

Permission to copy, quote, distribute this document, and add it to a personal genealogy database is given to individual family history researchers, provided you cite the source as follows: Patricia A. West, "[Document title goes here]", " St. Louis: Unpublished manuscript, 2003, downloaded from West, Kirkland & Allied Families at [www.websitewiz.com/genealogy](http://www.websitewiz.com/genealogy).

## Document Title: William Sorrells (1810 GA - 1857 TN) - Brick Wall



Photo: Alice Eugenia Gilbert Morton, daughter of Margaret Sorrells Gilbert and granddaughter of William Sorrells (I) and Eleanor King Sorrells. Alice is shown with her three daughters: Gertie B. Morton, Marchie May Morton, and Arty Lera Morton. Second from left is my grandmother, Gertie. (Photo from my grandmother)

William Sorrells (I)<sup>1</sup> was born in GA 1810.<sup>2</sup> William died September 10, 1857 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 47 years of age.<sup>3</sup>

He married, first, Margaret P. Harkins in Lincoln Co., TN, October 11, 1832.<sup>4</sup> Margaret was born August 16, 1813.<sup>5</sup> (Additional notes for Margaret P. Harkins<sup>6</sup>) Margaret died September 24, 1841 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 28 years of age.<sup>7</sup> She was buried in Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN. He married, second, Eleanor M. "Nellie" King in Lincoln Co., TN, on March 2, 1843.<sup>8</sup> Eleanor was born circa 1824 in Lincoln Co., TN, the daughter of Ephraim King (Jr.?) and Jane Harkins. Eleanor married, second, John Holly in Lincoln Co., TN, 22 May 1859.<sup>9</sup> Eleanor died March 19, 1892 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 67 years of age.<sup>10</sup>

He was listed as a resident in the census report November 30, 1850 in Lincoln Co., TN.<sup>11</sup> I have been unable to take my Sorrell line back past Tennessee.

### MIDDLE TENNESSEE RECORDS

William (I) Sorrells was born in GA, according to the census of 1850, in 1810. A summary of possible connections follows: Is William Sorrells (I) a brother or cousin of Isham Sorrells (1816-1881) who is also buried in Harkins Cemetery? William Sorrells (I) named one son Isham S. Sorrells. In the 1820 Bedford Co. census, there are two Sorrell families. Edward Sorrells is listed as 020000-11000, which means 2 males 10 to 16 years old and 1 female under 10 and 1 female 10 to 16 years old in the household. Ephraim Sorrells is listed with all 0s.

Four King families and one Sorrell family were enumerated in consecutive households in the 1830 Lincoln Co., TN census. The only Sorrell listed is Needham Sorrell, 00110001-00001001. The household included 1 male 10-15 years old, 1 male 15-20 years old, 1 male 50-60 years old, 1 female 20-30 years old and one female 50-60 years old. Needham Sorrell was enumerated after Ephraim King. After Needham Sorrell are Joshua King (50-60 years old), Ebenezer King (15-20 years old), and another Ephraim King, 1001-1001, who was 30 years old and the father of Nellie King, William Sorrels (I)'s second wife. William Sorrels (I) would have been 20 in the 1830 census and we know he was not married until 1832, and thus could have been the male 15-20 years old in the household of Needham Sorrell in 1830.

In the Bedford Co., 1850 census, Needham Sorrells, age 45 and born in NC has the following household: Nancy (wife) 33, NC; John 17; Jephtha, 15; Mary, 10; Franciss E., 8; Needham, 12; Araminta, 6; Henry, 4; William, 10/12. He must not have been in NC until 1845/6 because only sons Henry and William were b in TN. The rest of the children were born in NC. John M. England, age 7, was also in his household.

In the Lincoln Co. 1850 census, Thomas Sorrell, 57 and b in NC has the following household: Elizabeth, 40 TN; James, 16; Thomas, 14; Adaline, 13; Sarah, 10; William, 6; John, 3; Henry Nichols, 23; and Malinda Nicols, 19.

A David Sorrel witnessed a deed on 23 Nov 1810 between Enoch Enochs and James Ellis, land lying on Mulberry Creek in Lincoln Co., TN (Bedford Co. Deed Book A:246). On 1 Jun 1832, land in Bedford Co. on McBrides Creek, a branch of Garrison Fork of Duck River is described as land David Sorrel purchased of A. Erwin, J. Patton & Erwin and deeded by Sorrel to Waugh Finley and Johnson and by Waugh Finley and Johnson to Samuel Hannah, deceased. /s/ 11 Feb 1831 (Bedford Co. Deed Bk CC:8). A deed registered 22 Oct 1814 for land in Bedford County on Rich Creek, called Michael's Creek, is noted to border Thomas Sorrels. The land was surveyed Aug 1810 (Bedford Co. Deed Book E:273. Another deed between John Ellison and his son, Thomas Ellison for land on Rich Creek is noted as bordering Thomas Sorrels, and was registered 27 Dec 1819 (Bedford Co. Deed Book L:247). On 18 Aug 1818 heirs of Thomas Sorrels received a Tennessee Grant for 640 acres, # 7636, for military service by Thomas Sorrels to North Carolina, Warrant No. 2961, dated 20 Sep 1785 and entered 19 Aug 1807 by No. 229. Granted to the heirs of Thomas Sorrels, land in Bedford Co., TN, on waters of Rock Creek. Surveyed 6 Jan 1807 (Bedford Co. Deed Bk J: 16). Therefore, this Thomas Sorrells, who completed military service in NC, was probably in Bedford Co., TN by 1807 and died by Aug 1818. A Thomas Sorrells, his wife and child are buried in Sorrell Cemetery, 3 1/2 miles NE of Petersburg, TN, near Bedford and Marshall County lines, near Hannah Gap. No other information is given. This is the area our family lived in.

Walter S. Sorrel is mentioned as an heir of Peter Boswell (deceased and formerly of Fairfax Co., VA) through his marriage to Peter Boswell's daughter, Martha. The settlement was /s/ 9 Nov 1825 and registered 19 Nov 1825, at which time the heirs "now being of full age." That means this Walter Sorrel was born by 1804. (Bedford Co. Deed BK W:158). In a deed /s/ 3 Dec 1824, Walter B. Sorrels of Hardeman Co., TN sells land to Alfred Jacobs of Bedford Co., TN., land in Bedford Co. on the headwaters of one fork of the Garrison Fork. Borders John McBride, Samuel Hanner, Joel Dashiell, and the ridge that divides the waters of the Garrison Fork and McBrides Creek. Reg. 7 Apr 1836 (Bedford Co. Deed Book FF:271. This latter deed indicates that Walter Sorrells had land in the same area that David Sorrells did: Garrison Fork and McBrides Creek on Duck River.

Our Williams Sorrells (I) was guardian for the children of Samuel C. Harkins: Susannah A. Harkins, 1842; Thomas M. Harkins, 1842, 1844-46; Esther E. Harkins, 1842, 1844; and Samuel A. Harkins, 1844 in Marsh, Early Unpublished Court Records of Lincoln Co., TN, 1993. In the 1850 Lincoln Co. census, his household is as follows: William, 39 GA; Elen 26 TN, Catharine 16, Joseph 15, James 14, Jane 12, Thomas 8, Margaret 4, Nancy 2 and Needham 6/12 (page 261,

line 247).

Note the repetition of male names in the King and Sorrell lines--Needham, Ephraim, William, Thomas, James. It's enough to cause a headache!

#### CHILDREN OF WILLIAM SORRELLS (I)

**William Sorrells (I) and Margaret P. Harkins had the following children:**

- 2 i. Susan G. or Susannah Katherine<sup>2</sup> Sorrells<sup>12</sup> was born in Lincoln Co., TN 22 October 1833.<sup>13</sup> Susan died 12 March 1889 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 55 years of age.<sup>14</sup> She married twice. She married John R. McCombs in Lincoln Co., TN, November 26, 1852.<sup>15</sup> She married T.R.W. Crane in Lincoln Co., TN, September 15, 1853.<sup>16</sup> T.R.W. was born 29 April 1825. T.R.W. died 30 November 1905 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 80 years of age.<sup>17</sup> According to Neale Sorrells information, sent to Betty Nye on 13 Feb 1995, Susan Sorrells had two children: 1) John Crane b 1855 and Spartan Crane, b 1857 & d 1860.
- 3 ii. Joseph F. Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN 1835.<sup>18</sup> He married Elizabeth E. Blair 29 September 1857. His birth date was January 11 or 19, 1835.
- 4 iii. James M. Sorrells<sup>19</sup> was born in Lincoln Co., TN 14 July 1836.<sup>20</sup> James died 16 February 1904 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 67 years of age. He married Martha Ann Armstrong in Lincoln Co., TN, August 7, 1856. Martha was born 20 March 1836.<sup>21</sup> Martha died in Lincoln Co., TN. He was listed as a resident in the census report 1850 in Lincoln Co., TN.<sup>22</sup>
- 5 iv. Mary Jane "Jane" Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN 07 December 1837.<sup>23</sup> Mary died 30 August 1920 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 82 years of age. She married James Richardson in Lincoln Co., TN, April 3, 1856.<sup>24</sup> Surname also spelled Richeson in some records. She had two daughters, Margaret Richardson, b 1857 and Susan Richardson, b 1860.
- 6 v. John M. Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN 20 November 1839. John died August 1840 in Lincoln Co., TN, at less than one year of age.
- 7 vi. William Thomas Sorrells Sr. was born in Lincoln Co., TN 29 June 1841. William died 2 October 1898 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 57 years of age.<sup>25</sup> He married Martha Creason in Lincoln Co., TN, 5 September 1861.<sup>26</sup> Martha was born 10 February 1842. Martha died 15 September 1883 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 41 years of age.<sup>27</sup> He was listed as a resident in the census report 1850 in Lincoln Co., TN.<sup>28</sup> William's will was probated in Lincoln Co., TN, 1898.<sup>29</sup> He had at least three children: Walden A. Sorrells, b 1888; Hart H. Sorrells b 1892; and Glendon Sorrells b 1895.

**William Sorrells (I) and Eleanor M. "Nellie" King had the following children:**

- 8 vii. Unnamed Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN 1845. Unnamed died October 8, 1845 in Lincoln Co., TN, at less than one year of age.
- + 9 viii. Margaret T. Sorrells was born November 19, 1846.
- 10 ix. Nancy C. Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN May 20, 1848. Nancy died March 26, 1889 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 40 years of age.<sup>30</sup> She married John G. Ferguson in Lincoln Co., TN, September 2, 1866.<sup>31</sup> John was born 1841. John died 4 August 1899 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 58 years of age.<sup>32</sup>

- 11 x. Needham Jefferson Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN October 5, 1849.<sup>33</sup> Needham died August 13, 1922 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 72 years of age.<sup>34</sup>
- 12 xi. Ephraim Marion Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN 12 April 1851. Ephraim died December 17, 1884 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 33 years of age.<sup>35</sup>
- 13 xii. Isham S. Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN December 16, 1853.<sup>36</sup> Isham died May 24, 1914 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 60 years of age.<sup>37</sup> He married Eliza F. "Fanny" Graham in Lincoln Co., TN, 12 April 1926.<sup>38</sup> Eliza was born 1 July 1849.  
Isham's will was probated in Lincoln Co., TN, July 7, 1914.<sup>39</sup>
- 14 xiii. Henry Clay Sorrells<sup>40</sup> was born in Lincoln Co., TN March 1, 1855.<sup>41</sup> Henry died 1 October 1923 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 68 years of age.<sup>42</sup> He married twice. He married Paralee Josephine Renfro in Lincoln Co., TN, February 27, 1879.<sup>43</sup> Paralee was born 23 February 1856.<sup>44</sup> Paralee died 20 March 1889 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 33 years of age.<sup>45</sup> He married Fannie B. McKenzie in Lincoln Co., TN, 27 April 1890.<sup>46</sup> Fannie was born 6 June 1869.<sup>47</sup> Fannie was the daughter of W.B. McKenzie and Ann E. Shull.
- 15 xiv. Newton Alexander Sorrells was born in Lincoln Co., TN 17 March 1857.<sup>48</sup> Newton died 19 April 1926 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 69 years of age.<sup>49</sup> He married Susie McKenzie circa 1880. Susie was born 15 July 1863. Susie died 20 June 1906 in Lincoln Co., TN, at 42 years of age.<sup>50</sup>

---

#### REFERENCES

1. Information on chn. birthdates from Thomas Jackson King, Sr., 1992; and The Bible of Henry Clay Sorrells identified William Sorrells and Nellie King as the parents of Henry Clay Sorrells.
2. 1850 census says b. GA, age 39.; William Sorrells, tombstone inscription--1810-Sep 10, 1857, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, four and one-half miles east of Petersburg, TN, on the south side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Road.; (hereafter cited as William Sorrells tombstone); and Helen C. and Timothy R. Marsh, *Cemetery Records of Lincoln-Moore Counties, Tennessee* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1996), (hereafter cited as Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co.).
3. Bible of William Sorrells, (hereafter cited as William Sorrells Bible).
4. Records of Alice K. West list five chn: Catherine, Jim, Jane, Wm, Susan.
5. Margaret P. Harkins, wife of William Sorrells, tombstone inscription, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, four and one-half miles e. of Petersburg, TN, on s. side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Rd.; (hereafter cited as Margaret P. Sorrells tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
6. Info. from Thomas Jackson King, Sr., 1992; and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
7. William Sorrells Bible.
8. #1 child & # 5 (Ephraim Marion Sorrells) not in Alice K. West's list.; and Early Middle TN Marriages, Sistler, 1988.
9. Lincoln Co., TN, Marriage Book A, p. 357, G.W.R., Moore, JP.
10. Ellen M. Holley, tombstone, age 68, no birthdate listed, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, four and one-half miles e. of Petersburg, TN, on the south side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Road; (hereafter cited as Eleanor M. Holley tombstone); Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co.; and William Sorrells Bible.
11. District 8, # 261. Farmer, value \$800. 8 chn. in 1850.
12. Buried in Crane Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN with second husband.; and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
13. Not listed in 1850 census. Dad's 1st wife d. 1841, married 2nd in 1843.
14. Susan G. Sorrells...married T.R.W. Crane, tombstone inscription, Crane Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, two miles NNE of Belleville, TN on west side of Stoneborough Rd. and on west side of creek; (hereafter cited as Susan S. Crane tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
15. Lincoln Co., TN, Marriage Book A, p. 243); possibly bond not returned.; and Early Middle TN Marriages, Sistler, 1988.
16. Lincoln Co., TN, Marriage Book A, p. 255, G.W.R. Moore, JP.; and Early Middle TN Marriages, Sistler, 1988.
17. T.R.W. Crane, tombstone inscription, Crane Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, two miles NNE of Belleville, TN on west side of Stoneborough Rd. and on w. side of creek.; (hereafter cited as T.R.W. Crane tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
18. Joseph, age 15, is listed as a son of William Sorrells in the 1850 census, Lincoln Co., TN. His younger brother is listed as James, age 14.

19. Buried in Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN.; and Ibid.
20. Birthdate from 1850 census.; J.M. Sorrells, tombstone inscription--b 14 Jul 1836 & d 16 Feb 1904, Harkins Cemetery, four and one-half miles e. of Petersburg, TN, on south side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Road (Belleville Quadrangle); (hereafter cited as J.M. Sorrells tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
21. M.A. Sorrells, tomnstone incription, lists birth only, Harkins Cemetery, Belleville quardangle; four and one-half miles e. of Petersburgn, TN, on s side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Road.; (hereafter cited as M.A. Sorrells tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
22. Listed as JOSEPH, ae. 15 with father and mother.; PROVE name.
23. Birthdate from 1850 census.
24. Lincoln Co., TN, Marriage Records, Book A., p. 300 (in Marsh).
25. W.T. Sorrells, tombstone inscription, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN; four and one-half miles east of Petersburg, TN, on s. side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Rd.; (hereafter cited as W. T. Sorrells tombstone); Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co., p. 8; and William Sorrells Bible.
26. NEED to PROVE his relationship & name. May have mixed up with cousins.; and Early Middle TN Marriages, Sistler, 1988.
27. Martha R. Creason, tombstone inscription, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, (hereafter cited as Martha R. Sorrells); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
28. Listed as THOMAS, ae 8 in 1850 census with parents.
29. Will Book 5, p. 97; Mary, wife; Waldon A. Hoit H. Glendon Irene +3 more.
30. Nancy G. Sorrells, wife of J.G. Ferguson, tombstone, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, Four and one-half miles east of Petersburg, TN, on s. side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Road; (hereafter cited as N.G. Sorrells tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
31. Early Middle TN Marriages, Sistler, 1988.
32. Ibid.
33. William Sorrells Bible.
34. N.J. Sorrells, tombstone, Old Orchard Cemetery, Petersburg, Lincoln Co., TN, one-fourth mile east of Petersburg, across Cane Creek; (hereafter cited as N.J. Sorrells tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
35. E.M. Sorrells, tombstone, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, four and one-half miles east of Petersburg, TN, on south side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Road; (hereafter cited as E.M. Sorrells); Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co.; and William Sorrells Bible.
36. William Sorrells Bible.
37. I.S. Sorrells, tombstone, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, four and one-half miles e. of Petersburg, TN, on s. side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Road; (hereafter cited as I.S. Sorrells cem. rec); Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co.; and William Sorrells Bible.
38. Eliza F. Graham, wife of I.S. Sorrells, tombstone, Harkins Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, four and one-half miles east of Petersburg, TN, on south side of Petersburg-Chestnut Ridge Road; (hereafter cited as Fanny Sorrells tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
39. From his will: Niece, by marriage, Anita Sorrells a dau of Theo Sorrells. Brothers, N.J. Sorrells, H.C. Sorrells, N.A. Sorrells, each one fifth. Nieces, Sue Kate Phillips wife of Jesse Phillips, and Jonnie Curtis wife of Luck Curtis. Niece Alice [nee Gilbert] Morton. Exec.: N.J. Sorrells. /s/ 18 Oct 1913, Wit: E.S. Raby, J.L. Holly, N.P. Carter. Codicil 22 May 1914, Wit: J.T. Morrison and N.P. Carter. Rec. 7 Jul 1914.
40. There is a Henry C. Sorrells (1865-1937) buried in the Harkins Cemetery with his wife Fannie Sorrells (1869-\_) She was Fannie B. McKenzie before her marriage. Since William Sorrells I died in 1857, this Henry cannot be the son of Thomas and Eleanor (King) Sorrells.
41. William Sorrells Bible; and Henry Clay Sorrells and Fannie B. McKenzie Sorrells Bible, *Bible*, (Chicago: John A. Dickson, 1909); Mrs. Joe Jefferson Sorrells, 605 First Avenue, Fayetteville, TN, (n.d.). (hereafter cited as Henry Clay Sorrells Bible).
42. Henry Clay Sorrells Bible.
43. Lincoln Co., TN, Marriage Bk. C, p. 213 (in Marsh, L. Co., TN Marr.); and Ibid.
44. Henry Clay Sorrells Bible.
45. Ibid.
46. Ibid.; and "This is to certify that H.C. Sorrels and Fannie B. McKenzie were united by me in Holy Matrimony at Bellville on the 27th day of April in the year one thousand 8 hundred and ninety (1890) in the presence of W.B. McKenzie and N.A. Sorrels. /s/ Rev. Tigert"--from Henry Clay Sorrells Bible.
47. Henry Clay Sorrells Bible.
48. William Sorrells Bible.
49. N.A. Sorrells, tombstone, Rose Hill Cemetery, Fayetteville, TN, nowthwest of Fayetteville; (hereafter cited as N.A. Sorrells tombstone); and Cem.Rec. Lincoln Co..
50. Susie , wife of N.A. Sorrells, tombstone, Rose Hill Cemetery, Lincoln Co., TN, northwest of Fayetteville; (hereafter cited as Susie Sorrells tombstone); and Cemetery Records, Lincoln Co.