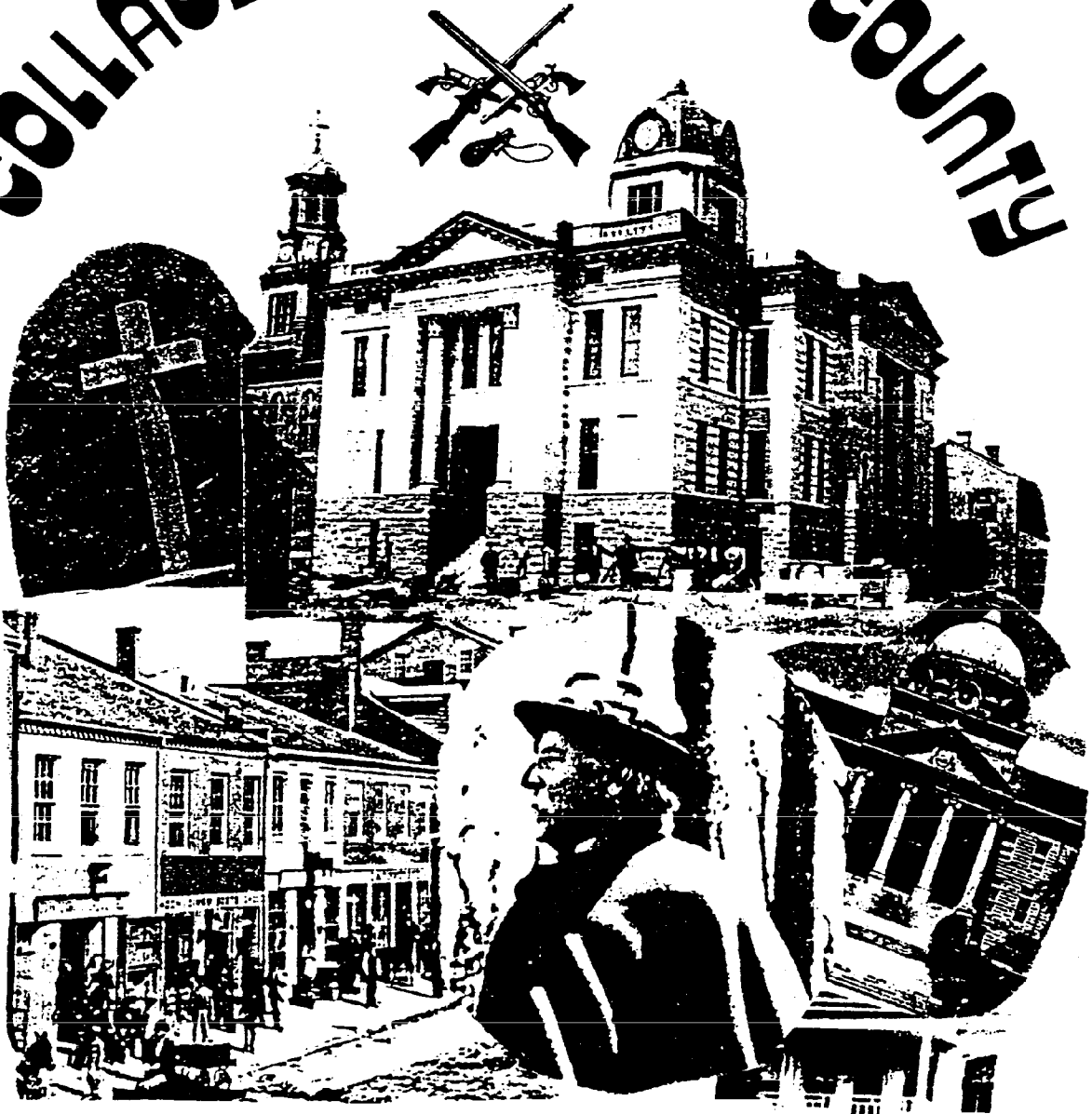


COLLAGE OF CAPE COUNTY



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



CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 571

Jackson, MO 63755

Volume 33 Number 1

June 2013

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/~mccgcs/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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TERMS LOW—FOR CASH.

Jackson, Mo. Nov 12, 1875

Mrs J. L. Caldwell

BOUGHT OF WM. FLENTGE,

Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, Hats, &c.

27 lbs Calico

11 2/10

From the President

Dear Cape Girardeau County Genealogical Society Members,

As promised, the latest book of deed abstracts, for Deed Books M-O, 1846-1850, is now ready for sale at \$25. Ordering information is on the inside back cover of this *Collage* or it can be purchased at the Cape Girardeau County Archive Center. Lots of goodies in this one—especially for those of you who descend from German and other immigrants who came to the area in the 1840s. I hope to have the name index posted on our website sometime this summer.

Please note the information in this issue on the new State Historical Society of Missouri office in Cape Girardeau. Local researchers can request items in the historical society's collection for use at the office. This should make a lot of items more accessible to local researchers, without the necessity of traveling to Columbia or Rolla.

I am both sad and happy to announce that Dr. Lisa Speer, who has been the long-time director of Special Collections and Archives at Southeast Missouri State University, has taken a job as Arkansas State Historian and Director of the Arkansas History Commission. Dr. Speer has been a friend to our Society, and was instrumental in helping with the acquisition of the *Cape Girardeau Weekly Argus*. She also oversaw the digitizing of the *Argus*, and making it available via the State Archives website. We will miss Dr. Speer, but wish her the best in her new job!

If you are on Facebook, but have not joined our group, please look it up and request membership. For the time being, we are leaving it a closed group, in order to avoid too much advertising and spamming. If I may not recognize who you are, a short message with your request would be helpful. I have denied membership to a few people recently if I suspected they were an advertising gateway.

I would like to offer special thanks to our authors for the last two issues. Thank you Ray Nichols for your great work on John (King) Snyder, Robert Reese for your contribution on the Robert L. Taylor family, and Celeste Stanton for her great research on Josephine Brown and family. It's great members and researchers like you who make the *Collage* a quality product!

Finally, 'tis the season for research trips! I hope all of you are able to investigate one of those "brick wall" lines and make some breakthroughs. Good luck!

Sincerely,



Bill Eddleman

Ledger Book of Taylor & Hempstead

Editor's Note: Recently one of our long-time members, Dr. Robert Reese, sent a box of materials containing the papers of his great-grandfather, Robert L. Taylor. Mr. Taylor was born in Tennessee, but his family came to Cape Girardeau County around 1850. The papers are of great interest to local history and genealogy, and I plan to deposit them in the Archive at Kent Library, Southeast Missouri State University, after transcribing the ones that are of the most interest genealogically. These will be included in the Collage over several issues, and will include the ledger book transcribed below, one or more articles on documents from estate papers and receipts with signatures, and finally a biography and brief genealogy of Mr. Taylor and his family.

The ledger transcribed below records debts and accounts for the partnership between Robert L. Taylor and Benjamin Hempstead. Dates in the ledger suggest the time period covered is about 1888-1892, but the business may have existed for a few years thereafter. The business, per Taylor's obituary, was at Egypt Mills (as reflected in the names in the ledger) and at the northeast corner of Main & Broadway in Cape Girardeau.

Amt Notes on hand J & H

Given	Machine Notes		
8-1-91	Hy Brockmire	8%	60 00
"	A C Fuhrenbach	"	62 50
"	Thile & Lange	"	59 50
"	Watkins & Oguinn	"	62 25
"-15-91	Geo P McLain	"	60 00
" " "	J Simpson & Stone	"	45 00
" " "	V M Tricky	"	62 50
"- 1-92	E T Davis	"	85 00
" " "	Bowman & Schneider	"	60 00
" " "	Geo A Kassel	"	40 00
" " "	Mr Vornkohl (Mortgage)	"	193 75
" " "	Mrs Story	"	60 00
" " "	Abernathy Bros	"	80 00
1- 1 -91	Wm Schwettman	"	144 00
" " "	Hy Koeppel (Bal on note)	"	7 65
" " "	G F Pierce	"	37 00
" " "	J. C. Reiman	"	22 70
" " "	Mrs. Elsworth	"	31 90
	[Second Page]		
1-1-91	Perry Hitchcock	8%	7 20
1-1-91	T S Freeman	"	200 00
1-1-91	W. A. Taylor (Bal)	"	28 33
1-1-91	R R Smith	"	9 15
1-1- "	W. C. Kemp (Bal)	"	35 95
" "	Louis Bray	"	46 65

“	“	Fritz Exler	“	19	67
10-30-88		H V Harper	“	88	76
7-15-90		Wm N Sheppard (Bal)	“	43	75
3-1-90		A J Hale	“	81	00
1-1-91		Wyat Williams	“	30	40
1-1-91		Theodore Kramer	“	15	20
1-1-91		A W Thompson		60	45
“	“	J M Brown		25	95
“	“	J H Koeppel		75	55
2-12-91		J C Reiman		25	00
1-1-91		H. D. Loomis		82	85
1-1-91		W. A. Dillingham		42	70
“	“	W F Needling (Bal)		35	25
11-18-89		C D Schatte		77	25
		[Third Page]			
1-1-91		Henry F Needling	8%	13	50
3-30-91		J T Juden	“	8	40
7-1-91		Jim Simpson (Mortgage)	“	210	00
1-1-91		J H Randal	“	97	35
7-1-91		Wm Kruse (Mortgage)	“	102	50
7-24-91		E G Poe	“	50	00
7-24-91		E G Poe	“	50	00
8-25-91		Emil Schneider	“	68	70
10-15-91		Hy Smith	“	44	70
11-14-91		Davis & Son	“	35	00
1-1-92		Lewis G Tapp	“	392	50
1-1-92		Hy Bowman	“	29	55
1-1-92		Wm R Mathis	“	133	25
1-1-92		C E Gholson	“	48	25
1-1-92		W. A. Taylor	“	54	25
1-1-92		V M Tricky	“	20	00
1-1-92		Hy Windeknecht	“	48	10
1-1-92		Robt Mabrey	“	23	25
1-1-92		A W Thompson	“	123	60
1-1-92		E M Poe	“	105	15
		[Fourth Page]			
1-1-92		Geo A Kassel		36	00
1-1-92		Fritz Koeppel		14	40

Rebate To Hempstead
on within notes

Page in
Ledger 1891

145	J H Randol	1	65
214	Wm R Mathis	17	30

220	C E Gholson	9 90
175	V M Tricky	65
198	Hy Windeknecht	4 40
233	A W Thompson	26 15
165	E M Poe	5 25

Account for Taylor & Hempstead

Page	[Person/Debtor]	Acct
1	L. J. Allen	27 05
2	Henry Abernathy	8 85
3	Joseph Abernathy	14 60
9	Hy Brockmire	34 90
10	John M. Brown	65
11	Aug Borchelt	1 00
11	Mrs. Eliza Noland	2 85
12	Mrs. Ellen Bowman	19 15
15	John B Baker	38 25
17	Chas Cook	29 40
17	Wm Clayton	1 35
18	J N Davis	23 10
19	School Dist. C.	1 80
20	Wm Drum	17 35
24	School Dist. D.	1 05
26	W. C. Enochs	12 20
27	Elias Lovel	1 80
28	W. A. Dillingham	19 95
28	James Dillingham	18 60
	[Second Page]	
31	Ed Ervin	24 50
33	J M Ervin	4 00
33	Mat Edwards	5 35
38	Freeman Bros	39 50
46	O M Grammer	6 50
47	Albert Brooks	5 70
50	J C Haupt	4 75
51	Wm Hengst	6 85
54	Otto Hanebrink [Pd] Feb 12-92	6 65
56	Mrs. L Bohlke	1 00
60	Perry Hitchcock	16 95
60	W S Hitchcock	10 00
68	Wm Hand	2 40
69	Mell Hand	11 20
70	Louis Ische	5 35
71	Chas Juden	25
72	J C Koeppel	3 35
72	T J Juden	1 90

75	J H Koeppel	2 60
78	Wm P Koeppel	1 35
	[Third Page]	
78	Wm H Koeppel	2 00
84	Hy Kirchhoff	25
87	Chas Koeppel [Pd Feb 13-92 by cash 15 00]	18 20
89	Aug Lehne – Sr	20 35
90	Hy Leuder	21 30
92	John Lange	11 80
98	Hy U Mavers	10 95
98	David D McLaine	10 40
108	T R McLeary	13 85
109	George P McLain	30 45
113	Henry F Needling	9 00
114	Hy A Needling	18 40
116	Wash. Noland	4 40
119	John Noland	7 45
120	Robt Noland	2 00
121	Mrs Chas Needling	15 25
124	John Kesterson	105 30
133	E G Poe	278 95
134	George F Pierce	11 50
135	H D Loomis	8 60
	[Fourth Page]	
139	Dudley Renolds	3 75
139	James Gibson	8 35
146	J J Smith	16 00
146	B R Scott	35 90
150	Louis Schwettman	1 00
156	Wm Schatte [Pd 1-22-92 By Cash 00 15]	15
160	Allison Sams	10 85
161	Louis Rubel	25 00
163	Alfred Minton	10 45
166	T B Freeman	149 55
168	Wm Schwettman	33 85
177	Conrad Tahlhammer	2 10
180	Hy Lange	10 00
185	L G Tapp	13 00
186	P Windeknecht – Sr	4 95
189	P Windeknecht – Jr	8 15
190	F Windeknecht [Pd Jan 2-92 By Cash 7 40]	7 40
201	John P Kassel	1 25
203	G. W. Knight	15
205	Hy Schatte	46 50
	[Fifth Page]	
206	H V Harper	34 10

210	Louis Needling	1 90
213	Fred Hahn	2 50
215	G W Pierce	18 65
215	Ed Perry	2 40
216	James A Simpson	42 45
217	Hy Smith	16 60
218	Freeman & Loomis	6 85
219	Chas Kemp	23 80
221	Christian Kassel	17 50
222	Hy Kistner	13 00
223	Hy A Koeppel	45 70
223	John Story	5 75
224	Wm Wiggins	39 25
228	Wm N Sheppard	1 50
229	Sherman Freeman	111 60
230	Mrs Mavers	15 80
231	Eb Wetherford	82 90
232	Fritz Exler	14 50
234	Monroe Abernathy	14 90
	[Sixth Page]	
235	Gottlib Baker	4 65
236	Fred Zent	55 90
238	Mrs Ramsey	11 30
239	Joe Keyser	22 50
241	Emil Schneider	17 75
242	S M Keyser	27 10
243	Hy Steinhoff	9 75
244	A J Hale	57 45
245	Theodore Gerlach	151 65
246	John Perry	8 50
247	James Bray [Pd Feb 4-92 By Cash 47 75]	47 75
248	C M Gollihar [Pd Jan 6-92 38 00]	38 00
250	Lafayette Yancy	64 50
250	Eveline Koeppel	5 95
251	Sol Ward	7 40
251	Joe Owens	6 80
251	Frank Schatte	40
251	Ed Dorchling	1 55
252	John Howard	31 15
252	Nicholas Koeppel [Pd Feb 2 -92 1 85]	1 85
	[Seventh Page]	
252	John Wallace	10 00
252	F A Ellis	1 35
253	W P Freeman	22 75
253	David Martin	1 25
253	Wm Fox	5 50

253	Jacob Stoll Jr	55
254	Louis Staffor	40
254	Dan Rodgers	2 70
254	W. R. Wiggs	7 05
255	Mrs Dan McLard [Pd F 13-92 2 20]	2 20
255	Sam Harrington	5 45
256	M. M. Davis	2 30
256	Ed McLain	3 15
257	John Kramer	1 50
258	Geo Taylor (col)	4 90
258	A. S. Leeds	12 45
258	Dan Brewster	3 90
258	Anton Geshwheeler	65
260	Nat. P. Abernathy (col)	2 50
260	Amos Adams	1 50
	[Eighth Page]	
260	I N Cary	16 25
260	John A Clark	17 80
260	James Gregory	33 00
260	Andrew J Knight	15 00
260	Wm McCarthy (col)	1 05
260	Jasper Phillips	1 35
260	Joe Rozendale	22 65
260	John Tricky	10 65
260	Thomas Pack	33 20
260	Robt McDowel	2 50
260	Simon Lee (col)	4 20

BB

New State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center Opens in Cape Girardeau

The State Historical Society of Missouri opened its 6th research center on March 21 in Cape Girardeau, at Pacific Hall Room 347 on the Southeast Missouri State University campus. At the Pacific Hall facility, historians, researchers, and genealogists can access the SHSMO’s vast manuscript, book, and newspaper collections, no matter where the materials are housed. Collections from all of the Research Centers will be delivered upon request by researchers, on a schedule yet to be determined, but no less than once per month. To get started, review the collection listings at <http://shs.umsystem.edu/research/> and complete the request form, available at: <http://shs.umsystem.edu/requestform> . Please pay special attention to the section, “Requests for research materials to be used at an SHSMO research center,” and click on the “Cape Girardeau” option. Note that although the retrieval and delivery service is free, fees for subsequent copying or scanning of material may apply. The Cape Girardeau Research Center is headed by Dr. Frank Nickell, retired SEMO history professor and former director of the SEMO Center for Regional History. Hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you have questions, please call the Cape Girardeau Research Center at 573-651-2689, email: shsofmo-cg@umsystem.edu or fnickell@semo.edu .

OBITUARIES: ELIZABETH (FAUST) TAYLOR AND ROBERT L. TAYLOR

DEATH CLAIMS MRS. TAYLOR

Esteemed Girardeau Woman Succumbs to Paralytic Stroke.

Mrs. R. L. Taylor, 71 years old, a pioneer resident of Cape Girardeau county, died at 6 a.m. today of paralysis of the family home at 525 Themis street. She had been in ill health for a number of years, but only recently had been confined to her home. She suffered a stroke of paralysis Monday and had been in a critical condition since that time.

Mrs. Taylor, with her husband, who is one of the better known pioneer residents here, had lived in Cape Girardeau county for many years, and for the past 25 years resided in this city.

She had a wide acquaintance throughout the city and adjoining territory, was a member of the Centenary Methodist church and one of its most ardent supporters. She had engaged in church work for many years and was responsible for the growth of many of its organizations.

Born in Indiana.

Mrs. Taylor was born near Evansville, Ind. Feb. 31 [sic], 1856, and lived in that state until she was a young woman, when she came to Missouri. Her parents were born in Germany and came to the United States while yet young.

Besides her husband, Mrs. Taylor is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Emil Bahn, and a step-daughter, Mrs. Fred Hanebrink, both of Cape Girardeau. She also leaves two brothers, Thomas Faust of St. Louis, and Joseph Faust of White water; one sister, Mrs. John Kassel of Cape Girardeau, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon at Centenary Methodist church. Rev. H. C. Hoy, pastor of the church, will conduct the services and internment will be in Lorimier cemetery. The body will lie in state at the home until time for the funeral.

Cape Girardeau *Southeast Missourian*, issue of August 16, 1940

R. L. Taylor, 94, Passes Away

Former Merchant in County 88 Years.

Robert L. Taylor, 94 years old, a resident of Cape County for 88 years, died at his home, 525 Themis street, Thursday afternoon. He had been in good health until five years ago.

Formerly a merchant in Cape Girardeau, he also supervised operation of his farm seven miles north of the city until his health began to fail. He had resided in the city for 40 years.

Mr. Taylor was a descendant of American pioneers, his family first settling in Virginia and later moving to Tennessee. He was a cousin of the late Gov. Robert Taylor and Gov. Albert Taylor, of Tennessee.

He was born in Sumner County, Tennessee, near Nashville, the son of Robert Looney Taylor and Nancy Rux Uhles, Dec. 18, 1845. The family moved to Missouri when he was 3 years old, living for a time at Coldwater, Wayne County.

To Cape County.

When he was 6 years old the family moved to Cape County, and settled the Taylor farm on the Bend Road. Mr. Taylor lived there until 1899, when he moved to this city. He would have been in the army during the Civil War, but was only 16 when the war started.

For a time he was associated in the mercantile business with the late Dr. Hempstead, at Egypt Mills and here, their store here being located at the northeast corner of the Broadway and Main street intersection.

For many years he was a member of the board of directors of the Sturdivant Bank and until late years was active in civic work, and spent considerable time securing bridges and improved roads for communities of the county.

Mr. Taylor was a member of Centenary Methodist Church for more than 30 years, and was among those instrumental in securing the present church building.

Funeral Saturday.

He was married twice, the first time to Miss Sarah Jane Davidson, on Jan. 31, 1868. Three children were born to this union, of whom one daughter, Mrs. Mary L. Hanebrink, of Cape Girardeau, survives.

Following the death of his first wife, Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Elizabeth Faust, on Dec. 25, 1879. She succumbed in 1927. To this union five children were born, of whom one daughter, Mrs. E. L. Bahn, of Cape Girardeau, survives.

He is survived also by five grandchildren, Mrs. Rudy Kirchhoff, Thurman and Leland Hanebrink and Elizabeth and E. Lawrence Bahn Jr.; two great-grandchildren, Earl Kirchhoff and Sarah Jane Hanebrink, of Cape Girardeau; a half-brother, J. L. Taylor, of Corning, Ark.; and a step-brother, Andrew Miller, of Cape Girardeau.

Funeral services will be conducted from the Walthers Funeral Home at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, with Rev. Don E. Schooler, Centenary Church pastor, in charge.



One of the Family Slaves John (King) Snyder



Part II

By Ray Nichols
Arnold, MO

Thomas had already recruited two Black regiments in Arkansas and on May 1, 1863, the First Arkansas Volunteers of African Descent (aka: Forty-sixth Regiment U.S. Colored Troops) was mustered into service at Helena, Arkansas. The Second Arkansas Infantry of African Descent (aka: Fifty-fourth U.S. Colored Infantry) was also mustered in, in early May, at Helena.¹

Permission to go beyond his District was all it took for Pile, because on June 10, he wrote to Thomas requesting to recruit troops of African Descent in Missouri. Thomas replied that if General John M. Schofield agreed then he had Thomas' permission. Pile was anxious to return to St. Louis because in January the Chaplain of the 33rd Infantry wrote to Major General Samuel Curtis, "Mrs. Pile is within the city [St. Louis] and is now quite ill with measles. And, her children [are] taking the same disease. She wishes me to ask for a leave of absence for her husband."²

Six days later, on June 16, 1863, Thomas replied to Pile, "I did not expect you to recruit blacks other than those of Arkansas, and certainly did not design that you should interfere with the Staff Departments in Missouri. I cannot consent to this, and prefer that you should return to your regiment. An officer will be designated in Washington to raise troops in Missouri." However, Pile had already started to recruit white officers for his regiment.³

Meanwhile, General Schofield, finding it hard to wage war in Southwest Missouri, because of strong southern feelings and slave ownership, authorized Pile to recruit slaves in disloyal areas, but only with the governor's permission. Governor Hamilton Gamble was in the middle of a controversy of whether slaves of disloyal owners could be "confiscated." The Governor further stipulated that slaves could not be taken from loyal owners and that any troops recruited, could not be credited to the State of Missouri and would be "disowned." Pile began to recruit slaves in various parts of Missouri and designated them the "3rd Arkansas Volunteer Infantry of African Descent."⁴

Thus, John Snyder officially enlisted in Company F, 3rd Arkansas Volunteers of African Descent, July 4, 1863, at St. Louis, Missouri, under Captain George W. Holibaugh. In the Company Descriptive Book John is listed as a 35 year old, 5 feet 10 inches tall, and born in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri.⁵

¹ The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture.
<http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=5904>

² M405, Roll 634, Thirty-third Infantry, P-R.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Blassingame, John W, "The Recruitment of Negro Troops in Missouri During the Civil War." Missouri Historical Review, Vol. LVIII, #3, April 1964, p. 329.

⁵ National Archives. Company F Descriptive Book.

On July 22, 1863, Special Orders No. 39 from the War Department in Washington, DC, announced the white officers for the 3d Regiment Arkansas Volunteers of African Descent. They came from Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Illinois, cavalry, artillery, infantry and militia units, as well as civilian life. The Colonel was 47 year old John Guylee, formerly a 1st Lieutenant in the 4th Regiment, Iowa Cavalry. The Lieutenant-Colonel was 24 year old William S. Brooks, formerly Captain of Company D, 19th Iowa Infantry Regiment. The Major was 36 year old Moses Reed, formerly 2nd Lieutenant of Company G, 33rd Regiment Missouri Infantry.⁶

Company F was recruited in July and August and the first official muster roll was made out at Schofield Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri, on August 28, 1863. The following day, the Company received orders to march. They embarked on the steamboat Sam Gaty for Helena, Arkansas and on arriving there on September 5, reported to Moses Reed, Major commanding the detachment, 3rd Arkansas Volunteers of African Descent.⁷

George W. Holibaugh, 32 years old, was appointed Captain of Company F, formerly a Captain in the 11th Enrolled Missouri Militia Infantry. Thomas H. Childs, 33 years old, was appointed 1st Lieutenant, formerly a 3rd Sergeant in the 14th Regiment Iowa Infantry. John Snyder was appointed 2nd Corporal of Company F, September 1, 1863. On the same day, John's recruiter, 24 year old, William O. Kretzinger, was appointed 2nd Lieutenant of Company F.⁸

The company spent September and October 1863 on garrison duty at Helena. Helena was not the most favorable duty as Union soldiers complained the town was cold and wet in winter, hot and disease-ridden in summer. To compound these conditions, the town's streets were often turned into impassable mud by frequent rains. Annual floods and the summer's heat worked to make the town what Iowa soldiers called "Hell-in-Arkansas." Broken levees and flooded streets were the memories of Helena for many northern soldiers⁹

As with many colored units, disease and death were constant companions. During the conflict the unit lost four officers and 21 enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and two officers and 647 enlisted men by disease for a total loss of 674. Cholera by far took the most lives claiming 175. Diseases that claimed more than 50 lives each were congestive intermittent fever, diarrhea, and malaria. Other deadly diseases were pneumonia, tuberculosis, dysentery, anemia, small pox, and typhoid.¹⁰

On December 9, 1863, Company F was ordered by Special Orders No. 12 to relieve Company H, at Helena, guarding commissary stores. John would later state that he was on duty at Helena, Arkansas at Fort Curtis doing guard duty when he contracted a pain in his left side and left

⁶ Daily Republican, St. Louis, MO, August 8, 1863, p. 2, col. 6; Daily Missouri Democrat, St. Louis, MO, August 10, 1863, p. 2, column 3; National Archives. Regimental Descriptive Book.

⁷ National Archives. M594, Compiled Records Showing Service of Military Units in Volunteer Union Organizations. Roll 211, U.S. Colored Troops, Fifty-third Infantry through Fifty-eighth Infantry; National Archives, Regimental Order Book, Special Orders No. 10, dated August 28, 1863.

⁸ Company F Descriptive Book.

⁹ National Archives Company F Descriptive Book; M594, Roll 211; Christ, Mark K. Rugged and Sublime: The Civil War in Arkansas. (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 1994), 75.

¹⁰ National Archives. Companies A-K Descriptive Books, 56th U.S. Colored Infantry.

knee and ankle and back He was sent to the post hospital and was treated by a surgeon [Dr. John C. Stoddard] who was later killed at the battle of Big Creek, Arkansas.

Between November 1863 and July 1864, the company moved back and forth between the garrison at Helena and Island No. 63 in the Mississippi River. While at Helena they primarily guarded quartermaster, commissary and ordnance stores. While stationed on Island No. 63, the company guarded the river below Helena and guarded government woodchoppers, who chopped wood for the Union gunboats.¹¹

The woodchoppers were fugitive slaves sent to Islands 63 and 66, in the Mississippi River by General Napoleon B. Buford, the commander at Helena. The men cut the wood and the women and children corded it. Such wood yards, some of them supervised by private contractors, others by government superintendents, became the largest employers of former slaves in the Helena area.¹²

Colonel Guylee remained Colonel of the regiment until he resigned on March 9, 1864 and Lieutenant-Colonel William S. Brooks took command. The name of the organization was changed to the 56th Regiment U.S. Colored Infantry on March 11, 1864, by General Orders No. 71, Vicksburg, Mississippi. Lieutenant-Colonel William S. Brooks became the commanding officer and was promoted to Colonel March 16.¹³

General Buford, the post commander at Helena, asked for reinforcements in May of 1864 to resist the hostility of the entire people of Helena, Phillips County, and the adjoining counties. He was afraid that a Confederate cavalry force was near and would raid the leased plantations, where there were large stores of provisions, 500 mules, and 3,000 Negroes. The Post of Helena had six forts and a picket-line 4 miles long manned by colored infantry troops. He reported he had 762 white troops and 1,050 colored troops available for duty.¹⁴

Detachments of the 56th USCT were involved in the small actions at Indian Bay, Arkansas, April 13, and Muffleton Lodge, Arkansas, June 29, where they captured a number of prisoners. Company F lost one man shot by guerillas.¹⁵

July 1864 found the company back on duty at Helena, Arkansas. On July 25, 1864, Colonel Brooks left Helena on a transport with 280 men of the 56th U.S.C.T., 80 men of the 60th U.S.C.T., and one section of Captain Jonas F. Lembke's 3rd Louisiana Battery (Colored). Lembke's Battery became Battery E, 2nd Regiment U.S. Colored Light Artillery. They proceeded down the Mississippi River to the mouth of the White River. Here the troops disembarked and

¹¹ M594, Roll 211, Regimental Return for March 1864; National Archives. Brooks to L. Thomas, April 16, 1864, Regimental Letters Sent Book.

¹² Berlin, Ira, Thavolia Glymph, Steven F. Miller, Joseph P. Reidy, Leslie S. Rowland, and Julie Saville. *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867*. Series I, 3 vols. (New York: Cambridge University press, 1990), III, p. 637.

¹³ Regimental Order Book, Special Order. No. 27, March 9, 1864; Regiment Return for March 1864, NARA; Brooks to L. Thomas, April 16, 1864, Regimental Letters Sent Book, NARA.

¹⁴ *ORA*, Series 1, Volume XXXIV, Part 3, p. 481.

¹⁵ Dyer, Frederick H. *A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion*. 3 vols. (New York: Thomas Yoseloff, 1959), III, pp. 1000, 1733; Company F Morning Reports.

marched all night in the direction of Wallace's Ferry, Arkansas, on Big Creek, eighteen miles west of Helena. Brooks halted his command the next morning for breakfast, stacked arms and the men spread out over the fields.

Suddenly, General Archibald Dobbins, at the head of a large Confederate force, attacked the black troops. The Confederate troops at first formed no regular line of battle, but rushed pell-mell into the black troops. The black troops began to gather their muskets and get into a line of resistance. During the battle, Colonel Brooks was killed and the 56th's Surgeon John C. Stoddard was also killed while ministering to his Colonel. In spite of heavy losses, including Captain Lembke of the artillery, the Union troops held their ground stubbornly for several hours.

Meanwhile, Major Eagleton Carmichael and 150 men of the 15th Illinois Cavalry, while marching in the direction of Wallace's Ferry, heard the cannonading and made a forced march in that direction. He charged through the Confederates at the moment Dobbins was about to make his final charge, and saved the black troops from annihilation, since their ammunition was almost exhausted after six hours of combat.

The total Union loss was 50 killed and wounded and one caisson and one limber blown up, four wagons and one medicine chest destroyed. The Confederates lost an estimated 150 men. The 56th Regiment lost two commissioned officers and 11 men killed. It also lost two commissioned officers and 24 men wounded and three men missing.¹⁶

Corporal John (King) Snyder participated in the battle and would later state that he, "...fired at the Rebels from behind a log. During the battle a ball hit the log and knocked some of the bark into his eyes, resulting in him having trouble seeing for four or five weeks." This injury resulted in Captain Holobaugh placing him on fatigue duty for the rest of the war. Some of this duty consisted of chopping wood in the nearby forests. He is not listed as wounded on the Company F Morning Reports, but the Company lost two men killed and five wounded. One of the wounded would later die in the hospital from his wounds.¹⁷

As of November 2011, the exact location of the Battle of Wallace's Ferry (aka Big Creek), Arkansas, had not been found. Archaeological efforts are still underway to locate the site.¹⁸

Following the battle, the remainder of the regiment returned to Helena under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Moses Reed. Reed reported they brought off the dead and wounded commissioned officers and most of the wounded, but left the dead enlisted unburied. Second Corporal John (King) Snyder was placed in the regimental hospital during September 1864. However, the Company Muster Roll for September and October 1864 does not indicate this. The remainder of 1864 passed without combat incident.¹⁹

¹⁶ *ORA*, Series 1, Volume XLI, Part 2, 384; *Ibid.*, Part 1, 11.

¹⁷ Company F Morning Reports.

¹⁸ Southern Arkansas University, "Kadohadacho News," Vol. 6, No. 6, November 2011, p. 2

¹⁹ *ORA*, Series 1, Volume XLI, Part 1, 16, 19; National Archives. Company F Morning Reports. Company F Muster Roll for September and October 1864.

When John Snyder was paid in October 1864, the Army deducted \$7 from his pay for one haversack and one knapsack.²⁰

With the Colonel killed in battle, Colonel Charles Bentzoni, a former 2nd Lieutenant in the Regular 11th U.S. Infantry, assumed command of the 56th U.S.C.T. on January 30, 1865.²¹

The regiment was apparently drilling in the morning, but during February 1865, it was changed to the afternoon. They were to drill from 2 PM to 5 PM with a 15 minute break at 3:30 PM. The daily calls were as follows:

Drummers Call	6 AM	Dinner Call	12:15 PM
Reveille	6:15 AM	Drill Call	3 PM
Breakfast	After Reveille	Recall from Drill	4 PM
Fatigue Call	8 AM	Assembly	4:45 PM
Guard Mount	9 AM	Adjutant's Call	5 PM
Drill Call	9:45 AM	Tattoo	8:30 PM
Recall from drill	12 noon	Taps	9 PM ²²

Per Special Orders No. 10, 2nd Corporal John (King) Snyder was reduced back to the ranks February 28, 1865. He would remain a Private in Company F for the remainder of his service.

On April 2, 1865, per Special Orders No. 17, HQ, 56th USCT, Company F marched to Battery D, defenses of Helena, Arkansas and garrisoned the Battery.²³

April 6, 1865, John Snyder was sick in quarters. Two days later he returned to duty.²⁴

Within a few months of Confederate General Robert E. Lee's surrender in the East, on April 14, 1865, and the surrender of Confederate forces in the Trans-Mississippi, during May and June 1865, the U.S. government instituted a policy of rapid demobilization. The expense of maintaining an army of one million men was bankrupting the U. S. government and both the citizen-soldiers and the Northern public demanded the troops be sent home as soon as possible.

Faced with the problem of needing an occupation force to assist in implementing the reconstruction program, the government turned to some of the black units who still had a year of enlistment remaining. The decision was made to retain a number of black units for reconstruction duty, instead of returning the freedmen as individuals to the economic chaos of the South. By keeping them in the service, these black soldiers would have three meals per day,

²⁰ Company F Muster Roll for September and October 1864.

²¹ Bentzoni to T.C. Meatyard, January 30, 1865, Regimental Letters Sent Book. Born in Prussia, Bentzoni was appointed a Colonel with the U.S. Volunteer forces on January 20, 1864. Heitman, Francis B. Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, 1789-1903, 3 vols. (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1903), Volume 1, p. 213; National Archives. Charles Bentzoni Pension File 647,956.

²² Regimental Order Book, General Order No. 3, February 1, 1865.

²³ Regimental Order Book, Special Orders No. 17, April 2, 1865.

²⁴ Company F Morning Reports.

shelter, and pay, and this would ease their transition from slavery to freedom and from wartime to peacetime. The 56th USCT was one of the units.²⁵

May 5, 1865, John Snyder went from duty to sick in quarters but returned to duty on May 8.

On May 6, 1865, per Regimental General Order No. 12, a change in calls was made.

Drummers Call at	4:45 AM
Reveille	5:00 AM
Breakfast Call at	5:30 AM
Fatigue Call at	6:30 AM
Drummers Call for Dress Parade at	6:30 PM
Assembly Call for Dress Parade at	6:45 PM

The morning and evening Drills would be omitted.²⁶

Again on August 22, 1865, John Snyder went from duty to sick in quarters. September 18, 1865, John Snyder returned to duty from sick in quarters..²⁷

September 22, 1865, John Snyder once again went from duty to sick in quarters. He returned to duty on September 28.

The remainder of 1865 passed without incident and through General Order No. 26 on December 31, 1865, Colonel Bentzoni wished the officers and soldiers "A Happy New Year."²⁸

The year 1866 saw the same activity as before with promotions, reductions in rank, inspections and fatigue duty at Helena.

With most enlistments due to expire during August and early September of 1866, Companies A, B, E, G and K, stationed at Duvall's Bluff, under the command of Major Henry A. Wells, returned to Helena and joined the rest of the regiment on August 5. The regiment was ordered to report to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to muster out. Companies A and C of the 19th U.S. Infantry replaced the regiment at Helena, but 30 non-commissioned officers and enlisted men were left at the Post in charge of government property. They remained behind for a month.²⁹

The first five companies left Helena aboard the Steamer Continental. By the time the Continental reached St. Louis at noon on August 13, 61 deaths had occurred due to cholera and 26 cases were still on board. Several had been buried along the way on the riverbanks.

²⁵ Joseph T. Glatthaar, Forged in Battle, The Civil War Alliance of Black Soldiers and White Officers (New York: The Free Press, A division of Macmillan, Inc., 1990), 210.

²⁶ Regimental Order Book, General Order No. 12, May 6, 1865.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Regimental Order Book, General Order No. 26, December 31, 1865.

²⁹ National Archives. M-617, U.S., Returns from Military Posts, 1806-1916. Roll 1514, Post Return for August 1866, Post of Helena, Arkansas.

The other five companies (340 men), including Company F and Private John (King) Snyder, under Bentzoni, embarked on the Steamer Platte Valley the morning of August 10. There was no sickness in the command and both medical officers of the regiment, being in charge of Post Hospitals (one at Helena and the other at Duvall's Bluff), Colonel Bentzoni had no physician on board. On the 11th one man died and on the 12th when the boat landed at Cairo there were about 40 men sick.

Cholera was hitting St. Louis hard, but Bentzoni reported his troops were in "fine health and spirits." To be safe, the St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad furnished transportation from St. Louis to Quarantine Station, south of the city, for 12 commissioned officers, 366 men, 5 laundresses, 6 horses and baggage.³⁰

Colonel Bentzoni reported from the Quarantine Grounds near St. Louis, Missouri, on August 22, 1866, that the strength of the command was 21 officers and 472 enlisted men present, 6 officers and 60 enlisted men absent, being a total of 27 officers and 532 men. The actual loss by cholera from August 12 to August 22 was 165. The men were unwilling to re-enlist unless a furlough was granted to them.³¹

At this time Private John (King) Snyder was in the hospital with cholera for two weeks, but he was lucky and survived.

During the cholera outbreak, it was impossible to observe the usual burial and tributes to the dead. The epidemic hit so fast and continued daily so it was difficult to bury the dead within a reasonable time. Once the epidemic was over, Colonel Bentzoni, ordered a general funeral service to take place on Tuesday August 28, for the entire number who had fallen victims to the disease. He secured the services of Rev. S.B. Dickinson of the Ladies' Union City Mission, to officiate, there being no regular chaplain in the regiment. The assembly was sounded at 12 o'clock and the whole regiment marched in solemn procession from camp to the place of burial. A representative grave had been opened for the occasion. A dirge was played by the coronet band and an appropriate message was read from Revelation 21:4, after which the usual salute was fired, and the mournful procession marched back to camp.³²

On September 2, 1866, Colonel Bentzoni forwarded by mail in four packages, 174 duplicate final statements and 174 inventories of effects of soldiers of the regiment deceased during the month of August 1866.³³ The following day he reported that 1st Lieutenant Joseph Brooks, Jr. died on the 3rd of typhoid malarial fever at the residence of his father the Rev. Joseph Brooks at No. 14 Benton Street, St. Louis. Ten days later, on September 13, the Mayor of St. Louis released a proclamation that he was satisfied that the cholera epidemic was over.³⁴

[To be concluded in the September 2013 Collage of Cape County.]

³⁰ Regimental Letterbook, Bentzoni to Superintendent of Transportation, St. Louis, August 8, 1866.

³¹ Regimental Letterbook, Bentzoni to Gen. William A. Nichols, August 22, 1866.

³² Daily Missouri Democrat, St. Louis, MO, August 30, 1866, page 2, column 3.

³³ Regimental Letterbook, Bentzoni to Adjutant General, USA, September 2, 1866.

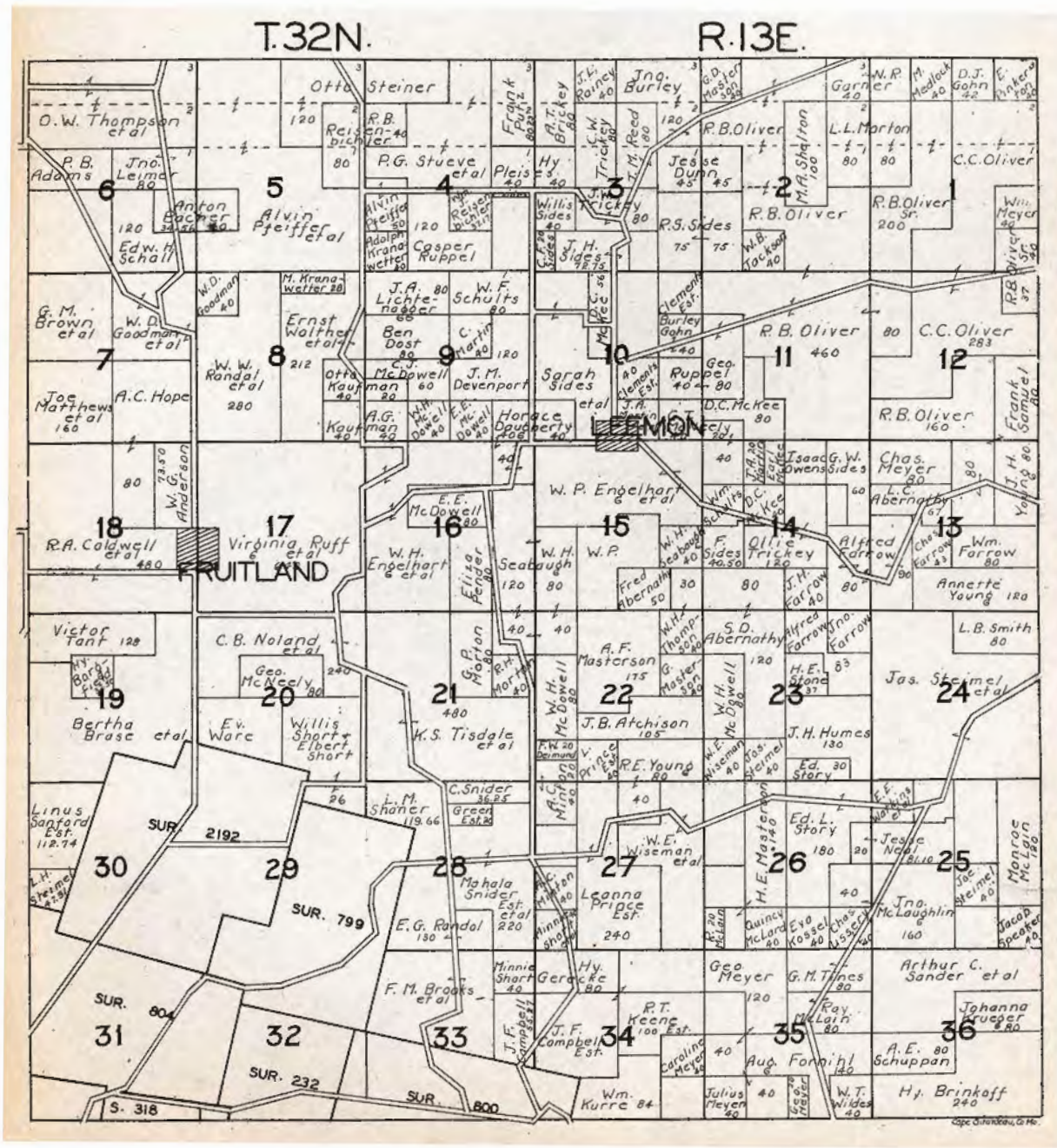
³⁴ Regimental Letterbook, Bentzoni to Adjutant General, USA, September 3, 1866; Daily Missouri Democrat, St. Louis, MO, September 14, 1866, page 1, column 1.

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