

CCHGA BYTES

The Newsletter of the Cheatham County Historical & Genealogical Association

Cheatham County History Center Hours

Tuesday 12:00 - 4:00

Wednesday 10:00 - 2:00

Saturday 10:00 - 12:00

Call the CCHGA office 615.792.3623
or email
cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com

CCHGA newsletters are snail mailed or emailed to membership in March, June, September and December. If you would like your newsletter sent to you in an email, notify us by sending an email to cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com.

2020 CCHGA Officers

Patrick Smith
President

Lisa Walker
Vice President

Rosemary Klein
Secretary

Lisa Walker
Treasurer

Clay Walden
Member at Large

PLEASE NOTE THE OFFICE IS CLOSED TO WALK IN VISITORS UNTIL FUTURE NOTICE

The Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association announces a shift from business as usual to appointment-only scheduling during the months of June and July to support efforts to contain the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19)) and to ensure the health and safety of our community, visitors, and volunteers.

To make an appointment to visit the CCHGA office and Cheatham County Museum, please leave a message at 615.792.3623 or please email cheathamcountyhistory@gmail.com.

There will be no CCHGA meetings in June or July.

We can't wait to welcome you back to the museum. We are wishing you all good health, and hope to see you soon.

In June 2020, we have 137 memberships from the following states:

AZ - 1	GA - 1	KY - 1	MS - 1	OK - 1
CA - 5	IL - 2	LA - 1	MT - 1	OR - 1
FL - 3	IN - 1	MO - 1	NC - 1	TX - 1
TN - 114	VA - 1			

Webb Cowan served as Ashland City mayor for 2 years beginning in 1965.



July 20, 1953 - The Leaf-Chronicle



Jesse Elias Hudgens
05 Dec 1862 - 17 Aug 1952



The Reverend Jesse E. Hudgens began preaching at the age of 22. He served as pastor of several churches in the Cumberland Association of Free Will Baptists.

He was the son of Daniel and Nancy Durham Hudgens. He married Martha Patterson on April 9, 1894 in Cheatham County. They had two sons, Thomas Durham and Daniel William and two daughters, Grace Elizabeth and Docia Illa "Pinkie" Hudgens.,

He also served as Cheatham County Clerk from 1909 - 1912 and Trustee from 1920 - 1928.

Submitted by Judy Hudgens Willoughby who is researching land owned by Ned Hudgens..

Filed for record Nov 7, 1911 t 2:15 oclock p.m.
Book R Page 183-184

For and in consideration of Three hundred Dollars (\$300.00) cash in hand paid by D.J.Washington the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, I have this day bargained and sold and do hereby sell and convey to the said D.J.Washington, his heirs and assigns forever a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 3rd civil district of Cheatham County, Tenn. and bounded as follows. Bounded as follows to ?int (faded but possibly point?) on the north by C.A.Harper and B.F.Hewitt on the west by Wm Dinkins on the south by Ed. Moores and on the east by C.A. Harper. Containing 72 acres more or less. This is also to certify that I S.L.Harper reserve the graveyard on this place same to be about 1/2 acre square and an outlet to and from said graveyard to the County road at same convinnent? place. To have and to hold said tract or parcel of land to the said D.J.Washington, his heirs and assigns to warrant and forever defend this title of said land to the said D.J.Washington against the lawful claims of all persons Whomever.

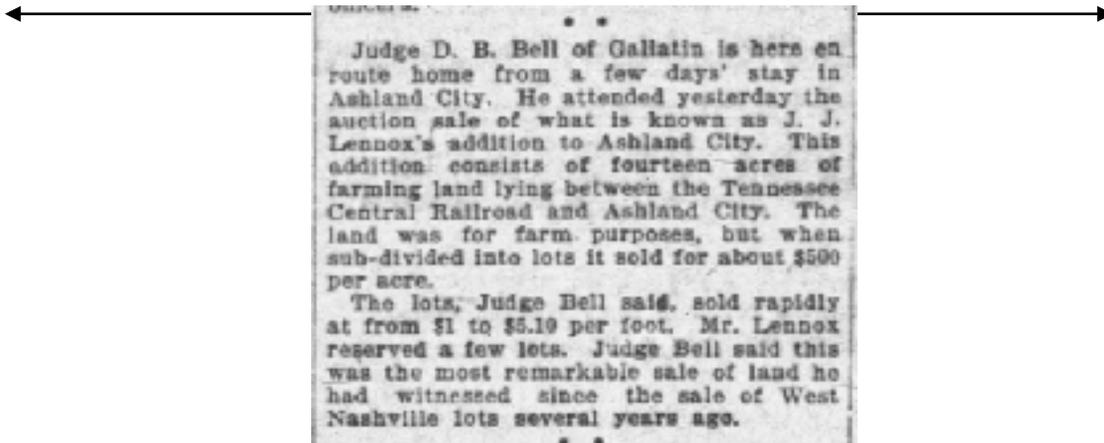
Witness my hand this Nov the 7th, 1911

S.L. Harper
M.J. Harper

State of Tennessee

Cheatham County Personally appeared before me J. C. Chambliss, a Notary Public in and for said County and State the written name S L. Harper and wife M. J. Harper the bargainors with whom I am personally acquainted and who acknowledged that they executed the within instrument for the purposes therein contained and M. J. Harper wife of the said S.L. Harper having personally appeared before me privately and apart from her husband, the said M. J. Harper acknowledged the execution of said deed to have been done by her freely voluntarily and understanding without compulsion or constraint from her said husband and for the purpose therein expressed. Witness my hand and official seal at Ashland City, TN this 7th day of Nov, 1911

J C Chambliss Notary Public



Nashville Banner, May 3, 1904

Hyde's Ferry Pike
Well Nigh Impassable at the Present Time
January 31, 1903 - The Tennessean

Tennessee Central Railroad is blamed for its shocking condition-Nashville losing trade because of it - Toll-Gate Scheme That Looks Like an Imposition.

Ashland City, Tenn. Jan. 30 - (Special.) - There is a howl of complaint continuously going up from the citizens of this place and a good part of this county, about the miserable condition of the Hyde's Ferry pike leading to Nashville from the north side of Cheatham County. The county is divided by the Cumberland River and the Hyde's Ferry pike is the main thoroughfare for most of the travel and hauling fro the north side of the county to Nashville and especially from Ashland City and the country adjacent thereto. The pike at this time is not much better than an ordinary country road, and is almost impassable at some places. The wonder her is why the road officials of Davidson County do not have something done to improve the conditions. It is said to be now the most miserable makeshift for a pike, by far the worst in Davidson County, while it used to be a "think of beauty and a joy forever' and was among the very best pikes in the State before the county swapped it to the Tennessee Central Railroad Company for the present makeshift mixed of clay, mud and bluff rocks set upon triggers, like a trap baited for small game. - Baxter's trap set for the Davidson County Court. They walked in and took the bait and the whole copy was caught, boots and breeches.

There are three stages running from Ashland city to Nashville, and they would have all they could do in the way of carrying freight and passengers if they had the old pike to travel over, or one as good. As it is they can take on only a limited number of passengers or a limited amount of freight, being frequently compelled to leave passengers and freight at both ends of the line, owing to the condition of the pike. The few passengers they do undertake to carry have to get out and walk over the worst places on the pike, for instance, the steep grades and muddy places. "it was not always thus," not until the deceptive swap took place. If the Hyde's Ferry pre were kept as it formerly was it would simp mean more travel and more trade for Nashville from this section of the country.

There is also a good deal of complain about the number of tollgates remaining on the Hyde's Ferry pike, there being three within a distance of ten miles - one at the line between Davidson and Cheatham counties, one at Dr Fork Creek and the last at Sycamore Powder Mills, which is the terminus of the pike in this county. The county line tollgate is said to be in Davison County, just over the line, but the pike company has never removed it, although Davidson County now owns the pike to the Cheatham County line, and all other gates in that county have been removed. A survey of the county places the gate over the line in Davidson, and this is the ground of complaint. Coming from Nashville a person has free passage to the Cheatham County line, and if that gate is in Davidson County no charge should be made there. But he must pay pikeage there for traveling to the Dry Fork gate, and he pays there for traveling to Sycamore gate, and he must pay there for nothing, except getting through the gate, for that is the end of the pike. On his return he pays at the Sycamore gate for traveling the pike to the Dry fork gate, and there he pays for traveling to the county line gate, and there he must pay again, when he is on a free pike in Davidson County. Even if the county line gate were in Cheatham County, it would not materially change the situation it would still put a gate at the east end of the pike in this county and one about the middle, making three gates within a distance of ten miles. The traveling public demands a change.

The mail from Nashville is late every day on account of the bad road over which it comes. It is due her at noon, but it is 1 o'clock when it arrives. It is due at Nashville at 6 o'clock p.m., but is from an hour to an hour and a half late every night. The only remedy in sight for these evils is to put the Hyde's Ferry pike in good condition and the howl will cease.

For your reading pleasure, past CCHGA Byte newsletters have been uploaded to <https://cheathamcountyhistory.weebly.com/cchga-newsletters.html>

<http://www.facebook.com/cheathamcountyhistory/>



From Ashland City, TN, the Pickard family got their start on the Grand Ol' Opry show broadcast over WSM radio in the 1920s. They were the first group to use their Opry appearances as a springboard to a wider national career.

Born in 1914, James Phane "Charlie" Pickard was the son of Obediah Orlando "Dad" Pickard and Lelia May Wilson Pickard. As well as performing with his famous family, he wrote articles for the Nashville Banner in the early 40s giving the people "back home" a view into his life in Hollywood.

Nashville Banner - November 15, 1940

Howdy Neighbors:

I spent one of the most intererstin' days I've had for quite a spell last Saturday when Cliff Hagewood from Ashland City came by the house for a visit. I grew up with Cliff, went to school with him fought an' played with him all over those Cheatham County hills bound Ashland so it was a pleasant occasion when he called me. When I picked him up down on Hollywood Boulevard he said he'd been in his hotel ever since he got here - scared to go out for fear some talent scout would see him an' sign him up in the movies. That's just like Cliff - full of more bright remarks than a couple of Hollywood script writers. But to get back to what I started to tell you.

He's been flyin' with the army a while but got the itch to get over there "acrost the waters." With two of his flyin' buddies he joined the English Royal Air Force an' now is trainin' at Bakersfield, California, about 100nmiles from Los Angeles.

They take a nine weeks' course here then are sent by boat to England, where they'll get more battle tactics.

Cliff says that trainin' for the R.A.F. is like bein' a gentleman of leisure. They sit around loafin' most of the time, occasionally the instructors take them up but never fuss about their flyin'. Often the officer in charge just lets 'em go out an' practice on their own.

So from now on for cliff an' his two side kids, Paris, London an' Berlin will be more than just names in the newspaper headlines - German Stuka an' Heinkel bombers an' Messerschmitt fighter planes twistin', turnin', snarlinin' and spitten' hot lead will be more than pictures you sit comfortably an' watch in the movin' picture theater.

Cliff will be part of the history in the makin'.

<http://www.facebook.com/cheathamcountyhistory/>

Drawing from Daily American Sun, July 3, 1887



18 May 1888, Nashville Banner
HESITATE NO LONGER

We are now ready to accommodate many guests at the New Kingston Springs Hotel, Twenty-four miles from Nashville on the Northwestern railroad. We have enlarged the dining-room, built a number of new cottages, and secured very proficient management for the coming season. White help will serve the guests, an Italian band will be in attendance, and everything that can add to the comfort and pleasure of the guests has been arranged. the superior medical qualities of the waters of Kingston are well-known to the Nashville public. The hotel OPENS MAY 20th for the reception of guests. We respectfully solicit our share of patronage and guarantee satisfaction to all.

Respectfully, KINGSTON SPRINGS COMPANY
 W. H. McCUTCHEON, Manager,
 Kingston Springs, Tenn.



The Nashville Tennessean , 28 March 1926
Craggie Hope, Near City, Ready for First Summer Resort Season
Health Center Offers Scenery, Quiet and Recreation to Vacationing Urban Folk

Twenty-six miles from Nashville, this, the newest summer resort within an hour's drive of the capital city, is preparing for the coming months when towns folk will be seeking the shady nook, a swimming hole and romantic scenery.

The major part of the job is about finished - construction of Craggie Hope boulevard from the Bristol to Memphis highway to the railroad station here. This work, accomplished by the voluntary labor of men residing on the boulevard was begun several years ago and was nearly completed by fall.

Long a land of hope for the ill, Craggie Hope now plans to minister to the tired nerves of the urban week-enders and the Sunday afternoon recreation seekers. It's ability to cure the more serious ailments has already been sufficiently demonstrated at the Thomas Fresh Air Camp here.

For \$1.15, the N. C. & St. L railroad will provide one round trip from Nashville and back for the week-enders who happen not to have automobiles.

Craggie Hope is 33 feet above sea level, is always cool at night and cooler than other surrounding points in Cheatham county in day. Turnbull river dam provides fishing and swimming, with a shady beach for loungers and a gradual descent to deep water for the timorous.

The town is reached by way of the overhead bridge from Kingston Springs on the state highway.

This bridge, with other scenic attractions make the resort one of the most beautiful in the state. Craggie Hope, was not misnamed. One crag is "Lover's leap" and has a legend about, of course, and Indian princess whose love led her and an Indian prince to take the fatal plunge together. There are shady ways, the Harpeth river narrows, the old mill at Turnbull dam, and sulphur springs nearby.

Many cottages, recently completed, stands ready for renting to vacationing city folk.

- Email: cchga007@bellsouth.net
- FB: <https://www.facebook.com/CheathamCountyHistory/>
- Website: <https://cheathamcountyhistory.weebly.com/>
- Instagram: @cheathamcountyhistory

A JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER EXPEDITION - GIDEON H. LOWE

Continued

Tuesday, Jan. 11, 1848. There are a few families settled here, which we visited, sold them some vols. Set out and landed at Metropolis, one mile below Massac on the same side of the river.

This is a new place: ? in Massac County, Illinois. The citizens bear the character of being immoral and disipated.

We have found them quite kind and friendly. We have visited some 18 families, and distributed some 60 vols. will feel encouraged to persevere in the good cause, feeling confident that the Lord is with us and will be with us to the end - Therefore, we will fear no evil.

Wed., Jan. 12, 1848. Constant rai all day, yet we were not entirely idel, several citizens of the pale visited the Bethel among whom was a Roman Catholic we had a long conversation with him, sold him several vols, which we trust he may read, and be the means of opening his ? eyes.

A flat boat's crew called upon us. One of their company was evidently intoxicated. He was disposed to have a good deal of myth and doubly expected to replenish his empty bottle, he appeared to be astonished when he discovered where he was. It was very plain that he felt that he was in the "wrong box."

On a close examination, we found that he is a member of the Church when at home, drunk as he was, he was very much ashamed when he found out who we were, and what we were doing; in order to atone for his conduction, he bought "? on Intemperance" "The Temperance Manual", a Bible and the ?, promising to attend church tonight where we are to preach. He left the Bethel.

The people here are truly friendly toward us, and our mission. They are anxious to have us preach and although they have no house for public worship they fitted up a house and we attended at night and preached to a large attentive congregation. Strong solicitation for us to remain another day and give them a Temperance talk which we have consented to do.

Believing that some good may be affected as there are in the place.

Thursday, Jan 13. Still continuing to rain, notwithstanding, we have been engaged in the good work, and rejoice in believing that our labors has not been in vain. We received a strong solicitation from our Roman Catholic friends to dine with him, a thing he has never been known to do before (to invite a Protestant minister to his house). We complied with his request, and were most kindly entertained. A gentleman of the bar, who has heretofore been an avowed infidel being now sick, sent for us in great haste, stating that he was desirous to have a conversation with us on the subject of religion. We visited him, found him very penitent, conversed and prayed with him.

Left him solemnly declaring that he would take no rest until he found it, believing in the Savior.

We attended a temperance meeting tonight, made a long talk on the principles of the S. T. Presented a petition for a Charter to open a new Division at this place to the astonishment of the few friends of the cause present, ten individuals assigned it. Among the number some who had engaged in the liquor trade.

To be continued in next CCHGA newsletter.



Johnson City Press Chronicle, April 7, 1971

Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association
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