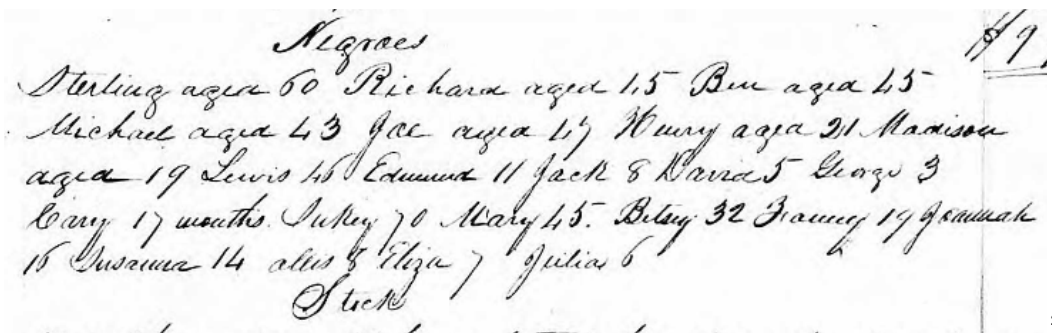


# Joanna McGavock Lytle

1827-1891

## Enslaved at Carnton

- 1827 Joanna McGavock was born to Joe and Clara McGavock, most likely at Carnton<sup>1</sup> in Williamson County. Her parents were slaves owned by Randal McGavock. Clara and Joe had six children: Ann, Martha, Patrick Henry, Fannie, Susanna and Joanna.
- 1830 The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Williamson County, TN listed Randal McGavock as head of household. The rest of the household members were listed with slash marks in their category designated by age, gender and race. The household consisted of seven free White people and nineteen enslaved Black people. Four female slaves under the age of ten, fitting Joanna's age, were listed.
- 1840 The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Williamson County, TN listed Randal McGavock as head of household. The rest of the household members were listed with slash marks in their category designated by age, gender and race. The household consisted of four free White people and twenty-one enslaved Black people. Three female slaves between the age of ten and twenty-three, fitting Joanna's age, were listed.
- 1843 Randal McGavock died. Susanna was listed as one of Randal's twenty-two slaves in the inventory of his Estate. All twenty-two of Randal McGavock's slaves were bequeathed to his wife Sarah Rodgers McGavock. "Joanna, 16" was listed along with the rest of her family.



*Negroes*

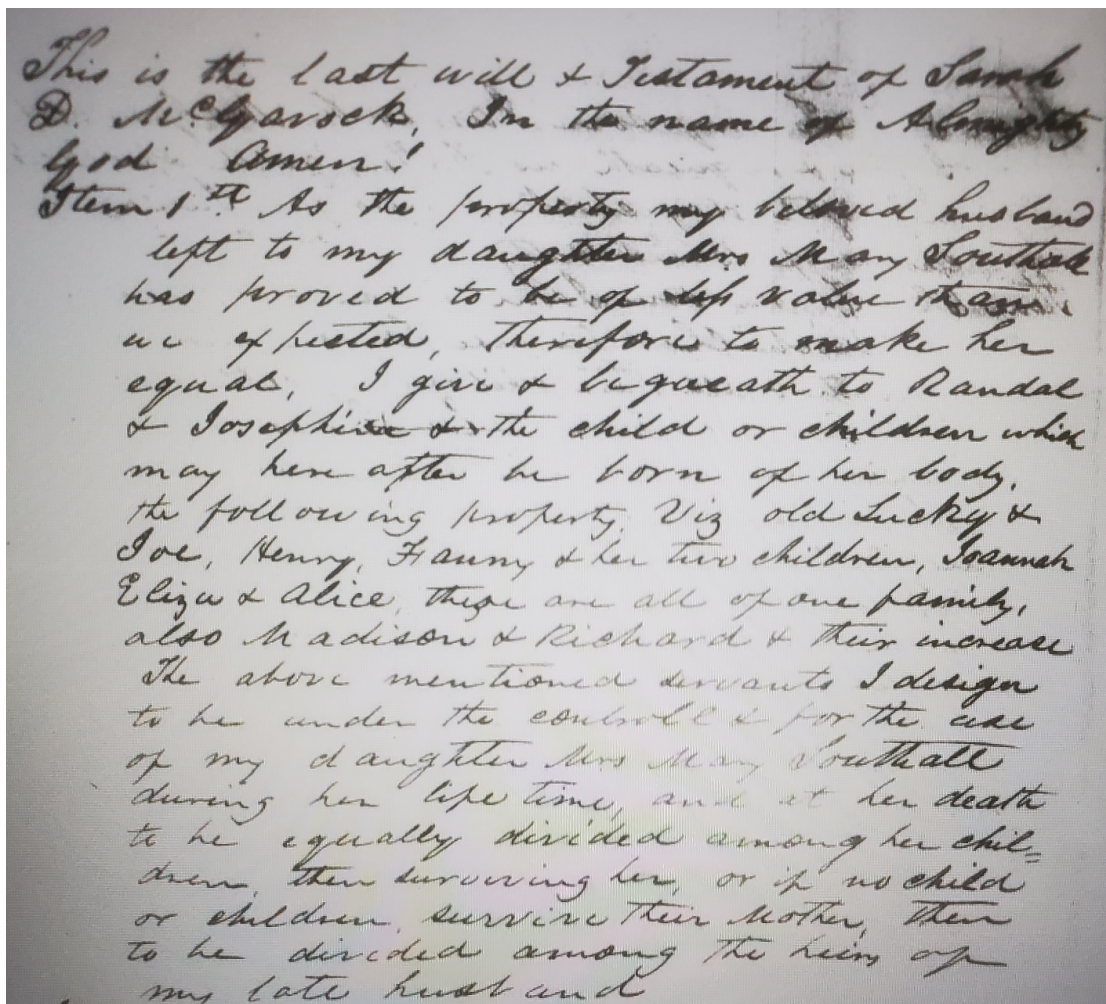
Stirling aged 60 Richard aged 15 Ben aged 15  
Michael aged 43 Joe aged 17 Henry aged 21 Madison  
aged 19 Lewis 15 Edmund 11 Jack 8 Maria 5 George 3  
Cory 17 weather. Patsy 70 Mary 15. Betty 32 Fanny 19 Hannah  
15 Susanna 14 also 8 Eliza 7 Julia 6  
Stork

2

<sup>1</sup> Note: It is entirely possible that Joanna could have been born in Nashville. Her brothers' pension application for the U.S. Navy listed Nashville as his birthplace and Randal McGavock lived and worked in Nashville consistently until after the mid 1830's.

<sup>2</sup> Inventory of Randal McGavock, Williamson County Archives, Franklin, TN.

1846 Sarah McGavock, who had inherited all of her husband's twenty-two slaves, wrote a will distributing all of her human property to her children and grandchildren. She bequeathed old "Suky & Joe, Henry, Fanny and her two children, Joanna, Eliza and Alice..." stating "they are all of one family" to her daughter Mary McGavock Southall. Mary was married to J. J. B. Southall.



This is the last will & Testament of Sarah D. McGavock, In the name of Almighty God Amen!

Item 1<sup>st</sup> As the property my beloved husband left to my daughter Mrs Mary Southall was proved to be of less value than we expected, therefore to make her equal, I give & bequeath to Randal & Josephine & the child or children which may here after be born of her body, the following property, Viz old Sucky & Joe, Henry, Fanny & her two children, Joanna Eliza & Alice, these are all of one family, also Madison & Richard & their increase

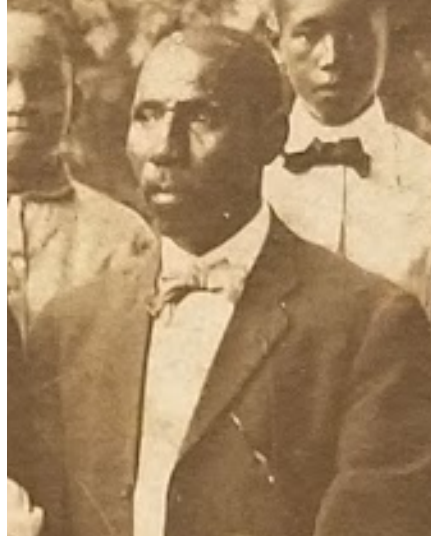
The above mentioned servants I design to be under the control & for the use of my daughter Mrs Mary Southall during her life time, and at her death to be equally divided among her children, then surviving her, or if no child or children survive their mother, then to be divided among the heirs of my late husband

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1857 December 28: Joanna gave birth to son Green Scales Lytle in Williamson County, TN.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> William Hicks Jackson Papers, Special Collections, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville, TN, Box 4, Folder 26

<sup>4</sup> Lytle, Green S., Tennessee, Death Records, 1908-1958 (accessed ancestry.com)



Green Scales Lytle

1860 June: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in District 11 of Davidson County, TN showed Mary McGavock Southall, whose husband had died in 1853, living at Belle Meade with her sister Elizabeth and her husband William Giles Harding. A portion of Mary’s enslaved people appeared with her at Belle Meade on the Federal Census Slave Schedule. It is entirely possible that Joanna was one of the females listed by gender, race and age. The thirty-two year old woman below could be either Joanna or her sister Fannie. <sup>5</sup>

Male	38 yrs	Mulatto	<b>Female</b>	<b>32 yrs</b>	<b>Mulatto</b>
Female	24 yrs	Mulatto	Female	15 yrs	Mulatto
Male	15 yrs	Black	Male	11 yrs	Mulatto
Female	9 yrs	Black	Male	5 yrs	Black
Male	3 yrs	Black	Male	4 yrs	Black
Male	6 mo	Black	Male	15 yrs	Black

1870 July 1: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in District 13, Davidson County, TN showed Joanna and her husband Alex, a railroad employee, living with their thirteen-year-old son Green, a student. Alex was listed as owning \$1,000 in real estate. Neither Alex nor Joanna could read and write.

1871 September 17: At the first “Colored People’s Fair” Joanna and her sister Susanna Carter and other family members won many premium prizes.<sup>6</sup> Joanna won Premium in “Best Blackberry Wine” and Susanna won a certificate in the same

<sup>5</sup> It is also possible that Joanna was at Carnton by this time. Green Lytle’s death certificate indicated he was born in Williamson County.

<sup>6</sup> Nashville Union and American, Nashville, TN, Sunday 17 Sep 1871, pg. 4 (accessed newspapers.com)

category! Joanna was an accomplished cook and was employed by the Harding family at Belle Meade with Susanna after the Civil War.

Mrs. S. Carter—Premium—Best Pumpkins

Mrs. S. Carter—Premium—Best display of garden seeds.

Mrs. Joanna Lytle—Best quince preserves.

Mrs. S. Carter—premium—Best can blackberries

Mrs. J. Lytle—premium—Preserved citron

Mrs. J. Lytle—premium—Best blackberry wine

Mrs. S. Carter—certificate—Best blackberry wine

Mrs. C.H. White—premium—best peach cordial (Carrie Richardson White, Susannah's niece)

Mrs. S. Carter—premium—best apple cordial

Mrs. S. Carter—premium—Best canned pears

1872 February 17: Joanna McGavock Lytle, opened a freedman's bank account. On her application she listed her siblings as well as her parents. Parents: Joe and Clara, Siblings: Patrick Henry, Fanny, Ann, Martha and Susanna.

No. 462	RECORD for	Joanna Lytle
Date,	July 17 <sup>th</sup> 1872	
Where born,	Williamson Co Tenn	
Where brought up,	There	
Residence,	Nashville	
Age,	41	Complexion, Brown
Occupation,		
Works for		
Wife or Husband,	Alexander	
Children,	Green	
Father,	Joe (dead)	
Mother,	Clara (dead)	
Brothers and Sisters,	Patrick Henry, Fanny, Ann Martha, Susanna	
REMARKS:	no to draw but myself	
Signature,	Joanna <sup>her</sup> Lytle made	

<sup>7</sup> U.S., Freedman's Bank Records, 1865-1874 (accessed ancestry.com)

1873 June 21: Joanna's husband died and was buried at Mt. Arayat Cemetery in Nashville.

1880 Joanna accompanied Selene Harding Jackson to Colorado Springs, CO. Selene's health was poor and her doctors sent her to Colorado for treatment. Selene's husband W.H. Jackson mentioned Joanna in many of his letters to his wife.

January 26: *"Remember me kindly to Joanna and tell her I hope she will wait on you good while you are confined to bed."*<sup>8</sup>

February 28: *"Tell Joanna hi'dy for me and say to her that I am delighted to hear of her faithful service to you and her good cooking and wish that I was there to eat some of it which I hope to be in the sweet bye and bye."*<sup>9</sup>

April 5: *"...remember me kindly to Joanna and tell her I say to take good care of you..."*<sup>10</sup>

May 17: *"..My kind remembrances to Joanna. Thank her and your cook Lou for their kind attention to you."*<sup>11</sup>

1884 An article in the Daily American described the old slave cabins at Belle Meade, this is most likely where Susannah would have lived before and after the Civil War.

1891 August 26: Joanna Lytle died from paralysis.<sup>12</sup> She was buried at Mt. Arayat Cemetery in Nashville.

**FUNERAL NOTICE.**  
The funeral of Mrs. Joanna Lytle, mother of Green Lytle, will take place to-day (Thursday evening) at 8 o'clock at Spruce-street Baptist Church. Service by Rev. Purdy.

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<sup>8</sup> Jackson, W.H. to Selene Harding Jackson, 26 Jan 1880, Harding Jackson Papers, TSLA

<sup>9</sup> Jackson, W.H. to Selene Harding Jackson, 28 Feb 1880, Harding Jackson Papers, TSLA

<sup>10</sup> Jackson, W.H. to Selene Harding Jackson, 5 Apr 1880, Harding Jackson Papers, TSLA

<sup>11</sup> Jackson, W.H. to Selene Harding Jackson, 17 May 1880, Harding Jackson Papers, TSLA

<sup>12</sup> A stroke perhaps?

<sup>13</sup> The Daily American, Nashville, TN, Thursday, 27 August 1891, pg. 3