



JAMES POLK REESE REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER

Source: Let the Drums Roll: Veterans and Patriots of the Revolutionary War Who Settled in Maury County, Tennessee by Marise Parrish Lightfoot – Bicentennial Publication of The Maury County Historical Society.

Pp 156 &157: BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE SOLDIERS.

James Reese was born September 14, 1745 in Pennsylvania. About 1753-54 the Reese family migrated to North Carolina and settled on Coddle Creek in what was then Anson County. In 1762 this area was taken into Mecklenburg County and in 1792 into Cabarrus County. James Reese was only twenty-six years old when he was elected as Elder of Poplar Tent Presbyterian Church. **His father, David Reese, was a signer of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. James Reese served during the Revolutionary War as a Captain in the North Carolina Militia.** He also served as Commissioner of Confiscated Property and as Tax Collector in Mecklenburg County.

In 1788 he moved with his wife, Elizabeth Brevard Reese and family to Sumner County, Tennessee. He served on the county court and as County Trustee of Sumner County. The Reese family were charter members of Shiloh Presbyterian Church, which was organized in 1793. On January 1, 1793, Reese was granted 5,000 acres of land on Little Tombigby Creek. This land was located in what became Maury County, Tennessee in 1807. Reese probably settled on his land prior to 1807. On December 12, 1812 he gave two acres to the Trustees of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, “for a churchyard and burying ground, whereon the meeting house now stands.”

James Reese died November 17, 1828 at the home of his son Joel, “leaving a widow, ten living children, eighty-four grandchildren, and twenty great-grandchildren.” His widow died August 27, 1831. They were buried in Ebenezer’s Presbyterian Church Cemetery (also known as Reese’s Chapel, Maury Co., TN). However, if tombstones were placed at their graves, they have deteriorated.

Their children were as follows: Thomas B., who married Margaret Thompson in Sumner County, Tennessee, April 5, 1794, and remained in Sumner County until his death; Assenath; George, who lived in Hickman County, Kentucky in 1829; **Sarah, born February 2, 1778, married Silas Alexander**, and died November 22, 1839; Ruth, who married Andrew McCarty in Maury County, August 11, 1808; Elizabeth; Flavia, who married Daniel Woods in Sumner County, November 5, 1803; Joel, who married Sarah Ramsey in Sumner County, November 6, 1803 and was still living Maury County in 1836; James H., who married Rebecca Simpson in Maury County, on or after November 11, 1809; and **Susannah, who married James Stockard Junior.**¹⁴⁷

¹⁴⁷*DAR Patriot Index*, p. 562; Alexander and Alexander, *Historic Ebenezer*, pp. 25,88-90, Maury County Deed Books C-1, p. 263; E-1, p. 55.

MAURY COUNTY, TENNESSEE CEMETERIES Vol. I and Vol. II: Compiled by Fred Lee Hawkins, Jr.
Volume II: pg. 598: **Reece’s Chapel Cemetery – Used to be called: Ebenezer Presbyterian Church Cemetery.**

Located just off Campbellsville Pike, about nine miles south of Columbia. It is just behind the old Reece’s Chapel building that is not being used, at present, as a church meeting house. On the gatepost at the entrance is a plaque inscribed with the following: “Hark from the tombs - - a doleful sound. My ears attend the cry; Ye living men come view the ground, where you must shortly lie. - -1825.” This data might be the date when the gateposts were erected, or the cemetery dedicated since the date on the earliest tombstone is earlier. 1814.

Historical Notes:

The history of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church had its beginnings in Scotland, passed through Mecklenburg County in North Carolina and crossed the mountains into Tennessee as early as the 1790's. The love of liberty ran so deeply in the veins of these pioneers that many of them took up arms during the Revolution and fought to drive the British from American shores. As a reward for their efforts, the state of North Carolina awarded many of these veterans areas of land in its western counties. Although it was not legally permitted to settle in the area south of Duck River until 1805-1806, it is certain that a few hardy souls risked both Indian and government to carve out a homestead in the new territory.

By 1805 the families of John Matthews, John Baldrige, William Henderson, James Hannah and others were living in the area of Tombigby (Little Bigby) Creek, near the old Trace, used by Indians from Alabama on hunting expeditions into Tennessee region. These pioneers, staunch in the traditions of their faith, provided a meeting house for the preaching of the Gospel along with shelters to house their families. Ebenezer Church was certainly one of the very first churches to be organized in the area. We are not sure when the official organization took place but the date 1805 is the one that someone burned into the cover of the first book of church minutes.

Land for a more permanent building was donated to the church trustees by Revolutionary veteran James Reese. This structure, in the shape of a cross, was built just west of where the cemetery is now located. This old log building burned in 1885 and a new one was erected, the present one, on the opposite side of the cemetery, which is closer to Campbellville Pike. This church continued to function up to the 1950's but then, due to a declining membership, was disbanded. It is still maintained by an association formed to provide for the preservation of the cemetery.

REESE, James, born in Pennsylvania on 7 September 1745, moved to Anson Co., NC about 1753. the family lived in a section of the county that later became Cabarrus Co. His father, David Reese, signed the famous Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. James served as Captain in the NC Militia and was also Tax Collector for his county. He was married to Elizabeth Brevard while still in the Old North State and in 1788 migrated to Sumner Co., TN. There he was active in public life and were charter members of the Shiloh Presbyterian Church. In 1793 he received a grant of 5,000 acres of land in what was to become Maury Co. and removed to this property soon after it was opened to settlers in 1806. He donated two acres of land for the building of a meeting house and cemetery. This became Ebenezer Presbyterian Church. He died on 17 November 1828 and his wife followed on 27 August 1831. They are both buried here in the cemetery, the land for which he had donated. It is not known whether or not their graves were marked with stones, but today only a new government military marker indicates the probably final resting place of this old soldier.

REESE, James, 1744 - 1828. (New military marker: North Carolina, Capt. NC Militia, Rev. War.)

ALEXANDER, Sarah, 2 Feb 1778 - 22 Nov 1839. Age 61 yrs. (Dau. James & Elizabeth B. Reese; Wife of Silas Alexander. Silas moved to Fayette County Tennessee, died and is buried there.) Photo by WA 5/31/2003.



Sacred
To
The Memory of
Sarah Alexander
Was born Feb 2nd
1778. died Nov 22nd
1839. aged 61 years

Source: "They Passed This Way", Maury County, Tennessee Cemetery Records, compiled by Marise P. Lightfoot & Evelyn B. Shackelford, 1964.

Pg. A-77: REECE'S CHAPEL or EBENEZER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CEMETERY:

"The oldest of these churches (Presbyterian Churches in Maury County) was Ebenezer or Reece's Church in Maury County. The Sessional records of this prior to 1828, have been lost, but one of the members has in his possession a letter of demission from the Church of Gilford, NC to Ebenezer issued in 1806. At that time the Indians had not formally relinquished their title to the lands of this region; but their were a number of white families who had settled on the Indian lands as "squatters."

Some of these were Presbyterians and at some time previous to 1806, they organized a Church which they called Ebenezer. Later (1812) a Mr. Reece (James Reece) gave the land on which the present building was erected, and since then the Church has been popularly known in the community as Reece's Chapel." Quote from "History of the Presbytery of Columbia, Tennessee," by D. D. Little, 1928. The Early Church was built of logs, shaped like a Maltese Cross, facing east with three entrances, the front overlooking a gentle slope reserved for their last resting place. The old structure burned April 12, 1885. The present structure was built 1888-89. It does not rest on the same site as the old Church, but was erected in front of the cemetery. The following Revolutionary Soldiers are said to be buried here: **Charles Alexander, William Alexander, William Benderman, Andrew Boyd, Alexander Crawford, Robert Crawford, John Davidson, William Henderson, James Reece, James Stockard, and John Tate.** The old stones in this cemetery have deteriorated worse than any we have seen elsewhere. Tombstones for only here of the above named men can now be found. Reece's Chapel is located some nine miles south of Columbia on the Campbellsville Pike.

Source: First Families of Tennessee, a Register of Early Settlers and Their Present Day Descendants, published in 2000.

East Tennessee Historical Society, P.O. Box 1629, Knoxville, TN 37901

Pg. 72: WILLIAM ALEXANDER: Born 1745, Cecil Co., MD (or Anson Co., NC); Died 1820, Maury Co., TN; Married Esther Brown; County Settled; Sumner, 1791; Proof: Deed.

Descendants: Alice Ann Vaughan Floyd Barge, Linda White Billica, Nobal E. King, Landra King Spieth, Betty Felton White, & Janet Lynn White.

Pg. 251: JAMES REESE: Born 1739 (or 1744), PA; Died: 1828, Maury Co., TN; Married Elizabeth Brevard; County Settled; Sumner, 1793; Proof: Shiloh Presbyterian Church records.

Descendant: Jennie Jo Hardison.

Source: Let the Drums Roll: Veterans and Patriots of the Revolutionary War Who Settled in Maury County, Tennessee by Marise Parrish Lightfoot – Bicentennial Publication of The Maury County Historical Society. **Page 198 & 199: Appendix A.** (Read the Preface & Bibliography below, of *Let the Drums Roll*. Marise Parrish Lightfoot had done research on all of the Revolutionary Soldiers listed on the plaque at the Post Office Building in Columbia, Tennessee).

PLAQUE IN THE U.S. COURTHOUSE AND POST OFFICE BUILDING,
COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

"To the Memory of Those Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Maury County".

Charles Alexander
Lieut. William Alexander
Capt. William Anderson
Capt. James Armstong¹
George Barker
William Benderman
Jacob Biffle
Capt. Andrew Boyd
Col. Hugh Brown

Zachariah Butler
Pugh Cann²
Robert Caruthers
Thomas Coleman³
Alexander Crawford⁴
Robert Cranford⁵
Adam Dale
Ephraim Davidson⁶
John Davidson
David Dobbins
James S. Dooley
John W. Fall⁷
Nathaniel K. Fitzgerald⁸
Dr. Joshua Frierson
William Frierson⁹
Isaac Gilliam¹⁰
Jacob Gilliam¹¹
William Gordon
Capt. John Griffin
James Hardison
Benjamin Harper¹²
Joseph Haynes
William Henderson
Lieut. Colonel Berry Herndon¹³
James Hill
Maj. James Holland
James Huchison¹⁴
James Hunt¹⁵
John Hunter¹⁶
Mark Jackson
Abner Johnson
John Johnson
Samuel Jones
Joseph Lunn¹⁷
William Linn
Capt. William Littlefield
David Long
David Love
James Love
John Mack
Maj. John Macon
Jared McBride
Capt. McBride
John McClain¹⁸
John McCormack
Edward McFadden
Col. John W. P. McGimpsey
David Mathews
Maj. John Matthews¹⁹
Dr. Samuel Mayes
Edmund May
James Mitchell
Nataniel Moore
Adrian Osborne²⁰
Abraham Parker
Col. Charles Partee²¹

Rev. Joseph Peyton²²
Elisha Pullin²³
James Reese
Reuben Rieves²⁴
William Renfro
Aaron Reynolds
Jacob Seagraves²⁵
Samuel Scott
Rev. James White Stephenson

Source: Alexander Kin II by Charles C. Alexander & Virginia W. Alexander – 1990

WILLIAM was a Lieut. In the Revolutionary War. Descendants cite Bounty Land Warrant 64-200, issued 10 May 1790, as proof of his service. National Archives has the remaining record, other papers in the file having burned when the War Office was destroyed in Nov. 1800. Others cite as proof of service, Colonial & State Records of NC, Vol. 10, p. 539, which states, ‘WILLIAM ALEXANDER is among those who were empowered by the General Assembly to direct the establishing of public Manufactories in their respective districts of good & sufficient muskets & bayonets.’ His name appears on a bronze plaque in the Federal Court House in Columbia to the memory of Revolutionary War Soldiers buried in the county. * *See Story Plaque in the U.S. Courthouse and Post Office Building, Columbia, Tennessee:* <http://www.ajlambert.com>

WILLIAM came to TN, possibly from what is now Cabarrus Co., NC, quite early, first settling, along with **JAMES REESE**, in Sumner Co. WILLIAM bought 50 acres on Bledsoe’s Creek from MATTHEW ALEX. In 1798. This land joined MATTHEW. (Sumner D.B. A/158). The records of Shiloh Presbyterian Church, Sumner Co., are now in the Presbyterian Historical Foundation, Montreat, NC. The church was organized in 1793 & among the early members were WILLIAM, MRS. ALEXANDER, PRUDENCE, ESTHER, PRISCILLA, JOSIAH, 7 DANIEL. WILLIAM bought an additional 25 acres on Bledsoe’s Creek from JAMES WINCHESTER 16 March 1798. (Sumner D.B. A/145). He sold the 75 acres to his son, SILAS, 4 October 1802 (Sumner D. B. 3, pg. 301). WILLIAM sold to SILAS, 4 October 1802, a negro wench ca. 26 years old named Zelpha, his set of blacksmith tools, a horse & filly, 10 cattle, 3 beds & furniture, all of his plantation tools & kitchen furniture. (Sumner NC Grant Book 1, pg. 511). This is likely the time when he gave up or retired from farming and working as a blacksmith. Settlers moved into the area South of the Duck River in Maury Co. as early as 1806, and the county was formed in 1807, so that is likely when WILLIAM moved to the county. His son, SILAS, who had married JAMES REESE’S daughter, was in the county by March 1808, when he sold the 75 acres in Sumner Co. to PATRICK YOREE. (Sumner D. B. 4/330).

Source: Alexander Kin compiled by Charles C. Alexander & Virginia W. Alexander – 1965, reprinted 1979.

Pp: 31,32 &33: **Chapter VIII: WILLIAM ALEXANDER (son of Daniel and Prudence)**

Children of William and Esther/Easter Brown Alexander: (The numbering started with number 2.)

2. Daniel, born July 9, 1767, according to some DAR Records he married Judith Moffatt, but Cabarrus Co., NC Marriage Bond gives the name as Rachel Mauphet and date April 16, 1794, William Wallace as bondsman.
3. Reuben, born Dec. 11, 1768, according to DAR Records married a Reed. Cabarrus Co., NC, records give marriage bond of one Reubin Alexander to Mary Garrison 6 May 1794, with Hezekiah Alexander, Bondsman. One Reuben Alexander was in Smith Co., Tenn., possibly this one.
4. Prudence,² born Dec. 1, 1772, died June 20, 1845, buried Reese’s Chapel, Maury Co., Tenn.
5. Peggy, married George Logan May 27, 1800, Sumner Co., Tenn., Silas Alexander, Bondsman.
6. **Silas, born Sept. 1777, married Sarah Reese, died Fayette Co., Tenn., fall of 1829.**
7. Esther, born Mar. 14, 1781, married Alexander C. Craford (Craford) Dec. 20, 1808, Wilson Henderson, Bondsman, died 29 Sept. 1864, buried Reese’s Chapel, Maury Co., Tenn.
8. Absalom, born 12 July 1783, died 24 Aug. 1847.

9. Alexander Brown, born July 2, 1780, according to DAR Records, but according to 1850 census of Maury Co., Tenn., and his own records, he was born 1787, married Margaret Benderman (he spelled the name Margrit Bennermin) Oct. 3, 1822, Maury Co., Tenn. The ceremony was solemnized by John Matthews. Ebenezer Session Records state he died in 1853.
10. Priscilla, born Oct. 12, 1788, married George Crawford according to DAR Records.

Pp: 34, 35 & 36:

No. 6: Silas Alexander:

Silas Alexander, born September 1777, married Sarah Reese. We know she was Sarah Reese from a letter written on August 11, 1911, by their grandson, Miles T. Abernathy, appearing in "The Abernathy's" by Mable B. McClure. Ebenezer Session Records show that Capt. James Reese and wife Elizabeth Brevard Reese had a daughter named Sarah so we judge that this Sarah Reese who married Silas Alexander was the daughter of James Reese. They probably married in Cabarrus Co., NC, but we have found no record of their marriage. Cabarrus Co. records are partially destroyed.

James Reese was a Captain in the Revolutionary War and a son of David Reese, a signer of the Mecklenburg Declaration, and his wife Susan Ruth (Polk) Reese. James Polk Reese is said by some to have been present at the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration.³

Silas Alexander was an Ensign in the Tennessee Militia, December 10, 1798, in Sumner Co. He appears frequently in the early records of Sumner, serving on the jury as early as 1799. In 1802 he bought a negro wench and blacksmith tools from William Alexander (Sumner Co. Deed Book N.C.G.I., p. 511). In October 1802 he bought 75 acres of land on Bledsoe's Creek from William Alexander (Sumner Co. Deed Book 3, p. 301). He sold this land in March 1808 to Patrick Youree and he is designated as "Silas Alexander of Maruy Co., Tenn." (Sumner Co., Tenn., Deed Book 4, p. 330).

We know that Silas Alexander was living in Maury Co., Tennessee as early as December 21, 1807, when he was named to jury duty by the first term of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the new county of Maury. The earliest deed we find recorded for Silas in Maury Co. is in Deed Book D, p. 395, dated 18 April 1811. Silas bought 150 acres on Little Bigby from James Reese. Many later deeds are recorded for Silas. He owned land on Little Bigby, Sugar Fork of the Big Tombbigby, east fork of Big Bigby, and west side of Little Bigby.

Silas was a trustee of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church (later called Reese's Chapel). On December 22, 1812, James Reese deeded two acres of land to Silas Alexander, Samuel B. McKnight, and Samuel Ashmore, Trustees of Presbyterian Society for a churchyard and burying ground. From "History of Presbytery of Columbia, Tennessee." (see "They Passed This War"), we learned that Ebenezer Church was established as early as 1806, possibly before.

Silas Alexander of Maury Co. served in the War of 1812, as a pvt. in Capt. Dooley's Co., 2nd Regt. West Tenn. Militia, commanded by Col. Thomas McCrory. On March 23, 1816, Silas appointed Milty P. Abernathy his power of attorney to receive payment due him for services. There is some question as to whether the Silas who served in the War of 1812 was Silas, the son of William, or Silas, the grandson of William and the son of Daniel, (nephew of this Silas). A descendant of Silas, son of Daniel, has joined the Texas Society, U.S. Daughters of 1812, citing the above mentioned service of proof.

Ebenezer Session records show the removal of Silas Alexander from the church in 1827. He moved to Fayette Co., Tennessee, at that time, where he died, probably in 1829. On January 11, 1830, his widow, Sarah, and son-in-law, John Y. Abernathy, appeared in Fayette Co. Court asking for letters of administration on the estate of Silas (Fayette Co., Tennessee, Minute Book 1829-31, p. 119). They returned an inventory of the estate on April 12, 1830 (p. 190). Sarah must have returned to Maury Co. after the death of Silas, as did the Abernathys. Sarah lies buried in Reese's Chapel Cemetery, b. February 2, 1778, died November 22, 1839.

Children⁴: of Silas Alexander & Sarah Reese

22. James Orville, b. July 12, 1799, married Drucilla Abernathy March 6, 1821, Maury Co., Tenn., died Sept. 21, 1828.
23. William Reese, b. Jan., 22, 1803.
24. George Logan, b. Jan. 4, 1805, married Martha (Patsy) Combs Mar. 17, 1825; married 2nd Anna Peeler of Calloway Co., KY, died Graves Co., KY, June 23, 1887. George was probably named for his uncle by marriage, George Logan.
25. Matilda Sharp, b. July 18, 1806, married John Y. Abernathy, died July 29, 1856. It is possible that Matilda Sharp was named for her mother's first cousin, Matilda Sharp, the daughter of William Sharp and his wife Ruth Reese Sharp. Ruth was the sister of Capt. James Reese and the daughter of David Reese, Singer of the Mecklenburg Declaration. (Shape information from Worth Ray's Mecklenburg Signers.)
26. Peggy Logan, b. Feb. 19, 1808, probably named for her aunt Peggy who married George Logan, by on source to have married a Smart, but we have found no record of this.
27. Elizabeth Caroline, b. Sept. 19, 1809, by one source said to have married an Ellis, but we cannot verify this.
28. Daniel Americus, b. Sept. 7, 1811, married Sophronia Yokley, died Nov. 10, 1882.
29. Silas Grandison, b. July 7, 1813.
30. Sarah Louiza, b. Jan. 7, 1815.
31. Esther Brown, b. Nov. 20, 1816.
32. Franklin Houston, b. Nov. 25, 1819/
33. Rachel Priscilla, b. Oct. 15, 1821.

Source: Maury County, Tennessee Deed Abstract by Alexander & Priest, V. 1

(Pg. 36): B/97: **JAMES HOUSTON** of Iredell Co., N.C. P. of A., to son, **JAMES H. HOUSTON** of same to collect debts from persons living in Tenn., and to sell 1013 Acres on Little Biby Cr., as bargained and sold by **Joseph B. Porter** and **James Reese** to Thomas Jones. Dated 28 Jan. 1814, Reg. 13 May 1814.

(Pg. 47): B/232: **JAMES W. SMITH** for myself and James W. Smith, Att-in-fact for **Richard Burton** and Att-in-fact for the heirs of **Wm. Smith** and **Samuel Smith**, dec'd all except James W. Smith of Granville Co, N.C. of P. of A. to **Willis Ridley** of Maury to collect money, rents, etc., for heirs of Wm. And Samuel Smith in Maury Co.; also to take possession of tract of land in Maury on east of J. Davison and the Houston tract and on S. of **Reese** and Houston tract, claimed by Robert Burton and by him sold to James W. Smith and Wm. Smith, dec'd. Witness: **Samuel Griffith**, **Adam R. Alexander**. Signed: **Jas. W. Smith**. Dated 27 March 1820. Reg. 25 Apr. 1820.

(Pg. 68): C/141: **JAMES REESE** of Maury Co. to **JAMES HOUSTON**, of Iredale Co., N.C. 200 Acres on waters of Duck River, on Little Tombigby Creek, W. side of said creek, a part of 2000 Acre tract conveyed by Houston to **Reese**., beginning at E. boundary of 2000 Acre tract, intersects John Davison's S. boundary. Signed: **James Reese**. Wit: **Joseph B. Porter**, **James T. Sandford**, **Saml. Frierson**. D: May 24, 1810, Reg. May 17, 1811.

(Pg. 68 & 69): C/142 **JAMES HOUSTON** of Iredale Co., N.C. to **JAMES REESE** of Maury Co. 2000 Acres on waters of Duck River, on Little Tombigby Creek, being part of tract originally granted by State of N. C. to **James Reese**, D: Jan. 1, 1793, #209. The land conveyed to Houston in 1793. Beginning at a hickory and running S. 702 poles, E. 470 pokes, thence 702 poles to Davidson's S. boundary line, thence W. 470 poles to beginning. Wit: **Joseph B. Porter**, **James T. Sandford**, **Sam'l. Frierson**. Signed: **James Houston**. D: May 24, 1810, Reg. May 17, 1811.

(Pg. 80): C/263: **JAMES REES**, gift to son **JOEL REES**, 302 Acres on Little Tom Bigby, being part of 5000 Acre grant by State of N.C., Grant #209, beginning at S.E. corner of 200 Acre tract running W. with S. boundary of 200 Acre tract and S. boundary of tract conveyed to **Samuel B. McKnight**, thence to

McKnight's S.W. corner, thence S., thence E., thence N. to beginning. Wit: **Joseph B. Porter, John Montgomery, Burwell Kannon**. D: July, 1811. Reg: Mar. 14, 1812.

(Pg. 82): C/294: **GEORGE REESE** to **JOHN MATHEWS**, both of Maury, 100 Acres on Little Tom Bigby Creek, part of a 5000 Acre grant to **James Reese** by State of N.C., Joins Joel Reese's S. boundary, S. to James Reese's spring branch. Wit: **Andre McCarty, James H. Reese, N. Thompson**. D: Jan. 23, 1812. Reg: Apr. 24, 1812.

Source: Let the Drums Roll: Veterans and Patriots of the Revolutionary War Who Settled in Maury County, Tennessee by Marise Parrish Lightfoot – Bicentennial Publication of The Maury County Historical Society.

PREFACE: pg. 5

Thirteen years ago Evelyn Bullock Shackelford and I began a project of locating and listing tombstones from abandoned graveyards in Maury County. During the course of this project we found the graves of several veterans of the American Revolution whose names were not listed on the plaque in the U. S. Courthouse and Post Office Building in Columbia, Tennessee, which was dedicated to the memory of "Those Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Maury County." I then decided to try to collect as data as possible on these veterans and to try to located the names of other veterans who may have lived in Maury County, but who may have been buried in unmarked graves or may have moved away from the county before they died.

This book is, therefore, the result of what began as a hobby. I did not work on the project in any systematic manner until 1971, when I compiled the data I had collected into a paper which was presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for Honors in History at Middle Tennessee State University.

The most valuable source of information on the veterans of the American Revolution is the material contained in the applications the men filled out in order that they might obtain pensions based on their service. These applications were often written by men who were not well educated and who spelled phonetically. The punctuation used in the applications was also somewhat precarious. In order not to have a work filled with "sic's," all quotations from pension applications have been copied using the original spelling and punctuation.

I should like to express appreciation individually to all persons who have helped to make this work possible. However, limited space permits that acknowledgement be made only to a very few. Publication of this work has been made possible by financial assistance from the Maury County Historical Society. Member of the Society feel this is an appropriate project for the celebration of the Bicentennial, and I wish to express my appreciation to the entire membership for this assistance. I should also like to thank my husband, Jack LeRoy Lightfoot, who baby-sat, cooked, washed dishes, and displayed great patience with a wife whose home-making activities were neglected for research, writing, and typing. Four women, all of whom are excellent researchers and knowledgeable, local historians, deserve especial thank: Evelyn Bullock Shackelford, Jill Knight Garrett, Virginia Wood Alexander, and Evelyn Brown McAnally. They not only shared their records with me; they also located the names of several of the men and called them to my attention. Finally, my thanks and appreciation go to Dr. James K. Huhta of Middle Tennessee State University, who has read this material so many times he must have parts of it committed to memory.
M.P. L.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE SOLDIERS:

Pg: 156 & 157: James Reese, b. 14 September 1745, PA. Son of David Reese & Elizabeth Brevard.

Daughter, Sarah Polk Reese, born February 2, 1778, married Silas Alexander, and died November 22, 1839. Sarah Polk (Reese) Alexander is buried, Reece's Chapel Cemetery, Maury Co., TN. Silas Alexander moved to Fayette County Tennessee, died and is buried there. Silas Alexander is the s/o William Alexander and Esther/Easter Brown.

Pg. 51: William Alexander, b. 20 January 1745, probably Cecil Co., MD, although some records gave his birthplace as NC. Son of Daniel and Prudence Alexander. *See biography of William Alexander.

Pg. 175: James Stockard, b. 1750, probably in Pennsylvania. He contributed to the cause of the American independence by giving material aid. James Stockard was married to Ellender “Ellen” Trousdale. Their son James Andrew Stockard married Susannah Reese, daughter of James Reese & Elizabeth Brevard.

Source: Let the Drums Roll: Veterans and Patriots of the Revolutionary War Who Settled in Maury County, Tennessee by Marise Parrish Lightfoot – Bicentennial Publication of The Maury County Historical Society.

Pg. 175: **James Stockard** was born about 1750, probably in Pennsylvania. According to family records he was baptized at Christ Church in Philadelphia on February 2, 1760. He moved to North Carolina before the revolution. He contributed to the cause of American independence by giving material aid. **James Stockard** was living in Orange County, North Carolina in 1790 and moved to Maury County, Tennessee about 1807. In 1811 he paid taxes on 223 acres of land on the west fork of Big Bigby Creek in Maury County. He purchased 240 acres of land on Big Bigby Creek on February 2, 1813. One record gave his date of death as July 26, 1818. His widow, **Ellender Stockard**, was listed as the head of her household in the 1820 Maury County census records. **James and Ellender “Ellen” Trousdale Stockard were the parents of at least ten children. John Stockard** was named in a settlement among the heirs of James Stockard. **William Stockard** was born August 11, 1775 in Orange County, North Carolina; married **Leah Mann** in that county on January 28, 1797; and died in Maury County, November 17, 1837. **James Andrew Stockard married Susannah Reese, daughter of James Reese. Joseph Stockard**, who was born before 1794, married **Elizabeth Croford** in Maury County on or after January 13, 1810. **Nancy Stockard** was born August 25, 1783; married **David Craig, Junior**; and died in Maury County, February 1, 1828. **Samuel Stockard** married **Mira L.** (last name unknown). He died in September, 1843. **Richard Stockard was born July 5, 1790; married Elizabeth Johnson, September 23, 1813, and Cynthia Hill, October 20, 1836; and died in Maury County, June 5, 1850. Elenor Stockard** was born October 19, 1792; married **William Hunter** on or after September 28, 1810; and died in Maury County, April 21, 1833. **Margaret Stockard** married **Lazarus Andrews** before November, 1821; and **Maury Stockard**, born in 1794, married **Henry Grimes**, January 27, 1818.¹⁶⁷

¹⁶⁷Whitley, *Tennessee Roster*, pp. 1476-77, contains some incorrect data; *DAR Patriot Index*, p. 650; Garrett and Lightfoot, *Maury County, Tennessee Chancery Court Records*, I, 233, 257; *1790 Census: North Carolina*, p. 92; Lightfoot, “1811 Tax List,” p. 33; Maury County Deed Books B-1, p. 320; E-1, p. 134; Garrett and Lightfoot, *1820 Census*, p. 133; Lightfoot and Shackelford, *They Passed This Way*, A-3, 5, 8, 8-a; Lightfoot, “North Carolina Marriage Records for Maury County Families,” p. 35; Maury County Marriage Book 1, p. 15; original Marriage Bonds in Maury County Courthouse; *Maury County Cousins*, p. 662-63, contains records for **Richard Stockard’s Bible**; Porch, *Maury County 1850 Census*, p. 61; Alfred H. Stockard, “The Stockard Family, European Origin and Colonial and Revolutionary War Period” (unpublished typescript, compiled in 1964, copy in possession of Mrs. William Love, Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee), pp. 3-4,6.

Source: Mary McClain-Richardson: Genealogy.com: Subject: Stockards’ buried at Hunter Cemetery, Mt. Pleasant, Maury Co., TN.

Esq. William Stockard – b. 11 August 1775 – d. 17 November 1837. 62nd yr. of his age. (Orange Co., NC marriages: Wm. Stockard to Lear Mann, 28 January 1797; wife later moved to Mississippi). Ref. #1316/1317. This is a very large tombstone that has broken in half and laying on the ground of the base.

Richard Stockard, Esq. – b. *July 5, 1790* – d. 5 June 1850. 59-11-00. (Son of James & Ellender Trousdale Stockard; Tombstone fallen and badly faded). (Hunter Meetinghouse – see bio at end of listing)

Elizabeth Stockard, dates unknown. (Consort of James Stockard).

Stockard -Footstone: E. D. S.

Stockard, Richard: Born the 5th of July 1790, the eight child of ten born to James and Ellender Tousdale Stockard, who married in 1755 and came from Pennsylvania to Orange Co., North Carolina and then to Maury County, Tennessee. James Stockard was a Revolutionary War soldier and died before 1822 in Maury County. Richard Stockard's mother, Ellen Stockard was born in Scotland and died in Maury Co., TN, in 1810. Richard was married twice, first to Elizabeth Johnson on 23 September 1818. They had a daughter named Sarah Ann Stockard (buried McClain Cemetery). Richard Stockard's second wife the widow Cynthia McLean Hill (daughter of Ephraim and Polly Boyd McLean of Snow Creek), 20 October 1836. Richard and Cynthia had a son named Samuel McLean Stockard the recipient of the famous "Stockard Letter by Alney Hite McLean".

Source: Maury County, Tennessee Deed Abstract by Alexander & Priest, V. 1

(Pg. 42): B/178: JAMES STOCKARD of Maury to DAVID CRAIG – bill of sale for negro girl. Witness: William Hunter. Signed; JAMES STOCKARD. Dated 2 January 1816. Reg. January 1819.

(Pg. 50): B/261: Received of MOSES D. HARPER, \$550, being price of my plantation sold by BENJAMIN HARPER, authorized by P. of A. to sell plantation in Lancaster Dist., S.C., which was assigned to me, by my heirs, MOSES D. HARPER and THOMAS M.C. HARPER, and PATSY HARPER, now the wife of TENNESSEE ROPER, which money I have give to MOSES D. HARPER and THOMAS M.C. for their benefit. Signed: MARY HARPER. Witness: **JAMES STOCKARD**. Dated 8 November 1819. Reg. 5 July 1820.

(Pg. 55): B/320: WILLIAM STOCKARD, JOHN STOCKARD, JAMES STOCKARD, JOSEPH STOCKARD, RICHARD STOCKARD, SAMUEL STOCKARD; LAZARUS ANDREWS and wife ELINOR, **for consideration of proportionable part of the divided estate of our ancestor and father, JAMES STOCKARD, SR., now dec'd.** - Deed of negro to HENRY GRIMES and our sister, MARY GRIMES: Signed: WILLIAM STOCKARD, RICHARD STOCKARD, JOHN STOCKARD, JOSEPH STOCKARD, SAMUEL STOCKARD, WILLIAM HUNTER, ELINOR HUNTER, LAZARUS ANDREWS, MARGARET ANDREWS; DAVID CRAIG, NANCY CRAIG. Witness: ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, WM. SHAW. Dated 14 November, 1821. reg. 25 July 1822.

Source: MAURY COUNTY, TENNESSEE CEMETERIES Vol. I and Vol. II: Compiled by Fred Lee Hawkins, Jr. Volume II: pg.774: Hunter Cemetery, Maury Co., TN. From Mt. Pleasant go south on Hwy. #43, take the left fork, entering Enterprise Road (Old Military Highway). After the railroad crossing, the cemetery is on left side of the road. The western part is the ld Hunter (White) part and the eastern section is the modern Hunter (Black) portion of the cemetery.

pg. 779: Esq. William Stockard – b. 11 August 1775 – d. 17 November 1837. 62nd yr. of his age. (Orange Co., NC marriages: Wm. Stockard to Lear Mann, 28 January 1797; wife later moved to Mississippi).

pg. 779: Richard Stockard – d. 5 June 1850. 59-11-00. (Son of James & Ellender Trousdale Stockard; Tombstone fallen and badly faded).

pg. 779: Elizabeth Stockard, dates unknown. (Consort of James Stockard).

pg. 779: Stockard -Footstone: E. D. S.

Source: Maury County Marriages 1824-1837

Richard Stockard married Svathia Hill 10/20/1836

Source: Find a grave: <http://findagrave.com>

Birth: 5 July 1790 - Death: June 5, 1850:

Richard Stockard was one of the founders of the Mt. Joy Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He was born 5 July 1790 the eight child of ten born to James and Ellender Trousdale Stockard. Richard was married twice,

first to Elizabeth Johnson on Sept 23, 1813 in Maury Co., and second to Cynthia McLean Hill,(widow of John Hill, and daughter of Ephraim and Polly Boyd McLean) married Oct. 20, 1836.

Richard and Elizabeth were the parents of Sarah Ann Stockard. Richard and Cynthia were the parents of Samuel McLean Stockard, the recipient of the "Stockard Letter" written by Alney H. McLean.

Richard was a Justice of the Peace. He settled on what is known as the Frierson lands where Staffeur Chemical Co. stood. On his tombstone is the inscription; "He lived a Christian and died in the Lord."

Burial:

[Hunter Cemetery](#)

Mount Pleasant (Maury County)

Maury County

Tennessee, USA

Posted by: Mary Bob McClain Richardson

Bio and Links: Born and raised in Lewis and Maury County, Tennessee. Member of the National Society of Children of the American Revolutionary War since 1958. My favorite cemetery is McClain Cemetery in Lewis Co. TN It is out family cemetery. Maury Co., TN has many historical cemeteries, St. John's, Zion Cemetery, Hunter, Bailey, Lawrence to mention just a few. Many Rev. War soldiers are buried in Maury Co. also many Civil War Generals and soldiers.

Please, feel free to e-mail me with any corrections or additional information that needs to be posted at one of the cemeteries I have contributed to.

Trumpshallblow17@aol.com

SURNAMES/

McLean/McClain/Cooper/Kennedy/Hunt/Stockard/Kilpatrick/Goodman/Beckum/Pickard/Kelsey/Hamilton/King/Duncan/Oaks/Hurst/Maxwell/Grimes/Clendenin/McMillan

Sarah Ann (dau. of Richards Stockard b 5 July 1790 in N.C.; d. 5 Jun 1850; the tenth child of James & Ellender Trousdale b. Scotland; married in Pa in 1744 moved to Orange Co., N.C.; and Elizabeth Johnson; mar.23 Sept 1813 Maury Co.) Sarah Ann's father Richard is buried at Hunter Cemetery. She married Weakley Gordon Kennedy, C.S.A. (son of John & Barbara Gordon Kennedy of Paint Lick, Ky.)W.G. Kennedy was a P.O.W. in St. Louis Mo.; died 21 Mar 1862, buried Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, Mo. Weakley and Sarah Ann were the parents:

- 1 Mandy Kennedy Christian
- 2 Robert Franklin Kennedy
- 3 James William Kennedy
- 4 John Jonas Kennedy
- 5 David O. Kennedy
- 6 Victoria Ann Kennedy Pollock (Tom)

After the death of W.G. Kennedy, Sarah Ann married James Pugh who lived only for 2 months. Then she married Wesley Scribner a widow man from Illinois, they were married about 5 years when he died and later she married Caleb S. Williams one of the founders of the Mt. Joy Cumberland Presbyterian Church. She joined the church in 1883.

She had a half brother named Samuel McLean Stockard the son of Richard Stockard and his second wife, the widow of John Hill; Cynthia McLean Hill Stockard (dau of Ephraim McLean and Polly Boyd McLean; sister of John McClain b 1771-1881 that is also buried at McClain Cemetery.

Burial:

[McClain Cemetery](#)

Lewis County

Tennessee, USA

Plot: tombstone place 2004

Record added: Sep 6 2002
By: Mary Bob McClain Richardson

Source: Mary Bob McClain Richardson:

WILLIAMS, Sara Ann Stockard Kennedy Pugh Scribner, 23 Oct. 1834 - 10 Sept. 1917. Sarah Ann (daughter of Richard Stockard (b.5 July 1790 in N.C. - d. 6 Jun 1850; the tenth child of James & Ellender Trousdale Stockard (b. Scotland, mar. in Pa. in 1744; moved to Orange Co., N.C.); and Elizabeth Johnson; mar. 23 Sept 1813 Maury Co., TN); Sarah Ann's father Richard is buried at Hunter Cemetery. She married Weakley Gordon Kennedy, C.S.A. Pvt., (son of John & Barbara Gordon Kennedy of Pain Lick, Ky.) W. G. Kennedy was a P.O.W. in St. Louis Mo.; died 21 March 1862, buried Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, Mo. Weakley and Sarah Ann's children are: Mandy Kennedy Christian, Robert Franklin Kennedy, James William Kennedy, John Jonas Kennedy, David O. Kennedy, and Victoria Ann Kennedy Pollock (Tom). After the death of W.G. Kennedy, Sarah Ann married James Pugh who lived only 2 months, then she married Wesley Scribner a widow man from Illinois, they were married about 5 years when he died and later she married Caleb S. Williams one of the founders of the Mt. Joy Cumberland Presbyterian Church. She joined the church in 1883. She had a half brother named Samuel McLean Stockard (The recipient of the "Famous Stockard Letter from Alney Hite McLean), the son of Richard Stockard and his second wife, the widow of John Hill; Cynthia McLean Hill Stockard (daughter of Ephraim McLean and Polly Boyd McLean; sister of John McClain(b. 1771 - 1881.), also buried at McClain Cemetery. (Our paternal Great Great Grandmother)

McCLAIN CEMETERY, LEWIS COUNTY near the MAURY/LEWIS COUNTY LINE

The following was written by Mary Bob McClain Richardson and is dedicated to the memory of her father

ROBERT MATTHEW McCLAIN (1926 - 2003).

McClain Cemetery is located approximately 1/4 mile across the Maury County into Lewis County, Tennessee. The land for McClain Cemetery was donated by W.T. McClain the son of John and Elizabeth McMillan McClain; and an early founder of the Mt. Joy Church. This family was the first to be buried at McClain's. Nearby is the Macedonia Church of Christ, in the middle of a fork in the road, right side being Mt. Joy Rd. This church used to be the Old Macedonia School house, the first school I ever attended. Miss Ava Stockard was my 1st grade teacher and her sister Miss Annie Stockard was the substitute teacher. My sister Elizabeth "Liz", 2 years my junior was in the first grade with me at age 4. Now how can that be? You might be thinking. Well, this was a very small community and the only school for miles. My mother told me that, she was asked to put my sister in school because if the school didn't have a certain number of children, then there would be no school.

Source: Let the Drums Roll: Veterans and Patriots of the Revolutionary War Who Settled in Maury County, Tennessee by Marise Parrish Lightfoot – Bicentennial Publication of The Maury County Historical Society.

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<http://www.ajlambert.com>

MAURY COUNTY TENNESSEE
HISTORY AND FAMILIES
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Maury County, Tennessee Historical Society
Pg. 293: JENNIE JO HARDISON

Jennie Jo Hardison. She often said just put preservationist on her tombstone as that was the memory she wanted to leave as the "end of the line". Jennie Jo Hardison was into preservation in Columbia before preservation was popular, and this has been evident by the organizations in which she has participated. Jennie Jo is the immediate past president of the Maury County Historical Society, and has been the MCHS secretary, president of the Maury County Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities, a member of the Columbia Regional Planning Commission for 12 years in which for four years she served as secretary, a current member of the Columbia Regional Planning Historical Zoning Commission serving as its secretary for over a decade, co-chairman of the Tennessee Bicentennial Celebration for Maury County, a board member for Rippavilla from its inception as headquarters of the First Antebellum Trail in Tennessee, and a member, secretary, and current chairman of the board of the Maury County Benefit Ball. Jennie Jo has gladly given her time to preservation as this has become her life in lieu of the children she never had. Yes, she will tell you she has been married too many times.

Family history was the origin of her name as her parents Annie Ruth Cheatham Hardison and Evan Hardison chose to use a combination of her maternal grandparents' names Jennie and Joel Louis Cheatham in naming their only child. The Cheatham and Hardison lines can be traced to Revolutionary War land grant settlers in the very beginning year of Maury County. **The Cheatham lineage can be traced from Joel Louis Cheatham to Joe Newton Cheatham and his wife Margaret, her father, Joel Brevard Stockard, his father James Stockard II who married Susannah Reese, daughter of James Polk Reese, Revolutionary War captain who gave from his grant #209 land to build a church. This is thought to be the only land in Maury County that has been claimed and granted but never sold. This church is Reese's Chapel and/or Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, where more Revolutionary War soldiers are buried in one cemetery than any other location in Maury. James Reese's father was David Reese, one of the signers of the Mecklenburg Declaration, which preceded the United States Declaration of Independence. James Reese and his family lived in the territory south to the River Ohio in 1788, before Tennessee's statehood in 1796.**

The Reese family migrated from the Mecklenburg and Orange counties of North Carolina where David Reese and wife, Susan Ruth Polk Reese, lived thus the Polk lineage is included in Jennie Jo's

family tree. All the Polks including the lines of James Knox Polk and Col. William Polk are to have originated from one Robert Bruce Polk whose ancestors can be traced from Ireland, Scotland, the Mecklenburg region of north-east Germany, and ultimately the Moravian region of today's Czech Republic. This family obviously respected and remembered their family history by using the Moravian and Mecklenburg names in North Carolina when it was just a colony. Jennie Jo is continuing this precedent by naming a subdivision she is developing on inherited land, Mecklenburg West. The land is west of all other Reese/Polk landholdings by the same name.

Jennie Jo was born July 3, 1942, as the last member of one branch of the family tree. She attended McDowell, Whitthorne, and Central public schools. Her Bachelor's Degree, with a major in geography, is from the University of Tennessee, and she acquired from MTSU her Master's in curriculum and instruction and her Ed.S. (Education Specialist Degree) in administration and supervision. She is beginning her 29th year of teaching world geography and Tennessee history at Whitthorne. An avocation she enjoyed, as it fulfilled a girlhood dream of becoming an airline stewardess, was realized when Jennie Jo was a stewardess with Braniff international and afterwards a charter stewardess for nine years. Is it possible that wandering is also a part of this family tree? Regardless, it is evident that respect and reverence for ancestors, history, and preservation are attributes of this Maury County citizen. Jennie Jo plans to have her home, the Lucius Frierson Home, at 400 West Seventh Street, at her death become a property of the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities. It was in 1978 placed on the National register of Historical Places.

<http://www.ajlambert.com>