

FOURTH GENERATION

7-517. MARY H. HADLEY, dau of William and Mary (Barry) Hadley (p 55), was b in 1840, Davidson Co, Tenn, bur Mt. Olivet Cem, Nashville.

She m, in 1864, Major William Clare, d 1870, a descendant of Lord Clare of Ireland. He was a Major in Hood's Brigade, C.S.A. After the Civil War, he became a prominent lawyer in Nashville, Tenn.

Mary H. Hadley was considered very beautiful and the circumstances of her marriage were quite romantic. She was visiting at the home of Colonel John Overton on the Franklin Road near Nashville when she learned that the army was to pass that way. She was then engaged to Major Clare and, hoping to see him, she and several friends stationed themselves by the roadside to watch the march.

The lovers met, and were determined to be married immediately. She accordingly joined the march until they reached the church at Brentwood where the ceremony was performed, and witnessed by General Hood and his entire staff.

An article by Hugh Walker, published in the Nashville Tennessean, Dec. 6, 1964, reads as follows:--

"Six Girls Waited - As Hood's Battered Confederates Marched Toward Nashville. THE DATE was Friday, December 2, 1864, and the Confederate Army of Tennessee was marching from Franklin towards Nashville. No bells were ringing as for the Romans on the Appian Way. No bands played. It was a somber, silent, battered army--hoping for the best and expecting the worst.

But one thing the army had as it marched up the Franklin Pike to its old stamping grounds. The girls had heard the boys were coming home again--after three long years--and they were waiting.

There they were, six of them, in buttons and bows, hoop skirts and crinoline, caps and bonnets--'much excited', as Colonel W. Duldley Gale put it, chattering, laughing, waving and, perhaps, crying for joy.

In his letter to his wife, Colonel Gale listed the girls' names: Mary Bradford, Miss Maxwell, Miss May, Misses Becky Allison, Mary Hadley and Buck Correy. For the rest of the century their names would be prominent in and around Nashville.

It was no wonder the girls were excited as they stood by the road near Traveler's Rest. Their sweethearts and brothers were coming home again from Stone's River, the Chattanooga and Georgia campaigns--and from the bloody battle of Franklin. There, just two days before, 1750 boys in gray had died before the Federal battle lines.

Death and his pal, danger, were everywhere that day, hiding like rabbits in the broomsedge fields. But these girls, and the soldiers passing by, had lived with war for nearly four years now. They were thinking of life and love--brown hair and blue eyes--and long remembered kisses. If danger was in the air, so was romance!

Take Mary Hadley (7-517) for instance.

Mary was 24 years old, the daughter of William and Mary Hadley. Her father had been a law partner of Felix Grundy, and had served as mayor of Gallatin.

Mary was in love, and her sweetheart rode by that day in Hood's army. She must have waved, and perhaps found time for a little sweet talk, because ten exciting days later they were married in the Brentwood Methodist Church.

Mrs. William G. Ewald of Baltimore was, as a girl, Frances Moore of Nashville, and her great-grandmother was Mary Hadley's cousin. Mrs. Ewald brought

