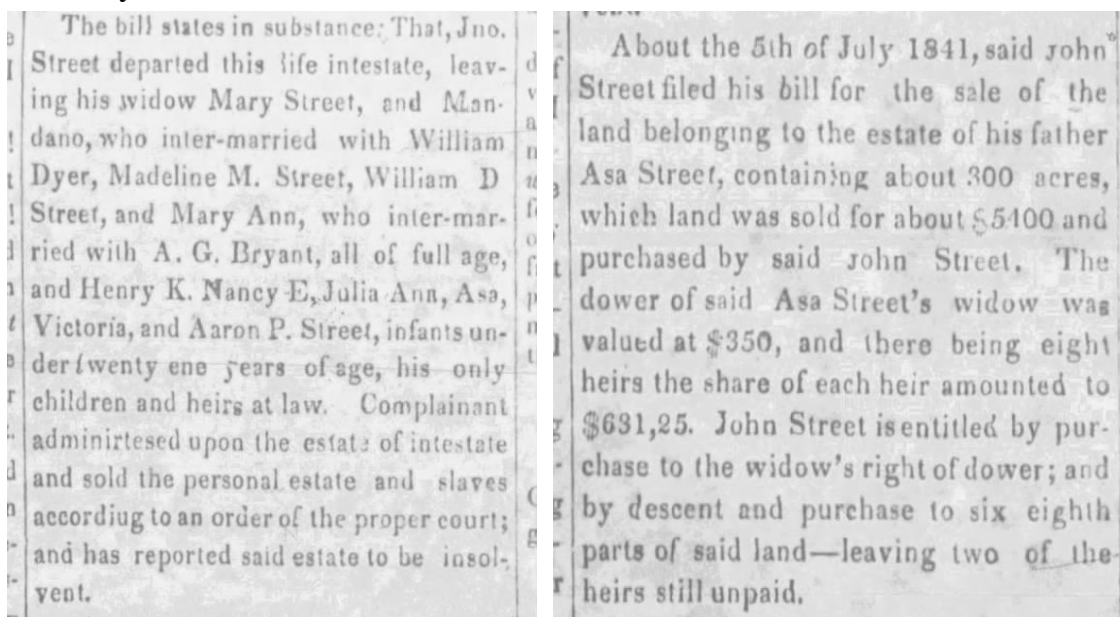


George W. Street, Sergeant, Co. K, 8 TN Infantry, C.S.

1840 March 18: Twin sons were born to John and Mary Street in Lincoln County, TN.

The U.S Federal Census enumerated in Lincoln County, TN showed infant George and his twin brother Aaron lived with their parents John and Mary Kelso Street. The Street family owned nine slaves, four males and five females.

1845 John Street, George's father, died and left his family with many debts. The only way to pay his debts was to sell all of his property, this would have included the family slaves.



1850 September 14: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Lincoln County, TN showed ten year old George and his twin lived with their mother Mary and seven siblings.

1860 August 8: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Lincoln County, TN showed twenty year old George and siblings lived with their mother Mary. Mary's occupation was listed as a tailoress. George was a student in school.

1861 May 18: Street and his older brother Asa enlisted in the C.S. Army and mustered into Co K, 8 TN Infantry at Camp Harris in Estill Springs, TN.

July 2: T.D. Jones, a minister, wrote home to the Fayetteville Observer about the daily life of the 8th TN Infantry. His letters were plentiful and full of detail.

¹ Lincoln Journal, Fayetteville, TN, Thursday, 15 May 1845, pg. 2 (accessed newspapers.com)

LIFE IN THE CAMP.

No. XII.

Written for the Fayetteville Observer.

CAMP TROUSDALE, July 2, 1861.

Mr. N. O. Wallace:

DEAR SIR:—In consequence of the measles breaking out in our encampment, our company failed last week to furnish you with a communication. We have really had a tough time with them; for the last ten days no less than fifteen or twenty have constantly been on the sick list, and owing to a false prejudice against the Hospital, all have been kept in their tents, no doubt but greatly to their disadvantage. However, I am glad that I can truthfully say to the good people of Lincoln county, and especially to those in the vicinity of Mulberry, that our noble Captain has shown himself worthy of his company. When the measles first made their appearance in our company, with a liberality unparalleled, he cheerfully gave up his marquee to the sick boys and took fare with the well, rough and tumble, any way it happened to turn up. Not only has he freely given up his marquee, but even his cot and covering are always at the will of those who have been unfortunate. He has excelled every other Captain in our regiment, in kindness, liberality, and hospitality to the sick. Our regiment has two large hospital tents, and the rule is when a soldier gets sick to post him off to the hospital willing or unwilling, but our Captain (W. J. Thrash) never sends any one there unless it is by his own consent.

Often at night, when most of the company are slumbering, he can be seen going from tent to tent equipping and providing for those who are unable to do such things for themselves. In short, he never shuts his eyes until the pillow of every sick man in the company is made as easy and comfortable as our circumstances will admit. Hence the friends of the Mulberry Riflemen may rest easy that their friends and relations will be well cared for by both Captain and privates.

Ten days ago Col. Hatton's and Fulton's Regiments were ordered to prepare rations for three days and be ready to march at a moment's warning; that order has never been revoked and consequently we are liable to be called off at any moment to go where I do not know, but our wise heads say it was intended when the order was issued to carry us to East Tennessee, but now it is changed to Missouri. So our friends need not be surprised to hear of us being off at any time. We volunteered to fight, and we don't care much where we go, so we are brought in contact with Yankees. The fact is we had just as leave fight Tennessee Yankees as any others, and if we are ordered to East Tennessee the boys say they won't leave a greasy spot of Mass Andy, but the motto is to catch before hanging. Most all our boys as they convalesce go home to recruit, and you and our friends can get the details of our camp from them.

Yours truly,

T. D. J* * *

² Fayetteville Observer, Fayetteville, TN, Thursday, 11 Jul 1861, pg. 2 (accessed newspapers.com)

September 6: T.D. Jones wrote from Big Springs, VA.

“There are two productions in this region that cannot be excelled in America-and they are blackberries and bluegrass. I have no doubt that but each regiment gathers at least fifty bushels of berries per day. And just such pies as we have you cannot imagine anything like them, unless it be a skillet with a piece of dough spread over the bottom and side and then filled with berries such as grown no where else save here and then covered with another layer of thin dough. This is what we call family pies. And I assure you we have some jolly times over them.”

“The Mulberry Riflemen now number about 80; the rest are behind at Warm Springs and Camp Edry, sick, though convalescing when heard from last. They all seem to be eager to try the spunk of the Yankees and retired every night for the last week expecting a march before day. Our firm and determined Colonel (A.S. Fulton) has the entire confidence of every company in the 8th Tennessee Regiment; therefore, if we do have an opportunity of meeting the negro stealers, you may look for a good report”^{3 4}

November 4: Twin brother Aaron enlisted in the C.S. Army. He mustered into Co. A, 41st TN Infantry at Camp Trousdale.

1862 February 16: Aaron was captured at Fort Donelson sent to Camp Morton, Indiana, exchanged in Vicksburg, MS.

March thru June: Company Muster Rolls. Present.

August-December: Company Muster Roll. Absent.

December 31: Wounded at the Battle of Murfreesboro at home on surgeon's certificate.

1863 January-February: Company Muster Roll: Absent wounded at the Battle of Murfreesboro *over* name appeared in column of names present.

March-April: Company Muster Roll: Present.

September 18-20: Street's brother Asa was wounded at the Battle of Chickamauga.

³ Note US Soldiers were referred to as “negro stealers” in 1862. These men knew what they were fighting for.

⁴ The Fayetteville Observer, Fayetteville, TN, Thursday, 26 Sep 1861, pg. 2 (accessed newspapers.com)

1864 January 9: Company Muster Roll: Present.

August 25: Promoted to Third Sergeant.

November 30: All three brothers, George, Asa, and Aaron were engaged during the Battle of Franklin. George did not survive. He was buried on the battlefield and later disinterred and taken home to Lincoln County. He was buried at Mount Moriah Cemetery with two of his comrades, Joe Stacy and William Martin, who were also killed at the Battle of Franklin.⁵



⁵ Military muster rolls stated Aaron deserted, but his widow proved with many witness accounts that her husband was present till the end of the war.

⁶ Photography by Jenny Peach