

# Family Group Record

<b>Husband Bennet C. Barnes</b>		
Born	1824	Place , , Alabama, USA
Christened		Place [Possibly in 1830 census, Fayette Co., Tennessee]
Died	13 Oct 1862	Place Gainesville, Cooke Co., Texas, USA
Buried		Place
Married	Abt 1847/1848	Place , Possibly, Ar or Tx
Husband's father	William Barnes	
Husband's mother	Sarah "Sally" Sanderson	

<b>Wife Sarah A. "Sary" Rodgers</b>		
Born	May 1831	Place , , Alabama
Christened		Place
Died	Aft 1900	Place , , Texas
Buried		Place
Wife's father	Rodgers	
Wife's mother	Unknown	

**Children** List each child in order of birth.

<b>1</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Simeon R. Barnes</b>	
		Born	Sep 1848
		Place	, Hopkins Co., Texas
		Christened	
		Place	
		Died	Aft 1910
		Place	Resided, Coalgate, Coal Co., Oklahoma, USA
		Buried	
		Place	
		Spouse	Nancy C. Smith
		Married	25 Feb 1868
		Place	, Hopkins Co., Texas, USA

<b>2</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>John B. Barnes</b>	
		Born	Abt 1854/1855
		Place	Either, Hopkins Co., or Wise Co., Texas
		Christened	
		Place	
		Died	Aft 1880
		Place	Resided, Wise Co., Texas
		Buried	
		Place	
		Spouse	Laura Boyd
		Married	13 Jul 1884
		Place	, Wise Co., Texas, USA

<b>3</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Susan Olive Barnes</b>	
		Born	4 Feb 1857
		Place	, Wise Co., Texas
		Christened	
		Place	
		Died	8 Apr 1923
		Place	, Stephens Co., Texas
		Buried	
		Place	Shady Grove Cemetery, Stephens Co., Texas
		Spouse	John Green Littlepage
		Married	
		Place	

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# Family Group Record

<b>Husband</b>	<b>Bennet C. Barnes</b>
<b>Wife</b>	<b>Sarah A. "Sary" Rodgers</b>
<b>Children</b>	List each child in order of birth.

<b>4</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Joel Densmore Barnes</b>
	Born	May 1859
	Place	Possibly, Wise Co., Texas
	Christened	Place
	Died	25 Jul 1929
	Place	, Somervell Co., Texas
	Buried	Place
		Chico Cemetery, Wise Co., Texas
	Spouse	Rachel Ann Perkins
	Married	Place

<b>5</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Mary Jane Barnes</b>
	Born	12 Oct 1861
	Place	, Wise Co., Texas
	Christened	Place
	Died	1 Jul 1935
	Place	Era, Cooke Co., Texas
	Buried	Place
	Spouse	J. B. Stevens
	Married	1885
	Place	
	Spouse	Blair
	Married	Place

**Notes**

HUSBAND - Bennet C. Barnes

Middle initial could stand for Carroll.

May be the following, NOT PROVED -- this is speculation only: In household of William BARNES, Lafayette Co., MS, 1840 census: 1 male aged 15-20 (born 1820-1825).

In 1850 Hopkins Co., TX, census, p. 151, hh 227/family 227: Bennet BARNES 26 Farmer, \$80 b 1824 AL. Wife Sary 19 AL, Simeon 1 TX.

Bennett BARNES appears in 1854 on Cass Co., TX, tax rolls, p. 9, line 2, between the names of A. A. BARNES and Martha BARNES (wife or widow of John S. BARNES). Bennett may have been a brother of John S. He was assessed for 1 horse worth \$60, one poll tax @ \$ .50, state tax \$ .60; county tax \$ .30.

Bennet C. Barnes was grantee and patentee for 160 acres on 1 Jun 1859 in Fannin District, Denton County, File 2727, Patent 330, Vol. 24, Fan. 3rd class.

In 1860 Wise Co., TX, census, p. 25, hh 166/family 168, 23 Jun 1860: Bennet C. BARNES, M 36 Farmer AL (b. 1824) . Sarah A. 30 F AL; Simeon M 10 TX; John M 6 TX; Olive, F 3 TX; Joel M 1 TX.

Also in this household was Tennessee Gift Barnes, dau. of William Barnes and Rebecca Waits (Rebecca killed by Indians, William in Civil War). William had named a son John Bennet. They were brothers.

21 Jan 1860 patent date, 160 acres, Heirs of B. C. Barnes Dec'd in the Texas Land Title Abstracts of Wise County, TX.

1870 Census of Hopkins Co., TX, 19/19, line 4: Barnes, Sarah A., 41 F W, cannot read or write, blind. This indicates that Bennet died before 1870. Bennet could have died in the Civil War. Also in household: John, 15 M W Texas; Ollie, 13 F W Texas; Jane, 8 F W Texas.

9 Apr 1873 patent date, 160 acres, Heirs of B. C. Barnes Dec'd, in the Texas Land Title Abstracts of Wise County, TX.

# Family Group Record

Husband **Bennet C. Barnes**

Wife **Sarah A. "Sary" Rodgers**

## Notes

HUSBAND - Bennet C. Barnes (Continued)

In Wise Co., TX, 1880, Pct 2, hh 12: Sarah A. BARNES, F 48 Widow AL.

Bennet C. Barnes was born about 1824 in Alabama or Tennessee. The initials B. C. was also used and all legal documents give his name as Bennet C. Barnes. He died on 13 Oct 1862 in Gainesville, Cooke, Texas. Bennet Barnes was one of the victims of "The Great Hanging at Gainesville, Texas, 1862." Sarah A. Rodgers was born in May 1831 in Alabama. She died after 1900 in Texas. She was sometimes called Sary. Sarah was listed as Blind in both 1870 & 1880 census. Sarah was left a widow on the Texas Frontier with an infant, and four other children she had gone blind by 1870. Bennet C. and Sarah A. Rodgers Barnes had the following children: 1. Simeon Barnes was born in Sep 1848, Texas. Simeon married Nancy C Smith on 25 Feb 1868, Hopkins, Texas. Nancy was born in Feb 1848, Texas. 2. John Barnes was born about 1853, Texas. John married Laura Boyd on 13 Jul 1884. 3. Susan Olive Barnes was born 4 Feb 1857, Wise County, Texas and died 8 April 1923, in Stephens County, Texas and buried in the Shady Grove Cemetery in Stephens County. Susan married John Green Littlepage. John was born on 16 Jun 1854, Texas. He died on 22 Jun 1936. 4. Joel Densmore Barnes was born May 1859, Texas. He died in 1929, Wise County, Texas. He was buried in Chico Cemetery, Wise, Texas. Joel married Rachel Ann Perkins. Rachel was born on 9 Dec 1859, Texas. She died on 17 Dec 1919, Wise County, Texas. She was buried in Chico Cemetery, Wise, Texas. 5. Mary Jane Barnes was born 12 Oct 1861, Texas and died 1 Jul 1935, in Era, Cooke, Texas. She married J. B. Stevens in 1885...married #2 husband surname was Blair.

From a web page at [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com), WorldConnect Project, of Terry, [terrymrn@msn.com](mailto:terrymrn@msn.com), database: marshallmeadows, "Trees, Leaves and Nuts," last updated 28 Feb 2011:

GREAT HANGING AT GAINESVILLE. Forty suspected Unionists in Confederate Texas were hanged at Gainesville in October 1862. Two others were shot as they tried to escape. Although the affair reached its climax in Cooke County, men were killed in neighboring Grayson, Wise, and Denton counties. Most were accused of treason or insurrection, but evidently few had actually conspired against the Confederacy, and many were innocent of the abolitionist sentiments for which they were tried. The Great Hanging was the result of several years of building tension. The completion of the Butterfield Overland Mail route from St. Louis through Gainesville brought many new people from the upper South and Midwest into Cooke County. By 1860 fewer than 10 percent of the heads of households owned slaves. The slaveholders increasingly feared the influence of Kansas abolitionists in every unrest. In the summer of 1860 several slaves and a northern Methodist minister were lynched in North Texas. Cooke and the surrounding counties voted against secession and thus focused the fears of planters on the nonslaveholders in the region. Rumors of Unionist alliances with Kansas Jayhawkers and Indians along the Red River, together with the petition of E. Junius Foster, editor of the Sherman Patriot, to separate North Texas as a new free state, brought emotions to a fever pitch. Actual opposition to the Confederacy in Cooke County began with the Conscription Acts of April 1862. Thirty men signed a petition protesting the exemption of large slaveholders from the draft and sent it to the Congress at Richmond. Brig. Gen. William Hudson, commander of the militia district around Gainesville, exiled their leader, but others who remained used the petition to enlist a nucleus for a Union League in Cooke and nearby counties. The members were not highly unified, and their purposes differed with each clique. Most joined to resist the draft and provide common defense against roving Indians and renegades. Rumors began to circulate, however, of a membership of over 1,700 and of plans for an assault when the group had recruited enough men. Fearing that the stories of Unionist plots to storm the militia arsenals at Gainesville and Sherman might prove to be true, Hudson activated the state troops in North Texas in late September 1862 and ordered the arrest of all able-bodied men who did not report for duty. Texas state troops led by Col. James G. Bourlandqv arrested more than 150 men on the morning of October 1. In Gainesville he and Col. William C. Young of the Eleventh Texas Cavalry, home on sick leave, supervised the collection of a "citizen's court" of twelve jurors. Bourland and Young together owned nearly a fourth of the slaves in Cooke County, and seven of the jurors chosen were slaveholders. Their decision to convict on a majority vote was a bad omen for the prisoners, all of whom were accused of insurrection or treason and none of whom owned slaves. The military achieved its goal of eliminating the leadership of the Union League in Cooke County when the jury condemned seven influential Unionists, but an angry mob took matters into its own hands and lynched fourteen more before the jurors recessed. Violence in Gainesville peaked the next week when unknown assassins killed Young and James Dickson. The decision already made to release the rest of the prisoners was reversed, and many were tried again. Nineteen more men were convicted and hanged. Their execution was supervised by Capt. Jim Young, Colonel Young's son. Brig. Gen. James W. Throckmortonqv prevented the execution of all but five men in Sherman, but in

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**Wife** **Sarah A. "Sary" Rodgers**

**Notes**

HUSBAND - Bennet C. Barnes (Continued)

Decatur, Capt. John Hale supervised a committee that hanged five suspects. A Southern partisan shot a prisoner in Denton. Texas newspapers generally applauded the hangings, disparaged the Unionists as traitors and common thieves, and insisted they had material support from Kansas abolitionists and the Lincoln administration. The state government condoned the affair. Gov. Francis Richard Lubbock, an ardent Confederate, praised Hudson for his actions, and the legislature paid the expenses of the troops in Gainesville. Articles from the Texas press were reprinted across the South. President Jefferson Davis, embarrassed, abandoned his demand for an inquiry into a similar incident involving northern troops in Palmyra, Missouri, and dismissed Gen. Paul Octave Hébert as military commander of Texas for his improper use of martial law in several instances, including the hangings. The northern press heralded the story as another example of Rebel barbarism. Andrew Jackson Hamilton, a former congressman from Texas and a Unionist, had been speaking in the North warning of the danger to loyal citizens in Texas. Reports of the Great Hanging and other incidents lent support to his campaign and led to his appointment as military governor of Texas and the disastrous Red River campaign of 1864. The unrest did not end with the hangings in North Texas. Albert Pike, Confederate brigadier general in charge of Indian Territory, was implicated in testimony and arrested. Although later released, Pike continued to be regarded with suspicion and served the rest of the war in civilian offices. Capt. Jim Young killed E. Junius Foster for applauding the death of his father. He also tracked down Dan Welch, the man he believed to be his father's assassin, then returned with him to Cooke County and had him lynched by some of the family slaves. The Union League was powerless to exact revenge; many members fled along with the families of the slain prisoners, leaving bodies unclaimed for burial in a mass grave. A North Texas company of Confederate soldiers in Arkansas learned of the executions and almost mutinied, but tempers were defused by Brig. Gen. Joseph O. Shelby, their commander. Several men later deserted to return home, but Shelby prevented a mass assault on Gainesville. The half-hearted prosecution of those responsible for the hangings after the war, resulting in the conviction of only one man in Denton, increased resentment among the remaining Unionists in North Texas, but the failure of a Union League march on Decatur indicated the futility of further attempts at retaliation.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**  
 Sam Hanna Acheson and Julia Ann Hudson O'Connell, eds., *George Washington Diamond's Account of the Great Hanging at Gainesville, 1862* (Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1963). Thomas Barrett, *The Great Hanging at Gainesville* (Gainesville, Texas, 1885; rpt., Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1961). L. D. Clark, *A Bright Tragic Thing* (El Paso: Cinco Punto Press, 1992). L. D. Clark, ed., *Civil War Recollections of James Lemuel Clark* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1984). Michael Collins, *Cooke County, Texas: Where the South and West Meet* (Gainesville, Texas: Cooke County Heritage Society, 1981). Richard B. McCaslin, *Tainted Breeze: The Great Hanging at Gainesville, Texas* (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Texas at Austin, 1988). James Smallwood, "Disaffection in Confederate Texas: The Great Hanging at Gainesville," *Civil War History* 22 (December 1976). Richard B. McCaslin The following, adapted from the Chicago Manual of Style, 15th edition, is the preferred citation for this article. Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/GG/jig1.html> (accessed August 5, 2009). (NOTE: "s.v." stands for sub verbo, "under the word.") The Handbook of Texas Online is a project of the Texas State Historical Association (<http://www.tshaonline.org>). Copyright ©, The Texas State Historical Association, 1997-2002 Last Updated: January 17, 2008. Great Hanging at Gainesville, The, 1862 - Gainesville, Cooke County, Texas Address: <<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?latlongtype=decimal&latitude=33.6243099764871&longitude=-97.1551475959638&zoom=8>> Directions: East of Elm Fork Bridge - SH 51 (south side of road), Gainesville. Marker #: 5097005347 Year Dedicated: 1964 Size, type: Large red granite Last reported condition: Good; one small bullet nick Great Hanging at Gainesville, The, 1862 - Facing the threat of invasion from the north and fearing a Unionist uprising in their midst, the people of North Texas lived in constant dread during the Civil War. Word of a "Peace Party" of Union sympathizers, sworn to destroy their government, kill their leaders, and bring in Federal troops caused great alarm in Cooke and neighboring counties. Spies joined the "Peace Party" discovered its members and details of their plans. Under the leadership of Colonels James Bourland, Daniel Montague and others, citizens loyal to the Confederacy determined to destroy the order; and on the morning of October 1, 1862, there were widespread arrests "by authority of the people of Cook County." Fear of rescue by "Peace Party" members brought troops and militia to Gainesville, where the prisoners were assembled, and hastened action by the citizens committee. At a meeting of Cooke County citizens, with Colonel W. C. Young presiding, it was unanimously resolved to establish a Citizens Court and to have the Chairman choose a committee to select a jury. 68 men were brought speedily before the court. 39 of them were found guilty of conspiracy and insurrection, sentenced and immediately hanged. Three other prisoners who were members of military units were allowed trial by Court Martial at their request and were subsequently hanged by its order. Two others broke from their guard and were shot and killed. The Texas Legislature appropriated \$4,500 for rations, forage used by State troops here during the unrest.

# Family Group Record

**Husband** **Bennet C. Barnes**

**Wife** **Sarah A. "Sary" Rodgers**

**Notes**

HUSBAND - Bennet C. Barnes (Continued)

(1964)\_Decimal degrees: N 33.624310 W -97.155148 Degrees, minutes: N 33 37.459 W 097 09.309 UTM: Zone 14, Easting 671126, Northing 3722027

WIFE - Sarah A. "Sary" Rodgers

From 1850 Hopkins Co., TX, census; 1860 and 1880 Wise Co., TX, census. According to descendant, Jo Ann Crafton, jcrafton1@bak.rr.com, Sarah was listed as blind in both the 1870 and 1880 censuses.

Information from the web page at www.rootsweb.ancestry.com, WorldConnect Project, of "Terry," terrymrn@msn.com, database: marshallmeadows, "Trees, Leaves and Nuts," last updated 28 Feb 2011; accessed 11 July 2012.

Sarah A. Barnes listed on the U.S. Federal Census - 1880 Schedules of Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Classes; Year: 1880; Roll: 51; Publication Number: T1134. Source Information: Ancestry.com. U.S. Federal Census - 1880 Schedules of Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Classes [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.

CHILD 1 - Simeon R. Barnes

1850 Hopkins Co., TX, census: Household of Bennet & Sary Barns: Simeon 1 M Texas

1860 Wise Co., TX, census: Household of Bennet C. & Sarah A. Barnes: Simeon 10 M Texas

7 Sep 1868, Simon P. Barnes was grantee and patentee of 160 acres in Wise Co., TX, in the Texas Land Title Abstracts, online database at www.ancestry.com.

1870 Census of Wise Co., TX, pct. 4, Black Jack Grove P.O., p. 145, 64/64, line 8:

Simon Barns	19 M W Farmer	---	132 Texas	Can't write
Nancy	20 F W Keeping house		Texas	Can't write
Sarah	1 F W			Texas

1880 Census of Wise Co., TX, ED 126, 462/468, p. 146C, line 17: S. R. Barnes W M 32, Head, married Farmer, Texas --- ---.

Nancy C. Barnes	W F 31 Wife	married	Keeping house	Texas Ga NC
Sarah J	W F 10 Daughter	single	Texas Texas Texas	
Louis B.	W M 8 Son	single	Texas Texas Texas	
William J.	W M 6 Son	single	Texas Texas Texas	
John R?	W M 4 Son	single	Texas Texas Texas	
Samantha O.	W F 2 Daughter	single	Texas Texas Texas	

Further information from descendant, Jo Ann Crafton, jcrafton1@bak.rr.com, 31 Jan 2011

CHILD 2 - John B. Barnes

1860 Wise Co., TX, census: Household of Bennet C. & Sarah A. Barnes: John 6 M Texas

1870 Hopkins Co., TX, census: Household of Sarah A. Barnes: John 15 M W Texas.

1880 Wise Co., TX, census, Precinct 2, hh 12: Household of Sarah A. Barnes: John B., M 25 TX, father born Mississippi.

Additional information from Jo Anne Crafton, jcrafton1@bak.rr.com, on 28 Jan 2011.

CHILD 3 - Susan Olive Barnes

1860 Wise Co., TX, census: Household of Bennet C. & Sarah A. Barnes: Ollive Barnes 3 F Texas

1870 Hopkins Co., TX, census: Household of Sarah A. Barnes: Ollie 13 F W Texas.

# Family Group Record

Husband **Bennet C. Barnes**

Wife **Sarah A. "Sary" Rodgers**

## Notes

CHILD 3 - Susan Olive Barnes (Continued)

Not in 1880 Wise Co., TX, census, household of Sarah A. Barnes.

According to great-grandson, Don Littlepage, donlittlepage@juno.com, her name was Susan Olive.

Additional information from Jo Anne Crafton, jcrafton1@bak.rr.com, on 28 Jan 2011.

CHILD 4 - Joel Densmore Barnes

1860 Wise Co., TX, census: Household of Bennet C. & Sarah A. Barnes: Joel 1 M Texas

Not in 1870 Hopkins Co., TX, census household of Sarah A. Barnes.

1880 Wise Co., TX, census, Precinct 2, hh 12: Household of Sarah A. Barnes: Joel M 21 Texas

In the Texas Death Index online at [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

CHILD 5 - Mary Jane Barnes

1870 Hopkins Co., TX, census: Household of Sarah A. Barnes: Jane 8 F W Texas

1880 Wise Co., TX, census: Household of Sarah A. Barnes: Sary J. F 17 TX

According to Don Littlepage, donlittlepage@juno.com, her name may have been Mary Jane.

Additional information from Jo Anne Crafton, jcrafton1@bak.rr.com, on 28 Jan 2011. She gave the name as Mary Jane.