

Obt. Of Benjamin Franklin Birdwell

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BIRDWELL: The following obituary appeared in the Jackson County Sentinel: "Benjamin F. Birdwell was born October 6, 1841, on Flynn's Creek, Jackson Co., Tennessee, where he resided until his death, which occurred at his late residence near Clenny, Tennessee (where Rush Fork runs into Flynn's Creek) on the 19th of March, except a period of seven years during his boyhood which he spent in Missouri." "In September, 1861, he enlisted in Co. E, 28th Tennessee Infantry CSA under Col. John P. Murry. He participated in the following battles: Fishing Creek, Shiloh (sic), Missionary Ridge, and in all the battles on the retreat on Atlanta. After the fall of Atlanta, he returned to Tennessee with Gen. Hood and was in the fight at Franklin where he lost his right arm and was captured and sent as a prisoner of war to Camp Chase where he remained until the close of the war." "He returned home...May, 1865. In November (1865)... he married Aletha Billingsley. She lived a few short years and after her death he married Miss Adlissia Wheeler who survived him only a few short weeks... He became a member of the Christian Church in 1861... He was a charter member of S.S. Stanton Bivouac UAC at Gainesboro and remained an honored member beloved and respected...by all who knew him until he was summoned by the Great Captain to answer the last roll call on Earth and to enlist in the Army of the Redeemed on High."

Benjamin Birdwell was an early settler in Jackson County, Tennessee. He married Adlissia Wheeler, and they had 5 children.

1. Thomas Wilson Birdwell – md Emma Kirby
2. Wheeler L. Birdwell – md Edna Young
3. Leathia "Nannie" Birdwell – md Doxie West
4. Lennie Birdwell – md Hannah
5. Bamie Laura Birdwell – b. 9 April 1875 – md Daniel March Davis

Ben Birdwell lost his right arm at the elbow during the Battle of Franklin in the Civil War. The loss of his arm did not keep him from any task except that of tying his shoelaces. Following the war, he served two terms as County Court Clerk of Jackson Co., TN.

Both Ben Birdwell and his wife, Adlissia, died in 1898 and were buried in the Wheeler Cemetery, Shepardsville Road in the seventh district of Jackson Co., TN.

Information taken from the book – pg. 62 & 63 - The Jackson Co. Family History Book – 200 Years of Memories presented by The Jackson Historical Society – 1996.