

Walkers in Hickman County, Tennessee

HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF HICKMAN COUNTY, TENNESSEE, by Jill K. Garrett

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AN AGED HUSBAND AND WIFE

Hickman Pioneer, 7 May 1885

Our venerable friends, Mr. And Mrs. William Walker of Anderson's Bend, were visiting their children in Centreville last week, the families of Dr. Norris and Mr. T. J. Walker. They are an aged couple—few out of many ever reach their age, and it is a rare occurrence indeed to meet husband and wife, who each have reached this age, and have lived and loved together throughout all these years, until they see their children and grand-children attain to the vigor of manhood and womanhood, and great-grandchildren growing up. Their life has indeed been an eventful one, and although Mr. Walker is now in his 80th year, he is still robust and almost as active as a boy. He commenced farming on Duck River when he was 14 years of age, and has made a crop every year succeeding that, with the exception of a portion of the year 1847, when he left his growing crop to enlist in the Mexican War, where he remained until its close. Mrs. Walker is near the same age, and has to her husband been a faithful and devoted wife, "doubling his pleasures and cares dividing." How sweet it must be, while thus in the evening of their life, and the sun of their existence is gradually sinking into the horizon of the great future, and they see the end but a little way off to take a retrospective view of the path traversed to see it here and there, gilded by so many deeds of love and mercy, and though hardship and toil have oft times beset their way, yet has the whole been traveled with singleness of heart and purity of mind.

Mr. Walker is a Virginian by birth, and at the age of 6 years immigrated with his father, Thomas Walker, to Tennessee, and settled near Williamsport—this was in the year 1812. Mr. Walker's father was a soldier of the Revolution, having enlisted when a lad of sixteen. He showed us some of the Continental money, which was paid his father for services rendered in the Revolution. The money, which bears no resemblance whatever to the money of the present day, is old and faded, yet has been well preserved, and can be easily read. One of the bills is a crown, or five shillings, or 60 pence, which was issued in 1776, and contains the signature of the famous Robt. Morris, the great financier. Another is three pounds or 60 shillings, which was the current money of Virginia, issued pursuant to the ordinance of a convention and passed July 17th, 1775, with the signatures of Phil Johnson and William Norvell. Another one shown us was eight Spanish Milled dollars, passed in 1777. Another bill Two Spanish Milled dollars, passed by Congress May 20th, 1777. Each of the bills are printed on heavy, thick paper, about 2 x 3 inches square. Some of them contained the seal of the state of Virginia, and other quaint looking pictures. The reading on each are plain and old styled, and the signatures are in ink, but nearly faded with age. These old time relics will doubtless be handed down as an heirloom for many generations yet to come.

Mr. Walker presented us with 6 ¼ cents on the Union Bank of Tennessee at Columbia, issued the 4th of Sept. 1837, which is in note form, near the size of a dollar note, and a Confederate Ten dollar note, issued Feb. 17th, 1864, for which he has our thanks.

(Compiler's note: William Walker, born 8 April 1806, and Matilda C. Walker, wife of William, born 7 Nov. 1818, are buried in their family cemetery on their old homeplace in Anderson Bend. The farm is now owned by Malcolm Baker and is located between Shady Grove and Little Lot. No death dates were ever carved on their stones.)

Hickman Pioneer - 17 July 1885

William Cockrum of Mill Creek, who was 65 in Feb. 1885, said the first settlers on Mill Creek were George Hadsugg, who moved to Arkansas and Henry Cockrum, his uncle, who moved to Illinois, Robert Anderson, who died on Mill Creek, Lloyd Kelley, who moved to Leatherwood, Gabriel Fowlkes, who moved to Duck River, and Old Man Duncan, who ran the forges, and Bob Bates who both died on Mill creek, and at the mouth of the creek, William Holt.

ONLY

Hickman Pioneer - 16 Oct. 1885

I have gathered up all the information I can get concerning the 8th civil district of Hickman county. This district is in the extreme western portion of the county and borders

on Humphreys. I learn that it was settled about 1800. It seems that William Totty and Arthur Russell entered a considerable part of Sugar creek about the year 1810. Near the mouth of Sugar creek it seems was about the first which was settled in the district. The district is not as enterprising as was in the days of "Old Lang Syne" for about 1830, Samuel B. Lee, Sr., built the furnace on Sugar creek now known as "Lee's old furnace," and for a time kept up the iron trade of Hickman. His son S.B. Lee, Jr., now owns part of the old furnace lands. The district is noted for its bluffs, caves, etc., among which we note "Grandfather's Building." This gigantic bluff is situated on the north side of Duck river just below the mouth of Sugar creek. As yet no reckless cave explorer has entered the numerous caves in which these bluffs abound. This bluff, like others of its kinds, it surrounded by a mystery. This would be strengthened if we take into consideration the numerous legends of hideous screams, money clanking, etc. These were strengthened in the minds of some, when in 1875, some human bones found in the bluff. In the grave in which they were found was a considerable amount of charcoal. Some of the bones were...

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ESTHER McCRORY WALKER

Hickman Co. Times - 17 My 1956

Esther McCrory Walker was born in Ireland in 1768, daughter of Hannah Crawford and Thomas McCrory, who were married in 1756. The year of the McCrory's emigration to America is unknown, but they settled in Rockingham County, N.C. Thomas McCrory was a captain in the Revolution, in the 9th regiment commanded by Major Polk and Colonel Williams. He died in Mecklenburg County, N.C.

Esther McCrory married in Rockingham county Allan Walker, son of James Walker, a Revolutionary War soldier. They were married 1784 when she was 16 and he was 26. Allan Walker was born in 1758 in N.C. and died in Centerville in 1817. In 1780 he served as a sergeant in the North Carolina militia and on March 9, 1809 he and his wife began their move from Rockingham county to Tennessee to settle on a tract of land that N.C. had granted James Walker for his war services—2,000 acres located on both sides of Duck River, northeast of Centerville. Winburn Huddleston, a descendant of Esther and Allen Walker lives where the pioneer home stood. Other parts of this tract are now known as the W. P. Shipp farm.

Esther McCrory and Allan Walker were the parents of nine children:

1. Dr. Joel Walker, born 1789, died 1844, married 1830 Mary Mortherel.
2. Elijah Walker, who served as circuit judge of Hickman and adjoining counties. He was noted for his personal neatness.
3. Pleasant B. Walker, born 1804, died 1870, married Sina Warren, who was born 1804 and died 1848.

(All given)

"Esther ruled her household with an iron hand there were no soft-glove tactics for her. When she wanted a cool drink of water she would walk to the spring about one-fourth of a mile away although she had many servants to bring the water to her. At the spring she would lie flat on the ground with her mouth in the water and drink to her heart's content. Esther died in 1845 at the age of 77 on the same tract of land she came with her husband to claim in 1809. She is buried with other members of the family there. Until a few years ago the chimney and part of her house were still standing..."

RESEARCH OF MRS. LYDIA WALKER COON, Filed in Archives, Jackson, MS

Great Grand-children of JAMES WALKER, of Virginia and Granville County, N.C. and his wife Sarah (Allen) Walker.

Grand-children of Judge Allen Walker & Esther (McCrory) Walker of Rockingham County, N.C. (Wentworth, N.C. & Greenboro, N.C.) Guilford County, N.C. and Centerville, Tennessee

Children of Judge JAMES WALKER & MARY (BELL, NEWELL) WALKER

Of Woodville, Miss. (Wilkinson County)

GEORGE ALLEN WALKER, b. _____ 1836 or 1837, in Wilkinson County, Woodville, Miss., d. spring of 1904. M., Miss Cook of Hazelhurst, Miss., Served in Confederate States Army in 16th Miss., Infantry, enlisted at Corinth, Miss, May 27, 1861, gave his age as 24 yrs. at time of enlistment (Co. K.) Buried at Springhill Cemetery near Woodville, Miss., family

burial grounds. Left issue.

JAMES HOWARD WALKER, b. _____ 1838, in Wilkinson County, Woodville, Miss. At "BURNHAM WOOD" ante-Bellum home of Judge Walker three mi. below Woodville, Miss. m., Miss Mary Chamberlin on March 14, 1867 at Carrolton, La. (daughter of Wm. Cole Chamberlin VII and his second wife Delia (Goff) Chamberlin.) Served in Co. K., 16th Miss., Regiment enlisted March 15, 1862 and was paroled at Appomattox Court House, Va., on April 9, 1865. Mary C. Walker d., March 7, 1884. Five children born to this union. See p----- James Walker d. 2/15/1915.

EDWARD HOWARD WALKER, b., _____ youngest, in Woodville, Miss., Wilkenson County, Woodville, Miss at BURNHAM WOOD plantation. d., Jan. 18, 1888. M., Miss Annie Turner Woods on March 8, 1870. (daughter of Wm. H. Woods and Annie Oswald Woods; grand-daughter of Col. Thos. H. Oswald of Alabama.) Served in the Confederate States Army, 16th, Miss., Regiment Co. I. Buried in Woods Cemetery near place of Dr. Howell. Annie Turner Woods Walker d., 2-13-1851. 5 children born to this union see page----

DOUGLAS NEWELL WALKER I, b., _____ 1841, Judge of Wilkinson County Named Chancellor in Miss., in 1870 among the list of the first Chancellors for the State of Miss., "The Chancery Courts were 20 in number and took the place of the old Chancery System and the County Probate Courts." M., Mannie Simms of Wilkinson County, Miss., on _____. Educated in law at the University of Virginia. Enlisted at Manassas, Virginia on Aug. 19, 1861 due to disability was discharged Nov. 22, 1861. d., _____ while still a very young man, and was buried in Woodville, Miss., in the Family Cemetery of BURNHAM WOOD, three- mi below Woodville "Newell-Walker grave-yard." Left no issue. His wodow married Col. Nielson after his death.

MARY JANE WALKER, b., _____ 1842, in Woodville, Wilkinson Co., Miss., m. Dr. Levin Wailes Magruder in _____, d. _____ 1925, in her home where all of the children were born in Woodville, Mill. (proper) buried in Woodville, Miss. 8 children born to this union. (Dr. Levin Wailes Magruder son of John Hawkins Magruder & Elizabeth Covington Wailes, 3rd wife.) Mary Jane Walker on the maternal side descended from Lydia Howard, daughter of Joshua Howard of the HOWARDS of Princess Anne, Maryland. Magruder family came from Prince George, Maryland. Last child born to Judge Walker and his wife Mary Newell Walker as he died in 1844.

Great Great Grandchildren of James & Sarah (Allen) Walker, N.C.
Great Grand-children of Allen Walker & Esther (McCroroy) Walker
Grand-children of Judge James Walker, Woodville, Miss., and Mary Newell Walker (Wilkinson County,) Miss.
Children of GEORGE ALLEN WALKER and _____ (Curtiss) Walker of Corinth, Miss., and Woodville, Wilkinson County, Miss.

MAY WALKER b., _____, _____, only daughter lives at present in San Antonio, Texas (_____), married Thomas Johnson, on _____, in _____.
No other children.

If you can find any birth date for Hannah Walker b., in Rockingham County, and who married Col. A. B. Saunders of Jackson, Miss., and Monticello, Miss. Or her age given on marriage license, please let me have it. She was a sister of Judge James Walker and a daughter of Judge Allen Walker of Rockingham County, North Carolina, and Centerville, Tennessee. She was born between 1793 and 1804.

Research by Lydia Walker Coon

DESCRIPTION: "Historical Sketches of Hickman County, Tennessee", by Jill K. Garrett Research of Mrs. Lydia Walker Coon, filed in Archives, Jackson, Mississippi