

Story of the John Webb Family
By Jeff White
Smith County, Tennessee History
By Sue W. Maggart, Nina R. Sutton, Editors
Pgs. 750 & 751



John and Mary (Paty) Webb

John Webb, son of John and Sarah Black Webb, was born in Tennessee on July 15, 1814 and migrated to Smith County at an early age.

Sometime around 1845, John married Mary Paty who was born February 10, 1827 in Smith County. Mary was the daughter of Charles and Rachael Paty.

John and Mary settled near Gordonsville and became the parents of the following children. 1.) James W. born October 10, 1845; married first Narcissus Manning on December 20, 1865 and second Susan M. Turner on February 13, 1878. James W. died October 17, 1917. 2.) Susan born circa 1848. 3.) Eliza born March 9, 1850; married Lemuel Butts on August 8, 1871 and

died May 14, 1903. 4.) Mary Jane born January 6, 1852 and married Isaac Manning on January 3, 1867. 5.) Sarah F. born December 22, 1853 and married David J. Haynes on August 11, 1871. 6.) Fannie born April 18, 1856; married Lewis Allison on January 18, 1877 and died March 10, 1939. 7.) Rebecca born circa 1858. 8.) Rachael born May 26, 1860; married John Haynes on January 17, 1876 and died April 5, 1897. 9.) Nancy born October 30, 1862 and married James Allison on October 7, 1877. 10.) Callie E. born circa 1865; married first W.B. Allison on November 28, 1881 and second Cloud Denney on October 11, 1885.

Like most of his contemporaries, John derived his livelihood from the soil. He was also an active Christian and is listed in 1878 as being a deacon of Macedonia Baptist Church in J. H. Grimes History of Middle Tennessee Baptists.

On May 18, 1906, John's beloved wife Mary died at the age of 79 and was laid to rest in the cemetery behind Macedonia Baptist Church.

After Mary's death, John moved into the home of his widowed daughter, Mrs. Sarah Haynes. It was at her home near Gordonsville on July 15, 1914 that John celebrated his 100th birthday among a gathering of family and friends. According to family tradition, on his 100th birthday, clad in a new pair of overalls, John climbed upon his mule and made a journey to the store. This no doubt was done more for the benefit of the crown than out of necessity.

At John's death on January 1, 1916, he was over the age of 101 and was nearing the age of his mother who lived to be 104. John was laid to rest beside his wife Mary in the cemetery behind Macedonia Baptist Church near New Middleton, thus ending a long and fruitful life.

James W. Webb
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James W. Webb was born October 10, 1845 near Gordonsville in Smith County, Tennessee. He was the eldest child and only son of John and Mary Paty Webb.

On January 23, 1865 at the age of nineteen, James went to Carthage and enlisted in the Union army as a private in Company G, 4th Regiment Tennessee Mounted Infantry. His enlistment papers describe him as being five feet, nine inches tall with black eyes, black hair and a florid complexion. While in the service, James contracted measles and spent some time in a Lebanon hospital. The drugs given to him to cure the measles had ill effects which aggravated him for the remainder of his life. After James was discharged with his company in Nashville on August 25, 1865, he returned to Smith County and resumed his occupation as a farmer.

On December 20, 1865, James married Narcissus Manning and this union produced the following children. 1.) John Frank born September 12, 1866; married Luvella Carpenter on October 20, 1892 and moved to Texas. 2.) Robert L. born December 20, 1867; married Jennie Oakley July 7, 1895 and died April 12 1957. 3.) Mary E. born October 19, 1870 and married John B. Harrison on November 24, 1892. 4.) Sarah Jane born May 12, 1872. Sarah was married twice, the last time to a Dawson. 5.) Lula A. born July 24, 1874 and married James Manning on November 10, 1892.

Narcissus, the first wife of James W. Webb died January 18, 1876 leaving her husband and five children.

A little over two years later on February 13, 1878, James married his second wife, Susan M. Turner. They were married near New Middleton by J.W. Saulman, Minister of the Gospel. Susan was born near Alexandria in DeKalb County, Tennessee on January 5, 1859 and was the daughter of Hezekiah and Alley Ellis Turner. This marriage between James and Susan resulted in the following children: 1.) William Edgar born December 19, 1878; married Ida Manning on December 24, 1899 and moved to Ohio. 2.) Nelia B. born July 14, 1880; married first Charles Manning on October 29, 1899 and second Frank Taylor on November 2, 1919. Nelia died in 1927. 3.) Alice Foster born

September 11, 1886; married James Robert White August 11, 1907 and died May 16, 1966.

During his older years, James was burdened with bad health and for this reason he was given a pension of \$6.00 per month for his service in the army. This pension started May 24, 1894 and continued until his death on October 17, 1917 at which time he was 72 years of age. His wife Susan passed away shortly thereafter on August 22, 1918 at the age of 59. Both are buried in the cemetery behind Macedonia Baptist Church near New Middleton, Tennessee.



James W. and Susan M. Turner Webb, married February 13, 1878. James was a Union Army veteran; the badge he is wearing is said to be a "captured cannon medal."