

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are pleased to announce the date and details of our 2018 Reunion, taking place on August 11! All the information you need is below. We have lined up some excellent educational and entertainment programs. We hope to see lots of you there!

We had a very sad occurrence this month with the unexpected death of Harold Dellinger, who had recently returned to our board of directors. He had led the William Clark Quantrill Society for the past few years and had organized some of the greatest Civil War bus tours I have ever had the opportunity to experience. On the last excursion, we even went past the long closed and locally famous Peckerwood Club; a gambling and drinking establishment. Harold recently donated a large book collection to the Farm and was planning a tour of little known features on the Farm for our Reunion. It sadly falls to us now to dedicate a tree and a memorial marker for him at that event instead. He will be greatly missed.



BY BRYAN IVLOW

Saddle Up for the Friends of the James Farm Reunion Saturday 11 August 2018

Here we go, Folks! The event you have all been waiting for! This is a great opportunity to socialise with like minded James enthusiasts and soak up the history and nostalgia of the old James family homestead. We have an exciting afternoon of events lined up for you to enjoy!

At 1pm there will be a tree and plaque dedication for Harold Dellinger.

From 1.30pm-2.30pm, Michelle Pollard will present a talk on 'The Many Wounds of Jesse James'.

At 2:30pm, Scott Cole will lead us on a Tour of the James Farm.

At 3.30pm there will be a short business meeting.

Then, at 4.30pm, Frank James and Cole Younger will return for more storytelling followed by a BBQ dinner at 5pm.

All are welcome! The event is free and open to both members and non-members so why not mosey on down to the Jesse James Birthplace.

We can't wait to see you!

This Issue

- Page 1* – President's Message
Details of the 2018 Reunion
- Page 2* – In Memoriam –
Harold Dellinger
- Page 3* – Little Archie Dies in a
Hail of Bullets
- Page 6* – FOTJF Shoot details
- Page 7* – What The Photographer
Tells Us
- Page 11* – FOTJF Gift to the Jesse
James Birthplace
- Page 12* - The Items on Show at
the Birthplace.
- Page 13* – Memories of the Farm
- Page 15* – Shot All To Hell: A
Graphic Novel Review

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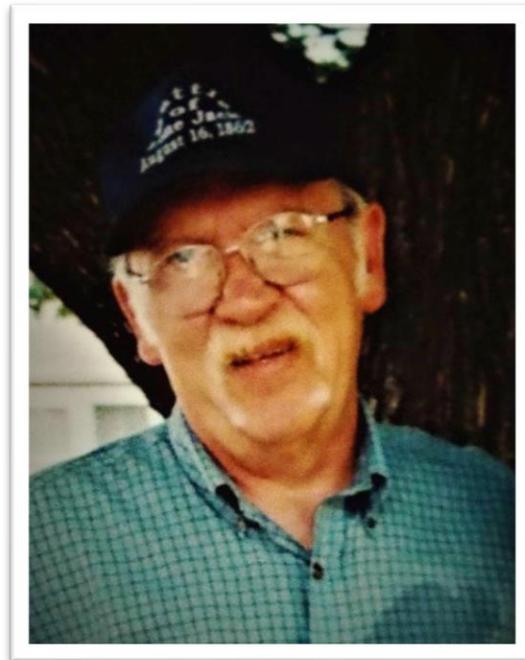
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www.jessejames.org



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c/o The Jesse James Birthplace
21216 Jesse James Farm Road
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64060

IN MEMORIAM



HAROLD DELLINGER

12 September 1947 - 2 June 2018

Harold Lee Dellinger was a true Missourian.

Born in Kirksville to Harold and Lois Dellinger, Harold graduated from Carrolton High School in 1965 before going on to study sociology and political science at Central Missouri State University, graduating in 1969. Over the ensuing years, Harold worked as a parole officer, social worker, writer and small print book publisher. These last vocations allowed us to see Harold’s great passions shine through. He was a keen historian with interests in baseball, lawmen and outlaws and rural Missouri from the Civil War to the present day. In 2007, “Jesse James – The Greatest Writings on the Notorious Outlaw and his Gang” was published with Harold as the editor. Two years later, a similar edition on Billy the Kid was released. As a small print publisher, Harold made books such as “Jim Cummins – The Guerrilla” and “The Babe of the Company” by Hamp Watts accessible, as well as contributing to the social history of the state he loved so much in volumes such as “Good and Good For You”, a collection of stories told to him by old friends and his own father.

Harold was a true gentleman, a loyal friend, a cherished father, grandfather, brother and uncle. He was a bright light for the many organizations of which he was a member and he shared his knowledge freely.

The James-Younger Gang commented, “Our historical community has lost a valued member.” While Cindy Taylor, President of the William Clarke Quantrill Society, spoke for us all when she wrote: “To say ‘We miss him’ is an understatement.”

LITTLE ARCHIE DIES IN A HAIL OF BULLETS

On a beautiful sunny day in June 2018, folks young and old gathered in historic Lexington, Missouri to watch a reenactment depicting the bloody and violent death of notorious guerrilla and outlaw Archie Clement.

The reenactment was over in about 10 minutes and was well played out. But what the observer was left with, was the desire to learn more about Clement – who he was and why he did what he did. We may never know all the answers to these questions and will have to form our own theories.

A small man, Clement was barely over 5 feet tall and it is believed he weighed a mere 130 pounds. These figures completely disguised the ferocity with which Clement operated. He was small, fierce, tough and violent. Perhaps his small stature gave him the agility and speed with which a guerrilla needed to draw his pistols and shoot with an intensity required to survive wartime battles. After William Quantrill was driven out as leader of the Partisan Rangers, and William ‘Bloody Bill’ Anderson took over as leader of the Missouri guerrillas, Clement rose to prominence, serving as Anderson’s right-hand man. He then took charge of the bushwhackers after Anderson was killed in October 1864. Stories abound from eye witnesses that testify to Clement’s savagery.



The Early Years

There are differing accounts as to where Clement was born. Some say it was in Moniteau County, Mo., others say in North Carolina, including Find A Grave, which has his birth listed as 1 Jan. 1846, in Stokes County, North Carolina. According to the 1850 census of Moniteau County, Mo., Archie was age four at the time of the census and he is listed as being born in N.C. At that time, he was the seventh of eight children of Edward and Mary Clement. Edward’s occupation was listed as a farmer. Ancestry websites also have conflicting reports on Clement. The most reliable (a family tree in ancestry.com) indicates the death of Archie’s father, Edward Moore Clement, in 1855 in Cass County, Mo. According to some sources, the family moved to Cass County in 1853, and then to the town of Kingsville, Mo., just before the war began. Another source indicates that Clement enlisted in the 2nd Missouri Cavalry, Missouri State Guard in Sept. 1861 and served until December 1861, when he returned to Johnson County (Kingsville). It is believed Clement then joined Quantrill’s Partisan Rangers and would have served under Quantrill until the leader was driven off by Anderson. Archie’s brother, Washington Clement, appears to have died in the war 10 March, 1864.

No one knows why Archie went to war. Perhaps the answer is as simple as him joining like thousands of other young men, intent on defending the cause.

A Teenage Bushwhacker

Like Jesse James and many of the other guerrillas who served with Quantrill, and later under Anderson, Clement was just a teenager during his years of fighting as a bushwhacker. Frank James once said in an interview with a reporter from the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, that if you wanted to assemble a gang of men who are easily formed into ferocious killers, such as the Partisan Rangers, then you start with teenagers, who are the most malleable.

This was hardly more evident than through the persona of Archie Clement.

According to some sources, Archie had a penchant for being the “consummate killer” and that he had a reputation for scalping his victims. This does correlate with the reputation Bloody Bill Anderson had for scalping his victims,



including the fact that Anderson's saddle had scalps hanging from it at the time he was killed. Clement became known as "Anderson's Head Devil." He was, of course, part of the brutal slaughter that Anderson's men became most famous for – the Centralia Massacre. That massacre took place on Sept. 27, 1864, not long before Anderson would be ambushed and killed.

In Centralia, after looting the town and passengers on the North Missouri Railroad, the guerrillas unleashed a horrific extermination on the Union soldiers they found aboard the train – soldiers who were headed off on leave. The Union soldiers were commanded to disrobe at gunpoint. One man was spared, Sgt. Thomas Goodman, who later told authorities of the horrors of that day. The remainder of the men were shot, maimed and some scalped.

Nor was the end yet. Major Johnston, seeing the smoke from Centralia, gathered his men in pursuit of the guerrillas. He thought he was chasing a small band but what he didn't realise was that Todd and Anderson had combined their forces and several hundred of their command were waiting at Young's Creek. Johnston's men were lured into a trap, ambushed and routed in a way that was becoming all too familiar.

Post-War Outlaw Days

The robbery of the Alexander Mitchell and Company bank in Lexington has long been attributed to the James gang, but that has never been proven. The robbery, which took place 20 Oct. 1866, and netted the robbers \$2,000, was more likely committed by Clement and his own band of outlaws. It is believed by many James historians that Jesse was still suffering from the debilitating wound to his right lung that he received at the end of the war in 1865. It's likely he was unable to contribute to this robbery and may not have even been in the state at the time.

It has been written that during the election of 1866, Clement, along with a gang of 80-100 former partisan rangers, attacked Lexington on election day. He and his gang managed to intimidate the townspeople enough that the Republicans were defeated in the election. Gov. T. Fletcher responded to this outrage by dispatching Major Bacon Montgomery and a company of Missouri State Militia to engage Clement and his gang. Clement ghosted into the hills and crevices where he knew just where to hide, avoiding capture at that time.

Meanwhile, Montgomery took over the operation of the garrison at Lexington.



The Death of Archie Clement

At this time in 1866, the Missouri State Legislature passed legislation requiring male adults to enroll in the militia. Clement used compatriot Dave Poole to send word to Montgomery that if he were to comply with the legislation and enroll in the militia, he wanted a guarantee of safe passage in and out of Lexington for him and his men. Montgomery granted Clement permission to enroll safely. In fact, Clement did enter Lexington with his men – all enrolling into the state militia – and left the city without a problem.

However, once all of his men were safely out of town, Archie returned to Lexington to imbibe at the City Hotel with a friend named only as Hickland [Hicklin].

Clement was a wanted man. It was believed he had committed the first daytime robbery in Liberty, Mo., that has often been blamed on Frank and Jesse James. Montgomery seized the opportunity of Clement drinking at the hotel to attempt to capture him for that robbery. He initially sent a three-man squad to the hotel to arrest Clement but, thinking there might have been more guerrillas in the Hotel than first thought, Montgomery sent three more. The first group entered the hotel with intentions of talking to Clement and

arresting him, the second group came in and opened fire. Clement was shot in the chest but managed to get exit the hotel and, getting back on his horse, raced down Franklin Street. Clement made it as far as the courthouse before he was shot off his horse by sharpshooters in a hail of gunfire.

As he lay dying, legend has it that Clement, suffering from numerous wounds to his body, was attempting to fire his revolver with his teeth. He was asked, "Arch, you are dying. What do you want me to do with you?"

Clement replied, "I've done what I always said I would do ... die before I'd surrender." Major Montgomery claimed later to have killed Clement in hand-to-hand combat and that he had "never met better grit on the face of the earth."

Clement's body – in an eerie portrayal of what would be done to the body of Jesse James sixteen years later – was washed, dressed and put on display. A photograph was supposedly taken of Clement. It is believed, according to Find a Grave, that Clement is buried in Arnold Cemetery, Wellington, Mo.

The date was Dec. 13, 1866 and Clement was just nineteen days shy of his 21st birthday.

Who was Bacon Montgomery?

In February of 1867, forces were withdrawn from Lexington and a short time later, Montgomery was arrested for the killing of Clement and taken to Jefferson City. He was, however, released a short while later and the death of Clement was not investigated further.

According to the 1882 "History of Pettis County, Missouri," that same year, 1867, Montgomery was made Brigadier General of the Militia and was in command of the Second Missouri District. He would be stationed in Lexington for a good portion of the year. "Lafayette County was the last to settle down to peace." The Pettis County book mentions that Montgomery "killed a young desperado in Lexington, named Arch Clemens." With Arch Clement being Jesse James' friend, it was perhaps inevitable that the two would clash on the event. Bacon Montgomery was no lawman but he often acted like one and went out in search of the Rocky Cut robbers in 1876. There followed a string of letters between the two men in which the death of Clement was discussed. Gen. Montgomery was Mayor of Sedalia and became a highly respected journalist.

John Newman Edwards weighs in on the death of Clement

Even James supporter John Newman Edwards had respect for Gen. Bacon Montgomery, indeed they worked together in both newspaper and mining ventures. In his book, 'Noted Guerrillas, or the Warfare of the Border,' Edwards said that Montgomery "was in no manner responsible for his [Clement's] death, and [he] would have saved him if he could have done so." Edwards blamed the act on the militia commanded by Montgomery, "bad men, uncontrollable men, ex-Federals and ex-rebels and totally without honor or civilized impulses."

Sources: Civil War Talk, Borderruffian, Feb. 25, 2011; "The Devil Knows How to Ride," Edward Leslie, 1998; Find A Grave, 1 Lt. Archie J. "Little Archie" Clements, memorial ID 27791667; ancestry.com; The Missouri in the Civil War Message Board, history-sites.com.



Archie Clement turns and fires at the militia shooting at him from the saloon. Wounded, he then turns and heads down Franklin Street where a hail of gunfire, fired from sharpshooters positioned in upstairs windows, take him down. (Photos by Liz Johnson)

FRIENDS OF THE JAMES FARM SHOOT

16 June 2018



The June Shoot participants on the porch of the old cabin.

The shoot on June 16 was one of the hottest in memory. The days temperature was 96 and the heat index was 107! Probably because of the heat, we had only twelve shooters but with three of them choosing to shoot both cartridge and cap and ball we had the equivalent of fifteen shooters.

Our special target this time was Kansas Red Leg leader Jim Lane – a man who richly deserved the honor!

Park Ranger, Kyle Rasche, officiated as Range Master. After the shoot, he shot a great six shot group with the Robert James Colt.

Our next shoot will be held September 15. I hope to see you then when I expect it to be much cooler.



BY BRYAN IVLOW

THE CAP & BALL WINNERS OF THE GENERAL SHOOT:

- First place: Randy Webber
- Second place: Paul Weller
- Third place: Caleb Blackwell

THE CAP & BALL WINNERS OF THE SPECIAL TARGET:

- First place: Randy Webber
- Second place tie: Paul Weller and Glen Matthews
- Third place: Caleb Blackwell

THE CARTRIDGE REVOLVER WINNERS OF THE GENERAL SHOOT:

- First place: Terry Barr
- Second place: Caleb Blackwell
- Third place: David Triplett

THE CARTRIDGE REVOLVER WINNERS OF THE SPECIAL TARGET:

- First place: Terry Barr
- Second place: David Triplett
- Third place: Gary Gillpatrick

THE ANNA JAMES GENERAL AND SPECIAL TARGET:

- First place: Ashley Smack

THE YOUTH SHOOTER:

- Ray Beckett



WHAT THE PHOTOGRAPHER TELL US



Hanging in the parlor of the Jesse James Birthplace today is a rather impressive image of Jesse James. Categorized as a crayon or charcoal drawing, the image is an enlargement of a standard sized photograph. Both are credited with being made in Greenville, Illinois, in 1869.¹



The original photograph, from which the enlargement was made, is well known and has appeared in numerous books with a standard caption – *Jesse James in Greenville, Illinois, 1869*. The reason Jesse might have been in Greenville has never been positively confirmed but some authors have been brave enough to hazard a guess. Phillip Steele, in his book, *The Many Faces of Jesse James*, gave this possible explanation.

Continuing their love of horses, the James brothers travelled to events around western Kansas, Iowa and Illinois. It is believed that during one such event around Greenville, Illinois, Jesse's sixth known photograph was taken."²



BY MICHELLE POLLARD

Helpfully signed and marked, *C. H. Shields, Photograph Gallery, Greenville, Illinois*, the enlargement was featured in the 28 October 1898 edition of the *Chicago Tribune*, suggesting someone had been to the James Farm to copy it and perhaps spoken to Mrs Samuel to glean the information that accompanied the sketch. This read, "*Jesse James - The bandit at age 22.*" Jesse was born in 1847, so this provided the date for the

image of 1869. The note continued, "*This picture stands on an easel in the home of the bandit's mother. The ribbons are tokens of Remembrance left by visitors. Each ribbon bears the name of the giver.*"

Crayon or charcoal enlargements had become popular in the 1860s following a rise in portrait photography. "It is supposed that the albums are full," wrote an observer in 1864, "and that the public now intends to fill their walls."³ But it was not an easy process. Enlargements amplified flaws in the original and, when produced, were faint and required a skilled hand to recreate the details and remove any blemishes. Huge progress had been made in cameras which could take larger plates but "it was not unusual for a client to



The original image, enlarged by C. H. Shields.

ask for a larger copy of his favourite carte portrait, and however much the photographer tried to persuade him to have a new portrait taken on a larger plate, the client would usually insist on an enlargement of the portrait which he knew, rather than risk getting something he might not like.”⁴

In May 1865 the war was over, but Jesse James was lying wounded and dying having been shot six miles outside Lexington and left for dead. A bullet had entered his chest just three inches away from a previous wound and “everybody thought the wound would be mortal.” Jesse had hidden in a nearby coal mine, was found by local farmer, Barnett Lankford, and tended by Dr. A. B. Hereford before being placed in a wagon and hauled into Lexington. Once there, Jesse was taken to the Virginia Hotel on the corner of Franklin and Laurel streets, and there, “lying on a bed, wounded, he, with uplifted hand, took the oath and subscribed to the parole.”⁵

On 13 June 1865, Jesse was removed to Harlem, Kansas City, and the home of his uncle where he was tended by Drs Wood and Lykins and by his cousin, Zee. A month later, “on 15th of July, 1865,” Jesse remembered, “I went up the river to Rulo, Nebraska, where my family were.” His return journey began on 26 August, “but such was the condition of my wound that I was unable to be hauled to my mother’s house in Clay County.”⁶ Once again, Jesse stopped at his uncle’s home in Harlem before continuing to the Farm where his condition saw little, if no, improvement.

Barely able to ride a horse in 1866 and attacked at home and forced to leave in February 1867, Jesse first sought the attention of Dr. Lankford, a local physician, before travelling to Nashville, Tennessee, to spend three weeks under the care of famed Confederate surgeon, Dr. Paul Fitzsimmons Eve.⁷ The lung, Jesse was told, was so badly damaged he should go home and die among his people. With that apparently offering little safety Jesse split his time between the James Farm and the home of another uncle, Major Hite, in Adairsville, Kentucky. It was while staying there that Jesse almost overdosed on morphine resulting in a convalescence trip to California and the hotel run by a third uncle, Drury Woodson James.⁸

The story of Jesse’s slow recovery resulted in a theory emerging – that the crayon or charcoal enlargement created by Shields in 1869 was made for a man who might, at any moment, perish. Perhaps it would stand in front of his coffin, a life-size version of him to be cherished, forever. There is, however, one slight problem with this theory...



A sketch of the original
by the author.

Charles Harrison Shields was born in West Virginia on 9 February 1866, just three years before the enlargement was supposedly made. His father was Daniel K. Shields, a teacher and minister, and his mother was Josephine Shields. In 1870, the family were living in Liberty, Indiana, where Charles attended school before moving to Roodhouse, Greene county, Illinois.⁹

Charles married Clementine Jenkins at East St Louis on 29 December 1886.¹⁰ They had a daughter, Geraldine, and Charles operated a photographic gallery in Greenville until it burnt down, along with several other Greenville businesses, on 4 February 1891.¹¹ It may have been due to this event that the family decided to relocate to Collinsville Avenue, East St Louis, Illinois, the 1900 census showing Charles living there with his wife, their daughter, Geraldine, Charles’ fifty-two year old mother-in-law and a servant. A six-year-old daughter had died of diphtheria in 1894.¹² By 1904, the family were recorded as living at 162 Central, Kansas City, Missouri, with Charles’ studio established at 208 E. 8th street.¹³ The business prospered there and by 1907, newspapers were reporting that “E.C. Faris, an architect, is preparing plans for a 6-story office building and studio for C. H. Shields, the photographer. The building will be erected on the east side of Grand avenue just north of Eighth street. It will be of steel and concrete in the Italian Renaissance style. The finish of the interior will be the old mission style with heavy paneled wainscoting. The two upper floors will be used for a studio. The building will be twenty-four feet wide and will cost \$82,000.”¹⁴

The same could not be said for the photographer's private life. "Charles H. Shields, a photographer at Eighth street and Grand avenue, was sued for divorce by his wife, Clementine C. Shields, in the circuit court this morning. She declares in her petition that he remained out late at night and frequently failed to come home at all; that he lost money gambling and frequented gambling houses; that \$2,115.10 which she inherited from her father was taken and spent, by Shields."¹⁵ The 1908 directory bears witness to Shields' changing circumstances; his business was listed, not as being at 'Eighth street and Grand avenue', but nearby 208 E. 8th street and his residence was the Densmore Hotel.

On 21 September 1909, Charles married Mary Barton, a widow, in Leavenworth county, Kansas, and they took up residence in Kansas Ward 4, Jackson, Missouri with Charles' mother, Josephine, and two teenage daughters from Mary's first marriage.¹⁶

By the time Charles Harrison Shields died on 26 February 1922, after a year-long illness, he had firmly secured his reputation as a "pioneer photographer" who was, at the time of his death, "the owner of the Shields Studio, 119 East Twelfth street, one of the oldest studios in Kansas City."¹⁷ It was an illustrious career but one that could not have produced the enlarged image of Jesse James in 1869. Assuming twenty years would be long enough for a man to learn the trade of photographer and secure his own studio in Greenville, the enlargement of the 1869 original was made some time between 1886 and 1891, when the Greenville studio burned down. Therefore, the Shields image was not made to stand in front of Jesse's coffin had he succumbed to the effects of his Civil War wounds, or morphine addiction, in the late 1860s. Instead the image was made years after Jesse's actual death in 1882 and may well have been as a result of the installation of Mrs Samuel's brand new Eastlake cottage addition to the old homestead and the growing number of paying visitors to the Farm.¹⁸ Of further interest is the fact that Mrs Samuel ordered a crayon enlargement of an earlier photograph of Jesse's sister, Susan. It is likely that this order too was placed after Susan had died in 1889.¹⁹

While the life of Charles Harrison Shields draws conclusions about one image, it raises questions about another. It appears that, at some unknown point, the fact that Shields had made the enlargement resulted in the original being attributed to his studio also. However, there is no reason to believe that the original was made in the same place as the enlargement, especially due to the fact that they were made at least seventeen years apart. The identification of the photographer for that original remains a mystery, which leaves us with another question...

Did Jesse James ever visit Greenville, Illinois?



The Shields image at the Farm in 1899.
Jesse James Birthplace Collection.



The order for a crayon enlargement of an earlier photograph of Jesse's sister, Susan.
Armand De Gregoris Collection.

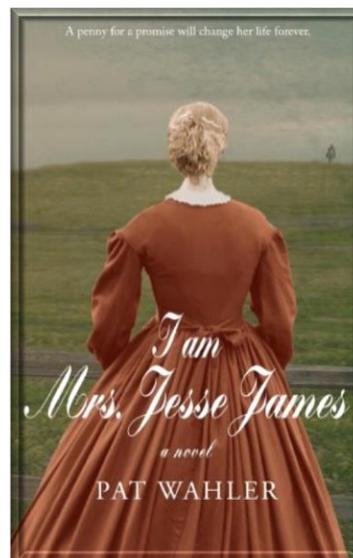
Notes and sources for the C. H. Shields article.

1. A detailed description of the Shields image was sent to renowned historical photography expert, Gawain Weaver, and he confirmed that the image is most likely "a crayon enlargement (photographic image base with charcoal on top)", but didn't rule out the idea of it being "a crayon portrait (charcoal media, no photographic image)." Correspondence with Beth Beckett, 19 March 2018.
2. Phillip W. Steele and George Warfel, *The Many Faces of Jesse James*, Pelican Publishing Co., 1995, p33.
3. William Welling, *Photography in America*, New York, 1978, p170; Gary E. Albright and Michael K. Lee, *A Short Review of Crayon Enlargements: History, Technique and Treatment*, Topics in Photographic Preservation, Volume 3, 1989, pp 28-36.
4. Helmut Gernsheim, *The Rise of Photography 1850 – 1880*, London, 1987, p236; Gary E. Albright and Michael K. Lee, op. cit.
5. St Louis Dispatch, 22 November 1873 – *A Terrible Quintette*; correspondence with Linda Gay Mathis and Marcos Lichte; St Louis Republican, 27 April 1882.
6. *A Terrible Quintette*, op. cit.
7. Ibid. Regarding Dr Lankford see, John Newman Edwards, *Noted Guerrillas; or The Warfare of the Border*, Morningside edition, 1976, pp 451-2.
8. "Jesse James as a Suicide", Kansas City Times, 6 May 1882; *A Terrible Quintette*, op. cit.
9. Death certificate; 1870 census.
10. Kansas City Star, 29 August 1908.
11. Will C. Carson, *Historical Souvenir of Greenville, Illinois; Being A Brief Review Of The City From The Time Of Its Founding To Date*, Effingham, Illinois, LeCrone Press, 1905, p91.
12. St Louis Dispatch, 1 December 1894.
13. Family in 1904
14. Kansas City Star 7 July 1907.
15. Kansas City Star, 29 August 1908.
16. Kansas Marriages 1811 – 1911; 1910 census.
17. Kansas City Star 27 February 1922; The Bulletin of Photography further stated that, "Shields operated a studio at 119 East Twelfth street since 1901 and was the first photographer here to use the "dry plate" in making pictures. He is survived by his widow and daughter." Bulletin of Photography: The Weekly Magazine For The Professional Photographer Volume XXX -- January 4 to June 28, 1922.
18. A section of the James Farm was removed after Jesse was killed and replaced in the early 1890s by an Eastlake Cottage, which Mrs Samuel ordered from a Sear's Catalog.
19. Correspondence with Armand De Gregoris. The enlargement belongs to a Parmer relative.

With many thanks to Gay Mathis and Armand De Gregoris.

I AM MRS JESSE JAMES

A Novel, by Pat Wahler



For Jesse James, the war will never be over. For Zee Mimms, the war is only the beginning.

This new book will be available to buy from 28 August 2018 and has already received glowing reviews. "A vivid, moving tale of the woman behind the man of myth and legend," wrote Nicole Evelina, award winning author of 'Daughter of Destiny'. "A refreshing take on the woman who both inspired and outlived her partner's blaze of glory. This is a book not to be missed!"

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL PICNIC



On Sunday, June 3, the Clay County Historical Society held its annual picnic on the grounds of the Historic Mt. Gilead church and school. After a delicious meal, the group proceeded to the church where we were entertained by none other than Frank James and Cole Younger, aka, Gregg Higginbotham and David Bears.

Their presentation was interesting, as always, and you felt as if you were right there with Frank and Cole eavesdropping in on their conversation of years gone by! – Linda Brookshier

FOTJF GIFT TO THE JESSE JAMES BIRTHPLACE

As reported in the last Journal by our President, the Friends of the James Farm, through your kind support, were able to gift to the Jesse James Birthplace a selection of items that once belonged to Dr. Samuel and had been offered for sale by the daughter of local collector, Dr. J. Harold Ryan. Here follows details of their journey...

BY GIGI
STREIDL

"My father, J. Harold Ryan, was born in Quitman, Missouri, in 1898. His father, Francis Marion Ryan, was a medical doctor, and they lived most of my father's young life in Maryville, Missouri - not far from Quitman. Quitman is an unincorporated community in Nodaway county, Missouri; I think forty-four people live there now. My father died in 1983 and is buried in the Quitman cemetery, along with my mother and his parents.

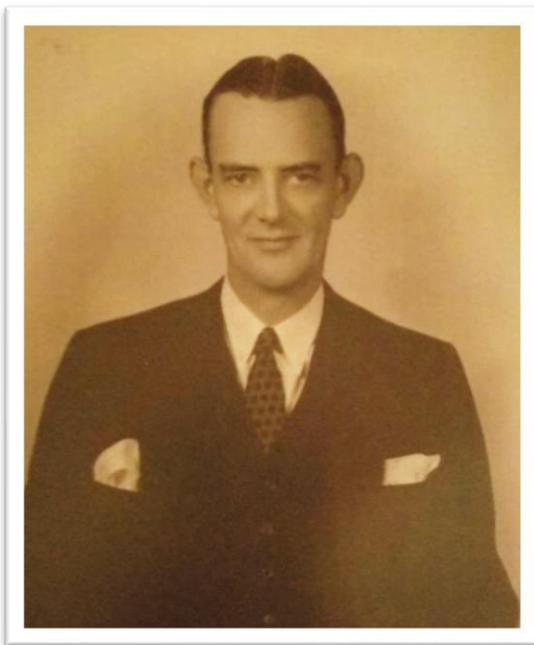
My father went to medical school at St. Louis University and then did a neurosurgical internship and residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He briefly practiced medicine in Maryville (with his father), then moved to St. Joseph, Missouri where he lived and practiced medicine over a long, mid-twentieth century career.

I believe that (at least) part of his interest in Jesse James was because Jesse's stepfather was also a physician. In addition to the medical-interest angle, I believe my father's interest in Jesse James was sparked by his great friend, Homer Croy, an American author who lived in Maryville, Missouri, and who was also interested in Jesse James. My father had several books about Jesse James, all autographed by Homer Croy.

My father was a great collector. Collections that come immediately to mind are, of course, the Jesse James items (including a scrapbook full of Jesse James newspaper/magazine articles that I recently sent to Beth at the Jesse James Birthplace). He also collected Currier and Ives prints, baseball cards, books, and anything Irish, including an original of the Irish Proclamation of 1916. There are probably other collections that don't come to mind immediately, but those were his primary interests. The Dr. Samuel items that I sent to the museum were: 1) his mortar and pestle, 2) his surgical kit, and 3) a picture of Zerelda and Dr. Samuel, the latter being a copy - not an original, as I had thought.

I don't know whether my father ever visited the farm. I know for sure that he used to take me to the Jesse James house in St. Joseph, Missouri. I'm not sure that "the Jesse James house" is the proper name for it, but it's the house with the bullet hole in the wall where Robert Ford shot Jesse in the head.

I know for sure that my father would approve of the items finding a home in the Jesse James museum."



Dr. J Harold Ryan as a young man.
Courtesy of Gigi Streidl

Included with Ms Streidl's recollections was an obituary for her father written by Frederick W. Slater, a family friend. It stated that "Doc Ryan was a rugged individualist. He was tall and lanky, liked Palm Beach suits and was a rebel at heart." The report made particular mention of Ryan's interest in the Old West. "Ryan, a friend of Homer Croy, Nodaway county born novelist, was a Jesse James fan," the report continued, "and among his prized possessions was the primitive surgical kit which had belonged to Jesse's stepfather."

The report also commented on Dr Ryan's evident abilities as a surgeon. "In the early 1930s," it says, "Ryan was the area's leading brain surgeon. He was probably the first to perform a prefrontal lobotomy here and changed the course of life for a number of people." Although "disliking politicians in general, Ryan nevertheless ran for and was elected coroner - without any real campaigning."

See page 12 for further details about these items, now on display at the Jesse James Birthplace.

THE ITEMS ON SHOW AT THE BIRTHPLACE



BY BETH
BECKETT

Dr. Ryan's daughter, Gigi contacted the museum about several Jesse James items she was selling because of downsizing. Gigi described a small surgical kit and mortar and pestle that

belonged to Dr. Samuel.

I am always skeptical when calls come in regarding photos, and especially personal items that belonged to the family, etc. Gigi was able to send me photos of the items, along with a photo of Dr. Samuel and Zerelda. This photo had writing in the margins that said: *Parents of my mother Sara L. Samuel Nicholson. They were married Sept 25th, 1853. Signed J. Arch Nicholson 3-17-59.* There were also hand-written notes in the top margins of the photos. Written above Zerelda: *Zerelda Cole James Samuel, mother of the James boys, born Jan 29th, 1835. Died Feb 10, 1911.* Written above Dr. Samuel: *Dr. Reuben Samuel, stepfather of the James Boys, Born Jan 12th, 1829. Died Mar 1, 1908.*

The hand-written notes by Arch Nicholson in the margins made me feel comfortable that we had something legitimate. Gigi also emailed a newspaper image of her father about his Jesse James collections.

Thinking logically, perhaps Arch was a patient of Dr. Ryan, the doctor found out Arch was related to the James boys and Arch offered to give Dr. Ryan something that belonged to Dr. Samuel. The story fits. Many times, there are no family connections.

I decided to contact the Friends of the James Farm to see if they might be interested in making an offer to Gigi. She accepted their offer and several days later the items arrived in the mail. After Gigi accepted the offer to purchase the medical kit and mortar and pestle I began to dig a little further into the research library to see what I might find. And indeed, did I find something to corroborate the story. A memo, dated August 28, 1980 written by Milton Perry, the first director/curator of the Jesse James museum. The memo read: John Nicholson said this afternoon that his grandfather had sold a medical kit and a "stone crock" mortar and pedestal to a person in St. Joseph, MO for a little or nothing that had belonged to Dr. Reuben Samuel. He described the medical kit as "folding, two sided, with scalpel, picks, etc."

This description fits the small surgical kit and mortar and pestle that Gigi Streidl described to me over the phone several months ago. Thus, the Jesse James Birthplace museum is fortunate to acquire family pieces through the generosity of the Friends of the James Farm.



MEMORIES OF THE FARM

My family first visited the James Farm in June 1982. Our kids were finally old enough for a long road trip and we had always been interested in Civil War and Old West history, so we decided to drive down from Toronto, Canada to visit some historical sites, especially the birthplace of Jesse James. We named our firstborn son after him as he seemed such a brave and romantic character, although we didn't really know much of his actual history. We arrived on a beautiful sunny day and were given a tour by Pam Banner, who was a wonderful guide and we learned a lot about Jesse and his family. Their story was so sympathetic and really gave a personal side to the history of the area and how difficult it must have been in those times. We also learned that the County had recently bought the Farm from the descendants of the James Family and we inquired how we could help with the renovations and were told about the Friends of the James Farm. We joined on the spot and have been members ever since. You could take photos of the interior in those days and we did. The repairs were ongoing but we were struck by the beauty of the property and the feeling of peacefulness, although there had been a lot of tragedy there. Of course, everyone loved that our son's name was Jesse and he was immediately offered one of the little kittens that had been born recently on the Farm. He was thrilled and he picked out a little calico that they had named Bandit. We took Bandit home with us and she was our beloved pet for 20 years. We loved telling everyone how our cat came from the James Farm.



BY MARIE
McWHIRTER



Top: Young Jesse with Bandit.
Center: Robert James presents his new son,
Jesse Woodson James
during a play at the Farm.
Bottom: Members of the James
family attend the play.

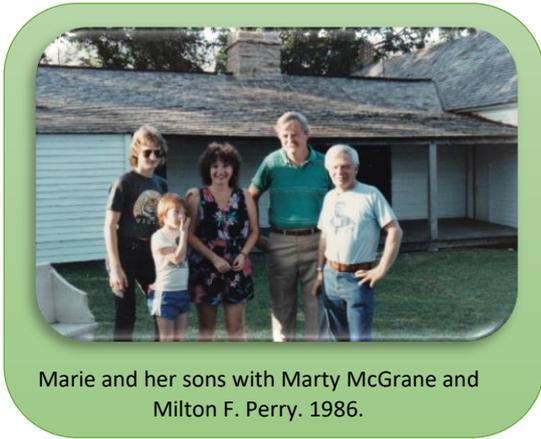
We enjoyed our visit so much that we came back many times getting to know many other wonderful people. Milt Perry was especially gracious and informative. I served on the Board for a bit in the mid-80's, maybe the only Canadian to do so :)

We were invited by Milt to the opening night of the play and met members of the James family. When Ethelrose heard our son's name was Jesse, named after her grandfather, she asked him to take a family picture and said she was so delighted to have the picture taken by a boy named Jesse. She invited our sons to take a dip in the "swimming hole". We enjoyed meeting them so much. They were wonderful people and we also enjoyed the play very much. It was well written and acted and, in the scene where they brought little Archie out on the lawn after the bomb exploded, there was not a dry eye in the house.

Over the years, we watched the building of the museum and the continuing repairs to the Farm. Milt actually took us into his office at one point and let me hold the feather duster before it was put into the museum. I learned so much from all the people involved in the Farm and hope to go back some time soon. I know there have been a lot more changes and additions to the collection and would love to see it all again.

We also learned what a beautiful state Missouri is and travelled all over the state. The people of Missouri have to be some of the friendliest I have ever met. Sometimes they would ask us what brought us to their state and we would always answer that we wanted to see where Jesse James was born. When we remarked to one man what a beautiful state Missouri is, he said we could thank the James boys for that as industrialization in the post-Civil War era largely passed Missouri by because of "the boys". He said that, thanks to them, Missouri remained a beautiful place. We thought that was really interesting!

We visited other sites relating to Jesse too and, although we enjoyed seeing them, there is something special about the James Farm that sets it apart from the other tourist spots. We were



Marie and her sons with Marty McGrane and Milton F. Perry. 1986.

lucky, also, to have visited Claybrook House, home of Mary James Barr, while it was still standing and it was such a beautiful home. We were very sorry to hear later that it burnt down.

Our trips must have had a bit of an impact on our sons as they both developed a keen interest in history. Jesse is now a teacher and married with two children. Our son, Christian, also married with a young son, became a Civil War historian and wrote a book on music in the Civil War. They both have very fond memories of our trips.

All photos accompanying this article come courtesy of Marie McWhirter.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY 2 JUNE 2018

On Saturday, June 2, a large group descended on Higginsville, Missouri and the Confederate Memorial State Historic site to celebrate Confederate Memorial Day. This date is to remember the estimated 258,000 Confederate soldiers and sailors that died fighting against the Union Army during the American Civil War. The day was filled with much activity which included a ceremony where all those who had Confederate ancestors that had fought and died during the war were allowed to put a rose on the grave of their ancestor if they were buried there and if they were not buried there they were allowed to put a rose on the statue of the lion in the middle of the cemetery.

The first Confederate Memorial Day was established on April 26, 1866 and is observed by Southern States of the United States...or at least by those states that had soldiers and sailors fight and die for the Confederacy.

The day was extremely touching and seeing the descendants of these brave men and women was something to never be forgotten! – *Linda Brookshier*



Photos courtesy of Linda Brookshier



A storm whipped through on 2 June, causing damage to one of the trees on the property.

Luckily neither the cabin, nor any of the surrounding buildings, were damaged.

SHOT ALL TO HELL - A GRAPHIC NOVEL

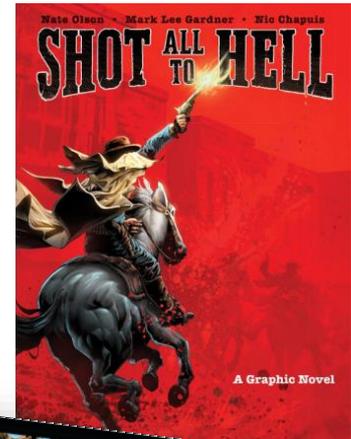
In 2013, Mark Lee Gardner's book, *Shot All To Hell: Jesse James, the Northfield Raid, and the Wild West's Greatest Escape* was published and quickly earned rave reviews. Described as 'rollicking', 'superb', a 'must-read', the book, which received two Spur Awards, was, as one reviewer put it, "an elegant narrative that's as entertaining as it is historically accurate." Perhaps it is this element that makes it ripe for conversion into a Graphic Novel.

Safe to say, the ill-fated Northfield Raid of 7 September 1876 is no stranger to scrutiny; accounts of it have appeared in paintings, books (both fiction and non-fiction), magazines, newspapers, documentaries and Hollywood movies ever since the event occurred. Despite this, Gardner still managed to find new elements to the story; an image of Liberty lawyer, Samuel Hardwicke, for example, would not have gone unnoticed by seasoned James enthusiasts, nor would inclusion of text from the hitherto illusive 'Dear Dr' letter, written by Jesse after the raid on the James Farm in 1875.

News that Gardner's book was to be adapted into a graphic novel may well have caused excitement, if not a little curiosity, among all those with an interest in the James story and in Northfield in particular.

Shot All To Hell: A Graphic Novel begins the same way the original does - with the robbing of a train at Rocky Cut, Missouri. Here the ruthless nature and ability of the James-Younger Gang is much more recognizable against the backdrop of the main event - a robbery that went horribly wrong. Strong images by Nate Olson draw the reader in immediately and the format is easily followed with passages lifted directly from the book.

At 136 pages, the Graphic Novel is a hundred or so pages shorter than the original and readers might be forgiven for thinking that this would create a retelling that is too condensed and that important elements must surely be missing. Be reassured. Packed within those pages are sections on the bombing of the James Farm, details of Samuel Hardwicke's flight to Minnesota and the death of Daniel Askew. The Northfield robbery itself is vividly retold, losing none of the individual stories so important to the community of Northfield, and - for an event that is so well known - it is refreshing to see it in a different style. The retreat of the battle weary survivors of the gang, often difficult to follow, is made clearer due to the vibrant, pictorial timeline and the combined skills of Gardner, Olson and Chapius make it easy to imagine the images coming to life. It is even easier to imagine a whole new group of people being introduced to the story of the Gang and the times they lived in through this media. I sure wouldn't mind some of the artwork on my wall! - Michelle Pollard

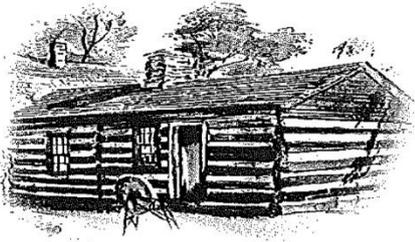


Shot All To Hell: A Graphic Novel, by Mark Lee Gardner and Nate Olson. Illustrated by Nate Olson. Color by Nic Chapius. Insight Comics; September 2018; 136 pages; Hardcover; \$24.99; ISBN: 978-1-68383-151-8.

All images courtesy of Insight Comics.

Friends of the James Farm

c/o Jesse James Birthplace
21216 Jesse James Farm Road
Kearney, MO 64060
www.jessejames.org
816.736.8500



James homestead cabin —
Original art by Jim Hamil

Return Service Requested

YES, I want to renew my membership with the Friends of the James Farm or begin a new membership. I have checked my level of membership in the box and enclosed a check or money order for the amount indicated.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Country: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Please mail membership form and payment to:

Friends of the James Farm
c/o Jesse James Birthplace
21216 Jesse James Farm Road
Kearney, MO 64060



You can also scan
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website.
www.jessejames.org

Membership Levels

(Mark One)

- Bushwhacker \$25
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- Road Agent \$100
- Long Rider \$250
- Home Guard \$500

Is this a renewal? Yes No

Outside the continental U.S.,
please add \$5 to your membership
contribution.