

# Johnston Cemetery

## Ohio County, KY

By Jerry Long

Turn east off of Highway 69 onto Highway 878. Turn at first road on the left (to the north), the Narrows-Shultz Road. Cemetery is on farm of Gordon Quisenberry, the second lane on the left. Just across creek, stop and walk to top of hill on the left. Jerry Long copied the cemetery on 13 February 1990. Found 12 monuments and signs of at least 12 other unmarked graves. The cemetery also has been referred to as the Nabors Cemetery and Quisenberry Cemetery. Information in parenthesis was on the monuments and that in brackets are annotations.

Barnett, Elizabeth (aged 27 y, 8 m, 29 d)		11 Sep 1828
[born 13 Dec 1800; d/o Joseph & Jane Barnett, Jr.]		

Boswell, Mollie A. (d/o C. J. & L. A.)	29 Apr 1900	3 Oct 1901
L. A. (w/o C. J.)	21 Sep 1867	
C. J.	28 Mar 1865	20 Jul 1913
[Caleb J. Boswell, son of Nathaniel Boswell & Martha Ann Cannan, married Latitita Alta Nabors, 1897; she was the d/o George Nabors & Josephine Nelson Taylor; in obituary of Caleb it was stated he was buried in the Neighbors graveyard and in the obituary of Tisha says she was buried in the Johnson Cemetery]		

Fieldon, Reno		1904
[Lorenzo Dow Fieldon, 26 Jun 1873 – 15 June 1904; s/o James Franklin Fielden & America Hurt]		

Johnston, James	7 Jul 1836	5 Jan 1898
[s/o James Johnston, Jr. & Deborah Taber; married Martha E. Petty, 1858]		

Johnston, John P.	9 Feb 1859	25 Apr 1929
[John Pendleton Johnston, s/o James Johnston, Jr. & Deborah Taber]		

Kerby, Martha E. (d/o O. P. & E.)	11 Apr 1867	1 Dec 1867
[d/o Oliver P. Kirby & Ellen Johnston]		

Nabors, George	1845	1924
Josie T.	1846	1897
[George Nabors, 16 Feb 1845 – 19 Nov 1924, s/o John C. Neighbors & Dicey Gentry; married in 1866 Josephine Nelson Taylor, 13 Jun 1846 – 26 Dec 1897, d/o Richard & Susanne Taylor]		

Nabors, Steward B. (s/o W. B. & Z. E.)                      6 May 1913                      7 May 1913  
[s/o William Bernice Nabors & Zelpha E. Taylor]

Quisenberry, John Harvey (s/o Gordon & Nellie)                      1956  
[John Harvey Quisenberry, 7 Jun 1956 – 8 Jun 1956, s/o John Gordon  
Quisenberry & Nellie Massie]

Quisenberry, John H.    1876    1927  
Callie N.    1882    1968  
(John Harvey Quisenberry, 16 Jan 1876 – 2 Feb 1927, married 1913 Lydia  
Caroline ‘Callie’ Nabors, 14 Oct 1882 – 24 Jan 1968]

Quisenberry, Kenneth G.    21 Sep 1915                      12 Feb 1980  
[Kenneth George, s/o John H. Quisenberry & Lydia Caroline Nabors]

Smith, Napoleon B. (husband of Margaret)                      6 Sep 1827                      7 Apr 1871  
[married 1<sup>st</sup> Martha Ann Stewart, 1850, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Margaret Johnston, 1866]

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### **Notes on Johnston Family by Jerry Long**

James Johnson, son of William Johnston & Jane McGrady, was born 10 March 1774 Crawford County, PA and died 15 April 1855. A record of his death is recorded in the 1852-1861 Ohio County, KY states his place of birth and gives his parents as William & Jane Johnston. On 24 February 1809 in Ohio County, KY Jane Johnston, of Crawford County, Pennsylvania, appointed James Johnston, of Ohio County, KY her lawful attorney to convey any property that may come to her from the estate of the late Samuel McGrady, who had died leaving no children (Ohio County deed book AA, p211 & BB, p522). On 8 July 1811 William L. Barnard, commissioner, transferred to James Johnston, 438 acres on Halls Creek in Ohio County that had been patented to Samuel McGrady, dec'd (Ohio County deed book AA, p396 & p401). The same property James Johnston, Sr. on 7 April 1846 transferred to his sons, James Jr. & John (Ohio County deed book K, p52).

James Johnston (Johnson) is listed in the 1810, 1820, 1830, 1840 and 1850 censuses of Ohio County, KY. In 1850 he was reported to be 76 and was born Pennsylvania; he was then living in the home of his son, James, Jr., in the vicinity of where the Johnston Cemetery is located. Harrison D. Taylor in his history, Ohio County, Kentucky, in the Olden Days (Louisville, KY, 1926) refers to James Sr. as Major James Johnston:

Page 31 – During the War of 1812 the citizens were so patriotic they had to burn an old vacant house-and there were quite a few in Hartford then-whenver they heard of a victory.

The writer recollects the old Nathaniel Wickliffe building which stood where the Lyon House [later the Commercial Hotel] now stands. This old

Wickliffe house had all disappeared except the frame of the roof, which rested on the ground, leaving the A-shaped garret intact. A celebrated victory had been reported, and this old roof was selected for a bonfire. Being very dry and combustible it was soon covered with flames. Patriotism and courage grew with the fire. Who would run through the roof? Several performed the feat successfully. The effect of the liquor on the crowd had increased in at least an equal ratio to the heat of the fire. Then old Major James Johnston, a stout, athletic man, was not to be outdone in feats of daring. He started through, stumbled and fell, rose again, and, by a desperate effort got through, but terribly exhausted and singed. It is due to the old Major's memory to say that he was by 31 Ohio County in the Olden Days no means an intemperate man. In early times-when they used the pure essence of corn, which did not make men mad and vicious, but inspired them with unbounded patriotism and benevolence--it was not uncommon for the best of men to become a little fuddled on an extraordinary occasion.

Page 60 – This ignis fatuus with which the whole state was carried away led on to the Eldorado of a universal banking system. The legislature passed a law chartering a bank in nearly every county, and in some of them two, as in Ohio County. For this our then representative Major James Johnston was most terribly vilified and abused for a time. He was, however, later highly commended for his sound sense and good judgment, which created for him a fund of popularity which lasted for years. How this great air-bubble burst, bankrupting the community and leading to other blunders in legislation, to litigation and party excitement, would require an entire chapter to relate.

James Johnston, Sr. (1774-1855) served in the Kentucky Legislature representing Ohio County. In 1819 he served in the Senate and he was a member of the House of Representatives in 1814, 1817-1818, 1837 & 1842 (source – Collins 1847 & 1877 Histories of Kentucky and Ohio County, Kentucky, in the Olden Days by Harrison D. Taylor (Louisville, KY, 1926, p121).

James Johnston married Mary Bruce in Ohio County, KY on 13 March 1809. Also known by the nickname of Polly, Mary was the daughter of James Bruce, Jr. (1760-1835) & Mary Runyan (1761-1836). Her parents had resided in Nelson County, KY and during 1805-1806 they moved to Ohio County, KY. About 1816 her parents moved to Harrison County, IN, where they were buried in the Bruce family cemetery. Polly Bruce Johnston and two of her sisters, Piety (wife of Absalom Albin) and Elizabeth (wife of Cornelius Westerfield) remained in Ohio County.

Mary (Bruce) Johnston died during 1824-1830. The heirs of Polly Bruce Johnston were named in a suit filed on 1 October 1841 in Harrison County, IN. The children of James Johnston & Mary Bruce included:

1. Cyrus, born 1809 Ohio County, KY; married Elizabeth A. Taber, 5 June 1838 Ohio County, KY; his wife was a daughter of Pardon Taber & Matilda May. In 1852 left Ohio County and moved to Adams County, IL. Their children included: Deborah, Jane, Cyrus and Elizabeth.

2. James, Jr. born 1810 Ohio County, KY; married Deborah Taber (7 June 1818 – 5 March 1886), 16 July 1833 Ohio County, KY, she was the daughter of Pardon Taber & Deborah May; he died 2 March 1889 Ohio County, KY; he & his wife were buried Johnston Cemetery, Ohio County, KY. Their children were: Mary (Polly, 1834-1893, married Cader Foreman), James (1836-1898, married Martha Ellen Petty), Ellen (c1838-after 1886, married Oliver Perry Kirby & \_\_ Batman), Matilda (1840- 1863/1870, married John A. Atkinson), Deborah J. (1842-1892, married James K. Polk Tinsley), Margaret (1845-after 1886, married Napoleon B. Smith & Henry Westbrook), Martha Jane (1847-1909, married Christopher Columbus Bennett), Ann (1849-1929, single), William Berry (1854-after 1920, married Rachel B. Austin & Elizabeth Petty), Malinda (1857-1916, married Richard Thomson Duke) and John Pendleton (1859-1929, married Bertha Allen).
3. Nathan, born c1812 Ohio County, KY; married Mary Taber, 20 November 1831 Ohio County, KY; in 1835 he was residing in Ohio County, KY.
4. Jane, born c1812 Ohio County, KY; married Ambrose / Ambers Taber, 9 May 1833 Ohio County, KY, he was the son of Pardon Taber & Rachel White; 1850 lived in Henderson County, KY. Their children included: Eleanor, James, Pardon, Mary, Samuel, Rachel & Susanna.
5. Polly, married Thomas H. Steerman / Sturman, 27 December 1836 Ohio County, KY; living in 1837.
6. Nancy, born 17 November 1819 Ohio County, KY; married Jesse Lee Horseman (5 June 1817 – 18 November 1863), 19 October 1837 Ohio County, KY, he was the son of Zachariah & Elizabeth Horseman; she died 3 September 1902 Olney, Richland County, IL; she & her husband were buried Parkersburg Cemetery, Parkersburg, Richland County, IL. Their children were: Martha (1838-1871, married Daniel Doty), Samuel (1841-1901, married Ruhema Burton Groves), Henry Clay (1844-1930, married Nancy Ellen Smith & Lydia E. Hoskins), James (1847-1870, single), Mary Ann (1850-1878, married James T. Mayfield), Susan (1853-1893, married Winset Lester), Maria Jane (1856-1944, married George Washington Ward), Malinda (1858-1933, married Robert Byer) and Jesse Lee (1862-1946, married Rose Anna Tyas).
7. Ann, born 11 February 1822 Ohio County, KY; married Benjamin Gentry (7 March 1813 – 27 September 1887), 14 December 1839 Ohio County, KY, he was the son of Joseph Gentry & Rhoda Thomas; she died 16 June 1898 Ohio County, KY; she & her husband were buried Gentry-Petty Cemetery, Ohio County, KY. Their children were: Agnes (1840-1855, single), Samuel (1842-1911, single), James (1845-1921, married Molly Whittinghill), Joseph (1847-1910, single), Galen C. (1850-1916, married Martha Emma Carden), William (1853-1915, married Susan Mary Coppage), Benjamin (1855-1923, married Laura Fentress), Cordelia (1859-1939, married Benjamin Pinkney Petty) and Filura (1862-1927, married Oscar Lycurgus Barrett).

8. John, born 23 March 1824 Ohio County, KY; married Clarisa Taber, 7 May 1844 Ohio County, KY (she was the daughter of Pardon Taber & Deborah May), Deborah Autry (1843 – 12 November 1923), 9 June 1853 Ohio County, KY (she was the daughter of John Autry & Nancy Cannon) and Mary Ann Faught, 1 April 1865 Ohio County, KY (she was the daughter of Madison Faught & Nancy Wilson); he died 1879-1900. His children included: by 1<sup>st</sup> wife, Catherine (c1845- ), Deborah (1847-1934, wife of James Robert White), Samuel; by 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, Charles C. (1854-1928, married Kitty Ann Albin), by 3<sup>rd</sup> wife, John (1866-1919, married Martha McDaniel & Susan Rebecca Leisure), Mary Ann (c1868-1913, married Joseph McDaniel & Tilford Raymer). Cyrus (1869-1923, married Matilda A. Pierce), Arsulia (c1873-1921, married Ranson Raymer, Thomas C. Raymer) and Vilura (1879-1913, married Charles Frank Jones).

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Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY  
Wednesday, 11 August 1880 p3:

—Mr. Cyrus Johnston, a native of Ohio county, but now a citizen of Adams county, Ill., has been in the county for two weeks past, visiting relatives. He is a nephew of Dr. James Johnston and a son of Cyrus Johnston, and was born on the place near Hines Mill, where Pardon Tabor now lives. His father's family moved from this county in 1852, when he was but eight years old. He visited the county and remained in 1858 and 1859, leaving here 21 years ago, and this is his first return since. We are indebted to him for a call at the HERALD office, a pleasant talk of boyhood times, and a description of the county where he now resides.

Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY  
Wednesday, 1 April 1885 p3:

James Johnston Sr., Living in the vicinity of Sulphur Springs is 76 years old and his wife, Mrs. Deborah Johnston is 67 years of age. They have been married 52 years, have ten children, 33 grand children and 11 great-grand children. Who can beat it.

Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY  
Wednesday, 28 April 1886 p4:

Debora Tabor Johnson, born June 7, 1818, was united in wedlock to James Johnson July 16, 1833, departed this life March 5th, 1886, at 6 o'clock A. M. She was widely known, and highly respected for her unvarying kindness, and friendly disposition. About the year 1840 she made a bright profession of religion, attached herself to the Protestant Methodist church, of which she was a consistent member until her death. She leaves a husband and ten children to mourn her loss. She was a cripple for many years before her death, but amid all her sufferings and afflictions her patient endurance, and resignation to the Divine will were clear evidences of the proof of her religion and the purity of her faith. The debt is paid the chord is broken, her spirit has winged its way to regions of eternal bliss, there to join in ceaseless praise the great army of those who have come up out of great tribulation, and have their garments washed in the blood of the Lamb.

The husband and children have my warmest sympathy in their great bereavement.  
G. J. BEAN.

Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY  
Wednesday, 6 March 1889 p3:

**JOHNSON.**—At his home, near Sulphur Springs, last Saturday, of pneumonia, James Johnson, Sr. Mr. Johnson has been a very useful citizen, and will be greatly missed by the community in which he lived.