

ERA 5: 1850-1877

The Civil War and Reconstruction

5th grade and 8th grade

List of slaves owned by the McGavocks of Williamson County

Jane's Maria	wife	
Jane's Maria	aged about	60 years
Jane's Maria		75 years
Jane's Maria	wife	50 years
Jane's Maria		55 years
Charles		40 years
Matilda's wife		39 years
Wm. Sam. Cassette		35 years
Art		32 years
Samson, Marshall		26 years
Wm. Sam. Wilson		33 years
Stephen		31 years
Wm. Chas. Kildow		19 years
Edmund		22 years
Matt		17 years
Naty		20 years
J. Chas. Hornette		22 years
Free Child Nite		7 years
Free Child Liz		6 years
Malinda	no name	37 years
Free Child Nite		15 years
Free Child Ellen		18 years
Free Child Sarah		11 years
Free Child Frank		7 years
Free Child Louise		5 years
Malinda - with -		39 years
Free Child Ann		6 years
Free Child George		4 years

Malinda's Child Nite	aged about	3 years
Jane's Simple		26 years
Free daughter Rachel		11 years
Free daughter Green		5 years
Free daughter Siddy		55 years
Free daughter Jane		30 years
Wm. Sam.		52 years
Wm. Sam. advanced to S. S. Panton		
Art	aged about	17 years
Wm. Sam.		26 years
Wm. Sam. advanced to S. S. Panton		
Nite	aged about	28 years
Maria		17 years

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Receipt for runaway slave, 1854

Louisville July 22/54
 Mr L McGaffin
 To Robert Buckner Jfc
 To maintaining Slave George in jail
 from 8 July to 22nd inclusive 15 days 35 \$5.25
 Turnkey fee 40
 Reward to Tom Burton & Louis 75 00
 Advertising in Journal
 Recd pay 80.65
 R Buckner Jfc

This item is also from the McGavock-Hayes Family Papers, Addition, Box 2, Folder 17, XIII-F-5,6. The receipt shows \$80.65 paid for the retrieval of an escaped slave named George. The cost of his imprisonment in Louisville from July 8, 1854, to July 22, 1854, was \$5.25. Additionally, a "turnkey fee" or jailor's fee of \$40 was charged. \$75 was given as a reward to the person who found George; the receipt also includes the cost of posting an advertisement for the runaway slave in the *Louisville Journal*.

There are many documents in this collection that shed light on the African-American slaves (or sharecroppers) who worked for the McGavock-Hayes family throughout the years. At times, the references are brief, such as a notation on a doctor's account sheet that he charged eleven dollars for a slave abortion. One letter, dictated by a former McGavock family slave, Sarah A. Eskridge, to her current mistress (probably Miss Sarah Rudolph from Hayneville, Alabama), is addressed to Sarah McGavock Pointer. In it, Sarah Eskridge sends her love to her mother and states that she is not suffering at her new home, for she has a good family to work for and thankfully she is not in the fields—she is a house slave. Sarah also mentions that she had heard that her former master, Lysander McGavock, was sorry that he had sold her. The letter includes an opening paragraph in which she urges Sarah McGavock Pointer to write to her about the state of her own family and to make certain that her little sister Jane never forgets her. The McGavock-Hayes family papers also include numerous bills of sale for slave transactions, including one in 1824, 1829, and another in 1839. Additionally, a deed of trust from 1890 reveals the details of a sharecropping agreement between a certain Jo Lea, listed as colored, and Lysander Hayes. Should Lea prove unable to repay Hayes for his \$250 advance, he puts his 15-year old bay horse mule Logan, his brown mare Liza, his filly, his sorrel, and his harvesting machine in trust.

Young Tennessee Confederates Posed for War



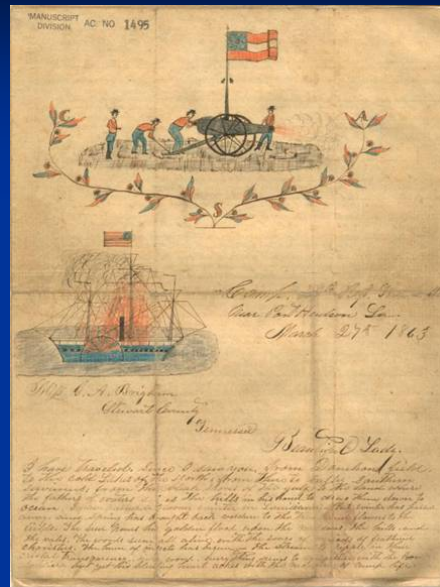
Photograph Collection, Drawer 24, Folder 37, DB#4708, TSLA. Studio portrait of Benjamin Franklin Ammons and Rafor Franklin Ammons, brothers who served in Company L, 1st Tennessee Heavy Artillery, C.S.A. They are posed seated, in uniform, each holding a handgun and artillery sword. Copy made from glass-plate negative. The brothers served in this unit until its surrender at Vicksburg, July 4, 1863. R. F. Ammons re-enlisted in April 1864 in the 18th (Newson's) Tennessee Cavalry Regiment, C.S.A.; he later lost an arm at the Battle of Brice's Crossroads, Mississippi.

Map of Civil War military prison



Plan of the military prison situated on Johnsons Island, Civil War Collection, Box 2, Folder 14, 1862, TSLA. Hand-drawn map of the military prison at Johnson's Island in the bay of Sandusky, Ohio, where Confederate officers captured by the Union forces were held. Prison buildings and grounds are labeled. Drawn by Capt. J.T. Hogane, Topographical Engineer, C.S.A., Gen. M. Jeff Thompson's Division. In upper left corner: "James S. Brown, Major 46th Regt. Tenn. Vol., Capt'd at Island No. 10 April 8, 1862 By General Popes command. Block 2, Mess 2, Room 1. Accompanying the map is a typed list of Confederate officers in prison on Johnson's Island, compiled by Capt. Cader C. Knowles, 1st Alabama Regiment.

Civil War era letter



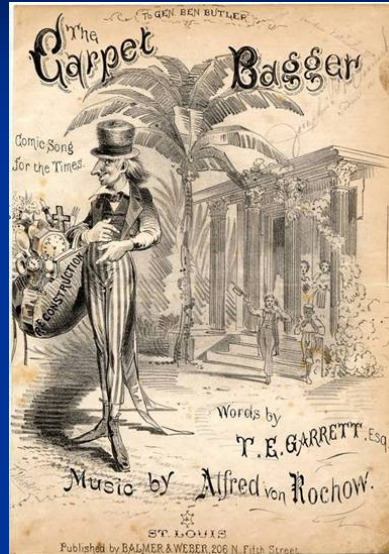
Brigham Family Papers, III-D-2, Accession Number 1495, March 27, 1863, TSLA. An example of vernacular art of the American Civil War period, on the first page of a letter written by soldier J. Wes Broom, 1st Lt., Company E, 49th Tennessee Infantry, C.S.A., from near Port Hudson La., to Miss G.A. [George Ann] Brigham of Stewart County, Tennessee, his fiancée. He begins his letter with the words, "Beautiful Lady,". The drawings, using colored pencils, show four cannoneers firing a cannon with a Confederate flag flying near them. A border of leaves and the letters C, S, and A surround this drawing. Below is a second drawing of a federal ship afire after engaging with Confederate batteries on shore. The text of the letter describes the first engagement at Port Hudson, La. on March 14, 1863, when U.S. Admiral Farragut's ships encountered fire from Confederate batteries on shore as they attempted to move upriver toward Vicksburg.

The Battle of Nashville



Photograph Collection, Oversized, Drawer #20, DB#32029, Kurz & Allison colored print, copyright circa 1891, TSLA. African-American troops played an important role in breaking the Confederate lines at Peach Orchard Hill during the Battle of Nashville in late December 1864. The Union began enlisting African American troops in Tennessee in late 1863.

The Carpet Bagger (a comic song)



The Carpet Bagger, Comic Song for the Times, Words by T. E. Garrett, music by Alfred von Rochow, 1868, Rose Music Collection, TSLA. Southerners after the Civil War used the term “carpetbaggers” to deride northerners who came south during Reconstruction to make money. The song mocks the ignorance and greediness that characterized the typical carpetbagger with the words, “Now I got no eddication/Of brains I does not brag/But I owns a big plantation/All in my carpet bag.”

The Carpet Bagger (music lyrics)



Transcription of:

The Carpet Bagger

Comic Song for the Times

Words by T. E. Garrett

Music by Alfred von Rochow

To Gen. Ben Butler

Verse 1:

"I'm a gay old Carpet Bagger! O! can't you understand! 'Mong the color'd folks I swagger Down in the cotton land." Now I got no eddication; Of brains I does not brag, but I owns a big plantation All in my carpet bag."

Verse 2:

"In the North I was Nobody, O! don't you understand! Now I drinks my wine, and toddy King of the cotton land! For I drives the old slave master; He calls me scallawag While he cusses fast, and faster, I fills my carpet bag."

Verse 3:

"I'm the loyal Carpet Bagger, Who rules the cotton land; I'm a happy scallawagger, O! can't you understand! For to Congress goes some mornin' This curst old scallawag! And I pays 'em back for scornin' My loyal carpet bag."

Verse 4:

But I hears a storm a comin' O! yes I understand! Now we'll get kick'd out for bummin'; Around this cotton land, For I hears that nation's thunder; We've lost our game of brag; Now I'm off with spoons and plunder in my carpet bag."

Chorus:

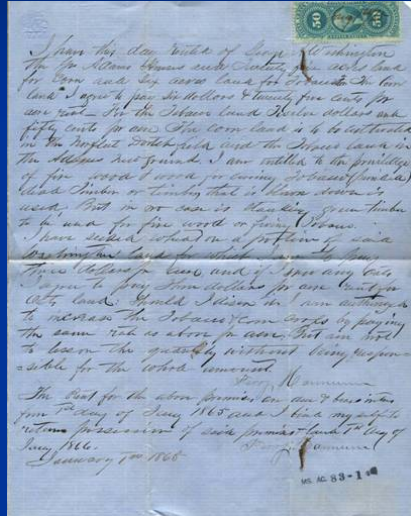
"I'm a gay old Carpet Bagger! O! can't you understand! 'Mong the color'd folks I swagger Down in the cotton land."

Former slaves at Wessyngton



Photograph Collection, Drawer 22, Folder 112, DB #4305, TSLA. Former slaves of the Washington family of Wessyngton Plantation, Cedar Hill, Robertson County, Tennessee. Standing, Allen Washington (head dairyman), Granville Washington (personal valet and body servant); seated, Emanuel ("Uncle Man") Washington (cook), and Hettie ("Aunt Hennie") Washington (Emanuel's wife and head laundress). Emanuel's knit cap is of African origin. This tobacco plantation, in its heyday, employed more than 200 slaves and produced more tobacco than Egypt; the records from the plantation survive in large part and are available to researchers at TSLA.

From Slavery to Sharecropping: Tobacco Labor Contract



From the Washington Family Papers, XVII-F-K-1, Box 93, TSLA.

Transcription:

I have this day rented of George A. Washington the Geo (?) Adams Houses and Twenty five acres land for corn and six acres land for Tobacco. For the Corn land I agree to pay six dollars & twenty five cents pr acres rent – For the Tobacco land Twelve dollars and fifty cents pr acre. The corn land is to be cultivated in the Norfleet Dortchfield (?) and the Tobacco land in the Adams new ground. I am entitled to the privilege of fire wood and wood for curing Tobacco (provided) dead Timber or timber that is blown down is used; But in no case is standing green timber to be used for fire wood or firing Tobacco. I have seeded wheat on a portion of said Washington land for which I am to pay three dollars pr acre, and if I sow any oats, I agree to pay three dollars pr acre rent for oats land: Should I raise (?) it I am authorized to increase the Tobacco & corn crops by paying the same rate as above pr acre. But am not to lesson the quantity without being responsible for the whole amount.

Perry, Hannum

The rent for the above premises are due and fees intro (?) from 1st day of July 1865 and I bind myself to return possession of said premises & land 1st day of Jany 1866

Perry, Hannum

January 1st 1865

(on reverse)

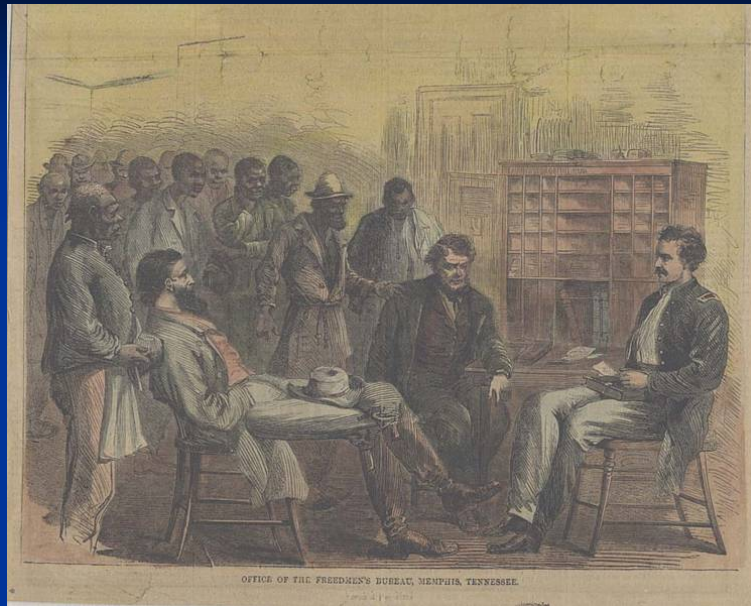
\$1

Recd Oct. 12th 1865 One hundred twenty five dollars on the Western (?) Bank G A Washington

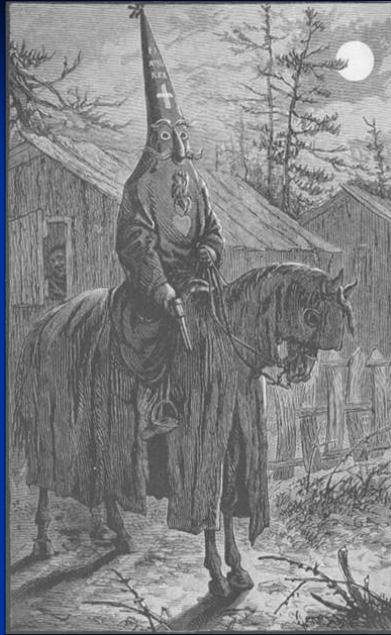
P. Hannum

Bond for Rent.

The Freedmen's Bureau, Memphis



Engraving entitled *Office of the Freedmen's Bureau*, Memphis, Tennessee, 1866, originally from the June 2, 1866, issue of *Harper's Weekly*, from the Library Collection, Drawer 8, Folder 28, DB #1541, TSLA. The Freedmen's Bureau was established by Congress in 1865 to help former slaves with labor contracts, schooling, and other matters, including disputes with white Southerners. The Commissioner was Union Army General Oliver O. Howard.



The Ku Klux Klan In Tennessee:

Originally founded in 1866 in Pulaski, Tennessee, the KKK evolved into a vigilante organization that terrorized African Americans in the South

Print called "The Masked Sentinel," from *The Invisible Empire* by Albion W. Tourgee, page 225, PS 3087 .I5 1880, TSLA. The Ku Klux Klan (KKK) was first organized in 1866 in Pulaski, Tennessee, by six Confederate veterans. It began as a social club for young men, but it eventually evolved into a political and terrorist force. In 1867, the group emerged as a vigilante group largely made up of ex-Confederates whose specific aim was to intimidate African-Americans who supported Governor William G. Brownlow. The Governor had decided to give the vote to freedmen in 1867 in order to bolster his support at the polls; Tennessee's General Assembly endorsed black suffrage in 1867, two years before Congress did the same by passing the Fifteenth Amendment. Brownlow acted in concert with the Radical Republicans in Congress, effectively alienating many men who had served in the Confederacy. These men banded together and expanded the Klan, which became especially prominent in West and Middle Tennessee. The visibility of the KKK continued to wax and wane throughout the years, but the Klan has always been notorious for its violent tactics in its efforts to terrorize African Americans and other non-white, non-Protestant Americans.

Commerce at the Nashville Wharf, circa 1872-1874



TSLA Photograph Collection, Drawer 19, Folder 84, Calvert photograph, DB #3777, circa 1872-1874. View to the North on Front Street (First Avenue) of the Nashville Wharf. Steamboats can be seen, with men loading and unloading cargo. Steamboats frequently delivered consumer goods and farming equipment to towns in the Upper Cumberland, returning to Nashville with cargoes of farm produce, livestock, lumber, and passengers. Steamboat commerce took off in the 1830s and continued until the 1920s. The railroads eventually superseded steamboat transportation.