

# Henry Wallace (1864-1921)

By Jerry Long, Owensboro, Ky., 1987-1988

24 November 1987

Dear Mr. Long,

I am tracing my Grandfather's parents. I wrote to Owensboro Library they do not have any thing there I need, which is court records, Guardianship records. Bettie Spratt sent me your address and said you do genealogy for a fee.

So I will be happy to pay you to do this for me.

My Grandfather, Henry Wallace, born in Daviess Co. 10-10-1864; hal-brother, John Meredith Earl born in Daviess Co. 5-8-1860.

In the 1880 census it shows Henry Wallace being adopted and living with Jefferson and Julia Vanover Davies Co.

I am hoping that was a legal transaction and help to find one or both of his parents name.

Or since he had that half-brother maybe a divorce was recroded?

I have a copy of Henry Wallace & Fannie Bivens marriage Bond Nov. 23, 1884 Daviess Co. Owensboro, Ky.

In the 1890's Henry Wallace and John Earl families moved to Greene Co. & Craighead Co. near Paragould, Arkansas. They are buried there.

I wrote to Bell and Howell Co. for the price of Newspapers 35 mm. microfilm. Owensboro Monitor (1862-1875) Haven't heard from that yet. Been about 3 mo. Did they print Births in newspapers back then?

As you can see I'm awfully dumb at this. So I appreciated very much this nice lady sending me your name & address.

Hoping to hear from you,

Sincerely,  
Freda Bateman  
4289 Verbena  
Memphis, Tn 38108

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5 December 1987

Freda Bateman  
4289 Verbena  
Memphis, Tn 38108

Dear Ms. Bateman:

I went on and spent two hours at the Daviess County Courthouse and the Owensboro Library searching for any records pertaining to Henry Wallace (born 1864) and his half-brother, John M. Earl (born 1860). I am sorry to report that I was unable to find any records that gave any indication of who their parents were.

You said you have a copy of your grandfather, Henry Wallace's marriage to Fannie Bivens in 1884 in Daviess County, do you also have the following two marriages of John M. Earls:

Daviess County, Ky, marriages:

- Book S-p.137      John M. Earls to Miss Charlotte P. Stinnett 24 August 1876 at Dennis Stinnetts. Consent signed for bride by her parents, Dennis & Elizabeth H. Stinnett. Bond by John McIntire, Witnesses Johnn McIntire & Moses Crabtree.
- Book W-p.477      J. M. Earl to Louisa Jane Crabtree 30 September 1888 at Benjamin Crabtrees. Consent signed by bride's father, J. B. Crabtree, Bond by Ignatius Goff.

Henry Wallace's wife, Frances ("Fannie") Bivens was the daughter of James S. Bivens and Elizabeth Crabtree, who were married in Daviess County on 6 July 1856 (book C - p.369, on their marriage bond it was listed that he was age 28 and she 19). Their family was listed in the 1870 Daviess County census:

1870 Daviess County, Ky. census, Vanover Precinct, p.336:

#31	Bivens, James	37	m	Ky.	
	Elizabeth	27	f	Ky.	
	Margaret	9	f	Ky.	
	Frances	3	f	Ky.	
	Wall, Robert	12	m	Ky.	works on farm

Are you sure that Henry Wallace and his brother were born in Daviess County, Ky. Could they have moved to Daviess County between the time of the 1870 and 1880 censuses of Daviess County.. Before Henry Wallace appears in the 1880 Daviess county census I could not find him or John M. Earl in any other Daviess County record (census or guardian bonds). No Earls were listed in the 1860, 1870 or 1880 Daviess County censuses and no Earl marriages were recorded it Daviess County before 1876. I checked the Daviess County wills,, administrator bond books and guardian bond books for Wallace and Earl and found no Earls at all and no record that seemed to relate to Henry Wallace. In the Daviess records I found the following Wallace records, which may or may not relate to Henry Wallace.

Finis B. Wallace married Jane Miller 4 April 1844, he died in 1862. Jane Wallace was appointed administratrix for Finis B. Wallace, deceased on 251 March 1862, bond was by Joseph Miller & William R. Knox.

Daniel Harrison Wallace married Mary Frances Moorman 23 December 1845, he died in 1856. John Lock was appointed. Administrator for D. H. Wallace on 10 November 1856, bond by S. M. Moorman.

Arthur W. Wallace married Mary Hyatt 10 December 1851. On 20 October 1864 C. Hyatt was appointed guardian for Sarah Wallace, a minor, bond by John H. McHenry. At the time the 1880 Daviess County census a Con Hyatt was living in the Vanover Precinct.

William W. Wallace married Mary Stanton 19 November 1858.

James Wallace married Miss Elizabeth Lashbrook 24 February 1863. On their marriage bond it was recorded that he was of Greenville (Muhlenberg County), Ky., his 1<sup>st</sup> marriage, age 27, born Muhlenberg County, Ky., parents born Sussex County, Va. Bride was age 19, she & mother born Daviess County, father born Washington County, Tenn.

The name of the Jefferson Vanover, who Henry Wallace was living with at the time of the 1880 Daviess County census, was according to the 1883 History of Daviess County, Kentucky, was “Jeptlli Vanover”; on his marriage and other records his name appears as “Jeptha” Vanover and also as “Jeff”. The following biography for him was published in the book, History of Daviess County, Kentucky (Chicago, Inter-State Publishing Co., 1883, Vanover Precinct section, p.847:

Jeptlli Vanover., of Vanover Precinct, is a native of East Tennessee., and was born Sept. 16, 1848. His father, Samuel Vanover, removed to Daviess County in December following Jeptlli’s birth, Mr. Vanover was brought up on the farm and educated in the common school. He was married in October, 1869, to Julia A. L. Short, daughter of William Short, of this precinct. They have five children - Fanny, Edward, Jacob, Arthur and Luther. Mr. Vanover owns 102  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres of land, and is engaged in farming and stockraising. He is a Methodist in religious faith, and Mrs. Vanover is a Baptist. Mr. Vanover has an adopted child, Henry Wallace. He is also guardian for Annie Crabtree.

In the same book the following biography appeared for James S. Bivens, the father of Fannie Bivens Wallace:

James S. Bivens was born in Daviess County, Ky., May 9, 1833, and has always made this county his home. During the war of the Rebellion he served three years in the Confederate army, in the Third Kentucky Cavalry, under Colonel James Jackson. He owns a farm of 140 acres eleven miles southeast of Owensboro. In 1857 Mr. Bivens married Bettie Crabtree, a native of Daviess County, born in 1833. They have four children – Margaret C., Francis, Tony and Charles, (Vanover section, page 837).

In a listing of the Brushy Fork Baptist Church, in the southwestern, part of Daviess County where many members of the Vanover family were buried, the names of Jeptha (Jeff) & Julia Vanover, James S.: & Elizabeth Bivens, and no Earl or Wallace names were listed.

In the 1860 Daviess County,, Ky. census the following three Wallace households were listed:

1860 Daviess County Ky. census:

p.662	#12	Wallace, A.	42	m	carpenter	Ky.
		M E.	33	f		Ky.
		Crutchfield, Delila	52	f		Tn.

p.664 #34 in household of William & Elizabeth A. Moorman:

		Wallace, Mary	33	f		Ky.
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p.805	#1108	Wallace, F.	37	m	farmer	Ky.
		Jane	32	f		Ky.
		Mary E.	15	f		Ky.
		James T	10	f		Ky.
		Benjamin F.	8	m		Ky.
		Charles J.	6	m		Ky.
		William M.	6	m		Ky.
		Sarah A.	4	f		Ky.

#34 Mary Wallace was the widow of Daniel Harrison Wallace., who had died in 1856. #1108 was Finis B. Wallace, who died in 1862 and whose wife was Jane Miller. #12 A. Wallace may have been Arthur Wallace who married Mary Hyatt in 1851 in Daviess County.

In the 1863 and 1864 (Henry Wallace was born in 1864) tax lists of Daviess County two Wallaces are listed, A. S. Wallace and John W. Wallace. They appear each time in separate lists and John W. Wallace appears in the same list where members of the Vanover family were listed. Neither was listed in the 1865 and 1866 tax lists of Daviess County. In 1860, the year John M. Earl was born, and in 1861 no Earls were listed in the Daviess County tax records. In the 1870 censuses of the following adjoining counties checked for and did not find John M. Earl - Ohio, McLean, Hancock, Breckinridge, Grayson. In the marriages of Ohio, McLean & Muhlenberg Counties checked for any marriage between an Earl and Wallace and found none. In the local area members of the Earl family, lived in Muhlenberg and Hopkins Counties.

There may be some connection between the Hyatt family and Henry Wallace. Members of the Hyatt family resided in the Vanover Precinct of Daviess County near Henry Wallace. In the guardian bonds of Daviess County a C. Hyatt was appointed guardian. For Sarah Wallace on 20 October 1864. This is only 10 days following the birth of Henry Wallace on 10 October 1864, possibly there is a connection. Did Henry Wallace have a sister named Sarah (this Sarah may also be the daughter of Finis B & Jane Miller Wallace, who was listed as being four years old in the 1860 Daviess County census). Could it be that Henry Wallace's mother died during childbirth and a guardian was appointed for a daughter named Sarah a few days after Henry's birth. But if this was the case – why was no guardian appointed for Henry at the same time. I always assumed that adoption and guardianship were the same but possibly there is a legal distinction between them. I have never seen any records of adoption on the county level. Today adoptions are through a state agency. I do not know if or where adoption records would have

been kept in the 1864 period. The C. Hyatt who was on the guardianship bond for Sarah Wallace in 1864 was probably the Con Hyatt who was listed in the 1880 census of Daviess County, in the Vanover Precinct, two pages from Henry Wallace. When Henry Wallace married in 1884 a witness to his marriage was W. W. Vanover, whose wife was Emma Hyatt (d/o Raide).

Jeff Vnover, who adopted Henry Wallace, was born in 1848 and would have been only 16 years old when Henry Wallace was born, and thus could not have adopted Henry upon his birth or shortly thereafter. The 1870 Daviess County census shows Jeff Vanover and his new wife, Julia Ann Short, as residing by themselves with 5no one else in their home. In the 1870 Daviess County census Henry Wallace and John M. Earl are not to be found, they may or may not have been in Daviess County. On the 1876 marriage of John M. Earl the witnesses were John McIntire and Moses Crabtree, who were both neighbors of Jeff Vanover in the Vanover Precinct. John M. Earl married Louisa Jane Crabtree in 1888. the Crabtree and Vanovers were neighbors and many had intermarried. It may help to find where John M. Earl and Henry Wallace where at in 1870, and where John M. Earl was at in 1880 (the Soundex system for the 1880 census may help, this source is not at the Owensboro library, the Kentucky Historical Society's Library in Frankfort, Ky. has it).

For the years before 1880 there are only scattered years of the Owensboro newspapers existing. During this time it was very rare that birth announcements were published and very few death notices, and obits appeared, and those that did were mainly of residents of Owensboro.

About the only other major record source I did not check at the Daviess County Courthouse was the Circuit Court records., which would include cases of equity, divorce, debts, etc. If you want me to go on and check these it would probably, take me about another hour. I generally request \$4.00/hr. for research, which would be \$8.00 for the two hours I spent. Thank you for contacting me and I regret I could not find something more conclusive for you.

Yours truly,  
Jerry Long

1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42303

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12 December 1987

Dear Mr. Long,

Thank you for your effort in trying to help me find Henry Wallace's parents  
I want you to search the circuit court record for me.

Do you think both these marriages of John M. Earl are the same person? I know he was married twice. But I don't know who the first wife was, he would only have been 16 in 1876. The one in 1888 is correct!

Here is 1910 census for Greene Co. Paragould, Ar  
36-426 Lamb, Fonzo                      head    29                      Ala-Ala-Ala

Birdie	wife	27	Ky-Ky-Ky
Earl, Elizabeth	step-mother-in-law	40	Ky-Ky-Ky
Earnest	son	20	Ky-Ky-Ky
Luther	son	19	Ky-Ky-Ky
Ada M.	dau.	18	Ky-Ky-Ky
Pauline J.	dau.	5	Ky-Ky-Ky

John M. Earl died Jan. 20, 1906. Pauline is still living in Paragould. She doesn't know any thing about who raised her father. Louisa Jane died Apr.26, 1947.

Yes, I have decided neither one of these men were born in Daviess Co. So I will start searching surrounding counties. May take me years?

In the 1880 census its listed Henry Wallace with Vanovers and his parents being born in Ky if that means any thing. It would help if there were census for 1890. Henry & Fannie Wallace had three children while still in Ky. Altha b. 1888, Virgil b.1890, (my father) Gusta born1894. They came to Ark. about 1895. Ruth born 1903. We have 1880 soundex for Ky. Sending you this sheet, my husband and I go to the Peabody Library sometime, if there's anything we could help you with just write. My husband J. D. has had good luck finding his Great-Grandparents and even further back. My mother's name was Ellington they came from Crocket, Co Bells, Tn to Ark in the 1880's. I have lots of stuff on that . My second cousin Rowland first name George researched all that and has written 4 books. But, when he tried to help me with this Wallace thinf he said I would probably have to make a trip to Owensboro. If I were there I wouln't know how to go about it so I/m glad to have found you.

Sincerely,  
Freda Bateman

4289 Verbena  
Memphis, Tn 38108

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1 February 1988

Freda Bateman  
4289 Verbena  
Memphis, Tn 38108

Dear Mrs. Bateman:

Sorry it has taken awhile to answer your letter. The Circuit Court Index had been sent to Frankfort for microfilming and did not get back until this past week. I did not find Henry Wallace in either the defendant or plaintiff's index. While at the courthouse I checked the court order books for Wallace and Earl during the period of 1860-1880. I now have checked the following Daviess County, Ky. records for Wallace and Earl: 1850-60-70 & 80 censuses, 1860-1870 tax lists, marriages, wills, administrator bond books, guardian bond books, court order books and Circuit court index.

In the court order books I found more information about the Sarah Wallace, who appeared in the guardian bond books in 1864, ten days after the birth Of Henry Wallace. In Daviess County order book H, p.91, it was recorded that on 24 October 1864 Sarah Wallace, a minor over 14, an orphan of John Wallace, deceased, came into court and chose C. Hyatt as her guardian. This record thus gives not only an indication of her age range but also proves who her father was. Her father, John Wallace, was more than likely the John W. Wallace, who appeared in the 1863 and 1864 Daviess County tax lists and subsequently disappeared from the tax records. He probably died in the latter half of 1864 in order to have still been listed in that year's tax list. Con Hyatt, who was appointed guardian for Sarah Wallace in 1864, does not appear old enough to have been her grandfather but possibly may have been an uncle. In 1864 he was in his mid 30's. In the 1880 Daviess County census he was listed as being 59; he is probably the Conradus Hyatt, age 22, in the 1850 Daviess County census. He was not listed in either the 1860 or 1870 Daviess County censuses. In 1880 Con Hyatt was living near Henry Wallace.

Besides the 1860 Daviess Census I also checked for John Wallace with a daughter Sarah (then aged 10-16), John M. Earl (b.1860) and Con Hyatt in the 1860 censuses of the following nearby counties: Ohio, Hancock, Breckinridge, McLean and Muhlenberg. I did not find any of them listed. There has been a computerized index published in book form for the entire 1860 Kentucky census but the Owensboro library does not yet have a copy. I would suggest that all of the above names should be checked for in this source, as well as all of the John Wallace's listed in the 1850 Kentucky census index, to find one with a daughter named Sarah/Sally aged under 7. Circumstantial evidence suggests that this John Wallace may have been the father of Henry Wallace (born 1864).

I spent another hour and a half researching since my first letter (\$6.00). I will continue to keep my eyes open for any more clues. Good luck in your search.

Sincerely yours,  
Jerry Long

1701 Alexander Ave.  
Owensboro, KY 42303

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Henry Wallace born 10 October 1864 KY and died 30 March 1921 Craighead County, Arkansas. His wife, Fannie (Bivens) Wallace was born 27 July 1867 Daviess County, KY and died 3 April 1945 Greene County, Arkansas. They were buried Woods Chapel Cemetery, Greene County, Arkansas..