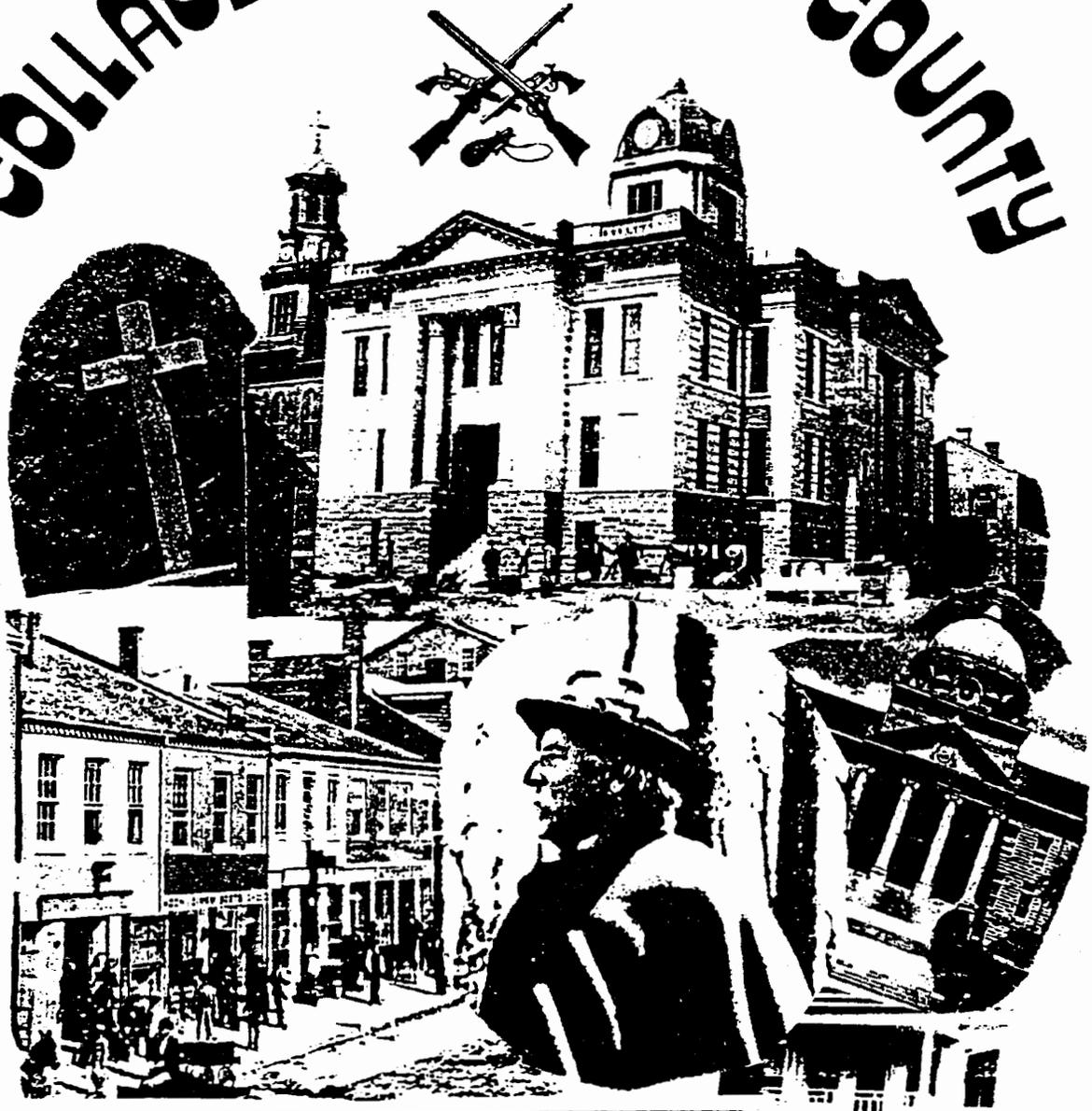


# COLLAGE OF CAPE COUNTY



CAPE GIRARDEAU EXPORTS 1874

Item	Amount	Price	Value
flour	120,000 bbls	\$ 6.00	\$720,000
lime	38,000 bbls	1.15	43,000
bacon	300,000 lbs	.07	21,000
lard	50,000 lbs	.07	3,500
hogs, dressed	150,000 lbs	.05	7,500





P. O. Box 571

Jackson, MO 63755

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The Cape Girardeau County Genealogical Society was organized in May 1970, a non-profit organization, its primary purpose is education in the field of genealogy. Membership is open to individuals upon payment of the annual dues of \$10, or a couple for \$15, per year, beginning in May. Life membership is available for a one-time payment of \$250. Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mocgcs/index.htm>

The CGCGS Library is located in the Research Room at the Cape Girardeau County Archive Center, 112 East Washington, Jackson, MO and is open during regular Archive Center hours. Our meetings are held at The Cape Girardeau County Archive Center, 112 East Washington in Jackson, MO, bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September, and November on the fourth Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., unless announced otherwise.

CGCGS publishes this quarterly, *THE COLLAGE OF CAPE COUNTY*, in March, June, September, and December, sent free to members. All members are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Submissions on disk (MS Word, rich text, or text files) or by email (text or rich text format) are encouraged, but not essential. Mail to **Bill Eddleman, 1831 Ricardo Drive Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 (email: eddlemanw@sbcglobal.net)**.

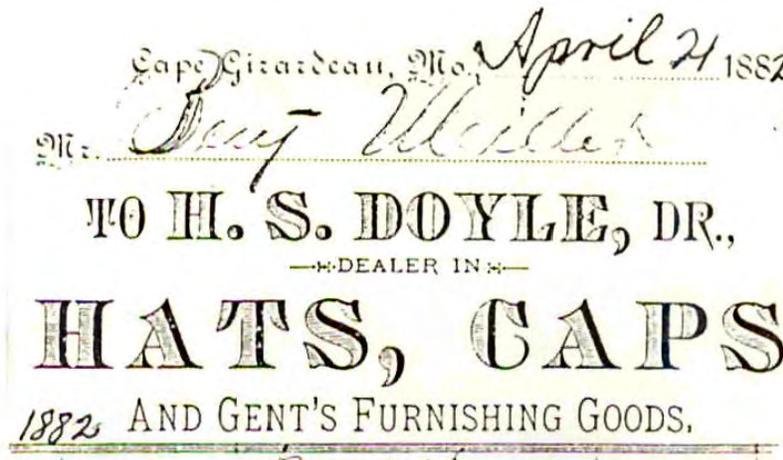
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## From the President

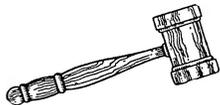
Dear Cape Girardeau County Genealogical Society Members,

When last I wrote, I had indicated that I found a few relatives in my line using DNA testing from Familytree DNA. I'm sorry to say that not a single one of the individuals who were matches for my Y-chromosome DNA responded to my emails. I know at least one of them passed away in December, but I had already corresponded with him in the past and established our connection in the more-traditional way (good, solid, document-based research). However, I was able to talk a friend whose mother is from the Eddleman clan in adjacent southern Illinois about further tests to establish a possible connection. He was able to convince a cousin to send his DNA for the 37-marker Y-DNA test. Lo and behold, he and I have a perfect match in the 37 markers tested. This settles a long-standing question as to whether the Eddleman family in Rowan County, North Carolina ca. 1769-ca. 1780 and later in Lincoln County, North Carolina ca. 1780-date (my family) is related to the Eddleman family that was in Rowan County, NC throughout the time from 1769 to the present. One son of the Rowan County group settled eventually in southern Illinois, while my branch of the Lincoln County family settled in Cape Girardeau, then Perry counties in Missouri. Both had patriarchs named Peter, and at best these immigrants from Germany were cousins. At least now we know they connect in Germany! Beware of trusting DNA too much beyond carefully crafted tests such as mine, however. The tests that say what percentage of ancestry you have in different parts of the world are much more speculative, for example.

The Lorimier daybooks are finally housed at the Cape Girardeau County Archive Center! However, I would not recommend that people go and try to view them. They are in French, and will be translated soon. At best, you will be able to only establish names in this location at a particular date, although this can be quite valuable in some cases. I would imagine the Archive Center will be publishing transcriptions when the daybooks are translated.

I would really like to thank Celeste Stanton for contributing the articles that comprise most of this issue of the *Collage*. Celeste has prepared a book on some of the families in her ancestry, and these articles (and some that have appeared in earlier issues) are from that book. Celeste's research provides a casebook for quality research in the situation of slave ancestry. She was partially able to overcome some of the hurdles with researching slave ancestors, with the help of some of the Society's members and other local people. I am also grateful that she chose to send these articles just when I needed material for the quarterly. I'd love to see some more of the rest of you contribute your research and family articles—just send them to me in any way that is convenient for you.

Sincerely,





## The Stantons of Scott

### The Immediate Family of Cecelia (Celie) Wilson



As a part of the previous articles on Grandma Celie, there was a request for help from others in the Cape Girardeau area who might have information on the life of this remarkable woman who lived for almost a century. That call was royally answered by some of the kindest and most generous people I have come to know through emails, letters and phone calls. I want them all to know how grateful I am for their help in bringing Grandma Celie’s existence back to life. With the help of these dedicated genealogists, there is now additional and/or clarified data concerning my third great-grandmother Cecelia Wilson.

What I have acquired over the many months of personal research is that Grandma Celie gave birth to at least 3 children, two of whom lived to adulthood – John L. Brown, born about 1844 and Emma Camster, born about 1856, all having lived as slaves of the English family of Cape Girardeau, George Camster or a relative of his. Heretofore, little was known about John’s early years or his absolute connection to Cecelia as he is not shown with her on any of the regular census registers. But, from the initial *Collage* article, I was introduced to a wonderful website, *The Digital Library on American Slavery*, created by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In their records was found the concrete link between John and his mother, Celie.

Copied from:

**Digital Library on American Slavery  
 Slave Ownership History for  
 Heir(s) of CAMSTER, George in Petition 21185207**

Seal	Female	In 1852	Inheritance	Title Ownership
Frederick (Fred)	Male	In 1852	Inheritance	Title Ownership
John	Male	In 1852	Inheritance	Title Ownership
Edmond (Edmund)	Male	In 1852	Inheritance	Title Ownership

<p><b>Details for Heir(s) of CAMSTER, George in Petition 21185207</b></p>	
<p><b>Name:</b> Heir(s) of CAMSTER George</p> <p><b>Petition:</b> 21185207 filed in Missouri, 1852</p> <p><b>Role in Petition:</b></p> <p><b>Color and Gender:</b> white male</p> <p><b>Status:</b></p> <p><b>Identified Immediate Family:</b></p>	<p><b>Name:</b> Seal</p> <p><b>Petition:</b> 21185207 filed in Missouri, 1852</p> <p><b>Color and Gender:</b> black female</p> <p><b>Status:</b> slave</p> <p><b>Identified Immediate Family:</b> John – son</p> <p><b>Economic Profile:</b> SALE – 1853 – Report of Sheriff’s Sale</p>

<p><b>Economic Profile:</b> SALE – 1853 – Report Of Sheriff’s Sale</p> <p><b>Owned slaves? Yes</b></p>	<p><b>Age:</b> approx 24 years of Age in 1852</p>
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**List of Slaves in Petition 21185207  
People Listing**

Name	Enslavement Status	Color	Gender	Age
Edmond (Edmund)	Slave	Black	Male	Approx 13years of age in 1852
Frederick (Fred)	Slave	Black	Male	Approx 6 years of age in 1852
John	Slave	Black	Male	Approx 3 years of age in 1852
Seal **	Slave	Black	Female	Approx 24 years of age in 1852

- Note: There were 10 columns in this chart, 5 had no entries in them. Those columns were: *Role in Petition, Birth, Death, Owned slaves?, and Occupation.*

\*\* On one of the additional documents Seal (who is Celie) is listed as head of household with these children. This is rare and most unusual. Frederick and Edmond are not her biological children.

**JOHN BROWN**

Once Grandma Cecelia went to Mississippi County after the Civil War and retrieved her daughter, she and Emma remained together for the rest of their lives in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. There is much written about Cecelia’s relationship to her daughter, but very little about John.

If we refer back to the *List of Property Belonging to the Estate of Geo Camster deceased as Appraised – July 11, 1845*, we see Celie (Sely) age about 18 with a child, the set valued at \$600. That child is most probably John, who we later determined was born in or about 1844. Though John is clearly listed as her son in this document and then again in her obituary in the newspaper of Cape Girardeau in 1918, we only see him clearly in census records after he is an adult.

On the *1850 U.S. Federal Census Slave Schedule*, we can *guess* that one of the slave children owned by Margaret Camster is John, but it becomes an educated guess.

<b>Slave Owners</b>			
Name	Home in 1850	View Census	Save This
Margaret Camster	District 14, Cape Girardeau, Missouri		

<b>Slave Information</b>			
Age	Gender	Race	View Census
40	Female	Black	
22	Female	Mulatto	← <b>Is this Celie?????</b>
12	Male	Black	
5	Male	Mulatto	← <b>Is this John?????</b>
0	Male	Mulatto	

The 22 year old mulatto female is almost certainly Celie – we can intuit this from the legal documents and Emma’s narrative. If John was born around 1844, and this is the 1850 census, then it is likely that this is John. What is so frustrating and so dehumanizing is that these human beings were not even given names, only an age and sex – as property!!! Is the infant mulatto child Celie’s or the other 40 year old female’s child? Who knows!!

There are numerous John Browns, white, black and mulatto in and around Cape Girardeau and the state, but truly unidentifiable as our John until the 1870 U.S. census. There he is listed as age 21, mulatto, employed as a laborer, born in Missouri and can read and write. With him is his wife, Amanda, age 21, black, born in Missouri, keeping house and can read and write. At this writing, we do not have a photograph of John, but we are privileged to have one of Amanda.



**Amanda Williams Brown**  
**Born 1858- Died Nov. 25, 1901(2)**  
 (date of photograph unknown)

John and Amanda were formally married December 13, 1867, 2 years after the end of the Civil War.

In John and Amanda's household on the 1870 census are Catherine, about age 5 (who is my great-grandmother), and Josephine age 7 months at the time of the census. This census does not list a street or address but the family lived in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward of Cape Girardeau City. Both John and Amanda list their places of birth as Missouri. Interestingly, they live next door to Amanda's parents, George and Eliza Williams.



On the 1876 Cape Girardeau County census, a county record, John and Amanda now have four children, Catharine, Josephine, Elisa and a son, Jesse.

By 1880 census John lists his place of birth and that of both parents in Missouri. Amanda lists her place of birth as Missouri, but her father as having been born in Kentucky and her mother as born in Virginia. On this census, John and Amanda have expanded their family to 5 children in the home: Catherine, age 15, Josephine age 10, Liza age 8, Jesse a son, age 5 and Lulu (who is probably Beulah) age 1. John is now listed as age 34 and Amanda is 32.

Because so much information was lost in the 1890 census, we do not see the youngest daughters, Nona and Emily, born into the family but they were there and Emily's death certificate many years later attests to John and Amanda as her parents.

Throughout his life, John is employed generally as a laborer, yet he was able to support his rather large family, made up of all but one child, by girls! And we know how expensive girls can be! I occasionally wonder how different his life might have been if the society in which he lived allowed blacks to have other than the lowest paying and most menial of jobs.

Amanda preceded John in death on November 25, 1901, dying of breast cancer which affected the lymph gland-carcenoma. She was approximately age 52 at the time of her death. She is buried near her mother-in-law's grave (Celia Wilson) and next to her husband, John, in Fairmount Cemetery, Lot 284, grave #3.



John lived on to marry again – to a Ms. Sarah J. Blackburn on December 11, 1904 in Cape Girardeau. It does not appear that there were any children of that marriage. On the 1910 census, only John, Sarah J. and John’s son Jesse, age 34, by his first marriage to Amanda, are residing together in the home at 229 South Fountain Street in the 3<sup>rd</sup> ward. (They lived next door to the Abernathys, a family name I remember from Aunt Nellie’s conversations. A Cora Abernathy was one of her best friends.)

John died on December 24, 1919 and is buried in Fairmount Cemetery near his mother, Celia Wilson, and next to his first wife, Amanda, in Lot #284, grave 4. Except for the inscription, his tombstone is identical to Amanda’s. His obituary from the local newspaper reads:

### **John Brown Dies At Home in Haarig**

*John Brown, for many years a street sweeper in Harig, died at his home on Good Hope street Wednesday afternoon following an illness with asthma. While he had been sick for a long time he was bedfast but two days, having attended to his duties as late as last Monday. John Brown was about 73 years old and was one of the best-known negroes in Cape Girardeau. He was respected among the white people and had hundreds of friends among the colored residents. The funeral arrangements were not completed today and will not be until his son arrives. He*

*will be buried in Fairmount cemetery. (Southeast Missourian Newspaper, December 26, 1919)*

There is a discrepancy between the place of his residence in the obituary and on his death certificate. One lists his residence on South Fountain, and the other on Good Hope Street, which is only a block or so away.

I wish there was information from family and friends besides the obituary to describe the persons that both John and Amanda lived to be. Born in slavery, they knew the harshness and unfairness of that institution. Having lived at a time after the formal abolition of slavery, certainly they knew discrimination and segregation which was the continuing climate of a nation still struggling with the heinous legacy of that institution. Employment was limited, social mobility was restricted and John functioned in a society which, by all historical accounts across this country, could insult and denigrate him for an alleged “improper” glance at a white woman – and in the worst case scenario – take his life for that alleged transgression. History tells me that his life was not easy as he struggled as bread-winner and head of a large household. Though he was lauded as a respected citizen of Cape Girardeau upon his death and most probably worked hard at something all of his life, his final occupation was as a street sweeper. It is an honorable occupation but one usually relegated to blacks, no matter how competent they were. One must wonder what dreams he might have kept close to his heart; what aspirations he might have had if the social setting surrounding his world had been more equitable.

We speak the names of John Brown and Amanda Williams Brown; we honor their lives.

#####

**Machen Scrapbook Donated to Society and Available for Interested Family Members**

The Society recently received the donation of a scrapbook containing numerous photos (mostly unidentified), newspaper articles and clippings, and other memorabilia relating to the Machen family. The scrapbook was donated by Cheryl Benz, daughter of Alice “Jody” Bayley Colby. Alice is the niece of Alonzo V. Bayley, who married Florence W. Machen in 1919. They had no children, and Cheryl knows of no descendants of the Machen family. Cheryl writes: “Florence was raised in the Bootheel of Missouri and her father was a bank inspector in Northern Arkansas. We understand that the family was prominent in the area and also in the Kentucky area previously. Aunt Florence was very involved with genealogical research and would be pleased if this book found its way into the hands of someone who would enjoy the history and connection of it.”

If anyone has a connection to this family, the Society would be happy to pass this scrapbook along. Otherwise, it will be in the library for research use, and may also be used for future *Collage* articles.



## The Stantons of Scott

### Parents of Amanda Williams Brown, John's Wife: George and Eliza Williams



It is important to mention here that many marital unions took place between blacks, but most were not legally recognized or "legitimated" until after the end of the Civil War.

*"Generally, Negro marriages were not recognized by churches in the period before the Civil War. The law supported the churches in the view. Slave marriages were considered moral agreements having no legal force. After the Civil War, a state law was passed requiring all ex-slave couples who were living together as man and wife be remarried, legally." The Role of the Negro in Missouri History-1719-1970: Dr. Lorenzo J. Green, Antonio F. Holland and Gary Kremer, Lincoln University, 1973-74.*

It must be remembered that no matter how much an enslaved couple loved one another and struggled to have an intact family union, at the whim of the slave-owner, that union could be severed by selling off one or the other party. Often it was a matter of financial necessity as each slave had a monetary value and if need be, would be sold to reconcile a debt or provide income to the slave owner. An immediate case on point is Grandma Celie's spouse, Levi Wilson, who was taken with his white owner, Beverly Parrot, when he moved to Texas. (*Refer back to the Slave Narrative provided by Emma Camster Green – 1837-1838.*) Thinking he'd never see Celie again, which was extremely possible, Levi entered into another union in Texas to which children were born. Slaves were rarely allowed to formally marry, and only then with the approval of their slave owners. Yet even with that permission the marriages could be easily dissolved by the owner's decision to sell or trade one of the spouses. Slave families lived with the realization that, though committed to one another, the slave owner could, would and often did, sell one spouse and even the children, away from the other. As human beings, with a desire for love and family, they maintained what we call today common-law marriages, and when the Civil War ended, many rushed to solemnize those unions feeling that for the first time they had some merit and protection under the law.

Amanda Williams Brown's parents are representative of that condition. Though together as a couple prior to the Civil War, based on the ages of their children, George Williams and Eliza Scott did not *officially* marry until July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1865 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The recording of that union is shown on the *Marriage Report of Freedmen 1815-1869, Cape Girardeau, Mo.* The officiant for the ceremony was E. O'Brien, Minister of the Gospel, who apparently married numerous black couples during that time period. On that document George is listed as age 48 and Eliza as 46. They have three male children and eight female children! According to a genealogical article published in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly 95 (December 2007): 281-301* by Ruth Randall, Reverend E. O'Brien was Chaplain of the 17<sup>th</sup> Illinois Cavalry garrisoned at Cape Girardeau through at least 1866. He officiated at the marriage of numerous black couples, after all, by that date, they were free. The copy below was obtained from the *FamilySearch.org* site – *The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints*, often called the Mormon Library Site.

COPY AND SAMPLE OF FREEDMANS DOCUMENT AND COLUMNS

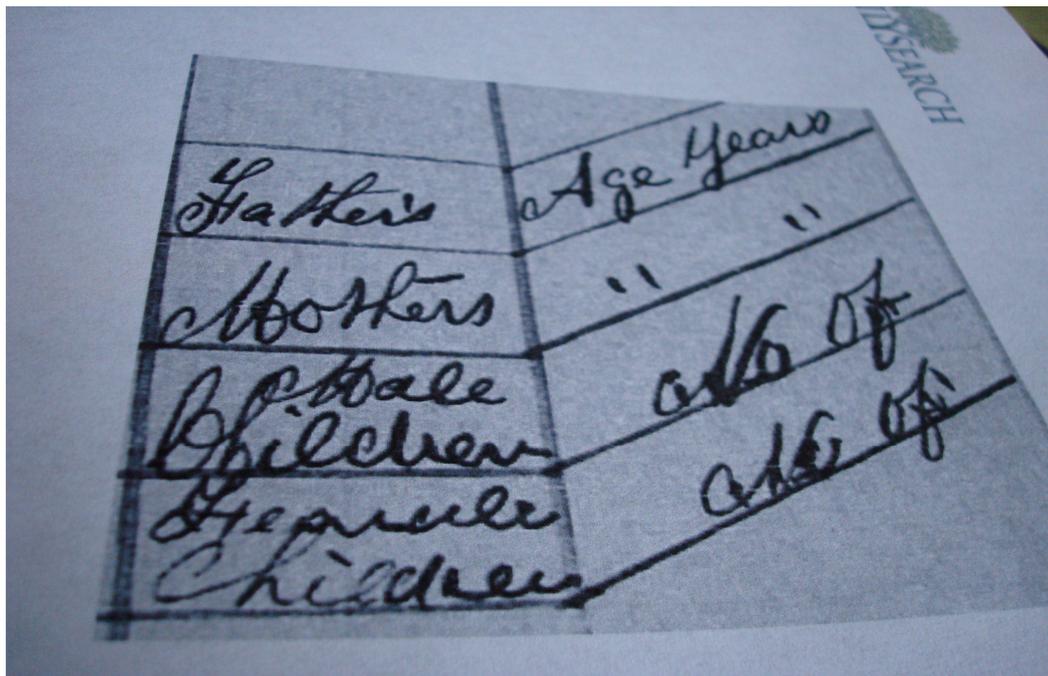
Marriage Report		Where Married	By Whom	By Whom	By Whom	By Whom
Robert Mc. Juncu	x Virginia Sneydy	Cape Girardeau	Or Atkin	Minister of the Gospel	25	20
Winston Johnson	x Hannah Lyda	"	"	"	79	46
Henry Jacobs	x Betty Swance	"	"	"	54	50 5
Sarah Sample	x Eliza Wheeler	"	"	"	60	50 8
James Jackson	x Estline Parker	"	"	"	50	40
Thomas Martin	x Louisa Hays	"	"	"	51	55 4
Robert Randoe	x Abner Thomas	"	"	"	35	26 1
James Hays	x Mary Williams	"	"	"	23	20
Randoe Reed	x Louisa Thompson	"	"	"	25	23 1
Alfred Williams	x Mary Brown	"	"	"	26	21
Abraham Monroe	x Cynthia Wilson	"	"	"	47	30 2
Abner Shavers	x Hanny Sewards	"	"	"	45	30 1
Amos Miller	x Lorus Caryl	"	"	"	65	65 3
Samuel Bestal	x Hannah Brooks	"	"	"	45	50
Anderson Mc. Hadden	x Ann Casey	"	"	"	30	27 2
John Witham	x Lucy Williams	"	"	"	25	30
Madam Best	x Mary J. Watkins	"	"	"	44	35
Thomas Goodrich	x Emily Baring	"	"	"	47	35

SEE GEORGE WILLIAMS AND ELIZA SCOTT, BOTTOM OF PAGE BELOW  
Freedmen's Bureau Marriages - 1815 - 1869, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Henry Jacobs	x Betty Swance	"	"	"	"	54	50 5	3
Sarah Sample	x Eliza Wheeler	"	"	"	"	50	40	6
James Jackson	x Estline Parker	"	"	"	"	51	55 4	6
Thomas Martin	x Louisa Hays	"	"	"	"	35	26 1	1
Robert Randoe	x Abner Thomas	"	"	"	"	23	20	1
James Hays	x Mary Williams	"	"	"	"	25	23 1	1
Randoe Reed	x Louisa Thompson	"	"	"	"	26	21	1
Alfred Williams	x Mary Brown	"	"	"	"	47	30 2	1
Abraham Monroe	x Cynthia Wilson	"	"	"	"	45	30 1	3
Abner Shavers	x Hanny Sewards	"	"	"	"	65	65 3	3
Amos Miller	x Lorus Caryl	"	"	"	"	45	50	8
Samuel Bestal	x Hannah Brooks	"	"	"	"	30	27 2	2
Anderson Mc. Hadden	x Ann Casey	"	"	"	"	25	30	2
John Witham	x Lucy Williams	"	"	"	"	44	35	2
Madam Best	x Mary J. Watkins	"	"	"	"	47	35 4	5
Thomas Goodrich	x Emily Baring	"	"	"	"	45	59 2 4	4
Mrs. Rebecca Richards	x Christiana Laws	"	"	"	"	31	24 1 2	2
George Hooten	x Christine Snyder	"	"	"	"	42	45	1
George Johnson	x Sophia Mc. Barber	"	"	"	"	45	20	1
Louis Anderson	x Anna B. Oil	"	"	"	"	44	57	1
Alexander Randoe	x Louisa Martin	"	"	"	"	52	46 5 5	5
Charles Briggs	x Abner Klein	"	"	"	"	51	43	1
Joseph Roberts	x Phillisa Cox	"	"	"	"	49	46 3 5	5
George Williams	x Eliza Scott	"	"	"	"	35	53 5 1	1
Abner Strong	x Sarah Brown	"	"	"	"			

Freedmen's Bureau Marriages 1815-1869, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

**READING LAST COLUMNS REGARDING NUMBER OF CHILDREN BORN**



Looking back at these columns, one column is for the age of the father, one for the age of the mother, one for the number of male children and the last for the number of female children born to this couple as of their formal marriage date in 1865. George and Eliza had three sons and eight daughters registered on that date.

(On the 1868 *Missouri State Census Collection-1844-1881*, I find a George Williams listed in Cape Girardeau; black, and has been taught to read and write. He is in the category of “Of twenty-one and under forth-five”. This would neither be our George nor his son, George, Jr., as the ages in no way match.)

I am next able to see this couple and some of their children at home enumerated on the 1870 US Federal Census, *Cape Girardeau City, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, August 10*, of that year. In the family unit are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Value Real Est.</u>	<u>Value Pers. Est</u>	<u>Birth</u>
Williams, George	52	M	B	Laborer	\$400	\$150	Kentucky
“ , Eliza	52	F	B	Keeps Hs			Virginia
“ , Catharine	29	F	B	Washwoman			Missouri
“ , George	15	M	B	Brickyard hand			Missouri
“ , Caroline	17	F	B	At Home			Missouri
“ , Julia	13	F	B	“ “			Missouri
Graves, George	11	M	B	“ “			Missouri

Some of their children have either left the home or possibly died as only four or five of the eleven remain listed. Both George and Eliza would have been about 40+ when slaves were officially freed so we can assume that they had several children brought into the world as slaves. There is another

possibility – that as some of their children reached an age where they were more valuable to the slave-owner sold, that George and Eliza saw the children from their bodies torn away from them and sold for reasons completely out of their control. My heart cannot go to that place to try to understand the pain, anger and hopelessness they surely would have felt.

It is to be noted that on this census (and in the 1880 census), George and Eliza's family live either in the same house or next door to Amanda and John Brown's family, as Amanda is the daughter of George and Eliza.

In 1876, a *Missouri State Census of Cape Girardeau County* was conducted, and we find George, Eliza and their children, Tyler, Julia and George in the home. Both George and Eliza's ages are shown in the columns entitled "Black Male (or Black Female), Age 45 and upward."

On the *1880 US Federal Census of Cape Girardeau City*, George and Eliza, both age 58, still live next door to their daughter Amanda and son-in-law, John Brown. Now both George and Eliza are listed as age 58 – which age progresses them only 6 years in the 10 year interim between the 1870 and 1880 censuses, but the age discrepancy is not unusual. In the home with them now are Tyler, male, mulatto, age 34, son, single, employed as a laborer, can read and write, and is born in Missouri. There is George, Jr., mulatto, age 20, son, unemployed and suffers from an "abcess of liver." Julia is also in the home, female, black, age 22, daughter, single and is employed as a servant. She is also born in Missouri. Quite possibly between 1870 and 1880 Tyler went off to work elsewhere and is now back in the home.

Using the dates from the *Freedman Marriage Record* on 1865, it would appear that at age 48, George's date of birth would be around 1817. On the 1870 census five years later, listed as age 52, that would put his date of birth about 1818. The same goes for Eliza in terms of discrepancies. In 1865, she was shown to be age 46, but in 1870 she was listed as the same age as George, age 52. Undoubtedly, this is the same couple and much has been written concerning the discrepancies in the exactness of recorded ages, especially for blacks. Suffice it to say, George and Eliza were born sometime between 1817-1818 and 1822.

Oral family history says that George gave his daughters a piece of land or a house when each married. I can find no property records to verify this statement and at this writing, the Cape Girardeau Archives Center does not have any deed abstracts past 1846. It is of interest that in 1870 George has a fair amount of "wealth" - \$550 all total – only five years after the end of the Civil War. That was a considerable sum back then. With such a large family, how did he acquire that amount of property???

Researchers at the Cape Girardeau Archives Center have just advised me that George and Eliza are shown on the *1890 Cape Girardeau Reconstructed Census*. Because the Federal US 1890 Census was mostly destroyed in a fire in Washington, DC, many states and their counties are using other existing documents to recover information on their citizens. In this instance, Cape Girardeau used the *Personal Property Tax List for the Year 1890* to determine which citizens paid taxes in that year. Since George and Eliza are listed, it is certain that one or both were still alive in that year.

Mr. Ron Beasley has recently discovered burial information for Eliza by going back to the cemetery on my behalf. On a hunch, he brushed off the lichens and moss that were taking over this particular tombstone, and sure enough, it said:



**TOMBSTONE OF ELIZA SCOTT WILLIAMS**

**Inscription**

Eliza Williams  
Born 10/1/1821  
Died 11/9/1894  
Age 73 yrs 1 mo 5 days

Photo taken for me by Mr. Ron Beasley, July 2011

As Mr. Beasley reported, the inscription is remarkably clear and legible. Eliza is buried in Fairmount Cemetery only about 30 or 40 feet east of the grave site of Grandma Cecelia Wilson (who is buried in Lot #284, grave 8.) Though the lots are laid out in a somewhat confusing manner, Eliza is buried in Lot #514, grave 4.

Next to and near Eliza's final resting place are a couple of noticeable depressions, but are unmarked. One of them might be her husband's grave, but to date, there is no record of George's burial there. Mr. Terrell Weaver, the City Cemetery Sextant, has done a remarkable job of documenting as many graves as possible, but previous records are often scarce or in error. As of this writing, we do not find our George Williams listed anywhere at Fairmount or Old or New Lorimier Cemeteries. But we will keep looking.



**Photo taken by Mr. Ron Beasley at Fairmount Cemetery, July 2011**

This is a more distant shot of Eliza Williams' tombstone. In the background immediately next to the dark bush, which partially obscures the cemetery office, is the tombstone of Grandma Cecelia Wilson.

### **HOW DID THEY COME TO CAPE?**

On various US Federal census records, George and Eliza's places of birth are noted. George was born in Kentucky and Eliza in Virginia. We must assume that they arrived in Missouri as slaves of early Missouri settlers. We do not know when. We must assume the *why* which is to labor for the sake of their owners. Did Eliza come to Missouri as a child with her slave family; was she sold to new owners and transported over the many miles, walking behind the wagon; did she meet George Williams in Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri or somewhere along the way; were all of her children the biological children of George Williams, with whom she was married for many years? Probably not if history is any teacher for the plight of an enslaved woman. So much we do not – will never- know about her life.

In doing continuing research, which never ends, my interest has been peeked by the name of Eliza Scott, a free woman of color, born and living in Richmond, Virginia in 1830 and 1840. Could this possibly be our Eliza?

Whatever will be learned in the future, we speak the names of George Williams and Eliza Scott Williams. We honor their lives.

# Cape Girardeau County Archives to Scan Family Bibles

by

**Morgan Meyr Lake**

Are you the keeper of an old family Bible? The John Guild Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution and the Cape Girardeau County Archives are teaming up to help preserve local history by digitizing old family Bible records. Bibles published before 1910 are being sought for the project.

“Old Bibles are a valuable resource for genealogists and historians. They can serve as primary source documentation, providing dates of birth, death, and marriage for periods when public vital records were not kept,” according to Steve Pledger, director of the Cape Girardeau County Archives.

Morgan Lake, registrar of the John Guild Chapter DAR agrees, “Before the 1850 census, it can be very difficult to make connections between parents and children. I am excited about the project because it may not only help aid prospective DAR members, but may uncover information that has been lost over time.”

According to Drew Blattner, archivist for Cape Girardeau County, many Bibles remain undiscovered, “We had heard rumors that various family Bibles exist that may contain important genealogical information unknown to anyone alive today. Many of the early probate files list a Bible that was sold at the estate sale. We know that there are bound to be hundreds if not thousands of these old Bibles lying around on someone’s bookshelf, or in an old trunk somewhere in the country. It is our goal to scan or photograph the family record section of as many of these as we can to fill in gaps in our own records.

By digitizing the records, the information can be made accessible to distant relatives and researchers while preserving the original artifact. Many of the old pages are fragile, and need to be handled as little as possible. Archivists can provide participants with tips on preserving their family heirloom Bibles. Only the pages of the Bible with family information will be scanned or photographed, along with the title page of the Bible identifying the date of publication. The information gleaned will be transcribed and indexed by surname and made available for researchers at the archives and the DAR library.

For more information and to contribute Bible pages, call the Archive Center at 573-204-2331 or email: [archive@capecounty.us](mailto:archive@capecounty.us).

## **QUERIES ??? QUERIES ??? QUERIES ??? QUERIES ???**

QUERIES are FREE to members of the Cape Girardeau County Genealogical Society, and should be sent to: Bill Eddleman, 1831 Ricardo Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701. (email: [eddlmanw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eddlmanw@sbcglobal.net)). **Please include mailing address** if submitting by email.

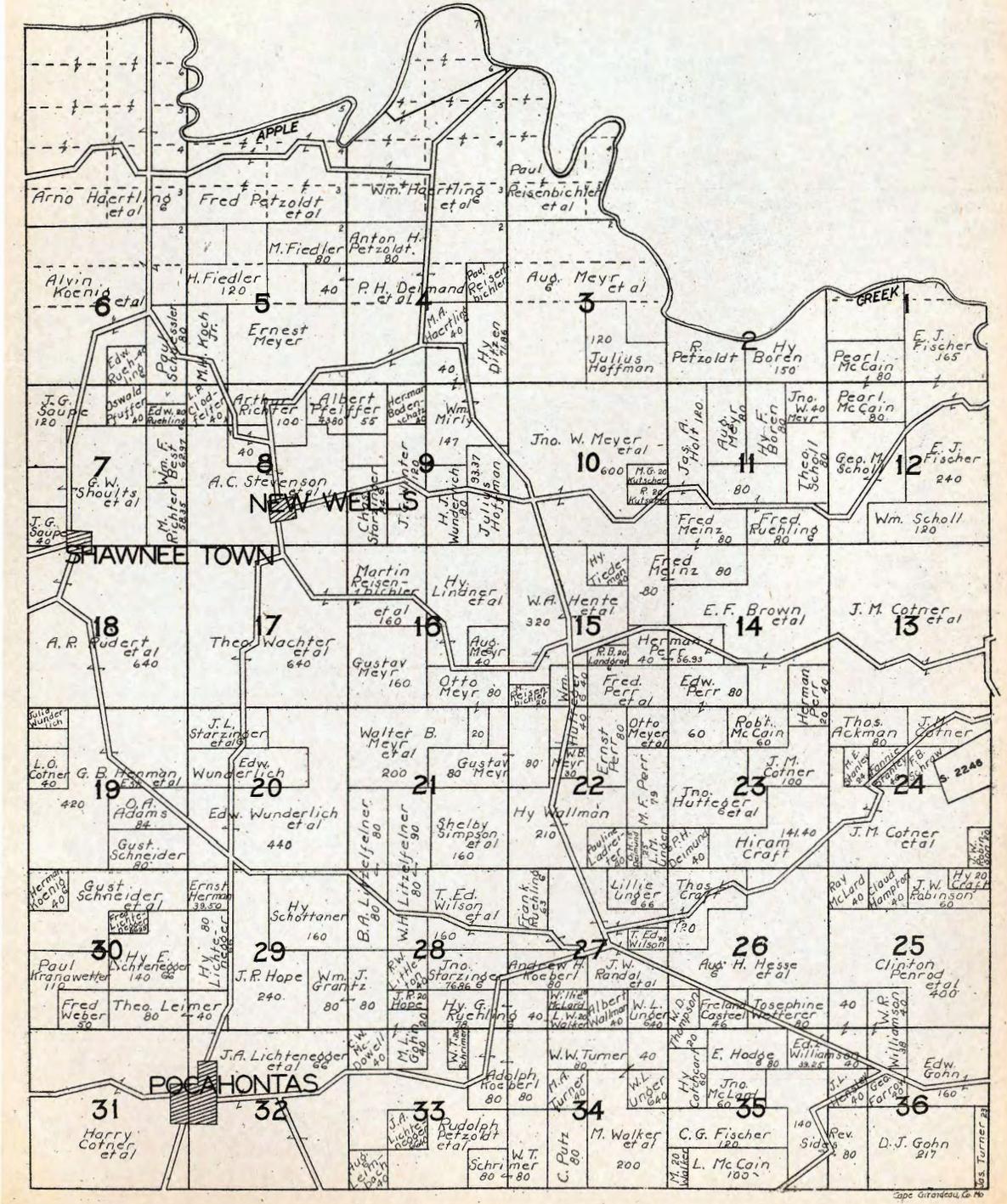
### **STATLER**

I am trying to find where Peter STATLER/STOTLER and his wife Margaret (MASTERS) STATLER are buried and the names of their children. I am trying to tie John M. STOTLER to Peter. John M. STOTLER is my great-great grandfather. Other surnames I am researching are JACO, BOLLINGER, HUDSON, and WHITENER. Contact: **Joyce Powell, 3236 E. Wayland Street, Springfield, MO 65804**. Email: [dragonforce2000@hotmail.com](mailto:dragonforce2000@hotmail.com)



T. 33N.

R. 13E.



From 1930 Cape Girardeau County Plat Book, Township 33 North, Range 13 E

***-Books for Research Using Land Records -- Cape Girardeau Co. Genealogical Society-***

**Deed Abstracts of Cape Girardeau County, Missouri - Deed Books A/B-F** **\$35**  
**(1798-1826)** by Bill Eddleman and Jane Randol Jackson. (210 pages, 33 page every name and location indices, 9 page introduction, 3 land plats, 6 maps, every name and location indices).

**Deed Abstracts of Cape Girardeau County, Missouri Deed Books G-I (1826-1838)** **\$20**  
by Bill Eddleman (129 pages, every name, slave, and location indices, 8 page introduction, 3 maps)

**Deed Abstracts of Cape Girardeau Co., Books J-L, 1838-1846** . (170 pages, 36 page **\$25**  
every name, slave, and location indices, 9 page introduction, 1 land plat, 3 maps).

**Purchasers of Government Lands in Cape Girardeau County** - Compiled and transcribed **\$20**  
by Bill Eddleman from U. S. Bureau of Land Management records, Cape Girardeau Co. Tract Book, Swamp Land Patents, and School Land Sales. (120 pages, every name index).

**Deed Abstracts of Stoddard County, Missouri - Deed Books A-C, 1835-1852** **\$20**  
by Bill Eddleman (64 pages, 11 page every name, slave and location indices, 8 page introduction, 6 maps)

**Original Land Patentees Series** - Compiled by Bill Eddleman from U. S. Bureau of Land Management records. Names, land parcel locations, certificate and file numbers, dates of patents, maps. Includes every name index.

<b>Bollinger Co.</b> - 115 pages.	<b>\$17</b>
<b>Madison Co.</b> - 80 pages	<b>\$17</b>
<b>Stoddard Co.</b> - 62 pages.	<b>\$10</b>
<b>Wayne Co.</b> - 125 pages.	<b>\$17</b>

We pay postage and some quantities are limited. Please include SASE when writing if you need further details about any book, or for a brochure with a complete list of publications. A complete list of publications may requested for a SASE, and can also be viewed on our web site: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mocgcs/>  
Mail order from: Cape Girardeau County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MO 63755. May also be purchased at the **Cape Girardeau County Archive Center** in Jackson, MO.

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Cape Girardeau County Genealogical Society's Research Books, Microfilm, and all research aids are housed at the Cape Girardeau County Archive Center, 112 East Washington, Jackson, MO 63755. The Library is closed on Sunday and Monday, and open 8:30-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, by apt. on Saturday. MEETINGS are held at the Archive Center at 7:00 p.m. the 4th Tuesday of Jan., March, Sept., and Nov. and at 7:30 p.m. the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of May and July. *COLLAGE* quarterly is sent free to members in March, June, Sept., and Dec.

-----MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION-----

MAIL TO: Cape Girardeau Co. Genealogical Society, Betty Voss, Membership, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, MO 63755. DUES: Individual \$10.00 Couple \$15.00

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Researching Surnames \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES ARE DUE IN MAY**