Miller and Lee Ridley came out in a buggy to Mr. Wade's. There were five of us girls. Fontee & Carrie Wade, the two Sallies and myself. Today Wharton and Henry Weissinger came in the barouche for me and we came back out here to Aunt Minor's. Wharton and I received a letter a piece from Mama.

Saturday June 17th

I did not get up till late this morning. Aunt Minor went to Spring Hill this morning. The little Weissinger children and Frierson went home. Wharton went to Spring Hill with Aunt Minor. I received a letter from Sister and one from Albert. Wharton and I each received a postal from Mama. Albert and Ed Lewis are coming out here Wednesday and stay till Saturday or Monday. I am so glad.

Sunday June 18th

Went to Sunday School and church in the morning. Burke Bryan came home to dinner with Jim. Thenie and I took a horseback ride this evening. Wharton rode behind.

Monday June 19th

Today Cousin Jim Word took us over to Papa's old home 7 miles from here. We came back to Aunt Ann's in the morning and spent the day there. Coming home we had to stop in Spring Hill about an hour to have a shoe put on the horse. Thenie and I stayed at Mr. Joe W. Alexander's during that time. I received a letter from Macon Bostick, four pages on foolscap. I understand Macon perfectly. She and I have not been as intimate lately as we have been in the past. Not that we have been unfriendly at all, but I have not been to see her much as I used to. She knows that Ed Lewis is coming to Franklin and she likes him very much. She wants to get very friendly so she can come up to see Ed Lewis while he is in Franklin. I am going to see her while she is in Spring Hill however. She said she was coming out to her father's house this evening.

Tuesday June 20th

This morning Thenie, Wharton & I went to Uncle Lem's house. We stopped by the post office

in Spring Hill and Wharton got a postal from Albert written in Lewisburg. We went to Uncle Lem's and spent a pleasant day. Aunt Ann, Burke Byran, and little Annie Mulloy were there. Coming home we stopped by to see Macon Bostick. She was very friendly and we had a very pleasant little visit. I am going to try my best to overcome my dislike for her for I suppose I have a great many more faults than she has. Burke Bryan came home with us this evening. Albert and Ed will come tomorrow. Aint I glad. I wonder if he has grown any [I mean Eddie] I have not seen him for two years. He was rather small for his age then. He will be "Sweet sixteen" this August. Papa says he is quite a young man now. I am very anxious for tomorrow to come.

Wednesday June 21st 9 1/2 p.m.

I spent the morning playing croquet, swinging and minding my underclothes. This evening I primped up a good deal ready to meet the boys. About 7 this evening they came. I spoke to Albert first and then went outside and spoke to Ed. He has grown very much but looks very much like he did two years ago. When he looked at me, my heart when pit a pat. He has not changed at all and he told me that I was my same old self. He calls me Thenie & I call him Ed. I was so glad to see him. He and I played a game of croquet after supper and he beat. Then we all played "fox in the morning," and criticism. When he criticized me he said some very complimentary things of me. We came in and played among other games "Truth." We promised to answer truthfully any one question put by each concerned in the game. They asked me what boy I most loved and esteemed and who was my sweetheart? I would not tell but told them I would answer privately to each one at some other time. I feel so happy tonight because my sweetheart is here and my Brother. I wrote a letter to Sister, received one from Mama.

Thursday June 22nd 1882.

It rained very hard last night and it was very wet. We played Logomachy, Euchre and Authors, and when it cleared off we played croquet. Ed and I played parnters a good deal. This evening Cousin Jim and I mounted horses and went over after Miss Myra Thompson and we all went over to Cousin Ellen Blair's horseback. Cousin George and

Queenie were at home and we had a very pleasant time. Tonight after supper we all played "criticism." Ed is a sweet as ever and I am more in love with him than ever if that could be possible.

Friday June 23rd.

This morning we all went to Aunt Ann's to spend the day. Albert, Wharton, Thenie, Ed and I in his barouche and Jim & Burke on horses. We left with Henry. Carrie and Fontee Wade spent the day at Aunt Ann's also. We had a great deal of fun. Once I was taking a nap on the sofa and Ed called out to me "wake up little sweetheart." He said a good many sweet things to me today. I think he likes Fontee and Carrie Wade too. We got back late. Burke did not come home with us.

Saturday June 24th

This morning we played croquet. Ed & I beat Albert & Jim. Miss Myra Thompson spent the day at Aunt Minor's. This afternoon Albert, Ed, Wharton and I came home to Franklin. Papa met us at depot, also Sallie Ewing & House. Sallie House rode up in Sam Young's carriage with us. This evening I took a walk with Jessie, Mamie & Sallie. After supper awhile Miss Emma sang for us. Then we played Euchre. Everyone thinks Ed is handsome and he is. I found them all well and am very glad to get home again. Miss Emma had gone to bed so I must now go too.

Monday June 26th

Yesterday I went to Sunday School & church. Late in the evening Ed, Albert and I walked down to see Mamie Bostick,. Mosely Bostick was there. I like him so much. Mamie B. and Sallie House came to see me this morning & Mamie spent the day. I gave her to Ed for a sweetheart. I went down to Judge Wallace's this evening after tea. Jim Parkes fell in his father's cellar today and got dangerously hurt.

Friday July 7th 1882

I have sadly neglected my diary of late. After I wrote the preceding have concluded that I don't like Ed so much after all. I am not going to have him for my sweetheart anymore. Not that he has done anything to make me mad he was always very polite to me. I still like him as a friend but he is no longer my sweetheart. Mama, Papa, Wharton, and Lizzie went over to Murfreesboro.

Tuesday June 27th

Sallie Ewing spent the night with me and stayed till Thursday morning. Then Harvey and Arthur D. came home with her. I kept house while Mama was gone.

Thursday June 29th

Minnie came out. That night went down to Hettie Campbell's and stayed till about 11. We (Minnie & I) met Mr. Wade. His name is Fount & he is a nephew of Mr. Jno. Wade. He is the funnest boy I ever saw. he drank out his words so funny. He says the same things to all the girls. He told Minnie that he'd wade through fire and water for her. He told me the he'd long been wanting to meet me, and now his dream was realized and he was happy. he is very droll. Dick Turner came home with Minnie and Bradley Campbell with me. Mr. Wade recited a great deal of poetry to the girls. Friday night we all went to Macon's and danced and played. Ed Lewis went with Mamie Bostick and carried her home. Mr. Wade was at Macon's Saturday night we all went over to Sallie House's. Sunday morning July 2nd we went to Sunday School & church. Heard Mr. Trimble preach. That night Sallie House, Minnie and I went to the Baptist church with Smith. Mr. Henry Pointer sat behind us. He fell very much in love with Minnie. He wrote notes to Sallie all during church. Mr. Wade came home with me and Sallie & Smith House with Minnie. Ed Lewis went out home with Parmenio Cox that night. Monday evening we went & got some ice cream, also Sallie House & Betty McLemore. That night we went over to Sallie's and sat awhile. Tuesday July 4th we spent the night at Cousin Etta's. Sallie Ewing & Sallie House, Maggie Dorse, Minnie & I stayed all night & Nannie Scruggs and Mamie Bostick were there. We had ice cream for supper. Ever so many boys came round. Among them Mr. Wade. He and I were sitting together on a sofa in one corner of the room and he told me that he loved me. He said that he had loved me from the first time he ever met me and while he liked and admired all of these other girls he loved me. He said that I was different from the other young ladies and that I was his ideal of a perfect woman, and that though he could not ask me to become his wife while I was so young he wanted me to consider his case, and remember that in discarding him I would a person who loved me

sincerely, and I would never find another who would love me as devotedly as he. He said that he spoke now, because he was afraid some of the other boys would speak to me first. He said he knew that I did not love him, he wished I could learn to love him. I told Minnie all about it but have told no one else & she promised to tell no one. Of course I don't love him in the least and I think it is very ridiculous in him to talk in that way to me, who am only a little school girl. I have not told Mama of it but I intend to. I think it is a good joke. After awhile Cousin Etta brought in some ice lemonade. After we went to bed all of us girls that stayed upstairs had a good time laughing. We all took the hysterics and had a "good old per laugh." We did not get to sleep till 3 o'clock. Wednesday night we did not go anywhere but stayed at home & played Euchre. Thursday night we went down to Mamie Bostick's & from there over to Mr. Crutcher's where there were a good many girls and boys and we had a very pleasant time. Ed Lewis came home with me & Albert with Minnie.

Saturday July 8th

Ed Lewis, Harvey & Arthur went home and Miss Emma also left to go to Long Island. I don't expect she will come back till next summer. I like Ed Lewis as a friend but I have no sweetheart now. I think Ed is a very nice boy.

Sunday July 9th

Minnie and I went to Sunday School and church and in the afternoon went to Cousin Alice Bullock's. Sallie House, Smith House, Minnie & I went to church at night.

Monday July 10th

Minnie & I spent the morning at home. I took a nap in the evening. Mettie Watson called in the morning. Lena Campbell & Mary Craig called in the evening and after they left we went down town and got some ice cream.

Tuesday July 11th about 5 p.m.

Last night Minnie, Sallie House & I went down to Mr. Wm. House's and spent a very pleasant evening. Mr. Wade and Burke Bryan came up. I was perfectly disgusted with Mr. Wade. He persists in talking love to me & I don't like it. I expect I made him mad but I can't help it.



William House, lawyer



Ophelia Wood House

Thursday July 20th 1882 11 o'clock a.m.

I really am ashamed of myself for not writing in my diary. Minnie went home today a week ago. We had a jolly good time during her stay here. We either went somewhere or had company every night she was here. The next day Sister & Brother came to stay 10 days or more and they have been here ever since. Dr. House has been expected to die, and was better yesterday for the first time. Papa sat up with him last night. Mr. & Mrs. Plummer of Nashville board with us now. They have two little children, a baby named Manierre (I don't know how to spell it) and a little boy named Will, who is the age & size of Lizzie. Will is the most headstrong stubborn child I ever saw, but he is a real sweet little fellow. He always minds his Papa but don't pretends to mind his mother who almost always gives up to him. He won't have anything to do with anybody here except Lizzie and me. He calls me Berhs. I won him over by being kind to him but I have never yet given up to him and he minds everything I tell him. I must tell about yesterday. Albert & I went to a picnic at Cayce's Springs with a crowd from Cousin Alice Bullock's. The Watson children and Sallie Ewing also went. There were 17 people went. We had a delightful ride out. Dick Turner drove the conveyance I was in. We spent a delightful day at the Springs playing ten pins, walking about among the hills, talking to people etc. At about twelve we were summoned to dinner which was spread out on the ground in true picnic fashion. In the afternoon when we went home it looked as if it was going to rain and riding as we were in a jersy wagon we had no curtains of any kind and we had no shawls or wraps what ever. When we were still 9 miles from town the rain

commenced. We stopped in a covered bridge and waited hoping that the shower would soon pass over. After waiting for a long time in rain we concluded it would be useless to wait longer and we could not stay ther all night. So as the rain had abated somewhat we started with fresh fury. Torrents of water poured in upon us, drenching the boys, Albert & Dick, who were on the front seat, through & through. Mamie & Narciss Bullock & I were on the back seat and though we were very wet we were not so thoroughly drenched as the boys for they kept the rain off of us. The other two barouches were far ahead of us and I have not heard how they fared but they had curtains to keep the rains off whereas we had nothing. It rained and it poured, thundered & lightened and there we were 9 miles more or less on the pike in the pouring rain with no covering except the light top of the greasy wagon & no house within miles of us where we could stop. It lasted for ten or fifteen minutes or more when it slackened its fury but we were then thoroughly wet. The water dripped from our heads & faces & only our backs were dry. The seat on which the boys sat was one pool of water and there was no use of them brushing if off as it would come straight back. It was so kind of Dick to lend me his coat. I like him ever so much. We reached home late in the afternoon a drenched but jolly crowd, all looking like drowned rats. This morning it was bright and pretty and Sister & Mama went out and called on Mrs. Bettie Tribble. After they came back, Sister & Brother went calling. It is raining now and they haven't yet come back.

Monday July 24th

Last Friday evening Sister and Brother & Lizzie Minor went out to Aunt Minor's and spent the night. Saturday they went to Aunt Ann's & I took dinner and came home in the evening. Yesterday morning (Sunday) I went to Sunday School but had the headache so bad that I did not stay for church. In the afternoon I went down to Cousin Etta's to see Silla & Berta Cunningham. I went from there to see Mamie



Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Bostick. Silla went with me. Some other girls came around there & we all went over to the fort. Papa went with us. Last night I went to the Cumberland Church with the House's & Wallace's. Mr Wade walked home with me. Sister & Brother have gone to spent today out at Mrs. Hortense Campbell's. I have had a terrible headache all the morning.

Saturday July 29th 1882

Last Thursday night I stayed at Cousin Etta's, a crowd of girls and boys were there. We had a great deal of fun & also some refreshments. Friday 28th Sister & Brother went home after staying 2 weeks. Last Tuesday 25th Albert went to Nashville to remain a week or two. This evening I took Lizzie Minor down to Mr. Bud House's this afternoon and he cut her hair off. She looks so pretty now.

Sunday July 30th

Did not go to Sunday School but went to church. Undressed and laid down this afternoon. Papa went to Pulaski tonight.

Monday July 31st

Spent the morning straightening up my room generally I have a beautiful room now. Lizzie Minor is in my charge everynight. I have dark paper on the walls of my room, a very pretty carpet on the floor, and a new and beautiful set of furniture which Mama gave me this spring or summer rather. The set consists of bed, bureau, washstand & table. A lounge in my room matches my furniture nicely. I have a small bureau which used to belong to Grandma. I have pretty advertising cards tacked in groups on the wall and vases and pictures on the mantel. A paper-rack & bracket hang on the walls & toliet bottles, puff box & various articles adorn the marble slab of the bureau. I keep vases of fresh flowers in my room all the time. I have two windows looking into our shady yard on the west side and altogether I have a most delightful room. Mama, Wharton & Lizzie Minor are going to stay in here tonight as Papa is in Pulaski & Albert in Nashville. Mr. Plummer had gone for a week & Mrs. Plummer & her two children in their room are the only persons here besides us. Mama gave me \$5.00 today for helping clean up, keeping my things straight and not going anywhere this summer. Sallie House & Jessie Wallace were here this evening.

Tuesday Aug. 1st 1882

This morning I went down town. Paid Mrs. Clark on my school bill, went to Cousin Alice Bullock's and several stores. I cleaned up this morning. Mamie Wallace came to see me this evening. I wish I could write a pretty hand. I think I write so ugly. I like Minnie's handwriting. I am going to try and learn to write prettily next session. I am going to take art instead of music next session. Minnie Hearn and I am going to sit together when school commences.

Wednesday Aug. 2nd 1882

Spent the morning sewing and working on my rick-rack braid. Practiced awhile. this afternoon read St. Nicholas, laid down, got up & dressed & went down to Mr. Wm. House's with Sallie House & Mamie Wallace. Took Will & Lizzie with me. We swung in the sing down there. Tonight I had a "go to bed romp" with Will & Lizzie Minor. Fount Wade took some Sulphuric acid by mistake and is not expected to live. I feel so sorry for him & hope he will get well. Must write & tell Minnie of it. Have no ink so must write with pencil.

Thursday Aug. 3rd.

This is election day here in Franklin. Spent the morning at home. After cleaning up my room & the parlor I read St Nicholas, worked on my rick-rack and gathered a basket of grapes for dinner. This evening I sewed some button on my shoes, procured some elastic & made me a pair of inexpressibles, dressed myself & walked down the street with Sallie House. After supper tonight I went in the parlor and practiced. Wharton brought me a postal from Sister. Papa came home from Pulaski this morning & returned tonight.

Friday Aug. 4th 1882

Went out in Mr. House's barouche with Sallie & spent the day with Sallie Ewing. Had a very pleasant time. Met Cousin Morgan Perkins from Murfreesboro. He is so funny. Mr. Ewing brought us part of the way home. We walked up through town. Sallie Ewing & Sallie House are spending tonight with me. Sallie H. is dead in love with Mr. Pointer & Sallie E. with Mr. Turley. I am in love with Mr. Nobody.

Saturday Aug. 5th

The two Sallies left rather early this morning and after cleaning up I mended some of Papa's undershirts. I worked on them pretty much all day and wrote a letter to Sister in the meantime. Early this afternoon I dressed and a little after Albert and May (Wharton) came from Nashville & Papa from Pulaski. I went walking this evening with the Wallace girls and Sallie House. Mr. Plummer came out from Nashville tonight.

Sunday Aug. 6th 1882

Went down to Sunday School this morning but there was no Sunday School on account of a funeral. Wharton, May & I came home & did not stay to church. Mr. Tommie Livingstone & Mr. Plummer's mother spent today here. Tonight when Lizzie said her prayers I told her to say "Bless Will Plummer." He was standing near and at once protested saying "No I don't want you to bless me." I took my nap this evening. Took a short walk after supper tonight.

Monday Aug. 7th

Finishing mending Papa's shirts this morning, then collected some playthings & sold them to the children for pins. We had a regular auction in their playhouse & they enjoyed it ever so much. May seems to be having a good time. Wharton is very devoted to her and entertains her nicely. I then cut out a calico body for Wharton, got out my silk quilt & looked at it. Sallie House was over awhile. We ate some cantelopes this afternoon. When I dressed this evening I put on my last years calisthenic suit, blue trimmed in white. It was very gay & very short. There is a new song now which says "Who



Sallie House

will be the leader when the Bride groom comes?" Will says "Who will be the Leader when the Baboon comes?"

Tuesday Aug. 8th

After cleaning up my room & the parlor, I sewed on Wharton's body. Read the Youth's Companion this evening. All the young ladies in town went picnicing at Cayce Springs today. It rained very hard here this evening. Played cards with the children tonight. Played the piano. Mrs. Plummer whipped Will for playing in the dirt a day or two ago and that night when Will said his prayers he said, "Oh Lord make me a good boy and don't let me play in the dirt."

Wednesday Aug. 9th

Worked on the trimming until dinner. Read also in "Arabian Nights." Jessie & Mamie Wallace were here this evening. Took a walk later this evening down to the branch with Jessie, Mamie & Sallie. Papa did not come this evening as we expected.

Tuesday Aug. 10th

This morning Sallie House & I with Smith to drive out to Mr. Hub Ewing's and brought Sallie Ewing home. Mr. Willie Neely drove us back to town. I stopped at Cousin Ann Harrison's to see Annie Briggs. She was not there & I went to see Cousin Etta McLemore. Annie Briggs came round there before I left. Sallie Ewing is going to spend tonight with me & tomorrow night with Sallie House. I thought I had better write now as perhaps I would not have a chance tonight. I have just written to Sister & Wharton took it down to mail it.

Sunday Aug. 13th 1882

Sallie Ewing spent Thursday night with me & Sallie House came over. We had lots of fun playing games. Friday night Sallie



Hubbard S. Ewing family—four generations, Hub Ewing, Susie Lee Ewing McGavock, Hattie McGavock Ayres, Susie Ayres

Ewing & I stayed with Sallie House & we all went down to Mamie Bostick's & had a nice time. Saturday morning May went home with her Papa & Wharton. Wharton will remain a week or more. Papa came back Saturday evening & so did Mr. Plummer. I went to church Sunday morning. Read all the afternoon.

Saturday Aug. 19th 1882

I have not written since last Sunday. I was so sleepy & tired every night that I did not have energy to write. I have spent the week very quietly at home. Haven't done anything except clean out the bookcase, work on my trimming a little, seal up some jelly glasses and read. This morning I gave my room a thorough cleaning then dressed and went to the post office. It was not open so I went around and sat awhile with Mamie Bostick. I got a letter from Sister. She says she is going to house-keeping next Xmas. Papa spent today in Nashville. We expected him to bring Wharton home with him but Wharton wanted to stay tonight & go see a little sweetheart he has found there. He will be home in the morning. Mr. Plummer came out this evening. Papa brought me out a nice writing desk which Aunt Mary (Dick) sent. It used to be Grandma's and the things in it are just as she left it. She also sent me a spool box which belonged to Grandma. Betty McLemore is spending tonight with me. Dr. House came over to see us today. It is the first time he has been anywhere since he was sick. Papa brought me a letter from Mamie tonight. Betty has been reading over some notes of mine. Albert has gone to Aunt Minors to stay a week or more.

Sunday aug. 20th 1882

Went to Sunday School and church today. Mr. Stine preached. I wrote a letter to Minnie this evening but have not sent it yet. I used my new old writing desk. It is new to me. The one that was Grandma's. Read Youth's Companion & took a nap this evening. after supper I mused Manier. Mrs. Plummer's baby awhile. Have just put Lizzie to bed. Papa went to Lawrenceburg tonight.

Tuesday Aug. 22nd.

Sewed on my silk quilt nearly all day. After I cleaned up I sealed up seven glasses of quince jelly and tied up a glass of preserves. After I dressed this evening I read "The Fair Maid of Perth" a little while. Then Jessie, Mamie & Sallie came & we walked down to the branch. Met Jennie Haynes &

Willie Bailey & they went back to the branch with us. I am going to Nashville Thursday as Mrs. Plummer goes. I will stay with Minnie. Mama has the headache tonight.

Saturday Sept 10th

Made my visit to Nashville. Stayed at Uncle Willie's two days and a night and at Uncle Dick's the rest of the time. Met several Nashville boys. Had a very pleasant visit. Came home last Saturday Sept. 2nd. Came from Nashville with Sister & Brother that night. They are still here. Monday the 4th I started to school at the College. Am in sub-senior class. My studies are Natural Philosophy, Algebra, Geometry, Virgil and Physiology. I take music from Miss Sandifer & Art from Miss Nicholson at the College. Mama and Sister went calling. I have had the blues all the morning. I thought that if I took a good cry I would feel better, so I have been crying as hard as I could and I think I do feel better. I have been crocheting.

Sunday September 24th 1882.

Nothing of importance has happened lately. I have commenced a picture at school. Have taken nearly two pieces in music. Have gotten along finely in my studies so far and am studying harder than ever in my life before. Have not been anywhere except I went Tuesday night to hear Huntley Troupe play "A Woman Devotion." Did not enjoy myself extremely but moderately. Friday evening I took Lizzie & Sallie H., Macon B., Albert and Wharton went down & rode on the "Flying Jenny" which is in town for a few days and is on a tour so to speak. I received a letter from Lee Cribbs and have answered it. I love her so much but I didn't think she loved me. She wrote me such a sweet letter. Aunt Annie McLemore (Uncle Ance's wife) is dead. She died somewhere about the 5th of this month. Sister didn't stay but a little over a week. I have the front room now, for mine & have it fixed up very nicely. It has turned real cool & we have fires. I went to Sunday School & church today. Maj. Cloyd took dinner here today. I stayed at home all the evening.

Saturday Oct. 14th 1882

Aunt Mary (Uncle Will's wife) and all the family have been out here two weeks next Tuesday. Sister came last night and I don't know how long she will stay. We were so glad to see her. All of us children have had our pictures taken by a travelling photog-

rapher. Albert and Lizzie Minor will get theirs tomorrow but Wharton & I will have to sit for ours again (as they were very good) I have a large picture of Papa in a frame, taken by this same Artist. It is a splendid likeness. I want Mama to have hers taken the same size to match Papa's. I am studying so hard at school now. Am taking music and Art both. I will commence to paint in oil next week. I have got to go down in the morning & have my picture taken over. I have such a pretty new dress. It is foulard calico, plum-colored calico with white wild daisy on it. It is made very pretty. There is a very large comet visible in the heavens about 4 o'clock every morning. I have been able to see it one night.

Wednesday Oct. 18th 1882

Went to school today. Was perfect in all my recitations. I commenced painting in oil colors yesterday & like it very much. The Methodist Conference meets in Franklin this week. We have two preachers staying with us. Bro. R.K. Brown and J.K. Chase. Sister is still with us and will be here until Saturday I suppose.

Wednesday Oct. 24th 1882

The clock is just striking six. The lamps are lighted but it is not good, dark yet. Sister went home last Saturday. Miss Jennie Campbell & Mr. Clabe Kinnard married last Thursday the 17th of Oct 1882. I went to school today. Was perfect in my recitations. We children have all had our pictures taken by Mr. Shull, the same man that took Papa's. Mama had had hers taken too. Conference is over. Mr. Green will still preach here in the Methodist Church. I received such a sweet letter from "Miss Louise" the other day- Miss Spencer- I have so much to do Saturday I believe I will write it down for fear I will forget it. I must straighten out my top-drawer, plant out some flowers, sew a button on my calico dress, study, practice, write to Miss Louise, and Lee Cribbs, clean up & straighten my little bureau and- I believe that's all. Aunt Minor and Cousins Sallie & Narciss took dinner here today but I did not see them as I was at school.

Friday Dec. 8th 1882

It has been more than a month since I last wrote in my diary. A good many things have occurred since then. I have been going to school regularly ever since that time. A week or two ago Albert & I went on the train out to Uncle Ance's & stayed till

Monday morning. (We went Saturday morning.) Bettie McLemore & Narciss Bullock were there too. We had a very pleasant time. I was taken with a chill at school, last Friday evening & had to come home. I was sick all that evening & night & got up while after breakfast the next morning. That night (Saturday) Mama was taken sick all day Sunday was very sick. Monday she was better & I went to school & Papa stayed from his court with her.

Tuesday Papa went to Pulaski to hold court & we thought Mama so much better that I went to school & Wharton stayed at home to wait on Mama. Wednesday we did the same & when I came home in the afternoon I saw that Mama was worse, though she had been sitting up most of the day. So I made up my mind to stay at home next day (Thursday) & take care of her. Thursday I wrote a postal to Papa & in it mentioned the fact that I was staying with Mama; so last night Papa came home, & it was a good thing he did because Mama has been so very sick all day today. As Papa was here the boys both went to school today & I went this morning, took a music lesson went to three of my classes & then came home. It was bitter cold today & yesterday. Papa had to go down in town this morning & so Mama was left alone for several hours. When I returned I found that Mama had fainted away & Martha, the cook, coming in about that time & thinking Mama was dying ran out in the yard & gave several piercing shrieks & called the neighbors. Mrs. Bailey & Mrs. House (Wm.) came running in & a negro man who happened to be passing by on the street about that time went down & told Papa that his wife was dying. Papa came with all haste & by the time all the neighbors had gathered in Mama had revived. It is intensely cold today. Yesterday Lizzie Minor ate a great deal of popcorn & some candy. Last night before Papa came home Lizzie was very sick. She has been very sick all day & I have held her in my lap most of the time. She has some fever & eats nothing scarcely. I commenced writing in here at about 4 o'clock this evening & it is now 7 at night. Supper over & lamps lighted. I have been interrupted very many times to make mustard plasters, hand Mama water, medicine, etc. But I am willing to do anything in the world that will, in any way, make her feel better. She has been suffering so much today. Lizzie is still very sick, poor little darling. She has gone to bed but keeps crying out every few minutes. I am so glad Papa is at home.

He is a little sick too & I have a wretched cold. Sister will come Monday I expect. I hope she will, bless her dear sweet heart. Poor Mama I wish I could do something for her she is so sick. Well I must go to bed & get a good nights rest for I have been on my feet all day nearly except when I was holding Lizzie in my arms. But I am willing to do anything I can for my dear Mother & little sister. The boys have been so sweet & good today so obliging kind & good.

Sunday night Dec. 17th 1882

It has been over a week since I wrote in here. Mama was very sick Friday (the 8th) Saturday & Sunday. Sister & Brother John came on the train Saturday night. Brother John left Monday morning. Monday Papa had to go to Pulaski & Albert, Wharton & I were all sick in bed with sore throat. Lizzie was very sick from her vaccinated arm & Mama was sick. Wharton & I stayed in bed two days & Albert longer. We are all well now & went to Sunday School this morning. Mama is still in bed but improving. Lizzie's arm is getting well. I am going to school tomorrow. Miss Minnie Bond & Mr. Richmond Rochester were married this week also Mr. Will Reid & Miss Maud Perkins. Miss Ida Beale died a week or two ago. I heard the other day that Miss Annie Clark & Susie Armstead had both married. Sister will stay with us till after Christmas.

Thursday Jan. 4th 1883

First time at all in 1883 that I have written anything. Mama got well before Christmas. Papa & Brother John were here & we all had such a splendid time. We had a tree before Christmas morning & I received some very unexpected & beautiful presents. Mama gave me a large handsome photograph album with which I was delighted; Brother John gave me a beautiful purse, Sister a pack of visiting cards & a beautiful crocheted captivator; Albert gave me a knife, Wharton a lovely box of glass toilet set for my bureau & Minnie sent me a pretty tray. Besides these Papa gave me a coal scuttle and tongs, shovel & poker in the little stand for my room. I got a pack of squibs, an orange & plenty of candy. I gave everybody in the family a present. Lizzie Minor received a great many presents & has a doll-house here in my room.

Sunday Jan 7th 1883

I went to Sunday School and church today. We

have services at the Institute now because the church is being repaired. I have stopped school for this whole ten month session & recite lessons to Mama every day. Cousin Etta & her family have been in strict quarantine for over week because their cook had the smallpox. The yellow flag has been waving at her front gate and was taken down this morning for the first time, but I don't think the danger is over yet. Wharton has been saying lessons at home this week because we were afraid for him to go to school on account of the smallpox. I practice every day, an hour or so. Sallie House was here this afternoon. Her mother has been very dangerously sick for a week or two & is just beginning to get better. We hear from sister every day or two. She has gone to house-keeping in Murfreesboro, they rent this year. My dear darling Sister, I do love her so much. Papa has been holding court in Columbia this week & came home last night. He will return to C. in the morning. Mama is not feeling very well tonight. I do wish she could get entirely well. Dear Little Lizzie Minor has talked herself & her doll to sleep at last. I must go to bed for I am about the last one up as usual, unless Papa is up yet, but as everthing is quiet in the other part of the house I suppose they are asleep.

Friday Jan 12th 1883

Sunday has nearly rolled around again & I have not written in my diary. Papa has been holding court in Columbia this week & I have been reciting lessons to Mama. Albert and Wharton have been going to school and Lizzie has been chiefly occupied with playing with her dolls. Papa came home this morning. He returned again tonight to remain till Monday morning. He brought Wharton, Lizzie & me a great many pretty advertising cards. Some of them are beautiful & among others that he gave me is a large picture of Mrs. Langtry, the Jersey Lily. It is perfectly beautiful & I have cut it out to put in my scrap book. It has been snowing nearly all this week & is intensely cold. I have been staying over in Mama's room every night since Papa has been gone & this is the first time I've stayed in my room since Sunday night. I received a long nice letter from Anabel Green last Tuesday, in answer to one I wrote to her a week or two ago. She is living in Texas now with her married sister & seems to be having a gay time. Miss Bettie Bradley was married several days ago to Mr. Fentress (don't know how to spell it). It is about ten o'clock so I must retire.

Franklin Feb. 25th 1883

I commenced (Monday was a week ago) to go every evening to the college & take art from Miss Nicholson. I commenced an oil painting before Xmas and couldn't finish it because I stopped school. I finished and brought it home today. Mama thinks it is prettier than my first one. I am going to give it to sister. Papa is at home now. He has been in Lewisburg and will hold court here next. Bettie McLemore is spending tonight with me and Price with Wharton. Cousin Etta is in the country. Birdie is staying all night next door at Dr. Hunter's. Dr. Hunter has lately moved to the Bailey house next door to us and the Bailey's have gone to the country to live. I received a letter from Anabel Green yesterday. She told that she was to be married on the 2nd of May to Mr. J.D. Birdwell. She is 18 and he 33 yrs. old. Since I have written in my diary I've been to Murfreesboro to see Sister. She is



Bailey House, West Main



Dr. George B. Hunter

keeping house in a very nice rented house with three rooms besides the kitchen. Sister has it "fixed up" very prettily and comfortably and she and Brother John seem to be supremely happy. I still recite lessons to Mama and practice an hour every day. Next week Mama is going to Murfreesboro to stay perhaps a month or more with sister and Papa and the boys will remain at home. Mama will take Lizzie with her & I am going to spend that time with Minnie in Nashville.

May 20th 1883

Home Well, well, I had no idea that it had been so long since I'd written in my diary. I am quite ashamed of myself. I have lots to say & hardly know where to begin. Mama and Lizzie went to Murfreesboro about the first of March and I went to Nashville. Papa and the boys had rather an uncomfortable time at home. They took their meals down in town & slept up home. Though I enjoyed myself in Nashville at Uncle Dick's, I became a little too bored and came home the last day of the month. On the 30th of March a little boy appeared at Sister's house & Lizzie who was delighted with being an Aunt went out to the front door at Bro. John's and told everybody that passed that "Daughter had a little boy." I hired a cook as soon as I returned and kept house a week & three days for Papa & the boys. Mama sent Lizzie home for me to take care of several days before she came. We were all delighted to see our Mama come a few days later. We were all so happy to be together once more after being apart for more than a month. Mama went back to see Sister about the middle of April & stayed a day or two. When Lizzie came from Murfreesboro she informed us that "When her little nephew came down from God the first thing he did was "howdy Aunt Lizzie."

Miss Emma Livingston has gone to Boston to study music all the summer. She stopped by Franklin & spent a night with us on her way there. I am thinking of going over to see Sister the last of this or the first of next week. Sister's little boy is named Will McLemore Richardson. Aunt Mary (Will) has a little girl born the 4th of this month.

We have had our church (Christian) remodeled & worshiped in it today for the first time in over seven months. It looks beautiful now. Lizzie & Mama started to Sunday School today, Lizzie became rather tired. We had such a nice dish of fried chicken & also of strawberries today. I'm very



Franklin Church of Christ, remodeled

much interested in chicken raising now. I have the old coal house fitted up for a hen house and have ten hens and a rooster. Two hens have chickens & seven are now setting. I was sixteen years old the first of April & Papa gave me a lovely scrapbook. Mama gave me the sweetest little clock that ever was for the mantel piece.

July 30th 1883

Home on the 23rd of May I went to Murfreesboro to see Sister, Albert & Wharton went to Nashville to the Drill the same day and spent three or four days with Harvey and Arthur. I stayed in Murfreesboro three weeks & Minnie came before I left and stayed half as long as I did. We had a delightful time up there & Will was the sweetest thing in the world. I spent a night with Minnie on my return & Harvey & D. came out home the day I did. Wharton came to Murfreesboro about a week before I came away and came back the afternoon of the day I did with Harvey & D. Sister, Will and Bro. John stayed over two weeks.

August 1st 1883 Wednesday night

Mama has a new sewing machine, an improved White. It is perfectly splendid & sews so nicely. I commenced a japanese quilt & have nearly finished a square, I've finished my calico quilt all but putting it together & Wharton's is over half done. Mama and I sewed a good deal on Wharton's yesterday and today. I hemmed the sash of my new white dress that Mama is making and cut out a gown for Lizzie Minor this evening, Sallie House came up this evening for her hat-band. I painted it



Fernvale Springs

for her to give D. Sparkman. Sallie is going to Fernvale Saturday & Macon is going Monday. Mama says that I may go if I want to but I don't think I will. Maybe I will go to Cousin Willie Cunningham's with Cousin Etta, the first of this month. May Wharton will be out in the morning. The bride & groom arrived today & are at Judge Wallace's. Mr. Hugh Wallace and Miss Nichols from Knoxville (my art teacher last year).

Aug. 2nd 1883 Home 9 1/2 p.m.

As the "Bad Boy" says in his diary. "My dear diary, I have come to the last page of thee, I have told all my joys and sorrows." I made a nightgown for Lizzie today. We had to send for Mr. Barrett this morning to come & fix something about the machine. Mama has a new cook named Sadie Cage. Mama went to the Ladies Meeting at the Christian church this evening. May came this morning in spite of the rain. It cleared up about dinner time. Jessie Wallace came to see me this evening. Papa came home very unexpectedly from Pulaski this evening & will go back in the morning to return again tomorrow night. I went down to Judge Wallace's this afternoon. Annie Hunter & Allie May Scruggs (her little cousin) and Willie Wallace were here this afternoon & Albert, Wharton, May & Lizzie & all of them played "I spy" & "Hide the switch" in the front yard. Mr. Tom Hightower is dying & Miss Janie Watson is extremely low. Little Whitson Hearn is extremely sick. Mama went to both places today.

End of diary.

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