

Slaughter Family of Owensboro, KY & the Wendell Foster Center

By Jerry Long
c.2026



**The Daviess County Historical Quarterly, Volume II, April, Number 2
(Owensboro, KY: Daviess County Historical Society) pp.39-42:**

MEMORIES OF THE SLAUGHTER FAMILY,
AND THE "GOOD OLD DAYS"

By Ruth Westerfield

Not many people in Owensboro can remember Miss Sue, Miss Blanche, and Miss Emma Slaughter, who were among the belles of Owensboro during the early 1900's, but I remember them. We had a grocery on the corner of Seventh and Triplett streets. The Slaughter sisters lived at 815 Triplett Street, where the Spastics Home is now located, and many times the conversations among the customers in our store centered around the great, lavish parties at the Slaughter home. Although we lived near, no one in the neighborhood was a part of the festivities—the guests were always from the "upper crust."

Joseph Weaver Slaughter, the father, was born in Culpepper County, Virginia, (where the Slaughter name is still quite prominent). He married a belle from Frankfort, Ky., Sallie Greenleaf McKee, whom he had met at a "platform" dance while visiting Owensboro. Five of their seven or eight children lived to maturity—Sue, Blanche, Emma, Joseph Weaver, Jr., and Gus. None of the girls married and the two boys had no children, which explains why, though prominent during the two generations, the Slaughter name is not well-known in Owensboro today.

In 1881 Joseph Weaver Slaughter bought three acres of land at Triplett Street and McFarland Avenue (now Ninth Street). It was bounded on three sides by an apple orchard. In 1884 he built a spacious frame house with all the gingerbread trim, veranda, side porches and a big lawn on which many parties were held. There were four rooms, servants' quarters and kitchen downstairs, and four rooms and a bath upstairs, plus an attic and basement. The widow's walk, which many of the houses from the river to about Twelfth Street had, offered a magnificent view in all directions, but it was especially built to watch the boats along the river. It functioned as a lookout for incoming and departing boats, so that people would know when to go to meet the packets. Then, as now, river transportation did not adhere to a very strict schedule.

Mr. Slaughter was deputy sheriff and county jailer from 1867 to 1878. After retiring from public office he engaged in business, entering into partnership with John Thixton in the distilling and wholesale liquor business. McCulloch, Monarch, Field and Perkins were other names prominent in the distilling industry during that time. Mr. Slaughter was vice president of the

Owensboro Banking Company, and director of the Owensboro Wagon Company and the Owensboro Ice Company, among other business ventures.

Mr. Hayes, in his history of Owensboro, refers to the period 1900-1910 as the "Great Decade." Many improvements were made. One was the public water works. The water works was located at the foot of Triplett Street. According to Miss Emma Slaughter, "when we had water and wanted to put it in the bathtub, it was nothing but mud. After bathing, we would stand in front of the fire to dry off and then take a whisk broom and brush off the sand. The water works was owned by a man in Louisville and officials were being paid to keep a public water system out of Owensboro. Typhoid and malaria were commonplace and there was just one epidemic after another. My father used to walk the streets of Owensboro talking to people, trying to get a public water system. Finally we got a 12-man city council which led to our getting a public water works and then that led to our getting other things, especially street improvements." Mr. Hayes adds: "Besides water, it (the water works) also furnished, without additional charge, a large and colorful supply of mud therewith, the color and earth content varying with the stage of the river."

Joseph Slaughter was one of the 12 men on the Business Men's Council. Others included John G. Delker, E. H. Breidenbach, A. Steitler, Jr., Mike Cary, John S. Miller, C. F. McCarroll and Robert Brodie. These names are familiar because their descendants still live here and are continuing to contribute to the progress of Owensboro.

In 1899 the city voted a \$200,000 bond for street improvements, the result being 809 for and 181 against the bonds. I don't know how many streets were improved, but I do know that Mr. Slaughter exchanged the right-of-way in front of his property for a retaining wall. The wall in front of the Spastics Home is a part of that wall.

In 1900 the city purchased five acres of ground at Daviess Street near Fourteenth Street, and this was the beginning of the municipal electric plant which previously was privately-owned.

On November 6, 1900 an election was held on another \$200,000 bond issue for a municipal water works. It passed, 1,942 for and 444 opposed.

Other improvements during this 'Great Decade' were a hospital, reorganization of police and fire departments, formation of the Investigators Club, and the founding of the Great Seven Hills Chautauqua. The second lynching in the county's history took place, and Sam Jones, the great evangelist, came to town.

So much for Mr. Slaughter and his accomplishments. Let us now see how he and his family lived privately. If they did not use their beautiful surrey, they could have ridden the mule-drawn cars around town on the Owensboro street railroad. They were later (in the middle 1890's), replaced by electric streetcars. The latter were described as "handsome vestibule cars." Streets were deep mud or clouds of dust at that time, depending upon the weather. Sidewalks, however, were pretty good.

The Slaughters, along with other Owensboro residents, got the *Owensboro Messenger*, which began as a weekly, then was published semi-weekly, and finally, by 1887, daily. By 1884 they could also subscribe to the *Inquirer*.

If they needed an attorney there were R. H. and E. P. Taylor, Robert S. Todd and John G. Weir among others. Doctors included Josiah Hale, the first one in this section to study in Europe, Edward Luckett, W. D. Stirman, who built "Stirman's Folly," the finest home in Owensboro at the time and now the Haley-McGinnis & Owensboro Funeral Home, S. S. Watkins, a former surgeon in the Confederate Army, and J. F. Kimbley, formerly a surgeon in the Union Army.

If they needed medicines there were several druggists, including Smith and Bates or John Heads, or Courtney's or Brashear and Crossier where John Friedman, Sr., clerked for seven years before becoming the proprietor.

The Slaughter women loved shopping at S. W. Anderson's on the southeast corner of Second and Daviess Streets, where Lee Wilson Sporting Goods is now located. H. P. Phillips & Co., founded in 1881 and later Phillips Bros. and McAtee, which later, in 1899, became McAttee, Lyddane and Ray, offered stylish merchandise also. Solomon Wile and Sons offered good selections for men in their store on Main Street between Allen and Daviess, as did Wolf on Main between St. Ann and Frederica. The Temple theater, on Second and Daviess where S. W. Anderson is now located, offered fine entertainment. A portion of the original wall on Daviess street is now a part of the Anderson Building. The Hall theater next to the Planter's Hotel was a favorite until it was destroyed by fire.

Lumber and building supplies could be purchased at N. Grady's at Ninth and Crittenden, John R. Osborne & Son at Seventh and Daviess, or J. V. Stimson & Bros. on Moseley Street. In 1902 these firms merged to form the Owensboro Planing Mill. (I haven't been working there that long. it just seems like It.)

Have you seen the electric cars of the period? The Slaughter sisters had one around 1910. So did Mrs. W. T. Ellis, the Baers and the Rosenfelds.

Joseph W. Slaughter died August 4, 1916, when he was 78 years of age. He was one of Owensboro's "oldest and best-known and most highly respected citizens," to quote a newspaper clipping. Mrs. Sallie M. Slaughter was stricken with paralysis in May, 1924, and thereafter was an invalid. Her passing on July 19, 1927, at the age of 84 was noted in the press as "the loss of one of the best-known and most generally beloved women of Owensboro."

Sometime after the death of their parents, the remaining members of the family moved into one of the two smaller houses that had been built on their property. By then World War II was in progress. Two of the sisters became bedridden with long illnesses before they died. Miss Emma Slaughter, the last of the aristocratic old family and a handsome, stately lady to the very last, died November 16, 1969 at the age of 95.

The family home, meanwhile, had been sold to a Mr. Tucker, who, in turn, sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Wendel Foster in July 1947. The old house witnessed the birth of a great community endeavor spurred on by the efforts of a courageous young couple with a handicapped child. It was there that a handful of dedicated people gathered to begin a drive which launched the first building program of the Spastics' Home and School. The old Slaughter home was 79 years old when it was torn down to make way for the new building. A photograph over the fireplace in the modern lobby of the Spastics' Home is all that remains as a reminder of this important family.



Kentucky Pioneer Genealogy and Records, Volume 2, No.3, July 1980
(Owensboro, KY: Cook & McDowell Publications), pp.125-131:

The Slaughter Family of Owensboro, Kentucky

By Bobbie H. O'Brien

(professional genealogist specializing in
Ohio and Daviess County, Ky.)

Joseph Weaver Slaughter is the first of the line that we are concerned with, however, we include these notes on his parents.

William G. SLAUGHTER married 16 May 1833 in Daviess County, Kentucky, Ann G. TAPSCOTT. The ceremony was performed by John PINKSTON, Minister of the Methodist-Episcopal Church. (Volume A, Page 58) This may have been his second marriage as an entry dated 1832 in Deed Book E, page 438, says, "William and Pansy SLAUGHTER sold Price SHOEMAKER 160 acres on Burnett's Fork in Daviess County."

In 1850 there were three SLAUGHTER children in the census records: Joseph, age 11, living with William L. CRIGLER (age 37) and Nancy G. (35) and their two children James (8) and Harriet R. (5). William was listed as a blacksmith born in Virginia, and Nancy was born in Maryland; George W. (14) and Medora A. (15) living with Robert P. SHARP (39) and Frances G. (36) and a child James F. SNEAD (10). West Central Kentucky Family Research Association records state that Frances G. SHARP was a TAPSCOTT prior to marriage. Perhaps she is a sister to Ann G. SLAUGHTER – or perhaps it is Ann.

We found this final note on Joseph's father – 14 January 1853 William G. SLAUGHTER estate – Harvey BELL, administrator and R.C. JETT, security. This was found in Family Records, Volume 3, page 46.

Background material on the wife of Joseph Weaver Slaughter consists of two census entries in Franklin County, Kentucky.

1850		1860		
McKEE, Samuel D.	34	McKEE, Samuel D.	42	\$1050.
Sarah Ann	27	Sarah A.	38	
Sarah G.	7	Sarah G.	17	
Frances	5	Fannie M.	15	
Betty Buford	3	Bettie B.	12	
CONNELLY, Alexander	54	Martha	6	
Cynthia	45	Ella	2	
Mary	14	Ann L.	2	
WHITE, Lucy Ann	8			
McKEE, Robert C.	38	Lawyer		\$1750.
Zerelda	34	NOTE: The \$1050. above should		
BOYER, Alfred Z.	13	have been in the 1850 entry		
Henry	11	for Samuel. In 1860, his real		
James	9	estate was worth \$2200. and		
John	7	personal property, \$2800.		
Isabella M.	5			
McKEE, Francis	1			

Joseph W. Slaughter married 4 October 1864 at the home of S.D. McKEE to Sallie G. McKEE. The bond was dated 3 October 1864, and the ceremony was performed by W.L. JERMANE in Franklin County, Kentucky. Witnesses were S.D. McKEE, Scott BROWN, and J.L. JERMANE.

In the 1880 census of Daviess County, Kentucky, Joseph (42) and Sallie (38) had six children. With the age gap between Joseph and the twins, there is a possibility that another child was born circe 1878 and died before the census was taken. Their children were: Susan (age 10),

Blanche (8), Emma (6), Joseph (4) and the twins, Gustavus and Ellena (2 months). Joseph, Sr. gave Virginia as birthplace for both his parents.

There were two entries in the 1889-1890 city directory for Owensboro, Kentucky, concerning Joseph Weaver Slaughter. He was listed: J.W. Slaughter – works Slaughter and McCulloch; lives 633 Triplett Street; and, J.W. Slaughter and J.W. McCULLOCH – Distillers and Wholesale Liquor Dealers, 207 East Main Street.

Vital statistics for Kentucky lists his date of death as 4 August 1916 in Daviess County. Elmwood Cemetery record gives date of birth 20 March 1838; death, 4 August 1916. The following is his obituary as it appeared in the Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer Saturday, 5 August 1916.

AN ACTIVE LIFE COMES TO AN END

Joseph W. Slaughter Has Passed Away
after an illness of six weeks' duration
PROMINENT BUSINESS MAN

Funeral will be conducted from late residence this afternoon

Joseph W. Slaughter, prominent banker and businessman and one of the oldest, best known and most highly respected citizens of Owensboro, passed away at his home on Triplett Street at 9:30 o'clock Friday morning. His death came after an illness of about six weeks duration and was not expected.

The deceased was born in Daviess County seventy-eight years ago and all of his life was spent in this county. Since early manhood he had taken an active and leading part in local affairs. He was vice-president of the Owensboro Banking Company and a director of the Owensboro Wagon Company and the Owensboro Ice Company.

He was born March 20, 1838, in Daviess County the son of William G. Slaughter, and he spent his boyhood on his father's farm. From 1867 to 1878 he held public office as deputy sheriff and county jailer. Retiring from public life he engaged in business, entering into partnership in the distilling and wholesale liquor business. Since then he had been prominently identified with a number of Owensboro's leading concerns. He has for many years been a member of the Masonic order.

Mr. Slaughter was married October 14, 1864., to Miss Sallie G. McKee of Frankfort, and to this union were born two sons and three daughters: J.W. Slaughter, Jr. of New York, G.T. Slaughter of Owensboro, and Misses Susan, Blanche, and Emma Slaughter, all of whom survive.

For a number of years Mr. Slaughter resided at his beautiful home on South Triplett Street, whence the funeral will take place this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The Rev. G.B. Leckonby, rector of the Trinity Episcopal Church will officiate.

The following will be pall bearers: Hawes B. Eagles, C.W. Bransford, Charles Price, Kieber Sweeney, and Dr. E.S. Watkins; Honorary, Josh T. Griffith, Martin Mattingly, J.V. McCulloch, H.P. Thompkins, W.N. Bumpus, P.T. Watkins, T.A. Pedley, E.H. Clarke, George A. Williams, and Dr. C.H. Todd.

In the 1922-1923 Owensboro City Directory, Sallie G. Slaughter, widow of Joseph W., was living at 815 Triplett Street. The different number might not mean a different house, but that the houses had been re-numbered.

Elmwood Cemetery record: Sarah M. Slaughter b. 4 January 1843; d. 17 July 1927. Her obituary from the Tuesday, 19 July 1927, issue of the Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer follows:

DEATH COMES TO MRS. SLAUGHTER
Funeral services to be held at Triplett Street
Residence this morning

Funeral services for Mrs. J.W. Slaughter, who died at her home, 815 Triplett Street, at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, will be conducted at 10:00 this morning from the late residence, with services by Rev. Corwin C. Miller, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church. Mrs. Slaughter, who was one of the best known and most generally beloved women of Owensboro, was 84 years of age. She was born in Franklin County, but had lived all of her married life in Owensboro. She came to Owensboro on a visit at 18, being then Miss Sallie Greenleaf McKee. Here she met J.W. Slaughter whose bride she became on October 4, 1864, the marriage taking place in Frankfort. Mr. Slaughter died several years ago. Surviving are three daughters, Misses Sue, Blanche, and Emma Slaughter, all of Owensboro, and two sons, J.W. Slaughter of New York and Gus Slaughter of Owensboro.

Mrs. Slaughter was stricken with paralysis May 24, 1924, since which time she has been a patient invalid.

She was one of the oldest living members of Trinity Episcopal Church here. Her husband was a vestryman for many years before his demise.

Honorary pallbearers will be H.B. Eagles, Z.T. ROBINSON, J.G. Taylor, Urey Woodson, Dr. E.B. McComick, Dr. D.M. Griffith, W.L. Sloane, C.R. Eagles, James D. Russell, G.M. Pedley, Philip Rudd, and M.F. Bransford.

Miss Minnie Murray of Evansville and Mr. and Mrs. David Clarke of Henderson are out-of-town friends here to attend the funeral.

The first child of Joseph Weaver Slaughter and Sarah Greenleaf McKee was Sue M. Slaughter born 19 January 1869 in Daviess County, Kentucky. She died there 26 August 1945 and was buried in Elmwood Cemetery in Owensboro. Her obituary was in the Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer on Tuesday, 28 August 1945.

MISS SLAUGHTER TAKEN BY DEATH

Miss Sue Slaughter, member of a prominent Owensboro family, died at her home at 821 Triplett Street at 1:45 p.m. Sunday. She was a daughter of the late J.W. and Sallie McKee slaughter.

A life-long member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Miss Slaughter was an active worker in the church over a long period of years. She was one of the founders of the Daviess County tuberculosis association and was a member of the board of directors for many years.

Surviving are two sisters, Misses Emma and Blanche Slaughter, and a brother, Gus Slaughter, Owensboro.

Funeral services will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. today, the rector, the Rev. Wilfred Myll, officiating. Burial will be in Elmwood Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Allen Gipe, Earl Felix, Laurence Sprig, Weir Griffith, Dr. Dan Griffith, and Dean Eagles.

Note the address on Triplett Street is given as 821 in the obituary; in the City Directory for 1889-1890 it was 633, and in the 1922-1923 and 1935 it was 815. Perhaps this was the same house; perhaps not.

The second daughter Blanche appeared in the City Directory along with the others in the years that I checked. The Elmwood Cemetery Record lists date of birth as 22 February 1872 and date of death as 18 March 1953. Her obituary was less impressive than the other members of her family so I copied only the basic information from it. It was in the paper dated 19 March 1953.

Miss Blanche Slaughter died Wednesday following a lingering illness. Her brother died last Saturday. Life-long member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Owensboro. Survived by a sister Emma Slaughter. Funeral at the residence by Rev. W.B. Myll, Rector of St. Matthews.

Emma C. Slaughter, third child, lived a longer life than any member of her family. Her address in the last 2 directories checked was 815 Triplett. She was listed as age 95 and dying 16 November 1969 in vital statistics. Her obituary was in the paper on Monday, 17 November 1969.

Miss Emma Slaughter, 96, of 821 Triplett Street, died at 8:30 a.m. Sunday at the Owensboro-Daviess County Hospital after a short illness.

Miss Slaughter was the last member of a pioneer family in Owensboro, and an active member of the Trinity Episcopal Church here.

She was born 29 December 1873 in Daviess County.

Services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Trinity Episcopal Church with the Rev. Glenn Copping, rector, and the Rev. William E. Myll of Louisville, a former rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, officiating. Burial will be in Elmwood Cemetery. Friends may call at the James H. Davis Funeral Home after 10 a.m. today.

The fourth Slaughter child was a son – Joseph Weaver Slaughter, Jr. He was born 13 November 1875 and died 30 June 1929 [edit by J. Long – died 30 July 1929]. When his father and mother died, he was living in New York. I did not find a marriage record for him in Daviess County, but both he and his wife were brought back there and interred in Elmwood Cemetery. He apparently did not die in Kentucky as he was not listed in the vital statistics book. I could not find an obituary for him as the paper for 1 July 1929 was missing completely and the one for the second was badly damaged.

The cemetery record for his wife was: Mae Draper Slaughter b. 7 September 1884; d. 14 July 1958. Her obituary from the Owensboro paper for 15 July 1958 follows:

Mrs. Joseph W. Slaughter, Jr. died Monday, 14 July 1958, in Richmond, Virginia. She is survived by a sister-in-law Emma Slaughter of Owensboro; a cousin Mrs. James Leach and two nieces. The funeral services will be Wednesday conducted by Rev. Robert H. Wade, minister of Settle Memorial Methodist Church, with burial in Elmwood Cemetery.

The twins Gustavus and Ellena Slaughter made their arrival on 10 April 1880. It is not known when the little girl died. She was living when the 1880 census was taken. I have found no further record on her. Vital statistics listed Gus as 72 years of age, dying 14 March 1953. His cemetery record at Elmwood gave his date of birth and the same death date.

Gustav Slaughter married 19 June 1907 Anne Beatrice Cottrell in Daviess County (Book 16, page 81). The ceremony was conducted by William D. Nowlin. J.S. Cottrell was surety, and witnesses were J.W. Slaughter, Jr. and Hal Richenors?.

This marriage apparently ended in divorce as the 1922 City Directory lists Mrs. Beatrice C. Slaughter, 1229 St. Ann Street. In 1935 she was at the same address and her occupation was assistant Librarian. In 1922 Gus T. and Ola Slaughter were living at 110 West Fourth Street. I did not find a second marriage for him but I don't think I looked very many years past 1907. Gus' occupation was Salesman for Owensboro Wagon Company. In 1935 he and Ola were living at 415 Crittenden Street. This entry listed him as a secretary for the Owensboro Manufacturing Company.

So far I have not seen a death record for his second wife, but his first wife is buried in Elmwood Cemetery. Beatrice Cottrell Slaughter was born 2 December 1883 and died 18 September 1968.

Gus' obituary appeared in the paper on 15 March 1953. He died Saturday, 14 March 1953, at Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in Owensboro, Kentucky, after a five weeks' illness. He was associated with Owensboro Wagon Works for 35 years and for several years with the Interstate Stores. For two years prior to his death he was Cashier and bookkeeper for Grand Central Hotel. He was a graduate of the Kentucky Military Institute. Was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church. Survived by two sisters: Emna and Blanche. Services were Monday by Rev. J.C. McQueen, Jr. of the First Presbyterian Church.

There seems to have been no grandchildren for Joseph Weaver Slaughter and Sarah Greenleaf McKee; therefore, on 16 November 1969 with the passing of Enma C. Slaughter, a prominent pioneer family of Owensboro and Daviess County, Kentucky, slipped quietly but impressively into history. They seem to have been a deeply religious people, a close-knit family, and responsible citizens who cared for their fellowman.



Additions on the Joseph Weaver Slaughter Family
By Jerry Long

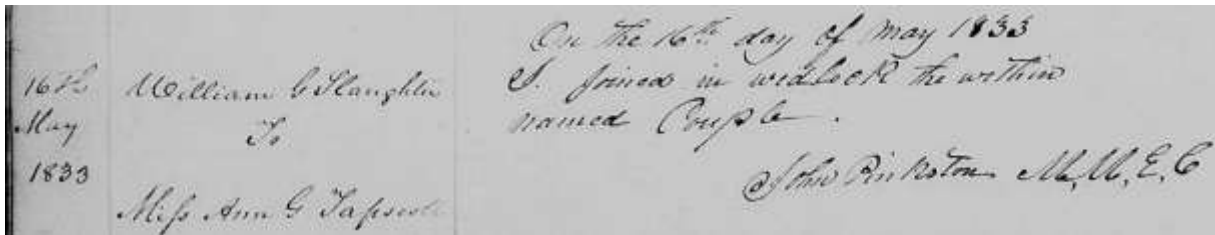
Lineage Book of the Charter Members of the DAR Volume 44
(Washington, D.C.: National Society of the Daughters
of the American Revolution, 1903) pp.337-338:

MISS SUSAN McKEE SLAUGHTER. 43898
Born in Owensboro, Kentucky.

- Descendant of Col. James Slaughter, of Virginia.
- Daughter of Joseph W. Slaughter and Sarah McKee, his wife.
- Granddaughter of William G. Slaughter and Ann Graham Tapscott, his wife.
- Gr .- granddaughter of George Slaughter (1768-1809) and Teresa Keho, his wife.
- Gr .- gr .- granddaughter of James Slaughter and Susan Clayton, his wife. m. 1756.
- James Slaughter was in command at the battle of Great Bridge 1775. He served as a member of the Committee of Safety of Culpeper where in 1732 he was born. Also member Nos. 184, 853, 2792, 5699, 8302, 13812, 16764, 35826.



Daviess County, KY Marriage Book A, p.58:



William G. Slaughter married Miss Ann G. Tapscott 16 May 1833



Daviess County, KY Order Book D:

Page 109 – 14 January 1839 Harvey Bell who took the oath required by law and with R. C. , his security, executed and acknowledged bond to the Commonwealth in the penalty of \$500 condition agreeably to law. It is ordered that a certificate be granted said Harvey Bell for obtaining letters of Administration of the estate of Wm. G. Slaughter.

Page 110 – 14 January 1839 Ordered that Mercer J. Whyne, Wm. T. Beauchamp and Spotswood Hewett do appraise in current money the personal estate and slaves, if any, of Wm. G. Slaughter, deceased, and make report.

Page 182 – 11 May 1840 an inventory and appraisement of the estate of Wm. G. Slaughter, deceased, was produced in court and ordered to record.



Daviess County, KY 1850 Federal Census, p.355B:

Crigler, William L.	37	born Virginia	blacksmith
“ Nancy G.	35	born Maryland	
“ James	8	born Kentucky	
“ Harriet R.	5	born Kentucky	
Slaughter, Joseph	11	born Kentucky	

[Note – Joseph Weaver Slaughter was born in 1838 in Daviess County, KY. His father died in 1839. His mother, Nancy Ann G. (Tapscott) Slaughter; married William L. Crigler, 5 July 1841 Daviess County, KY, Marriage book A, p.117 – in olden times the name Ann was a variation of the name Nancy.]



**An Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Daviess County, KY.
(Leo McDonough & Co., 1876) p.29:**

Slaughter, Jo. W., Residence – city of Owensboro corner St. Ann and 3d sts.
Business – County Jailor
Nativity – Daviess Co., Ky
When came to county – 1828
[note by J. Long year when came to county should be 1838 – the year of his birth]



Register of Interments at Elmwood Cemetery For the years of 1877-1885 and 1900-1902

Copy in Kentucky Room, Daviess County Public Library, Owensboro, KY, pp.6A-6B:

Slaughter, Ellenor (parents J. W. & S. G. Slaughter); died 11 June 1880; interment 12 June 1880; born 10 April 1880; born Owensboro; residence Owensboro; cause of death brain trouble; buried lot 124 in section A.



Semi Weekly Messenger and Examiner, Owensboro, KY, Friday, 15 August 1881, p.2:



Be it known that the undersigned, John Thixton and Joseph W Slaughter. their succesors and associates, have this day and by these presents do organize and associate themselves together, and form themselves into a corporation under and by virtue of the provisions of Chapter 56 of the General Statutes of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and in pursuance thereof do adopt and publish the following articles of incorporation:

1st The names of the incorporators are John Thixton and Joseph W. Slaughter; the name and style of the corporation hereby formed shall be "John Thixton Distilling Company" and by that name may sue and be sued. The principal place of transacting the business of said corporation shall be Owensboro, Daviess County, Kentucky.

2d. The chief business of said corporation shall be the manufacture, production, sale and storage of Whisky; buying, slopping and selling cattle and hogs, and said corporation may acquire, purchase and hold such real estate and erect thereon such buildings, and acquire and hold or sell such other property, personal or real, as may be necessary or incident to the carrying on and operating successfully a general distilling business.

3d. The capital stock of said corporation is \$20,000, divided into shares of \$100 each, three-fourths of which has been subscribed for and taken by John Thixton and the remaining one fourth has been subscribed for and taken by Joseph W. Slaughter, the whole of said capital stock to be paid in as called for by the corporators, and at all times a lien is to exist and is hereby created on the whole of said stock in favor of the corporation for the full amount of its liabilities now due or hereafter to become due.

4th. The business of the corporation shall be conducted by its President and Secretary, either of whom shall have the right alone to bind the corporation and create a liability by signing the corporate name, and such officers and servants as they may see fit and proper to employ, and until otherwise provided by the corporators and stock-holders, John Thixton shall be President and Joseph W. Slaughter, Secretary.

5th. The greatest amount of indebtedness to which the corporation shall at any one time be subjected shall not exceed \$10,000.

6th. The aid corporation shall commence its corporate existance on and from the date of the acknowledgement of these Articles of Incorporation and terminate twenty-five years thereafter unless sooner dissolved.

7th. Said corporation shall have perpetual succession.

8th. The shares of stock shall be transferable on the books of the corporation in such manner as may be provided by the corporators.

9th. Said corporation shall have and exercise such rights and privileges and may enact such rules and regulations and may pass such by for its government as may be necessary for the conduct and operation of its business, not in conflict with the laws of the land nor these articles.

10th. The private property of the corporators and stockholders shall be exempt from the indebtedness of the corporation.

JOHN THIXTON,
J. W. SLAUGHTER.

Owensboro, Ky., April 1st, 1881.



History of Daviess County, Kentucky
(Chicago, IL: Inter-State Publishing Co., 1883:

Page 103 – In election for Daviess County Jailer on 12 August 1874 J. W. Slaughter received 2,786, and his opponent. J. M. Lanham, 516 votes.

Page 490 – Joseph W. Slaughter, son of Wm. G. and Ann G. (Tapscott) Slaughter, was born March 20, 1838, in Daviess County. He was educated in this county, and was reared on a farm. In 1867 he was appointed Deputy Sheriff of Daviess County, which office he held three years; then served eight and one half years as jailor of the county. May 1, 1879, he formed a partnership with John Thixton in the wholesale liquor business, locating on Main street, between Frederica and St. Ann. They are also members of the John Thixton Distilling Company, whose still is located about a half mile east of Owensboro. It has a capacity of twenty-five barrels a day. Mr. Slaughter was married Oct. 4, 1864, to Sallie G. McKee, of Frankfort, Ky. They had eight children, five living – Sue, Blanche, Emma, Joseph and Gustave. He is a Mason. Mrs. Slaughter is a member of the Episcopal church. Politically he is a Democrat.



Owensboro Daily Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Saturday, 10 December 1887, p.4:

Mr. J. W. Slaughter's residence on South Triplett street, will be completed in a few days and he will move into it in about two weeks.



Owensboro Daily Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 22 April 1888, p.8:

Mr. J. W. Slaughter and Mr. J. W. McCulloch enter into their partnership in wholesale liquor business tomorrow. Mr. Slaughter has acquired by purchase from Mr. Thixton the entire business, stock, good-will, etc., of the firm of Thixton & Slaughter, which he carries into the new firm.



History of Owensboro, KY Facebook.com:



Owensboro, Daviess County, KY 1900 Federal Census, p.47A:

729 Triplett Street	[note by J. Long – by 1903 house number was changed to 815 Triplett Street]				
Slaughter, Joseph	capitalist	Mar 1838	62	married 36 years	KY-VA-VA
“ Sallie	wife	Jan 1843	57	8 children 5 living	KY-KY-KY
“ Sue M.	daughter	Jan 1869	31	single	KY-KY-KY
“ Blanche	daughter	Feb 1872	28	single	KY-KY-KY
“ Emma	daughter	Dec 1873	26	single	KY-KY-KY
“ Joseph	son	Nov 1875	24	single	KY-KY-KY
				clerk wagon manufacturer	
“ Gustave	son	Apr 1880	20	single	KY-KY-KY
				tobacconist	



**A Glimpse At The Progress Of Owensboro
(Owensboro, KY: Mack Payne and C. O. Duffy, 1903), pp.2 (portrait) & 42:**



J. W. Slaughter



Residence of Mr. J. W. Slaughter



Kentucky Death Certificate 1916 – certificate #20238:

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
1 SEX <i>Male</i>	4 COLOR OR RACE <i>White</i>	3 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED <i>Married</i>	14 DATE OF DEATH <i>Aug. 4, 1916</i>
2 DATE OF BIRTH <i>March 20, 1838</i>	7 AGE <i>78 yrs. 4 mos. 15 ds.</i>	IF LESS THAN 1 day... hrs. or... min.?	17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <i>Jan. 10, 1916</i> , to <i>Aug. 4, 1916</i> , that I last saw him alive on <i>Aug. 4, 1916</i> , and that death occurred on the date stated above at <i>9:30 a.m.</i> The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: <i>Carcinoma of Liver</i>
8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work. (b) General nature of industry business or establishment in which employed (or employer)	9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country)	10 NAME OF FATHER <i>William S. Slaughter</i>	18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRAIN SIGHTS OR RECENT RESIDENTS) At place of death... yrs... mos... ds. State... yrs... mos... ds. Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death? Former or usual residence
11 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) <i>W. S. Slaughter</i> (Address) <i>Cornettsville</i>	12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <i>Ann Graham Slaughter</i>	13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER <i>Virginia</i>	19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <i>Cornettsville</i>
15 FULL NAME <i>Joseph Weaver Slaughter</i>	16 COUNTY <i>Darwin</i>	18 (Signed) <i>R. R. Pratt</i> , M. D. <i>Aug. 5, 1916</i> (Address) <i>Cornettsville</i>	20 UNDERTAKER <i>W. Y. Brownlee</i>
17 Vol. No. <i>7</i>	18 Registration District No. <i>290</i>	19 Primary Registration District No. <i>2145</i>	20 DATE OF BURIAL <i>Aug. 5, 1916</i>
19 Inc. Town <i>Cornettsville</i>	20 (No. <i>815</i> Implet)	21 Ward <i>1</i>	22
20 File No. <i>20238</i>	21 Registered No. <i>218</i>	22	23

8. Gustavus Brown born 10 April 1880 – died 14 March 1953 – “Gus”
 married Anne Beatrice Cottrell & Ola M. Keith
 buried Elmwood Cemetery, Owensboro, KY



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 31 July 1929, p.14:

JOE SLAUGHTER TAKEN BY DEATH
Victim of Heart Attack In New York;
Born and Reared In Owensboro.

Joseph W. Slaughter, a son of the late Joseph W. and Sallie McKee Slaughter, died suddenly of a heart attack at 5:15 o'clock Tuesday morning in New York at Hotel Luzerne, where he made his home. He was born in Owensboro and spent his boyhood here, moving to New York about thirty years ago. For the past twenty-five years he had been associated with the International Cigar Machinery Co., of Brooklyn, N. Y., and was a vice president and director.

On March 1917, he was married to Miss Mae Draper, of Richmond, Va., who survives him besides three sisters, Misses Sue, Blanche, and Emma Slaughter, and one brother, Gus Slaughter, of Owensboro.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed, but services will be held some time Thursday from the residence of his sisters in South Triplett street. The body will arrive in Owensboro at 8 o'clock tonight, accompanied by his widow and Mrs. Arthur Pageant, of Richmond, Va.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 14 February 1945, p.9:

FINE HOME FOR SALE

Fine two store dwelling. First floor, 5 rooms, hall, bath, front and back porches. 2nd floor has four rooms, hall and bath. Furnace heat. This property is situated at 815 Triplett street. Lot has a frontage of 170 feet and runs back more than 400 feet. This property will be sold at a very low price and reasonable terms. For a real bargain and fine piece of property, see us at once.

J. R. LASWELL & SONS.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Tuesday, 13 March 1945, p.7:

Real State Transfers

Sue M. Slaughter and others, to William C. Tucker and wife, for \$8,000, house and lot on east side of Triplett street, north of East Ninth street.

[Note: Heirs of Joseph W. Slaughter, deceased, sold Slaughter family home at 815 Triplett Street. Surviving daughters moved to 821 Triplett Street.]



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 6 August 1947, p.2:

Real State Transfers

William C. Tucker and wife, to James W. Foster and wife. for \$10,000, more or less. house and lot. 815 Triplett street.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 6 August 1947, p.4:

DAVETS WILL SPONSOR
SPASTIC SCHOOL HERE

The Davets will sponsor a spastic foundation here, according to plans adopted at a meeting of the local organization at its home, 101 Allen street, last night.

The spastic paralysis home and school is located at 815 Triplett street and is an outgrowth of a movement started eighteen months and is the outgrowth of al ago by Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Foster.

The latter part of August an entertainment is to be presented at the Senior High school auditorium sponsored by the Davets. The proceeds will go to the Home and School Fund.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 12 October 1947, p.1B:



FRONT ENTRANCE to the Davets' Home-School for Spastic Paralytics is, pictured above. The building, formerly a private home, is located at 815 Triplett street. It is surrounded by ample grounds, which will make ideal playgrounds, and has a large garden plot in the rear of the house.



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Tuesday, 17 March 1959, p.5:



SECOND PHASE – Jack Rankins, president of the Kiwanis Club, broke ground for a new administration building for the Spastics' Home and School at noon Monday while members of the Spastics' Home building committee of the club looked on. In the foreground are Rankins, Miss Emma Slaughter, whose father built the home in the back-ground which long housed the Spastics' Home, Joe Joyce, chairman of the building committee, and Dr. George William Wilson, chairman of the board of the Spastics' Home and School.

Ground Broken For Spastics' Home Administration Building

Members of the Spastics' Home, building committee of the Kiwanis Club Monday watched Jack Rankins, Kiwanis president, break ground for the home's new administration building and reception rooms.

Other interested bystanders were Miss Emma Slaughter, 821 Triplett St., whose father built the house at 815 Triplett which will be razed to make way for the new structure, and Dr. George William Wilson, chairman of the board of the Spastics' Home and School.

Members of the building committee who saw the first spadeful of dirt turned include Joe Joyce, chairman; Wilton Darby, J. O. Boswell, Claude Brown, Dorsey Taylor, George Burg, Chet Warner, Carl Skaggs, Ferrell Collier, Wendell Foster, B. C. Green and Vernon VanWinkle. The building for which the Kiwanis Club broke ground will be the second phase of the home's building program. A first wing was completed some ago. The administration building will be finished in time for the September term, if present plans materialize.

A second wing will be begun in the near future and, it is hoped, will also be completed in time for the new term. It will contain physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and music facilities.

The Kiwanis Club annually donates proceeds from its radio auction to the home, and supplies a car for use by the home.



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Tuesday, 13 June 1972, p.3A:

***Governor Ford Buys First Print
Of Original Spastics Home Site***

Governor Wendell Ford Sunday morning bought the first of 500 prints of the historic old Slaughter Home, the original site of the Spastics Home and School, being sold in connection with the school's 25th anniversary this year.

Ford, in Owensboro to attend the Regatta, stopped by the Spastics Home and School Sunday morning to buy the first print.

In commemoration of the school's 25th anniversary, the black and white prints depict a handsome, white two-story frame house with wide verandas and gingerbread trim.

Mr. and Mrs.

Wendell Foster bought the three-acre Slaughter addition in July 1947, and officially opened the school on Nov. 1, 1947. Starting with seven children and four staff members, the school has grown to the present enrollment of 104 with about 30 staff members.

Robert A. Powell, cited as one of the state's "truly Kentucky" artists, drew the Slaughter Home Print from a photograph which hangs over the fireplace in the modern lobby of the school. The old home was 79 years old when it was razed to make way for the school in 1963.

Serving as design and art consultant from New York to San Francisco, Powell has displayed one-man exhibits in photography and art across the state.

His pen-ink drawing of the Governor's Mansion was selected for Governor Ford's Christmas cards last year. Produced by the latest techniques of fine printing and on paper of the finest art quality, the 16 x 24 prints are enclosed in an attractive protective folder. To reserve a copy of the print in the limited edition series, call 685-5775.

Autograph sessions will be scheduled throughout the summer so those buying prints can have them signed by the artist.

Joseph W. Slaughter bought the plot of ground now known as the Slaughter Addition from Fannie G. Sharp in July, 1881. Acting as deputy sheriff and county jailer from 1867 to 1878, Slaughter was also regarded as an influential businessman in the community.

One daughter, Miss Emma Slaughter, donated the land on which the Slaughter Memorial, Chapel for the Handicapped now stands at 9th and Triplett streets.



GOVERNOR WENDELL FORD Sunday bought the first of 500 prints of the historic old Slaughter Home being sold in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Spastics Home and School. The Slaughter Home, built in 1884, was bought in 1947 by Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Foster as the original site of the Spastics Home and School. Left to right are Miss Cuba Ament, a volunteer worker; Foster, director of the school; Mrs. Jean Ford and Governor Ford.



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Saturday, 9 September 1972, p.10A:



Slaughter Home

Local Yellow Banks Civitan members presented a framed print of the Slaughter Home to Alice Gene Lewis, right, Owensboro-Daviess County Public Library librarian, to be hung in the library. Presenting the print are, from left, George Pappas; Derron C. Coffman, vice president; and Earl Thomas, president. The Slaughter home at 815 Triplett St. housed the Spastic Home and School from 1947 to 1958, when it was razed. The new Spastic Home and School administration building now stands where the home once did. Robert A. Powell is artist of the work.



“The Slaughter Home”, 815 Triplett Street,
Owensboro, KY. Painting by Robert A. Powell, 1972



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Tuesday, 11 October 2005, p.1C:



In 1884, Joseph Weaver Slaughter and his wife, Sallie McKee Slaughter, built this 11-room house on Triplett Street between Eighth and Ninth streets. The home was sold by one of the Slaughters' seven children to Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Foster, who opened the Spastics Home and School in the home in 1947 for their daughter, Louise. This home was eventually torn down and replaced by a larger building on the same property that has undergone many additions, renovations and new construction. The name of the facility was eventually changed to the Weddell Foster Center and is known as Wendell Foster's Campus for Developmental Disabilities.



Wendell Foster Center Administration Building,
815 Triplett Street, Owensboro, KY



Where It All Began . . .

In 1884, Joseph Weaver Slaughter and his wife, Sallie McKee Slaughter, built an eleven-room house on Triplett Street between Eighth and Ninth Streets. Mr. Slaughter was Daviess County Sheriff and Jailer between 1867 and 1878 and was also a distiller and businessman.

Miss Emma Slaughter, 1874-1969, was one of the Slaughter's seven children. She was a neighbor, friend and benefactor to the Wendell Foster Center, having sold her property to Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Foster, who were owners and directors. Miss Slaughter donated the land on which the All Faith Chapel is built.

The Wendell Foster Center opened in 1947 in this home and it was used until more adequate facilities could be built.