

Sketch  
relating incidents

C O P Y

Annals of the Edmiston Family by Hetty Montgomery McEwen, February 18 1879.

My grandfather, Col. William Edmiston was born in Augusta County, Virginia. His mother was of Welsh extraction. He was twice married; first to Miss Martha Campbell, a Scotch lassie of the house of Argyle of the clan McGregor. She was born at Ellicerslie, the seat of Sir. W. Wallace. When she was 13 years of age, her father John Campbell, with three brothers and a large number of the Campbell clan emigrated to America. They landed at Philadelphia. At that time she said the whole city was built on one little road on the Delaware River, very muddy and bordered with cane. They were married before the Revolutionary War and removed to Washington County, Va. and settled near Abingdon. She left three brothers in Penn. from whom are descended a large number of the clan. He afterwards married Miss Margaret Montgomery. He had fourteen children, seven sons and seven daughters; all of whom made useful citizens. Some of them were married in the South and have left large families of children and grand-children scattered over the country from Abingdon to Louisiana, many of whom hold positions under our government. Many have useful professions. Many are thrifty farmers, and all are respectable as far as I know. My grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and a Colonel in the Battle of King's Mountain; in which he fought with three brothers and two brothers-in-law, three of whom were killed, one brother John, was severely wounded but survived. He was shot through the body. My father said a British surgeon passed a silk handkerchief a dozen times through his body. He lived until 1810, when he died of cold plague, an epidemic then passing through the country. At the opening of the Revolutionary War, my grandfather was regarded as the wealthiest man west of the Blue Ridge. His wealth consisted mainly of lands and slaves. The following are the names of his children and whom they married.

Margaret married Mr. Montgomery  
John married Miss Montgomery  
Betsey married Col. Wm. Edmiston  
Robert Campbell  
Esther married Robert Campbell Kennedy  
Samuel married Miss Dean  
Sallie married Mr. Beatty  
Thomas  
Mary first married Mr. Gilliland and then Ebenezer McEwen  
Martha Campbell married James Gillespie  
William married Miss Stuart  
Andrew married an heiress of Wytne Co., Va.  
Elizabeth married Jonathan Smith  
Catharine married Mr. Jones

A son, name not given, was killed at the Battle of King's Mountain. Sallie married a Dr. Wallace, an Englishman and surgeon in the British Army. She died early. (I find above sixteen children mentioned, yet only 14 were spoken of by Ma. I cannot account for this discrepancy.

C. McE. Jones

Margaret Edmiston, the eldest of the children, at sixteen married a Mr. Montgomery and went to Kentucky and settled at Russellville, where some of the family still live - 1820. They went into a fort to protect themselves from the Indians. One night the Indians stormed the fort, killed her husband and his brother. They took her, his brother's wife and servant girl prisoners. They scalped the men and servant and took the women and marched them before them for two days to the Tennessee River where they stopped to get breakfast and make rafts to cross the river. While walking, my aunt broke bushes to make a trail. A party of men having returned to the fort on the second morning, pursued them, following the trail. They overtook them. The Indians could not make a stand against the pursuers. Many jumped into the river and were drowned; others escaped, leaving the prisoners and the plunder they had taken. The white men took all they found and went back to the fort, where my aunt found her husband and brother-in-law dead. My aunt remained in the fort some time, then married a clever young man, Robt. Harrold. She had thirteen children, several of whom are living in the Southern country. At 70 years of age she moved to Clinton, Miss., lived with a son who was a doctor, and other children, and died at the age of 85. Many of her children are still living, of whom I know nothing. Her oldest son married a Miss Davis, near Russellville, Ky.. Two of his sisters married Messrs. Davis, brothers of his wife, making useful citizens. John Edmiston, the oldest son, when first grown was Clerk in one of the Courts in Abingdon, Va.. In early life, he married a Miss Montgomery and came to Lexington, Ky.. He raised three children, a son and two daughters. The son, a physician of promise, married early and died soon after. One daughter married a Mr. Pruitt, the other a Mr. Richardson, of Lexington, Ky.. There was a large family of Pruitts, useful and respectable. Richardson also had a family of children, one was a distinguished member of Congress. Others moved to Mississippi. John Richardson, a very handsome man and a doctor, lived at or near Holly Springs, Miss.. Betsey Edmiston at 20, married Col. Wm. Edmiston, distinguished in the Revolutionary War, a splendid woman, managing and domestic. Sallie married a Dr. Wallace, an Englishman and surgeon in the British army and died early. Robert Campbell Edmiston was born in Augusta Co., Va., Aug. 23th, 1761 - brought by his father to Washington Co., Va.. He was a successful farmer and politician. He entered the army at an early age, under his cousin, Col. Wm. Campbell, who commanded at the Battle of King's Mountain. He was frequently sent as a representative to the Virginia legislature. He died at Richmond, Va. in the path of duty. His bust in marble now stands in the State Capitol. He left nine children, five sons and four daughters. He had a good home. Esther Edmiston (my mother) married Robt. Campbell Kennedy. (Had seven children, one son and six daughters, all of whom married well). They were married on the 10th of March, 1785 near Abingdon, Va.. Robt. Campbell Kennedy was an active, industrious farmer, public spirited, a true patriot and fearless soldier, fought in the Battle of King's Mountain. In 1785 he came to Nashville, Tennessee, then a territory of N. C.. (A fortified station on the Cumberland River). The families lived in stockades to protect them from the Indians. In 1808, he moved to Lincoln County, Tennessee. He occupied his bounty lands, received for his services to his country. Lincoln

County was then a cane brake, not surveyed. My mother said she could put her hand through a crack in the house and break a cane, no near neighbors and no doctors in the country. They left three of their children at school at Nashville and took three with them into the wilderness. His negroes soon opened a farm near Fayetteville (2½ miles on the old Nashville road). They made their own support, what they ate and what they wore, and were contented and happy. There were no hotels and everyone who called at his house was entertained free of charge. They had plenty of butter and milk, bread, meat and fruit for the wayfaring man and passing soldier. When the War of 1812 commenced, he offered his services to Gen. Jackson, with whom he settled at an early date at Nashville. The General said, "No sir, you have given us your boy. Stay at home and make something for us to eat." (They had been old friends and neighbors from 1784). The General's request was performed to the letter. He owned the only mill in the neighborhood, long after known as the Kennedy Mill. This was impressed for the use of the army by Vance Greer, Commissary, who lived three years with Gen. Jackson at the Hermitage. My father died February 1815 of cold plague, an epidemic said to be as malignant and destructive as cholera. My mother died while on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Martin at Columbia, Tennessee 1823. Children of Esther (married Kennedy). Margaret Montgomery married Geo. Martin, a young Scotchman from N. C.. He was principal of VALLEYVIEW Academy, Nashville, Tenn.. He taught many of the young men and girls in the county, until 1806, when he was called to the first College in Nashville, as Professor of Languages at a salary of \$1000. In 1815, he moved to Maury Co., Tenn.. He was Clerk of the Circuit Court in Maury for forty years and died aged 96. He had three children, one Mary, married Gen. Gideon S. Pillow, one William, was Judge of the Circuit Court in Maury for several years. The other, Dr. Robt. Campbell Kennedy Martin was a distinguished M. D. at Nashville, Tenn.. My second sister, Martha Campbell, married John McConnell, a nephew of Gen. Maccaiah Lewis. He was a planter near Nashville and removed to Lincoln County, Tenn. in 1811. He was one of the first men in the state and died about middle age. His son, Felix Grundy McConnell was a member of Congress from Alabama, whose daughter Kathleen married Gen. Shelley of the Confederate Army. His son, Wm. K. was a fearless soldier. Elizabeth (Betsey) Edmiston married Vance Greer, who was the son of "old white-headed Arly Greer." He studied law with Gen. Jackson, not wishing to practice, he went into mercantile business at Fayetteville, Tenn.. Died early in life leaving a handsome estate to his wife and three children. Her daughter Hetty married Mr. Thompson of Fayetteville, died soon after, leaving one son, Willie Vance, a lawyer and wealthy planter of Maury Co., Tenn.. One of the sons, Andrew Jackson, was a distinguished lawyer at Helena, Ark., a member of the Senate in 1842, when he died. The other son, William Kennedy, was a lawyer and lived in Miss.. William E. Kennedy, born 1794 near Nashville, graduated at Nashville College also Washington College, Tenn.. Dr. Samuel Doak, Pres. went through the Indian War with Gen. Jackson, studied law in Nashville with Judge James Trimble, was elected Judge of the Circuit Court.

While on the bench went fox hunting, getting very wet and not having time to change his clothing; before Court opened, he sat thus for several hours and on attempting to leave his seat at the adjournment of the Court he found his lower limbs paralyzed, from which he never recovered). He married Miss Elizabeth Willis of Georgia, a girl of wealth, and removed to Maury Co., Tenn., near Columbia where he had a large stock farm and accumulated a handsome fortune. He was fearless and always spoke his mind freely, was much respected and beloved by his neighbors, was a leading member of the Presbyterian Church. He was for many years Grand Master of the Masons in Tenn.. His wife and seven children preceded him to the grave. He was an early member of the Colonization Society and sent more than one hundred slaves to Liberia, after giving them a plain education and trades. In the commencement of the War of 1831, he was a Union man, but when Tennessee seceded, he espoused the cause of his native state and the South. When the Federals occupied Columbia they called upon him to take the oath of allegiance to the U. S. Government. His hands being paralyzed, he said he could not write his name. The officer told him to make his mark. With great indignation he said, "What would posterity say to Judge Kennedy's making his mark." The officer then said, "I will send you to prison." His reply was, "I will go there and not list." He was then sent to prison and remained there several days. I appealed, in vain, to Gen. Grant, who was in Nashville, for his release. Soon after he was stricken with paralysis of the brain and died in 1863. He left by will, \$40,000 in bank, "to some southern institution of learning." The Federals said there was no South and what became of the money I do not know.

Hetty Montgomery Kennedy, born 29th of July, 1796, attended school at Valladolid Academy, Nashville; when very young went to Lincoln Co., Tenn. with her father. In 1815, Nov. 14th, she married Robert Houston McEwen at Fayetteville, Tenn., one of Gen. Jackson's soldiers, raised in E. Tenn. by a widowed mother. The son of a Scotchman who was a surgeon in the Revolutionary War. He was in the mercantile business and very successful, having made \$80,000 in twelve years, but lost much of it by his kindness and indulgence. He had a large trade with the Indians. So great was their confidence in his honesty, that they would bring into his store a quantity of gold, tied up in their red handkerchiefs and lay it on the counter, and pointing to what they wanted, tell him to take his own pay. His fairness and honesty was so well distinguished among them, that they distinguished him from others by the name of "Honest Bob." He spoke "Cherokee" well and was an intimate friend of John Ross, the Cherokee chief. In 1823, he moved to Nashville in order that he might educate his children and give his family the advantages of good society. He was a successful business man and was for over thirty-three years an elder in the Presbyterian Church, was kind, benevolent, and patriotic, and I believe lived and died a Christian. He died in Jan. 1868 and she, his wife, died at Augusta, Ga., Jan. 19th, 1831. They had ten children. Three died in infancy. The following are the names of the others. Margaretta Houston Boak McEwen was born at Fayetteville, 1st August, 1816, married John

Trimble, son of Judge Trimble at Nashville, Tenn. Sept. 1835. They raised two sons and two daughters. She died Sept. 11th, 1867. Names of their children - Mary Carrie, Letitia C., James and John. Several children died in early life. Sarah Caroline Milda McEwen was born at Fayetteville, 23th April, 1830, married Judge John Thompson Jones of Arkansas, formerly of Essex Co., Va.. Married 13th August, 1839. She had twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. Six died young, as follows, Robert McEwen, Orlando Scott, Margaretta Trimble, Carrie McEwen, Mary Trimble and Virginia. The latter died at Columbia Institute, Tenn. aged 14 - the others now living are Thompson Lapsley, Heber Wheat, Annie Scott, Paul, Wm. Kennedy, and John A. McEwen. John Alexander McEwen, born at Fayetteville Nov. 28th, 1824, married first, Selina Frierson of Columbia, who had one son Samuel Davis Frierson. His wife died 1850. In 1855 he married Sallie Turner, who had one son, John A. McEwen. He died Dec. 3rd, 1868. Ann Maria McEwen born at Fayetteville Nov. 1838 married D. F. Wilkins of Nashville about 1853. They had seven children, Robert McEwen, Harriet Love, Hettie Kennedy and Selina Frierson lived to maturity. Margaretta, Flavel, and Lucy Henry died young of cholera in 1866. Their mother died at the same time of the same disease. Robert Houston McEwen, born at Nashville 1830, married Lucy Putnam, daughter of Waldo Putnam. Died Nov. 1873. They had three children, Waldo Putnam, Hetty McEwen, and John Henry. Henry Martyn McEwen was born at Nashville 1834, married Lucie Curd of Louisville, Ky., died 1861, leaving one daughter, Henrie who died at four years of age. Hetty Kennedy McEwen was born at Nashville 1840, married Dr. John S. Coleman of Augusta, Georgia. They had two sons, Warren and Robt. McEwen. The latter died early. Mary McNairy Kennedy (daughter of Esther) was born at Nashville, married Thos. Kercheval, a Virginia, who was first a merchant at Fayetteville, afterwards planter. Removed to Maury Co. to educate his children and then to Giles Co. where he died. She died there also. Their children were Wm. Rufus, James, Thomas, William Kennedy, Ann, Hetty and Emma Kennedy. James is an M. D. at Nashville, married Mary Trimble, the daughter of Hon. John Trimble. Thomas (Mayor of Nashville - 1830) married a daughter of Judge Bryan. William K. a distinguished lawyer and Judge, lived at Fayetteville, married a daughter of Gov. Clarke of Ky., was a distinguished soldier in the Confederate Army, died about 1835. Miriam Lewis Kennedy, another daughter of Esther, was born at Nashville, married Dr. Joel Boone Saunders, nephew of old Daniel Boone of Ky., a prominent young physician, settled at Fayetteville and succeeded well in his profession, removed to Columbia and then to Memphis at its first settlement in 1832. A short time after cholera made its appearance, Dr. Cartwright of Hatchez, Miss., a cousin, very successful in the treatment of the disease, being an old man and desirous to give up the practice of medicine, induced Saunders to go there. He had never had a spell of sickness in his life, but not being acclimated, died of congestion in a week. He left a widow, three sons, and two daughters all distinguished for their intellect. One, Sarah, married Mr. Weir of Mississippi. One, Napoleon Bonaparte, died at Memphis. One, Xenophon Boone, lives in Belton, Texas, a distinguished lawyer and Judge, and a fine orator.

Another son, Joel Boone, was a Confederate soldier and killed at Gettysburg. The other daughter, Margaret Montgomery, married in Texas. A better man I never know than Dr. Saunders. Samuel Edmiston was an independent farmer, living at William Ross Co., Texas, married Miss Bean and had four children. The eldest, William Campbell figured conspicuously in the War of 1812 and was one of Gen. Jackson's life guards. He presented to the Historical Society of Tennessee the sword given to one of the Edmiston brothers for gallantry on the battlefield at King's Mountain by Col. Campbell. It was the sword of the British Gen. Dupontier, on which was raised a white handkerchief as flag of truce. He was an independent, useful and generous-hearted farmer. Died on his farm near Nashville aged 82 years. He left three daughters, Margaret, Eliza and Catharine, all well married. A son, William Campbell, was a gallant soldier in the Confederate service. Sallie Edmiston married a Mr. Beatty of Washington Co., Va. and moved to Kentucky at an early day. Mr. Beatty was an active, industrious man and had a large family of children. Two or three now living at Somerset, Ky.. Some are engaged in the coal business and doing well. Some live in Crittenden and Mississippi Co., Arkansas. In 1879, Mrs. Beatty was living in Va.. Thomas Edmiston was the literary, country gentleman of the family. He stayed at home and attended to his own affairs. He had two children, Nicholas, a gentleman of high culture, who died in early manhood. The daughter married Mr. Perkins of Williamson Co., Tenn.. Thomas Edmiston sent many of his slaves to Liberia. Mary Edmiston married Mr. Gilliland, was early left a widow with one son, Samuel Edmiston, who was raised by my husband and myself and no son was ever more grateful or generous than he to us. She married again Ebenezer McWen, a Presbyterian minister and large planter, lived in Lincoln Co., Tenn. and had a number of children. Calvin McWen lived at Holly Springs, Mississippi. Eliza married Rev. Matthew Marshall of Mississippi. William lived at Tullahoma, Mississippi. Martha, who married Mr. Ross, the only one who survives, lives with his daughter, Mrs. Carnack of Fayetteville, Tenn.. Samuel Gilliland (son of Mary) was married four times and had a large family of children, one son, Jonathan Smith, son of Marion Smith, the third wife, now lives in St. Louis, a wealthy merchant and unmarried. Martha Campbell Edmiston married James Gillepie of East Tenn.. They were rich and independent people and raised nine children, six boys and three girls. The children are scattered, but each one doing well. One of the grandsons, James Wiley, is a Judge on the bench of the Supreme Court of Louisiana. William Campbell Edmiston came from Va. to Tenn. in 1808. He was appointed surveyor of military lands by Col. Thomas P. Anderson, married a Miss Stuart near Abington, Va.. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church and a thrifty farmer, was a Justice of Peace and a member of the legislature. He moved to the neighborhood of Memphis and lived to be 86 years of age, left four or five children. Of these is known but little except Mrs. Judge Morgan who lives at Holly Springs, Miss.. She had three sons and one daughter. The sons were in the Southern Army. At the Battle of Murfreesboro, one was a Colonel, one Capt. and one color bearer. The latter was shot dead, his brother the Captain seized the colors and was instantly killed, falling upon the body of his dead brother. After the battle

the bodies of the two dead brothers were found lying together, in the corner of a rail fence. When the two brothers fell, the Colonel took up the flag and was wounded. He recovered. In the fall of 1834, was elected a member of Congress from the northern district of Miss.. Last year he returned home from Washington to see his sixteenth baby, all children of one mother, who is still living and pretty. The daughter married James Monroe Goodbar of Memphis, Tenn. and has several children. Andrew Edmiston married a young lady of Wythe Co., Va. of considerable fortune. They lived in Washington Co., Va.. Had three children, one a physician, lived in the neighborhood of Raleigh, Tenn., and afterwards moved to Clarendon, Ark., was a successful merchant and much beloved, not married. He joined the Southern Army. After the war, he returned to find his property destroyed and died soon after. Elizabeth Edmiston married Jonathan Smith of Washington Co., Va., a public-spirited man of large wealth. They had one son and two daughters, all married and died young. The daughter, Marion, was wife of Samuel E. Gilliland and mother of Jonathan Smith of St. Louis. Katharine Edmiston married a Mr. Jones of Washington Co., Va.. They had three children of whom I know nothing, except their son, William Campbell Jones, who graduated at West Point. After leaving college, he actively engaged in the war of the day. When the Civil War commenced, he joined with the South and continued in active fighting, until the battle of Gettysburg, where he fell gallantly, fighting, sword in hand, whether on the right side I know not. Another son, Robert C. Jones, lives in Crittenden Co., Ark. and was a member of the Arkansas legislature in 1856 and was a staunch friend of John T. Jones who was elected by the same legislature to the U. S. Senate. \_\_\_\_\_ Edmiston, (first name not given) was killed at the Battle of King's Mountain. Names of our Campbell - Edmiston relations, hunted up by my cousin, Judge Xenophon Saunders of Texas, Col. William C. Edmiston of Washington Co., Va., Judge John A. Campbell of Abingdon, Va.. The family of Gen. Frank Preston of Abingdon, Va. all dead, except Col. Thomas L. Preston who resides near Charlottesville, Pa.. Col. William C. Edmiston spells his name Edmondson (near Emory and Henry College, a near relative, brother of Henry Edmondson of West Tenn. who can tell all about the Edmiston and Jones kin. The Martha Washington College buildings are the old Preston mansion at Abingdon. Dr. William White, Mrs. Dr. Campbell and Mrs. Col. Cummings, besides a host of other relatives. The above are brother and sisters of "John Preston White" who writes from Austin, Texas the above information.

A well authenticated ghost story, related and believed by my Mother, which I accept as truth and transmit to my children to confirm their faith in the great and good God.

C. McE. Jones

"It seems that a tender friendship existed between one of the Edmiston Brothers, a devoted Christian, and a certain Mr. Dixon, an avowed infidel. For those days of peril, death seemed nearer, and these friends "talked with each other by the way" of momentous questions. They agreed that if one were killed, he should return to earth if permitted and reveal to the other, things of the other world. Edmiston went into the battle, but from some cause Dixon was

detained at home. Some hundred or miles from King's Mountain, at an early hour of the night of this noted battle, Dixon was in bed asleep at home. A large bin of live coals filled the angle fireplace. The door was fastened with a simple wooden latch. The spring usually hung on the outside. Dixon said he then and there distinctly saw a man enter the door and come to the fireplace with a shuffling step. He sat down in a chair, holding his hands over the fire. Dixon noticed at the time a white bandage over the left temple and eye of the man. Feeling no alarm, he asked his name and what he wanted. The strange visitor replied, "I am Edmiston." I was killed at the battle this day. You remember the promise we made to each other. There is a God and a merciful one to me. With this, Dixon arose, but the visitor had vanished. He was so much troubled that the next morning he related the circumstance to all in the "settlement." I think the battle was fought on Saturday evening. At any rate, my Grandfather and Grandmother went to "meeting" next day at Glade Springs, Va. where the matter was much talked about, but they had heard no news of the battle being fought, though all hearts were trembling with anxiety for our soldiers. On Thursday, five days afterwards, correct reports of the battle of King's Mountain were received and it was then for the first time known in these parts that Edmiston was killed in battle by a ball passing through the left temple, entering near the eye.

The Kennedy Annals by Hetty Montgomery McEwen

There is a tradition that Queen Anne sent the Kennedys from Scotland into Ireland in a colony, to Protestantize the Irish people. My ancestry were Scotch-Irish and emigrated to America. As far as I remember, my grandfather, William Kennedy was born in Augusta Co. Va. and then to Washington Co., Va. before the Revolution and settled in the neighborhood of Abingdon and there raised a family of five children. None of them lived near us, consequently I know little of them, but as far as I have heard, the girls married useful citizens and the men were useful citizens. My Grandfather had two sisters who settled in the neighborhood of Danville, Ky. at an early day. One married a Mr. Wilson. The other had four husbands. Two were killed by the Indians. The fourth was a Mr. McGinty. I knew neither of them, but before I was married (1815) I knew a young man who knew her; he told me she was a very cheerful and healthy woman, kept house and said she would "marry again, if the boys would have her." My father, Robert Campbell Kennedy, was born in Augusta Co. Va., 28th August, 1761. He was brought by his father to Washington Co. at an early age. He entered the army under the command of his cousin, Col. William Campbell and fought in the battle of King's Mountain. He was nearly six feet high, elegantly proportioned and weighed 170 lbs., a high massive brow, keen gray eye, florid complexion, an active, industrious farmer, public-spirited, a true patriot and fearless soldier. He married Esther Edmiston in Abingdon, Va. and came to Nashville in 1786. In 1808 he removed to Lincoln Co. Tenn. and was an intimate friend of Gen. Jackson. In Feb. 1815, he died of cold plague, an epidemic which prevailed throughout the country. He was taken sick one Monday morning, had two physicians and died Saturday evening. I was his especial nurse, because my Mother was delicate. He died suddenly without pain, at his residence in Lincoln Co. leaving a wife and seven children, all of whom have been mentioned in the Edmiston Annals as the descendants of Esther Edmiston Kennedy. The end of Ma's dictation.

Annals of the Edmiston - Kennedy Family, continued by Mrs. Sarah Caroline McEwen Jones, April 1881.

My mother, Hetty Montgomery McEwen was of Scotch-Irish descent. She boasted of the McGregor blood that run in her veins and from my knowledge of the characteristics of more than a hundred of the family, I think justly. For love of freedom, devotion to country, and strong convictions of duty to God and mankind, fearless assertion of principles, untarnished integrity, love of truth and a nice sense of honor, distinguished even the children of the present generation. I have heard it said of my Mother, "she is of the stuff John Knox was made." I heard her say, "I would glory in suffering as a martyr." As soon as it was considered safe to leave the "Fort" my Grandfather Kennedy moved three miles from Nashville. Having many negroes, he soon had a comfortable home. My mother gave us thrilling stories of the dangers and trials of the pioneers, who planted and plowed the corn for bread, with the

trusty rifle at the end of the row, ready for the attack of the savage lurking for. The farm of my Grandfather was known in my childhood as the "Campbell Place." In driving, my Father often took us to see the grand old place, with its oaks and elms, under which my mother played when a child, and would point out the spot where the baby, Uncle Robert Campbell was buried. My mother never went, even so much as on the turnpike, that lead to her early home, though living so near for more than fifty years. My mother, Hetty, was the fifth child, two years a junior of her brother William Edmiston, between whom existed through life, the greatest love and confidence. They went to school together to "Valladolid Academy" taught by my Uncle Martin, a learned Scotchman, full of humor and love of mankind. She was a little girl and said few lessons but having a remarkably retentive memory learned much of the boys lessons by hearing them recite and study. At this time she acquired a fondness for the Ancient Classics which increased as she grew older, and gave her pleasure always. A few years since, she repeated to me a humorous speech in Latin, written by Uncle Martin, for one of his boys to recite at an "Exhibition." In 1876, she pointed out to me "Valladolid Academy" on South Vine or Summer St., a few blocks south of Broad, a log house, chinked and daubed and in a good state of preservation. When my mother was twelve years old, her father moved to Lincoln Co., Tenn. taking her with him, leaving the older children at school in Nashville. A few families, mostly Virginians of aristocratic tastes and culture located near them, and with negro labor, they soon had comfortable houses, open lands, mills and other conveniences, but no schools or churches. My Grandmother, true to her Virginia instincts, felt a great pride in her children, and desired that they should excel in all womanly virtues and accomplishments. The girls were all remarkably pretty, bright and cheerful. Hazel, grey, or brown eyes, dark brown hair, rosy cheeks and fair complexions; which Grandma preserved by placing sunbonnets on their heads when they went out doors or braiding a topknot of hair and tying it through a hole in the top of the bonnet. They were required to wear gloves, and at bedtime she would examine their clothes to see if they were tight enough to secure the "nyaphlike form" requisite to the lady of that day. It was considered vulgar to be fat or large, so they were kept on a simple diet and rather scant. The girls were taught to spin on the big wheel, yarn and cotton, which was woven into cloth by the negro women and worn by all the family. The girls rivaling each other in dyeing bright colors and forming stripes and plaids by combining them. They painted in water colors and embroidered on silk and satin. I have seen a white watch paper or satin, with love by rosebuds on it and a landscape embroidered with chenille by my Mother. They all danced. Every planter had his fiddler or fiddlers who took pride in playing for the children of the "Great House" as often as called upon. They went to singing school. My Mother sang as long as she lived, most plaintive, sentimental songs for us that she learned and copied in a book that she preserved till 1884, the last time I remember to have seen her "song book." Each girl had her riding horse and colored groom, whose 'special care was to keep his "young Mistress" horse in fine condition and teach it to "caracole" and other capers' by which the girls could display

country. My Mother's groom "Uncle Will" followed her fortunes and was her devoted servant. In my day was a venerable grey-haired man who drove my father's carriage from my earliest memory until I was nearly grown. He was devoted to us children, ever ready to get the carriage or bake a cake for the smallest of us, but would feel degraded to do anything else, except to saddle "old sorrel," my father's horse. He died of cholera in 1835, much lamented. So passed their days in happiness and content, useful and innocent of the vices and pleasures of the world. My Mother often said, "Until I was nearly grown, I had as little idea of the true religion as any heathen. I thought it well enough for old people to prepare for death, but no such thoughts should trouble the young and lighthearted. As to a "Change of heart," I did not know what the phrase meant. They were never sick when children. My Grandfather Kennedy was the "Massive Apollo" of my Mother. She called him Papa, and her voice always trembled in speaking of him. We were taught to admire and revere his integrity, patriotism and generosity. No poor man was turned from his door and often he would have the widows fields cultivated or crops harvested by his own servants and would have disdained to have received money for his services. While my uncle Kennedy was at Washington College, East Tenn., my father Robt. Houston McEwen (stepson of Pres. Boak) one of our clan, formed a warm friendship for each other. In 1813 or 1814, at Gen. Jackson's call for troops for the war, Uncle Kennedy and Alexander McEwen volunteered. When marching time came, Alex McEwen on account of his youth, proposed to scratch his name from the roll. My father said it should never be said that the name of McEwen was scratched off an army roll, and substituted Robt. H. for Alexander. This, my Uncle wrote home, and some compliments were passed between Miss Hetty and Robert H. in the letters of the brothers. Soon the young men found themselves at Grandpa's, en route for the army. Gen. Jackson gave them a cordial reception and both were good soldiers. Robert H. gained laurels at the battle of the Horse Shoe. Col. Patton being killed, he commanded the regiment with the rank of Colonel. He drew a diagram of the battlefield at the time, now in the possession of Mrs. John S. Coleman of Augusta, Ga.. My Uncle went home to Lincoln Co. to say good-bye. My Father accompanied him. Greeting Miss Hetty, he was captivated by her charms, but did not declare his love until the war was over. They corresponded. After the war, my Uncle John McEwen of Kingston, gave my Father a stock of goods. He moved to Fayetteville and soon became one of the leading merchants, doing a large and lucrative business with the Indians. Soon after, the newspapers contained the following intelligence: - "The 14th November 1815. Robert H. McEwen married the lovely and accomplished Miss. Hetty H. Kennedy, at the residence of the Bride's mother" near Fayetteville, Tenn.. This paper my Father kept with my Mother's love letters, among his treasures, which with other family records were lost a few years ago. The young people went immediately to housekeeping in Fayetteville. Having ample means and many young relatives, they had much company and a very gay house. Quiltings, ending in a dance, were the fashion of the day. I have a white quilt, quilted in flowers, that my

Father often said cost him a thousand dollars, i.e. "ten dinner parties, one hundred dollars each." On one occasion they had a candy pulling. My Uncle Billy was present, dressed in a suit of broadcloth that cost \$100. He was then a young man and the girls enveloped him in candy. Notwithstanding all this gayety, a room was dedicated as the "preacher's room" and was occupied by poor young Licentiatees, who ever found a happy home in the family. In 1825 our Grandmother Kennedy and a baby sister died. These sorrows made a change in our Mother's life. Suddenly she was converted of sin "and the way of escape shone as the light". She had always been fond of reading good books. Now she studied her Bible and books of devotion and found much comfort in the visits of the Rev. Mr. Machin, a Presbyterian. He held divine service in the Court House, there being no church building. I am sorry I do not know where or by whom my Mother was baptized. I have heard her say she began a new life in 1824, and felt it a sin to wear ribbon or flowers in her bonnet. Our brother John A. was dedicated with fasting and much prayer, before his birth. My sister, Margaretta Doak Houston and I were publicly baptized when I was four years old. At this time, my Father and Mother took great interest in teaching their children and servants the Bible and Westminster Catechism. Earliest teachings brought me to God, as a loving, pitying, Father, who would answer the prayer of faith.

HETTY McEWEN

To the Editor of The American:

Recently there fell in my way a small volume, bearing the impress of age and neglect, of prose and poetry - "One Hundred Choice Selections No. 2." In looking through its worn and musty pages I came across the poem, "Hetty McEwen" by Lucy Hamilton Hooper, a copy of which I inclose for publication if space permits and you deem it of interest. It refers to a critical period in the history of Nashville and purports to celebrate a dramatic scene which took place on the occasion of the occupation of the city by the Federal troops. Does it describe a real occurrence or is it another "Barbara Frietschie" poem, a baseless fabric of a poet's dream? Although it may not compare very favorably, in conception and treatment, with Whittier's poem, yet if you can locate and give a history of the heroine and author it might give added interest to the poem and to the general and local readers of your paper.

CHAS. J. DAVIS

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The poem is as follows:

O, Hetty McEwen! Hetty McEwen!  
What were the angry rebels doing  
That autumn day, in Nashville town?  
They looked aloft with oath and frown,  
And saw the Stars and Stripes wave high  
Against the blue of the sunny sky;  
Deep was the oath, and dark the frown,  
And loud the shout of "Tear it down,"  
For over Nashville, far and wide,  
Rebel banners the breeze defied,  
Staining heaven with crimson bars;  
Only the one old "Stripes and Stars"  
Waved where the autumn leaves were strewing,  
Round the home of Hetty McEwen.  
Hetty McEwen watched that day  
Where her son on his death bed lay;  
She heard the hoarse and angry cry -  
The blood of '76 rose high.  
Out flashed her eye, her cheek grew warm.  
Up rose her aged, stately form;  
From her window with steadfast brow,  
She looked upon the crowd below.  
Eyes all aflame with angry fire,  
Flashed on her with defiant ire.  
And once more rose the angry call:  
"Tear down that flag or the house shall fall!"  
Never a single inch quailed she,  
Her answer rang out firm and free:  
"Under the roof where that flag now flies  
Now my son on his death bed lies;  
Born where that banner floated high,  
'Neath its folds he shall surely die,  
Not for threats nor yet for suing

The loyal heart and steadfast  
Claimed respect from the traitor band;  
The fiercest rebel quailed that day  
Before that woman stern and gray  
They went in silence one by one --  
Left her there with her dying son,  
And left the old flag floating free  
O'er the bravest heart in Tennessee,  
To wave in loyal splendor there  
Upon that treason-tainted air,  
Until the rebel rule was o'er  
And Nashville town was ours once more,  
Came the day when Fort Donelson  
Fell and the rebel reign was done;  
And into Nashville Duell then  
Marched with a hundred thousand men,  
With waving flags and rolling drums  
Past the heroine's house he comes;  
He checked his steed and bared his head.  
"Soldiers! salute that flag," he said  
"And cheer, boys, cheer - give three times three  
For the bravest woman in Tennessee!"

To the Editor of The American:

In response to the inquiry of Chas. J. Davis, in your issue of the 26th, the poem of Mrs. Lucy Hamilton Hooper, entitled "Hetty McEwen" is in the main true, though slightly elaborated by the poet's fancy. This flag was the handiwork of our grandmother Mrs. Hetty McEwen, and floated from a flagstaff on the south wall of her residence on North Spruce Street, where the Warner residence now stands. At the evacuation of Nashville, she did have a son who was very low. This flag is now in the flag room of the War Department at Washington, and is No. 236, being placed there by Gen. Geo. H. Thomas, who gave her in exchange for the flag a regimental stand of colors, which is now in the possession of our family. I know nothing, of the author, who, I believe was a Massachusetts woman.

WALDO P. McEWEN

Nashville, Jan. 27.

**Davidson County Marriages**

John Edmondson to Mary Buchanan 9-6-1796

Samuel Bell to Margaret Edmondson 6-14-1791

William Hoggatt to Mary Bell 5-26-1798

Samuel Barnes to Polly Edmondson 11-7-1807

**GRANT BOOK H-8-P.29**

Grant #46-Warrant #190-Grant to William Edmiston one of the Guard to the Commissioner for laying off the lands allowed the officers and Soldiers of the continental line of this State N.C. a tract of land containing 325 acres both sides of Arrington Creek..near Hays Spring..John Wilson's land...