

A.T. Robertson and Elizabeth Ward/Martha Jane Vaden Chronological Family History

- **Alexander Thomas Robertson** was born on 26th of June 1814 in Giles County, TN and he died at age 51 on 19th of October 1865. His father was Charles Robertson (born 17th of March 1788 in Tennessee and died 3rd of October 1841 in Matamoros, Hardeman County, TN at the age of 53). His mother was Elizabeth Sevier Thomas (born in 1790 in Barren, KY and died in 1868 In Hardeman County, TN at the age of 78). A.T. Robertson and Elizabeth Ward were married 21st of August 1835 in Panola County, MS
- **Elizabeth Ward** (1st wife) was born 23rd of July 1817 and died at the age of 26 on 10th of April 1844 in Poinsett County, AR. Sadly, after having five children, she died at age 26...only one of these five children, Martha Ann Robertson, lived to be an adult.
- **Martha Jane Vaden** (2nd wife) was born 21st of December 1822 and died at the age of 77 on 8th of May 1900 in Bolivar, TN. Her father was Woodson Vaden (born 15th of October 1797 in North Carolina and died 28th of April 1866 in Clark County, AR at the age of 68). Her mother was Zilly Dickinson (born in 1804 in North Carolina and died between 1860-1866 In Clark County, AR at the approximate age of 62). A.T. Robertson and Martha Jane Vaden were married 2nd of November 1845 in Hardeman County, TN.
- They would have seven children but only two would live past age 26:
 - Laura Robertson – Born 16th of October 1851 / Died 5th of February 1940 at age of 88
 - Alice Robertson – Born 24th of September 1860 / Died 11th of October 1931 at age of 71

Note: Our ancestral line is through Laura Robertson.

A. T. Robertson Biographical History

State of Tennessee - Tennessee State Library and Archives

Alexander Thomas (A. T.) Robertson was born June 26, 1814 in Giles County, Tennessee, and died October 19, 1865, in Hardeman County, Tennessee. He was the third child of Charles and Elizabeth Thomas Robertson. A. T.'s great grandfather, Col. Charles Robertson, was a delegate to the North Carolina Provincial Congress in 1775 and a member of the committee for the Watauga Petition in 1776. During the Revolutionary War, he served in Col. John Sevier's regiment and fought at the Battle of King's Mountain (1780). J. C. N. Robertson, A. T.'s uncle, fought in the First Creek War under Gen. Andrew Jackson. Following the war, he served in the 58th Regiment of Tennessee Militia, rising to the rank of brigadier general. In 1823, J. C. N. was elected the first sheriff of Hardeman County; in 1834, he was elected a member of the state Constitutional Convention.

Robertson's eight siblings included seven brothers and one sister. Three brothers were farmers – William R., Patrick F. and Theophilus S. – while the remaining four had professional occupations. As a Primitive Baptist minister, John Montgomery Carroll Robertson traveled extensively throughout Tennessee, Arkansas, and Texas. Joseph R. was both a minister and an attorney and also worked as a traveling photographer. Charles Sevier Robertson worked as an attorney, a teacher, and a farmer, while Julius Caesar Nichols Robertson was a physician.

In 1818, A. T. moved with his family from Giles County to present day Franklin County, Alabama, and in 1827, from Alabama to Hardeman County, Tennessee. In 1835, he married Elizabeth Ward, in Panola County, Mississippi. While living there, A. T. and Elizabeth had two children, Charles Lafayette and Martha Ann; Charles died before reaching the age of three.

By the summer of 1841, the family was living in Poinsett County, Arkansas. Their stay, however, was brief and unhappy. Francis Elizabeth was born in the summer of 1841, but she died not long after turning two. Twin daughters, Naomi and Nancy, were born in January 1844, but tragedy struck the family again when A. T.'s wife, Elizabeth, died on April 10 of that same year. A. T. moved his family back to Hardeman County, Tennessee, where Naomi died in August 1844.

In November 1845, A. T. married Martha Jane Vaden. They settled in Bolivar (Hardeman County), and their first child, Woodson Vaden, was born in 1846. Six more children were born between 1848 and 1863. Tommie and Sallie both died at the age of one; Woodson and Joseph died at twenty-six. Two others, Alice and Laura, lived to be seventy-one and eighty-eight, respectively. Laura was a great grandmother of the collection's donor.

By 1848, A. T. had begun practicing law in Bolivar. During his career, he worked in partnership with G. W. Hardin and later, with his brother, J. R. Most of the cases A. T. handled were civil ones, but his legal papers include documents related to criminal trials as well. He was primarily a defense attorney, but also served as prosecutor. In addition to his law practice, A. T. engaged in at least two other side businesses. In 1852, he was involved in the business of selling tin coffee pots. He purchased the coffee pots wholesale and hired men to sell them throughout Hardeman County. Letters indicate that the business was not very successful, and it appears to have been short-lived. Approximately ten years later, A. T. was involved in a lumber business which included both the milling and sale of lumber. In addition to his legal practice, A. T. was active in the community. He was a Freemason and was associated with the educational institutions in Bolivar. In 1859, he was elected an honorary member of the Apollonian Society at Union University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He also served as a commissioner of the Nashville & Southern Railroad. On August 10, 1861, he was mustered in to the 22nd Tennessee Infantry Regiment at Trenton, Tennessee, with the rank of first lieutenant. He tendered his resignation and left service October 10, 1861, having been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel. A. T. returned to Bolivar and remained there until his death in 1865.

Source: A. T. (Alexander Thomas) Robertson Family Papers, 1790-1979

Six Boxes of Records pertaining to A.T. Robertson Family including much legal correspondence are on file at State Archives. See following descriptions:

State of Tennessee Dept of State Tennessee State Library and Archives

A. T. (Alexander Thomas) Robertson Family Papers, 1790-1979

Creator:

Robertson, A. T. (Alexander Thomas), 1814-1865

Inclusive Dates:

1790-1979, bulk 1848-1862

Scope & Content:

Papers span the period 1790-1979, although the majority is dated 1848-1862. The collection is composed of correspondence, financial records, legal documents, land records, circulars, military records, and a small number of miscellaneous items. Comprising approximately one-half of the collection is correspondence, with the majority incoming for A. T. Robertson. There are very few pieces of his outgoing correspondence and no incoming letters from either of his wives or any of his children. The papers also contain letters addressed to Robertson's brothers and law partner.

A large part of the correspondence is legal and contains letters from clients, attorneys, and out of state businesses. Most concerns routine matters pertaining to cases in which A. T. Robertson was directly or indirectly involved. The out of state businesses generally solicits his services for debt collection in Hardeman County. Attorney V. D. Barry's letters typically begin with legal business, but also offer interesting insight into historical events in Memphis, Tennessee.

In June 1850, Levin Coe, a colorful figure in Tennessee politics, was shot in a gunfight in the streets of Memphis and died of his wounds that August. Barry's letters discuss the assassination attempt and his visit with Coe in July. The correspondence also provides a first-hand account of the widespread sickness Memphis frequently experienced. Barry recounts the death of his son Charley in the summer of 1851 and voices concern for his family during the cholera outbreak the following summer.

Financial correspondence pertains almost entirely to the repayment of debts incurred by A. T. Robertson or his brothers. These debts were most frequently notes but include accounts for goods such as books or tin plate. In 1852, A. T. Robertson was engaged in the business of selling tin coffee pots in Hardeman County. Letters dated between February and June 1852 supply information about this endeavor, such as the wholesale cost of Remington coffee pots and reports from his salesmen. Later, A. T. ventured into the lumber business, and some letters discuss issues with the mill. In February 1862, he reported on a failed attempt to sell lumber to the Confederate army.

Personal correspondence chiefly contains letters from Robertson's brothers, extended family, friends, and business associates. Most combine news of a personal nature with business of some sort. Many of A. T.'s family members also practiced law, and their letters frequently include some discussion of legal matters. Letters from J. R. Robertson describe his work as a traveling photographer and give vivid details of a religious camp meeting he attended. A cousin's letter offers sympathy on the death of A. T.'s young son Tommy in 1857.

Harvey Ball wrote a series of letters between July and November 1854 inquiring about a teaching position at the academy in Bolivar and expressing his viewpoints on several Christian denominations and their stances on education. He comments as well on a former instructor's character. Such correspondence provides insight into the social and religious culture of the community.

Some personal correspondence provides information related to the Civil War. In November 1860, A. T.'s brother J. C. N. Robertson comments on Lincoln's election and the family's views on secession. In January 1862, his brother T. S. writes asking for advice on joining the local militia. Correspondence from business associate W. J. Davis includes observations on the February 1862 battle of Fort Donelson and Governor Harris's subsequent departure from Nashville.

A small amount of correspondence relates to the Fentress family of Hardeman County. Included are an 1837 letter to David Fentress regarding land and an 1838 letter from David Wendell to his daughter Matilda, widow of Evander McIver, following her marriage to David Fentress. Among the correspondence are letters to or from John R. Fentress and Fanny Fentress. The collection also includes correspondence from several members of the Polk family, including J. J. Polk, E. Polk and Octavia Polk. Five letters are addressed to A. T. Robertson from J. J. Polk and concern legal matters. E. Polk's letter is personal in nature, and Octavia's letter concerns the administration of E. Polk's estate.

Financial records consist primarily of Robertson family promissory notes, receipts, and accounts. The promissory notes and receipts reflect everyday business transactions. Most accounts are held by dry goods stores but accounts for various pharmaceuticals and toiletries are also included. The number and variety of items listed in these accounts present a picture of daily life in early to mid-19th century Tennessee.

Legal materials include bills and petitions, memoranda and notes, notices, briefs, witness statements and exhibits, wills, a deed of gift, and deed of trust. One notable item in this series is a copy of Evander McIver's will. These documents help depict the types of cases--including murder--heard in 19th century courts. Researchers can see the way attorneys prepared for trial and represented their clients. Notable among the trials is that in which a slave, Dave, is accused of attempting to murder his master's wife. A. T. Robertson prosecuted this case and countered the defense's argument that Dave was acting on the orders of his master. Because Dave did not act of his own volition, the defense argued, he was innocent.

Slavery is a topic that appears in nearly every category of the collection. Legal correspondence and documents reflect disputes over slave ownership and sales of slaves at the courthouse as well as trials for harboring runaways. Financial records include tax bills and receipts in which slaves are taxed as property. Deeds of gift and wills bequeath slaves along with other tangible property. Among these documents is an 1828 slave bill of sale from Daniel Graham to Evander McIver. Graham was Tennessee Secretary of State (1818-1830) and Register of the Treasury of the United States (1847-1848).

The remaining materials in the collection are circulars, primarily advertising law books; land records, including several deeds and surveys; a few documents related to military commissions; and miscellaneous items, i.e., recipes, newspaper clippings, one blank postcard, one negative, a short genealogical document on the Jones family, and several pages of prose.

Physical Description/Extent: 2.5 linear feet

Accession/Record Group Number: Ac. No. 2008-132

Language: English

Permanent Location: V-L-4 4

Repository: Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0312

Index Terms

Personal Names:

- Coe, Levin Hudson, approximately 1807-1850
- Fentress, David, 1794-1855
- Graham, Daniel, 1789-1869
- McIver, Evander, 1795-1828
- Robertson, A. T. (Alexander Thomas), 1814-1865

Subjects:

- Criminal courts -- Tennessee -- 19th century
- Lumber and lumbering -- Tennessee -- 19th century
- Slaveholders -- Tennessee -- 19th century
- Slaves -- Tennessee -- 19th century

Geographic Names:

- Bolivar (Tenn.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century
- Giles County (Tenn.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century
- Hardeman County (Tenn.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century
- Memphis (Tenn.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century
- Poinsett County (Ark.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century
- Tennessee -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Sources

Document Types:

- Accounts
- Bills of sale
- Briefs (legal documents)
- Circulars
- Correspondence
- Deeds
- Military commissions
- Negatives (photographic)
- Newspaper clippings
- Postcards
- Promissory notes
- Receipts (financial records)
- Recipes
- Tax stamps
- Wills
- Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition: The papers were a gift of Kenneth Eugene Savage Sr.

Preferred Citation:

A. T. (Alexander Thomas) Robertson Family Papers, 1790-1979, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Processing Information:

Completed by Marie Stroop and Susan Gordon in March 2013.

Electronic Location and Access:

<http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/2008-132.pdf> 8 (*invalid link*)

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

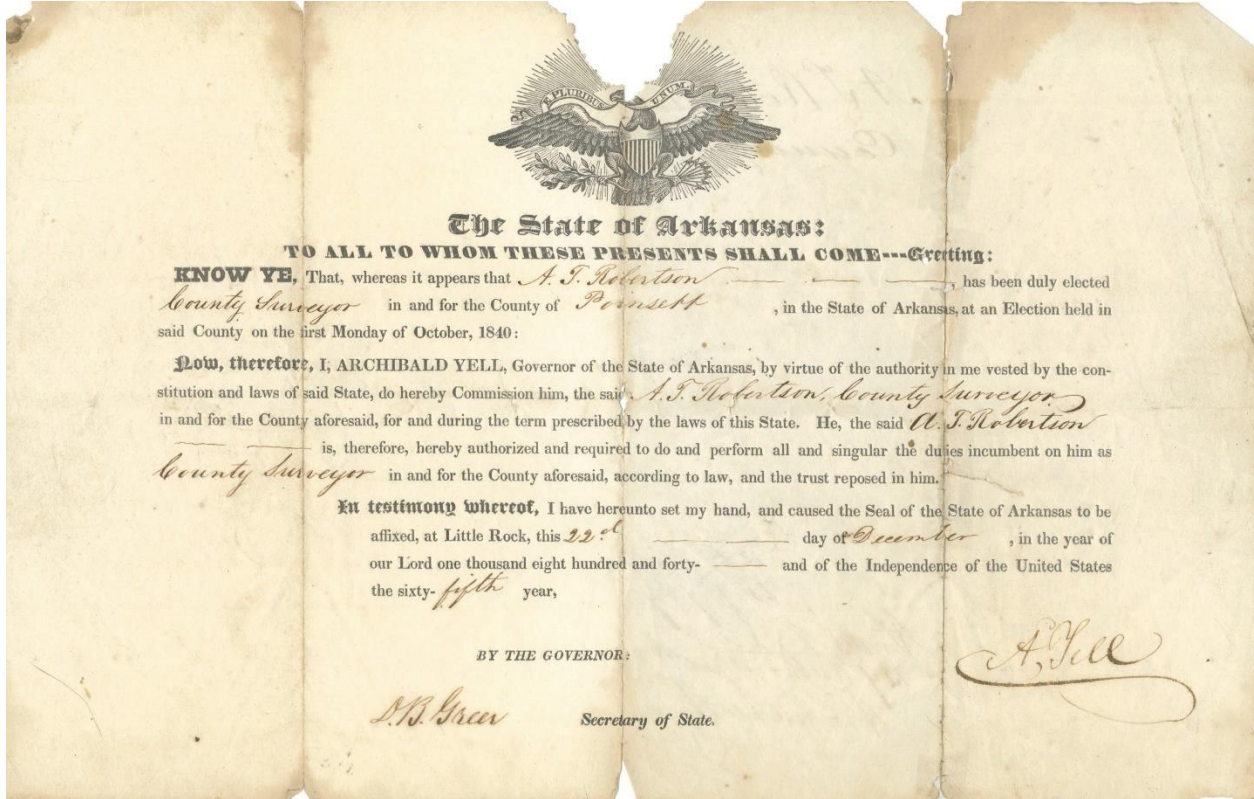
Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Articles of agreement -- Robertson, A. T.	1843	1	1
Bills of sale -- Slave	1828, 1852, undated	1	2
Circulars	1848-1854, 1856-1857, undated	1	3
Correspondence -- Envelopes	1837-1861, undated	1	4
Correspondence -- Financial	1828, 1834, 1837, 1848, 1850-1854, 1857, 1859	1	5
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson Family	1852, 1853, 1857	1	6
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, A. T.	1844, 1848- 1851	1	7
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, A. T.	1852	1	8
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, A. T.	1853-1856	1	9
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, A. T.	1857-1862, undated	1	10
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, A. T. and G. W. Hardin	1854	2	1
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, A. T. and J. R.	1859	2	2
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, J. R.	1858-1861	2	3
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, T. S.	1850	2	4
Correspondence -- Financial -- Robertson, W. R.	1851	2	5
Correspondence -- Legal	1849-1855, 1858-1861, 1894, undated	2	6
Correspondence -- Legal -- Outgoing -- Robertson, A. T.	1853	2	7
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson Family	1852-1854, 1856-1861, undated	2	8
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1848	2	9
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1849	2	10
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1850	2	11
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1851	2	12
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1852	2	13

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1853	3	1
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1854	3	2
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1855	3	3
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1856	3	4
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1857	3	5
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1858	3	6
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1859	3	7
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1860	3	8
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T.	1861-1862, undated	3	9
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T. and G. W. Hardin	1850, 1852- 1853, undated	3	10
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T. and J. R.	1854, 1858- 1859	3	11
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, A. T. and J. R.	1860-1862, undated	4	1
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, C. S.	1860	4	2
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, J. R.	1858-1861	4	3
Correspondence -- Legal -- Robertson, Wm. R.	1850	4	4
Correspondence -- Military -- Robertson, A. T.	1853	4	5
Correspondence -- Personal	1838, 1851- 1854, 1857, 1859, 1862, 1872, 1940, undated	4	6
Correspondence -- Personal -- Outgoing -- Robertson, A. T.	1842	4	7
Correspondence -- Personal -- Robertson Family	1850, 1853- 1855, 1857, 1859-1862	4	8
Correspondence -- Personal -- Robertson, A. T.	1844, 1848- 1852	4	9
Correspondence -- Personal -- Robertson, A. T.	1852-1857, 1859-1862, undated	4	10
Correspondence -- Personal -- Robertson, C. S.	1850, 1859	4	11
Correspondence -- Personal -- Robertson, J. C. N.	1854	4	12
Correspondence -- Personal -- Robertson, J. R.	1841, 1851, 1858-1861	4	13
Financial materials -- Accounts	1827, 1843, 1849, 1851- 1867, 1897, undated	5	1
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Legal -- Robertson	1850-1852, 1854, 1860	5	2

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Personal -- Robertson Family	1865, undated	5	3
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Personal -- Robertson, A. T.	1853-1862	5	4
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Personal -- Robertson, C. S.	1857	5	5
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Personal -- Robertson, Elizabeth	1852	5	6
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Personal -- Robertson, J. C. N.	undated	5	7
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Personal -- Robertson, J. R.	1852, 1857-1862, undated	5	8
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Personal -- Robertson, W. R.	1857, undated	5	9
Financial materials -- Accounts -- Robertson, A. T.	1847-1853	5	10
Financial materials -- Apportionment	1851	5	11
Financial materials -- Legal fees	1857, undated	5	12
Financial materials -- Legal fees -- Robertson, A. T.	1849, 1854, 1856	5	13
Financial materials -- Promissory notes	1821, 1837, 1844, 1851-1852, 1857, 1860-1861	5	14
Financial materials -- Promissory notes -- Robertson, A. T.	1837-1844, 1846-1852	5	15
Financial materials -- Promissory notes -- Robertson, A. T.	1853-1861, undated	5	16
Financial materials -- Promissory notes -- Robertson, C. S.	1856	5	17
Financial materials -- Promissory notes -- Robertson, W. R.	1836, 1840, 1862	5	18
Financial materials -- Promissory notes -- Robertson, Woodson	undated	5	19
Financial materials -- Receipts	1849, 1853-1854, 1861, undated	5	20
Financial materials -- Receipts -- Robertson Family	1850	5	21
Financial materials -- Receipts -- Robertson, A. T.	1838, 1842-1843, 1846-1848, 1851-1852, 1854, 1856-1861, undated	5	22
Financial materials -- Receipts -- Robertson, C. S.	1848	6	1
Financial materials -- Receipts -- Robertson, Elizabeth	1856	6	2

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Financial materials -- Receipts -- Robertson, J. R.	1859-1861	6	3
Financial materials -- Receipts -- Robertson, Patrick F.	1855	6	4
Financial materials -- Receipts -- Robertson, W. R.	1842, 1848, 1855, 1857	6	5
Genealogical material -- Jones	undated	6	6
Land records -- Deeds	1824, 1826, 1847, 1851, 1871	6	7
Land records -- Surveys	1821, 1860, undated	6	8
Legal materials -- Bills and petitions	1823, 1829, 1849-1850, 1854, 1860, undated	6	9
Legal materials -- Bills and petitions -- Robertson, A. T.	1857-1858	6	10
Legal materials -- Briefs	undated	6	11
Legal materials -- Deed of gift	1804	6	12
Legal materials -- Deed of trust	1849	6	13
Legal materials -- Memoranda and notes	1850, 1856, undated	6	14
Legal materials -- Memoranda and notes -- Robertson family	1857, undated	6	15
Legal materials -- Notices	1846, 1850-1853, 1855-1856, 1858-1863, undated	6	16
Legal materials -- Wills	1820, 1828, 1831, 1841, 1861, undated	6	17
Legal materials -- Witness statements and exhibits	1849-1851, 1855, 1860, undated	6	18
Lists -- Postal Service	undated	6	19
Military -- Commission	1852	6	20
Military -- Commission and release -- Robertson, A. T.	1861	6	21
Negative	undated	6	22
Newspaper clippings	1940, 1979	6	23
Postcard	undated	6	24
Prose	undated	6	25
Recipes	undated	6	26
Revenue Stamps	undated	6	27

A.T. Robertson – Elected as County Surveyor in Poinsett County, Arkansas in October of 1840...



Brigadier General – 22nd Brigade of Tennessee State Militia - 1851

STATE OF TENNESSEE.

To all who shall see these Presents--Greeting:
KNOW YE, That we do commission *A. S. Robertson*
Brigadier of the County of *Hardeman* a Brigadier General in the 22nd
Brigade of Militia of this State, and do authorize and empower him to
execute and fulfil the duties of said Office agreeably to Law and the Rules and
Regulations of Military Discipline, with all the Powers, Privileges and
Emoluments thereunto of right appertaining. And he is hereby required to
obey all his superior Officers' lawful orders and commands, and all Officers
and Privates under his command are to be obedient to him as aforesaid.

In Testimony Whereof, We have caused the Great Seal of the State to
be affixed.

Witness, WILLIAM TROUSDALE, Esquire,
our Governor and Commander-in-Chief at Nashville,
the 4th day of January 1851

By the Governor:

W. P. Ramsey Secretary of State. *W. Trousdale*

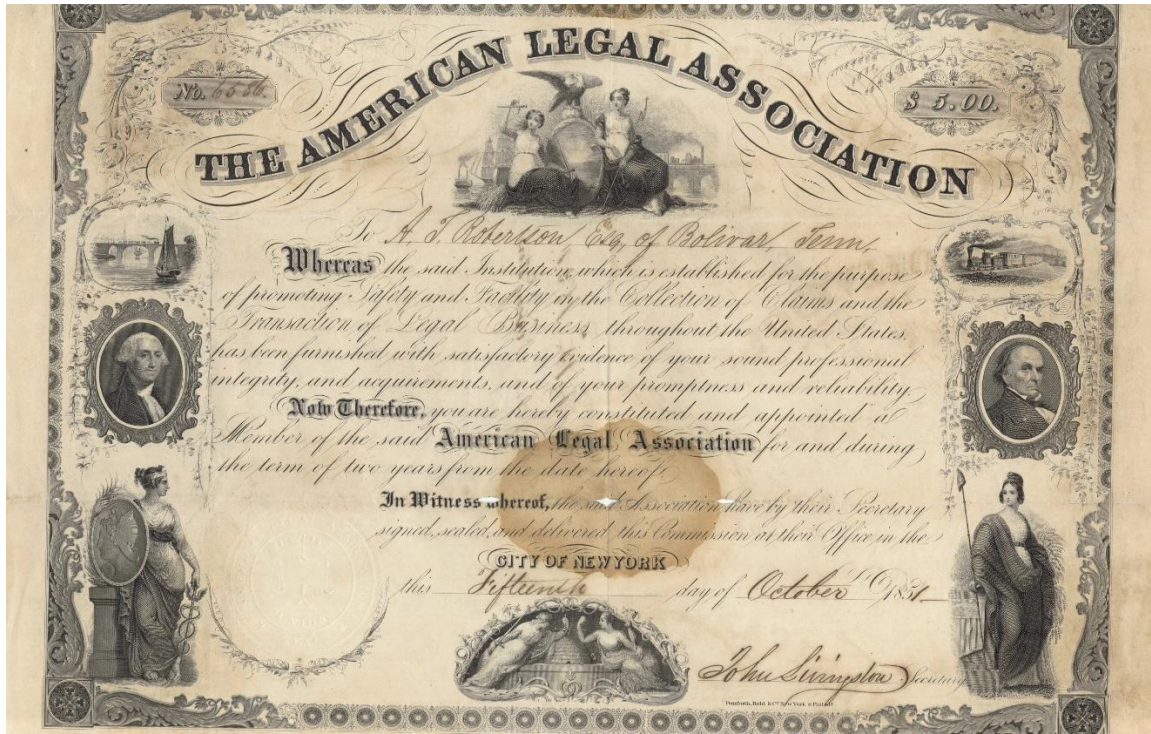
I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of the State of
Tennessee, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office in the Militia of Tennessee, as
prescribed by law to the best of my abilities.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
the 12th of June 1851

A. S. Robertson

W. O. Ferguson

A.T. Robertson's American Legal Association – October 15, 1851



A.T. Robertson's Photo



1852 Promissory Note to A.T. Robertson from his father's sister Elizabeth Robertson (A.T. was born in 1814 and his father's sister Elizabeth was born in 1815 so they were almost the SAME age)

Sommerville, Tennessee, *Dec 7th* 1852

Mr *A. T. Robertson*

Please to take notice, that a *promissory note*
drawn by *Elizabeth Robertson*
in favor of *you*
payable *four months* after *date*

AT THE BRANCH OF THE BANK OF TENNESSEE, AT SOMMERVILLE,
for the sum of *One Hundred & fifty Nine*
Dollars, dated the *6th* day of *August* 1852 was this day
protested by me for non-payment, and the holder look to you for payment as
Endorsor thereof

I am your obedient servant,

G. W. Reeves
NOTARY PUBLIC.

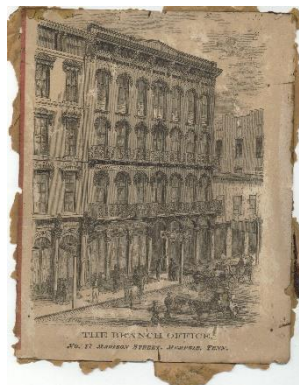
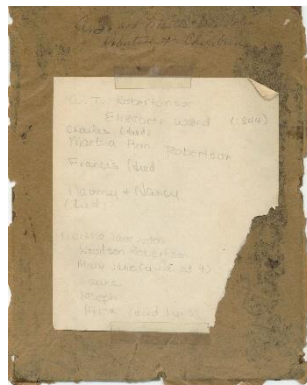
A.T. Robertson Family Tree

Name	Alexander Thomas Robertson [1]	
Born	26 Jun 1814	Giles County TN P
Gender	Male	
Died	19 Oct 1865	Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P
Person ID	P20	My Genealogy
Last Modified	5 Mar 2019 Edit	
Father	Charles Robertson , b. 17 Mar 1788, Tennessee, USA P , d. 3 Oct 1841, Matamoras, Hardemen, Tennessee, USA P (Age 53 years)	
Mother	Elizabeth Sevier Thomas , b. 1790, Barren, Kentucky, USA P , d. 1868, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P (Age 78 years)	
Family ID	F9	Group Sheet Family Chart
Family 1	Elizabeth Ward , b. 23 Jul 1817, d. 10 Apr 1844, Poinsett Co. Arkansas P (Age 26 years)	
Married	21 Aug 1835	Panola County, Mississippi P
Children	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Charles Lafayette Robertson, b. 29 Jan 1837, d. 4 Sep 1839, Panola County, Mississippi P (Age 2 years) [Birth] Martha Ann Robertson, b. 29 May 1839, Panola County, Mississippi P [Birth] Francis Elizabeth Robertson, b. 17 Aug 1841, Poinsett County, Arkansas P, d. 17 Oct 1843, Poinsett Co. Arkansas P (Age 2 years) [Birth] Naomy Robertson, b. 20 Jan 1844, Poinsett County, Arkansas P, d. 24 Aug 1844, Hardeman County, Tennessee, USA P (Age 0 years) [Birth] Nancy Robertson, b. 20 Jan 1844, Poinsett County, Arkansas P [Birth] 	
Last Modified	5 Mar 2019 Edit	
Family ID	F657	Group Sheet Family Chart
Family 2	Martha Jane Vaden , b. 21 Dec 1822, Limestone County AL P , d. 08 May 1900, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P (Age 77 years)	
Married	2 Nov 1845	Hardeman County Tennessee P
Children	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Woodson V. Robertson, b. 1 Sep 1846, d. 24 Jan 1872, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P (Age 25 years) [Birth] Mary Jane Robertson, b. 3 Jun 1848, d. 4 Aug 1857, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P (Age 9 years) [Birth] Laura Robertson, b. 16 October 1851, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P, d. 05 Feb 1940, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P (Age 88 years) Joseph Robertson, b. 9 Sep 1854, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P, d. 28 Jun 1880, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P (Age 25 years) [Birth] Alexander Thomas Robertson, Jr., b. 26 Oct 1856, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P, d. 10 Oct 1857 (Age 0 years) [Birth] Alice Robertson, b. 24 Sep 1860, d. 11 Oct 1931, Pell City, St. Clair, Alabama, United States P (Age 71 years) [Birth] Sallie Robertson, b. 10 Jun 1863, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P, d. 7 Sep 1864, Bolivar, Hardeman, Tennessee, United States P (Age 1 years) [Birth] 	
Histories	 A. T. Robertson Family Bible - 1849 A. T. Robertson and Family	

Source: <https://www.savagefamilytree.com/getperson.php?personID=P20&tree=tree1>

Note: Sadly, A.T. Robertson would have twelve children by two wives and six of the children would die within two years of birth and three more would die at age 9, 22 and 26. Laura Robertson (my great grandmother who married Giles Monroe Savage) would be the longest surviving child dying at age 88 in 1940. A.T. Robertson's first wife, Elizabeth Ward, probably died as a result of the twin's childbirth in 1844 at age 26 after giving birth to five children.

Ambrotype Photo of A.T. Robertson Family [12x10 Oval Frame] (ca1857)



Actual Photo and Oval Frame with back and inside back (Globe Life Insurance Building in Memphis, TN). Photo is printed on glass with brown felt cloth background.

Image scan of the actual 1857 Photo:

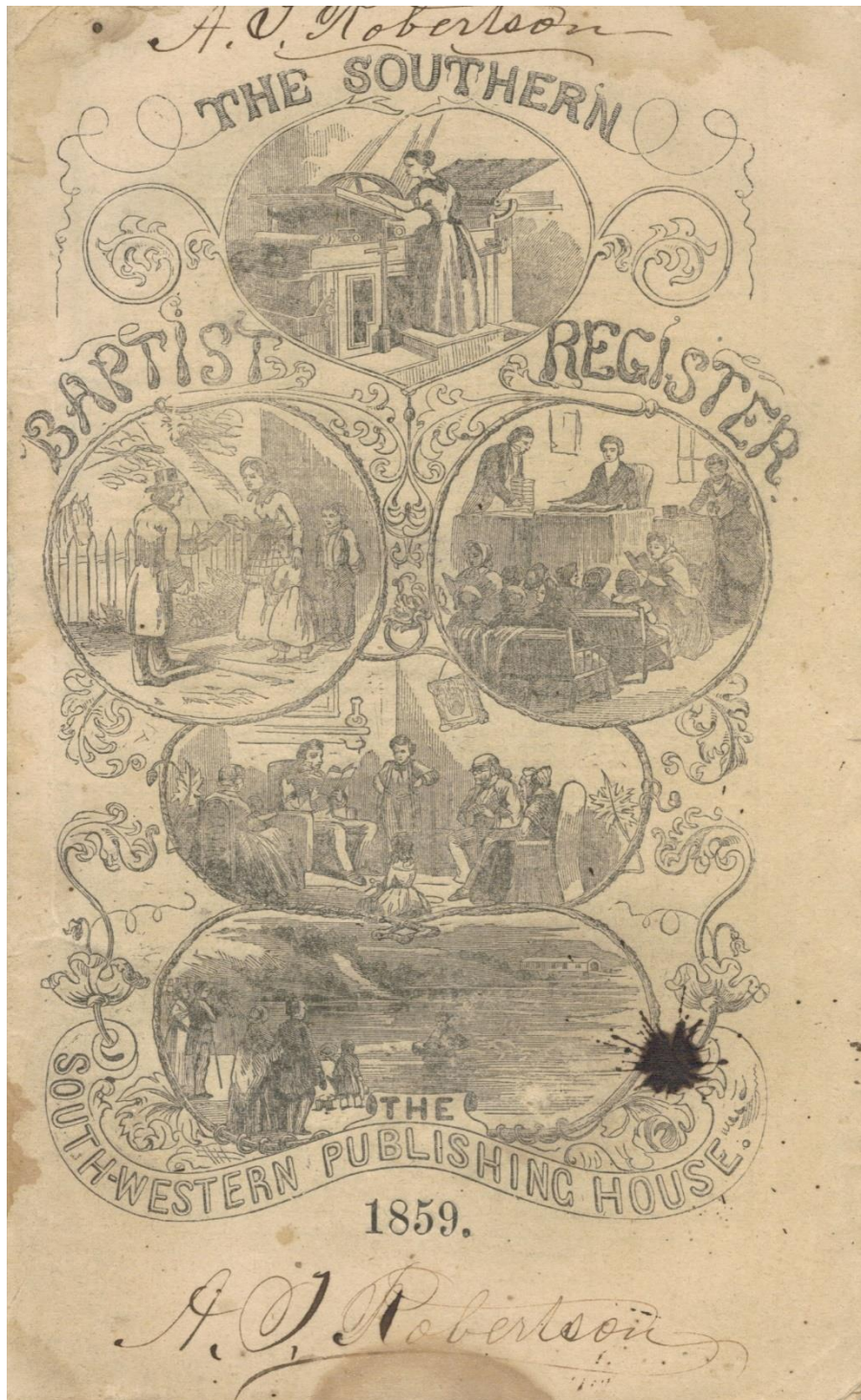


Children pictured in back row standing - Mary Jane Robertson (1848-1857), Martha Ann Robertson (1839 – unknown) /child from 1st wife Elizabeth Ward) and Woodson Vaden Robertson (1846 – 1872).

Parents seated - Martha Jane Vaden (1822-1900) and Alexander Thomas Robertson (1814-1865)

Children in front - Laura Robertson (1851-1940), baby in mother's lap – Joseph Robertson (1857-1880) and baby in father's lap – Alexander (Alex) Thomas Robertson, Jr. (1856-1857)

Southern Baptist Register Belonging to A.T. Robertson ... 36 page book



Here are a few 1860 Memphis Invoices ...

Memphis, June 1st 1860

M^r A. J. Robertson

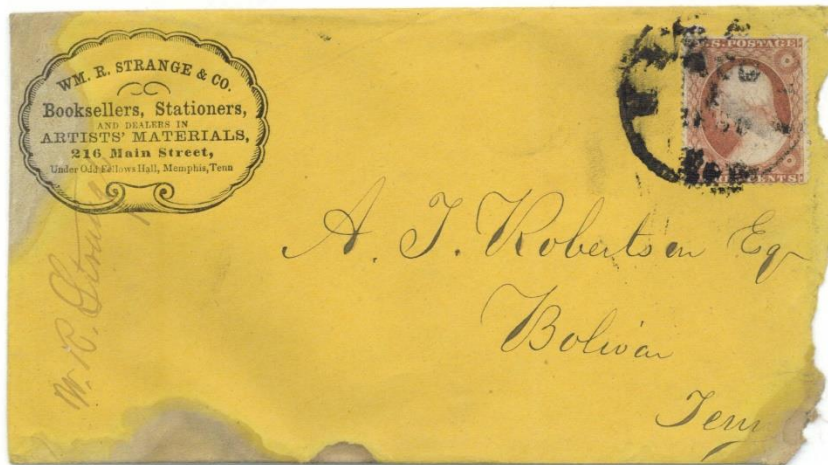
In Account with Wm. R. Strange & Co.

Booksellers, Stationers and Dealers in Artist's Materials.

Under Odd-Fellows' Hall, Main Street.

1860

July 10	2	Coltin & Fitch	Deq	1 50	
	1	Wharton	Crim Law	7 50	
	1	Am	Railway Cases	9 "	
	1	3rd Vol	Greenleaf	5 50	
	1	Rivals		1 25	24 75



Memphis Nov 7 1860

A. J. Robertson Esq
Bolivar Tenn } Dear Sir

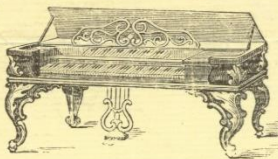

We beg to call your attention to the enclosed bill furniture of Nov 2nd amt \$ to One hundred and sixty two ⁰⁰/₁₀₀ Dollars, for which please send us a remittance.

Yours Respectfully
Camp & Co
By John

Memphis, Nov 7 1860

Mr A. J. Robertson Bolivar Tenn

Bought of CAMP & CO.,
PIANO FORTE, FURNITURE, OIL CLOTH & CARPET
DEALERS,
Curtain Goods, Transparent Shades,
Cornices, Mattresses of all kinds, etc.,
280 MAIN ST., BET. MADISON AND MONROE.

Meas	Q	Description	Price	Total
	1	Red Cont Mat Racks	22 00	
	1	" " " Grape Sofa	25 00	
	1	" " " Brace Arm Rocker	4 50	
	1	" " " O. G. Bureau	15 00	
	1	Large Split Rocker	4 50	
	1-6	Shelf what not	8 00	
	40	yds Best 2 ply Carpet	47 00	
	24	" Oil Cloth	24 00	
		Boxing & Matting	3 50	162 50

A.T. Robertson's Civil War Service would be cut short due to illness...

Union City Camp Brown Sept 1st 1864
My Dear Wife
I have at length stated myself to
atone as far as possible for past negligence on
my part in writing to you. I fear I have caused
you pain and anxiety by not writing as I learn
that reports have repeatedly reached you of my
excusing bad health. One reason I did not
write was in consequence of the fact that I have
been quite unwell most of the time since I
left home. I was threatened as I thought with
Typhoid Fever. I had the tongue & pulse of
a man infected with that disease. and I
was waiting for stronger developments, intend-
ing in such case to come home and thus I
have passed the time since I left home all the
time in a state of unpleasant suspense as
to what was my real condition, not so sick
but that with an effort I could discharge
my duties as an officer most of the time
yet constantly spongy & sinking. until about
Thursday from the uterine lassitude I felt
each day at certain hours followed by inter-
mitting fever I came to the conclusion that
I must have dumb Chills, so I swallowed
a blue Mass pill & then procured Dr. W. Seay
to prepare me some bitters which I am
now using three times a day and I think
I shall find relief therefrom. I have fallen

away until now I weigh only one hundred
and fifty pounds. but I think I shall recou-
-take now. I have hope that my constitution
has been undergoing a change for the better
I have pretty well gotten clear of my pleuritic
affection which annoyed me so greatly before
I left home and now I hope the worst is over
and with the bracing fall winds I have still
hope of good health and with that a return
of buoyant spirits. from present indications
I think we are here likely for some time to
come. in consequence of the affliction of
our regiment with Measles we cant possibly
drill so as to be effectual in active service
for weeks perhaps months to come. Our stay here
however may depend to a great extent upon
the course pursued by Kentucky if they get
up a fight then (and the indications are that
they may now) we will probably be removed to
Columbus or Paducah; but this is only
conjecture human sagacity can not pen-
-etrate the destiny of a soldier in time of war
so we must content ourselves without knowing
how long we are to stay or when we are to go
we have from 120 to 150 cases of Measles in camp
at this time and new cases occurring at
least as fast as the sick become convalescent
we have had good luck however with the sick
so far having lost none as yet with Measles

We have but little sickness of any other Character
in Camp. Our two dissatisfied Companies
are still trying to get out of the Regiment
and much troubled at not being able to
do so. I cant tell what it will finally
lead to. I wish they were gone but how
long this state of uncertainty exists as to them
I can not say. I flatter myself that I have the
good wishes ^{of all} and if I was the Commander I
am vain enough to believe things might be better
but we must do the best we can and trust
in God for success. I fear you are in want
for many things. It has now been so long
since I gave attention to the wants or necessities
of my beloved family that I cannot fail to
have much care and be greatly concerned
on that head though I feel assured if your
wants were made known to me they would
readily be supplied but knowing your diffi-
-culties on that score I can but be greatly
concerned; yet as you know how exert
I am in procuring supplies you ought
not to withhold from me any thing you
may mind that would add to your com-
-forts and double I could add them
though my duties forbid my presence.
I want you to write to me and expre-
-sly and fully your true condition so that
while I am this near you I may under
-standances should the same be necessary

My time is so fully occupied here that I can not permit my thoughts to linger often about the loved ones at home, and consequently I could not possibly attempt to picture a program for business operations. I learn from Bro Joe that our crop is fine, for this we have abundant reasons to thank God, and hope you will have plenty to eat while I am gone should I be permitted to live out my time. I can only say try & have what is made gathered and saved, and have our little bunch of Hogs well attended to so as not to be entirely without meat for a coming year. And now my dear wife you have already since my departure found yourself surrounded with new scenes and new responsibilities, study constantly to brave the difficulties incidental to your present life. The government of the family devolves solely upon you, and you are now forced to assume the responsibility do it kindly & motherly, yet firmly and do not spoil the little ones because their Pa is gone, that government may be assumed by me no more and if you lose it it may give you much trouble the children will be easily governed you have only to be firm, decided, kind I may be at home in two weeks, can't tell. I will send George tomorrow for my horse give him some clothing & send me 2 or 3 towels, as I have lost all but one remember me kindly to the little ones and believe me ever your affectionate husband
A. Robertson

Notice of Resignation from Civil War Duty due to Illness ...

Special Order,
No.

Head Quarters, Western Department
Columbus, Ky. Oct. 4, 1861

Smt. Colonel A. Y. Robtson 22^o
Regiment Tennessee Volunteers, having tendered
his resignation, from the condition of his health,
has leave of absence, to await its acceptance
at Bolivar Tennessee.

By Command of
General Johnston
W. H. Macthall
Adj. Genl.

Civil War Pass to travel to Memphis via Train – July 22, 1863

Provost Marshal's Office
Saulsbury Tenn July 22nd 1863
A. G. Robertson and James Pybess have permission to proceed
to Memphis Tenn. by U. S. Military R.R.
Jno W McMillan
1st Lieut & Provost Marshal

Note: Bolivar, TN was occupied by North for most of the Civil War.

A.T. Robertson and Mary Jane Robertson

A.T. Robertson would die shortly after the Civil War ended in 1865; his second wife, Mary Jane Vaden Robertson would live until May 8, 1900.

Union Cemetery – Bolivar, Tennessee (3 views of their tombstone)

Front View



Union Cemetery – Bolivar, Tennessee – Side View



Union Cemetery – Bolivar, Tennessee – Rear View ... Children of A.T. and M.J. Robertson who preceded them in death...



Woodson Vaden Robertson ... Civil War Soldier - Letter to his father during Civil War. He later dies at age 26 ... buried in Union Cemetery in Bolivar, TN

Bolivar Bulletin Times
 PAGE 20 *Thurs. June 28, 1872*

Voices & Echoes
 By Faye Tennyson Davidson

LETTER TO FATHER

We share a letter of Woodson Vaden Robertson to Alexander T. Robertson of Bolivar, written during the Civil War and posted from "IN CAMP" near Nashville, Tennessee.

December 8th, 1864

My Dear Father:

It is with much pleasure that I embrace the present opportunity of writing you a few lines. When I left home, I thought that I would be back in three or four days. But Alas -- From the appearances of affairs at present, I think it very doubtful whether I ever get back again or not. We left Bolivar and came to Lexington, there we turned over the conscripts, then we came on to Perryville, there we joined the Regiment and crossed the Tennessee River and came up the river to Florence, Alabama where we joined Hood's Army and ever since we have been guarding his flanks. We first struck the Yanks at Henryville and had a fight with them there and drove back to Columbia where we fought two or three days. We drove them from there to Spring Hill and from there to Franklin where one of the hardest battles of the war was fought. It lasted only six hours but for the length of time it was never equalled. It began at four o'clock in the evening and at about one o'clock the Yanks rolled back in a hurry. We followed them to Nashville and have been a line of battle for five days. We skirmish occasionally, but do no damage. I am in such a hurry that I don't know what to write. Give my love to all the family, tell them all I would write to them if I had time.

Write and tell them all to write very soon. I remain your affectionate son.

W.V. Robertson

P.S. I forgot to tell you that I had been sick but, thank God, I am nearly well again. Our rations are very scanty but we live on parched corn for awhile. I think we will flank Nashville and go into Kentucky, but now I don't know anything about it. I haven't time to write anymore, it was just luck to have a chance to send this. Tell them all to write and I will write the first chance I get. I am still riding my mare, but she has pretty well played out. Nothing more. I remain your affectionate son, W.V. Robertson.

Company K, Forrest Old Regiment,
 Tennessee Volunteers.

P.S. I am needing some shirts very badly but I know that there is no chance to get them from home. I will try to make out with what I have. I captured a couple of new blankets at Columbia which are very good for such weather as we are going to have. WVR.

Letters to fathers today are rare with instant communications at one's command. This letter was written in a time when the message was sent by a friend as there were very few places to post a letter. If you are away from home, why not write your father a letter in this month dedicated to young men? There will be two ways to make someone happy, a father and a son. Go on -- sign it, Your affectionate son.

Permission was granted to use this letter by the great grandson of the writer, Woodson J. Savage, attorney, Bolivar, Tennessee. *W. Savage*



DEATH OF W. V. ROBERTSON.—We are pained to announce the death of W. V. Robertson, which melancholly event took place at the residence of his mother, in this place, Wednesday, January 24th, at 7 P. M. Deceased was a young man of high standing in this community and his death, which was caused by that fell destroyer, consumption, has cast a gloom over our citizens and caused many a tear to start from founts that heed nothing to remind friendship's bleeding heart of his many virtues or the loss sustained. Kind, generous and true, Mr. Robertson carried the insignia of a noble manhood wherever his path led him. Deeply do we sympathize with his lone, weeping, widowed mother and orphan sister and little brother. The funeral takes place at 2½ P. M. to day. Services at the residence by the Rev. W. C. Gray. Deceased was a worthy member of F. and A. M., and will be buried with Masonic honors at Union Cemetery.

January 26, 1872 Bolivar Bulletin

Funeral Notice for Woodson Vaden Robertson ...

Funeral Notice.

The friends and acquaintance of the late W. V. ROBERTSON are requested to attend his funeral at 2 1-2 P. M., Friday, January 26th, 1872.

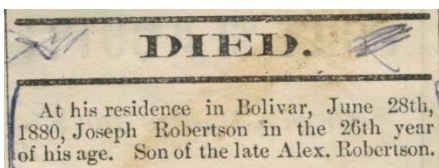
Services at the Residence by Rev ~~W. C. Gray~~

J. R. Peoples

Joseph Robertson (son of A.T. and M.J. Robertson) died at age 25

Born 9th of September 1854 and died 28th of June 1880

Union Cemetery – Bolivar, TN



Bolivar Bulletin – July 1, 1880

**Charles Robertson...the father of A.T. Robertson was buried near
Pocahontas, TN in Moore Cemetery**

*Charles Robertson (born 17th of March 1788 in Tennessee and died 3rd of October
1841 in Matamoros, Hardeman County, TN at the age of 53)*



Moore Cemetery - Pocahontas, TN

A.T. Robertson Family Bible

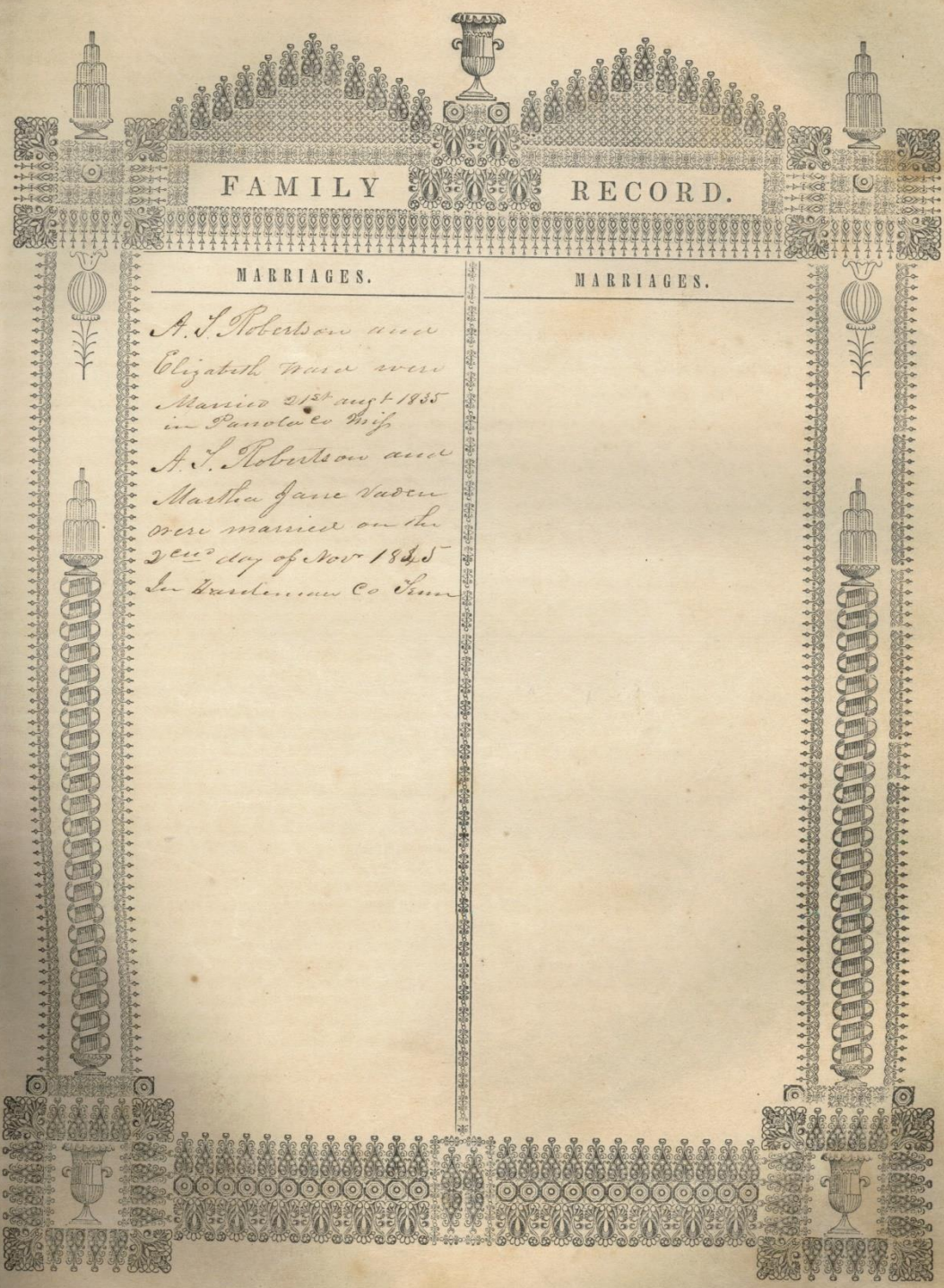


THE
HOLY BIBLE,
CONTAINING THE
OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS:
TRANSLATED OUT OF THE ORIGINAL TONGUES;
AND WITH THE FORMER
TRANSLATIONS DILIGENTLY COMPARED AND REVISED.
WITH
CANNE'S MARGINAL REFERENCES.
TOGETHER WITH THE
APOCRYPHA AND CONCORDANCE.
TO WHICH ARE ADDED,
AN INDEX,
A TABLE OF TEXTS,
AND WHAT HAS NEVER BEFORE BEEN ADDED,
AN ACCOUNT OF
THE LIVES AND MARTYRDOM OF THE APOSTLES AND EVANGELISTS.
WITH PLATES.

THE TEXT CORRECTED ACCORDING TO THE STANDARD
OF THE
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

STEREOTYPED BY JAMES CONNER, NEW YORK.

HARTFORD
S. ANDRUS AND SON.
1849.



FAMILY RECORD.

MARRIAGES.

MARRIAGES.

A. S. Robertson and Elizabeth Ward were Married 21st Augt 1855 in Parolee Wis.
A. S. Robertson and Martha Jane Tucker were married on the 2nd day of Nov 1855 in Garden Co Tenn

FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

A. J. Robertson
was born June 26th 1814.
in Giles Co Tenn.

Elizabeth Ware was born
consort of A. J. Robertson
was born July 23rd 1817

Charles Lafayette Robertson
was born January 29th 1837

Martin Ann Robertson
was born May 29th
A.D. 1839 in Pandla Mi

Francis Elizabeth Robertson
was born Aug 17 1841
in Pointsett County Ark

Naomy Robertson
and
Nancy Robertson were
born January 20th
in the year of our Lord
1844 in Pointsett Co
Ark.

DEATHS.

Elizabeth Robertson
Wife of A. J. Robertson
departed this life April 10th 1844
in Pointsett Co Arkansas

Charles L Robertson
departed this life on the
14th Sept 1839 in Pointsett Co Ark

Francis Elizabeth Robertson
departed this life on the
17th Oct 1843 in Pointsett Co Ark

Naomy Robertson
departed this life on the
20th day of Aug 1844
in Hardeman Co Tenn

FAMILY RECORD.

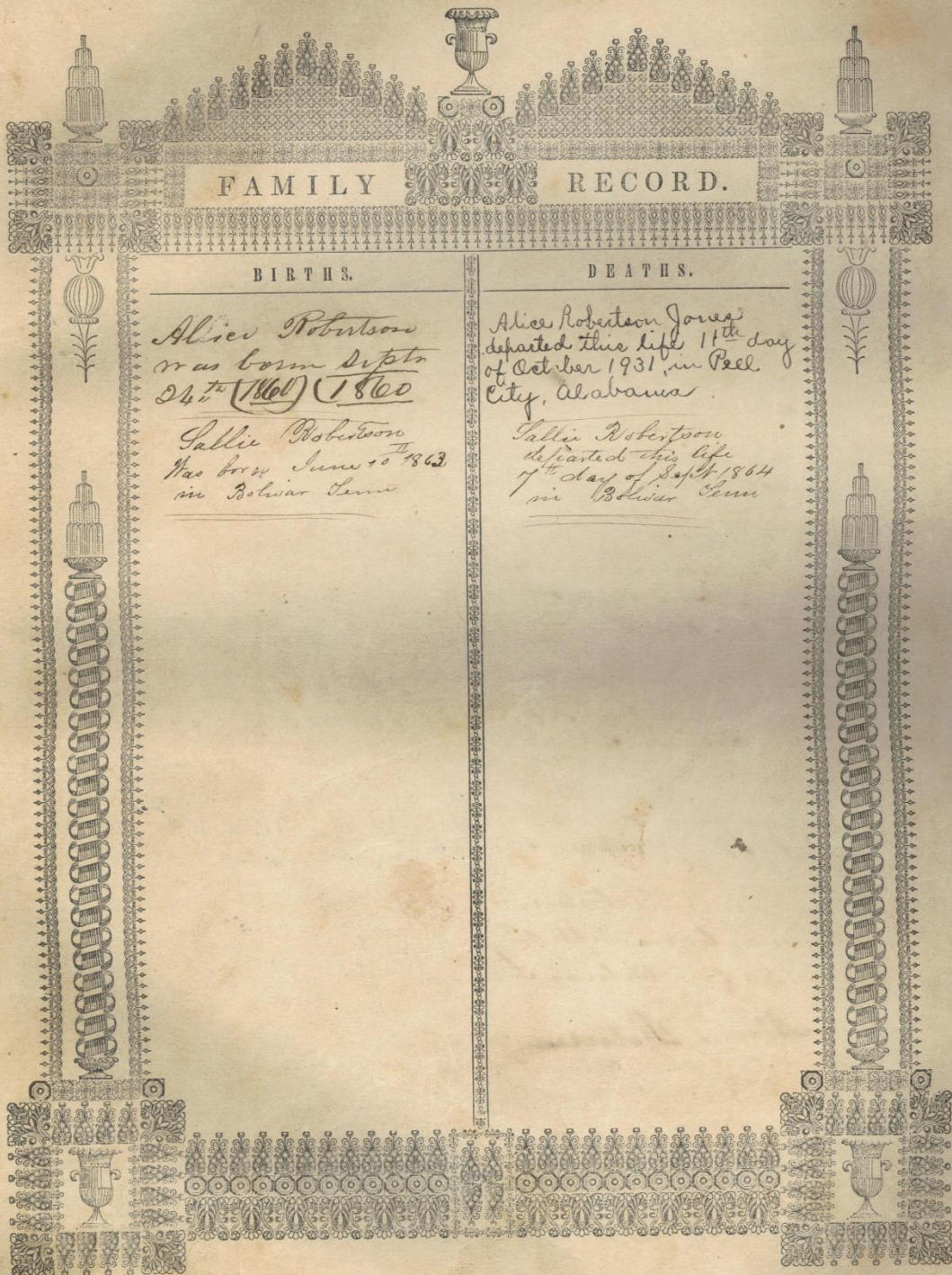
BIRTHS.

A. J. Robertson was born June 26th 1814 in Cla. Co Tenn
 Martha Jane Rader wife of A. J. Robertson was born December 21st 1822 in Lincoln Co Alabama
 Woodson Robertson was born Sept 1st A D 1846
 Mary Jane Robertson was born June 3rd 1848 in Bolivar Tenn
 Laura Robertson was born Oct 16th 1857 in Bolivar Tenn
 Joseph Robertson was born Sept 9th 1857 in Bolivar Tenn
 Alex J. Robertson Jr was born Oct 26th 1856 in Bolivar Tenn

DEATHS.

A. J. Robertson departed this life Oct 19th 1865 in Bolivar Tenn
 Martha J. Robertson, wife of A. J. Robertson departed this life May 9th 1900.
 Woodson J. Robertson departed this life January 24th 1872.
 Mary Jane Robertson departed this life August 24th 1857 in Bolivar Tenn
 Laura Robertson Savage departed this life on the 5th day of February, 1940
 Joseph Robertson departed this life June 29th 1850.
 Alex J. Robertson Jr departed this life Oct 18th 1857

1857



FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

Alice Robertson
was born Sept
24th (1861) 1860

Fannie Robertson
was born June 10th 1863
in Bolivar Tenn

DEATHS.

Alice Robertson Jones
departed this life 11th day
of October 1931 in Peck
City, Alabama

Fannie Robertson
departed this life
7th day of Sept 1864
in Bolivar Tenn



Mary Jane Vaden Robertson's Tax Receipts from 1893 and 1895 in Clark County, Arkansas

No. 555 **TAX RECEIPT FOR 1893.**
JAMES H. ABRAHAM, Collector.

Valuation of Real Property as Valued on Tax Book, - - - - - \$ 180
 Valuation of Personal Property as valued on Tax Book, - - - - - _____
 Total Valuation of Real and Personal Property Taxed, - - - - - \$ 180

PART OF SECTION	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ACRES	100's	VAL.	AMOUNT OF LEVY	DOLLARS	CTS.
<i>NW 1/4 Sec 8 T 10 R 18</i>	10	10	18	10		20	Poll Tax		
<i>SW 1/4 Sec 8 T 10 R 18</i>	10	10	18	13	<i>75</i>	25	State Gen'l 2 1/4 Mills,		
<i>SE 1/4 Sec 8 T 10 R 18</i>	10	10	18	20		30	Sinking Fund 1/2 Mill,		
							State School 2 Mills,		
<i>NW 1/4 Sec 9 T 11 R 18</i>	11	10	18	10		60	Pension Fund 1/4 Mill,		
<i>SW 1/4 Sec 9 T 11 R 18</i>	11	10	18	10		20	Total State 5 Mills,		50
<i>SE 1/4 Sec 9 T 11 R 18</i>	11	10	18	20		50	County Gen. Tax 5 Mills,		50
							County Special 2 1/2 Mills,		45
							District School, 5 "		50
							City,		
							Assessor's Penalty,		
							School Fund Penalty,		
							Total Taxes,	\$	<u>315</u>

Collector's Office, Clark County, Ark. Feb 2 1894.
 Received of Mrs. M. J. Robertson
three 15 DOLLARS,
100

Taxes for the year 1893, upon the property herein described, as charged upon the Tax Books.

NOTICE—The holder of this receipt is hereby notified to compare same with his title papers without delay, and if any error exists, to return same at once for correction, or I am not responsible.

James H. Abraham
 COLLECTOR CLARK COUNTY, ARK.

By _____ D. A.

BROWN PRINTING CO., LITTLE ROCK

No. *H 9*

TAX RECEIPT FOR 1895.

JAMES H. ABRAHAM, COLLECTOR.

Valuation of Real Property, as valued on Tax Book, - - - - - \$ *185*

Valuation of Personal Property as valued on Tax Book, - - - - -

Total Valuation of Real and Personal Property Taxed, - - - - - \$ *185*

PART OF SECTION	Sec.	Twp.	Rge.	Acres	100's	Valuation	Amount of Levy	Dollars	Cts.
<i>N 1/2 S 1/2 E 8 E</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>10</i>		<i>20</i>	State General, 2 1/4 Mills,		
<i>PR. N 1/2 S 1/2 E 8 E</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>13 75</i>		<i>25</i>	State School, 2 Mills,		
							Pension Fund, 1/4 Mill,		
							Total, 4 1/2 Mills.		<i>84</i>
<i>E 1/2 S 1/2 E 9 E</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>20</i>		<i>30</i>	County Gen. Tax, 5 Mills,		<i>93</i>
							" Special, 3 Mills,		<i>57</i>
<i>NW, SW</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>40</i>		<i>60</i>	District School, 5 ' 1		<i>93</i>
<i>N 1/2 S 1/2 SW SW</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>10</i>		<i>20</i>	City,		
							Assessor's Penalty,		
<i>N 1/2 SW SW</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>20</i>		<i>30</i>	School Fund Penalty,		
Total Taxes, \$								<i>3</i>	<i>27</i>

Collector's Office, Clark County, Ark. *Jan. 14* 1896.

Received of *Mrs. M. J. Robinson* *thru* *27* Dollars,

Taxes for the year 1895 upon the property herein described, as charged upon the Tax Books.

NOTICE.—The holder of this receipt is hereby notified to compare same with his title papers without delay, and if any error exists, to return same at once for correction, or I am not responsible.

James H. Abraham
Collector, Clark County, Ark.
By *J. H. A.* D. C.

ARK. DEMOCRAT CO., LITTLE ROCK

P.S. Wish my property taxes were only \$3+ a year!!!