

MAR.  
Fam.**THOMAS CALVIN MARCHBANKS OF TN AND TX**

Thomas Calvin is a son of Margaret Sophonia Cannon and Josiah Marchbanks of SC and TN.

Thomas C. b. 29 March 1808 in Overton Co., TN. and d. 6 December 1884.

Thomas C. m. Josephine Pauline Sullivan in Smith Co., TN in approx. 1836.

Josephine and Thomas C. settled in Sligo Ferry, DeKalb Co., TN on the Carey Fork River soon after the town was formed in 1838.

Pauline and Thomas C. had 5 sons and 3 daughters:

1. Boling Feltz.
2. Victoria Ann.
3. Newton Blackstone.
4. Alfonso Calvin.
5. Josephine Sullivan b. 14 Aug. 1860 in TN. d. 27 June 1898.  
a.) m. Richard V.B. (Van) Sweatt 20 Feb. 1867 in Ellis Co., TX.  
W. Lloyd, Elder M.E.C.S. was minister.
6. Laura J. b. 5 Mar. 1863 in TX. d. 11 Feb. 1898 (or 1889) of spotted fever.  
a.) m. P.T. Crisler 19 Nov. 1874 in Ellis Co., TX. William S. Johnson, minister.
7. Josiah Oscoela (Oscie) b. 12 (or 22) Dec. 1856 in TX. d. 24 Nov. 1861 of croup. (Middle initial could be D instead of O. (Jim McDonald research).
8. Augustus Darwell b. July 8 1868 in TX. d. 25 Feb. 1897 (or 1887) of a throat condition similar to croup.  
a.) m. Ardenia C. McMillan 14 April 1881.  
b.) After Augustus' death, Ardenia m. A. J. Bishop 24 July 1895. M. S. Johnson, M.G., minister.

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

The 1840 census shows Thomas C. and his family of 4 males and 1 female living in District 9 of DeKalb Co., TN. He had 1 male slave and 3 female slaves (obviously a family).

Thomas and a brother, Russell, bought the ferry, the ferry road and the adjoining land for \$5500 from Montgomery C. Dibrell. (SOURCE: DeKalb Co. Deed Book Ap. 142 dated 27 Aug. 1838.)

In January 1842, the mad waves of the Carey Fork River swept away the Marchbanks home in Sligo Ferry. Only a large 2 story log dwelling was left The building was saved from destruction because it was anchored to the site by a heavy limestone chimney. Newton, then about 3 weeks old and his 2 year old brother and their sick mother were in this building. A ferry boat pulled alongside in order to save them from the danger of the raging waters. They were taken out through an upper story window. This was a long experience for a little babe. (SOURCE: Boling Feltz Marchbanks 1920 Family History).

Thomas C., not wishing to again be subjected to such destruction by high waves, sold this property in 1842.

The ferry was called Smith's Ferry in 1842.

Daniel Smith sold the ferry in 1845 to A. L. Davis for \$8000.

(SOURCE for the above paragraphs re the sale of the ferry to Smith et al are letters written by Thomas Webb of TN to Sarah P. Brady who forwarded this data to Jim McDonald).

In 1842, Thomas C. bought 100 acres of land in Smith Co., TN from John Lancaster for the total price of \$100.

This acreage bordered on left bank of Smith's Creek.

This tract was hilly or mountainous and heavily timbered.

Thomas C. and Russell built a fine saw mill and flour mill where they converted the large trees into lumber and wheat into flour.

All that remains today at this site is a big pure water spring that flowed out the side of a mountain, Smith's Creek and a large cave.

This land is presently located about 1 mile from Lancaster, TN.

Thomas C. and his family came to TX in 1851.

Josephine d. in Waxahachie, Ellis Co., TX 14 April 1859 at age 42 after a 60 day bout of typhoid fever.

Josephine's general health, however, had been good.

Thomas C. m. Mrs. Malvinia G. (Cunningham) Whittenburg on 30 May 1861 in Waxahachie, Ellis Co., TX. Judge L. J. Stroup, Justice of the Peace, performed the ceremony.

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**THE TRIP TO TEXAS IN 1851 (Written Recollections by Boling Feltz Marchbanks)**

My grandmother, Anne Sullivan, and her two sons-in-law, Thomas Calvin Marchbanks and P.A. Thomason, living nearby, decided to sell their homes in Smith Co., Tenn. and move to Ellis Co., Texas. They, accordingly, made proper arrangements for a long trip over a bad road to Texas.

On Monday forenoon, September 16, 1851, our teams of horses were put into action and headed for Texas and Ellis Co.

In this caravan were Mrs. Anne Sullivan and her Negroes; P.A. Thomason and his wife, Mary Aramanda, and their children; my father's brother, Burton, and his wife, Mary Caroline Vance, whom he had married in 1850.

Without any serious accidents we crossed the Trinity River at a little village called Dallas (the great city of Dallas was then in embryo). I think this date was October 15, 1851. It is the date I have always remembered as the one on which we reached a point on a creek near Waxahachie. This creek is now known as Red Oak Creek. In a little cabin on this creek we found my grandmother, Margaret Sophonia, with nine of her children living around her. She had come to Texas in 1850. See \* below for names of children.

The members of this party migrating to Texas were all well equipped for the journey. Ann Sullivan had an old fashioned barouche drawn by a good sized iron gray horse. This wagon was driven by Uncle Jim, an old Negro man. In addition to the barouche, she had one four horse team driven by a Negro called Uncle Josah(?); one of the best men I ever knew. I do not recall her having another wagon.

My uncle, P.A. Thomason, had one old time carryall in which he and his wife, Mary Aramanda (my dear Aunt Minnie), and their little girl, Anne Elizabeth, rode. (Ann Elizabeth later married, and outlived her husband. There were several daughters born to this couple.- They all married and lived in Dallas). This heavy carryall was drawn by one roan mare, but she was faithful. He also had at least one other wagon drawn by a three horse team, and driven by a big Negro named Jim. I think that P.A. also had a number of Negroes with him.

My father was also well equipped. He had an old time carryall drawn by two fine yellow mares called Luce and Sue(?). In this carryall rode my father and mother and their children. He also had two other wagons which had been made in his shops. One of these wagons was drawn by a three horse team and one black mule named "Brandy." A Negro, named either Sli or Slim, drove this team. To the other wagon were hitched two fine three year old mules, the best I had ever seen. George Strother and a yellow Negro drove this team.

Uncle Burton had one carryall drawn by a nice little pony mare.

P.A. Thomason and Mary Aramanda later left Texas, and settled in Prairie Co., Ark. (The town may have been Highmound Grove - note by Jim McDonald). Aunt Minnie died there, and we may assume that her husband also died there.

Mary Caroline Vance Marchbanks, Uncle Burton's wife, was the last adult survivor of those who made the journey from Tenn. to Ellis Co. She was 89 years old at the time this journal was written. She was living in Cleburne.

\*Children of Margaret Sophonia Cannon Marchbanks who made the trek with her to Texas in 1850:

William	Ransom
James C.	Alexander
Jonathan	Jasper
George F.	

Note: Anne Sullivan, BFM's grandmother, died 4 November 1852. Buried in Waxahachie Cemetery (Source: BFM memo re b. & d. records at Waxahachie Cemetery).

Mannie, as Thomas C. 2nd wife was called, was the sister of George C. Whittenburg. (George b. 4 Jan. 1818. d. 24 Oct. 1900).

Boling Feltz Marchbanks writes in his family history "I am sure all the Marchbanks and Whittenburg children were present (at the wedding).

"My father and Mrs. Whittenburg lived on adjoining tracts of land. (Either Mannie or her brother, George, owned their tract .... which evidently was 1000 acres.

"My father at that time owned more than 1000 acres extending north from Waxahachie.

"A description of these lands can be found in the county clerk's office, Ellis Co., TX.

"At the time of this marriage, there were 8 living Marchbanks children and 3 Whittenburg children.

"An extra large table was needed to accommodate my mother and father and I I children." (End of direct quote from Boling Feltz Marchbanks).

Records show that Thomas C.'s land was worth \$9900, and that his personal wealth was \$15,600.

Thomas C. was an adept horseman. Early newspaper accounts show he won Best Saddle Horse at a fair in Waxahachie riding a horse named "Billy Lewis."

He also won a place in harness stock and saddle stock about 31 October 1860 at an Ellis Co. fair with a horse named "Vic."

Thomas C. was a member of the first Board of Elders of Cumberland Presbyterian Church (now Central Presbyterian Church) organized in Waxahachie in 1863 by Rev. Daniel G. Mallory.

Josephine Pauline was the first member received into this church after its organization.

Thomas C. is listed in the 1860-1860 census on page 64 at the age of 32.

Mannie was an old time woman. Her duties to her husband and children absorbed all her time and care.

Mannie b. 14 Jan. 1818 in TN. d. 4 Oct. 1900 in Waxahachie, Ellis Co., TX at age 82.

Mannie's will was filed 21 Nov. 1900, and recorded 7 Mar. 1901.

The following Whittenburgs are listed in the 1860 Ellis Co. census (research by Jim McDonald):

Joseph N. 30. Farmer. b. TN. Land value \$640.  
Norman H. 33. Farmer. b. TN. Land value \$600.  
Melvina. 32. b. TN.  
Clementine L. 9/12 months. b. TX.

This Melvina is apparently the 2nd wife of Thomas C. It's speculated:

1. That Joseph N. and Norman H. were brothers.
2. That Norman H. may have been the 1st husband of Melvina as she had a son also named Norman.

The 1860 census includes the following Whittenburgs (Jim McDonald research):

M.G. 40. Female. Farmer. b. TN. Land \$6200. Personal \$6900. (Mannie).  
C.S. 10. Female. b. TX. (probably Clementine).  
A.G. 8. Female. b. TX. (probably Ann Sloan).  
N.H. 5. Male. b. TX. (probably Norman).

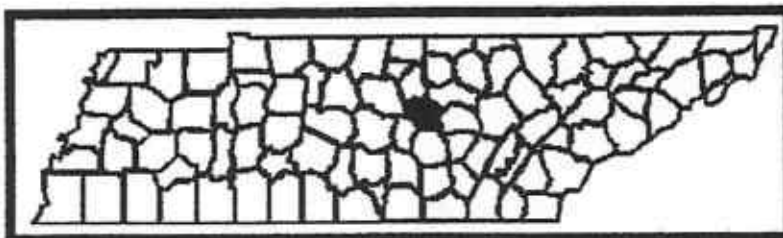
Thomas C. was appointed administrator - with the will annexed - of Ann Sullivan, deceased, by the County Clerk for probate business of Ellis Co. at its December term in 1852. "All persons holding claims against said estate are required to present them to me duly authenticated in the time prescribed by law. Thomas C. Marchbanks, Administrator, 21 June 1852. 24:6w." (SOURCE: Texas State Gazette, 5 Feb. 1853, Austin, TX. Research by Jim McDonald).

Thomas C. registered for the 1865 Reconstruction Election on 27 Sept. 1865 when he signed the loyal citizens amnesty oath per the President's proclamation. (Jim McDonald research).

Thomas C. d. 6 Dec. 1884 in Ellis Co., TX.

(SOURCE: Boling Feltz Marchbanks 1920 Family History).

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

**DEKALB COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOURCES****at the Tennessee State Library & Archives***Updated: October 21, 1996*

**Dekalb County was formed in 1837 from Cannon, Jackson, and White counties.**

**The county seat is Smithville.**

**Census Records:** Microfilm records for 1840-1920 include Dekalb County. They are indexed in statewide census indexes for 1840-1870 and microfilm indexes for 1880 and 1900-1920. Records for 1840-1910 are also in book form.

**Selected County Histories:** \*History of Dekalb County (Hale, 1915); \*Dekalb County (Webb, 1986); Turning Ground (Evans, 1995); \*Goodspeed's (1887); Bicentennial History (Wolf 1995).

**Published Local Records:** \*Cemeteries (Gilbert); \*Marriages 1848-1900 (Parsley); \*Marriages 1848-1880 (Sistler); Settlement books 1846-1907 (Majors); Will abstracts and revolutionary pensions (Gandrud); \*Marriages 1901-1950 (Gilbert); Death certificates 1914-1925 (Parsley). \*WPA typescripts include: County court minutes 1837-1849; Wills 1838-1854.

**Local Records Microfilm:** An inventory of microfilmed county records is available for purchase. Individual reels may also be purchased. Earliest records include: county court minutes from 1842; marriage records from 1848; will books from 1838; and deed and deed index from 1838. The following are available on interlibrary loan: marriages 1848-1887 (1 reel), will books 1838-1968 (1 reel), administrators settlement books 1846-1907 (1 reel); minutes of insolvent estates 1856-1946 (1 reel); and deed index 1838-1925 (1 reel).

**Newspapers:** Newspapers were published in Alexandria, Liberty and Smithville. Scattered early issues are available from 1896, and a complete run begins in 1958. Microfilms are provided to Tennessee libraries on interlibrary loan. Individual rolls may also be purchased.

*\*Indicates this title may be borrowed on Interlibrary loan.*

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