

## LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY AND ROWENA McCORD

On December 29, 1842, **Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)** married his second of four wives, **Rowena McCord (1816–1849)**, who was three years older than he was. They had two children, **John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)** and **Harriett “Hattie” McCrary Gallaway (1848–1892)**.



*Levi James Gallaway.*

Neville’s Gallaway heritage,<sup>1</sup> which is Scottish or Scotch-Irish, was well chronicled in 1908 by her great-aunt **Irene**

**Dabney Gallaway (1869–1957)**, who traced the

Gallaway family back to **Matthew Gallaway**

**(1759–1824)**. He lived in Oglethorpe

County, in northwest Georgia, and

was married to **Mary “Polly” East**

**(c. 1770–1863/73)**,<sup>2</sup> with whom he

had seven children. Through the East

family,<sup>3</sup> a deeply recorded family in

colonial Virginia, Neville and I are

ninth cousins.<sup>4</sup>

Neville’s third great-grandparents were

**Anderson Gallaway (1794–1869)**

and **Delilah Ponder (1797–1834)**,<sup>5</sup> who

married in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, on

January 10, 1816.

Their son, Levi James Gallaway, was born on May 24,

1819, in Huntsville in Madison County, Alabama. He had

four wives.<sup>6</sup> The first wife was Adeline Roddy (c. 1820–1841), who

died about one year after they married.

In 1841 Levi James Gallaway became a newspaperman, founding the *Moulton Advertiser* in the town of Moulton, the county seat of Lawrence County, Alabama. The newspaper still exists today. In December of 1842, Levi married Rowena McCord, with whom he had two children, including Neville's great-grandfather, John Bell Gallaway.

Rowena McCord Gallaway died in 1849, and one year later Levi remarried. His third wife was Sarah Adeline Davidson (1825–1851). Sarah Adeline Gallaway died about a year later at the birth of their first child, a son, who also died.

In 1852 and 1853, Levi James Gallaway is recorded as a postmaster in two locations in Lawrence County. In 1856 he was appointed postmaster in Elba, Alabama. In July of 1856, at age thirty-seven, Levi James Gallaway married his fourth wife, Susan Dorcas Rose (1837–1921), a nineteen-year-old Alabama native.

In late 1857, Levi Gallaway founded a newspaper, *Gallaway's Expositor*, in Columbus, Mississippi. The newspaper was avidly pro-Union and strongly opposed the secession of Mississippi from the United States. As a result, in early 1861, Levi James Gallaway was branded a "Scalawag," a term used to describe white Southerners who supported the Union during and after the Civil War.<sup>7</sup>

Later in 1861, with his pregnant wife and three-year-old daughter, Levi James Gallaway fled from Columbus, to Mobile, Alabama, about 225 miles south of Columbus. His second daughter was born in November of 1861 in Mobile. Later that year or in early 1862, Levi moved with his family to Elba, a small southern Alabama town where there were Union sympathizers.

In 1863, in opposition to his family and state, Levi James Gallaway made the audacious and life-defining decision to fight on the side of the Union.<sup>8</sup> He was asked to join the Union Army with the rank of captain. Levi James's only living son, John Bell Gallaway, had enlisted in the Confederate Army two years earlier, at age seventeen. Their story, while not so rare in the history of three million Civil War soldiers, is a poignant one.

While in southern Alabama, Levi James Gallaway went to Pensacola, Florida, where he assisted the United States Navy and led the organization of the 1st Florida Cavalry. On February 9, 1864, before his official muster into the Union Army, he was captured on a mission and sent to a Confederate prison. A year later, on February 24, 1865, Levi James was released on parole in North Carolina.

Levi James Gallaway's Civil War experience led to a "*bureaucratic nightmare*."<sup>9</sup> One month after his release, on March 24, 1865, he wrote a letter to newly elected Vice President Andrew Johnson (1808–1875), appealing for his back wages as a Union officer.<sup>10</sup>

After the war, Levi James Gallaway lived in Florida, near Pensacola, with his fourth wife, Susan Dorcas Rose Gallaway, and their two young daughters. During this time, he wrote a number of letters<sup>11</sup> to his unmarried son, John Bell Gallaway, who was living in Memphis, Tennessee. In these letters, Levi James Gallaway revealed his thoughts about the war and his anguish and embitterment toward the United States' government for not allowing his claims for back pay and property destroyed. He nonetheless had no regrets about his fateful decision to join the Union Army. In a letter written just three months before he died, he stated triumphantly, "*I have ever been a Union man—I have been true to my faith.*"

A courageous, but tragic and broken figure, Levi James Gallaway died of chronic dysentery and severe exposure on February 1, 1867, at age forty-seven, in Milton, Florida. His claims against the government were unpaid during his lifetime; he was ostracized, he could find no work, and his family was destitute.<sup>12</sup>

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Levi James Gallaway's second wife, Rowena McCord Gallaway, is Neville's antecedent, for she is the mother of John Bell Gallaway. Family records about her say only, "*She was from an historic family in North Alabama.*"

Neville's McCord heritage<sup>13</sup> is indeed historic. Rowena McCord was a descendant of Scottish chieftains who originated from the Isle of Skye, off the northwest coast of Scotland. The Scotch-Irish McCords lived for forty years in Northern Ireland and came to the colony of Pennsylvania in 1730. They fought in America's wars in the eighteenth century, during which time they moved from Pennsylvania to the Appalachian Mountains of eastern Tennessee. In the nineteenth century, the McCords moved to northern Alabama, where Rowena met and married Levi James Gallaway.



*Rowena McCord, the second wife of Levi James Gallaway.*

## LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY | ROWENA McCORD

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### 1. NEVILLE'S GALLAWAY HERITAGE

Matthew Gallaway (1759–1824)	m. c. 1790	Mary “Polly” East (c. 1770–1863/73)
Anderson Gallaway (1794–1869)	m. 1816	Delilah Ponder (1797–1834)
Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)	m. 1842	Rowena McCord (1816–1849*)
John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)	m. 1868	Eudocia Margaret Martin (1846–1927)
Charlotte Gallaway (1878–1968)	m. 1901	Charles D. Frierson Sr. (1877–1947)
Charles D. Frierson Jr. (1907–1970)	m. 1931	Margaret Purifoy (1908–1973)

**Matthew Gallaway (1759–1824)**, Neville’s fourth great-grandfather and her earliest proven Gallaway ancestor, was born in either Ireland or North Carolina. Neville’s great-aunt **Irene Dabney Gallaway (1869–1957)** in her 1908 booklet, “Matthew Gallaway and His Descendants”, wrote that Matthew was perhaps the son of Tait Gallaway (1729–1762), who emigrated from County Galway in Ireland around 1760. She also acknowledged that Matthew might have descended from Gallaways who came to Brunswick County, on the east coast of North Carolina, from Glasgow, Scotland. While there is uncertainty about Matthew’s antecedents, Irene opened her book with these words: “*There is no doubt that our [Gallaway] ancestors belonged to ‘that stern and virile people, the Irish, whose preachers taught the creed of Knox and Calvin.’*”

Briana Felch (b. 1972),\*\* an experienced family history researcher and genealogist from Huntsville, Alabama, has quite recently written with two collaborators an article entitled *Re-Examining the Parentage of Matthew Gallaway of Oglethorpe County, Georgia*. The article states that Matthew Gallaway was probably born in North Carolina in New Hanover County (next to Brunswick County), where there is believed to have been a Scottish settlement. The article also notes that “*the leading candidate for Matthew’s father, supported by three primary sources is Thomas Gallaway, Sr.,*” a mariner who apparently died in 1764. On September 6, 1764, the New Hanover County court appointed guardians for four orphan children, including five-year-old Matthew Gallaway.

\*There are conflicting records regarding the date of Rowena McCord Gallaway’s death. Lawrence County Archives and her tombstone use the date July 11, 1848. Irene Dabney Gallaway’s booklet says the date of death was July 1, 1849. According to a letter in our files, Rowena’s obituary appeared in the Florence Gazette on July 21, 1849, and states that she died on July 11, 1849. We have thus used that date for her death.

\*\*Briana Felch, who has been especially helpful with our study of the Gallaway family, is a descendant of William Gallaway, the son of Matthew Gallaway with his first wife. Briana is thus a half fifth cousin, once removed, of my wife, Neville.

Matthew Gallaway was certainly old enough to have fought in the American Revolutionary War (1775–83), and there are several questionable references in support of that. For example, he is recorded as receiving bounty land in Georgia in 1806 in a land lottery reserved for Revolutionary War veterans. The Daughters of the American Revolution, however, does not accept this reference for its membership requirements because, apparently, that land lottery was so disorganized that its accuracy has been questioned.

Sometime before 1782, Matthew Gallaway married Elizabeth Beaver (1766–1789),\* probably in North Carolina. Before 1790 they moved with their two sons to what is now Oglethorpe County, organized in 1793 in northeastern Georgia, near Athens. The county was named for James Edward Oglethorpe (1696–1785), a British general, a Member of Parliament, and the founder of the colony of Georgia.

The two sons of Matthew and Elizabeth Beaver Gallaway are as follows:

- **WILLIAM GALLAWAY (1782–after 1840)** was born in North Carolina and moved to Georgia as a youth. He married Polly Ragan (1786–1830) in January of 1805. They are recorded as having four sons and lived in Oglethorpe and Elbert Counties in northwest Georgia. Secondly, William Gallaway married Mary Greene (c. 1790–after 1860) on November 25, 1830.

- **LEVI GALLAWAY (1784–1851)** was born in North Carolina on October 3, 1784. He married Sinia Scoggins (1788–1845) on October 10, 1810. They had twelve children between 1811 and 1832. In 1834 Levi Gallaway moved with his family to Itawamba County in northeast Mississippi and settled about five miles south of the town of Fulton, Mississippi. He was a successful planter there and died at age sixty-six, on April 20, 1851. His wife, Sinia Scoggins Gallaway, predeceased him. She died at age fifty-seven, on July 9, 1845.



*Matthew Gallaway migrated to Oglethorpe County, Georgia, before 1790 with his first wife and their two sons, who along with Matthew were charter members of the Beaverdam Baptist Church.*

\*There are no original sources to support the information about Elizabeth Beaver; thus, it is unproven.

In about 1790, after his first wife died, Matthew Gallaway married **Mary “Polly” East (c. 1770–1863/73)** in Oglethorpe County. They had seven children between 1792 and 1807. An old family scrapbook has the following list of the seven children and their birthdates:

Wiley, b. Sept. 9 1791      *(based on census records, we now believe that Wiley was born in 1792)*  
 Anderson, b. 1793      *(the Anderson Gallaway Bible records his birth date as July 3, 1794)*  
 Brittain, b. Dec. 12, 1795  
 James, b. Dec. 12, 1797  
 Thomas, b. Dec. 18, 1801  
 Sarah, b. Sept. 1, 1805  
 Nathan Johnson, b. Oct. 26, 1807

Matthew Gallaway and his sons William Gallaway and Levi Gallaway are recorded as charter members of the Baptist Church of Jesus Christ at Beaverdam, which was located in western Oglethorpe County, about ten miles east of Athens, Georgia. **Anderson Gallaway (1794–1869)** later became a church member and is found in some of the church records there as well. The church was founded on September 20, 1800. In 1836, after the Gallaway family had left the area, the church united with the Primitive Baptist Association and was renamed the Beaverdam Primitive Baptist Church.

In 2004 a University of Georgia student published a master’s thesis\* about disciplinary practices of the Beaverdam Church in the early nineteenth century. In that thesis, he wrote that “*kinship connections apparently provided men little insulation against charges [made against church members] prior to 1825.*” To make that point, he revealed the following about Matthew Gallaway and his sons William and Anderson:

*The [Gallaway] family enjoyed prominence in the [Beaverdam] Church during the first two decades of the nineteenth century, and four members [there were only three] of their kinship helped constitute the fellowship in 1800. Nevertheless, in January 1816, Matthew Gallaway was charged with drinking too much. He was forgiven and retained as a member after confessing to the offense, but the very next month Mark Ragan risked offending the family again when he charged Anderson Gallaway with stealing a knife from General Bill’s Store. Ragan revealed no hesitation in making the accusation, and William Gallaway even joined him in summoning the suspected thief to answer the allegations. After refusing to attend the conference at the church’s request, Anderson Gallaway was excluded from the membership roll without protest by any other member of the church. Sharing church membership with family members, even male heads of household, apparently did not affect the vulnerability of men to accusations.*

\*The master’s thesis, written by William Brent Jones, is entitled “‘That Peace and Brotherly Love May Abound’: Kinship and the Changing Character of Church Discipline in a Southern Primitive Baptist Church.”





*A photograph from before 2009 of the abandoned Beaverdam Baptist Church building in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. Matthew Gallaway and his sons William and Levi Gallaway were charter members of the church in 1800.*



*A photograph, c. 2011, of the Beaverdam Baptist Church after being moved to Athens, Georgia, and adapted for reuse as a residence.*

The Beaverdam Baptist Church building, which stood on its original site from 1800 to 2009, was constructed with no nails, using pegged mortise and tenon joinery. It was always a simple one-room building, measuring thirty feet by fifty feet. The congregation of the church essentially dissolved in the mid-1980s, and the building was abandoned. In 2009 the church building was sold to a professional therapist from Athens, Georgia. The structure was moved to a site in the western part of Athens and converted into a residence.

In 1816 several of Matthew and Polly Gallaway's children, including Anderson Gallaway, began an exodus to northern Alabama. In the early 1820s, Matthew Gallaway sold several parcels of land in Oglethorpe County, for he was planning to join in the family migration to Alabama. However, he died in Oglethorpe County on February 14, 1824, at age sixty-four, and is buried there. In his will, recorded on January 4, 1825, Matthew Gallaway left a list of personal items to his wife, Polly, along with the following:

*I also leave unto my said wife during her natural life the use of the tract of land containing fifty acres which I have in this will directed my executors to purchase for her [probably in North Alabama] together with my negro man Daniel, my negro woman Patty, and my negro boy Jackson . . . , but should my wife marry again, at her marriage I desire that my negro woman Patty remain with her and my negroes Daniel and Jackson be sold by my Executors and the money equally divided between all my children.*

In that will, he also left money to all his children. With regard to his son Anderson, he wrote:

*Seventhly, Having given to my son Anderson Gallaway the sum of two hundred and seventy seven Dollars\* as per his receipt to me, I confirm the same to him, but he is not to have more of my estate until all my children shall have received the amount of two hundred and seventy seven dollars.*

\*Today \$277, adjusted for inflation since 1825, amounts to about \$6,400.



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### 2. MARY “POLLY” EAST GALLAWAY AND HER SEVEN CHILDREN WITH MATTHEW GALLAWAY

Born in Virginia, **Mary “Polly”<sup>\*</sup> East (c. 1770–1863/73)** moved at about age nineteen from Henry County in southern Virginia to a part of Wilkes County that became Oglethorpe County in northeastern Georgia. In about 1790, Polly East became the second wife of **Matthew Gallaway (1759–1824)**, a widower with two sons. Matthew and Polly East Gallaway had seven children.

- **WILEY GALLAWAY (1791–1864)** was born on September 9, 1791, and in 1817 he married Mary McDowell (1798–1855), the daughter of Irish immigrants who came to America in 1774. Wiley was a teacher in Huntsville, Oakville, and Moulton in northern Alabama, and from 1835 to 1850, he served as court clerk of Lawrence County, Alabama. Wiley and Mary Gallaway had seven children, the second eldest of whom was Matthew Campbell Gallaway (1820–1898), a close contemporary and first cousin of Neville’s great-great-grandfather **Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)**. Mary McDowell Gallaway died in Moulton at age fifty-seven. Wiley Gallaway became a refugee in Texas during the Civil War, and he died there in 1864, at about age seventy-three.

- **Anderson Gallaway (1794–1869)** is Neville’s third great-grandfather.

- **BRITAIN GALLAWAY (1795–1877)** was born on December 12, 1795, and married **Anna Bennett Ponder (1795–after 1860)**, a sister of **Delilah Ponder (1797–1834)**, Anderson Gallaway’s first wife. They married in 1822 and moved to northern Alabama. They later lived in Monroe County, Mississippi, and in northern Arkansas. They had two children.

- **JAMES GALLAWAY (1797–1820)** was born on December 12, 1797, exactly two years after his brother Britain Gallaway. James Gallaway was murdered in Montgomery, Alabama, around 1826 by an Englishman, John Wilson, who believed in witchcraft and had placed a silver picayune (Spanish coin) before the ball in the pistol used for the murder. A newspaper, the *Alabama Journal*, reported on March 23, 1827, that Wilson was convicted of manslaughter, sentenced to nine months in jail, and given a one hundred dollar fine.

- **DR. THOMAS GALLAWAY (1801–1865)** remained in Georgia and became a physician. He married Margaret Dean (1801–after 1860) on November 19, 1823, in Clarke County (the county seat of which is Athens), Georgia. They had nine children.

<sup>\*</sup>*Polly was a popular nickname for girls named Mary in the eighteenth century. The name Polly is derived from the name Molly, which is another nickname for Mary. Molly is sometimes used as a name in its own right.*

- **SARAH GALLAWAY (1805–c. 1845)** was born on September 1, 1805, in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, and married James Reedy (1800–after 1870) on October 23, 1824, in Morgan County, Alabama. They lived in Holmes County and had nine children.

- **NATHAN JOHNSON GALLAWAY (1807–1850)** was born in Oglethorpe County on October 26, 1807. He joined the family migration to northern Alabama. His first wife, Eliza Cooper (c. 1820–1836), with whom he eloped, died young. They had one son. At age forty-one, Nathan Johnson married his second wife, Hersylia A. James (1825–1878), on May 1, 1849. They had a son born a few months before Nathan Johnson died in late 1850. Nathan Johnson Gallaway was a saddler and postmaster in Lawrence County.

In about 1816, Matthew and Polly East Gallaway's children began an exodus from Georgia to northern Alabama. Matthew Gallaway was to join them; however, he died in 1824 in Oglethorpe County. After that Polly East Gallaway followed her family and lived in northern Alabama for the next twenty years. Then in 1847, at age seventy-seven, Polly East Gallaway returned to Georgia, accompanied by her grandson Charles Matthew Gallaway (1825–1908), the oldest son of Dr. Thomas Gallaway. She soon bought land in Walton County, Georgia. In the 1850 census, Polly East Gallaway, is listed as Mary Gallaway, an eighty-year-old resident of Walton County.

In the nineteenth century, one of Polly East Gallaway's grandsons had this to say about her:

*“When I was but a lad I saw her. She was a large, portly, vigorous old lady; at the age of eighty [she] could ride a horseback 25 or 30 miles—[she was] of fair complexion, dark hair.”*

At an advanced age, Polly East Gallaway married Elder Hutchinson (1776–after 1860), a Primitive Baptist minister, with whom she allegedly moved to Walton County, Florida. In the 1860 census, she is enumerated as a ninety-three-year-old woman living in Walton County, Florida (between Pensacola and Panama City on the Gulf Coast) with R. Hutchinson, who was eighty-four and defined as a pauper in the census record.

We do not know when Polly East Gallaway died. One account records that she was ninety-six years old at her death. Other accounts note that she lived for twelve years after the Civil War began and was 103 years old, which would mean that she was born in c. 1770. For her death year, we use a range between 1863 and 1873. Polly East Gallaway is buried in the Lester Burying Ground in Walton County, Georgia, just east of Atlanta.



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### 3. NEVILLE'S EAST HERITAGE

Thomas East Sr. (1640–1726)	m. c. 1665	Winifred Hudnate (1645–1674)
Edward East Sr. (1674–1735)	m. 1699	Elizabeth Woodson (1679–1753)
Joseph East (1708–1772)	m. 1732	Mary Barnet (1712–1777)
James East Sr. (1735–1805/09)	m. 1755	Euphan Eushan (1737–1821)
Mary “Polly” East (c. 1770–1863/73)	m. c. 1790	Matthew Gallaway (1759–1824)
Anderson Gallaway (1794–1869)	m. 1816	Delilah Ponder (1797–1834)
Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)	m. 1842	Rowena McCord (1816–1849)
John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)	m. 1868	Eudocia Margaret Martin (1846–1927)
Charlotte Gallaway (1878–1968)	m. 1901	Charles D. Frierson Sr. (1877–1947)
Charles D. Frierson Jr. (1907–1970)	m. 1931	Margaret Purifoy (1908–1973)

Neville's fourth great-grandmother **Mary “Polly” East (c. 1770–1863/73)** lived most of her long life in Georgia, but she was descended from an early colonial family from Virginia. Her earliest known antecedent is **Thomas East Sr. (1640–1726)**, who lived in Henrico County, Virginia. Thomas East Sr.'s will is dated August 11, 1726, and is signed with a mark that resembles the letters *E* and *T*. He left his plantation to his eldest son; his personal belongings to his second wife, Dorothy Thomas (1640–1702); and one shilling to his son **Edward East Sr. (1674–1735)**.

In 1699 Edward East Sr. married a Quaker, **Elizabeth Woodson (1679–1753)**, who was a great-granddaughter of **Dr. John Woodson (1586–1644)**, a notable colonist who settled near Jamestown, Virginia, in 1619. Dr. John Woodson was killed by Indians in 1644.

Edward East Sr. is recorded as a landholder in Henrico County in 1705. His will, dated August 8, 1734, is also recorded and signed with an X. His estate was valued at twenty-three pounds sterling. He named six children as heirs, including Neville's sixth great-grandfather **Joseph East (1708–1772)**.

Joseph East was born in Henrico County and later moved to Louisa County, just northwest of Richmond, Virginia. In his will, dated April 16, 1768, he left his real estate and personal property to his wife, **Mary Barnet (1712–1777)**. He left five shillings to his son, Neville's fifth great-grandfather **James East Sr. (1735–1805/09)**.

In 1755 James East Sr. married **Euphan Eushan (1737–1821)**,\* with whom he had three boys and four girls, including Mary “Polly” East, Neville’s fourth great-grandmother. James East Sr. was a farmer in Pittsylvania and Henry Counties in Virginia before the Revolutionary War (1775–83). On August 30, 1777, while living in Henry County, James East Sr. signed an oath renouncing allegiance to Great Britain. This oath was required of all men above the age of sixteen by an act of the Virginia Assembly.

In 1789, the year of the inauguration of George Washington (1732–1799) as the first president of the United States, James East Sr., his wife, and his daughter left Henry County and settled in Georgia, in an area that is now Oglethorpe County. In about 1790, shortly after they arrived, Polly East met and married **Matthew Gallaway (1759–1824)**.

#### 4. WE ARE NINTH COUSINS

Neville and I are ninth cousins. The grandparents that Neville and I share are our seventh great-grandparents **John Woodson (1658–1715)** and **Judith Tarleton (1662–1714)**, who lived in Goochland County, Virginia.

<b>JOHN WOODSON (1658–1715)</b>	<b>m. 1679</b>	<b>JUDITH TARLETON (1662–1714)</b>
<b>Elizabeth Woodson (1679–1753)</b>	<b>Siblings</b>	<b>Tarleton Woodson (1681–1761)</b>
<b>Joseph East (1708–1772)</b>	<b>First cousins</b>	Susannah Woodson (1714–1776)
<b>James East Sr. (1735–1805/09)</b>	<b>Second cousins</b>	James Pleasants (1736–1824)
<b>Mary “Polly” East (c. 1770–1863/73)</b>	<b>Third cousins</b>	Susannah Randolph Pleasants (1776–1793)
<b>Anderson Gallaway (1794–1869)</b>	<b>Fourth cousins</b>	Louisa Pleasants Storrs (1792–1864)
<b>Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)</b>	<b>Fifth cousins</b>	Gervas Storrs Mosby (1818–1867)
<b>John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)</b>	<b>Sixth cousins</b>	Caroline Pleasants Mosby (1858–1890)
<b>Charlotte Martin Gallaway (1878–1968)</b>	<b>Seventh cousins</b>	Caroline Mosby Montgomery (1884–1957)
<b>Charles Davis Frierson Jr. (1907–1970)</b>	<b>Eighth cousins</b>	Catherine C. Wilkerson (1909–2002)
<b>Neville Frierson (b. 1936)</b>	<b>Ninth cousins</b>	John H. Bryan Jr. (b. 1936)

\*Her forename is also recorded as Ellphan, this is perhaps because in cursive script, the letter U can be read as two L's. I really don't know which name is correct.

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### 5. ANDERSON AND DELILAH GALLAWAY, NEVILLE'S THIRD GREAT-GRANDPARENTS

**Anderson Gallaway (1794–1869)** was the second son of **Matthew Gallaway (1759–1824)** and **Mary “Polly” East Gallaway (c. 1770–1863/73)**. Anderson Gallaway is often referred to as Anson, which is most likely a sobriquet derived from a slurring of his Christian name. Anderson Gallaway had three wives and at least fifteen children. He is also enumerated with three of his third wife’s children, who are listed as a part of the Anderson Gallaway family in the U. S. census of 1850.

Anderson Gallaway was born on July 3, 1794, in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, and on January 11, 1816,\* he married **Delilah Ponder (1797–1834)**, who was born in Oglethorpe County on January 11, 1797. Thus, they married on Delilah Ponder’s nineteenth birthday. Delilah Ponder was the daughter of **Amos Ponder (c. 1760–1802)**, a Revolutionary War veteran who served in a South Carolina regiment, and **Violet Luckie (c. 1765–1846)**, whom he married around 1783.

Anderson and Delilah Ponder Gallaway left Oglethorpe County a few years after their 1816 marriage. They moved to Lawrence County in northern Alabama, where they lived for the rest of their lives. Together they had nine children between 1816 and 1833. Delilah died on October 30, 1834, at age thirty-seven. The nine children are:

- **DR. AMOS PONDER GALLAWAY (1816–1871)** was born in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, on October 1, 1816, and he was named for his mother’s father. He moved as an infant to north Alabama. Amos Ponder Gallaway married Caroline Gewin (1815–1847) in Lawrence County, Alabama, on December 27, 1843. Also in 1843, Amos P. Gallaway was elected sheriff of Lawrence County. Their son, Frank Owen Gallaway (1845–1882), became a doctor. A second son, Levi Penn Gallaway (1846–1847), died as an infant in the same year (1847) that his mother, Caroline Gewin Gallaway, died.

On January 3, 1849, Dr. Amos P. Gallaway married seventeen-year-old Mary Hart Pruitt (1831–1896), who was born on August 15, 1831. She was the second of eight daughters (there were two sons) of Colonel John Pruitt (1803–1894) and Martha H. “Mattie” Hart (1811–1842) of Lawrence County. Amos and Mary Pruitt Gallaway had two children: Allen Hart Gallaway (1850–1911), who also became a doctor in Rusk County, Texas, and Mary Frances Gallaway (1853–1854), who died as an infant.

\*The Anderson Gallaway Bible states that they married on January 10, 1816. The original license for their marriage records the date as January 8, 1816. In the Oglethorpe County Marriage Book, it is written that they married on January 11, 1816, the date used by most researchers. Delilah Ponder’s birth date, January 11, 1897, is from Irene Dabney Gallaway’s 1908 booklet about the Gallaway family.

The following narrative is from a book about the history of Rusk County, Texas:

*About 1850 Colonel John Pruitt and his son-in-law, Dr. Amos Ponder Gallaway, came on horseback from their home in Lawrence County, Alabama [a distance of 563 miles] to look for land to buy in Texas. Land records show that on July 14, 1852, A. P. Gallaway paid \$9,000.00 for 4,428 acres in the William Williams survey in the Redlands district of Rusk County, Texas at the present site of Laneville. On July 24, 1852, Gallaway sold one-half the acreage (2,214) to John Pruitt for \$4,500.00.*

*Colonel John Pruitt built the first house in Laneville after clearing the virgin forests. He brought one hundred negroes from Alabama, and they hewed the logs to build a large house. They also built forty-five smaller houses, quarters for the negroes, and a log barn. Only the barn still stands in the 1980s.*

And so, in 1852 Dr. Amos Ponder Gallaway, his second wife, Mary Pruitt Gallaway, and his two surviving sons moved to Rusk County, Texas, where Amos farmed and practiced medicine for the rest of his life. In 1852 he was in the Texas legislature, and in early 1861, he was a delegate to the Succession Convention, which led to Texas joining the Confederacy. When the Civil War began, Amos Ponder Gallaway had 3,600 acres of land and owned thirty-five slaves.

Dr. Amos Ponder Gallaway died at age fifty-five, on October 3, 1871, in Kildare in Cass County, Texas, while visiting at the home of a Gallaway relative. He is buried in the Gallaway Cemetery (now called Laneville Cemetery) in Laneville, Rusk County, Texas. Mary Pruitt Gallaway returned to Lawrence County, Alabama, where she died in 1896 at around age sixty-five.

- **LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY (1819–1867)** was born on May 24, 1819, in Huntsville, Alabama. He was named for his father's half brother. He is Neville's great-great-grandfather.

- **WILLIAM THOMAS GALLAWAY (1821–1841)** was probably named for his father's half brother. He died at age nineteen, and nothing further is known about him.

- **VIOLET LUCKY GALLAWAY (1823–1905)** was born on November 18, 1823, in Lawrence County, Alabama, and was named for her maternal grandmother, Violet Luckie Ponder. On February 2, 1848, Violet Lucky Gallaway married Francis Henry (1824–1865), who died seventeen years later. They apparently had no children.

On February 20, 1867, Violet Gallaway Henry, at age forty-three, married a twenty-year-old farmer named Campbell C. Flanagan (1847–1883). They are recorded living in the town of Courtland in Lawrence County, Alabama, in 1870. It is also recorded that on May 31, 1872, Campbell Flanagan murdered a man in that county. The local newspaper, *The Moulton Advertiser*, reported that the coroner and an attending physician “held an inquest on the body of David H. Pate, living eight or ten miles west of this place—who received a stab of a knife in his left shoulder blade, about two inches broad and eight deep, at Milam’s store, from Campbell Flanagan of this county, causing immediate death, all from a foolish misunderstanding.”

Some time after that event, Violet and Campbell Flanagan moved to Red River County in East Texas, where they are enumerated in 1880 at ages fifty-six and thirty-three, respectively.

Campbell Flanagan died on August 20, 1883, in Texas, and Violet returned to live in Moulton, Alabama, where she died at the age of eighty-one on March 11, 1905.

In a letter written by Violet Lucky, she gave this account of her life:

*When I was 9 years old [she was ten], my mother died and left nine children, and I had to take charge of them. One of these was a baby. Then my troubles commenced. After some time my father married again [in 1836, when Violet was thirteen], and I was taken off from them to live with my grandmother [Violet Luckie Ponder]. And that was sorrow to leave them and then we were scattered to the ends of the earth never to see each other in this life.*

- **MARY EAST GALLAWAY (1825– )** was born on September 22, 1825, in Lawrence County, Alabama. She was named for her paternal grandmother, Mary “Polly” East Gallaway. She married William S. Simpson (1824–1863) at age twenty on May 27, 1846, in Lawrence County. They had six children—three boys and three girls. In the mid-1850s, the family moved to Pontotoc County, Mississippi, about 125 miles west of Lawrence County, Alabama.

William S. Simpson volunteered as a private in New Albany in Union County, Mississippi, on May 16, 1861. His military unit became Company K of the 21st Mississippi Regiment, which fought in the Eastern Theater during the Civil War. William S. Simpson’s final months of Civil War service are clouded by incomplete and contradictory records. One report states that he died of gastritis in General Hospital No. 2 in Richmond, Virginia, on June 5, 1863. Another report states that he was killed in Virginia on June 7, 1863. His official record states that he fought in engagements in Virginia and Maryland in the latter part of 1862, but that he was “*Absent Sick*” during the first half of 1863. That record says that he died on August 8, 1863.

William S. Simpson is buried in the Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia. We have found no reliable information about Mary East Gallaway Simpson and her children after the Civil War.

- **ELIZA ANN GALLAWAY (1827–1909)** was born in Lawrence County and married Seaborn Franklin Wallace (1825–1905) of Lawrence County in about 1852. A short time after their marriage, the couple moved to Douglass, a town in Nacogdoches (pronounced “Nack-a-DOE-chess”) County in East Texas. They lived there for the rest of their lives. Seaborn Franklin and Eliza Ann Gallaway Wallace had seven children—three girls and four boys.

Seaborn Franklin Wallace served in Company G of Terrell’s Texas Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. He died at age seventy-nine and is buried in the Redland Cemetery in Nacogdoches County. Eliza Gallaway Wallace died at age eighty-one and is buried with her husband.



- **EMILY ELIZABETH GALLAWAY (1829\*–1907)** married William Alexander Lester (1827–1896) of Lawrenceville in Gwinnett County (near Atlanta), Georgia, on July 29, 1849. They had six children. In the 1860s, Elizabeth Gallaway Lester cared for her aged paternal grandmother, Polly Gallaway, at her home in Walton County, which is adjacent to Gwinnett County. William A. Lester died in Lawrenceville, Georgia, in 1896, at age sixty-eight. In 1900 Emily Elizabeth Gallaway Lester was living with her daughter Mrs. Charles C. (Viranus) Rawlins (1859–after 1920) and her family in Gwinnett County. Emily Elizabeth Gallaway Lester died on July 3, 1907, the day after her seventy-eighth birthday. She is buried in the Haynes Creek Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery in Gwinnett County, along with her husband.

Emily Elizabeth Gallaway Lester gave financial support for the booklet about Matthew Gallaway published by **Irene Dabney Gallaway (1869–1957)** in 1908. Her daughter Viranus Rawlins is credited with having “*contributed many valuable items to this record.*”

- **ROBINSON HENDON GALLAWAY (1831–1913)** was born in Lawrence County, Alabama, but moved as a young man to live in Rusk County, Texas, where his brother Dr. Amos Ponder Gallaway was living. On January 18, 1859, his twenty-eighth birthday, he married Catherine Pruitt (1838–1871) in Rusk County, Texas. She was the twenty-one-year-old sister of Amos Ponder Gallaway’s wife, Mary Pruitt Gallaway, who had moved from Alabama to Rusk County, Texas, with her father, Colonel John Pruitt, in about 1852. Robinson Hendon and Catherine Pruitt Gallaway had five children, born in 1860, 1862, 1864, 1865, and 1867.

Robinson Hendon Gallaway served four years in the Confederate Army, having enlisted in Company F of the 17th Texas Cavalry Regiment. He is quoted in Irene Dabney Gallaway’s booklet as saying, “*I was never a prisoner, nor did I receive a scratch.*” After the Civil War, the family moved westward to live in Coryell County, Texas, near Waco.

Catherine Pruitt Gallaway died in April 1871, and on January 3, 1872, Robinson Hendon Gallaway married Catherine’s sister Nancy “Nannie” Pruitt (c. 1839–1919) in Rusk County, Texas. Robinson Hendon and Nannie Pruitt Gallaway had twin children born February 16, 1873, but they died about four months later. They also had two daughters born in 1875 and 1876. Robinson Hendon Gallaway died at age eighty-two, in May of 1913, in Coryell County, Texas. His wife, Nannie, applied for a Confederate widow’s pension on February 21, 1914, and died at about age seventy-nine, on January 16, 1919.

- **JOSEPH ANDERSON GALLAWAY (1833–1895)** was born on January 27, 1833, in Lawrence County, Alabama. At age fourteen, in about 1847, he left his home to become an apprentice to his brother

\*The Anderson Gallaway Bible states that Emily Elizabeth Gallaway was born on July 2, 1829. Her tombstone records her date of birth as July 4, 1830. In this case, we have chosen to use the 1829 date.

Levi James Galloway, who was a newspaper publisher in Moulton, Alabama. At age nineteen, in 1852, he moved to Rusk County, Texas, where his older brother Amos Ponder Galloway lived. In December 1856, he married Mary Jane Graham (1837–1867) in Rusk County. They had five children, three of whom survived. Mary Jane died at age thirty and is buried in the Laneville Cemetery in Rusk County, Texas.

Joseph Anderson Galloway served with his brother Robinson Hendon Galloway in Company F of the 17th Texas Cavalry, which was dismounted and became an infantry regiment. They fought in the Battle of Mansfield (April 8, 1864) and the Battle of Pleasant Hill (April 9, 1864), which successfully defended Shreveport, Louisiana, the capital of Louisiana at that time. These battles are considered to be the last Confederate victories during the Civil War.

On November 20, 1870, Joseph Anderson Galloway married his first wife's sister, Emmeline Matilda Graham (1844–1925), with whom he had at least eight children. Joseph Anderson Galloway died at age sixty-two, on November 11, 1895, at The Grove, a community in Coryell County, Texas. Emmeline Graham Galloway was a widow for the next thirty years. She applied for a Confederate widow's pension at age sixty-five, on October 25, 1909, and that application was rejected in 1913. On October 14, 1924, she again applied for a Confederate widow's pension and was approved to receive her pension as of September 1, 1924. She died a little over a year later, at age eighty-one, on October 13, 1925.

Delilah Ponder Galloway, Anderson Galloway's first wife, died on October 30, 1834, in Lawrence County, Alabama. She was thirty-seven years old and left nine children between ages two and eighteen. The children were then raised by various relatives.

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In September of 1836, Anderson Galloway married a widow named Martha Carter Stockton (c. 1806–c. 1840), with whom he had two more children, who are half siblings of Levi James Galloway.

- **MARTHA CATHERINE GALLOWAY (1838–1862)** was born on December 31, 1838, and was Anderson Galloway's first child with his second wife, Martha Carter Stockton Galloway. Martha Catherine, called Mattie, lost her mother while she was an infant and she and her brother were probably raised by a related family. Martha Catherine Galloway married Nathaniel Smith Norwood (1833–1898) of Lawrence County on August 7, 1856. They had three children—one girl and two boys. Martha Galloway died at age twenty-three, in January 1862, a few weeks after the birth of her third child.

- **ALFRED GALLOWAY (c. 1839–1921)** was born in Lawrence County, Alabama. We believe he was raised by another family in Lawrence County and that he moved to Mississippi. Irene Dabney Galloway wrote the following lore about him:

*He was a Confederate soldier; at the Battle of Shiloh, where he “captured a Yankee”, his eyes were burnt by powder, and it seems he was subject to blindness ever after. At Murphreesboro he was wounded in the arm. After the war he remained in Mississippi for several years, then went to Texas. He was killed by a tree falling on him while hunting.*

Alfred Gallaway married Nancy Neal Adkins (c. 1844– ) on November 28, 1865, in Monroe County, Mississippi. They had one child, Mathilda “Mattie” Flora Gallaway (1866–1957). She was born on September 3, 1866, and died in Texas on July 23, 1957. We know nothing about Alfred Gallaway’s whereabouts between his marriage in 1865 and his death in Texas on November 3, 1921.

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On February 20, 1844, Anderson Gallaway married his third wife, Jane Harris Davis (1816–after 1870), and she brought to their marriage three children by her previous marriage. The children’s names were Sarah, John, and Robert and they were between the ages of seven and eleven. They are enumerated as Gallaway children in the 1850 U. S. Census.

In his third marriage, Anderson Gallaway had four children, two of whom died as infants. The other two are:

- **NANCY “NANNIE” CAROLINE GALLAWAY (1845–1937)** was born on February 16, 1845, in Lawrence County, Alabama. She married Clark Bobo Henry (1846–1921) on January 31, 1869. They had eight children and moved from Alabama to live near Dallas, Texas. Nannie Gallaway Henry died on November 2, 1937, at age ninety-two.

- **NEHEMIAH THADDEUS GALLAWAY (1849–1935)** was born in Lawrence County on May 16, 1849. Nehemiah Thaddeus Gallaway married Eliza A. Pool (c. 1848–1874) on November 28, 1871, and they had two children. Eliza Pool Gallaway died on June 15, 1874, after which Nehemiah Thaddeus Gallaway married Mary Murphy (1846–1898) on November 28, 1874. Nehemiah Thaddeus Gallaway died at age eighty-six on September 13, 1935, in Wilbarger County in north Texas. He is buried in Eastview Memorial Park in Vernon, Texas.

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In a letter dated July 8, 1866, Anderson’s son Levi James Gallaway asked his son **John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)**, “*Can you find out whether my old father is yet living.*” It is likely that Levi and his father were estranged.

Levi died on February 1, 1867, at age forty-seven. His father, Anderson Gallaway, died on February 14, 1869, at age seventy-four, and is buried at the Town Creek Cemetery #1 in Landersville in Lawrence County, Alabama.



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**6. THE FOUR WIVES OF LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY**

**Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)** had four wives during the twenty-seven years between 1840 and 1867. The first three died during that time, but his last wife outlived him by fifty-four years.

On March 26, 1840, at age twenty, Levi James Gallaway married Adeline Roddy (c. 1820–1840/41)\* in Moulton in Lawrence County, Alabama. Adeline died less than a year after their wedding.

On December 29, 1842, at age twenty-three, Levi married **Rowena McCord (1816–1849)**, who was three years older than Levi. She is Neville’s great-great-grandmother, and they had two children.

The oldest was **John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)**, Neville’s great-grandfather, and the second child was **Harriett “Hattie” McCrary Gallaway (1848–1892)\*\***. Rowena died of bronchial consumption, a pulmonary disease, on July 11, 1849, less than seven years after she married. The children went to live with McCord relatives and were primarily raised by their aunt **Cynthia McCord (1818–1889)**, who in 1850 was living with her father, **James McCord Jr. (1779–1861)**, in Lawrence County. They moved to Corinth, Mississippi, later in the 1850s.

On July 11, 1850, at age thirty-one, Levi married Sarah Adeline Davidson (1825–1851). One year later on July 9, 1851, both Sarah Adeline Gallaway and her son, **James R. Gallaway (1851–1851)**, died at childbirth. There is a tombstone inscribed, “*James R Gallaway / Son of LJ and SA Gallaway / July 9, 1851,*” in the Elliott Jackson Cemetery in Hillsboro, a small town fourteen miles north of Moulton in Lawrence County, Alabama.

On July 10, 1856, at age thirty-seven, Levi married his fourth wife, Susan Dorcas Rose (1837–1921), a nineteen-year-old orphan raised by a family in south Alabama. They married in Elba, Alabama.

In 1860 they are enumerated in Columbus, Lowndes County, Mississippi. They had three daughters, two of whom lived to maturity. The eldest was **Laura Elizabeth Gallaway (1857–1917)**, born in South Alabama, and her younger sister, **Julia Lorraine Gallaway (1861–1920)**, was born in Mobile, Alabama.

\*In *Irene Dabney Gallaway’s (1869–1957) booklet about the Gallaway family*, Levi Gallaway’s first wife is recorded as Caroline Roddy and is said to be the older sister of Confederate Brigadier General Phillip Dale Roddy/Roddey (1826–1897). We have found no record to support that statement.

\*\*In 1866 Hattie McCrary Gallaway married James F. Small (1838–1894) of Corinth, Mississippi. They lived there for the rest of their lives. Hattie McCrary died at age forty-four, in 1892, and James Small died at age fifty-six, in 1894. They are buried in City Cemetery in Corinth.

## 7. LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY, NEWSPAPERMAN AND POSTMASTER, BECOMES A SCALAWAG

In 1841, at about age twenty-two, **Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)** founded the *Moulton Advertiser*, a newspaper in Moulton, the county seat of Lawrence County, Alabama. Today the *Moulton Advertiser* is the oldest weekly newspaper still in publication in the state of Alabama. The original newspaper was printed on a wooden printing press, the bed of which was stone. The press printed only one page at a time.

Levi James Gallaway's early newspaper career occurred at about the same time as that of Matthew Campbell Gallaway (1820–1898),\* Levi James Gallaway's contemporary and first cousin. Matthew C. Gallaway, at age eighteen, was the owner and editor of the *Moulton News* in 1838; later he was a newspaperman in Tuscumbia and Decatur, Alabama. For twelve years, Matthew C. Gallaway published the *Florence Gazette* in Florence, Alabama. He bought the *Sunny South* in Aberdeen, Mississippi, in 1856, and started the *Avalanche* in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1857.

In January 1852, Levi James Gallaway was appointed postmaster for the town of Hillsboro, fourteen miles north of Moulton in Lawrence County. In September 1853, he is also recorded as the postmaster of Dry Creek, a historical post office near Hillsboro. In 1856 Levi Gallaway was appointed postmaster in Elba, a small town in Coffee County in southern Alabama.

In September 1857, Levi James Gallaway purchased the *Sunny South* from his cousin Matthew Campbell Gallaway. Later in 1857, Levi Gallaway established a newspaper called *Gallaway's Expositor* in Columbus, Mississippi, about thirty miles south of Aberdeen. That newspaper was strongly pro-Union and fiercely opposed to Mississippi's 1861 secession from the United States. As a result, Levi Gallaway was branded a "scalawag," a nickname given to Southerners who were Union sympathizers.

Because the Democratic Party split over the issue of slavery in 1860, Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865) won the presidential race with 39.8% of the national vote. Following his election, South Carolina seceded from the Union on December 20, 1860; Mississippi seceded in January 1861; and the Civil War erupted on April 12, 1861. A few years later, writing about the loss of his newspaper, Levi James Gallaway commented in a letter to Vice President Andrew Johnson (1808–1875), "*In the early part of 1861 my office was seized and your humble servant ordered to leave the state.*" Levi Gallaway, the "scalawag," was literally run out of town, and his newspaper career was ended. He removed to Mobile, Alabama.

\*Colonel Matthew Campbell Gallaway was a close friend and aide de camp to General Nathan Bedford Forrest (1821–1877). From 1857 to 1870, Matthew Campbell owned a Memphis newspaper called the *Avalanche*. From 1870 to 1887, he was half owner of the *Memphis Appeal*, which became *The Commercial Appeal* in 1894. Matthew Campbell was a notable and feisty pro-Rebel journalist and a great proponent of duel fighting.

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## 8. CAPTAIN LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY IN THE CIVIL WAR

When the Civil War began on April 12, 1861, **Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)** was in Mobile, Alabama, with his pregnant wife, Susan Dorcas Rose (1837–1921), and their three-year-old daughter, **Laura Elizabeth Gallaway (1857–1917)**. A second daughter, **Julia Lorraine Gallaway (1861–1920)**, was born in November 1861. Soon after, the family left Mobile, where Levi Gallaway was being persecuted for his pro-Union pronouncements, some of which were published in Northern newspapers.

The Gallaway family moved to Elba, a small town in southern Alabama, where he and his wife had married. Elba was a place where there were Union sympathizers. While there, Levi Gallaway tried to organize the Union supporters, but he was not successful.

Although he was forty-three years old and living in a reasonably safe location, Levi James Gallaway grew quite restless in Elba. In November 1862, he floated down the Pea River into the Choctawhatchee (“Choc-ta-HATCH-ee”) River, moving safely beyond Confederate lines, and met up with the United States Navy, which was blockading the Gulf Coast around Pensacola, Florida. For the next three months, Levi Gallaway piloted boats picking up Confederate deserters and draft dodgers who were trying to escape to a safe haven at Fort Pickens, a United States military base near Pensacola. Later Levi brought his wife and two daughters to Pensacola and bought a schooner

called *Buchanan*. Records state that he had \$2,000 in “good currency” at that time.

In late 1863, Levi James Gallaway made a pro-Union speech that got the attention of Brigadier General Alexander S. Asboth (1811–1868), the United States commander of the West Florida District at Fort Pickens. On December 27, General Asboth commented about Levi James Gallaway:



*Brigadier General Alexander S. Asboth, a Hungarian-born Union general assigned to the West Florida District in August 1863. He was severely wounded in September 1864, mustered out of the military in August 1865, and died in January 1868, while serving as the United States minister to Argentina.*



*Having no steamer and no other vessel at my disposal to collect the refugees with, I have made use of a private schooner [a sailing ship with two or more masts] in charge of Captain Gallaway, a most reliable, highminded Union man, who has succeeded, in one trip to the East Pass of the bay, in bringing 25 able-bodied men—all his schooner could take. . . . I have started Captain Gallaway on a second trip.*

In the fall of 1863, the Federal Army decided to organize the 1st Florida Cavalry Regiment, but it had little success until Levi James Gallaway got involved. By January 10, 1864, Levi Gallaway had recruited more than 120 refugees, men whom he had transported safely beyond Confederate lines. For this effort, he received notification that he would be appointed captain of Company A of the 1st Florida Cavalry and that he would report to General Asboth.



*The only known 1st Florida Cavalry flag (18 × 24 inches) was offered at auction by James D. Julia of Maine on March 13, 2012, with an estimated price of \$20,000 to \$30,000. The flag sold for \$21,275. This U. S. flag has thirty-four white silk embroidered stars, representing the number of states in the Union, including the states that had seceded. The stars are placed in a six over five arrangement. This flag was used from July 4, 1861, after Kansas became the thirty-fourth state, to July 3, 1863. On June 20, 1863, during the Civil War, West Virginia became the thirty-fifth state admitted to the Union when it separated from the state of Virginia. Photo courtesy of James D. Julia Auctioneers, Fairfield, Maine.*





*Lieutenant George Ross of the 7th Vermont Regiment, the Union officer who fought with, was captured with, and was imprisoned with Levi James Gallaway in the Civil War. For thirty years after the war, images of 859 Vermont officers (sixty-three percent of the 1,363 Vermont men who served as officers) were collected, and these are preserved at the Vermont Historical Society.*

Although he had not been mustered into service, on January 28, 1864, forty-four-year-old Captain Levi James Gallaway, under orders from General Asboth, was sent on a recruiting mission with twenty-four-year-old Lieutenant George Ross (1839–after 1880) of Vergennes, Vermont, and seventeen men from Company B of the 7th Vermont Infantry Regiment. Their expedition set out from Fort Barrancas in Pensacola on the *Buchanan* and arrived at Point Washington, at the east end of Choctawhatchee Bay, on February 5, 1864.

After securing fourteen recruits at Point Washington, Captain Levi James Gallaway, Lieutenant George Ross, and the seventeen Vermonters (thirty-three men) daringly moved inland into enemy country to capture Floyd's Company, a Confederate infantry company encamped at Cedar Bluff, on the eastern bank of the Choctawhatchee River, about forty miles north of Point Washington. On February 8, 1864, at 10:00 P.M., they surrounded and captured, without resistance, two lieutenants and fifty Confederate soldiers. After the capture, according to records, "A sentinel [guard] was placed over the Rebel officers but it was taken off by Captain Gallaway, and both of them made their escape during the night."

The next day, February 9, 1864, Levi James Gallaway and his Federal troops and prisoners left camp at about 4:00 A.M. They then marched fifteen miles back toward Point Washington, to a place near the headwaters of Otter Creek, where they stopped at noon for dinner. Suddenly, about one hundred Confederate cavalymen charged Levi Gallaway and his troops. After a brief exchange of gunfire during the engagement at Otter Creek, one Vermonter was killed and eighteen men were captured. The captured men included Levi James Gallaway, Lieutenant George Ross, eleven of his



*This map shows the areas of southern Alabama and western Florida where Levi James Gallaway, Neville's great-great-grandfather, lived, fought, and was captured during the Civil War.*

men, and five refugee recruits who had recently joined the group. Fourteen men, including five Vermonters and nine of the refugee recruits, escaped capture at Otter Creek. Those who were not captured arrived back at Fort Barrancas on February 16, 1864.\*

Lieutenant George Ross and his eleven men are recorded on February 23, 1864 (two weeks after their capture), at the Apalachicola Arsenal, a United States Military Arms Depot in Chattahoochee, Florida. Levi James Gallaway and the five captured refugees presumably were also there. The arsenal was under the control of the Confederates.

\*All of the information about Captain Levi James Gallaway's expedition and capture is recorded in a report made by Lieutenant Colonel David B. Peck, Seventh Vermont Infantry, on February 17, 1864, at Camp Roberts in Barrancas. The report is published in *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, series 1, volume 35, part 1, pp. 356-57.

The eleven Vermont prisoners were soon transferred to the infamous Andersonville Prison Camp, where three of them died within a few months. The Andersonville Prison Camp was located in Andersonville, Georgia, about 138 miles north of the Apalachicola Arsenal. The prison camp was established in late February 1864, and by August of that year, it held 33,000 inmates. During its fifteen months of existence, 45,000 prisoners were received at Andersonville, 13,000 of whom died. The five captured Confederate refugee recruits were soon sent to a conscript camp, and presumably they were forced to again become Confederate soldiers.



*An 1865 photograph of Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia, where Levi James Gallaway was incarcerated after being captured in February 1864.*

At some time during their imprisonment, Capt. Levi James Gallaway and Lieutenant George Ross were sent to Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia. It was a Confederate prison for Union officers located on the James River in a three-story converted tobacco house. After the Civil War, the building was moved to Chicago to house a museum; however, it was torn down in 1899.

Levi James Gallaway probably spent only about three to four months at Libby Prison before being transferred to other Confederate prisons during his year of confinement. Imprisoned officers were often moved around during the latter part of the Civil War. On February 24, 1865, Levi Gallaway was released on parole in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and escorted across the state to Wilmington, where he entered Union lines on March 1, 1865. On March 5, he reported to Camp Parole, a Union camp in Annapolis, Maryland, where Confederate prisoners were sent following their parole. On March 10, 1865, Levi James Gallaway was given a furlough of thirty days.\*

Levi James Gallaway next returned to his home in Pensacola, Florida, arriving on April 14, 1865, the day President Abraham Lincoln was shot. He had traveled there on a ship via New Orleans, Louisiana. Levi Gallaway reported to his regiment upon his arrival in Pensacola, and in the muster roll calls for April, May, and June 1865, he is listed as an “*absent prisoner of war (paroled) Present within Dist.*” On August 31, 1865, Levi James Gallaway was declared physically capable of performing the duties of an officer in the field, and the next day, September 1, he mustered in as captain of Company E, 1st Florida Cavalry.

Captain Levi James Gallaway’s company was soon ordered to Monticello, Florida, in response to a rumor that the African American soldiers there were going to revolt. Unfortunately, while he was there, a horse fell on Levi, injuring his leg and ankle. The regiment was ordered back to Tallahassee, where it mustered out on November 17, 1865, thus bringing Levi James Gallaway’s military career to an end.

\*Levi James Gallaway’s imprisonment and subsequent whereabouts are revealed in an 1880s United States government record entitled “Memorandum from Prisoner of War Records.” It is based on records in the government’s possession at that time.



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## 9. A BUREAUCRATIC NIGHTMARE FOR LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY

When **Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)** was captured in Florida on February 9, 1864, during the Civil War, he had not been officially mustered into the Union Army, and his commission as a captain had not been approved. This circumstance created a bureaucratic nightmare for him for the rest of his life.

Levi James Gallaway's commission as a captain in the Union Army was signed by Major General Nathaniel P. Banks (1816–1894), commander of the Department of the Gulf, on May 30, 1864. The date of the signing was four months after Levi James Gallaway's capture, a fact that General Banks did not know when he signed Levi's commission.

After the Union Army bureaucrats discovered the problem in June 1864, they discussed it for about six months and then made the following statement:

*The taking up of Mr. Gallaway on the rolls as Captain was a false muster. . . . His name should appear on the records of the company to which he was appointed as "Citizen." . . . Under the present circumstances, I think it would be a gross injustice to cancel his commission, as he was captured according to the written report, while serving the government. When Mr. Gallaway is exchanged he should make a statement of the facts relating to his appointment as Captain [and it] should be forwarded . . . to [the] Adj't Gen'l of the Army\* for decision, regarding his claims to muster, and date it should take effect.*

A decision about Levi Gallaway's predicament had been delayed, but the remarks on his muster rolls over the next months simply called him a citizen and noted that he was "*absent, prisoner of war.*"

Levi James Gallaway was paroled from prison, after about twelve months of incarceration, on February 24, 1865. One month after that parole, while in New Orleans, Louisiana, on his way home to Pensacola, Florida, Levi James Gallaway wrote a letter to Vice President Andrew Johnson (1808–1875), asking that his rank of captain be restored and his muster date be placed at May 30, 1864.

\*This refers to the chief administrative officer of the military.

It was not until September 1, 1865, almost five months after the end of the Civil War, that the matter was resolved. On that date, Levi James Gallaway was mustered again into the Union Army, this time as captain of Company E of the 1st Florida Cavalry Regiment. His date of muster was recorded as May 30, 1864.

Levi James Gallaway's remuster set the record straight, but it made no difference to him at the time. Levi never received his back pay, and none of his other claims was ever paid to him by the United States government.

Levi James Gallaway's widow, Susan Dorcas Rose Gallaway (1837–1921), did continue to pursue the matter after Levi died in 1867. As a result of her efforts, on March 21, 1874, the United States Congress passed an Act of Relief of Susan D. Gallaway. It states:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the proper accounting officer of the Treasury is hereby directed to cause to be paid to Susan D Gallaway [sic.], widow of Captain James L. Gallaway, [sic.] late of Company E, first Florida cavalry, out of any money now appropriated or that may hereafter be appropriated for the support of the army, the full pay and emoluments of a captain of a cavalry from April twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to August thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-five.*

*Approved, March 21, 1874.*

Given the compensation for a Union captain in the Civil War (monthly pay of \$115.50), Susan Dorcas Rose Gallaway should have received back pay of \$1,867.25 for Levi James Gallaway's sixteen months and five days of service.

Susan Dorcas Rose Gallaway was also approved to receive a Civil War pension from the government on October 21, 1874. She was, thus, presumably compensated for the remaining forty-six years of her life. Civil War widow's pensions were \$8 per month from 1868 until 1886, when they were raised to \$12 per month. They were raised to \$30 per month in 1913. We estimate that Susan Dorcas received pension payments of between \$7,500 and \$8,000 during her widowhood. Levi James Gallaway would have been pleased.

## LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY | ROWENA McCORD

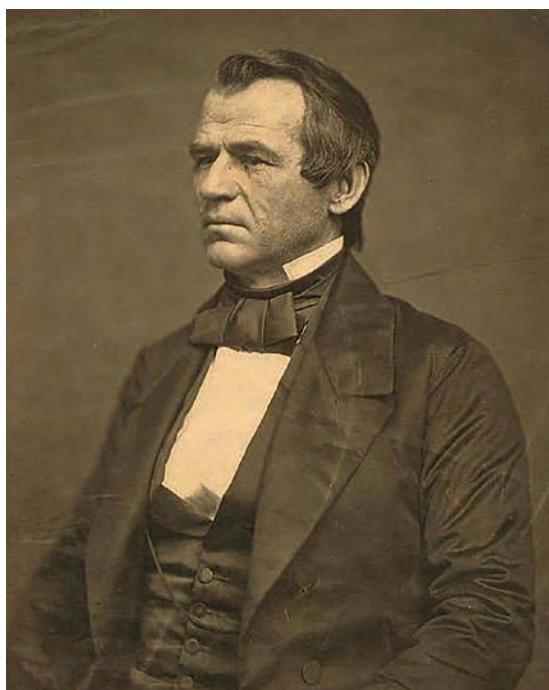
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## 10. LETTER FROM LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY TO VICE PRESIDENT ANDREW JOHNSON

The archives of United States President Andrew Johnson (1808–1875) include a letter written to him on March 24, 1865, by **Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)**, Neville’s great-great-grandfather. The letter is a personal appeal to Vice President Johnson for his assistance in clarifying Levi James Gallaway’s military status. One month earlier, on February 24, 1865, Levi James Gallaway, a soldier in the United States Army, had been released after being incarcerated for over one year in a Confederate prison.

On March 4, 1865, about a week after Levi James Gallaway was released from prison, Andrew Johnson, a Tennessean, was inaugurated as vice president, to serve under President Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865) during his second term in office. Undoubtedly, Levi James Gallaway felt a close affinity to Andrew Johnson, for they were both pro-Union, Southern Democrats.

As far as we know, Levi James Gallaway’s letter was never answered. We do know that three weeks after it was written, on April 15, 1865, Vice President Johnson became the seventeenth president of the United States, succeeding President Lincoln after his assassination.



Levi James Gallaway’s carefully considered letter provides an excellent summary of his life before and during the Civil War. It also reveals the writing style of a man who was, foremostly, a newspaperman. This copy of that letter appears in *The Papers of Andrew Johnson, Volume 7, 1864–1865*.

*Vice President Andrew Johnson, who became president of the United States on April 15, 1865.*



Dear Sir:

Allow me to trouble you a moment. I was born and educated in North Alabama—have been connected with the Press of that State and Mississippi for twenty years—a zealous supporter of Democratic measures.] it is reasonable to suppose that I supported Stephen A. Douglas for the Presidency, and my paper, "Gallaway's Expositor,"<sup>2</sup> Columbus, Miss., was one of the few papers of that state to take a stand for him, as the bona fide nominee of the National Democratic Convention. I was a delegate to the State Convention at Holly Springs to form an Electoral Ticket for Miss. Mr. Douglas' defeat with its results to those of us who supported him in the South are known to you. In my humble judgment it became the duty of all true democrats to abide the decision of the people as expressed through the ballot box. I therefor became a "submissionist" (as denominated by the Breckenridge fire eaters) and was denounced as a traitor to the South by the then newly formed Secession party— In the early part of '61 my office was seized and your humble servant ordered to leave the State, I visited my native State and made every exertion to rally the union elements to resistance, but with little success. In November '62 I made my way to our blockading vessels off East Pass, Fla. where I remained three months, aiding refugees to get through, and acting as pilot to our forces. I assisted over three hundred refugees into the ranks of our army meanwhile— Since which time I have been employed all the time in various ways in the service, and doing every thing in my power to aid in suppressing the rebellion. In '63 I made the only union speech in Pensacola, Fla., and recruited the only Regiment or company that has been raised in that State during the war. In the latter part of '63 I was authorized by Brig. Gen. Asboth,<sup>3</sup> commanding the Post of Pensacola, to raise a regiment to be called the 1st Florida Cavalry, and by the 1st Feby '64 had done a good part of the work, when I was ordered by the Genl. to take command of an expedition into the interior,<sup>4</sup> where, on the 9th Feby '64 I was captured, together with eleven of my men— I was acting as Captain, though not mustered. I am now, after a year's confinement in the "cinets of iniquity"—rebel prisons—here a paroled prisoner of war, enroute for Pensacola, where I left my wife & children<sup>5</sup> 13 months ago; and my object in addressing you is, to ask your assistance in a matter of moment to myself and little family, who have suffered much—being deprived of the comforts of home, and robbed of every valuable, they need my wages as an officer. I was not mustered before being captured, therefore must lose my time during imprisonment unless I can be mustered back to the time of my appointment and the commencement of my work in raising the Regiment— I will, on my arrival at Pensacola forward my papers and a statement to the proper department, and any assistance you may see fit to render me in this matter will be gratefully remembered.

It is my purpose to remain in Florida, where I shall use every means in my power in aid of our cause, both in suppressing the rebellion and the bringing back into the union "the land of flowers."

You will please pardon this liberty taken by one with whom no personal acquaintance has heretofore existed. My relations bearing the same name of myself, and with some of whom you are doubtless acquainted, I am sorry to say, have taken sides with the insurgents.<sup>6</sup> Those of our public men to whom I could refer you respecting my antecedents, are in the same category— I understand, however, that my old friend Hon. Geo. S. Houston,<sup>7</sup> of Athens, Ala. is in our lines— Sorry he did not take a decided stand at an early day; the condition of things in our old State would be diferent.

With high regard, I am, sir,  
Very Respy Yours, Levi J. Gallaway.

Hon. A. Johnson, Washington, D.C.

ALS, DLC-JP2.

1. Levi J. Gallaway (b. c1819), editor and printer, in 1866 was a member of the first central committee of the Florida Union party. 1860 Census, Miss., Lowndes, Columbus, 145; William W. Davis, *The Civil War and Reconstruction in Florida* (New York, 1913), 434.

2. Not found.

3. Alexander S. Asboth.

4. According to Asboth, Gallaway was captured while trying to "collect and bring down refugees." *OR*, Ser. 1, XXXV, Pt. 1, 356.

5. Probably his wife Susan (b. c1837), John (b. c1844), presumably a son by a former marriage, and Laura (b. c1856), all Alabama natives. 1860 Census, Miss., Lowndes, Columbus, 145.

6. One relative of whom Johnson was aware was Matthew C., the pro-southern editor of the Memphis *Avalanche*, from whom Levi had in 1857 purchased the Aberdeen (Miss.) *Sunny South*, when M. C. moved to Memphis. Huntsville *Southern Advocate*, September 10, 1857; James E. Saunders, *Early Settlers of Alabama* (New Orleans, 1899), 75.

7. Former congressman George S. Houston.

**LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY | ROWENA McCORD****PAGES 54–57****11. LETTERS FROM CAPTAIN LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY TO HIS SON JOHN BELL GALLAWAY,  
OCTOBER 16, 1865–OCTOBER 22, 1866**

*Levi James Gallaway,  
c. 1850s.*

After **Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)** was released from a Confederate prison in late February 1865, he received a temporary appointment as inspector of the Custom House in Pensacola, Florida, near his home. In September he mustered in as the captain of Company E and rejoined the 1st Florida Cavalry Regiment in Monticello, Florida, twenty miles east of Tallahassee. He and his regiment mustered out on November 17, 1865.

By early 1866, Levi James Gallaway had returned to the Pensacola area, where he lived with his fourth wife, Susan Dorcas Rose (1837–1921) and their two daughters, nine-year-old **Laura Elizabeth Gallaway (1857–1917)** and four-year-old **Julia Lorraine Gallaway (1861–1920)**. Levi James Gallaway died a year later, at age forty-seven, on February 1, 1867.

While drifting through western Florida during the last year of his life, Levi James Gallaway wrote a number of letters to his son **John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)**, who had fought for the Confederacy and was living in Memphis, Tennessee, at that time. In these letters, Levi Gallaway revealed his thoughts about the war, his regrets, his anguish, and his afflictions.

#### FIRST LETTER FROM MONTICELLO,\* FLORIDA, OCTOBER 16, 1865

The first of Levi James Gallaway's letters was sent from Monticello, Florida, about a month before he ended his military service. The letter is a response to a letter from John Bell Gallaway, who was living in Memphis at the time. In this letter, Levi James offered some thoughts about the war.

*Camps 1st Regt. Fla. Cav.*

*Monticello, Fla.*

*Oct. 16th 1865*

*Dear John:*

*. . . I was highly gratified to learn that you had not gone under in the rebel service; but as I dislike to allude here to this disagreeable subject, I will only say that you may know more of the power of our old Government now than ever before.*

*You are aware that on account of persecutions, I with others made an early drive for the "Yanks." I have done much, suffered much, and learned much, and while I am greatly incensed at the cruelties with which the Union men met everywhere, I owe my life to some who took sides with the South; but my feelings are irreconcilable to the leading men who brought upon the Country one of the greatest calamities of our day. As a prisoner of war I have seen and felt as much as [a] mortal could see and live—I am a lifetime enemy to some people.*

*I have made many warm friends among the officers and men of the Federal army, and but for being captured, I should today be a Colonel of this Regt. . . .*

*Yours Truly,*

*L. J. Gallaway*

\* Monticello (pronounced "Monti-SELL-o"), is the county seat of Jefferson County, which was named after Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826). The town is named after Jefferson's home, Monticello (pronounced Monti-CHELL-o).

**SECOND LETTER FROM MONTICELLO, FLORIDA, NOVEMBER 3, 1865**

Levi James Gallaway's second letter was also written from his camp at Monticello. In it he invited his son and daughter **Harriett "Hattie" McCrary Gallaway (1848–1892)** to come to Florida. At the time he wrote this letter, Levi Gallaway was quite optimistic about his prospects.

*Camp 1st Regt Fla Cav  
Monticello, Fla. Nov 3rd 1865*

*Dear John:*

*I wrote you a few days ago, in which I said that our Regt would likely be discharged in a short time; and as that order is already at hand, I hasten to inform you that your letters may find me at Pensacola, where I shall repair at once. . . .*

*I am expecting a civil position, and if I should not receive an appointment from Govt. I may from the Union citizens. The Press has lost its influence and will not pay. . . .*

*The 1st and 2nd Fla Regts are rendezvousing here for muster out—I have made myself a favorite with the men—am the only native Southern officer in the two Regts—hence the partiality. I have written much for the Northern Press during the past four years, but it has not gained me anything—seeing that the Pardoning power has been so freely used. . . .*

*How would you like a wild country and the life of a pioneer? . . .*

*I am almost young again. You would be astonished to see me looking so healthy. It would suit Harriet to live in this climate. . . .*

*You can go from Corinth to Mobile in one day, across the Bay to Pensacola the next—making only two days. . . .*

*We would all be very glad to see you and Hattie both. I must now close—Adieu for the present—*

*Yours Truly  
L. J. Gallaway*

### THIRD LETTER FROM PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, FEBRUARY 13, 1866

Having returned to Pensacola, Levi James Galloway wrote again to encourage his son and daughter to come to Florida.

*Dear John: Pensacola, Fla Feby 13th 1866*

*As I learned from your last [letter] that it is your intention to join me at an early day in any business that I may be employed at, . . . if you are not already started for the "land of flowers" [Florida], you may come ahead—I'll find a place for you. We are all exceedingly anxious to see you and your sister, and I am sorry I cannot just of this writing send her the wherewith [wherewithal] to come with you. . . .*

*And as I have already said, you can make a living here as well as at Memphis, with more comfort, perhaps, in health at least.*

*Father*

### FOURTH LETTER FROM GABARUNE\*, FLORIDA, APRIL 20, 1866

Levi James Galloway's next letter was written about two months later. He had moved to Gabarune (Gaberonne) and was frustrated about his occupational prospects.

*Dear Son: April 20, 1866 Gabarune Near Pensacola*

*The misfortune which too often happens to sea port towns has brought to this town [Pensacola] that bothersome disease Small Pox, and as it has not been properly guarded has spread death and spotted faces in its onward progress far and wide. We narrowly escaped it by a retreat to this place, a beautiful bay site five miles north of Pensacola, on the west side of the Escambia [River], where a number of sawmills makes a settlement of mill men, and those employed in the lumber business for ships. . . .*

*Because I have been offered no position [government job], I have been compelled to go into timber. . . . I have never been so completely disappointed in my expectations and at present I see no way for me to go than to do hard work. It is true I am no better than other men who do such work, but I am not accustomed to it and I am too old to do heavy labor. . . .*

*We are all anxious to see both of you that it almost waves [sic.] other considerations of importance. Write often—All send their love.*

*Your Father*

*L. J. Galloway*

\*Gabarune is Levi Galloway's spelling for Gaberonne, a recorded community north of Pensacola, Florida, in the 1860s. Today, Gaberonne is an incorporated part of the city of Pensacola.



**EXCERPTS FROM THREE LETTERS FROM AROUND PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MAY  
AND JUNE 1866**

The following excerpts are from three letters that Levi James Gallaway wrote to John Bell Gallaway in May and June 1866. He wrote about his health and plans to go to Washington, D.C., to pursue his claims against the government.

Gabarune, Florida, May 3, 1866:

*I have been unwell for several days—am settling up here and arranging my little affairs preparatory to going on in person to Washington. . . . It will be a sad disappointment if I fail to get my pay this time, but I feel quite confident of getting a part at least.*

Gabarune, Florida, May 13, 1866:

*On Thursday next 15th I am to take my leave of the family for Washington. . . . I may come back by way of Memphis—think I will. My health is not the best, though it is improving—I am calculating on a railroad route, but may go by water.*

Pensacola, Florida, June 4, 1866:

*I have not been well for sometime—am poor and look older than you ever saw me. . . . I wrote you that I was starting to Washington—so I did. But at Milton I met my old Regimental Q. M. and he turned me back.*

In June 1866, Levi James Gallaway wrote a letter to John Bell Gallaway enclosing his permission for James F. Small (1838–1894) to marry his eighteen-year-old daughter, Hattie McCrary Gallaway. In July, after they married, Levi James wrote again to comment on the marriage.

Pensacola, Florida, June 4, 1866:

*Your favor endorsing Mr. Small's note was received several days ago, and I now endorse the answer to his "Question". You will of course send it to him soon. I would like much to be present at the celebration, but it is not convenient for me to do so.*

Pensacola, Florida, July 8, 1866:

*Well, Hattie is married. You have done your whole duty as a brother. I give you full credit for this. . . . I received the paper [newspaper]—sorry to see U.S.A. & C.S.A. [Confederate States of America] in referring to Mr. S. [James F. Small] & myself. It is in bad taste, and at a time like this when all good people are, or ought to be trying to heal up distinctions. I have a commission, it is true as Captain, from the U.S.A. but that needn't be told on such occasions. . . . I'm done with the military, with politics and wrangles; and I am glad to see that your letters contain no political resentments.*

### EXCERPTS FROM TWO LETTERS FROM GABARUNE, FLORIDA, AUGUST 1866

In early August 1866, Levi James Gallaway wrote two rather long letters to John Bell Gallaway from Gabarune (Gaberonne), Florida. He continued to express concern about his health and his difficulty in finding work.

Gabarune, Florida, August 1, 1866:

*Your favor of the 19th ultimo [last month] was received on the 28th, but as I have been several days confined to my bed I was not able to write you till this morning. As I have already informed you of my ill health I will not take you by surprise, now, when I say that from an unusually good state of health which I enjoyed last fall on my leaving the service, I am reduced to a mere shadow. . . .*

*It would scare you to see me. . . .*

*I live, though, like a Christian philosopher, realizing the fact that "there is a Providence that shapes our ends, rough hew them as we may"; and, although my ambitious spirit is hard to curb, I sit down calmly and look misfortune sternly in the face. . . . My little surplus money, made by hard labor in the rafting and lumber business last winter & spring, dollar by dollar disappears; no claim yet reached.*

Gabarune, Florida, August 6, 1866:

*We are still under [smallpox] quarantine regulations, and it creates a dull monotony in business matters that is seen and felt by all classes. Many of our best lumbering companies are compelled to suspend on account of smallpox. Our population, as you must be aware, is now one of miserable beings, in great part who hardly have home or place; & the negroes, dagoes, and poor houseless and homeless whites . . . have no employment, no homes, no care, no nothing, and of course have been feeding the smallpox and keeping it amongst us for months.*

*In my leisure, yet feeble movements I've thought much about what would now be the best thing I could do.*

*I am quite prepared to decide on the stock raising business in either Western or Middle Florida. . . . I was offered last fall one hundred head of cattle at ten dollars a head. . . . Sheep do well in Florida, as in Texas, and I may someday try a flock.*

**EXCERPTS FROM TWO LETTERS FROM MILTON, FLORIDA, OCTOBER 1866**

In October 1866, Levi James Galloway and his family apparently became homeless. In two letters from Milton, about twenty-four miles northeast of Pensacola, Levi described these circumstances and his feelings of persecution. He talked of his regret about staying in the South after the Civil War.

Milton, Florida, October 13, 1866:

*I am in receipt of two letters from you since 17th Sept. the first expressing regret at finding me still "on the wing." [We think this means that Levi was homeless.] . . .*

*A combination of circumstances over which I had no control has placed me in a situation, which I must confess, makes me as I have never felt before. As I promised not to write political sentiments to you and other Confederate friends, and as I desire to do nothing to alienate my children from me, I will not now trouble you with my difficulties only by way of explanation for my not being settled.*

*I have ever been a union man—have acted so throughout—have been true to my faith, and have even acted in good faith with my old Government.*

*Now I hold a commission as Captain which entitles me to over \$3000—I'm not paid off nor does it seem that I am ever to get done removing obstacles which have been thrown in my way—I am neglected by the Govt I've sustained—nor do I even have protection for personal or private rights.*

*Those who, with "fire & sword" sought to destroy the Govt can have what they want over me. My life is hardly my own.*

*Sickness, trouble, and hardship has unfitted me for active business, as I was formerly. I am either obliged to lose what I have done in soldier claims & take the chances of another place or in another country, or stay here and endure what every true union man seems destined to suffer. It is not thought worth trying a man here for killing a "feller whats been to the Yankees". Such is the state of things. . . .*

*I have exhausted all my means . . . I have so far had no personal fracas with anyone, though I am proscribed—cannot get business—I'm sorry I had not gone North after my release from service. Another war is inevitable.*

Milton, Florida, October 15, 1866:

*I was captured in March '64 and the children were in comfortable quarters within our lines. We had left our household chattels (beds etc) at Elba, where they still remain. I had in good effects about \$2500. On my return from prison (one year) I found that the Govt. officers had taken my boats, worn them out and abandoned them. . . .*

*I was promised remuneration for the property, [and] got a temporary appoint[ment] as Inspector of the Custom House, Pensacola. . . . I made some \$150 in that position. Sold my gold watch for \$100 (half its value) and was ordered to my Reg't in Sept. '65, mustered out in Nov. following without pay. . . .*

*Now the Gov't owes me for property taken while I was in prison \$1800, for recruiting services \$700, on*



*my commission \$2700. . . . On my return to my place in the Custom House I found it occupied and was compelled to apply for another position. I have got neither pay or position.*

*I find myself out of funds, employment that brings me ready cash, and among people who have no sympathy with my "sort". I am disgusted with the treatment I have received at the hands of Govt officials. . . .*

*My misfortunes have changed greatly the anticipations of a year ago; but God only is to be the Judge of these things. I submit to my lot with a cheerfulness you would hardly give me credit for. . . .*

*Now, my boy, I am broke, poor, down in health, and on the "shady" side of forty, but I would not change places with my good brother\* today.*

#### EXCERPTS FROM THE FINAL LETTER FROM NEAR MILTON, FLORIDA, OCTOBER 22, 1866

The last letter in family records from Levi James Gallaway to his son John Bell Gallaway was written from Levi James's new home near Milton.

Near Milton, Florida, October 22, 1866:

*Two weeks ago I leased a place about one mile east of town [Milton] on a nice eminence [a piece of rising ground], but nearly in the woods. I have one room all in running order and lumber to enclose a garden.*

*Today I commence to supply the mill of Batchelor & Co. with saw timber, and if I am successful I can in a short time be living quite comfortable. . . .*

*You know what I can do if I am harnessed right, and whether I get my Govt claims or not, I will make a living.*

*Well, we are no longer "on the wing".*

*[I am doing] the very thing I never intended to do . . . i.e. live retired, or in seclusion. What satisfaction is it to me to meet and mingle with a people I can never like?*

*I shall at once adopt a system of economy consistent with my present situation, prepare me a vegetable garden, buy some chickens, pigs, and a milk cow, and one half of my present cost expense is saved. . . .*

*I have tried to so conduct myself during the war as to not have a "guilty conscience," or in other words, I have done what I knew to be just—not plundering and murdering or stealing and destroying that which belonged to others. Had I remained neutral as I commenced, it would have been better for me.*

*We shall look for you this winter—Write often. Susan, Laura and Julia all send their love.*

\*Levi James Gallaway is referring to Dr. Amos Ponder Gallaway (1816–1871), his wealthy Texas brother, who had written John Bell Gallaway a letter.



LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY | ROWENA McCORD

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## 12. LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY'S DEATH

**Levi James Galloway (1819–1867)** died in Milton, Florida, on February 1, 1867. On that same day, a letter was sent to his son **John Bell Galloway (1843–1884)**. The letter was from a Union military associate of Levi James Galloway's, and it announced his death.

The envelope of this letter was addressed to "*John B. Galloway, Esq. Memphis, Tennessee*". A note attached to the letter reads, "*If not called for within 20 days to be returned to John Carlovitz, Milton, Fla.*" Another note, this one in pencil, reads, "*Not hear [sic.], Nola RR.*"

### LETTER FROM A UNION MILITARY ASSOCIATE

*Milton, Fla., February 1st 1867*

*John B. Galloway [sic.], Esq. Memphis Ten*

*Sir,*

*I am sorry to inform you of the the [sic.] death of your Father Capt. [Levi] James S. [sic.] Galloway [sic.] who died at 3:00 P.M. to day, he requested me when he was stil [sic.] living to inform you of this, his death was caused by chronick [sic.] Dissentary [sic.] and severe exposure.*

*I have rendered Capt. G. the assitance [sic.] my limitted [sic.] circumstances permit and being a brother Officer I shall see him decently buried . —*

*His family however is in a destitute condition[.] Capt. Galloway [sic.] further requested me to ask of you the favor to take his family to your home that you may if possible properly provide for the same and on your arrival I shall inform you of all other circumstances connected with your father's Business.*

*I have also communicated this sorrowfull [sic.] news to Mrs. Harriet Smalley [sic.] Corinth Miss [.] If I should be wrong in the name please correct the error by informing your Sister of his Death.*

*I remain with great respect yours,*

*John Carlovitz*

About two months after Levi James Gallaway died, John Bell Gallaway received a letter from a Florida agent. It was in response to an inquiry he had made about his father's claim against the government. There is no evidence that his claims were ever paid.

#### LETTER FROM THE FLORIDA AGENT

*Milton, Fla: Apl 29 1867*

*Mr. John B. Gallaway , Memphis, Tenn.*

*Dear Sir*

*Yours of the 18th came to hand the 24th and being not well, answer has been delayed until now. I had nothing to relate about the Govt claim, else I should have done so. Nothing to relate now. They search for evidence of marriages, as I told you they would do, and it caused considerable time to get it from Elba—I got it and sent it on. Next they required her affidavit of legality, and this I have sent for. Mrs. Gallaway writes not to let anyone have any part of the claim, when got, but herself. This cannot be done, for she will have to sign the order for it. When I get the order for the amount of the claim, if I ever do, I will let you all know of it before it passes out of my hands, and when my fees and expenses are paid I have no more claim upon it, and the balance must go as she directs, unless the law interferes. The government claims are very uncertain for claims which were made out and sent up the 1st of 1866, have not yet been adjusted. The government Officers try every way to stave off the matter—So you had best make no calculation whatever upon the matter, and if it comes, so much the better, & if it never comes you will not then be disappointed.*

*Yours Respectfully,  
John Chain*

When Levi James Gallaway died, he left behind a twenty-nine-year-old widow, Susan Dorcas Rose (1837–1921) and two daughters, ten-year-old **Laura Elizabeth Gallaway (1857–1917)** and five-year-old **Julia Lorraine Gallaway (1861–1920)**. The family was totally impoverished. Susan Dorcas was also six weeks pregnant. Another girl, **Mary Emma Gallaway (1867–1867)**, was born on September 14, 1867, seven and one-half months after Levi James Gallaway died. Mary Emma did not survive infancy.

Thus ended the tragic life of Neville's great-great-grandfather Levi James Gallaway. He courageously followed his heart, and he paid a big price. He is indeed a memorable hero in the history of Neville's family.

So, what happened to Levi James Gallaway's wife and two daughters?



*Susan Dorcas Rose Gallaway, Levi James Gallaway's fourth wife. She was his widow for fifty-four years.*

In 1880, at age forty-three, Susan Dorcas Rose Gallaway was living in Karnes, Texas, with her brother's family. In 1900 and 1910, she was living in Palo Pinto County, Texas, west of Ft. Worth, with her daughter Julia Lorraine Gallaway Browder. She died at age eighty-four, on October 29, 1921, in Palo Pinto County, while living with her son-in-law and his new wife. She had been a widow for fifty-four years.



*The tombstone of Levi James Gallaway's fourth wife, Susan Dorcas Rose Gallaway, in the Old Gordon Cemetery in Palo Pinto County, Texas. The death year should be 1921.*

Levi James and Susan Dorcas Rose Gallaway's two daughters were half sisters of John Bell Gallaway. They are, thus, half great-great-aunts of Neville.

After Levi James Gallaway died, Laura Elizabeth Gallaway moved in late 1867 to live with her recently married half sister, **Harriet “Hattie” McCrary Gallaway Small (1848–1892)** in Corinth, Mississippi. In 1870 Laura Elizabeth at age twelve was enumerated with Hattie Gallaway Small’s family.

On May 3, 1876, Laura Elizabeth Gallaway married Thomas E. Henry (1852–1935) of Corinth. They had six children, born between 1877 and 1889. In the 1900 and 1920 United States censuses, Thomas Henry is recorded as the mayor of Corinth. (He is recorded as an agent in the 1910 census.) Laura Elizabeth Gallaway Henry died at age sixty, in 1917, and her husband died at age eighty-two, in 1935. They are both buried in the Henry Cemetery in Corinth.



*Harriet McCrary Gallaway Small, Levi Gallaway's daughter, who raised her younger half sister, Laura Elizabeth Gallaway.*

After Levi James Gallaway’s death, Julia Lorraine Gallaway, his five-year-old daughter, moved to Texas with her mother to live with relatives. Julia Lorraine Gallaway married

James P. Browder (1852–1929) on July 10, 1884, in Ranger, Texas. Their home was in Gordon, Texas. They had six children, born between 1887 and 1905. Julia Lorraine Gallaway Browder was called Aunt Julia by Neville’s grandmother **Charlotte Gallaway Frierson (1878–1968)**. Aunt Julia attended the 1904 World’s Fair in Saint Louis, Missouri, with her sister-in-law **Margaret Martin Gallaway (1846–1927)**. Julia Gallaway Browder died at age sixty-nine, in 1920, and is buried with her husband, who died exactly nine years later.



*The tombstone of Levi James Gallaway's daughter Julia Lorraine Gallaway Browder and her husband, James P. Browder, in the Old Gordon Cemetery in Palo Pinto County, Texas.*



## LEVI JAMES GALLAWAY | ROWENA McCORD

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### 13. NEVILLE'S MCCORD HERITAGE

James Duncan McCord (1620–1689)	m. 1658	Jean (1638–1670)
John Duncan McCord (1660–1715)	m. 1680	Mary MacDougall (1664–1725)
William McCord (1680–1739)	m. 1701	Martha Ann Sawyer (1680–1740)
David (of Derry) McCord (1712–1758)	m. 1740	Jane Lowry (1716–1758)
James McCord Sr. (1743–1815)	m. 1770	Jane Scroggs (1750–1789)
James McCord Jr. (1779–1861)	m. 1801	Dorcas Cowan (1778–1848)
Rowena McCord (1816–1849)	m. 1842	Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)
John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)	m. 1868	Eudocia Margaret Martin (1846–1927)
Charlotte Gallaway (1878–1968)	m. 1901	Charles D. Frierson Sr. (1877–1947)
Charles D. Frierson Jr. (1907–1970)	m. 1931	Margaret Purifoy (1908–1973)

**Rowena McCord (1816–1849)** was the second wife of **Levi James Gallaway (1819–1867)**. They were married for almost seven years and had two children. Rowena died at age thirty-three. The obituary of her son, **John Bell Gallaway (1843–1884)**, printed on October 29, 1884, in the *Memphis Appeal*, notably recorded, “*She [Rowena] was from an historic family in North Alabama.*”

Based on records compiled by Neville’s niece Sandra Rhea Frierson (1957–2005) and Internet sources, we have been able to identify six generations of Rowena’s ancestry, which is indeed filled with heroic characters and historic events, especially in Scotland and in colonial America.

The first McCord for whom records are extant is **James Duncan McCord (1620–1689)**, Neville’s eighth great-grandfather. He was born on the Isle of Skye, the largest and most northerly main island of the Inner Hebrides Islands, off the west coast of Scotland. James Duncan McCord was a Highland chieftain and a rebellious Jacobite who supported King James II (1633–1701), the English monarch ousted from the throne of England in the Glorious Revolution of 1688. That revolution, a bloodless one, placed the Dutch stadtholder William of Orange (1650–1702) on the throne of England; Scotland supported the action.

An early battle of the Jacobite uprising was the Battle of Killiecrankie in July 1689. The battle took place in Perthshire in the Scottish Highlands. The Jacobite rebels won a stunning victory, but they suffered heavy casualties, losing about one-third of their forces. Sixty-nine-year-old James Duncan McCord and three of his sons were among those who died at the Battle of Killiecrankie Pass.

Just after the battle, in about 1690, **John Duncan McCord (1660–1715)**, James Duncan McCord's surviving son, moved with his family to live in Stewartstown, County Tyrone, Ireland, where he died in 1715.



*The McCord family originated in Scotland and immigrated to Ulster, Ireland, in about 1690. After about forty years in Ireland, they sailed, most likely to Philadelphia, in the colony of Pennsylvania, around 1730.*

Around 1730 the son of John Duncan McCord, **William McCord (1680–1739)**, and his son **David (of Derry) McCord (1712–1758)** immigrated to America. They were part of a wave of early eighteenth-century Scots-Irish immigrants from Ulster in Northern Ireland. Over 200,000 migrants arrived in this wave, the largest number of them settling in Pennsylvania. The McCords settled in Derry Township, near Hershey, Pennsylvania. David (of Derry) McCord held an original land patent given to him by the sons of William Penn (1644–1718), the founder of Pennsylvania.

On April 4, 1758, during the French and Indian War (1754–63), David (of Derry) McCord and his wife, **Jane Lowry (1716–1758)**, were killed at their plantation by Delaware Indians. The Indians also captured four of their children, including fourteen-year-old **James McCord Sr. (1743–1815)**, Neville's fourth great-grandfather. The four children were released eighteen months later.

During the American Revolutionary War (1775–83), James McCord Sr. served in militia companies from Washington County, North Carolina (now in Tennessee), and he and his brother **David**



**McCord (1745–1819)** served as scouts for Colonel John Sevier (1745–1815),\* since they had been captives of the Indians during the French and Indian War. After serving in the American Revolutionary War, James McCord Sr. became a constable for the Southwest Territory (1790–96), an area that included the present-day states of Kentucky and Tennessee. James McCord Sr. died in Bedford County in eastern Tennessee at age seventy-two.

Neville's third great-grandfather **James McCord Jr. (1779–1861)** was the fifth of six children born to James McCord Sr. He was born in Washington County, North Carolina, during the American Revolutionary War, and he is reported to have served in the War of 1812 (1812–15). On June 2, 1801, twenty-one-year-old James McCord Jr. married twenty-two-year-old **Dorcas Cowan (1778–1848)**,



*James McCord Jr., Rowena McCord's father, depicted in a tinted photograph, c. 1855.*

who was born in South Carolina. Dorcas Cowan was the daughter of **Robert Cowan (1736–1784)** and his wife, **Susannah Woods (1736–1797)**. James and Dorcas McCord had twelve children, including Rowena McCord, who was born when her mother was thirty-eight years old.

James McCord Jr. and his family moved from Tennessee sometime after 1821 to Moulton, Lawrence County, Alabama, where Rowena met and married Levi James Gallaway. Dorcas Cowan McCord died in 1848, at age seventy, in Lawrence County. James McCord Jr. passed away in Corinth, Mississippi, in 1861, at age eighty-two.

Rowena McCord Gallaway died on July 11, 1849, in Lawrence County. From records

published in *Valley Leaves*, a northern Alabama genealogical society record, we have learned that Rowena's obituary appeared on July 21, 1849, in the *Florence Gazette*, a newspaper owned by Matthew Campbell Gallaway (1820–1898) and published in nearby Florence, Alabama.

\*Colonel John Sevier, a Revolutionary War soldier, was the first governor of Tennessee, serving from 1796 to 1801.

Rowena McCord Gallaway's obituary said, "*Moulton News—Died at residence of D. L. McCord near this place, of bronchial consumption, after a protracted illness of several months, Mrs. Rowena Gallaway, consort of L. J. Gallaway Esq. Editor of the Moulton Advertiser.*"\*

After Rowena McCord Gallaway's death in 1849, her two children went to live with her older brother **David Lapsey McCord (1805–1856)** and his wife, Harriett McCrary McCord (1808–1851). In the 1850 Federal census, Rowena McCord's two children, six-year-old John Bell Gallaway and two-year-old **Harriett "Hattie" McCrary Gallaway (1848–1892)** (named for her aunt by marriage), are enumerated with David and Harriett McCord, who apparently had no children of their own. Harriett McCord died at age forty-three, in 1851, and David Lapsey McCord died at age fifty, in 1856. The Gallaway children next moved to live with their aunt **Cynthia McCord (1818–1889)** and their grandfather James McCord Jr., who moved with them to Corinth in the 1850s.



An 1840s photograph of Rowena McCord by H. A. Balach Photograph Gallery in Memphis, Tennessee. The reverse of the photograph reads, "Property of Miss Margaret Gallaway Fayetteville Arkansas" and "Grandmother Rowena McCord Gallaway."



Tombstone of Rowena McCord Gallaway at the McDonald Cemetery in Lawrence County, Alabama. Her death year is incorrect; it should be 1849.

\*This information is disclosed in a letter written in 1977 to my mother, Catherine Wilkerson Bryan (1909–2002), who was researching the Gallaway family at that time. The letter was written by Mrs. J. H. (Frances) Corum (1920–2006) of Leighton, Alabama. She was responding to a published inquiry made by my mother in Valley Leaves.