# **James Lee SUMMITT (1840-1927)**

# Summary

James Lee SUMMITT was my paternal great-grandfather. When James Lee SUMMITT was born on October 1, 1840, in Monroe, Tennessee, his father, Jonathan, was 23 and his mother, Elizabeth, was 24. He married Amy Hannah REAGAN and they had six children together. He then married Lucy Frances WHITE and they had eight children together. He died on January 13, 1927, in Cardwell, Missouri, at 86.

### His Life

James Lee SUMMITT was born on October 1, 1840, in Monroe, Tennessee, to Elizabeth "Betty" Saphiro BUTLER, age 24, and Jonathan SUMMIT, age 23<sup>1</sup>. In October of 1840, William I resigned as king of the Netherlands, the first Hawaiian Constitution was proclaimed, and Maronite leader Bashir II surrendered to British forces and went into exile in Malta<sup>2</sup>.

In 1840, Monroe County, Tennessee, was a rural and largely agricultural community, typical of much of the southern United States during that period. Like most in Tennessee, the county was primarily involved in farming and the economy centered around agriculture. Corn, wheat, and livestock were likely the dominant forms of agricultural production.

The county had a modest population, with small towns and villages serving as the hubs of social and economic life. The population was predominantly white, but there was a significant number of African Americans, many of whom were enslaved, reflecting the social and economic structures of the pre-Civil War South.

Infrastructure in 1840 was limited. Roads were mostly unpaved and there were few public buildings. Eastern Tennessee was still in the early stages of development, and the influence of the broader American economy and infrastructure, such as railroads and telegraphs, had not reached Monroe County in any significant way.

The forced removal of Native American populations, notably the Cherokee during the Trail of Tears in 1838-1839 had a profound impact on the area, including Monroe County, which was part of the Cherokee Nation's ancestral land.

James Lee's sister, Nancy Jane, was born on August 22, 1842, in Monroe, Tennessee, when James Lee was 1 year old<sup>3</sup>. That month saw the Lombard Street Riot erupt in Philadelphia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=websearch-4080&h=119195&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1840/october

³ http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=1860usfedcenancestry&h=19422340&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

The Webster-Ashburton Treaty defined the US-Canada border. The Second Seminole War was declared over after nearly seven years. More than 3,000 Seminole Nation survivors were relocated from Florida to Oklahoma, with only about 300 allowed to remain. The United Kingdom and China signed the Treaty of Nanking, which ended the First Opium War<sup>4</sup>.

James Lee's youngest sister, Mary Muhaly, was born November 8, 1849, in Monroe, Tennessee, when James Lee was 9<sup>5</sup>. The month of November saw Peter Burnett elected the first governor of California, and a Russian court sentenced Fyodor Dostoevsky to death for anti-government activities linked to a radical intellectual group. His sentence was later commuted to hard labor<sup>6</sup>.

James Lee SUMMITT lived in Monroe, Tennessee, in 1850<sup>7</sup>. He was nine years old and lived with his mother and father. Among the events of the year, Senator Henry Clay drafted the Compromise of 1850 intending to defuse tensions between slave states and free states over territories won during the Mexican–American War. Daniel Webster later endorsed the Compromise. The SS Royal Adelaide sank in a storm. Two hundred people died. The US population hit 23,191,876. The Black population accounted for 15.7 percent of that number with 3,638,808. The paddle-wheeler "G P Griffith" burned off Mentor, Ohio. Two hundred-six people died. Millard Fillmore was sworn in as President of the US, replacing Taylor. The US Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Law as part of the Compromise of 1850, which required slaves to be returned to their owners. The slave trade was abolished in Washington, DC, but slavery was allowed to continue elsewhere in the country<sup>8</sup>.

M432\_891; Page: 34A; Image: 72

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1842/august

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 1850 United States Federal Census, Year: 1850; Census Place: District 5, Monroe, Tennessee; Roll: M432\_891; Page: 34A; Image: 72

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1849/november

 $<sup>^{7}</sup>$  1850 United States Federal Census, Year: 1850; Census Place: District 5, Monroe, Tennessee; Roll:

<sup>8</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/events/date/1850

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James Lee SUMMITT married Amy Hannah REAGAN in Monroe, Tennessee, on September 25, 1858, when he was seventeen years old. Amy was fourteen years old. The ceremony was officiated by W. H. Crawford of the C. P. Church<sup>9</sup>. Earlier in the year, French Emperor Napoleon III escaped an attempt on his life made by Felice Orsini, an Italian patriot who was later executed. In April, Abolitionist John Brown met Harriet\_Tubman at a

9 http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=tnstatemarriages&h=2656655&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

Constitutional Convention convened in Chatham, Ontario. At Azimghur, Mexicans defeated Spanish loyalists and later established their capital at Vera Cruz. Minnesota was admitted as the 32nd US state in May. In June, Abraham Lincoln stated "A house divided against itself cannot stand" while accepting the Illinois Republican Party's nomination for the US Senate. China ceded the north bank of the Amur River to Russia in the Treaty of Algun. The joint reading of Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace's papers on evolution to the Linnean Society rendered the audience awestruck and silent. Partial emancipation of Russian serfs took place. Treaty of Amity and Commerce/Harris Treaty was signed between the US and Japan opening Japanese ports to trade. The government of India was transferred from the East India Company to the British Crown<sup>10</sup>.

A year later, James Lee's son, William Henry, was born September 28, 1859, in Tennessee<sup>11</sup>. Earlier in the year, the Mauna Loa volcano in Hawaii began an eruption that lasted for three hundred days. One of the oldest known copies of the Bible, "The Codex Sinaiticus" (Sinai Bible), was found in Egypt by Constantin von Tischendorf who took the manuscript home with him. The Arkansas legislature passed a law requiring free blacks in the state to choose exile or slavery. US Congressman Daniel E. Sickles was acquitted in the murder of Philip Barton Key, on grounds of "temporary insanity." This was the first time this defense was used successfully in the US. During the Second Italian War of Independence, the Battle of Magenta resulted in a French-Sardinian victory under Napoleon III over the Austrians under Marshal Ferencz Gyulai. The Comstock Silver Lode in Nevada was discovered. This was the first major silver discovery in the US. Ambiguity in the Oregon Treaty led to the "Northwestern Boundary Dispute" between U.S. and British/Canadian settlers known as the "Pig War." At the Battle of Solferino in Northern Italy, the French under Napoleon III and a Sardinian army under Victor Emmanuel II defeated the Austrian army led by Emperor Franz Joseph I. Abolitionist John Brown led twenty-one men on a raid of the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia. He was later found guilty of murder, inciting slaves to revolt, and treason against the Virginia Territory for his raid of Harpers Ferry Armory. He was sentenced to hang. Spain declared war on Morocco. English naturalist Charles Darwin published "On the Origin of Species" which radically changed the view of evolution and laid the foundation for evolutionary biology. In December, John Brown was hanged 12.

James Lee's son, Jonathan Lee, was born March 15, 1862, in Tennessee<sup>13</sup>. By March of 1862, the American Civil War was well underway. On March 3, Union forces under General Pope laid siege to New Madrid, Missouri. On the fifth, Union troops under Brigadier General

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/events/date/1858

<sup>11</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=1870usfedcen&h=20770888&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/events/date/1859

<sup>13</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=1870usfedcen&h=21708523&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

Wright occupied Fernandina, Florida. The 6<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup> saw the Battle of Pea Ridge, also known as the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern. The battle ended on the 8<sup>th</sup> with a Confederate withdrawal. Also on the 8<sup>th</sup>, the Confederate ironclad "Merrimack" was launched. Off Hampton Roads, VA, the CSS Virginia, Jamestown, and Yorktown fought the USS Cumberland, Congress, and Monitor. The next day the Merrimack and the Monitor fought with the Merrimack withdrawing at the end of the day. Abraham Lincoln removed George McClellan as General-in-Chief of the US Army. Stonewall Jackson began the evacuation of Winchester, Virginia. General Burnside took New Bern, North Carolina. The Battle of La Glorieta Pass in the New Mexico Territory took place. Another battle on the Mississippi River at Island #10 took place<sup>14</sup>.

Tennessee was the last state to join the Confederacy. It seceded on June 8, 1861, by a vote of 102,172 to 47,328. East Tennessee delegates voted against secession. Monroe County is in eastern Tennessee and James Lee left his family with his parents in Sweetwater, Tennessee, sometime late in 1861 or early 1862. He probably headed west at first to avoid Confederate impressment units. He also would have traveled by night and rested by day. In early April he finally arrived in Barbourville, Kentucky<sup>15</sup>. James Lee was 21 years old when he enlisted in Company H of the 5th Tennessee Volunteer Infantry Regiment USA (also called the 5<sup>th</sup> East Tennessee Infantry Regiment) on April 16, 1862<sup>16</sup>. Company "H" was enrolled at Barboursville and mustered in at Pine Knot on May 21, 1862. The men in the company were mainly from Blount and Monroe Counties.

<sup>14</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1862/march

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Bible, Donahue (December 1997) Shattered Like Earthen Vessels, *Civil War Times*, 48-56.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865

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In April 1862, enlistment in the Union Army was a crucial and evolving aspect of the war effort. Enlistment was still primarily voluntary. The early enthusiasm for the war in the

previous year had led to large numbers of men enlisting voluntarily. These men were often spurred by patriotic fervor, community pressure, and the desire to preserve the Union. Many Eastern Tennessee men braved the cold night to head north as James Lee did to enlist. By April 1862, it was clear the war would not be short, and enlistment periods were being extended. Recruits like James Lee, were typically enlisted for three years of service.

The 5<sup>th</sup> East Tennessee Infantry Regiment was organized at Barboursville, Kentucky, with six companies on March 28, 1862. The regiment was placed in Brigadier General J.G. Spears' 25<sup>th</sup> Brigade, of Brigadier General George W. Morgan's 7<sup>th</sup> Division, Army of the Ohio. Other members of the brigade were the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry. The regiment remained in this brigade until the latter part of November 1862.

On the morning of March 10, 1862, Colonel James P.T. Carter USA, left with his command, which consisted of the First East Tennessee Regiment, the Second East Tennessee Regiment, a detachment of the First Kentucky Cavalry, and Company B of the Forty-ninth Indiana Regiment led by Lt. Col. James Keigwin, for Big Creek Gap. Their mission was to capture or disperse the Confederate forces that were blockading roads and molesting the Unionist civilians in Northeastern Tennessee<sup>17</sup>.

Big Creek Gap was one of the few natural openings through the Cumberland Mountains in the region and therefore a path through which armies could travel in either direction. This corridor was narrow and steep, and even lightly loaded wagons found traveling the trail extremely hazardous. Cumberland Gap was about thirty miles distant and was one of the main migration routes from the east to the west and was an important strategic gateway during this time. Confederate fortifications and defensive works ringed the Cumberland Gap and the Confederates considered it impregnable from the north and east. Local Unionists alerted Union forces to the possibility of flanking the fortifications via Big Creek Gap. On May 10, the 5th and 6th Tennessee Regiments were at Archer's, a small community near Big Creek Gap in Tennessee.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, James Lee's father, Jonathan, is mentioned in a Confederate communication in Eastern Tennessee. Jonathan and a few others were being held as Unionists.

Knoxville, May 22, 1863

Hon. George Brown,

Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit of Tennessee:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Battle of Big Creek Gap – Northeast Tennessee Civil War

Respondent John E. Toole for answer and return to your honor's writ of habea corpus issued upon the petition of Stephen McKee, Michael Malone, and Jonathan Summit would respectfully state and show unto your honor that the statement of the petitioners that they are restrained of their liberty upon a charge of the murder of John Cunningham, who was a citizen of Monroe County, &c., is wholly untrue and without foundation. Petitioners were not arrested and have not been held upon the charge of John Cunningham.

Respondent here begs leave to submit to your honor a full and correct statement of facts as to the manner in which petitioners came into the custody of respondent:

On the 3d of this month Col. G. Troup Maxwell, an officer of the C.S. Army, commandant of the post of Loudon, Tenn., sent said petitioners as prisoners under guard to respondent as provost-marshal for the Department of East Tennessee charged with disloyalty and treason against the Government of the Confederate States in harboring and feeding a band of bushwhackers who were committing acts of violence upon the citizens of Monroe County, Tenn., and in discharge of my duty as a subordinate officer of the Confederate Army and in obedience to general orders and instructions from the commanding general of the Department of East Tennessee said petitioners were committed to the military prison at Knoxville to await such further disposition as the Confederate authorities might make in the premises. Afterwards, to wit, on the 12th instant Michael Malone, one of said petitioners, was released from custody upon my application and permitted to return home, and a few days since after the service of the writ upon me petitioners Stephen McKee and Jonathan Summit were arrested and taken out of the custody of the military authorities by the C. S. marshal for the District of East Tennessee upon a warrant for treason issued by Confederate Commissioner Elliott. Consequently none of said petitioners are in my custody or under my control or the control of the military authorities, but are in the custody and under the control of the civil officers of the Confederate Government, and for this reason I have no power or authority to have the bodies of the petitioners before your honor at Sweet Water Depot on the 23d instant as directed and required in your honor's writ.

Now, having made full answer and return of my doings in the premises I pray to be hense dismissed.

John E. Toole

# Colonel and Provost-Marshal Department of East Tennessee<sup>18</sup>

In June, Spear's Brigade forced a passage through Big Creek Gap, and General Speaks spoke of Captain Clingan as a Brave and gallant officer in his report of an engagement there on June 12. The brigade then went on to occupy Cumberland Gap on June 18 and remained in that area. On July 28, a Confederate estimate of the forces at Cumberland Gap listed the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment with 500 men. On September 6, 100 men from the regiment, under Captain Hedgecock, formed part of an expedition to Pine Mountain, and Confederate Camp Pine Knot, in which the Confederates were driven from the camp, and 95 prisoners taken.

The regiment accompanied General Morgan on his withdrawal from the Gap to the Ohio River on September 17 and on October 12, at Portland, Ohio, General Morgan, in reporting on his forces listed the 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee with an aggregate of 727. On October 31, Spears' Brigade was reported as the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, District of Western Virginia, under General Morgan.

On November 12 the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Tennessee were ordered to Cincinnati, Ohio, by way of Bowling Green, Kentucky, to report to Major General William S. Rosecrans, Department of the Cumberland. On November 17, General Spears, at Louisville, reported to General Rosecrans: "I am here with the residue of my command, the 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Tennessee Calvary." On December 4, part of the 5<sup>th</sup> was reported as still at Louisville, awaiting transportation. It eventually reached Nashville, where General Spears was assigned to command the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade of Brigadier General J.S. Negley's 2<sup>nd</sup> Division.

In December of 1963, a situation occurred that caused a blemish on James Lee's military career. According to the records, James Lee was absent without leave (AWOL) sometime during November and December of 1863. As can be seen in the following record, James Lee had returned to his unit and was under arrest on January 24, 1864. The next muster roll was the July and August 1864, and it states that James Lee was ordered to forfeit one month's pay and allowances for desertion and to make good the time lost by order of General Cox. He was restored to duty without trial.

After the war, a letter was written stating that another soldier witnessed James Lee and another man ask a lieutenant if they could go home to Monroe County and visit their families for the Christmas holiday. The lieutenant permitted them to leave but never turned in the paperwork for the leave.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Correspondence, Etc – Confederate p 953-4

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The brigade consisted of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Regiments, but no mention of the 5<sup>th</sup> being engaged with the rest of the Brigade in its operations on January 2 and 3, 1863, in the Stone's River Campaign was made by Spears. The regiment remained at Nashville until April 1863 and then was stationed for a while at Carthage.

On June 8, 1863, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> East Tennessee Regiments were placed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division, Reserve Corps, Department of the Cumberland. On June 30, the same regiments, under Colonel Cooper, of the 6<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, were reported as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division, XXIII Corps, Department of the Ohio; and on July 2, Major General A. E. Burnside, at Cincinnati, at the time of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan's raid, wrote: "I am anxiously awaiting reports from the 8<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Regiments." There was some mixup as to assignments, for there is no other record of the regiment, or the brigade, having been in Kentucky at that time.

On July 31, Colonel William B. Stokes was reportedly in command of the brigade, still in the Reserve Corps, Department of the Cumberland. The 5<sup>th</sup> was at Carthage, and a detachment under Captain Clingan was manning the artillery. On August 31, Brigadier General Spears assumed command of the brigade, with headquarters at Alexandria, Tennessee. On the same date, Major General Gordon Granger ordered Colonel Shelley to move his command to McMinnville. Colonel Shelley, at the time in temporary command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Regiments, plus a detachment of Stokes' 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Calvary, moved with these units to McMinnville, leaving the 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry, under Lieutenant Colonel McCaleb, at Carthage.

General Spears, commanding the brigade, moved from McMinnville on September 13 towards Chattanooga, leaving two companies of the 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee at Carthage. He arrived at Chattanooga on September 21, just after the battle of Chickamauga, September 19-20, and was directed to place his command at the bridge across Chattanooga Creek, to halt and reform the Federal troops streaming into Chattanooga. He placed Colonel Shelley, with his regiment, at the crossroads, on the point of Lookout Mountain on the south side.

Rosecrans was retreating his troops to Chattanooga after being unable to hold Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. Confederate forces under Bragg occupied Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. On the 22<sup>nd</sup>, three companies from the regiment were placed upon the river along the railroad, and the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, under Colonel Cooper, joined the remaining five companies of the 5<sup>th</sup> in line of battle at the crossroads. About noon, they were attacked by Confederate forces, and after an engagement of about an hour and a half, fell back to a more favorable position on the first bench of the point of the mountain. They remained here until early in the morning, September 24, when the whole brigade withdrew into Chattanooga.

Starting September 25 and lasting until October 24, 1863, the XI and XII Corps of the Army of the Potomac were transferred over twelve hundred miles by rail from Culpepper, Virginia to Chattanooga to support Rosecrans in the defense of Chattanooga.

On October 9, 1863, the brigade, under Brigadier General John S. Beatty, was transferred from the Reserve Corps to the XIV Corps, as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. However, on October 22, General Spears was back in command, and the brigade was reported as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, XIV Corps. The headquarters for the brigade was at Sale Creek, and the brigade did duty along the Tennessee River between Chattanooga and Knoxville for the remainder of 1863.

On October 23, General Grant, having been given overall command of the western armies including the Army of the Mississippi, the Army of the Tennessee, and the Army of the Cumberland, arrived in Chattanooga. On the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, General Smith and thirty-five hundred of his Union soldiers sailed down the Tennessee River and then marched from Moccasin Point to Brown's Ferry where they were able to chase off the Confederate troops and erect a pontoon bridge to enable a new supply line, The new supply route, running from Bridgeport to Chattanooga, became known as the "Cracker Line."

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, General Grant decided it was time to envelop the Confederate position flank and sent both Sherman and Hooker to do so. The next day the battle for Lookout Mountain began. Both Union and Confederate troops skirmished at the foot of Missionary Ridge. The following day Cleburne and Stevenson's Confederate troops who were guarding Tunnel Hill repulsed Sherman's attack on the Confederate right. Meanwhile, four of Thomas' divisions climbed and attacked Missionary Ridge. The Confederate center folded under their attack while Hooker's troops attacked the Confederate left.

On December 6, the brigade was still at Loudon. On January 1, 1864, they moved to Massengale House, near the Holston River, 30 miles northeast of Knoxville, and on January 16, to Flat Creek Bridge. At this time, the 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee was detached and ordered back to Loudon, and Company "G", under Captain Clingan, was detached as artillery.

On January 21, 1864, the brigade was transferred from the XIV to XXIII Corps, where it was reported as the 1<sup>st</sup> East Tennessee Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. Orders were issued on February 1, 1864, that the 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee be left at Loudon, to garrison the post.

On April 10, 1864, the XXIII Corps was reorganized, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee was assigned to Brigadier General M.D. Manson's 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, of Brigadier General Jacob D. Cox's 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. On April 20, General Cox advised that the 5<sup>th</sup> Tennessee had not yet reported, and it was presumably still at Loudon, Tennessee. However, it did join the brigade in time for the start of the Atlanta Campaign. It took part in skirmishing at Buzzard Roost and Potato Hill

on May 9, and was heavily engaged at Resaca, on May 14. At Resaca, the regiment, under Colonel Shelley, took part in a charge which captured the first line of the Confederate rifle pits, but at a heavy loss. Colonel Shelley reported six officers wounded, 16 men killed, 92 wounded, and 14 missing.

On June 5, the regiment was transferred to Brigadier General N.C. McLean's 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, of which brigade Colonel Byrd, 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee Infantry, took command on June 17. Colonel Shelley resigned on July 22, and Major Bowers was in command of the regiment from that time until after the battle of Nashville. On August 11, 1864, in the field near Atlanta, the XXIII Corps was again reorganized, the 1<sup>st</sup> Division discontinued, and the regiment remained in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. However, the regiment was reported at the time as detached at Marietta, Georgia.

Sherman ordered Stanley's 4th Corps to Thomas in Nashville on October 26th. Two days later he told Thomas that Schofield and the 23rd Corps would follow in a few days. Most of Cox's Division which was in Atlanta began leaving for Nashville on November 3rd. The 5th Tennessee, which had been detached in Marietta, Georgia was not ordered to leave there until November 5th.

James Lee's daughter, Nancy Jane, was born on November 10, 1864, in Tennessee<sup>19</sup>.

By November 13th, Thomas and most of the 23rd Corps joined Stanley's 4th Corps in Pulaski where Thomas assumed overall command of an estimated twenty-five thousand troops

The 5<sup>th</sup> regiment arrived in Nashville on November 15 and was sent to join Major General John M. Schofield at Pulaski.

"We are having a pretty good time now, having but little to do," wrote a complacent Federal private on November 20th. Another soldier spent much of each day idly playing whist with his comrades, while an officer observed that they were pleasantly situated, with a plentiful quantity of supplies. "Indeed, we are living well; having for the first time ... soft bread and potatoes," he informed his sister. Life at Pulaski wasn't difficult for Thomas's soldiers despite the raw weather. "We have been here [since November 5th]" wrote Union Brigadier General Luther P. Bradley, "and are well fortified against attack." On November 21st, with a raw wind howling amid swirling snow squalls, Brigadier General Jacob D. Cox sat in his tent playing chess and reading to dissipate the boredom. "We try to keep from suffering by fires [built] before each tent door," announced the comfortably situated Cox.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

The weather, noted a longtime resident of mid-Tennessee, was absolutely "wretched." It began to snow briskly by mid-morning. At least half an inch of snow carpeted the frozen ground before noon. Adding to the misery was the wind, sharp and cutting, which blew directly from the north. The freezing temperatures, the rough, nearly impassable roads – rutted and scarred by nearly two weeks of rain – and the icy wind made for a vicious, cruel day to travel, November 21, 1864.

In a flurry of activity, Schofield ordered two of his divisions to march on the morning of the 22nd to Lynnville, about twenty miles north toward Columbia. That same morning, after the cavalry reported Hood's army was near Lawrenceburg on the previous day. Cox ordered his men to Lynnville, about halfway between Pulaski and Columbia. Major David G. Bowers, now commanding the 5th Tennessee, received his orders to pull back to Lynnville at daybreak. The 5th left Pulaski by way of the Columbia Pike and arrived at Lynnville around 11 AM and made camp. At 1 PM on the 23rd Major Bowers received orders to report to Colonel John S. Casement, commanding the 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division, and fall in at the pike leading to Columbia. The 5th was at the rear of the brigade's march and marched until 7 PM when they went into camp.

Schofield issued a 1 AM order on the 24th for Cox's infantry division, then in advance ten miles beyond Lynnville, and Stanley's two divisions, to march immediately to Columbia. Cox received Schofield's order at 4 AM and had the troops awoken immediately. The footrace between the Union forces and Hood's Confederates was on. Cox, in the vanguard of the line, had his men on the march by 5 AM.

"We [had] expected to get our breakfast," wrote one of Cox's sergeants, "[but] just as we were putting our coffee to heating the bugle sounded . . . I well knew there was something in the wind."

Early on the morning of the 24th, Capron's cavalry, having been roughly treated by Forrest's veterans for the previous three days, were again routed at Mount Pleasant and were soon in full retreat up the pike toward Columbia. Briefly halting only once, Cox's three brigades hastened on toward Columbia with empty stomachs. The sun was about an hour high, remembered one soldier, when suddenly their command was ordered off the road. Abruptly the troops marched quickly westward along a side road, then across the fields toward Mount Pleasant Pike. Firing was heard nearly two miles distant, and the men rushed onward.

Cox's men were just in time. Thundering down the road appeared Capron's horsemen, "in hasty retreat" with Chalmers's gray riders close upon their heels. Cox rapidly deployed his two leading brigades on either side of the Mount Pleasant Road. With a few volleys the

pursuit was brought to a halt. The lieutenant colonel of the 15th Tennessee Cavalry was killed while trying to wrest a flag from a federal color-bearer. With three batteries and two brigades in their front, Chalmers's men weren't able to force their way across Bigby Creek and soon pulled back. The gaunt gray cavalrymen had to be content with seizing a nearby flour mill and sniping at Cox from long range.

Only the timely arrival of Schofield's lead infantry division under Jacob Cox, who blocked the pike and turned back James Chalmer's pursuing Confederate troopers, saved Capron's men and kept Forrest from riding into Columbia, which at the time was only garrisoned by a single Federal Brigade.

At 5 AM on the morning of the 24th, Bowers received orders to march to Columbia at daybreak. Bowers reached Columbia at 10 AM and took position south of town. The men immediately began constructing works. At 2 PM, the 5th moved to the southwest side of town with their right near Mount Pleasant Pike, facing south. Major Bowers reported, "We there constructed a line of breastworks and sent out skirmishers, who engaged the enemy."

Randolph Rosenberger wrote of the ordeal to his wife before being killed at Spring Hill on November 29th: "We had a very heavy march from Pulaski to Columbia about forty-six miles and a good many of our men fell back couldn't reach it they came straggling in afterwards."

During the night of the 25th, Schofield ordered Cox to move two brigades across the Duck River into a position "covering the pontoon bridge at the ford." Responding to this order, the 5th Tennessee, around 11 PM, marched through Columbia, crossed the Duck River, and made camp approximately half a mile north of the river. Captain David Sparks, with thirty men of Company D, remained on the south side of the river on picket duty until the morning of the 27th. The 5th Tennessee remained in this position until the morning of the 29th.

Major Bowers received his orders to march at 7 PM on the 29th and started toward Franklin half an hour later. It was well into the night before the Confederates were ready to advance with two Confederate divisions laboriously crossing on the newly emplaced pontoons.

Meanwhile, the Federal commander remaining behind at Columbia, Brigadier General Jacob D. Cox, alertly utilized this opportunity to begin the withdrawal ordered by Schofield. Due to the darkness, Cox was willing to take somewhat of a gamble. In the wake of his departing divisions, he left only the two previously deployed Kentucky regiments and a few skirmishers to hold the extensive length of breastworks along the main line.

The first troops to pull out were those of Brigadier General James Reilly. They were headed out between 7 and 8 PM with Wood's division of the Fourth Corps following about 10 PM. Despite what appeared to be a clear night, there was no moon, and the darkness seemed

almost impenetrable. The march appeared to be exasperatingly slow to the men, who knew something important was in the air. At Rutherford Creek, the column's progress nearly halted due to a narrow, flimsy bridge. Finally, at about midnight, Kimball's trailing division, which had remained at Rutherford Creek most of the day, crossed over the bridge.

The men in the long column stumbled on with increasing effort, frequently stopping and starting with abrupt jolts and lurches. Weariness became fatigue and fatigue exhaustion. Mile after mile the men shuffled onward in silent agony, the blackness of the night concealing their sullen faces. Many of the men hadn't slept in three nights. Some of the men fell asleep while walking, collapsing on the road, where the fall would jar them awake. Then, with pained groans, they would get up and stagger onward.

Captain Alfred Ragle of Company K, 5th Tennessee Infantry, with thirty men brought up the rear. One man had to be left due to fatigue and was reported as "probably captured by the enemy." The man was Corporal Thomas M. Stokes of Company I. Records show he was captured at Spring Hill on the night of November 29th.

John Schofield rode into Spring Hill about 7 PM knowing that he was facing the bulk of the Southern Army. The approach to Spring Hill, wrote a Federal officer of Cox's division, was fraught with extraordinary danger. As an aide to General Cox passed the long line of campfires, only about a quarter of a mile east of the turnpike, he could easily discern Confederates walking about the fires. Schofield personally marched to Thompson Station with Ruger's division to check a story of Rebel troops there. Forrest's men were gone, so he left Ruger there to keep the road open and rode back to Spring Hill.

Beginning about 11 PM with the arrival of Cox and some of his division, Spring Hill started to fill up with bone-weary Federal troops. While the new arrivals were put to work erecting barricades, Stanley awaited word from Schofield about the situation at Thompson's Station. About 11:30 PM Schofield returned to Spring Hill with unexpectedly good news. The Rebel cavalry had disappeared upon his approach, leaving their campfires burning. Ruger's division had been left to occupy the site, and thus the road north of the village seemed to be clear to the Harpeth River. Ten minutes later, orders were issued for Cox, and then the entire army, to march to Franklin. Yet most of the Federal troops at Spring Hill were so tired that one of Cox's officers said the men would have chosen to fight a battle there rather than resume the march.

Schofield met General Jacob Cox, who had just arrived with the last division from Columbia. Schofield told Cox to lead the way with his troops, and the retreat north to Franklin began, just after midnight.

The only remaining Federal troops in the direction of Columbia at this point were the two Kentucky regiments and the other pickets, left to retard Lee's Corps in their pursuit. At about 4 AM, the Kentucky units under a lieutenant colonel arrived at Spring Hill, and the last of Schofield's troops were present. Schofield and Cox rode into the outskirts of Franklin about 4:30 AM at the head of Cox's division, the vanguard of the Federal Army – almost two hours before sunrise. Cox and his men had covered twenty-two miles in ten hours.

"Hood nearly gobbled us up."

Cox stopped at the first house he saw, woke up Fountain Branch Carter and his family, and established his division headquarters in their front parlor.

The 5th Tennessee arrived at Franklin at 5 AM on the morning of November 30th. The soldiers were falling out on either side of the road, filling up Mr. Carter's yard, starting fires, and boiling coffee. Cox and his staff were sprawled all over Mr. Carter's rug in the parlor, trying to catch a few winks of sleep, when Schofield reappeared and woke him and then placed him in charge of the defense of Franklin.

"Schofield directed me [Cox] to mass my division on both sides of the (Columbia) turnpike, leaving [the] way clear for the [wagon] trains, and let the men make their coffee, whilst he rode into town to ... learn the condition of the river crossings ..."

Around the south edge of Franklin, there were some old entrenchments, dug by the Federal forces a year or so earlier, and Cox decided to use them as the basis for his defense. Cox began with his division. They were already on hand, having marched in with him, and they were the troops he knew best.

"I [Cox] put my own division – the only troops then in hand – on the line from the Carter house toward the left . . . The most essential part of our defenses would thus be first prepared, and Ruger's division, as it should come in, could extend the lines westward with a refused flank at the Carter's Creek Turnpike ..."

As other troops arrived from Spring Hill, Cox turned them out into the old defensive line and ordered them to improve it as best they could. Starting on the east, with their left flank on the Harpeth River, was the third brigade, Indiana men commanded by Colonel Isreal N. Stiles. They stretched from the riverbank and railroad bed on their left to the Lewisburg Pike, covering a front of about 250 yards. Next came the second brigade under Colonel Joseph S. Casement, running from the Lewisburg Pike to a point just in front of Mr. Carter's cotton gin, about 400 yards. Finally, Brigadier General James W. Reilly's first brigade covered the critical area from the cotton gin to the Columbia Pike with two regiments on the line and three more in reserve - a front of about 160 yards. As a result of Cox's

temporary promotion to corps command, Reilly, as senior brigade commander, took over command of the division. Incorporated into the line were eight artillery pieces with twelve more a few hundred yards in the rear.

"A battery on the summit at the right of the brick smokehouse . . . could fire over the heads of the infantry in the front line, and sweep the approaches . . . "

Although exhausted after their long march from Columbia, the 5th Tennessee immediately began erecting breastworks of Osage hedge which farmers used to keep their livestock from straying. This long hedge of Osage orange trees (also called Bois D'Arc) ran less than fifty yards in front of Stiles's brigade. These trees, which contained long thorns on their branches, were cut off about four feet above the ground and the tops were used to extend the line of thorn bushes to the right in front of Casement's men.

By 9:50 AM half the troops were at Franklin, and the other half were within five miles. By midmorning, the excitement had worn off, and for many of the troops, there was only the numbing fatigue of the forced march under arduous conditions. "I think our division would have preferred meeting Hood's whole army ... right there than to have continued the march on to Franklin, so worn out and discouraged were they," wrote one of Cox's officers.

The entrenchments were nearly complete around noon, although the soldiers would continue to improve them until the beginning of the battle later in the afternoon. Much of the wood used in building the head-logs of the entrenchment was from an old cotton gin on the Fountain Branch Carter farm where the battle was fought. The 5th Tennessee would be positioned on the east side of the cotton gin during the battle.

Like a giant, unwinding serpent, the ranks of Schofield's small army, led by the 23rd Corps, had wearily trudged down the long decline from Winstead Hill several miles south of Franklin.

Sergeant James P. Matlock of Company K, 5th Tennessee Infantry, wrote of his experiences: "We left Marietta the 5th of November and went to Nashville and from there to Pulaski, Tennessee eighty seven miles from Nashville and when we got there old Hood began to move on us and we fell back to Columbia and fought there three days the 27th, 28th, and 29th and on the night of the 29th we fell back to Franklin a distance of twenty miles."

Colonel John S. Casement's 2nd Brigade was placed on the left wing during the battle with the brigade's left on the Lewisburg Pike and the right on the east side of the Carter's cotton gin. Casement placed the 124th Indiana, the 65th Illinois, and the 65th Indiana in the first line of battle with the 5th Tennessee in the second line, in the center of the Federal lines, between the Columbia and Lewisburg Pikes.

"General Reilly, in command of my division, made his headquarters at the cotton-gin, where the salient occupied by the battery was not only a point likely to be aimed at in an assault, but was also prominent enough to give a view along the front if the smoke should permit ... It was now three o'clock, and ... the sun would set at five o'clock. Hood must attack soon or not at all ... "

Lacking timber due to the cleared fields which spread for nearly two miles south to Winstead Hill, the men of the 23rd Corps seized upon the Fountain B. Carter cotton gin which stood less than a hundred yards east of the Columbia pike, stripping it of planks, joist timbers, and even the levers from the screw press. These boards and timbers were used in fashioning a framework barricade of rails. Earth, dug from what became trenches on either side of the breastwork, was piled on both sides and top of the structure. Then a heavy head log was laid on top, between which, and the underlying earthwork a narrow space, was cleared for infantrymen to fire through. In many areas, these earthen parapets were five feet high and perhaps four feet or more thick, with wide ditches two to three feet deep on either side. Also, several artillery embrasures were constructed in the breastworks.

Because of the strategic position of the Carter cotton gin along the natural line of defense, a salient was constructed in the breastworks at this point. From the parapets, which passed a few yards south of the cotton gin, the line swung sharply northwest for a depth of about forty yards to reach Columbia Pike. The boys worked like badgers, said a soldier, and before noon this line of reinforced earthworks was completed.

To make the approach to their line more difficult, the troops in the area between the river and the Lewisburg pike had utilized a hedge of the Osage orange in their front, chopping and moving a portion of the tangled, thorny trees to form an abatis on the outside of the parapet. This thorny obstruction proved to be so imposing that other troops soon cut various nearby hedges and dragged them in front of their positions. From the Harpeth River westward, the Federal entrenchments assumed such a grim and forbidding character that they seemed more than sufficient to discourage any hasty enemy assault.

Whereas Cox's expanse of breastworks was unbroken from the Harpeth to the Columbia pike, where the road passed over the Carter Hill, a gap was left in the line to allow wagons and the rest of the army to pass through. Yet Cox's men covered this gap without formal orders to do so by constructing a second line of breastworks about seventy yards in the rear of the first – along the northern boundary of Carter's garden, where his wooden frame farm office and brick smokehouse stood. This second parapet was extended east across the Columbia pike a few yards, forcing wagons to detour around it, this entrenchment was only about a hundred yards long, terminating in a line of rail barricades of slight protection.

The Confederate army had been hidden by the timbered slopes and ridges of the high ground coming into Franklin. At about 2:45 PM the columns swarmed forward along the pike, deploying in line of battle at the northern foot of Breezy and Winstead hills. The sight was as if the ground had suddenly poured forth a torrent of butternut and gray. Soon the stone-white surface of the Columbia pike was blotted out with "a living wall of men and glistening steel," wrote a distant Federal observer. From the advanced positions of Wagner's men, it looked like "the appearance of a huge monster closed in folds of flashing steel." In the bright sunlight the gleam of rifle barrels with fixed bayonets sent shimmering light waves flickering.

By 3:30 PM, across the open fields in front of Winstead and Breezy Hills, and east almost to the Harpeth River, six Confederate divisions were beginning to move. Lines were formed with precision; flags were unfurled, and several regimental bands struck up "Dixie" and "Bonnie Blue Flag" as the formations took shape. Mounted officers rode up and down the lines to the cheers of the ranks, and the troops went forward. As they advanced, most divisions would deploy into a formation with two brigades in front and one behind as support.

A mile and a half away, this grand spectacle was watched by the men in the Federal lines. Before too long the Federal bands replied with their tunes. Cox, riding along behind the eastern flank of his line near the Lewisburg Pike, took a moment to stop and watch the grand spectacle unfolding in the fields in front of him:

... the long lines of Hood's army surged up out of the hollow in which they had formed and were seen coming forward in splendid array. The sight was one to send a thrill through the heart, and those who saw it have never forgotten its martial splendor ... it was a rare thing to have a battlefield on which the contending armies could be seen.

It was 4 PM and the ground trembled under the weight of more than 20,000 marching feet. It was a sound, said an eyewitness, like the low, hollow rumble of distant thunder. Most of the Federal troops were lounging around with some writing letters home and others chatting idly.

As soon as they were seen, the batteries on the left opened up on the Confederates, as well as the guns in Fort Granger, and as they advanced into rifle range of Stiles' and Casement's brigades, the infantry opened fire also.

Shortly, Confederate Edward Walthall's division was stopped by the Osage orange thicket abatis. At first, the Confederate troops tried to make a way through, tearing their hands on the thorns, and the officers hacked away with swords but for the most part, they were shot down as they attacked John Casement's line just west of Lewisburg Pike. Eventually, gaps

were found all along the line and many Confederates poured through only to be trapped in the ditch in front of the entrenchments, a place that had its own special horrors.

The Federal call to arms was sounded by the fiery Colonel Jack Casement of Reilly's line. Jumping on top of the breastworks near the cotton gin, Casement yelled to his breathlessly waiting throng. "Men, do you see those damned Rebel sons of bitches coming?" There was a shout. "Well, I want you to stand here like rocks and whip the hell out of them." Promptly wheeling about, Casement drew his revolver and emptied it at the approaching grey ranks. In an instant, he jumped down among his men, and a long line of rifle-muskets was leveled toward the foe.

Beginning with scattered shots from nervous individuals, the densely packed Federal line had fired spontaneously without orders regardless of the mixture of blue and grey in their front. Amid this whirlwind cone of fire, the air suddenly was hideous with minie balls. The hailstorm of musketry virtually leveled those in the front ranks. Men of both armies lay writhing on the ground, screaming in agony. The men in the ranks behind were staggered, reeling like a herd of drunken men, said an eyewitness. Flags rose and fell, and then a great, gushing cloud of smoke obscured everything.

The men of Casement's brigade, some firing Henry repeating rifles, methodically tore Walthall's Tennessee, Alabama, and Arkansas regiments apart. The Confederate Tennessee brigade advanced at a full run in Jack Casement's front – right up to the repositioned Osage orange hedge tops. Abruptly their ranks came to a halt. Unable to get through the thorny hedge, hands were soon lacerated and torn, and the milling, bewildered men became an easy target for Casement's men. Company A of the 65th Indiana had sixteen-shot Henry repeating rifles, the forerunner of the famous Winchester lever-action firearms. One eyewitness described the firestorm that leaped from Casement's earthworks as an incessant, solid plane upon which a man might seemingly walk -- "a continuous living fringe of flame." It was "[by] far the most deadly fire of both small arms and artillery."

The dead and wounded immediately in front of the parapet east of the Columbia pike were thicker than one witness had ever seen. With so many men massed at point-blank range, even the poorest marksman couldn't help but hit a human target.

The Missouri Brigade, under Confederate Brigadier General Francis Marion Cockrell, soon exploited the gap between the hedge and the pike. They were just far enough east not to be delayed much by Wagoner's advance line and had a relatively clear run to the Union main line. Seven hundred Missourians came toward the gap. When the Missourians were within one hundred yards of the Federal works, two companies on the western end of Colonel John S. Casement's line stood up and fired a torrent of lead with repeating rifles. Adding to

the carnage were two twelve-pound Napoleon cannons, firing through openings in the breastworks just in front of the cotton gin.

Not long after the Missourians were repulsed, another Confederate brigade found a break in the hedges. Brigadier General John Adams brought his troops to the left looking for a way around the obstructions and the Osage Orange hedge. They crossed behind Walthall's entire division. Just east of the cotton gin, Adams brought the troops through the gap.

Despite being wounded, Adams had somehow managed to stay mounted, and now, as Rebels and Yankees alike watched in stunned admiration, he spurred his horse "Old Charley" out in front of his men and charged alone straight toward the colors of the 65th Illinois. For a few seconds, both sides held their fire.

"Just then, for the first time, we noticed Gen. Adams conspicuously. He was mounted and in the rear of his line. He rode along the line urging his men forward. He then rode through the line and placed himself in front and rode straight toward the colors of the 65th Illinois. We looked to see him fall every minute, but luck seemed to be with him ... General Adams no doubt felt encouraged, as he was so near our line. He spurred his horse and made the last heroic effort to carry his line forward and drive us out of our line."

Only when "Old Charley" approached the ditch in front of the entrenchments did the Illinois men shoot the horse and rider down.

"Our Col. Stewart ... called to our men not to fire on him, but it was too late. Gen. Adams rode his horse over the ditch to the top of the parapet, undertook to grasp the 'old flag' from the hands of our color sergeant, when he fell, horse and all, shot by the color guard."

"The horse fell dead upon the top of the embankment and the General was caught under him, pierced with bullets."

"He ... (fell) one hundred and fifty to two hundred yards to the left of the gin."

"As soon as the charge was repulsed our men sprang upon the works and lifted the horse, while others dragged the General from under him. He was perfectly conscious and knew his fate. He asked for water, as all dying men do in battle as the lifeblood drips from the body. One of my men gave him a canteen of water, while another brought an armload of cotton from an old gin nearby and made him a pillow. The General gallantly thanked them, and in answer to our expressions of sorrow at his sad fate, he said, 'It is the fate of a soldier to die for his country,' and expired."

Between the pike and the cotton gin, the men of Cleburne's division fought hand-to-hand with the Federal troops. The men on the west end of John Casement's line, who had just thrown back Cockrell's Missouri brigade, turned to their right and poured enfilading fire into the flank of Cleburne's men who were still surging into the center. By 4:30, A.P. Stewart's

men were clinging ferociously to the outer wall and ditch, fighting with Israel Stiles and John Casement's men across the entrenchments.

Alarms occurred frequently until 11 PM and caused a general musketry fire on both sides from the Union center toward the right, but no evidence was found that any real attack was made at so late an hour.

At midnight, all being quiet in the front, following orders from the commanding general, Cox began moving his command to the north bank of the river, leaving only a skirmish line in the earthworks for an hour, and then they were also withdrawn. The Third Division moved by the left flank and crossed the river over the railroad bridge, which had been planked. The Second Division, with Opdycke's brigade of the Fourth Corps, moved through the town and crossed by the wagon bridge a little below the railroad crossing. On making the north bank, Cox took up the line of march with his division for Brentwood in advance of the army.

Sgt. Matlock of the 5th wrote of the battle, "...we dug rifle pits, and we had just got them done when the Rebs got in sight and charged on us thirteen times and was repulsed every time until 10 o'clock in the night when they quit charging."

Sgt. Matlock wrote of his feelings on that cold, November night, "I have been involved in several fights and I never heard as many men crying for help as there was after the fight was over. The report is the Rebs lost five thousand killed and wounded. Our loss is seven hundred ... five of [those lost were] out of our regiment."

The casualties in Casement's Brigade were light. Casement's explanation was "Not a man left the works unless ordered to do so, which accounts for the small loss. Interestingly, the casualties of the 5th Tennessee were as high as any regiment in the brigade despite the 5th being in the second line." Some of the injuries were due to the breastworks which Cox called "more of a show of obstruction to the enemy than a reality. The hedge, while not allowing entry by the enemy, would certainly allow bullets to penetrate the line."

Joseph Lewis of Company I was shot with a minie ball in the groin of the right thigh. Lewis lay on the frozen battlefield for twenty-eight hours before being captured by the enemy. The Rebels took him to a hospital in Franklin which was later taken by the Federals. He was finally taken to hospital number two in Nashville.

The total official reported losses of the 2nd Brigade were: 65th Indiana, 1 killed and 5 wounded; 124th Indiana, 1 killed and 5 wounded; 65th Illinois, 1 wounded; and 5th Tennessee, 1 killed and 5 wounded for a total of 3 killed and 16 wounded.

James Lee's sister, Nancy Jane, died on December 9, 1864, in Tennessee when James Lee was  $24^{20}$ .

In the battle of Nashville, December 15-16, 1864, the regiment was not engaged on the 15<sup>th</sup>; on the 16<sup>th</sup>, it was in line of battle on the Hillsboro Pike and came under musketry fire, but did no serious fighting, and had only one man wounded.

On December 31, Lieutenant Colonel Nathaniel Witt was in command of the regiment, still in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division, XXIII Corps. With the division, it moved to North Carolina, arriving at Cape Fear February 8-9-10, 1865, and took part in the campaign which resulted in the occupation of Wilmington, on February 22, 1865.

On March 5, the regiment was relieved from duty in North Carolina, and ordered to proceed to Nashville, to be mustered out of service. On April 30, still under Lieutenant Colonel Witt, it was reported unbrigaded at Nashville and was mustered out June 30, 1865.

James Lee was transferred to another company where he served out his thirty-day sentence<sup>21</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=1860usfedcenancestry&h=19422340&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> This battle history is created here was developed from various sources including Wiley Sword's 1992 **Confederacy's Last Hurrah: Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville,** Robert K Cannon's 1995 **Volunteers for Union and Liberty: History of the 5th Tennessee Infantry, U.S.A., 1862-1865**, and Winston Groom's 1995 **Shrouds of Glory - From Atlanta to Nashville: The Last Great Campaign of the Civil War.** 

NOTATION. 4043. 9. 1887. Book mark: War Department, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, Lugust 26, 1887, This man deserted on or about December January 24. , 1864. on or about As he was subsequently restored to duty by 8.0.470. 26. drs. 3 Lev. 23 t. 6, thanks, Ga , July 25. 1168 without trial, but upon conditions which appear to have been complied with (so far as not waived by the Government), the charge of desertion no longer stands against him. The record of the fact that he was absent in desertion from on or about December 24 186 3, to on or about January cannot, however, be expunged.

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Copyist.

James Lee's son, Nathan Hargus, was born January 26, 1868, in Washington, Indiana<sup>22</sup>. That month, Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida all held constitutional conventions in preparation to be re-admitted to the Union. South Carolina's convention met with a Black majority. The last penal ship also arrived in Australia ending over eighty years of penal transport to the country<sup>23</sup>.

His son, John Franklin, was born September 26, 1870, in Indiana<sup>24</sup>. That month, French Emperor Napoleon III was captured and taken prisoner in the Battle of Sedan. The Third French Republic proclaimed that the French overthrew Emperor Napoleon III (who ironically was the elected president of the Second French Republic) after his defeat by Prussia<sup>25</sup>.

James Lee SUMMITT lived in Northeast, Orange, Indiana, United States, in 1870. He was thirty years old.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=1900usfedcen&h=53502146&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1868/january

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> US Federal Census. Year: 1900; Census Place: Civil District 3, Dyer, Tennessee; Roll: T623\_1568; Page: 11B; Enumeration District: 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1870/september

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# Abt 1870 Age 30 James Lee Summitt

Portrait of James Lee Summitt owned by Paul M. Summitt



His son, Robert Francis, was born February 2, 1874, in Tennessee<sup>26</sup>.

His wife Amy Hannah passed away on July 22, 1882, in Dyersburg, Tennessee, at the age of 38. They had been married 23 years $^{27}$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Tennessee, U.S., Death Records, 1908-1965

The following year, James Lee SUMMITT married Lucy Frances WHITE in Crockett, Tennessee, on January 10, 1883, when he was 42 years old<sup>28</sup>. That same day, a fire at the uninsured Newhall Hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin killed 71 people. General Tom Thumb of P. T. Barnum fame escaped the fire unhurt<sup>29</sup>.

On August 18, 1883, James Lee filed his initial Civil War Pension file in Dyer County, Tennessee. He was 42 at the time and the substance of the claim was:

In the line of duty at Franklin, Tennessee on or about November 30, 1864, he contracted rheumatism from being without shoes while on march from Pulaski to Nashville, Tennessee in severe cold weather. It first settled in his right shoulder which had been wounded by a piece of spent shell. It has since affected his right side, hip, and leg so that he is disabled a good portion of the time from [performance of manual labor<sup>30</sup>.

James Lee's son, James A, was born on November 30, 1883, and passed away that same day. Also in the month, the self-described "Black Bart the poet" pulled off his last stagecoach robbery but left an incriminating clue that eventually led to his capture. A race riot in Danville, Virginia killed four blacks. The US Supreme Court decided that federal courts had no jurisdiction over Native American tribal Councils (Ex parte Crow Dog). US and Canadian railroads set and synchronized four standard time zones - Eastern, Central, Mountain, and Pacific, which replaced over 100 previous time zones<sup>31</sup>.

James Lee's daughter, Cordelia Elisabeth (Delia), was born September 2, 1885, in Tennessee. James Lee was 44<sup>32</sup>. That same day, In Rock Springs, Wyoming, 150 white miners, who were struggling to unionize so they could strike for better wages and working conditions, attacked their Chinese fellow workers. Twenty-six of the Chinese workers were killed, fifteen were wounded, and several hundred more were forced out of town<sup>33</sup>.

James Lee's daughter, Nancy Jane, passed away August 12, 1886, at the age of 21. James Lee was forty-five<sup>34</sup>. Later that month, the first major earthquake recorded in the eastern US, happened in Charleston, South Carolina. One hundred ten people were killed<sup>35</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=tnstatemarriages&h=1408140&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1883/january/10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Civil War Pension File, Application No. 493036, Certificate No. 996.000

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1883/november

<sup>32</sup> Tennessee, U.S., Death Records, 1908-1965

<sup>33</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1885/september/2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

<sup>35</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1886/august

James Lee's son, Chester Alba, my grandfather, was born March 4, 1887, in Dyersburg, Tennessee<sup>36</sup>. The previous day the American Protective Association (anti-Catholic) was formed in Clinton, Iowa. The third was also the day that Anne Sullivan began teaching six-year-old blind and deaf Helen Keller<sup>37</sup>.

A letter to the Commission of Pensions was sent on September 2, 1887, from R. C. Dunn, Assistant Adjutant General. The letter stated that the charge of desertion was expunged and waived by the government. James Lee's Civil War Pension Claim was rejected on December 9, 1887, for failure to furnish the necessary evidence to establish the claim within a reasonable time.

His son, Joseph Homer, was born January 26, 1889, in Bruceville, Dyer County, Tennessee when James Lee was forty-four<sup>38</sup>. Daniel Hale Williams formed the Provident Hospital in Chicago, the first non-segregated hospital in the US<sup>39</sup>.

His son George Weekly was born April 1, 1891, in Tennessee when James Lee was fifty<sup>40</sup>. The same day, the French painter Paul Gauguin left Marseille for Tahiti<sup>41</sup>.

James Lee lived in Dyer, Tennessee, in 1891. He was fifty-one<sup>42</sup>.

His son Virgil Anderson was born on October 4, 1893, in Tennessee, when he was fifty-three<sup>43</sup>. Two days the Cheniere Caminada hurricane, also known as the Great October Storm, killed 1,800 people in Louisiana. It is the 3rd worst hurricane in US history and one of the first to be classified as a category 4 storm. Later that month, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky conducted the first performance of his Symphony Number Six in B minor, "Pathetique", in St. Petersburg, Russia. Nine days later Tchaikovsky passed away<sup>44</sup>,

Jame Lee's father, Jonathan, passed away on June 17, 1896, at 79, in Vonore, Loudon County, Tennessee, United States. James Lee was fifty-five<sup>45</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Tennessee, Delayed Birth Records, 1869-1909

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1887/march

<sup>38</sup> Tennessee, Delayed Birth Records, 1869-1909

<sup>39</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1889/january

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Tennessee, Death Records, 1908-1958

<sup>41</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1891/april/1

<sup>42</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=tncen&h=29689072&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Tennessee, U.S., Death Records, 1908-1965

<sup>44</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1893/october

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Web: Tennessee, Find A Grave Index, 1777-2012

Twins, a sister, Elinor, and a brother, Elsworth, were born on September 23, 1896. Chester was 9 years old. Elinor SUMMITT 1896-, 23 Sep 1896, Elsworth SUMMITT 1896-, 23 Sep 1896<sup>46</sup>.

On October 29, 1897, James M. Pardue, James Lee's nephew, became his legal representative and requested that the previous pension file be removed from "the dead files as speedily as practical."

Chester's half-brother William Henry died in 1898 when Chester was 11 years old. William Henry SUMMITT 1859–1898 1898. In January of that year, Ito HiroBumi began his third term as Prime Minister of Japan. In February, the USS Maine sank in Havana harbor, the cause unknown. Two hundred fifty-eight died in the sinking. That same month, in Lake City, South Carolina, a black postmaster was lynched, and his wife and his three daughters were shot. Later that month, the first modern submarine achieved a successful test run off Staten Island, submerging for a total of one hour and forty minutes. In April, Spain declared war on the United States. In May, the U.S. fleet routed the Spanish fleet in Manila harbor in the Philippines. That same month, Louisiana adopted a new constitution with a "grandfather clause" designed to eliminate black voters. In June, China leased Hong Kong's new territories to the United Kingdom for 99 years, US Marines landed in Cuba, and Filipino revolutionary forces under General Emilio Aguinaldo proclaimed the sovereignty and independence of the Philippine Islands from the colonial rule of Spain. That same month, US House of Representatives passed a resolution to annex Hawaii, US marines attacked Spanish forces off Guantánamo, Cuba, and the US captures Guam from Spain. In July, American troops, in route to the Philippines on the SS China, raised the American flag on Wake Island, US Navy defeated the Spanish fleet in Santiago harbor, Cuba, the French liner "La Bourgogne" collided with the bark Cromartyshire and five hundred sixty people died, and the shooting death of crime boss Soapy Smith released Skagway, Alaska from his iron grasp. Later that month, Spaniards surrendered to US forces at Santiago de Cuba, the first US troops landed and occupied Puerto Rico and declared victory in Puerto Rico over the Spanish forces. In August, US forces under Admiral George Dewey captured Manila and seven hundred Greeks and fifteen Englishmen were slaughtered by the Turks in Heraklion, Greece. In September, at the Battle of Omdurman, Lord Kitchener retook Sudan for Britain, Empress Elizabeth of Austria was assassinated by anarchists Luigi Lucheni, and Wassoulou Empire leader Samori Ture was captured by French troops in West Africa ending

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Ancestry Family Trees, this information comes from 1 or more individual Ancestry Family Tree files. This source citation points you to a current version of those files. Note: The owners of these tree files may have removed or changed information since this source citation was created. Online publication - Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com. Original data: Family Tree files submitted by Ancestry members.

his 20 year rule. In October, the American flag was raised in Puerto Rico. In November, the SS Portland, known as "The Titanic of New England," left for Cape Cod and shipwrecked off Cape Ann. All one hundred ninety-two people on board died. In December, the Treaty of Paris, which ended the Spanish American War, was signed by US President McKinley. The treaty granted the US control of the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam. Later that month, scientists Pierre and Marie Curie discovered radium.<sup>47</sup>

In 1900, James Lee SUMMITT lived in Civil Districts 1, 3, Dyer, Tennessee. According to the Census, James Lee was fifty-nine, married, and the head of the household.

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<sup>47</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/events/date/1898

### 1900 Federal Census

James Lee was awarded a Civil War Pension on January 25, 1900. His pension rate was eight dollars per month.

James Lee's mother, Elizabeth "Betty" Saphiro, passed away on September 13, 1902, in Loudon, Tennessee, at the age of 86. James Lee was sixty-one. Earlier in the month the first science-fiction film, "A Trip to the Moon," was released<sup>48</sup>.

The following appeared in the Dyersburg State Gazette on February 29, 1907.

SQUIRE SUMMIT'S BARN BURNED –The large barn of Squire J. L. Summit at Bruceville was destroyed by fire Friday morning at daylight. About three hundred bushels of corn, a quantity of hay, two valuable mules, [a] wagon and buggy, and tools were destroyed. Squire Summit was aroused in time to save one horse and colt. The fire is supposed to have been incendiary in origin. [The] loss was [estimated at] \$2000. No insurance<sup>49</sup>.

The barn was rebuilt sometime in the early 1940s by James Lee's son, Chester Alba Summitt<sup>50</sup>.

James Lee SUMMITT lived in Civil District 3, Dyer, Tennessee, in 1910.

<sup>48</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1902/september

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> State Gazette, Dyersburg, Tennessee. February 28, 1907.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Email from Richard Summitt, Summitt Research List. May 27, 2001.

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1910 Federal Census



Abt 1910 FAMILY Portrait

- 1. James Lee Summitt 2. Lucy "Lou" Francis White Young Summitt 3. John Franklin Summitt
- 4. Unknown 5. Chester Alba Summitt 6. Nathan H. Summitt 7. Nancy Jane Summitt 8. Virgil Anderson Summitt 9. Cordelia "Delia" Elizabeth Summitt 10. Unknown



Left to right — Reana (Burcham) Summitt, Connie, Amma and Ola with baby, Jim Burcham, Chester, Katty holding Raymond, Herbert, John, Aunt Molley (Mary), George, Nathean, — Children in front low, Doyle Beasley, Knox Summitt, Paul Summitt, Fletcher (Homer's boy), Edker Faulkner, Evie Young and Children. Grandpa and Grandma James L. Summitt holding Vergil's baby. Behind Grandpa is Aunt Dellie holding baby Dois Young, Mrs. Evies husband, Euell Summitt. Clarence in front row and Edd Faulkner.

# 1914, Age 74, Family Portrait

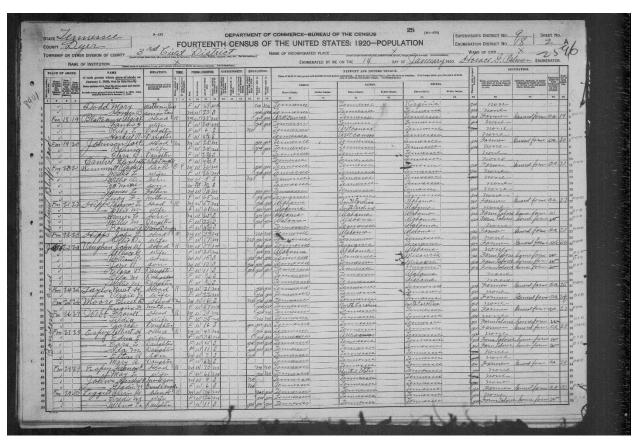
James Lee's son John Franklin passed away on February 22, 1920, in Henderson, Tennessee, at the age of 49<sup>51</sup>. That month, Estonia declared its Independence from Russia. On the same day, France occupied the German Memel territory. Russian Imperial Navy Admiral Kolchak, the leader of the anti-communist "White Movement," was executed by a Bolshevik firing squad in Irkutsk, Russia. Bolshevik troops captured Odessa, bringing an end to foreign involvement in the resistance against Bolshevik rule. Swiss men voted against women's suffrage. The League of Nations recognized the perpetual neutrality of Switzerland, allowing Switzerland to rejoin the League. The League of Women Voters was formed in Chicago. Adolf Hitler made his first official speech as head of the National Socialist German Workers' Party (Nazi) at the Hofbräuhaus in Munich, Germany. The German silent horror film classic "The Cabinet of Dr Caligari" starring Werner Krauss was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=tndeathrecords&h=597220&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

released. Czechoslovakia adopted a constitution to maintain its independence from both Germany and the USSR<sup>52</sup>.

His son Nathan Hargus passed away on October 24, 1920, in Cardwell, Missouri, at the age of 52. James Lee was eighty years old<sup>53</sup>. The events of October 1920 included an eighthour working day being mandated by Dutch Law. The Chinese signed an agreement with the Russo-Asiatic Bank, largely French and Russian controlled, which would oversee the Chinese Eastern Railway, but give local supervision to China. African demonstrators were shot in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. The League of Nations moved its headquarters in Geneva<sup>54</sup>.

James Lee lived in Civil District 3, Dyer, Tennessee, in 1920.



### US Federal Census 1920

James Lee's second wife, Lucy Frances, passed away on June 29, 1922, in Dyersburg, Tennessee, at the age of 67. They had been married 39 years<sup>55</sup>. Earlier in the month, over

<sup>52</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1920/february

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/Archives/ArchivesMvc/DeathCertificates#searchDB

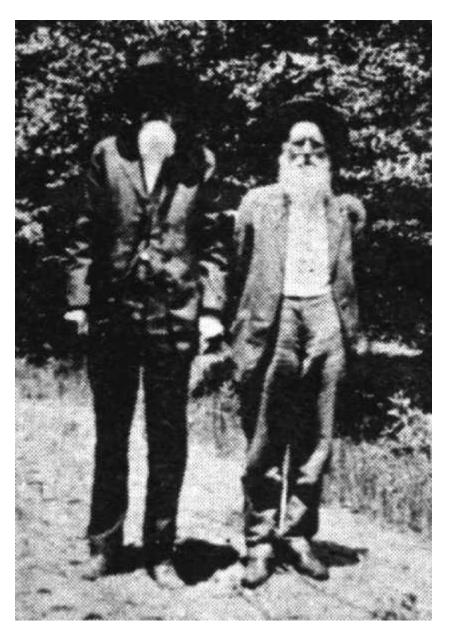
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1920/october

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=tndeathrecords&h=322318&ti=0&indiv=try&gss=pt

50,000 Fascists gathered for a meeting in Bologna where Mussolini warned that he would lead a full-scale revolt against any government favoring an 'anti-Fascist reaction.' The Banker's Committee of the Reparations Commission refused to issue an international loan to Germany. US President Warren G. Harding became the first US President to use radio, dedicating the Francis Scott Key memorial in Baltimore. Known as the Herrin massacre, nineteen strikebreakers and two union miners were killed in Herrin, Illinois. Adolf Hitler began a month-long prison sentence for paramilitary operations after railing against the 'Jewish sell-out' of Germany to the Bolsheviks. Also in Germany, the emergency decrees under Article 48 of the Weimar Constitution were invoked by the government to deal with deteriorating economic conditions<sup>56</sup>.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup>https://www.onthisday.com/date/1922/june

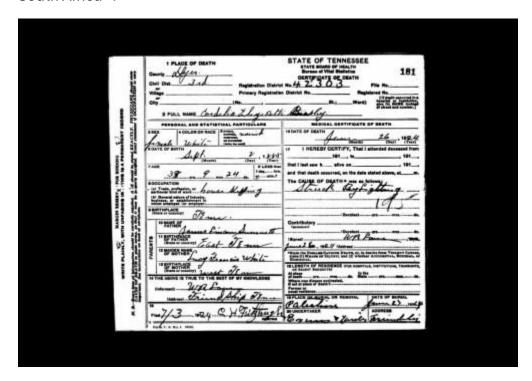


abt 1924 Unknown Burcham and James Lee Summitt

James Lee's daughter, Cordelia Elisabeth (Delia) Summitt Beasley, passed away on June 26, 1924, in Dyer, Tennessee, at the age of 38<sup>57</sup>. This same date, after 8 years of occupation, US troops left the Dominican Republic. Also during June, President Calvin Coolidge signed the Indian Citizenship Act (also known as Snyder Act), declaring all Native Americans to be American citizens. The first political convention, the Republicans at Cleveland, was broadcast on radio. J. Edgar Hoover assumed the leadership of the FBI. A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Tennessee, Deaths and Burials Index, 1874-1955

tornado struck Sandusky and Lorain, Ohio, killing ninety-three. J. B. M. Hertzog became Primes Minister, head of a coalition government between the National and Labor Parties in South Africa<sup>58</sup>.



Cordelia Elisabeth (Delia) Summitt Beasley Death Certificate

In December 1925, James Lee lived with his son, Chester, in Cardwell, Missouri. Chester corresponded with Winfield Scott regarding James Lee's pension. The government didn't have his new address and threatened to deny the pension further.

James Lee SUMMITT died on January 13, 1927, in Cardwell, Missouri, when he was 86. James Lee had come from Tennessee to Cardwell to live with Chester's family in Cardwell, Missouri<sup>59</sup>. James Lee died about four years before my dad was born. Dad never met him. That month US Marines returned to Nicaragua. A fire in the Laurier Palace cinema in Montreal killed seventy-eight children. In Berlin, Fritz Lang's silent film "Metropolis" premiered. The Tennessee Supreme Court overturned (on a technicality) John T. Scopes' guilty verdict for teaching evolution in the "Scopes monkey trial", but the law remained in force for the time being. The British government sent troops to China. The Serbian-Croatian-Slavic government of Oezonowitsj failed<sup>60</sup>.

<sup>58</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1924/june

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Tennessee, U.S., Death Records, 1908-1965

<sup>60</sup> https://www.onthisday.com/date/1927/january

According to his death certificate, James Lee died of heart failure and senility.

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James Lee Summitt death certificate

James Lee was born and grew up during one of the most difficult times this country has ever endured. A Southerner, he went North and fought for the Union. He died before my dad was born so Dad never knew his grandfather.

I think we are the products of everything that has come before us. I think a good portion of my personality can be attributed to my dad, Chester Moody Summitt. His personality can be attributed to his father, Chester Alba Summitt. I think a great amount of Chester Alba's personality can be attributed to his father, James Lee Summitt.

James Lee's life was interesting. I wish I could have known him.



James Lee is buried in the Cardwell Cemetery.