

- **Claiborne County (TN) Progress**

Nell Quesenbery Report

January 18, 1984

ANOTHER LETTER FROM LARWILL, INDIANA

By Nell Quesenbery

“The Man From Larwill,” one of Jack’s favorite articles that I’ve written, contained a letter from Fred Hale Sharp, who lives in Larwill, Indiana.

Another recent letter from Mr. Sharp:

Box 47

Larwill, Ind. 46764

Mrs. Nell Quesenbery

Dear Friend,

I will start to write you a letter today, but probably not finish it at one setting. This is my first letter since my new eyeglasses and I’m not quite used to them.

First, let me say we are still on the farm. Have not had a good crop this year, been very dry. But we have plenty of feed in the barn, our wood all cut, and hopefully enough money to carry us through the winter. Am not paying no interest on nothing. Many of the farmers have come through the dry summer in bad shape money-wise.

Still take the Tazewell paper and read your article first thing every time the paper comes. You are such a good writer and am hoping to meet you some day and get to know you.

You remember, maybe, that you recommended the book, "Old Time Tazewell," to me. Well, finally saved up \$15 and it came this summer. And am so excited, I think maybe I have found my grandmother's parents (William Minton, "Old Time Tazewell," page 219).

I would be interested in a book written in 1890 about the Owsley family history. (My husband Jack would also be interested in this book. Jack is descended from the Wells, the Powell Valley Berrys, Owsley and Miller families that are buried in the Burch Cemetery on lower Straight Creek. Call 626-3250.)

I like your little town, Lone Mountain. It's about the same size as Larwill. (Mr. and Mrs. Sharp came to visit me last summer, but I was at my mother's house.)

The last letter we had from you was March 5, 1982, and your son had got shot and was in bad shape and you asked us to pray for him.

Well, Treese took it very serious and did considerable praying. Now she wants to know how he is. I was supposed to ask, but your husband was telling me about your mother being so bad and I forgot to ask him.

(Thank you for your prayers, Treese. Jackie is now completely normal and well. Mom had a bout of high blood pressure, but she is fine, too.)

Treese's not much to write, but she said tell you hello and that she loved Tennessee. It was her very first time down home. Now she knows why I'm homesick sometimes. Did you ever hear Dolly Parton sing "My Tennessee Mountain Home"? We hear it every once in awhile on the radio.

Well, will take this to town in the morning and mail. Hope this finds you all well at your house and able to see your mother.

Respectfully yours,

Fred Hale Sharp

P.S. Your article, "Man From Larwill," was well read here. We have a fine postmaster, Mrs. Bishop, and she read it before we did. She has my permission to read the Tennessee paper and she showed it to about everybody and they liked it.

C. Andrew Markum plans to reconstruct a factual account of Co. A, 2nd East Tennessee Cavalry, whose troops were drawn mostly from this tri-state area. During the Civil War, these federal troops fought battles at Cumberland Gap and Round Top.

Mr. Marcum, in a letter to the editor of the Claiborne Progress, lists many of the names of these men and asked for information from Progress readers about them.

Reading Mr. Marcum's list, Jack found a great-grandparent, Granville Hodges. I found a great-great-grandparent, Royal Sterling (Rial) Jennings and Josiah Bewley, about whom I'd written the article, "J.R. Bewley, Esquire."

Locally, Helen Painter wrote to Mr. Marcum about her grandfather, Rial Jennings. Mrs. Peggy F. Bryant wrote to Mr. Marcum regarding her husband's great-grandfather, Will Ramsey. I also wrote to Mr. Marcum.

But Mr. Marcum needs more people to give him information. I saw a letter in the Progress from Hazel Richardson, 204 E. Ash St., LaFollette, Tennessee 37766, seeking information about Theodore McVey, captain in the Civil War. I wondered if she and Mr. Marcum could be helpful to each other.

I have not yet responded to C. Andrew Marcum's letter, which greatly excited me, but I will soon.

Thanks to Blanche Brooks for that very beautiful sister-in-law birthday card. Others that share my birth date of January 3 are Billy Wayne Smith, Hugh and Ed Hardin and Wendy Shoffner, age 9.

Happy Birthday to Welda Cunningham, Bill Quesenbery, Joe Love and Grover Smith, who also have January birthdays.

Clarence and Helen Collins of upper Caney Valley celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary January 11, 1984.

Get well wishes to William Franklin Haun, Dexter Lakins, Ott Mayes, Joe Bunch and Stella Gray.

Sympathy to the families of Johnny McDaniel and Charlie Shell.

I saw Mrs. Robert Finchum at the TG&Y store. We spoke of black-eyed peas and hog jowl for New Year's Day. Jean Finchum said she made a very good and very easy to make peanut butter pie New Year's Day 1984.

JEAN FINCHUM'S PEANUT BUTTER PIE

3 or 4 ounces cream cheese

1/2 cup chunky or smooth peanut butter

1/2 cup powdered sugar

8 or 9 ounces Cool Whip

Blend all ingredients. Spoon into a regular prebaked pie crust or a graham cracker crust. Chill a couple hours before serving.

Sandy Rosenbalm, Claiborne County's young and beautiful librarian goes into 1984 a newly married bride. Sandy's husband is Kenny Rosenbalm, son of Warren and Billie Rosenbalm. Sandy's parents are Tommy and Dorcas Neely of the Sandlick community.

Cleo Seals, her sister Tennie (Wade) Whitaker, and Gladys (Rev. Wallace) Brooks sew for the mannequins at the TG&Y store in Tazewell. Another sister, Grace (Mrs. Tommy) Edds works in the TG&Y cloth department.

During the Christmas season, Cleo and her sister Tennie made "Care Bears" for TG&Y. This Easter, Cleo hopes to make Easter rabbits for the store.

Talented in all types of handicrafts, Cleo has entered a quilt square contest sponsored by Poly-Fill. The first judgment will be January 14. Cleo, the daughter of Jim and Mattie Collingsworth, believes that she and her sisters inherit their handicraft skills from their mother.

Thank you, Wanda Brockman, Gautier, Mississippi, for the calendar.

Margie, on TV, has just said that the falling snowflakes are as big as her grandmother's biscuits. Yet, I sit here thinking of Blue Birds, which are supposed to mean happiness. I wish you Blue Birds!