Lide Carico
(1839-1928)

By Jerry Long
c.2025

Miss Lide Carico, Daviess County, Ky.
"The Daughter" of the 10th Ky., Partisan Rangers

Picture from:
The Partisan Rangers of the Confederate States Army,
Adam R. Johnson & William J. Davis
(Louisville, KY: G.G. Fetter Co., 1904) p.309

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, 29 December 1885, p.4:

The Change in the Postoffice.

Postmaster-elect Kennady received his commission from Washington last Saturday, and on Friday, the lst day of January, will take charge of the postoffice, Postmaster Reno having offered his resignation to take effect on that day. Mr. Kennady will keep for the present, until he can familiarize himself with the duties of the office, the clerks now employed, and the business will therefore run on smoothly when the change takes effect. As has been generally understood for some time past, Miss Eliza Carico, who was among the first applicants for the postoffice under the new administration, will be Mr. Kennady's chief deputy.

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, 4 February 1886, p.4:

Miss Eliza Carico and Master Nels Robinson, son of Mr. I. H. Robinson, have taken their places as clerks in the postoffice.

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, 12 January 1890, p.4:

Representative Hardin in placing the name of Miss Lide Carrico before the legislative caucus as a candidate for State Librarian said: "I desire, first, Mr. Speaker, to name as against any gentleman who may be so ungallant as to permit the use of his name in connection with the office of State Librarian, all those ladies whose graces of character we have admired, and who have contended here in such generous rivalry for the position we are about to confer, and then I desire to name from among that number one whose name is a synonym for purity of character and virtues of womanhood, a Kentuckian by birth and by education, one who has bad practical experience in line with the duties of State Librarian, who as assistant to the postmaster in a city with more than twelve thousand inhabitants performed the duties of that office with credit to herself and her people til the day of Democratic reverse, when with true Democratic instinct, she stepped down from that position; and I ask the caucus to honor itself and her, the orphan and daughter of a Kentuckian who rose against the second attempted domination of our land by Great Britain, and, with Jackson, helped to make the day which we so recently celebrated as a nation's holiday, by elevating that daughter to the position to the which she aspires.

"Mr. Speaker, I present to this caucus for State Librarian the name of Miss Carrico, from the county of Daviess."

… [a couple of lines are missing from microfilm of newspaper]… impression on all whom she met at Frankfort, and we who know her best can well understand that. One of the clever incidents of her campaign is told at the expense of Ben Lee Hardin, the famous ex-Speaker of the Third House. When she was introduced to him Miss Carrico said: "I am so glad of this opportunity of meeting you, Mr. Hardin. Mr. Joe Fuqua, at home, has told me of you and promised to give me a letter of introduction to you, saying he believed you would support me, but I neglected to get it before leaving." "Joe Fuqua is an old fraud," drawled Ben Lee in his characteristic style. "He ought to have written me sometime ago and gent that tobacco be promised me, but he has never done it; so I guess I'm ag'in you, Miss Carrico," be added, with a merry twinkle in his eye. Nothing daunted, Miss Lide quickly responded: "Why, he sent the tobacco by me; here it is," and she drew forth from the pocket of her jacket two fine plugs of old Greenville and handed them to him. "This do settle it," said Ben Lee, as soon as he could recover his breath; "I guess I'm for you." How Miss Lide happened to have that tobacco in her pocket nobody knows, but she turned down one of the greatest wits in Kentucky and made an everlasting admirer when she drew it on him.

[Note: Mrs. Mary Brown Day on 10 January 1890 was selected as Kentucky State Librarian.]

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, 15 October 1899, p.10:

IN SOCIETY

The John Cabell Breckinridge chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy met with Misses Nannie and Jessie Sutton Friday afternoon at the country home of their mother, Mrs. James E. Sutton. After the interchange of conventional courtesies the chapter resolved itself into a business session, and Miss Rosa Todd was chosen to represent its members at the national convention of the U. D. C., which meets at Richmond, Va., in November. Miss Todd will go in company with Mrs. Basil Duke, of Louisville, who is the state president of the U. D. C. Miss Lide Carrico's name was enrolled among the membership of the local chapter. After a further discussion of questions relating to the future interests of the club, the members adjourned to the dining-room, which was exquisitely decorated in autumn leaves and choice roses, and there delicious refreshments were served. Among those present were Mesdames Sarah Moorman, the guest of honor: John Whitehead, L. E. Robinson, R. B. Rutherford and James E. Sutton, Misses Jessie Aull, Beulah Bibb, Clyde Bibb, Fannie Todd, Bessie Long, Lou Gutapfel, Mary Small, Mary Radford and Rosa Todd. The informal reception was tendered the chapter as a compliment to its going into the country for the October meeting.

Owensboro Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 22 May 1904, p.10:

MISS LIDE CARICO.

How She Earned a Brevet Commission as Confederate Major.

A Daring Trip to Save Her Brother from Being Captured by the Enemy.

Writing to Editor Glenn, of Glenn's Graphic, published at Madisonville, Col. F. A. Owen, an old Confederate veteran, who now resides at Evansville, devotes nearly the whole of his letter on the lost cause to what he terms a little unwritten history in which Miss Lide Carico, an estimable Owensboro woman, plays a prominent part. The letter, which will prove interesting reading to old Confederate soldiers everywhere, is as follows:

Evansville, Ind. – J. J. Glenn, My Dear Brother and Friend: – As per promise I want to give you a little unwritten history that will be appreciated by the old boys of the Tenth Kentucky Partisan Rangers.

One bright day in the summer of 1862 while in camp at Dr. Warren Jenkins' near Slaughtersville, Ky., two ladies drove into camp. One, the driver, was Miss Eliza Carico, of Daviess county, Ky., whose every appearance was that of health and vigor with rosy cheeks and eyes sparkling with southern enthusiasm "hoorahing for Jeff Davis" and the Southern Confederacy.

This caught the boys in a tender spot, you know, for they all had an affection of heart when there was a pretty woman in camp so they all gathered around the buggy and cheered its occupants till old Shakerag hills gave back the echo, "hoorah for Jeff Davis and the Southern Confederacy." The other occupant of the buggy was Miss Carico's brother dressed in a suit of his sister's. Beg your pardon, boys, I will let S. A. Cunningham, editor of your own Confederate Veteran, tell the balance (if I can). While at the last reunion at Charleston, S. C., he says ladies were at their headquarters; they were all from Kentucky and the elation and enthusiasm which filled the heart of every gallant son of old Kentucky. Miss Eliza Carico, of Daviess county, Ky., was among these charming and patriotic Kentuckians, and she is a commissioned officer of the Tenth Kentucky calvary. Miss Carico won this promotion as worthily as any Confederate every won his shoulder straps, as the following brief record will show. Her brother, Wilfred Carico, afterward in the secret service of the Confederacy, was ill of typhoid fever near Connersville, Tenn., where he had to be left by his command. When he thought he was sufficiently recovered, he attempted to rejoin his command, then for a short time in Eastern Kentucky and finding a large force of federal calvary between, and very feeble he made his way to his home (by easy stages) near Owensboro, Ky, where it was thought dangerous for him to remain even for a day. Miss Lide (as she is affectionately called by all her friends) disguised him as a woman, took him in a buggy and carried him by a circuitous route till she met the command of Col. Adam Johnson, Tenth Kentucky, at Slaughtersville, Ky. This was a dangerous drive of sixty miles, a part of which was residenced by the enemies of her "beloved South" and including passage of Green river on a flat boat, without banisters.

This perilous journey was ended successfully by this brave Confederate woman. Mr. Carico recovered rapidly under the care of Dr. Jenkins and family. A Confederate soldier could not stay sick long at his house. Many of the old guards have good reasons to remember this doctor and his kind family, most of whom have "crossed over the river and are resting under the trees. Two daughters and one son survive. Mrs. C. C. Lander, of Frankfort, Ky.; Miss Ellen Jenkins, of Pembroke, Ky., and William Jenkins, of Slaughtersville, Ky. The oldest son. Thomas, was a gallant soldier in the Fourth Kentucky infantry. When the Tenth Kentucky went south from Kentucky Dr. Jenkins was too loyal to his country to remain behind and went with them, and was with his son in hospital when he died. But few men did more than the doctor for the South. He assisted in a number of hospitals and was a true Confederate soldier to the end. Boys, I will not beg your pardon for this digression for I know you will all agree with me that much more is due this grand old family and their efforts for the South than this article will present.

Miss Carico was sent back to her home with an escort from the Tenth Kentucky, commanded by that prince of soldiers, Col. Robert M. Martin, of Muhlenberg county, Ky. Just before leaving Miss Carico's home these brave soldiers voted her a commission as major, and Col. Martin wrote it out, and Miss Carico still keeps it among her most valued relics and is now recognized as "Major Carico," and she is not the first woman or man of the Southern Confederacy whose lives have proven that

"The bravest are the tenderest.
The loving are the daring."

Miss Eliza Carico, the subject of this sketch, whose picture is at the head of this article and will be incorporated in Gen. Adam Johnson's history of his command, is a noble Christian woman, one who has won the respect and 1 love of every member of the old regiment and in return she loves each and everyone of them and prays for their final rest when the last roll is called.

Your friend,
F. A. OWEN

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, 4 September 1921, p.1B:

Miss Lide Carico is "Confederate Veteran"

At a very interesting meeting of the Sons and Daughters of Confederate Veterans, at the office of Squire Hite, commander of the Rice E. Graves Post of Confederate Veterans on Saturday Squire Hite introduced to the gathering a new "Confederate Veteran" in the person of Miss Lide Carico, Kenyon Flats. Squire Hite explained that Miss Carico was made to member of the Tenth Confederate Cavalry following her daring exploit in bringing her brother, the late Judge Wilfred Carico, through the lines to the Confederate army during the war. It seems that Judge Carico had been home and in some way his return was cut off by the Union soldiers. His sister at considerable risk escorted him safely through the lines and he was able to rejoin his unit.

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, 7 August 1927, p.1B:

Miss Lide Carrico Is a Confederate Veteran; Wins a Commision Of Major

One of the new departments of the John C. Breckinridge chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, is the Quill club. This department will. collect for preservation interviews with Confederate veterans, literature pertaining to the veterans and the war between the states. Among clippings in a Louisville paper twenty or more years ago, a compliment was paid to Miss Lide Carrico, who was attending a Confederate reunion in Louisville as follows:

'Miss Lide Carrico was among those charming and patriotic Kentuckians, and she is a commissioned office of the Tenth Kentucky cavalry. Miss Carrico won this promotion as worthily, as any Confederate ever won his shoulder straps, as the following brief, record will show: Her brother, Wilfred Carrico, afterwards in the secret service of the Confederacy, was ill with typhoid fever at Connersville, Tenn., where he had to| be left by his comrades. Miss Carrico disguised him as a woman took him in a buggy and carried him until she met the command of Col. Adam Johnson, Tenth Kentucky cavalry, at Slaughtersville, Webster county, Kentucky. This was a dangerous drive of sixty miles, including the passage of Green river on a flat boat, at a ferry crossing. This perilous Journey was ended in safety by this brave Confederate woman, and she was sent back home by escort from Tenth cavalry. This brave company of cavalrymen promoted Miss Carrico, giving her a commission as major in their command, and Miss Carrico now holds this commission. Right-hand salute, comrades, to Major Lide Carrico, of the Tenth Kentucky cavalry! She is not the first woman or man of the Southern Confederacy whose lives have proven indeed that.

"The bravest are the tenderest,
The loving are the daring."

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 29 April 1928, p.3:


Miss Lide Carico, 89,
Dies At An Early Hour

Miss Lide Carico, 89 years old, died at the home of her nephew, T. I. Hagen, 717 Allen street, at 1:55 o'clock this morning. She was the daughter of the late Thomas Carico and Julia Wathen Carico, and was the last survivor of the family of six children.

Miss Carico is survived by several nieces and nephews. She was a widely. known Owensboro woman and was a member of the Catholic church,

No funeral arrangements have been made.

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Tuesday, 1 May 1928, p.2:

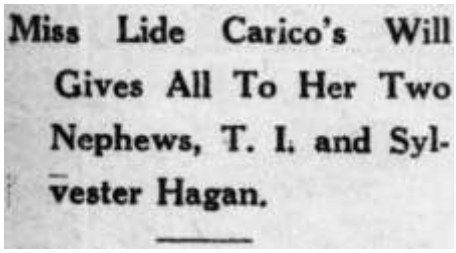
MISS LIDE CARRICO

The funeral of Miss Lide Carrico, who died early Sunday morning at the home of her nephew, T. I. Hagan, 717 Allen street, will be conducted at 9 o'clock this morning at St. Paul's Catholic church with Rev. Father Richard Maloney having charge of the services with burial in the Catholic cemetery.

The following will serve as pallbearers: Ed Hayden, Charles Elliott, H. A. Williams, H. H. Henning, A. B. Oberst and Joe Alexander.

Miss Carrico was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Carrico and the last survivor of six children. She is survived a number of nephews and nieces.

Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, 10 May 1928, p.4:


Miss Lide Carico's Will Gives All To Her Two Nephews, T. I. and Sylvester Hagan.

After several devises to relatives, Miss Eliza Carico left her entire estate to her nephews, Sylvester and Thomas I. Hagan, and named them as executors of her estate, without bond. The will, executed March 4, 1925, was witnessed by Albert B. Oberst and Chlora Clark, and admitted to probate when presented in county court yesterday.

To a nephew, John Hill Carico, of Cloverdale, Cal., there is left $250, and to the Rev. E. S. FitzGerald, $100 for his personal use and $100 for masses. This later was changed by a codicil to be left to the pastor of St. Paul's church.

A codicil dated September 29. 1925, bequeathed to Ruth Hagan $100 and on December 16, 1926, another codicil bequeathed to R. Murray Hagan $100. A third codicil provided that in the event of the death of Sylvester Hagan preceding that of the testatrix, then his widow and children shall inherit his share.

Thomas I Hagan appeared in court and qualified under the will, without bond, the other executors, Sylvester Hagan, being prevented by illness from attending to the matter.

Owensboro Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 21 May 1928, p.4:

A MEMORIAL TO MISS LIDE CARRICO

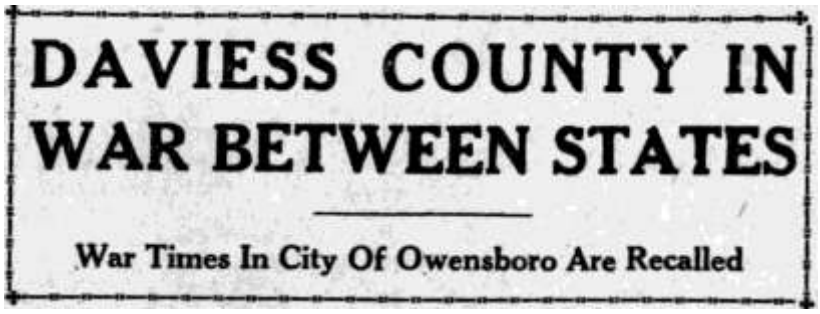
When, in the sequence of passing years, the Ruler of the Universe, gathering into His hands the closing threads that perfected the life fabric of Miss Lide Carriço, there was left a void in the citizenry of Owensboro.

Miss Carrico, in her early years, espoused the lofty ideals, the noble purposes and the high standards of the old patrician South. In the war of the sixties, while yet in her teens, she carried mails, messages and packages into the Southern lines, by means of agencies only devised by the daring courage and resourcefulness of youth.

In maturer years, by her gracious personality and magnetic manner, she gathered about her a group of loyal friends. Men honored her, women loved her, all admired her. And, whereas she was a faithful member of the John C. Breckinridge Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Therefore, be it resolved: that each member of that organization is pledged to remembrance of her high type of womanhood, her beautiful character and her lofty virtues.

Nannie Sutton Conant,
Mrs. W. L. Mills.
Mrs. Lizzie Y. Bishop,
Committee.

Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 12 July 1931, p.1B:


DAVIESS COUNTY IN WAR BETWEEN STATES

War Times In City Of Owensboro Are Recalled

Daviess County In War Between States
Chapter II

By C. W. Bransford

A military character that few people in Owensboro seem to know anything about, and yet one who distinguished himself on many battlefields, was Colonel Adam R. Johnson, born February 8, 1834, son of Dr. Thomas J, and Juliet (Rankin) Johnson, of Henderson. It is presumed that Col. Johnson finished his education at the Owensboro Military Academy, as he was a beau of Miss Lide Carico, of this city, and came here in 1862 from Texas, where he had located, to raise the first two companies of his regiment. He was promoted to Brigadier-General in June, 1864; and lost both eyes in action at Grubbs Cross Roads, Ga., Aug. 20, 1864, a ball passing entirely through his head just back of his eyes. He recovered from his wound and lived to a good old age, and amassed a fortune, notwithstanding the loss of his sight….

<u>Messenger-Inquirer</u>, Owensboro, KY, 23 August 1931, p.5B:

DAVIESS COUNTY IN WAR BETWEEN STATES

Final Chapter Of Series Of Articles Showing The Heroism Of Daviess County Men

Chapter VIII

By C. W. Bransford

In a previous chapter the writer expressed the belief that General Adam R. Johnson of Henderson, finished his education at the Owensboro Military Academy, that splendid institution which turned out so many great men in Daviess county. He is pleased to have confirmation of his impression from General Johnson himself. In his "Memoirs," page 38, where he mentions his trip from Texas to Kentucky to raise his Regiment, General Johnson says: "Upon my arrival in Bowling Green, Kentucky, I found quite a number of my old schoolmates and friends attached to (Rice E.) Graves Battery, which afterward became famous. My former companions were delighted to see me after such a long absence, and begged me to cast my fortunes with theirs; but I declined to join them, and soon resumed my journey to Henderson." He had previously said he was going by Henderson to see his parents, but he came to Owensboro to organize the first two companies of his regiment. In this connection it is proper to state that Gen. Johnson carries in his "Memoirs" a picture of Miss Lide Carico (born January 16, 1839 and died April 29, 1928) of Owensboro, who distinguished herself in various ways during the war. In recognition of her services, she was regularly elected and commissioned a major of the 10th Kentucky Cavalry, Confederate States Army, an honor, so far as the writer knows never conferred on any other Southern woman….

<u>The Register</u>, Kentucky Historical Society (Frankfort, KY, Vol. 77, No. 1, Winter 1979) p.12, excerpt from article "Between the Hawk and the Buzzard", by Aloma Williams Dew:

…. In an unusual occurrence, Lide Carico of Owensboro was distinguished as "The Daughter" of the 10th Kentucky Partisan Rangers – a group which was organized in nearby Henderson. She was elected and commissioned a major in the 10th Kentucky Cavalry, Confederate States of America. [W. J. Davis, ed., Partisan Rangers of the Confederate States Army (Louisville, 1904), 309. Miss Carico had been the sweetheart of southern General Adam R. Johnson of the Partisan Rangers when he had attended Owensboro Military Academy. A large portrait of her was included in his memoirs which were published after the war. The only other southern woman believed to hold such an honor was Captain Sally L. Tompkins, founder and head of the military hospital in Richmond, Virginia. For more see Bell Irvin Wiley, *Confederate Women* (Westport, Conn. and London, England, 1975), 144-45.]

Monument marking grave of Lide Carico

Eliza Agnes ('Lide') Carico, was born on 29 January 1839 in Daviess County, KY. She died on 29 April 1928 at the home of her nephew, Thomas I. Hagan, 717 Allen Street, in Owensboro. Her death certificate listed the cause of her death as senility. She was buried in her parents' lot in the Mater Dolorosa ("Catholic") Cemetery on West Ninth Street in Owensboro.

Lide Carico was the daughter of Thomas Ignatius Carico (1796-1885) & Julia Anna Wathen (1803-1882). Their family name was also spelled as Carrico. Lide's parents were married in Nelson County, KY on 9 November 1830. The 1876 Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, KY. (Leo McDonough & Co., p.28) recorded that Thomas I. Carico came to Daviess County in 1833. Thos. J. Carico appears in the 1840 census of Daviess County, KY. Thomas was a veteran of the War of 1812 (Owensboro Messenger, 8 January 1885, p.1).

Eliza A. Carico , 'Lide', is enumerated in the home of her parents in the 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880 federal censuses of Daviess County, KY. She was reported to be single in the 1910 and 1920 censuses of Owensboro, Daviess County, KY. Eliza was one of six children; her siblings were: Helen Carico Hagan (1832-1921), Teresa Rose Carrico (1837-1913), Wilfred Aloysius Carico (1841-1909), Dr. John Wathen Carico (1842-1914) and Albert B. Carico (1847-1873).

Lide's brother, Wilford A. Carico, was a Confederate soldier and POW during the Civil War. He practiced law in Owensboro for thirty-four years; having been admitted to the Owensboro bar in 1874. He died at his residence, 200 West Seventh Street, on 22 June 1909. His residence was located where Brescia University is now.

Home of Wilfred Carico, 200 West Seventh Street (Owensboro Messenger - Spring 1900 Industrial Souvenir Edition, p.22)

The Owensboro Messenger of 13 June 1919 (p.2) reported: "Mrs. Ida Carico, widow of the' late Judge Wilfred Carico, and daughter, Miss Lily Carico have donated their handsome residence at 200 W. Seventh street, valued at $18,000 to St. Joseph's Ursuline academy to be used as a commercial college for girls only. Mrs. Carrico and her daughter are to have a home at their present residence their life and are to be cared for by the Sisters of the Ursuline Order. Steps toward establishing this commercial school as a branch of St. Joseph's academy will begin within a short time." [Note: The school conducted by the Ursuline sisters of Mt. St. Joseph Academy subsequently became Brescia College.]