

CIVIL DISTRICTS OF DAVIDSON COUNTY

ON the 3d of October, 1859, upon motion of W. P. Massey, Esq., the judge of the County Court appointed C. W. Nance, William H. Hagans, and John M. Joslin commissioners to redistrict the county into twenty-five districts, the city of Nashville being the First District. The committee reported at the January term of court, 1860, and their report, which was ordered published in pamphlet form for distribution throughout the county, set forth the boundaries of the districts under the following preamble:

" We have availed ourselves of every opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the size, shape, and boundaries of the old districts, as well as the population in each; and we have also endeavored to ascertain the views and wishes of many of the citizens in various portions of the county in relation to the duties assigned us, in order to shape the new districts to the greatest advantage of the voting population of the whole county, and we submit to you the result of our deliberations and investigations."

DISTRICT NUMBER ONE.

District Number One was made to include the entire corporate limits of the city of Nashville. Voting precincts were established in eight Wards, and have since been erected as the wards have been increased in number.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWO.

District Number Two was formed from old District Number Two, beginning at the intersection of the Mill Creek turnpike with Mill Creek, and running with the Murfreesboro' turnpike-road to the Franklin College and Stone's River turnpike-road; then with said Franklin College and Stone's River road to Hamilton's Creek; thence down Hamilton's Creek to Stone's River; thence down Stone's River to Cumberland River; thence down Cumberland River to the mouth of Mill Creek; and thence up Mill Creek to the beginning. The place of voting was fixed at Spring Place.

At McWhortersville, which is the chief settlement and place of business, there are three stores, kept by A. S. Edwards, E. B. Graves, and J. L. Dortch; a grist-mill and cotton-gin combined, both erected in 1878, and owned by M. M. Leek, three blacksmith-shops, one wood-working shop, and at the toll-gate the Donelson post-office, of which D. Stevenson is postmaster. There are two resident physicians,—Drs. Boyd and Whitworth,—a Methodist

Episcopal Church, a Christian Church, and thirty dwellings. McCrory's Creek Baptist Church is three and a half miles south of McWhortersville, and in the south part of the district is the old Franklin College.

The oldest resident of the district is Osworth Newby. M. M. Ridley is one of the oldest residents, and Jeremiah Bowen, Esq., is a representative of one of the earliest families.

Franklin College was built mainly through the efforts of Elder Talbot Fanning. The buildings were commenced in 1843 and completed in 1844. In October of that year he was elected president. On his resignation, in 1861, Professor William D. Carnes became president. The college was suspended soon after, and remained idle until after the declaration of peace. It was again opened, but soon after the buildings were burned and its existence ceased.

Hope Institute was then opened by Elder Fanning as a female college, and continued by him until his death, in 1874.

On the adoption of the new constitution the first justices were appointed in May, 1836. John H. Clopton and William G. M. Campbell were then appointed for this town, to serve for the term of six years.

Robert Weakley, afterwards prominent in Nashville, is credited to this district on the county records for 1791. The following-named persons were assessed for lands owned in this district in 1816: John Blair; James , John , and Thomas Buchanan, William , Chris. , James , and John Carter, D. Cross, William Donelson, "where he lives," Richard Drury, William Dickson, William Ewing, Thomas H. Everett, William Gowen, Nancy Green, William Harwood, George and Nicholas P. Hartman, John Johnson, Jr., Thos. Jones, Peter Lastly, Guy McFadden, William Matlock, John Moore, William Nance and Harris Oglevie, Daniel Vault, William Wharton, Daniel Woodard, Philip Wolf, William Waldron, Henry White, Jr., Peter Wright, Martha Turner.

The Naturalist, an educational and agricultural journal of merit, was published and printed at Franklin College, in this district, during the year 1848. It was a forty-eight-page monthly magazine, at two dollars a year, and was edited by Rev. T. Fanning, Isaac Newton Loomis, John Eichbaum, and J. Smith Fowler.

The district contains two post-offices,—Donelson and Glen Cliff. The old "Mud Tavern," in the western part, six

miles from the city of Nashville, is a point of interest as a resort of early days. The Second District is the Second School District of the county. It contains a school population of six hundred and fifty-seven children, and has had six schools during the last year, of which four were white and two colored. There were two hundred and twelve white and one hundred and fifty-four colored pupils enrolled. There are six school-houses in the district. The school directors are Dr. James Evans, Sidney Zucarillo, and Mr. Page.

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE.

District Number Three was the original district of that number. Its boundary-line begins at the mouth of Hamilton's Creek and follows up Stone's River to the Rutherford county-line; thence with the county-line to where the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad crosses Hurricane Creek; thence down said railroad to the crossing of the Franklin and Lebanon road at the Mount View Station; thence along the said road to the Murfreesboro' turnpike; thence along the Murfreesboro' turnpike to Hamilton's Creek; and thence down Hamilton's Creek to the beginning. The polling-place was changed from Hutchinson's Springs to Smith's Springs in July, 1859.

Charlton's church is in the north part, near Stone's River, and Burnett's chapel, more recently known as Charlton's chapel, in the east part, near Hurricane Creek, is the oldest church in the district. These points were centers around which clustered the dwellings of some of the earlier pioneers. Mount View Church is a union house, occupied by Baptists and Cumberland Presbyterians, on the Murfreesboro' turnpike. Smith's Springs, near the centre, became the central point for gatherings after the war, and a Baptist church was erected there.

Among the early families in the district were those of Ed. Beard and Dennis McClendon, father of the present T. J. McClendon.

The post-office is at Couchville, where there are two stores; William Wright is merchant and postmaster. Ephraim McLane was a justice of the peace in the Third District in 1791. He was one of the leading citizens of the county for many years. Edward H. East and John Vandevill were afterwards prominent citizens. The following named were assessed for taxes in this district in 1816: Cary Felts, D. J. Fish, Jesse Fly, James Halley, Dennis McClendon, Stephen Roach, Willid L. Shumate, Henry Seat, Joseph Smith, James Vault, Isaac and James Wright, Rachel Williams, Edmond Collinsworth.

This is the Third School District. It contains a school population of six hundred and fifty-seven. In the year 1878-79 there were held three white schools, in which were enrolled one hundred and eighty-six pupils, and one colored school of forty-two pupils. L. A. B. Williams, S. Y. Norvell, and S. B. McClendon are the school directors for 1880. There are four school-houses within the district.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR.

District Number Four, with District Number Sixteen, comprises the territory of the old Fourth District. Its boundary-line begins at Stewart's Ferry on Stone's River,

and runs easterly with the old Lebanon road to Thomas B. Page's line; thence north, east, and south, so as to leave out the house of Thomas B. Page and to intersect the Old Lebanon road above said house; thence with said road, and passing at New Hope to J. H. Hagan's burnt mill; thence east to the Wilson county-line; thence northerly with the county-line to Cumberland River; thence down the river to the mouth of Stone's River; thence up Stone's River to the place of beginning.

April 2, 1860, on motion of H. Hagan, the line was so changed as to run from Stuart's Ferry with the Old Lebanon road, passing New Hope to Hagan's burnt mill.

Jan. 8, 1861, it was ordered by the court that the dividing-line between this and District Number Sixteen be so changed as to run from "the point where it digresses" at Thomas B. Page's, north of the residence of Elizabeth Hunt, and to extend thence to New Hope church. The place of holding elections was fixed at Mrs. Creel's in January, 1860.

There are two churches in this district,—viz., the Hermitage church, on the Lebanon turnpike, near its centre, and New Hope church, two miles east of the Hermitage station.

The "Hermitage," the most historic place in the district, is represented by an engraving and description in another part of this work. It contains the only post-office of the district, and is the point of chief interest within the county outside of Nashville.

James Ford was captain of the militia of this district in 1784. Col. Samuel Barton was life justice of the peace for this district in 1791, and was then "classed" for the third term of court. John A. Shute and John McNeill were early and prominent citizens of the district.

The following-named persons paid taxes on lands lying within the limits of the present district in 1816: David Abernethy, John Anderson, Anthony Clopton, Joseph Cook, N. Drew, David and Thomas Edmiston, Edward East, Jeremiah Ezell, John B. and Charles M. Hall, John Hoggatt, William Huggins, Stockley D. and Jane Hays, John and P. H. Jones, James Lee, James McFerrin, Zachariah Noel, Francis Sanders, John Tait, Sr., Spencer Payne.

This is the Fourth School District of the county. It contains seven school-houses and maintains seven schools,— four white and three colored. There were two hundred white and one hundred colored pupils enrolled for the year 1878-79. The scholastic population in 1880 is six hundred and sixty-five. T. O. Trainer, A. S. Hays, and M. T. Brooks are school directors.

New Hope Church, in' this district, was organized as a missionary Baptist Church at the Cedar Glade school-house, in 1846, by Elders Peter and Thomas Fuqua. It then consisted of thirty members. Elder Peter Fuqua was pastor from the time of organization until his death, in 1863, and was succeeded by Elder G. W. Hagar, whose pastorate continued till 1879, when the present pastor, Elder John T. Oakley, assumed charge.

John Cook and Thomas Wright were the first deacons, and their successors have been W. H. Wright, L. Ellis, Robert Gleaves, J. J. Ellis, William G. Sweeney, G. W.



JEREMIAH BOWEN, JR., was born in Carthage, Smith Co., Tenn., Aug. 7, 1822. His father, Jeremiah Bowen, Sr., was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1770. He served an apprenticeship at hat making in Philadelphia, and in 1800 came to Carthage, Smith Co., Tenn., where he embarked in the hat-manufacturing business. In 1814 he married Miss Martha Powel Spivey who was born in Burtee Co., N. C., Oct. 10, 1797, and emigrated to Smith Co., Tenn., in 1812. Of this union there have been three children, O. L. Bowen, born 1816 ; James Bowen, born 1818 ; and Jeremiah Bowen. Mr. Bowen died Aug. 22, 1822. In January, 1831, Mrs. M. P. Bowen married Wm. Mc-Murry and moved to Davidson County ; by this marriage there were two children,—Ann McMurry, born in 1832, and Margaret McMurry, born in 1833. Mrs. McMurry died Jan. 28, 1847. She was of Irish descent, was a kind wife, a devoted mother, and a Christian woman. Jeremiah Bowen Jr., came to Davidson County with his mother and stepfather in 1831; lived here about three years, when he went to Shelby Co., Tenn., to live with his aunt, Mrs. Ann C. Carter, where he remained three years and then returned to his home in Davidson County. When nineteen years of age he apprenticed himself to R. S. Orton, and learned the tanning business. He worked as a journeyman tanner until Jan. 1, 1848, at which time he formed a co-partnership with W. B. Ewing, and they established

a tannery on White's Creek, five miles north of Nashville.

On Oct. 25, 1848, he married Miss Rebecca S. Buchanan, daughter of James and Lucinda Buchanan, who were among the old pioneer settlers in Davidson County. Mr. Buchanan was born in Virginia, July 16, 1763, and moved to Davidson Co., Tenn., eight miles east of Nashville, about the year 1800. His wife, nee Miss Lucinda East, was also born in Virginia, and came, 1792, and came to Tennessee with her father about the year 1800. Mr. Buchanan and Miss East were married in 1810 ; he died Feb. 14, 1841, and she died April 15, 1865. They were the parents of sixteen children,—ten daughters and six sons.

In 1859, Mr. Bowen retired from the tanning business, and engaged in farming six miles east of Nashville. In 1865 he was elected justice of the peace in the Second District, Davidson County, and served in that capacity eleven years. In January, 1868, he was appointed railroad tax-collector for Davidson County for one year. Mr. and Mrs. Bowen have been the parents of nine children,—eight daughters and one son. Two of the daughters died in their infancy ; the remainder are still living.

Sweeney, and B. McFale.

Soon after the organization the church built a respectable log meeting-house a little east of the school-house above mentioned, in which they worshiped till the building was burned, in 1871. The neat brick church now occupied on the Central turnpike, two miles east of the Hermitage Station, was built, after the fire. The church has had in all since its organization four hundred and sixty members. The present number is two hundred and two.

DISTRICT NUMBER FIVE.

District Number Five, which comprises the original district, was bounded by a line beginning at the crossing of Murfreesboro' pike and Mill Creek, and running thence up Mill Creek to Antioch church; thence with the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad to the Franklin and Lebanon road at Mount View Station; thence with said road to the Murfreesboro' turnpike; thence down the turnpike to Hamilton's Creek; thence down Hamilton's Creek to the crossing of the same by the Franklin College and Stone's River turnpike; thence down that road to the Murfreesboro' turnpike, and down the Murfreesboro' turnpike to the place of beginning. Harris' Place was made the voting precinct.

Antioch Baptist church, in the southern part, on the line of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, near Olneyville post-office, was one of the first churches in that part of the county. It is still existing under its original faith. Hamilton church, in the east part, on the Murfreesboro' turnpike, and Locust Grove, are also both in this-district.

Rosedale post-office is within this district, at the grocery of David Harrison, who is postmaster. Olneyville post office was first established, and is the earliest point of settlement. Elijah Robertson represented this district as justice in 1791. Thomas S. King and Herbert Towns, a life-member of the old court, were prominent citizens in early days. Mr. Towns, who was appointed a justice in 1824, is still living, and is at the present time one of the most active and intelligent magistrates of the county. He has been constantly under commission as a justice since his first appointment. In 1810 the following-named persons were assessed for taxes on lands now in this district: Samuel and John Bell, William "Bebby," Henry and Joseph Burnett, Edward Bryant, Thomas Edmonson, Henry Guthrey, Jeremiah Grezzard, James Glasgow, John Gowen, James Linch, Enoch Oliver, Edmund Owen, Francis Sanders, Richard Smith, Samuel Scott, Cornelius and Christopher Waggoner, "Mrs. Widow" Wilcox, Henry White.

The Tennessee Asylum for the Insane is in the east part of the district, on the Murfreesboro' pike. Its grounds, nearly a mile square, are finely located, and their appearance adds much to the reputation of the district.

This is the Fifth School District of the county. There are here five school-houses, in which were kept four white schools with an enrollment of two hundred and fifty-four pupils for the year 1878-79, and one colored school in which sixty pupils were enrolled for the same year. There are now five hundred and thirty-six persons of school age living in the district. E. G. Rowe, A. J. Roper, and Benjamin Turbeville are school directors for 1880. The district has five school-houses.

DISTRICT NUMBER SIX.

District Number Six, the original district of that number, is bounded by a line beginning at the southeastern corner of Davidson County near Gooche's, and running

northward with the Rutherford county-line to the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad; thence northward down said railroad to Mill Creek at Antioch Church; thence up Mill Creek to the Williamson county-line; and thence eastward with the county-line to the beginning. The polling-place was fixed at Cane Ridge, which is near the centre of the district, and the location of a church of that name.

Robert Clark, who was for thirteen months held as a prisoner by the Indians, was an inhabitant of this district. Mr. Clark, who was afterwards long and well known, was ransomed by an exchange of Indian prisoners and ponies.

Benajah Gray was an early citizen, and a life-member of the Notables' Court.

James Mears was magistrate in 1791; William H. Hagans and James Chilcutt were early citizens. The following persons were tax-payers in what is now included in this district in 1816: Isaac Battle, John Barr, James Campbell, Thomas Chilcutt, William Gibson, Benajah Gray, Isaac Johnson, Ralph McFadden, John McFarlin, Robert Orr, Godfrey Shelton, Hartwell Seat, John Smith, Robert Thompson, Nelson White, James Whitsett, James Weatherall, Daniel Young.

In the school organization this became the Sixth School District of the county. It contains four school-houses, in which were taught, in the year 1878-79, three white schools of one hundred and fifty-one pupils in all, and one colored school with sixty-seven pupils. The scholastic population for 1880 is four hundred and nine. B. Gray, T. K. Griggs, and S. H. Culbertson are the present school directors.

DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN.

District Number Seven was the same previous to 1859. Its boundary-line begins at the crossing of the Nolensville turnpike-road and Mill Creek, near Holt's or Hampton's Mill, and runs down Mill Creek to the mouth of its west fork at Thompson's saw-mill; thence up the west fork to the Nolensville turnpike-road; thence southeast along said turnpike-road to the place of beginning. Dunn's schoolhouse was made the voting precinct.

Gethsemane church is at Baker's or Smithville, near Mill Creek. This is one of the earliest churches, and belonged to the old Mero Association.

Paragon Mills, the post-office, was recently established in place of two others,—Carter's and Lime-works,—closed in 1879.

James Mulherrin, Enoch Ensley, and John B. Hodges were among the early residents, and were all magistrates of the old Notables' Court.

The following persons were assessed for taxes in this district in 1816: Charles Crutchfield, Aquila Carmack, Robert C. Foster, Jacob Marvis, Jesse W. Thomas, Susannah Windle.

This was made School District Number Seven at its organization for school purposes. Two white schools and one colored one are maintained here, each of which has

schoolhouses. The enrollment in the year 1878-79 -was, white, one hundred and forty-one; colored, sixty. The school population for 1880 was four hundred and twenty. William T. Robinson, William McPherson, and Anderson Peebles are school directors.

DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT.

District Number Eight, one of the original districts, is bounded by a line which begins where the Franklin turnpike crosses the Williamson county-line, and runs eastward with the county-line to Mill Creek; thence down Mill Creek to the Nolensville turnpike; thence northward along said road to the crossing of Lee Shute's spring-branch; thence up said spring-branch to the old mill; thence westward with the old line between the dwellings of John Overton and John Cunningham to the Franklin turnpike; and thence southward with the Franklin turnpike to the place of beginning. Owen's store was selected as the place for holding elections.

There are churches at Mount Pisgah, in the southeast part; one in the centre, known as St. James; and in the north part of the district is Thompson's Church, on the Hollandville road. Edwin Hickman lived here in 1791. William Owen and John Hogan were early settlers.

In 1816 the assessment roll contained the names of the following persons, who were assessed for taxes in what is now the Eighth District: Nathan Gatlin, Henry Hide, Daniel and John Hogan, S. Shute, J. Cunningham.

This is the Eighth School District, and has a scholastic population numbering four hundred and forty-six. It contains five school-houses, in which were taught, in the year 1878-79, three white and two colored schools, with an enrollment of one hundred and forty-four white and one hundred and sixteen colored pupils. These schools are under the supervision of P. A. Smith, W. It. Rains, and William Holt, Esq., school directors for the district.

DISTRICT NUMBER NINE.

District Number Nine was slightly changed from its original bounds by the redistricting of 1859. The line then established began at the crossing of the Nolensville turnpike over Lee Shute's spring-branch, and ran up the branch to the old mill; thence westward with the old line running between the dwellings of John Overton and John Cunningham to the Franklin turnpike; thence northward along that road to the corporation-line of Nashville; thence followed around with the corporation-line to the Murfreesboro' turnpike; thence with the Murfreesboro' turnpike southeast to Mill Creek; thence up Mill Creek to the mouth of West Fork at Thompson's saw-mill; thence up said West Fork to the Nolensville turnpike; and thence along that turnpike northwest to the beginning. Flat Rock school-house was selected as the voting precinct.

Whitsitt Baptist church is in the northeast part, near the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad.

A store is kept on the old grocery stand of years ago by Charles Warren.

Among the earliest residents of the district was Pierce Waller; John Cortwell and John Hathaway were old settlers. Both were early justices of the peace, and highly respected.

Joel Rice was another early settler, and can be traced back to 1790 in this district. He has numerous descendants of the name in the county. In 1816 there were the following persons assessed for lands in what is included in the present district: John Blair, Adam Carper, Thomas Collins, L. Corbit, Thomas Crutcher, George M. Deaderick, Nathan Ewing.

This is the Ninth School District. It contained in 1880 seven hundred and twenty-four residents of legal school age. Two white schools were kept in 1878-79, with an enrolled attendance of seventy-seven pupils, and two colored schools in which one hundred and forty-nine pupils were enrolled. There are four school-houses. James T. Patterson, L. D. Gower, Jr., and A. H. Johnson were school directors for 1880.

DISTRICT NUMBER TEN.

District Number Ten was slightly diminished in size in 1859, and a part was annexed to Nashville. The boundary-line begins at the crossing of Cedar Street with the west boundary of the corporation of Nashville, and runs westward with Cedar Street and the Charlotte turnpike-road to Richland Creek; thence up Richland Creek with the old district line to the old line of District Number Eleven, near Frank McGavock's; thence eastward with the old line to the Franklin turnpike-road between Joseph Vault and John Thompson; thence with the Franklin turnpike northward with the corporation of Nashville; and thence around with the several meanders of the corporation-line to the place of beginning. Dana's grocery was made the voting precinct.

"Old Church" is in the south part, south of the Tennessee fair-ground.

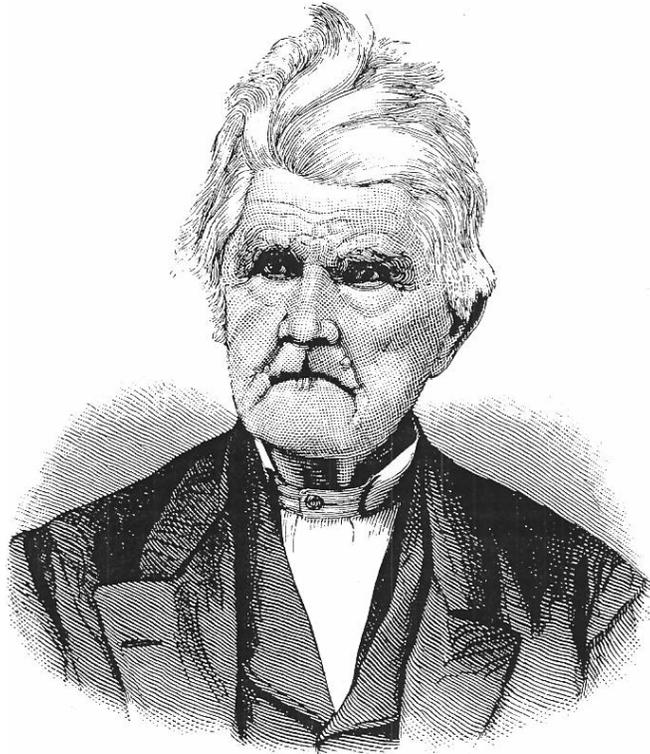
John McRobertson and Joshua McIntosh were among the earliest prominent men of the district. They were both magistrates as late as 1836, and were prominent in the affairs of the district and county.

Among its natural resources are valuable quarries of Beasley limestone, which is being rapidly developed as an ornamental building-stone, and also used in the industrial arts for various purposes to which a fine working stone is adapted.

James Ross was justice of the peace for this district in 1791. The following persons were assessed within the limits of this district in 1816: Alexander Craig, J. H. Curry, F. McGavock.

The Tennessee fair-grounds are in the north part, between the Richland pike and the railroad.

District Number Ten was organized entire under the free-school law as the school-district of that number, and so continued until April, 1880, when a part of the civil district was annexed to the city of Nashville. It contained, in 1878-79, two graded schools, three ordinary white schools, numbering two hundred and nineteen enrolled pupils, and two colored schools, with an enrollment of one hundred and eighty-three. The school population of the entire district, previous to the annexation in 1880, was fourteen hundred and twenty-seven. The district then contained seven school-houses. The school directors are D. A. McGredy, living in the remaining Tenth District, and T. D. Flippin and T. J.



Photo, by Armstrong, Nashville

TURNER WILLIAMS, son of Nimrod Williams, was born near Nashville, Sept. 25, 1796.

His grandfather, Daniel Williams, and his five sons, Nimrod, Daniel, Sampson, Oliver, and Wright, and one daughter, Eunice, came from South Carolina and settled in or near Nashville in 1786.

Daniel Williams, Sr., was well advanced in years when he came to Davidson County. He continued to reside here until his death. Nimrod, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He had also two brothers in that war, who were killed. Nimrod died in February, 1820, and his wife died in November, 1811.

Turner Williams has always been a farmer, except five years spent in the manufacture of material for cotton-sacks. He was only six months of age when his parents settled on the

farm where he now resides.

On the 22d of May, 1817, he married Anna, daughter of John Currin. She was born Aug. 27, 1797. To them were born thirteen children, of whom twelve grew to manhood and womanhood, but the greater number of them, with their mother, have passed to the other side. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have ever been worthy members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has been class-leader, steward, and superintendent of the Sunday-school for more than twenty-seven years. He has always been liberal to the poor, and a true friend of good society. His wife died March 3, 1847, and he married for his second wife Samantha Hopkins, a native of Cortland Co., N. Y., Sept. 21, 1852. She settled in Davidson County in 1850. She is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



JOHNSON VAUGHAN.

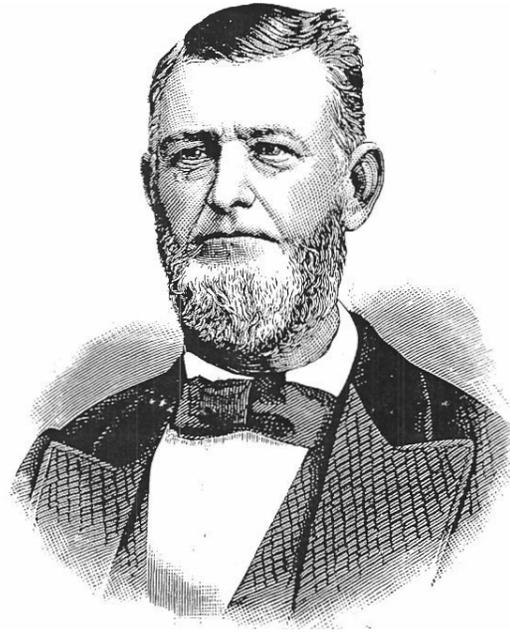
JOHNSON VAUGHAN.

Johnson Vaughan was born Feb. 4, 1782. The following brief biographical sketch is from a gentleman who knew him intimately from 1836 till his death, April 6, 1871. He *says* he found him to be a man of strong constitution and vigorous and intelligent mind. He was by trade a brick-mason, and built the first brick house erected in Nashville. His honesty in the performance of his contracts brought him plenty of work, and he was enabled to accumulate considerable wealth, possessing the rare accomplishment of knowing how to take care of it. He invested it in lands and Negroes principally, finally abandoning his trade and becoming a most successful farmer, making money and buying land in both Davidson and Williamson Counties. When he started in Tennessee his entire stock in trade consisted of an old gray mare and a trowel, yet we hesitate not to say that had it not been for the war, in which he lost heavily, he would have been one of the richest men in Davidson County; notwithstanding, when he died, he left all his children, twenty in number, in independent circumstances.

Johnson Vaughan was a strictly honest and most punctual man, and nearly a lifelong member of the Church of Christ. He was hospitable almost to a fault, and his success in life was mainly attributable to his strict honesty.

THOMAS HERRIN.

Thomas Herrin, the subject of this sketch, is the son of Henry Herrin and Mary Haines, and was born in Robertson Co., Tenn., on the 16th day of May, 1817. Mr. Herrin is of Irish extraction, his grandfather, Elisha Herrin, having emigrated from Ireland when a young man and settled in Indiana, where Henry Herrin was born and lived until



THOMAS HERRIN.

the time of the Creek war, when he enlisted in the service and rendered valuable aid to his country in the conflict that ensued. At the close of the war he settled in Robertson County, and pursued the vocation of agriculture until the time of his death. Thomas Herrin was thus reared a farmer, and when a youth worked as a farm-hand at five dollars per month, and used the proceeds in acquiring the rudiments of an education. At an early age he went to Henry Co., Tenn., where he remained until thirty-three years of age, when he married Elizabeth Vaughan, daughter of Johnson Vaughan, on Dec. 17, 1848. Mr. Herrin, soon after his marriage, removed to Williamson Co., Tenn., and worked on his father-in-law's farm until 1856. He then purchased the farm on which he at present resides, and by dint of untiring energy and persistent labor has succeeded in amassing a competence. He is now quite a large farmer, besides owning an interest in Horn's Mineral Springs, in Wilson County, and being a stockholder in the Harding Turnpike Company, of which he is a director. He is also president of the Granny White Turnpike Company.

In politics he was formerly a Whig, but is now, and has been for many years, a Democrat. Both himself and wife are members of the Christian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Herrin have adopted and reared seven children, one of whom (Mrs. Winfred) is now married and is the mother of two beautiful children. Four out of the seven are still living with their foster-parents. Mr. Herrin is in every sense a worthy man. He has always been a progressive man, as is evidenced by the interest he has taken in securing good county roads and other local improvements. He has lived a quiet, unostentatious life, never seeking the distinction of public office or political honors; but the results of his life may be summed up in one *word*,—*success*.

HISTORY OF DAVIDSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Keeton, in the portion recently annexed.

DISTRICT NUMBER ELEVEN.

District Number Eleven is an original district. Its boundaries were fixed in 1859 by a line which begins where the Franklin road crosses the Williamson county-line at Brentwood, and runs westward with said line to the old road called the Lower Franklin road, or Natchez Tract; thence with said old road northwest to the gap on Scuggs' or John's land, where the Nashville and Northwestern Railroad passes from the waters of Richland Creek to Harpeth Waters; thence northwest with the dividing ridge to the top of the hill above the second gate on the Hardin or Richland turnpike-road above Maj. Graham's; thence northeast along the Richland turnpike to the old line of District Number Ten, near Frank McGavock's; thence eastward with said old line to the Franklin turnpike, between John Thompson's and Joseph Vaulx's; and thence with Franklin turnpike southward to the place of beginning. The voting-place was located at Barnes'.

This district is so surrounded by churches as to have need for none of its own. Among its early men were Robert Bradford, Esq., who was prominent about 1825, and Mr. Philip Shute, one of the early justices of the peace for the district.

Quarries of Beasley limestone, which abound in this district, have been slightly worked, and many of the finest buildings in Nashville are ornamented by fronts of this material. Prominent among these is the Methodist Publishing House, built in 1873.

The following-named persons were assessed for taxes in this district in 1816: Henry Barnes, William Banks, Joseph Coldwell, William Goodloe, William Goode, Thomas Harding; F. B. Sappington.

This was made the Eleventh School District. It has three school-houses, and sustains four schools,—two white, with seventy-three enrolled, and two colored, with ninety-three enrolled. The school population of the district is five hundred and forty-six. The directors for 1879-80 are George Mayfield, C. B. Chickering, and M. C. Carpenter.

In this district lived many years ago "Granny White," a respected and famous old lady, who kept the only house of entertainment between Nashville and Franklin, a noted place in the early settlement of the country; the friend of Thomas H. Benton, to whom he several times alluded in his speeches in the Senate.

This place, as well as the adjoining place, on which Thomas H. Benton lived, is now owned by Hon. John M. Lea.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWELVE.

A small piece was taken from District Number Twelve, on the redistricting of the county in 1859, and joined to District Number Twenty-five. The boundaries were then made as follows: Beginning on the south bank of Cumberland River, where the east boundary of the land purchased by Mark R. Cockrill, of Dr. Hudson, strikes said river, and running thence south with the line of that land to the Charlotte turnpike-road, along said road westward to Richland Creek, up Richland Creek to the Hardin, or

Richland turnpike-road; thence with that road to the top of the ridge, above the second toll-gate on that road; thence with the dividing and old district-line northwestward to the Charlotte turnpike-road, between F. P. Sullivan's and

Davidson's toll-gate; thence with the Charlotte road westward to the Cheatham county-line, near Stranger's; thence north with the county-line to the fork of the creek Samuel Garland lives on, near Joseph Russell's; thence up the creek to the old bridge on Pond Creek road; thence with that road to the dividing ridge between Jordan Abernathy and the old McBride place; thence east with the meanders of said ridge to the old Smith and Nicholson line; thence east with said line to the Cumberland River; thence up said river to the place of beginning. Hillsboro' was made the voting precinct of the district.

Near the centre, south of Bell's Bend, is Gower's chapel.

William E. Watkins was an early settler and justice of the peace. Samuel B. Davidson was one of the most prominent early citizens of the district, and is still remembered as a man of leading qualities. Thomas Molloy was an early settler, coming as early as 1792.

The following-named persons were assessed for taxes in what is now District Number Twelve in 1816: Daniel A. Dunham, James Donnelly, Thomas Dillahunty, Thomas Finney and heirs, William Gower, Martin Greer, Robert Hewitt, John and Giles Harding, Ezekiel Inman, John Larkin, Sr., John McGough, James McNeely, William Nothern, Philip Pipkin, John Pugh, Robert Thomas, Johnston Vaughan, Joseph Erwin.

This, one of the original school districts, has four schoolhouses, and sustains four white schools and one colored one. The enrolled attendance is, white, one hundred and sixty-eight; colored, fifty-six. The school population for the year 1879-80 was four hundred and nine. L. D. Gower, H. C. Davidson, and Z. T. Jordan are district school directors.

DISTRICT NUMBER THIRTEEN.

The line of this district, established by the commissioners in 1859, begins at the crossing of Cedar Street, with the west boundary of the corporation of Nashville, and runs out with Cedar Street and Charlotte turnpike-road to Mark Cockrill's (southeast corner of his Hudson tract of land), and thence north with his east boundary of that land to Cumberland River; thence up Cumberland River to the corporation-line of Nashville, and thence around with the corporation-line to the place of beginning. The voting precinct was, established at Biddle's shop.

Among the prominent and early residents of the district might be mentioned William Shelton, Elijah Nicholson, and John Donelson, who lived here in 1792. John Walker, an early settler, was assessed for taxes here in 1816.

The popular race-grounds of the Nashville Blood Horse Association are in this district, adjoining Burns' Island, on the Cumberland River.

School District Number Thirteen includes the whole district, and contained, in 1880, two thousand three hundred and forty-six resident school-children. There are three graded schools in the district, one of which is for colored pupils. Seven white and six colored teachers are employed

in these. There are besides two white common schools. The number of pupils enrolled is, white, four hundred and fifty-seven; colored, five hundred and one. There are five school-houses in the district. The school directors for the year ending in 1880 were John Leonard, J. H. Burns, and M. McDonald.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOURTEEN.

District Number Fourteen was formed in 1859, to include all that remained in Davidson County of the original Fourteenth and Fifteenth Districts, and was bounded as follows: Beginning on the Williamson county-line, where the Lower Franklin or Natchez Trace-road crosses that line, and runs westward with the county-line to the Cheatham county-line, on the waters of South Harpeth; thence northward with that line to the Charlotte road, near the Strange place; thence eastward with the Charlotte road and the line of the Twelfth District to a point between Davidson's toll-gate and F. P. Sullivan's; thence with the dividing ridge southward to the Richland turnpike above the second toll-gate, and continuing with the dividing ridge to where the Nashville and Northwestern Railroad passes through a gap of that ridge; thence with the Lower Franklin or Old Natchez Trace-road to the place of beginning. Greer's shop was fixed upon as the polling-place for the district.

There is a Christian church in the south corner on Harpeth River, Pleasant Grove church on Richland pike, Providence Church at Reynolds' mill, and Liberty Grove church near Newsom's Station, on Buffalo Creek, where there is also a post-office. News Station and Belle View post-offices are both in this district.

Among the early men of prominence were John Davis and Martin Forehand.

In 1791, Robert Edmondson was a prominent man, and magistrate for the district. There were taxed in 1816, within the limits of this district and west of the Harpeth River, the following-named persons: Thomas and Zachariah Allen, James and Hugh Allison, Andrew Boyd, Newsom Barham, Samuel Bryan, L. Barker, James Bird, Moses and Lewis Balding (win?), Jeremiah Baxter, Leonard Burnett, Samuel Carroll, Benjamin Cox, Andrew Caldwell, W. Champ, Henry and Huston Cooper, John E. Clark, John Connor, William, James, and Silas Dillahunty, John, Thomas, Henry, and Lewis Demoss, Samuel Dennis, Ezekiel Douglass, Lewis Dunn, William and Jeremiah Ellis, Newton and Levin Edney, Robert and William B. Evans, John and Arthur Exum, T. Fulgin, Aaron Franklin, William Fassell, William Fowler, John Goodwin, Isaac, Greenbury, and George Greer, James and Anthony Gillum, John D. Garrett, Elisha Garland, William Henry, John Herbison, Francis and John Hartgraves, John Harwood, George and Jep. Hooper, James, Francis, and George Hodge; John Hannah, William Harris, John Johns, Dempsey, John, Jarvis, and Isaac Jones, John and Daniel Joslin, Thomas M. Jefferson, Jonathan Johnson, Robert Kennedy, Sr., Moses Knight, David Keen, Obedience Lewis, George Lile, Thomas Levi, Henry McIlwain, Edward Mobley, Rencher McDaniel, William, Francis, Balam, Eldridge, and Nicholas Newsom, William Nelson, Butler and Corbin

Noles, R. C. Napier, Benjamin Pritchard, R. Phipps, George Pierce, Benjamin Pack, James Richison, William Reach, William, George, and James Reeves, David and William Renn, Jesse Reynolds, George Roper, Gus and Henry Rape, Robert Shannon, Robert Shaw, William Scott, Aquino Suggs, John W. and Thomas J. Thornton, Samuel and Allen Thompson, William Winstead, William Williamson, Thomas Westbrooks.

This district was organized as the Fourteenth School District. In the year 1878-79 there were five white schools taught, with an enrolled attendance of two hundred and forty-seven pupils, and two colored schools, numbering bering seventy-two pupils. The school population of the district in 1880 was five hundred and forty-seven. The school directors' are M. N. Brown, N. M. Morton, and J. B. Linton.

DISTRICT NUMBER FIFTEEN.

The line fixed by the commissioners in 1859 begins at the crossing of the Murfreesboro' turnpike-road over Mill Creek, and runs down Mill Creek to its mouth; then down Cumberland River to the corporation line of Nashville; thence with the corporation-line south to the Murfreesboro' turnpike; and thence with the Murfreesboro' turnpike to the place of beginning. J. J. Corley's was selected as the polling-place for the district.

The absence of churches is only an indication that the inhabitants of this district transferred their liberal support to those of surrounding districts, at which many of them hold membership. Thomas Allison was for many years in the early days-of the county a prominent resident in this district. William Herrin, Esq., was a neighbor of his in the days when magistrates were appointed for life, and was a prominent man. David Hays lived here as early as 1791.

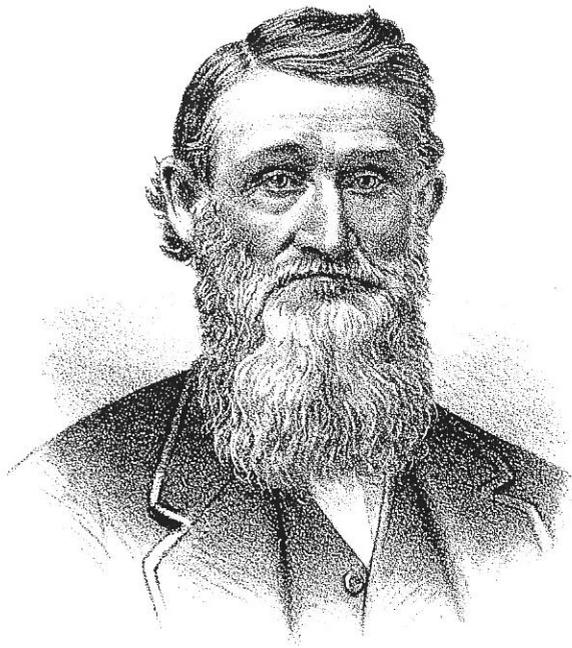
The following persons were assessed for taxes on lands included in this district in 1816: Bennett and John Blackman, Robert Champ, John Johnston, Henry Queesenbery; George Ridley, John Rains, Sr., Thomas Thompson, John Overton, Esq.

District Number Fifteen was made a school district under the new law, and two white schools and one colored school opened. The population is small, but the schools are fairly sustained. The enrolled scholarship for the year 1878-79 was ninety white and eighty-eight colored pupils. The district has three school-houses. In 1880 there were two hundred and ninety-five school-children in the district. C. H. Goodlett, B. F. Lester, and John H. Anderson are school directors.

The beautiful cemetery of Mount Olivet, and, joining it towards Nashville, the Calvary Cemetery, are both located in this district, on the south side of the Lebanon pike, where they occupy one of the most beautiful locations in the county.

DISTRICT NUMBER SIXTEEN.

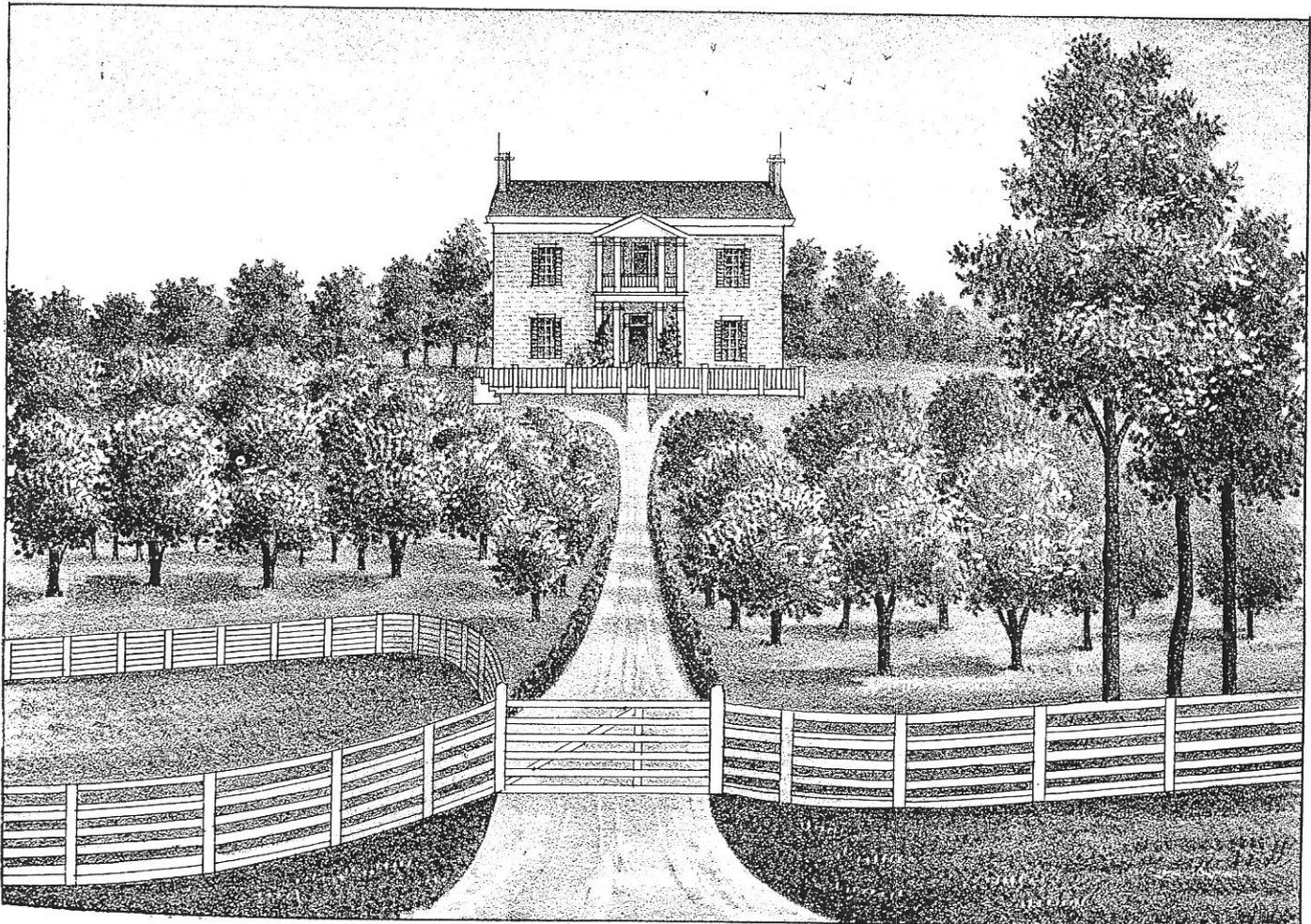
District Number Sixteen was formed from a part of old District Number Four in 1859. The boundary-line then drawn begins at Stuart's Ferry over Stone's River, and runs eastward With the old Lebanon road to Page's line, then northeast and south to intersect that road and include



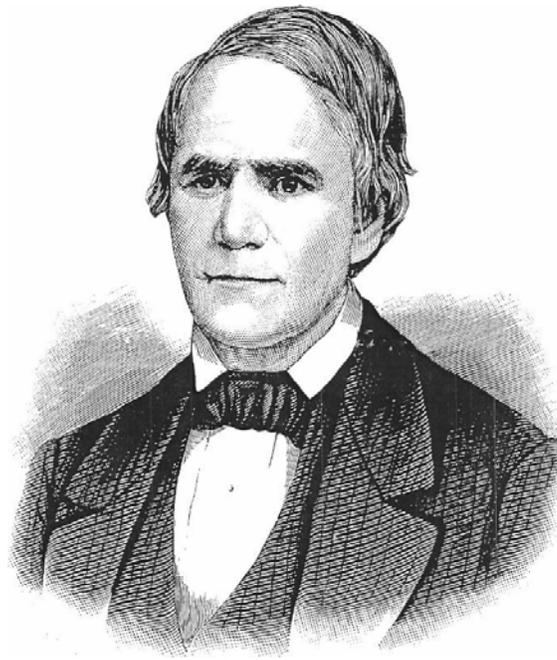
J. A. HARWOOD.



MRS J. A. HARWOOD.



RES. OF JAMES A. HARWOOD, 7 MILES SOUTH EAST OF NASHVILLE TENN.



JAMES JOHNSON.

James Johnson, son of Allen and Mary Johnson, was born in Virginia in 1797, and died in District 18, on the place where his daughter Sarah now resides, April 28, 1863, aged sixty-six years.

His father, Allen Johnson, was a brick-maker, and settled in Rutherford Co., Tenn., at an early day, and removed thence to Williamson County, where he died of cholera. In this beautiful region of country he pursued the life of a farmer.

James Johnson came to Tennessee with his parents, and resided in Rutherford and Williamson Counties till he settled in Nashville, about 1840. He was a school-teacher in early life, and as such met with great success.

He married Frances Nolen, daughter of William and Sarah Nolen, April 11, 1820. Of this union there were born five children,—W. A., Mary D. (deceased), Sarah L., Martha Ann, and David D. (deceased).

W. A. married Mary Griffin, of Virginia, and is now a merchant in New Orleans.

Mary D. married Dempsey Weaver (a history of whom may be seen elsewhere). She died at the early age of eighteen, leaving one daughter, now Mrs. Frances Woolwine, of Nashville.

Sarah L. is a maiden lady, still residing on the old homestead.

Martha Ann married Hiram Vaughn; has five children, and lives in District 18.

James Johnson was a cotton merchant in Nolensville for many years; and when he settled in Nashville he formed a partnership with Messrs. Rabou & Price. Upon the failure of this firm he became a copartner of Col. A. W. Johnson and Dempsey Weaver. He continued in business on Market Street till the war, when his health failed. He died April 28, 1863.

In politics he was a lifelong Democrat, and his feelings and opinions were opposed to the war. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a liberal supporter. In his daily life he was a man kind to his family, hospitable to the stranger, and generous to the poor. In a word, he was an honest man, that " noblest work of God." He died leaving to his family the precious legacy of a good name. His wife died June 29, 1878, and both lie buried in the old cemetery of Nashville. United in life, in death they were not parted.



COL. JAMES L. GREER.

Col. James L. Greer is the second son of Greenberry Greer, who was born in North Carolina, Sept. 15, 1764. His parents were Joseph and Ann Greer. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and came to Davidson Co., Tenn., at an early date in the county's history, when the beautiful valleys now dotted with fertile farms and handsome residences were a dense wilderness inhabited by wild beasts and wilder savages.

Before his death he had become a prosperous and extensive farmer, owning a farm of seven hundred acres of valuable land, and reared a large family of children. On this farm James L. Greer was born Nov. 25, 1806, and there were spent the days of his childhood and youth. When he had attained the age of manhood, and availed himself of such means of information and education as were attainable here in those primitive days, he married, on April 16, 1829, Miss Hannah Dillahunty, and commenced life as a farmer in his native county. They had four children,—Green B., who died at the age of twenty years; Silas, who married Susan Bledsoe, has now two children, and is residing on the old Greer homestead, and engaged in merchandising ;

John T., who married Josephine Dillahunty, and has one son ; and James L., who married Delilah Dillahunty, is a farmer, and has four children,—two sons and two daughters. All are residing in the Fourteenth District, Davidson County. Mrs. Hannah Greer died June 2, 1849.

Sept. 20, 1849, Mr. Greer married his second wife, Miss Luzaney P. De Moss, daughter of Thomas De Moss, who with his father was an early settler in Davidson County. Mr. Greer lived the life of a quiet, unostentatious farmer, never entering the maelstrom of politics or seeking office; but that he was a successful farmer may be shown by the fact that he owned some twenty-three hundred acres of valuable land. He was for many years colonel of the State militia.

He died Aug. 5, 1869, and was buried in the old De Moss Cemetery by the side of his first wife.

His second wife is now living on the old homestead, an excellent farm, of which there are six or seven hundred acres in a high state of cultivation.

Mrs. Greer inserts this portrait and biography in the county's history as a tribute of love and respect to the memory of her husband.

HISTORY OF DAVIDSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Thomas B. Page's residence; thence with the said road, passing New Hope, to J. H. Hagan's burnt mill; thence east to the Wilson county-line; thence southward with the county-line to the southwest corner of Wilson County; thence southeast with that county-line and the Rutherford county-line to Stone's River, and down Stone's River to the place of beginning.

On petition of John Hart, the dividing-line between Districts -Four and Sixteen was so changed, Jan. 8, 1861, as to "run and extend from the point where it digresses" at Thomas B. Page's, north of the residence of Elizabeth Hunt., and extending thence to New Hope church. Gilpin Hallum's was chosen as the polling-place.

Phillips church is in the south part, east of Stone's River and near the east line of the county. New Hope church is in the north end of the district.

Stewart's Ferry, at which is the post-office of that name, was an early point of settlement by Mr. Stewart, from whom it takes its name. William Greer and Lewis Dunn were early magistrates of the district. James Robertson represented the district 'as justice of the peace in 1791.

The following persons were assessed for taxes in this district in 1816: William Hall, James and Eleazer Hamilton, John Thompson.

This is the Sixteenth School District. It maintains three white schools with an aggregate attendance of eighty-one scholars, and a colored school of which the attendance in 1878-79 was thirty. The total number of residents of school age in 1880 was one hundred and thirty-five. There are three school-houses. W. J. Chandler, John Seaborn, and J. H. Eskridge were school directors for the year 1879-80.

DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHTEEN.

District Number Eighteen was formed in 1859 from one-half of the old Eighteenth District. Its boundary-line begins on the Cumberland River where the line between N. Hobson and the late John P. Shelby's lands strikes that river, and runs north with their line to the line of W. Finn and W. M. Cook; thence west to the White's Creek turnpike; thence out with said road to the Brick Church turnpike; with the Brick Church turnpike to Page's Branch; up Page's Branch to the Louisville Branch turnpike; with the Louisville Branch road to Taylor's Gap; thence eastward with Capt. John Wilson's north boundary-line, and with the north boundary-line of the Clemons or Ryan tract; thence with the north boundary of the Iredale tract to Craighead's spring-branch; then down that branch, passing Love's old mill, to the Cumberland River; and thence down the river to the place of beginning.' District store was made the voting-place of the district.

The churches are Lindsley's chapel, Hobson's chapel, in the south part, near the Edgefield line, and Trinity, on the Louisville turnpike.

Among the more prominent and earlier settlers were the families of John McGavock and John Hobson, both of whom were leading men and members of the old "Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace." Adam Lynn was an early settler and was a magistrate in 1791.

The following persons were taxed in this district in 1816: John , George , and William L. Boyd, Andrew Hynes ,

Greenwood , Zachariah , and Morgan Payne, Jones Reed, James Love.

A portion of this district was taken to form School Distracts Numbers Nineteen and Twenty-eight, with parts of the Twentieth, Twenty-second, Eighteenth, and Twenty-first Districts. The Twenty-eighth was formed in October, 1879.

The main part of this civil district became a school district of the same number on the formation of districts under the free-school law. Two schools were organized, one for each race. The white school numbered fifty-five in 1878-79, the colored school fifty. They each have a school-house. The entire enrollment of the district for the year 1880 was five hundred and twenty children. J. B. Love, A. W. Webber, and H. F. Banks were school directors for 1879-80.

DISTRICT NUMBER NINETEEN.

District Number Nineteen, one of the original districts, begins at the mouth of Craighead or Love's spring-branch, on Cumberland River, and runs up that branch to the north boundary of the Iredale tract; thence westward with the north boundary of the Iredale, Clemons, and Wilson tracts to Taylor's Gap; thence with the Louisville branch turnpike to Dry Creek, near Enoch Cunningham's; thence down Dry Creek to Cumberland River, and thence down the river to the place of beginning. It was ordered that the polling-place be established at "Scraggs."

New Bethel church is in the north corner of the district, near Dry Creek. The post-office is Madison, on the Louisville, Nashville and Great Southern Railroad. Reuben Payne, Edmund Goodrich, John Kirkpatrick's, and the Iredale, Clemmons, and Wilson families were, among the early settlers.

Among those taxed in 1816 in what is now District Number Nineteen were William E. Bea, William Carroll, Thomas Folkes, John Frazier, William Hill, I. Metcalfe, Samuel Neely, Alexander Walker, William Ray, Nicholas Raymond.

This became the Nineteenth School District on the organization of the county for schools. A portion was afterwards set aside to form, in connection with contiguous parts of the Twentieth and Twenty-second Civil Districts, a new school district numbered twenty-six. In the Nineteenth School District there were two white and two colored schools, having enrolled in 1878-79, respectively, seventy and eighty-four pupils, and attending at four school-houses.

The entire school population of the Nineteenth School District in 1880 was three hundred and fifty-eight. J. Sloan, Dr. W. Goodrich, and A. B. Ford were school directors in 1880. The Twenty-sixth School District contains one hundred and forty-six children, of whom, in 1878-79, forty-three were enrolled in the white school, and fifty-seven in the colored school. The trustees of this district for 1880 were W. J. Campbell, J. C. Willis, and T. J. Kemper.

The United States National Cemetery occupies a broken piece of ground among the hills in the south part, on both sides of the railroad. This ground is well kept and forms a most beautiful park. The soldiers buried here were gathered from the surrounding battle-fields, where they fell in the

late civil war.

On the 25th of September, 1870, a Presbyterian Sabbath-school was organized in a large and spacious room over C. E. Woodruff's store at Madison Station. On Jan. 8, 1871, Rev. James H. McNeilly, chairman of the missionary committee of the Nashville Presbytery, with C. N. Ordway and D. P. Rankin, elders, met and organized in the same room a Presbyterian Church, composed of twenty-four members, with officers as follows: S. S. Hall and Alexander Baker, Elders; C. E. Woodruff, Deacon. The name chosen was Madison Presbyterian Church. Soon after the organization of the church the ministerial services of Rev. Alexander Cowan were secured as stated supply. Two Sabbaths in the month, and continued as such up to the spring of 1874. In the month of April, 1875, Rev. C. L. Ewing was installed pastor of the church for two Sabbaths in the month, and continued as such until April 25, 1879, when Rev. B. F. Thompson commenced preaching as stated supply, and continued for several months, but resigned to accept an appointment as missionary to Brazil. Rev. W. E. Carr preached several times for the church during the spring of 1880, and a call was placed in his hands to become its pastor for two Sabbaths in the month, but he declined to accept on account of ill health. The number of members at this time is fifty-one, and the officers are Alexander Baker, S. S. Hall, and William Williams, Elders; J. A. Hall, E. E. Hall, and William Taylor, Deacons. A neat and commodious church edifice was erected on a beautiful eminence near the station, and dedicated in the year 1872, costing three thousand two hundred dollars, since which time the services of the church and Sunday-school have been held there.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWENTY.

District Number Twenty was one of the original districts. Its boundary-lines, as established by the commissioners in 1859, begin at the mouth of Mansker's Creek, and run up that stream and with the Sumner county-line to the Robertson county-line; thence around to the southwest with the county-line and a high ridge to the old dry fork of Sycamore Creek; down that creek to a point near J. C. Prickett's; thence southward, passing with a ridge east of Prickett's and east of Thomas Haley's, Sumner T. Fryer's, and W. H. Jenkins', and crossing the hollow a little east of Jonas Shivers' house, crossing a ridge and passing east of George W. Campbell's house; thence a little south of east to the fork of Dry Creek above E. Cunningham's; thence down Dry Creek to the Cumberland River; and thence up that river to the place of beginning. The polling-place for the district was fixed at Goodlettsville, where the first post-office was opened. There was another opened at Edgefield Junction on the opening of the railroad, and a third at Baker's Station.

Enoch P. Connell and John C. Bowers were early magistrates.

Among those assessed for taxes in 1816, in what is now District Number Twenty, were Pembroke, Thomas, Jacob, and Robert Cartwright, Enoch Cunningham, Adam Clement, George and William Campbell, William, John, and Thomas Cole, Nicholas Cross, John Camp, John

Congo, Abraham Echols, Daniel Frazer, William Grizard, James Gulliford, Jesse Glasgow, William Hackney, Ann Hope, Oliver Johnston, E. Logue, John Pirtle, Reuben Payne,

Josiah and George Purvy, Dempsey Powell, Ann Randle, Thomas Ragan, Lemuel Tinnon, George and Samuel L. Wharton, Elmore Walker, David Dunn, Paul Desmukes, and Thomas Davis.

On the formation of school districts, a small portion of this district was joined with parts of Civil Districts Nineteen and Twenty-two to form the Twenty-sixth School District. The remainder was organized into School District Number Nineteen. It contains five school-houses, and has three white and two colored schools. The attendance at these in the year ending 1879 was two hundred and nineteen white and seventy-one colored pupils. The school population of the Twentieth School District was five hundred and seventeen in 1880, besides which a portion of the one hundred and forty-six in the joint district were of this civil district. The directors for 1880 were William Linton, Wesley Drake, and A. K. Goodlett.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWENTY-ONE.

District Number Twenty-one, one of the original districts, was confirmed by the county commissioners in 1859, with the following boundaries "Begins at the mouth of Page's Branch and runs up the same to the Louisville Branch turnpike-road; with said road to the lane between W. D. Phillips' and Mrs. C. Bell's; thence west, passing through said lane to a point on the road above Jefferson Wag-goner's mill; thence westward to the dividing ridge between Coffman's Hollow and Hunter's on Sugar Fork of White's Creek, east of Thomas Byrn's; thence down White's Creek to the bridge over the same for Buena Vista turnpike-road near Young's shop; thence with said turnpike to Cumberland River, and thence up the river to the beginning." Ewing's school-house was made the place for holding elections. They were changed to the brick church some years later. There is a church on Ewing's Creek, and Love's chapel above, on the same stream.

Charles W. Moorman and Claiborne Y. Hooper were justices and leading men in 1828. They were both descendants of early settlers.

Thomas Talbot, one of the pioneers, who received a life-appointment as magistrate under the old law, settled in this district as early as 1791, on the place now partially occupied by the fine residence of Mr. Bang, former editor of the *Banner*. He came from Bedford Co., Va., in 1785, and was a justice in 1791. He died in 1831, leaving fifty-one descendants.

The following persons were assessed for taxes in 1816: David Hunter, John Bacchus, Joel Beaver, Barnabas Bails.

This district comprises School District Number Twenty-one and a part of School District Number Twenty-eight. This latter district is formed of contiguous portions of Civil Districts Eighteen, Nineteen, and Twenty-one, and was formed in October, 1879, with one school of forty scholars. It contained one hundred and thirty-four school-children in 1880, who were then under the administration of Peter Tamble, A. J. Crump, and John Taylor, directors. There are



JAMES YARBROUGH was born in Warren Co., N. C., May 23, 1804. His father came to Tennessee and settled on White's Creek, in Davidson County, in 1806, when James was scarcely two years of age.

In the month of February, 1823, James was married to Margaret Coffman. Of this union there were born nine children, seven of whom grew to maturity ; of this number only two are now living,—Mrs. William D. Robertson, who resides on White's Creek, amid the scenes of her early childhood, and James H. Yarbrough, One of Nashville's worthy citizens. Mr. Yarbrough was a man of indomitable energy, and his necessity caused him to be economical. He was one of the best farmers in the county. He commenced life poor, but when he died, in 1861, he left fifty thousand dollars to his family.

His educational advantages were limited; nevertheless he was a close student,—a student of men and things. He was well informed

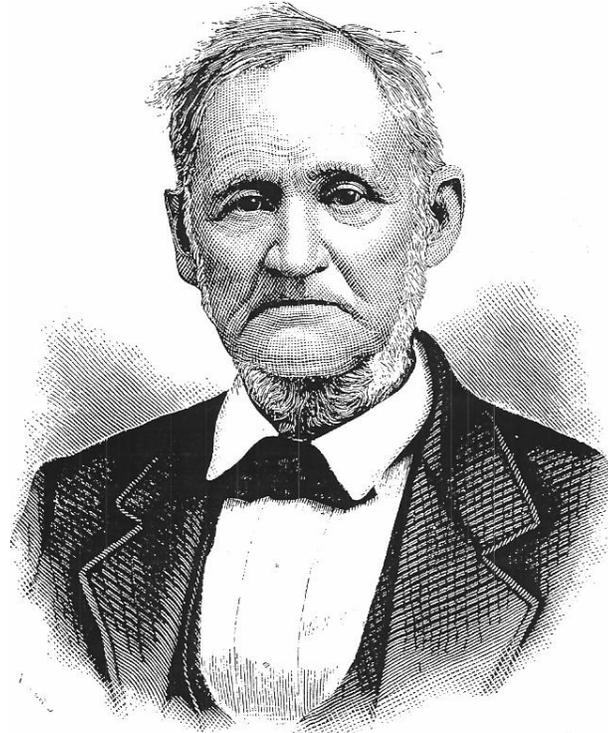
on the current events of the day, —a man of close observation. He was also a very practical man; his neighbors found in him a good counselor, and were greatly pleased by his wise judgment.

In 1842 he was elected magistrate of the Twenty-first District, and served two terms. Under the old militia law of Tennessee, he filled the various offices from corporal to major of his regiment.

In all his public ministrations and trusts, he was *efficient* and *true* to the confidence imposed in him.

He was a worthy member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was truly a Christian gentleman.

He was a true and noble citizen, an affectionate husband, a kind and loving father, and an *honest man*



Geo. A. Nelson

GEORGE A. NELSON is a lineal descendant of the first American emigrant who settled in the State of Virginia many years before the Revolutionary war, where he followed the occupation of a farmer and reared a large family of children, one of them named Joseph Nelson, whose son Thomas was the father of the subject of this sketch. The entire family of Nelsons have been successful farmers in the State of Virginia and the County of Fauquier, where four generations lived, and where three of them were buried. Here George A. was born, May 14, 1807. His mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Green, a native of Fauquier County also. The family consisted of eight children, of whom George A. is the eldest. Thomas and wife were members of the Baptist Church. He was for a short time a soldier in the war of 1812, and died about the year 1835.

George A. Nelson was reared on the farm, and early learned the cardinal principles of true genuine success. He purchased a farm about 1828 or 1830, which he sold in the year 1853 at a handsome profit, and in November of that year came to Tennessee and settled in

Davidson County, where he has since continued to reside. He has long since retired from active life, and now lives with his only son, Oscar F. In politics he was formerly a Clay Whig, but of late takes but little interest in political affairs. He was captain of a company of State militia for several years before his settlement in Davidson County. Since coming here he has been elected school commissioner. He was married to Margaret Seleeman in the year 1831, and had four children,—Elizabeth (deceased), Oscar F., George F. (deceased), and Arthur (deceased). Oscar F. is married and has eight children. He is a successful farmer in the Eighteenth District.

Mrs. George A. Nelson died Oct. 20, 1856.

Capt. Nelson is well spoken of by his neighbors as a good citizen and an honest man. He is well advanced in years, is hale and hearty, and spends his time for the most part in thinking of the pleasant associations of gone-by days.

HISTORY OF DAVIDSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

foul' schools in the Twenty-first District, of which, in 1878-79, the three white had an attendance of one hundred and nine., and the colored school twenty-seven. The school population. of the school district in 1880 was two hundred and forty-one. T. A. Harris, John D. Vaughan, and J. H. Jackson were then school directors. The district has four school-houses.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWENTY-TWO.

District Number Twenty-two is one of the original districts. The boundary-line established in 1859 begins at a point on Sycamore Creek a little above John C. Puckctt's, and runs down that creek and with the Robertson county-line to a point between Asa Adcock and Wilkerson's old burnt steam-mill; thence southward with a ridge and passing between Loggin's Spring and the house of M. A. Newland; thence southward with the dividing ridge between Clay Lick and Earthman's Fork of White's Creek; then passing west of Mrs. Adkinson's house to White's Creek, below Manschall's mill; thence eastward with a ridge between Hunter's, on Sugar Fork, and Coffman's Hollow, passing north of Jefferson Waggoner's mill and through the lane between W. D. Phillips and Mrs. C. Bell to the Louisville Branch turnpike-road; thence with that road northeast to Dry Creek, near E. Cunningham's house; thence up Dry Creek to the old line between the Twentieth and Twenty-second Districts; and thence northward, passing east of G. W. Campbell's, Thomas Haley's, Jonas Shivers', and John C. Puckett's, to the place of beginning. July 2, 1860, a portion of Robertson County was annexed to this district. This includes all the land east of a line beginning at a point on Sycamore Creek, near Wilkinson's burnt steam-mill, and following the road by Warren's Pond north to Samuel Smiles', and to the east of his land until it intersects with the Williamson county-line. In 1860 the elections were ordered to be held at Cool Spring.

There is a church at that place and another at Beach Grove, both Methodist Episcopal; a third, at Mount Hermon, is Cumberland Presbyterian. The lower room of the Cool Spring church is occupied as a school-room.

Napoleon B. Willis has for many years been a prominent citizen and a magistrate of the district. Gilbert Marshall, father of Dr. Marshall, now above eighty years of age, is the oldest resident of the district and an early settler. David Ralston and John Cloyd were prominent men and descendants of pioneer families.

The post-offices are White's Creek and Ridge Post.

The following persons were assessed for land-taxes in 1816: George Fry, Henry Bonner, Elihu S. Hall, Jacob Dickinson, Sr.

The greater part of this civil district is included in the Twenty-second School District. This contains four schoolhouses, and maintains three white schools and one colored one. The attendance for the year 1878-79 was one hundred and eighteen white and forty-seven colored pupils. The enrollment of the district for 1880 included two hundred and seventy-seven school-children. The directors for 1880 were J. C. Helms, N. J. Cummins, and A. T. Shaw. A portion of this district is included with parts of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Civil Districts to form the

Twenty-sixth School District, which contained a white school of forty-three and a colored school of fifty-seven members in 1878-79, and had one hundred and forty-six resident children in 1880.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWENTY-THREE.

District Number Twenty-three was slightly changed in its boundaries established in 1859. These lines begin on the north bank of the Cumberland River at Buena Vista Ferry, and run out with the Buena Vista turnpike-road to White's Creek; up White's Creek to the mouth of Dry Fork; up Dry Fork, and crossing the ridge with the road to Mayo's mill; thence to the three forks of Little Marrow-bone Creek; thence southward so as to strike the dividing ridge between the waters of Eaton's and Sulphur Creeks; thence with said ridge, passing between Edmund Hyde's old place and Burcher's store to Cumberland River near Hyde's wood-yard.; and thence up the river to the place of beginning.

Jan. 6, 1862, on petition of Catherine Stump, James Gingry, E. P. Graves, Z. M. H. Carney, C. H. Manlove, Th. Bysor, and I. M. Mayo, it was ordered by the court that the line between District Twenty four and this district be so altered as to include the petitioners in the Twenty-third District, by changing the line to extend up White's Creek to the mouth of Earthman's Creek; up Earthman's Creek to Thomas Bysor's line; thence following that line west to the dividing ridge between Earthman's and Dry Fork, by said ridge to the head of Little Marrow-bone; thence with the dividing ridge between that stream and Earthman's Creek to the Big and Little Marrow-bone divide, following the ridge to the Cheatham county-line; thence by the county-line to Little Marrow-bone Creek, which it follows up to the Three Forks. William I. Drake's was made the polling-place for the district in 1860.

The first settler in this district was Thomas Eaton, who settled on the present Dr. Jordan place, about two hundred yards below the famous lick where occurred many exciting adventures of the early settlers. Thomas Hickman, of District Number Twenty-five, was for some time his only neighbor. Among the first settlers were the families of Jesse Smith, Lewis Williams, and William R. Drake. Henry Holt, Esq., is the oldest man now living in the district.

Simpkins chapel (Methodist Episcopal and Cumberland Presbyterian), Holt's chapel (Methodist Episcopal and old Zion Free-Will Baptist), and present voting precinct are the old churches of the district. Eaton's Creek post-office is at H. C. Hyde's store, where is the chief settlement, two churches, and half a mile below T. H. Young's store.

William S. Drake and David Abernathy were the first justices of this district under the new law appointing for six years.

The following-named persons were assessed for land-taxes in this district in 1816: Beal Bosley, Roland Cato, James Dean, John and Jonathan Drake, John B. Dillard, Absalom Hooper, Nathan G. Hail, Thomas and Robert Eaton, Balser Hoffman, Jordan Hyde, Joseph Love, John Lucas, James Marshall, Isaac Newland, Robert Patterson, Thomas Parker, David Ralston, William Shaw, Samuel Shannon, Frederick and Christopher Stump, Francis, George, Samuel, Robert, and Thomas Taylor, Rachel and

Simon Williams, John Wilson.

This district was organized as School District Number Twenty-three when the free-school law went into effect. It contains four school-houses, and has three white schools and one colored one. The attendance for the year 1878-79 was one hundred and sixty-two white and seventy-three colored pupils. There were three hundred and seventy school-children living in the district in 1880. The school directors for that year were Wilson Stevens, G. B. Stewart, and W. D. Simpkins.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWENTY-FOUR.

District Number Twenty-Four was divided in 1859, and part of the old district of that number taken to form the present Twenty-Fifth District. Its boundary as established at that date began at the mouth of Dry Fork of White's Creek, which it followed up, and crossing the ridge with the road to Mayo's Mill ran to the three forks of Little Marrow-bone Creek; thence down stream to the Cheatham county-line; thence northward with the county-line to the Robertson county-line on Sycamore Creek; thence up that creek to a point between Wilkerson's old burnt steam-mill and Asa Adcock's; thence southward with a ridge passing between Loggin's Spring and the place where M. A. Newland lives, so as to strike the dividing ridge between Clay Lick and Earthman's Fork of White's Creek, and passing west of Mrs. Adkerson's house to White's Creek below Marshall's mill; thence down White's Creek to the place of beginning.

July 2, 1860, it was ordered by the court that all that land recently taken from Robertson County and lying west of a line "beginning at a point on Sycamore Creek near Wilkinson's burnt steam-mill, and running north with the road by Warren's Pond to Samuel Smiley's, including said Smiley," be annexed to this district.

Jan. 6, 1862, a part was taken off and annexed to District Number Three, and changing the line to run as follows: To extend up White's Creek to the mouth of Earthman's Creek and up that stream to Thomas Bysor's north line; thence on that line west to the dividing ridge between Earthman's and Dry Fork, and by that ridge to the head of Little Marrow-bone; thence with the dividing ridge between that stream and Earthman's Creek to the Big and Little Marrow-bone divide, and following that ridge to the Cheatham county-line; thence by the county-line to Little Marrow-bone Creek, which it follows up to the Three Forks. It was ordered in 1860 that Dismuke's tanyard be the polling place of the district.

The churches are Forest Grove and Garrett's chapel, Methodist Episcopal, Oakland, Free-Will Baptist, and the old Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal church, now abandoned and falling into decay. A German church has been recently built for the accommodation of the more recent settlers of that nationality. A Mr. Waggoner was one of the first settlers in the district. Among the most prominent citizens of the early part of the present century were Jonathan Garrett and Daniel Brice, Esqs.

The following persons paid taxes on lands in this district in 1816: Moses Cavert, Jacob and John Cagle, Samuel Crockett, Richard Champ, John Devus, John Franks, Michael Gleaves, Thomas Hail, Jacob Hunter, Benjamin

Hyde, Micajah Morris, George Rainier, Robert Vick.

The Twenty-fourth School District, which is comprised in this civil district, was not reported for the last year, and cannot, therefore, be mentioned in detail. It contains three school-houses, in each of which schools are kept. In 1880 there were three hundred and eighty-three school-children reported as residing within the district by the school directors, W. L. Earthman, Kindred Reasoner, and James E. Carney.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWENTY-FIVE.

District Number Twenty-five was formed in 1859 from a part of the old District Number Twenty-four, and a small piece of the old Twelfth District. Its original boundary-line begins at a point on Little Marrow-bone Creek, where the Cheatham county-line crosses that stream, and runs in a southwest course, crossing the Cumberland River and following the county-line to the fork of the creek near Joe Russell's; thence with the line of the Twelfth District to the Cumberland River; thence up the river to a point near Hyde's wood-yard, at the neck of White's Bend; thence passing northward between Burche's store and E. Hyde's old place, and with the dividing ridge between the waters of Sulphur and Eaton's Creek to the three forks of Marrowbone Creek; thence down said creek to the beginning.

Hickman's Ferry, three-fourths of a mile from the old Hickman's place, was fixed upon as the place for holding the district elections.

The oldest resident is Mr. Willoughby Dozier. White's Bend post-office is at Hickman's Ferry, where there are two stores, kept by H. L. Abernathy and William Hyde, R. C. Meadows and S. C. Williams' blacksmith- and wagon-shops, several dwellings, and the African church. At the old Hickman place, three-fourths of a mile distant, is the Cumberland Grange church, a house fifty by one hundred and twenty feet in size, which was built by the Patrons of Husbandry in 1875. The organization is now extinct in the district. The building is occupied for religious worship by the Methodist Episcopal, Free-Will Baptist, Presbyterian, and Christian denominations on alternate Sundays. The land occupied was deeded by William Hyde, Esq., to the four denominations jointly. There are also Lipscomb's Christian chapel and a Baptist church in Bell's Bend. Among the first settlers in this part of the county was Thomas Hickman, of this district. Thomas W. Sharon and Wilson Crockett were early justices of the peace.

The following-named persons paid taxes on lands in this district in 1816: James Duren, Jesse Garland, Sr., Elisha and William E. Gower, Mishack Hail, William Levy, John Lovell, Benjamin Pack, Sr., Thomas Pierce, James Russell, Sr., William and Thomas Russell, Ezekiel Smith, Bennett Searcy.

This district was organized as School District Number Twenty-five. It contains four white schools, at which the attendance in the year 1878-79 was fifty-four pupils, and two colored schools with thirty-three pupils the same year. In 1880 the school population was three hundred and fifty-one. W. F. Bang, W. S. Higgins, and S. B. Howlett were school directors for 1-879-80.