

The John Boyd Family
By Carol L. Hall (great-great granddaughter)
4057 Gayle Circle
Cookeville, TN 38501
pg. 121 & pg. 235
Stray Leaves from Putnam Co., TN by Mary Hopson

John Boyd was the son of William Boyd and Mary Wassom Boyd. William, born in VA, was the son of George Boyd. The family moved to Orange County, NC. William and Mary had five known children: John Boyd, who married Mary Elizabeth Leath; Henry S. Boyd, who married Susannah Baumgartner; Elizabeth Boyd, who married John Lane; Nancy Boyd, who married John L. Young; and Richard Boyd, who married Rachel Horton.

William later married Nancy Small on February 7, 1833, and was living with her at the time of his death, February 14, 1847.

John Boyd was born December 9, 1777 and died August 20, 1837. He served in the War of 1812. He married Mary Elizabeth Leath on December 16, 1801, in Anderson County, Tennessee. Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Ephraim Leath, Jr., and Nancy Jones Leath, was born August 29, 1785 in VA and died in 1882. She and John are buried in the Boyd Cemetery near Buffalo Valley, Putnam County, TN.

John and Elizabeth (Leath) Boyd had 14 children as follows:

William Boyd married Polly Johnson and moved to TX before the Civil War; Nancy Boyd married William Harvey and moved to MS before the Civil War.

Mary Boyd, born November 19, 1806, and died in 1873 in Dade County, GA, married Alford Cross. They had eight children. Their oldest daughter, Mary Elizabeth, visited her grandparents, John and Elizabeth Boyd in Putnam County. While there, she met and later married Louis Temple Leftwich, on February 12, 1845. Descendants remain in Putnam County.

Elizabeth Boyd, born December 2, 1808, married William Vance. Their 11 children were born in TN, but the family later moved to Industry, IL.

Ephraim L. Boyd, born September 16, 1810, married Martha "Mattie" Johnson. They lived in GA for a while and moved to TX where they died. Their nine children were born in TN, GA, and TX. Their descendants still live in TX.

Lavin Boyd, born May 13, 1812, married Joseph Johnson. They had ten children.

James Robert Boyd, born April 22, 1814, married Martha Ann Selman. Both died in Cherokee County, TX. Their 13 children were born in AL, LA, and TX. Their descendants still live in TX.

Malinda Boyd, born December 10, 1816, died young.

John C. Boyd, born September 3, 1820, married Martha Holladay. They had seven children. Three of the children lived to be grown. They were Sarah Jan Boyd, born in 1842; James Alexander Boyd, born December 4, 1843, died October 7, 1929, married Rhoda Frances Nichols; Thomas Jefferson Boyd, born December 29, 1854, died February 28, 1903, married Malissa Florilla Jared.

John C. and Martha Boyd, along with their children, were on their way to TX in 1856 to visit relatives. Along the way, they developed typhoid fever. John C., Martha, and four children died. These four were: William, Frances, Martha, and Stephen. Jefferson W. Boyd, brother of John C., and Joseph Holladay, brother of Martha, went west and brought the three surviving children home. James Alexander was one of the surviving children.

Alexander Boyd, born October 12, 1821, married Aletha Evans. They had nine children.

Jefferson Wiseman Boyd, born December 1, 1823, died January 28, 1891, married Mary Ann "Polly" Jared. They had six children.

Anna Boyd, born March 26, 1825, married Ransom Marchbanks.

Bransford Boyd, born January 13, 1831 died August 1, 1861, while in the Confederate Army, married Eliza Jane Jared. They had four children.

Descendants of John and Elizabeth Boyd are scattered throughout Putnam County, TN and the United States.

Bransford Boyd

Pvt. F. Co. 16th Inf.

b. 13 June 1831 – d. 1 August 1861

Killed in service.

s/o John & Elizabeth Leath Boyd

Married: Elizabeth Jane Jared

Buried: Davidson County, TN

James Alexander Boyd

Lt. 16th Inf. – C.S.A.

b. 4 December 1843 – d. 7 October 1927

s/o John C. & Martha Holladay Boyd

Married: Rhoda Frances "Fannie" Nichols

*See Chapter 9 – Capt. William Jared Family for family listings.
See Chapter 8 – Joseph Jared Family for family listings.*

Obituary of James Alexander Boyd
b. 4 December 1843, Jackson Co., TN
d. 7 October 1927, Baxter, Putnam Co., TN
md 5 October 1866, Putnam Co., TN
Rhoda Frances "Fannie" Nichols
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By Carol Bradford

James A. Boyd, Cookeville, TN, October 8th. Confederate veteran and one of the best know and most highly respected citizens of Putnam County and the oldest Mason of this county died Friday at his home in Baxter, this county. He was 82 years old and had spent his entire life in this county except during his four years service in the Confederate Army. In April 1861, he volunteered as a soldier in the first company of Confederate soldiers organized in Putnam, Capt. H.H. Dillard's company of Col. John H. Savage's regiment.

During the last several months of the civil war he was held as a prisoner of war in the Rock Island prison, having been captured, as he lay wounded on the battlefield.

Mr. Boyd devoted his life to farming and for many years was active in the public affairs of this county. Intense in his devotion to the Southern cause, he attended every general reunion of the Confederate veterans.

From his young manhood he was a devoted member of the Southern Methodist church, being a member of the noted old Pleasant Grove congregation, the oldest Methodist church of this county. He served for twenty-five years as superintendent of the Sunday school of this county.

In his young manhood he married Miss Fannie Nichols of this county, who preceded him in death. He is survived by three grown children, John C. Boyd and D.B. Boyd of Baxter and Mrs. Henry Holleman of Granville. His eldest son, W.L. Boyd died two years ago.

Funeral services were conducted at Baxter, TN.

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