

MINERVA EVALINE MCCALED GENTRY STONE

Showing five generations in her family



Source: West Cemetery near Cookeville, TN home published book by James & Winne E. (Lee) Peterson – sales went towards the West Cemetery Maintenance fund.
Some information added by Audrey J. (Denny) Lambert.

Reading left to right: Everett Montgomery holding his son, Dallas, Florence Bray Montgomery, Fannie Gentry Bray, Minerva Evaline McCaleb Gentry Stone.

Minerva Evaline “Nevie” McCaleb was born January 6, 1841, Jackson Co., TN, daughter of Capt. Samuel Vanransalear Asiel Silo Moore McCaleb and Ellenor “Nellie” Rhea Ray. Minerva married Willie “Wiley” B. Gentry about 1858, a Union soldier in the Civil War. He was killed at the Battle of Murfreesboro, TN. Nervie said they could hear the roaring of cannons as the battle was going on and they knew that some of the family was fighting in that battle. Some time during the battle, which lasted from December 31, 1862 through January 2, 1863, Wiley was buried in the Nashville National Cemetery, 1420 Gallatin Road South, Madison, TN – Section B, grave 6458. Wiley was the son of Robert Gentry & Nancy Harris.

Later Minerva married Thomas D. Stone. They divorced before 1880. She reared her children by herself, mostly, and saw that each one of them received a good education. She appears to be holding a Bible in her hand in the picture above. This tells us where she got the strength to become the strong woman that she was. Her home was on a farm now owned by Roy Bailey on Cane Creek Road in Putnam Co., TN. She died May 19, 1927 and is buried in West Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN. She was the mother of seven children.

1. Frances Eleanor "Fannie" Gentry md John M. Bray
2. Rev. Wiley Gentry Jr. md Nancy Elizabeth "Lizzie" Myers
3. Rev. Joseph Windfield M. Stone md Cynthia L. Bray
4. Rev. Elihu Whitley Stone md Susan F. "Susie" Harris
5. Dillard Bloomfield Stone md in Texas
6. Olive Ann "Ollie" Stone md Henry Sparks
7. George Washington "Washie" Stone md Della Jones

Minerva Evaline (McCaleb) Gentry Stone Obt.

A Noted Mother Passed Away –

The sudden death of Mrs. M. E. Stone (more commonly known as "Aunt Minerva") at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Henry Sparks last Thursday afternoon, removed one of the most beloved and noted mothers in this section, from our midst.

She was born January 5, 1841, died May 19, 1927, age 86 years and 5 months. She lived to see the fifth generation. Many Upper Cumberland News readers will recall the picture in its pages last summer of her, her daughter, granddaughter, great grandson and great great grandson all together. Another unusual fact was that she was the mother of 3 Baptist preachers while the youngest son, G. W. was an ordained Deacon.

She was twice married, and is surviving by 7 children; Rev. W. B. Gentry of Cookeville; Mrs. John Bray, Cookeville, Rt. 2 by her first marriage, and four sons and one daughter by her second marriage as follows: Rev. J. W. Stone Bloomington Springs; Rev. E. W. Stone, Nashville; Dillard Stone, Checotah, OK; G. W. Stone, Sparta, Rt. 4, and Mrs. Henry Sparks, Cookeville, Rt. 2. Also by 4 grandchildren, 72 great grandchildren and 4 great great grandchildren. Although she had been ill, not long ago, she apparently recovered, and remained active and mentally alert to the end, walking about and greeting friends not 30 minutes before her death. Her son E. W. and wife of Nashville were with her at the time of her death.

She was a member of Cane Creek Baptist Church and loved it dearly. She will be greatly missed by the whole church who feel that truly a "mother in Israel" is gone. While the loss of her encouragement and wise counsel will be keenly felt by her children, neighbors and friends, yet she lives on in the lives of her minister sons, who are proclaiming the gospel of the Savior she taught them to love.

Card of Thanks:

We wish to thank all our friends and neighbors for every act of kindness shown us in our recent bereavement in the sudden death of our mother. May God's richest blessings rest on each of you who helped in anyway to make the burden lighter, is our prayer.

Mrs. Henry Sparks, and Brothers and Sisters.

Putnam County Herald, TN: 26 May 1927, Thursday, pg. 4.

Olive Ann (Stone) Sparks Obt.

b. 19 February 1875, Putnam Co., TN – d. 28 March 1950, Putnam Co., TN, md **Henry F. Sparks**, b. 26 February 1869, TN – d. 3 March 1959, Putnam Co., TN. Olive Ann (Stone) Sparks, d/o **Thomas Stone & Minerva McCaleb**. Olive Ann and Henry F. Sparks are both buried in Crest Lawn Cemetery, Putnam Co., TN.

Rites Wednesday For Mrs. H. F. Sparks:

Funeral services for Mrs. Olive Ann Sparks, 75, were held Wednesday afternoon at the First Baptist Church with the Rev. Bob N. Ramsey and the Rev. A. M. Senter officiating. Burial was in Judd cemetery.

Mrs. Sparks died early Tuesday morning at her home on Buffalo Valley road following a short illness.

A daughter of the late Thomas and Minerva McCaleb Stone, she was a native of Putnam County. She was a member of the Baptist church.

Survivors include her husband, Henry F. Sparks; two daughters, Mrs. Clure Coffelt, Cookeville; Mrs. Jasper Kinniard, Detroit; two sons, E. H. Sparks, Cookeville, and Dillard Sparks, Watertown; and two brothers, the Rev. E. W. Stone, Nashville, and G. W. Stone, Sparta.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, 30 March 1950

*See Chapters 7 & 14 at:

<http://www.ajlambert.com>