

CARR FAMILY: F204

Smith County History

By Smith County Homecoming '86 Heritage Committee

Smith County, Tennessee

pg. 432



Winfield Scott Carr (1849-1907). Camp Shipp ca. 1898.

In the early 1800's, two brothers, **William Joseph Henry** and **Elijah Kerr**, moved from Virginia to Silver Point, Tennessee. There is some disagreement among local historians on the birthplaces of these men and facts about their lives before they settled at Silver Point, but it is generally agreed that their father was a Revolutionary War soldier of the English-Irish descent.

These two men eventually adopted the English spelling of their name, C-A-R-R. Regardless of this, some of their descendants chose to keep the original spelling (K-E-R-R), while others used both spellings at different times during their lives.

William Joseph Henry was married to **Naomi Jared**, daughter of **Revolutionary War hero Joseph Jared**. He was influential in establishing Putnam County from the existing surrounding counties and served as its first Circuit Court Clerk in 1842.

William Joseph Henry and **Naomi** raised six sons and three daughters. The oldest of their sons was **James R. Carr** who was born in 1811.

James R. married **Caroline Allen** of the Carroll County, Virginia Allens. Caroline was from a prestigious family of which some had moved to Tennessee about the same time as the Carrs. Caroline had an aunt, **Sophia Allen**, who was the wife of **George Washington's** nephew, **George Lewis** and a cousin, **Eliza Allen**, who was **Sam Houston's** first wife.

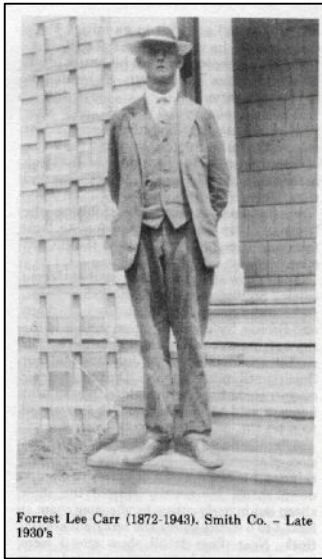
James R. was a farmer and **Caroline** was a seamstress. James R. and his ten sons worked the family farm in Silver Point, Tennessee. The two oldest boys, **Joseph** and **William** joined the Confederate 5th Calvary in 1861 to protect their homeland from the invading Northern Armies. Joseph was shot in the foot in battle and contracted smallpox, so he had to return home in 1864. William fought throughout the duration of the war.



Another of James R.'s sons was **Sidney Franklin Carr**, the youngest who served as a Putnam County State Representative for several terms. Sidney's son, **Joe C. Carr, Sr.** served as Secretary of the State of Tennessee for several terms. *Joe C. Carr pictured left.*

Still another of James R.'s sons, **Winfield Scott** (alias Kerr), became a career soldier after the Civil War, serving during the Spanish American War. **Winfield Scott** married **Nancy Carter** in 1871. They had four sons and five daughters, **Eliza Jane**, **Etno Amanda**, **Solan Stephen**, **Andrew Frank**, **Bradley Lorenzie**, **Mattie**, **Arzonie Hattie** and **Pearl Avo.**

Because of Winfield Scott's travels in the army, he was away from their Silver Point farm most of the time. Forrest Lee, the oldest, played an important role in raising the family. Winfield Scott's pension certificate describes him as 5'6" tall, fair complexion, with blue eyes. He contracted tuberculosis while in the army and was admitted to the Tennessee National Home for Disabled Veterans in Johnson City, in 1907. He died there the same year.



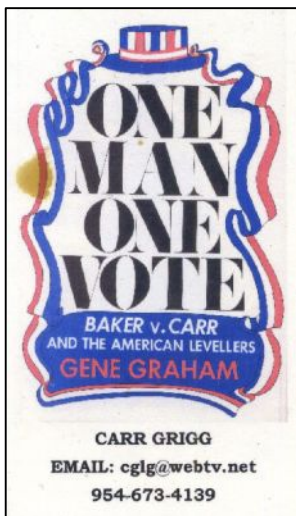
When **Winfield Scott's** oldest son, **Forrest Lee**, matured, he became a carpenter and moved to Carthage, Tennessee to practice his trade. He helped with construction of the Carthage Bridge and many structures still standing in Carthage today. After the construction of the Carthage Bridge, Forrest Lee traveled throughout Tennessee with his trade, sending money back home to Carthage to his wife, **Bettie Pemberton Carr** and their seven children. **Forrest Lee** worked up until he was seventy-one years old at which time he was killed in a mysterious auto accident in 1943 in Lebanon. **Forrest Lee** and **Bettie Carr's** oldest son, **Thomas**, born 1897, was the only one of their children to remain in Smith County. Thomas married **Gertie May Stallings** and moved to Kenney's Bend, near the Rock City community of Smith County, to farm. Because they did not receive any government aid during the Great Depression of the 1930's, they were eligible for an agricultural loan after the Depression which they used to purchase a farm on Plunkett's Creek, also near Rock City. They raised five sons and a daughter on this farm. **Gertie Carr** was a member of the Plunkett's Creek Missionary Baptist Church. She was a caring mother and grandmother and was loved by all who knew her.

There are many descendants of this couple residing in Smith County today.

Story by **David M. Carr**

*See Baker v Carr at:

<http://www.ajlambert.com>



Audrey June (Denny) Lambert and Letcher Carr Grigg standing in front of the Buffalo Valley School in October 2008. Carr Griggs was hosting a family reunion at the Buffalo Valley School now a community center located in Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN.

GRIGG ASKS CONVENTION SEAT IN '65

28 July 1964



Letcher Carr Grigg of 2918 McNairy Lane, today announced his candidacy as a delegate to the 1965 Constitutional Convention.

Grigg, 27, has served at various levels of state government almost 10 years as an employee of the State Democratic Executive Committee and the Secretary of State's office staff four years.

A graduate of Peabody College, Grigg is a member of the Fall Public School faculty and has taught at West End High School and the Wills Center School of Vanderbilt University.

In announcing his candidacy Grigg stated:

"If elected a delegate to this Convention, I will give honest consideration to the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State of Tennessee. As a teacher and past employee of several departments of State Government, I feel that my background would enable me to serve adequately as a delegate representing the people of Davidson County.

"I am of the firm opinion that the people of Davidson County deserve a more equalized basis for representation in the state legislature and that a state senators' term of office should be extended from two to four years and run concurrently with that of the Governor's term of office.

Frequency of session and compensation for elected representatives is a matter which will require careful evaluation in view of the fact that tax payer's money is directly involved."

Notes: Letcher Carr Grigg is the s/o Hugh Letcher Grigg & Dimple Carr. Dimple Carr was the sister of Joe C. Carr who served as Tennessee Secretary of State. They were children of Sidney Franklin Carr & Laura Burton. Sidney Franklin Carr, s/o James R. Carr & Caroline Allen. Hugh Letcher Grigg, b. 17 November 1890 – d. 9 April 1972 md Dimple Carr, b. 18 February 1900 – d. 1 May 1997. Hugh Letcher Grigg, s/o Hugh Grigg & Kate Graham. Letcher Carr Grigg, b. 12 November 1936 married Linda Gillem.

Hugh Letcher Grigg Obt.

Nashville Banner: Monday, 10 April 1972

Sunday morning April 9 at a local infirmary. **Survived by wife, Mrs. Letcher Grigg; daughter, Mrs. David Deathridge; son, Carr Grigg;** 2 grandchildren, Debbie and Laura Deathridge. Remains are at Marshal-Connelly-Combs Funeral Home where services will be Monday at 2:00 by Bro. Axel Swang and Bro. Damon Daniel. Honorable pallbearer's will be Fred Waller, Jimmy Carter, Walter Siegenthaler, Dr. Guy Pennington, Dr. John H. Coles, Jr., John H. Coles. Active will be Bill Crouch, Jack Tally, Tom Arnette, Buford Eubanks, Ben Little, M. R. Smith, J. P. Whitworth, and Ronnie Wise. In lieu of flowers the family request donation be made to Lakeshore Home of the Aged, 832 Grove Avenue.

Dimple (Carr) Grigg Obt.

2 May 1977

Grigg, Dimple Carr Age 96. May 1, 1997. **Preceded in death by her husband, Letcher Grigg and her younger brother Joe C. Carr who served as Tennessee Secretary of State.** Daughter of Sidney Carr who served in the House during the 61st General Assembly and Laura Burton Carr. She was employed by the TN Dept. of Insurance for 40 years until her retirement in 1970. **She is survived by her daughter, Bettye Deathridge; son, Carr Grigg;** grandchildren, Laura McCullough, Debbie Brooks; great grandchildren, Molly McCullough, Jenny and Jeffrey Brooks. Remains are at Woodlawn Funeral Home where the family will receive friends 2:00 – 8:00 p.m. Friday and 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. Saturday. Family and friends will gather at 2:00 p.m. Saturday for Graveside services at Woodlawn Memorial Park by Bro. Tom

Holland. Active Pallbearers: Elliott McCullough, Keith Brooks, Joe Carr Jr., Don Knight, Freddie Maddux, Ralph Maddux, Walter Deathridge, Jeffrey Brooks, Honorary Pallbearers: Bill Sullivan, Dr. Harrison Shull Jr., Dr. Robert Massie, David Massie, Howard Putman, Rea Smith, Bill Crouch, Billy Scobey, Richard Scobey, Dr. Joe Scobey, David Scobey, Bob Tolleson, Tommy Tolleson, Bill Beneke. The Nursing Staff of The Meadows healthcare. Arrangements by Woodlawn Funeral Home, 383-4754.

Miss Carr and Mr. Grigg Wed in Nashville

Herald newspaper, Cookeville, TN, Monday, 20 November 1922, pg. 3

The marriage of Miss Dimple Carr and Mr. Hugh L. Grigg was quietly solemnized Friday evening at 7:30 in the study of the 9th St. Christian Church in Nashville. The Rev. D. A. Hall officiated. Miss Margaret Grigg attended the bride as maid of honor and the groom's best man was Mr. William Scobey. Mr. and Mrs. Grigg will be at home at 117 Pope Avenue. The marriage will be of sincere interest in Cookeville as Mrs. Grigg is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Carr and until a few years, she and her parents, made this her home.

* See Baker V. Carr at:

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